

## **Concept Note: Mission to Namibia to build Pilot National Economy-Wide Material Flow Accounts (EW-MFA)**

**Mission Dates: 21–25 October 2024 (5 working days)**

### **Background**

The mission to Namibia is part of the ongoing efforts developed under the project titled "Resilient and Agile National Statistical Systems to Meet Post-COVID-19 Data Needs to Recover Better". This project is supported by the 14th tranche of the United Nations Development Account (DA14 project). The project aims to enhance the capacity of national statistical systems (NSS) in selected countries to provide high-quality, timely, and relevant data for post-COVID-19 recovery efforts and to enhance the resilience and agility of NSS of beneficiary countries to respond to emerging economic, social and environmental data needs in times of crises and disasters through the use of innovative data sources, advance data acquisition methods and modern technologies, while ensuring a path towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Specifically, the DA14 project is supporting several countries to strengthen the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) at the national level with a focus on Economy-Wide Material Flow Accounts (EW-MFA) and the calculation of relevant indicators under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 8 and 12. These indicators are critical for assessing progress towards sustainable economic growth, resource efficiency, and sustainable consumption and production patterns.

### **Objective of the Mission**

The primary objective of the mission to Namibia is to support the Namibia National Statistical Office (NSO) in the development of pilot Economy-Wide Material Flow Accounts (EW-MFA). This will involve:

1. Presentation the EW-MFA framework and reviewing existing data: Presentation of the EW-MFA framework, understanding the current status of data collection and data availability, and identifying data gaps;
2. Engaging with key stakeholders: Collaborating with relevant institutions, including government ministries and agencies, and other organizations involved in data collection and environmental accounting;
3. Providing technical assistance: Offering technical support and capacity-building activities to strengthen Namibia's ability to compile EW-MFA;
4. Developing a pilot EW-MFA for a determinate year: Drafting a pilot EW-MFA, which could serve as a model for the following years.

## **Preparatory Activities**

In preparation for the mission, a series of preparatory activities will be undertaken to ensure the mission's success:

1. Initial call with Namibia NSO: A preparatory call will be conducted with Namibia's National Statistical Office to discuss the country's previous experiences with EW-MFA, the availability of relevant data, and the key institutions concerned. This will help identify the current capacity and any specific needs or challenges faced by Namibia in implementing EW-MFA;
2. Review of existing data reported and reports: An assessment of Namibia's existing data infrastructure and any relevant reports or studies related to material flow accounting;
3. Coordination with key stakeholders: Identifying and engaging key stakeholders from government ministries or agencies who are involved in material flow accounting.

## **Expected outcomes**

1. A comprehensive understanding of Namibia's current data availability and gaps in the context of EW-MFA;
2. Strengthened capacity of Namibia NSO to develop and implement EW-MFA;
3. Enhanced collaboration and coordination among key stakeholders involved EW-MFA;
4. A roadmap for the full implementation of EW-MFA in Namibia.

## **Conclusion**

The mission will play a crucial role in building Namibia's capacity to develop EW-MFA, contributing to national efforts towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.