

# Master Plan Concerning the Development of Official Statistics

## 1 The “Master Plan”

- ◆ Legal Basis: Statistics Act (Act No.53 in 2007), Article 4
- ◆ Objective: Under the “De-centralized Statistics System” each ministry will produce necessary statistics, share objectives and concrete measures concerning the development of Official Statistics, and promote the development of statistics comprehensively and systematically.
- ◆ Term: Approximately 5 years.
- ◆ Procedure of Decision: When establishing or revising the Master Plan, the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications shall request a decision by the Cabinet, after hearing the opinion of the Statistics Commission and taking necessary measures to reflect the opinions of the people.
- ◆ Follow-up: Every year, the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications shall compile a report of the situation of the development. The Statistics Commission shall evaluate it.

## 2 Revision of the Master Plan

- ◆ The 1<sup>st</sup>-Term Master Plan (Cabinet Decision, March 2009) finished at the end of FY2013.
- ◆ Taking account of environmental changes surrounding Official Statistics and of the situation of implementing measures concerning the development of official statistics, the 2<sup>nd</sup>-Term Master Plan (5 years beginning in April 2014) was formulated.

May 17, 2013	The Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications reports the situation of the development of the 1 <sup>st</sup> -Term Master Plan in FY2012 to the Statistics Commission.
Oct. 9	The Statistics Commission presents the basic idea concerning the 2 <sup>nd</sup> -Term Master Plan.
Oct. 30	The Minister submit the draft of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> -Term Master Plan to the Statistics Commission.
Oct. 31–Nov. 29	Public Comments
Jan. 31, 2014	Report of the Statistics Commission to the Minister.
Mar. 25	Decision by the Cabinet.

# Outline of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-Term Master Plan

## . Basic Perspectives and Policies in Developing Measures

### Securing and improving the systematic development and usefulness of statistics



- 1 Securing and improving compatibility between statistics
- 2 Securing and improving international comparability of statistics
- 3 Adequate responses toward environmental changes in the economy and society
- 4 Promoting accurate and efficient production of statistics
- 5 Promoting openness of statistical data and transparency of the statistical production process

## . Development of Official Statistics

### 1 Economy related Statistics

- Align the standard of compiling GDP with the 2008SNA

(ex.: The cost of R&D, which is not currently included in GDP, shall be included in GDP as investment. See Appendix 1)

- Revise the development plan for economic statistics with the Economic Structure Statistics (Economic Census) as the axis

(ex.: 2016 Economic Census for Business Activity shall be conducted when the survey condition is good.

With the implementation of the Economic Census, review the survey items, timing of survey, cycles, etc. of relevant economic statistics.

### 2 Population-Society, Labor related Statistics

- On the basis of the new standard on unemployment of ILO, the change of the definition of unemployment (change the period of seeking employment from 1 week (current standard) to 1 month) shall be considered based on the results of a pilot survey and taking account of time-series comparison.

- Toward the revision of the classification of workers aiming at more appropriate comprehension of irregular employment

(Statistical Survey on establishment/enterprise)

Currently (2 classes) → After revision (3 classes)

-regular worker

-temporary worker

-indefinite-term employment

-fixed-term employment

-daily or short-term employment

# Outline of the 2nd-Term Master Plan

## . Matters Necessary for the Development of Official Statistics

### 1 Streamlining of statistics production, and alleviating the burden on respondents

- Enhancement of the Business Register as universal information of statistical surveys, and production of statistics utilizing information stored in the Register
- Promotion of on-line survey  
(ex.: In the 2015 Population Census, the area of on-line survey shall be extended from Tokyo (as in the 2010 Census) to the whole country.  
Responding to the diversified means of on-line reporting, such as smart-phones, on the basis of the popularization of mobile terminals.)
- Consideration and study on the use of the Social Security and Tax Number System for statistics
- Review of issues and deciding response policies in preparation for a large-scale disaster.

### 2 Promotion of effective use of statistical data

- Promotion of open statistical data such as the enhancement of the function of the Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan (e-Stat)  
(API: An interface that enables private sector computer systems to automatically obtain statistical data from the government. See Appendix 2)  
(Statistics GIS: Providing statistical data visualized with the background maps (statistics that can be seen on maps), using the Geo-coded Information System (GIS). See Appendix 2)
- Consideration toward easing the use restriction on the use (currently restricted to the case of the development of academic research) of statistics produced through entrustment from the public (tailor-made tabulation).
- Positive international cooperation and international contribution in the area of statistics (acceptance of trainees from developing countries, etc.)

## . The Promotion of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-Term Master Plan

- Further enforcement of cooperation among ministries, prioritizing measures such as the follow-up by the Statistics Commission.
- Developing measures while securing compatibility with the development of statistics based on various legal plans.

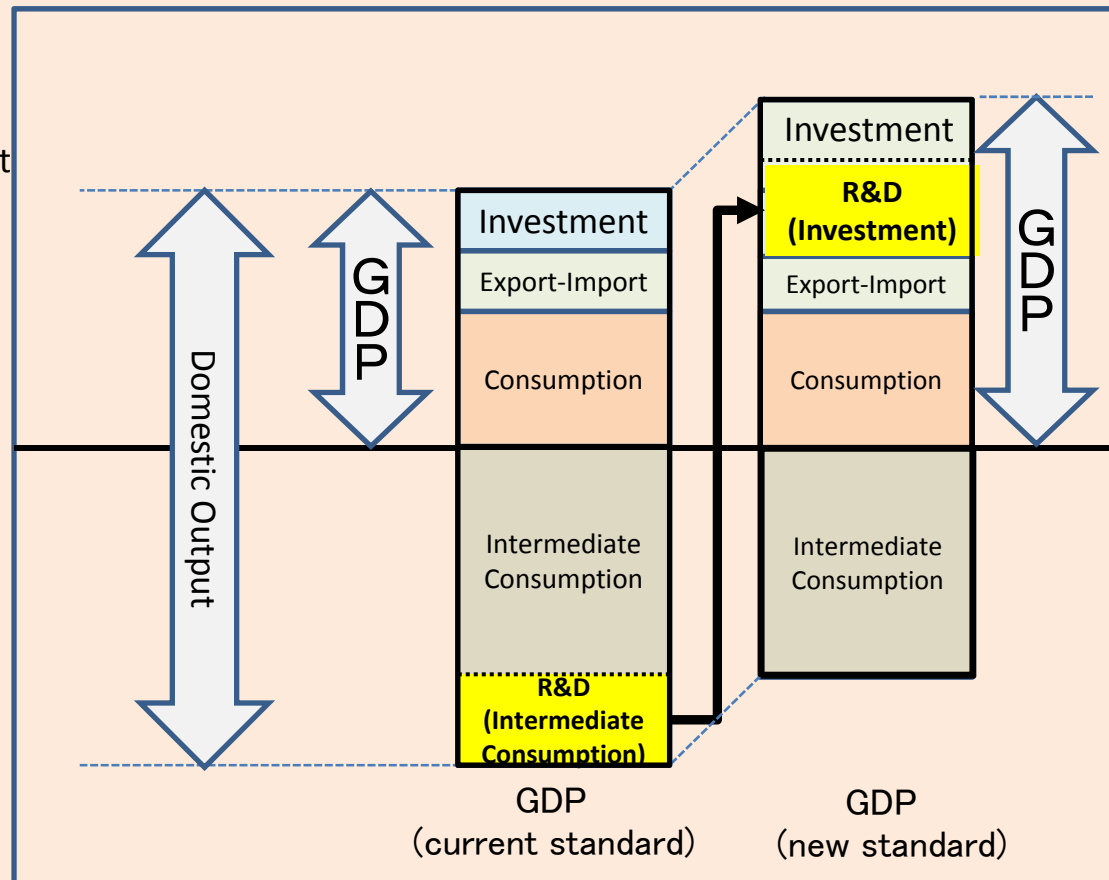
# Appendix 1: Corresponding to the New Standard of GDP Capitalization of R&D

Research and Development (R&D) is a creative activity which increases the stock of knowledge. Although the results of such activity is an important source of economic development, it has not been treated as investment (capital formation). Therefore, in the new international standard (2008SNA), the cost of R&D, which was treated as intermediate consumption, shall be treated as capital.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) =  
Consumption + Investment + Import - Export

Domestic Output =  
Intermediate Consumption + GDP

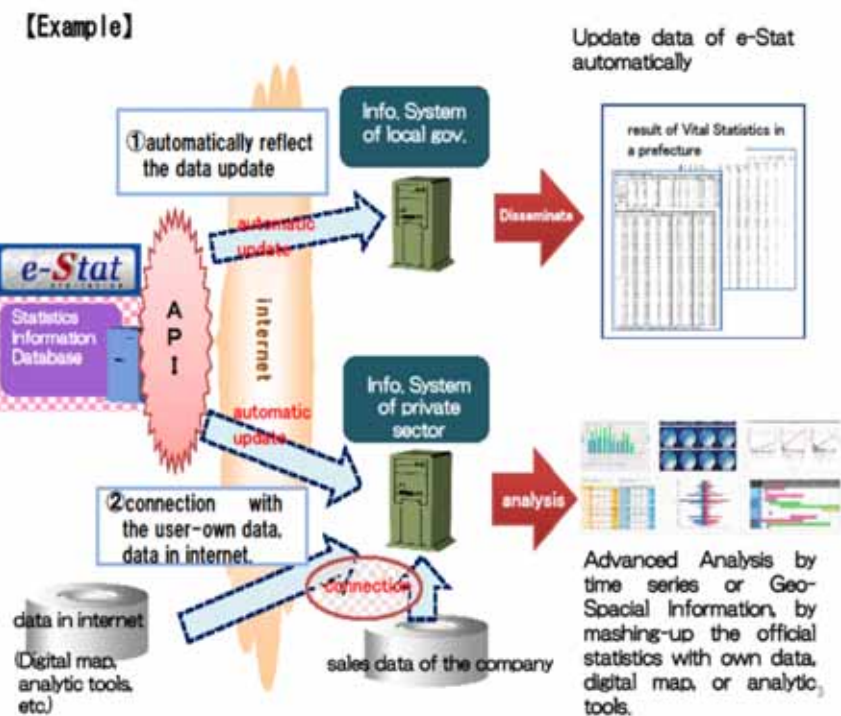
Even if the level of domestic output is the same, by the transition to the new standard, the cost of R&D shall be transferred from intermediate consumption to investment, so GDP will increase.



# Appendix 2: Enhancement of the Function of the Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan (e-Stat)

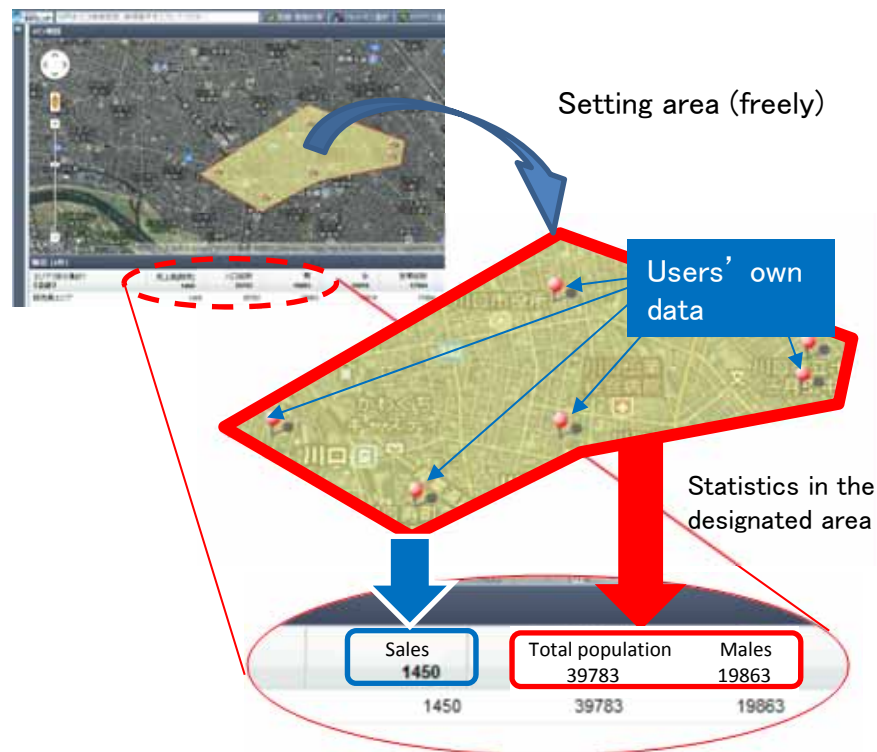
## Adding the API Function

- ◇ The function of providing data stored in the Portal Site of Official Statistics (e-Stat) in the form that a computer system can read.  
(Application Programming Interface)



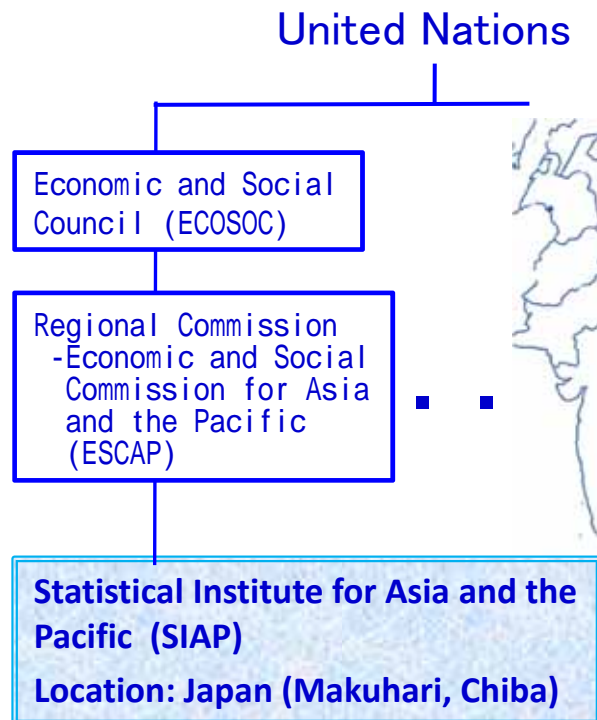
## Enhancement of the Function of Statistical GIS

- ◇ Providing statistical data visualized with the background, according to user needs, using the system of Geo-coded Information System (GIS).
- ⇒ Now developing functions that enable analysis taking in users' own data, or analysis in areas that users choose.



# Appendix 3: United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)

## 1. Status



- \* Established in 1970, under an agreement between the Government of Japan and the United Nations
- \* Subsidiary body of ESCAP that provides statistical training for government officials in members and associate members of ESCAP

## 2. Results of Training, etc.

