

VG Bureau Update and Progress on the Strategic Plan

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October 3, 2019

34th Meeting of the Voorburg Group

Paris, France

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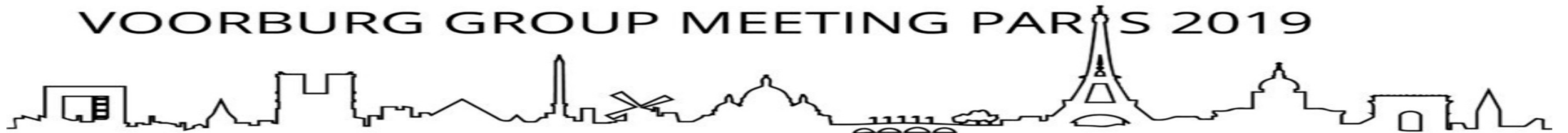


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Overview

- ① VG bureau tasks assigned in Rome
- ② Objectives in Strategic Plan
- ③ Progress on tasks in Strategic Plan
- ④ Next steps
- ⑤ VG participation
- ⑥ Your feedback

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Update on tasks assigned at 2018 meeting

Provide updates to the UNSD

Update UN Web-site – no update for 2018. 2019 planned by end October. Bi-annual report of activities to be delivered by 30. November 2019

Try new collaborative tools

Bureau members have access to a Confluence-based WIKI space for VG thanks to the generosity of the UNECE.

Prepare future agenda items before next meeting

Thank you to those who responded to our request for input on the plan. We started the meeting with a good list of topics and appreciate your input throughout the week.

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Update on tasks assigned at 2018 meeting

Share practices on use of alternative data

New CDF includes alternative data sources. Country status reports include question on alternative data sources

Finalize new Content Development Framework (CDF) – further development

Tip sheet for preparing industry papers has been developed and will be up-loaded at our web-site

Develop standard instructions for the various roles in VG meetings

Instructions are developed, but not uploaded yet. Specific instructions before 2019 meeting were distributed

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Objectives in Strategic Plan



Respond to changes

Update our best practices to account for the rapidly changing economy



Guidance

Produce guidance papers based on cross cutting methodological issues



Exchange ideas

Provide a forum for information exchange on best practices and emerging issues



Accessible material

Make our documentation more accessible and up-to-date



Increase knowledge

Enhance our understanding of concepts and requirements of national accounts

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Progress on tasks in Strategic plan

1
Share practices on use of
alternative data

Content Development Framework (CDF) includes alternative data sources. Country status reports include question on alternative data sources.

2
Finalize and implement
new CDF

Feedback from VG 2017 was used to finalize CDF. IMF has updated this. Tip sheet for preparing industry papers will be up loaded on our website after the meeting

3
Establish plan for keeping
documentation up-to-date

VG participants approved criteria for revisiting an industry previously covered, at 2017 meeting in New Delhi

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Progress on tasks in Strategic plan (2 of 3)

4

Redesign website to establish VG as a premier source of information

Website was redesigned in 2017. Security update in 2018. Updating UNSD links. Further enhancements can still be made to improve the new design.

5

Establish criteria for cross-cutting issues CDF.

3

VG participants approved criteria for cross-cutting issues at 2017 meeting in New Delhi. No actions required from the meeting in Rome

6

Implement mechanisms for VG collaboration methods

Webex, Skype, video- and teleconferencing are causing technical difficulties among countries. Has been used among some task forces, co-chairs and the Bureau. UNECE has set up space for us on their Wiki site.

Progress on tasks in Strategic plan (3 of 3)

7
Collaborate with other
international groups

IMF participated in 2018/2019, OECD in 2017 and Eurostat in 2019 meetings respectively. UN Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics has made a request cooperation

8
Provide input to changes in
classification and manuals

Relevant classification problems and concepts are passed on to the Expert Group on Statistical Classifications on a regular basis.

9
SNA review of sector and
industry papers

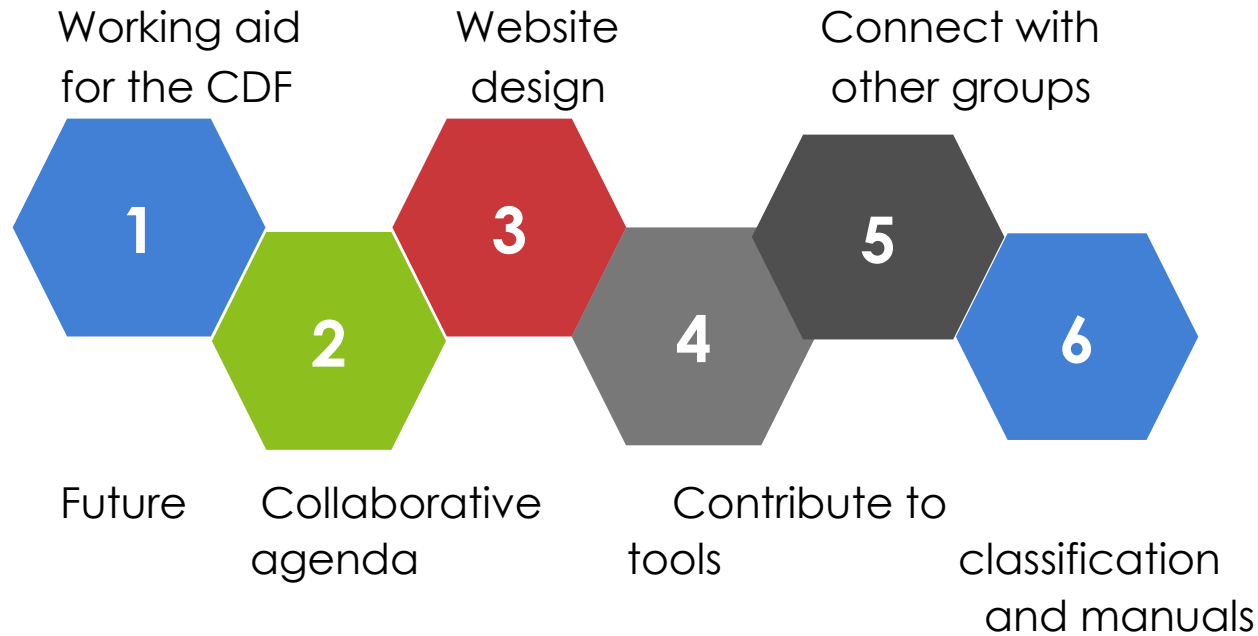
CDF reflects SNA concepts. To formalize this in instructions to session leaders and authors

10
SNA participation at the
meetings

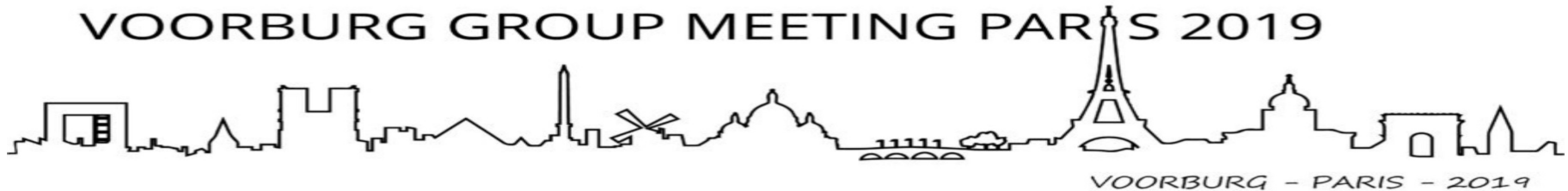
Bureau member from SNA and SNA delegates at meetings



Next steps



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VG participation

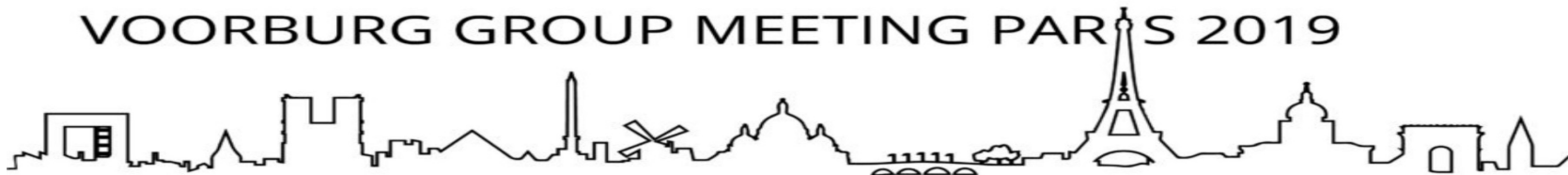
Since 2012 – 45 countries, IMF, OECD and Eurostat have participated in the meetings

In 2019 – 38 countries are participating from all parts of the world, except Oceania

Compared to 2018, 7 new countries are participating in this years meeting



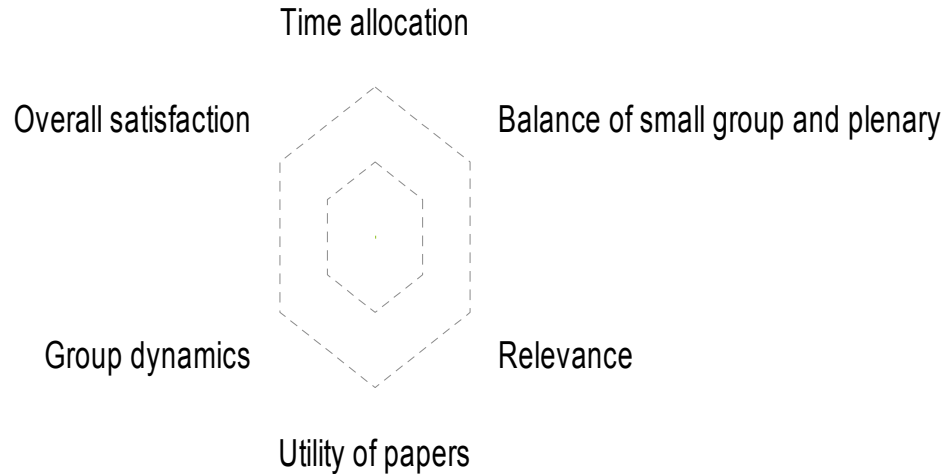
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Your Feedback

Before you leave tonight, please take the time to complete the evaluation form.



What did you like best about the meeting?

What areas of the meeting can be improved ?

What suggestions do you have for future meetings of the Group ?

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