



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Area B2 presentation to the 2026 meeting of the UNCEEA

UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)

21st Meeting

Wednesday 17 June 2026

Mandy Driver

Chair of the Technical Committee on SEEA Ecosystem Accounting



United Nations

Presentations today

- Overview of the activities of the Technical Committee
- UNSD project on biodiversity indicators – Steve King, UNSD

Overview of activities of the Technical Committee

- Met five times since June 2025
 - Continued work under **five components**:
 1. Development of **practical guidance notes** for countries for the compilation of SEEA ecosystem accounts
 2. Supporting **development of headline indicators** for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)
 3. Contributing to the broader **SEEA-related processes**
 4. Engaging with **relevant initiatives**
 5. Promoting the **community of practice** on ecosystem accounting
- In practice, 1 & 2 combined over the past year

Components 1 and 2: Practical guidance for countries

Main focus on

- Ecosystem extent accounts – linked to GBF headline indicator A.2
- Ecosystem services accounts – linked to GBF headline indicator B.1



Kunming-Montreal

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

adopted in 2022 at CBD COP 15

Four Goals (2050)

Goal A

Protect and Restore

Goal B

Prosper with Nature

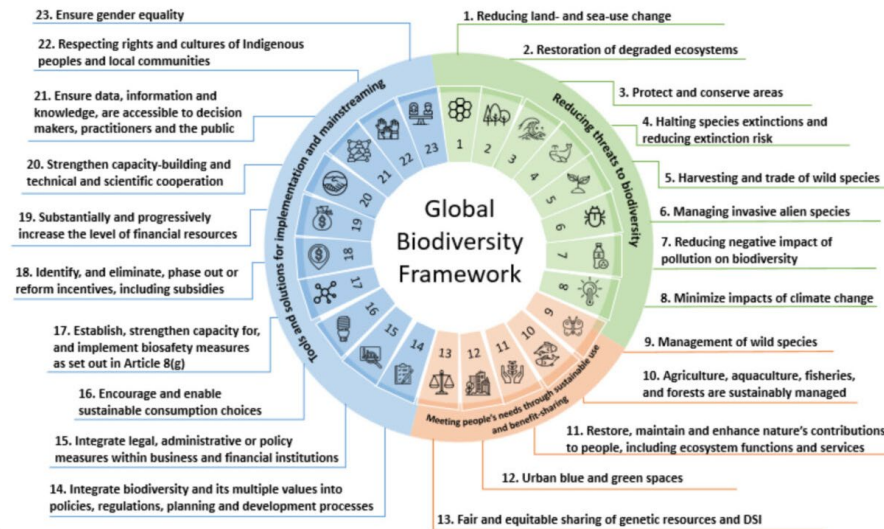
Goal C

Share Benefits Fairly

Goal D

Invest and Collaborate

23 Targets (2030)



26 Headline Indicators

All Parties to the CBD (>190 countries) are **obliged to report regularly** on these indicators, as part of their **National Reports** to the CBD.

Coordinated by CBD focal points, typically in the environment ministry.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Five of the GBF headline indicators relate directly to ecosystems

How extensive are different natural ecosystem types and how is this changing over time?

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

These indicators address a set of inter-related questions about ecosystems

Which ecosystem types are most threatened or at risk of collapse?

A.1. Red List of Ecosystems

GBF headline indicators for ecosystems

B.1. Services provided by ecosystems

What trends do we see in the services people receive from ecosystems?



Main species-related headline indicator:
Red List Index for Species

How much of each ecosystem type is protected or conserved?

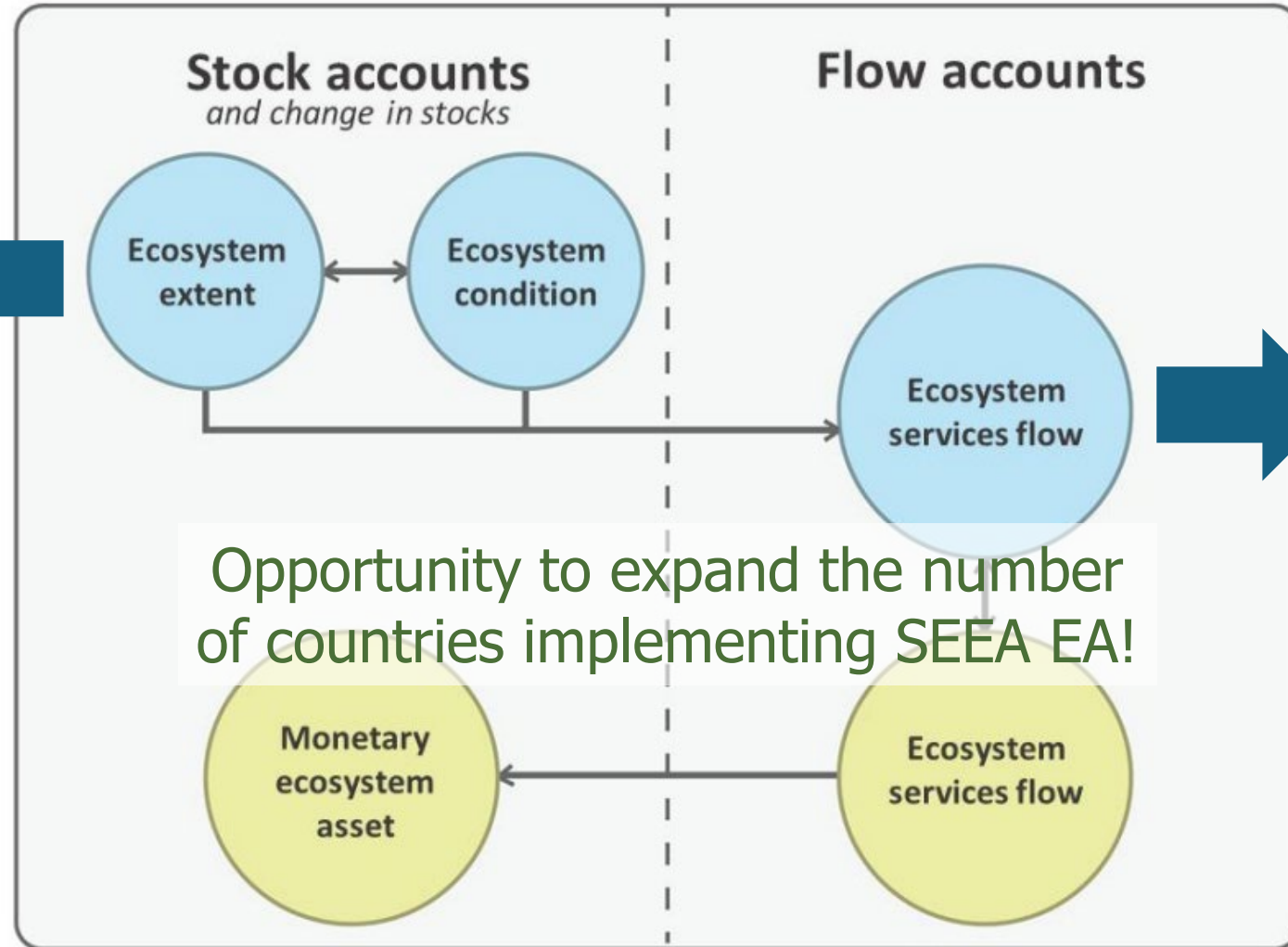
3.1. Coverage of protected & conserved areas

2.1. Area under restoration

Which ecosystem types are being restored and how much?

Linking the core ecosystem accounts to indicators

Ecosystem extent account provides the basis for Indicator A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems



Ecosystem services account (physical) provides the basis for Indicator B.1 Services from ecosystems

Component 3: Contributing to broader SEEA-related processes

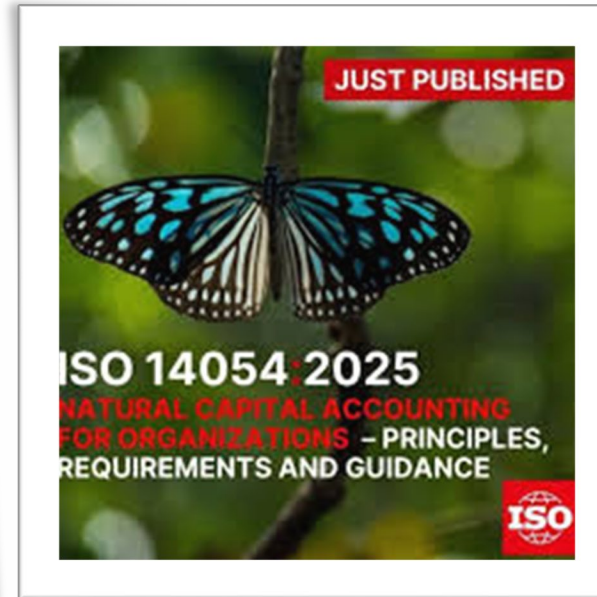
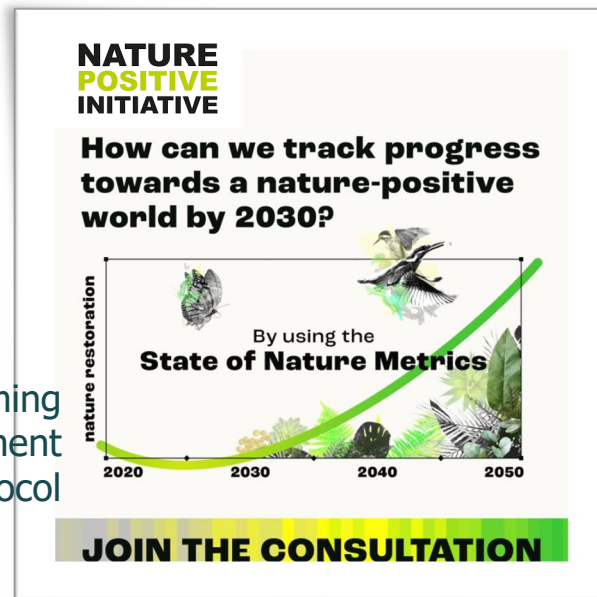
- Closely engaged in the **SEEA Central Framework update** (especially alignment with SEEA Ecosystem Accounting)
 - > Participating in relevant task teams of SEEA Central Framework update (mainly TT-A on overarching issues)
 - > Engagement on Guidance Notes for the eight issues that have significant links to SEEA Ecosystem Accounting
 - A1 Linking SEEA CF and SEEA EA (Tranche 3)
 - A4 Making SEEA CF spatially explicit (Tranche 1)
 - A9.1 & 9.3 - SNA: Natural resources and Terminology (Tranche 2)
 - B3 Carbon flows (Tranche 1)
 - B6 Pressure accounts (Tranche 3)
 - D1 Carbon stock account (Tranche 3)
 - D7 Valuation of water (Tranche 3)
 - D8 Treatment of the atmosphere (Tranche 3)

Component 4. Engaging with related initiatives

- Private sector frameworks and initiatives related to ecosystem accounting
 - > Discussed at most recent TC meeting in May
 - > A busy picture! Some examples:



Supported by an upcoming
Nature Measurement
Protocol



**Discussion paper on
state of nature measurement**

April 2026
For consultation and feedback



- In addition, continued regular engagements with relevant partners, including IUCN, Secretariat of the CBD, Group on Earth Observations, ESA
 - > Including through representation in Steering/Advisory Boards where relevant

Component 5. Community of practice on ecosystem accounting

- Aspirational goal to facilitate a closer network of practitioners, including to share experiences, challenges and lessons
- Possibility to organise a *Forum of Experts on Ecosystem Accounting* in 2027

Upcoming issues

- Key issue identified for discussion in the coming period:
monetary values connected to ecosystems
 - > Links to the SEEA EA research agenda on this area of work: *“Connections to complementary valuations of ecosystem services and ecosystem assets”*
 - > Context provided by Section 2.4 of SEEA EA: *“Framing of values in ecosystem accounting”*
 - > Exploring country experiences and lessons to date in the compilation of monetary accounts for ecosystem services and assets
 - > Keeping abreast of Eurostat’s feasibility study on monetary valuation
 - > Building on the recent Istat workshop: Challenges in the Measurement of Nature in Official Statistics (25-26 May 2026)
 - > Connecting with relevant London Group papers and discussions

Questions for the Committee

The Committee is invited to:

- a) Provide guidance on priorities for further advancing practical compilation guidance to support implementation of ecosystem accounts
- b) Review progress and provide feedback on the development and testing of GBF indicator methodologies and compilation guidelines
- c) Advise on strategic engagement and coordination with private sector initiatives, including how SEEA EA can support coherence across public and private sector standards and reporting frameworks
- d) Provide guidance on strengthening the policy relevance and communication of SEEA EA accounts, including their integration into biodiversity and economic policy frameworks