UNECE
Conference of European Statisticians

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UNECE Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics

Geneva, Switzerland, 29-30 September 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

The UNECE Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics will take place from 29 to 30 September 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. on 29 September and finish on 5:30 p.m. on 30 September. A remote connection and simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian will be provided.

Updates and all documents related to the meeting will be posted on the meeting website: https://unece.org/statistics/events/EFCCRS2022

I. Introduction

The UNECE Expert Fora for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics have been organized annually since 2014 to serve as a platform for collaboration, sharing ideas and experience, discussing concepts and measurement issues, and identifying areas for future work. The Expert Fora provide a link between producers and users of climate information and follow up on the *Conference of European Statisticians' Recommendations on Climate Change-Related Statistics* endorsed in 2014 by more than 60 countries and international organizations. The Expert Fora are organized by the UNECE Steering Group on Climate Change-Related Statistics (SGCC), currently chaired by the Netherlands.

II. Format and language

The 2022 Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics is planned as an in-person meeting, but a remote connection will be provided for those who cannot travel.

The meeting will have simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian. The Expert Forum is open to all countries and organizations producing or using climate change-related data.

The meeting will consist of four sessions. The sessions will include presentations from representatives of countries and international organizations, and discussions. In each session, participants will have the opportunity to raise questions and actively participate in the discussion. Each session will be concluded by its chair with a summary of the main outcomes.

III. Objectives of the Expert Forum

The 2022 Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics will aim to:

- Facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience on developing new change-related statistics and improving the usefulness of the existing data.
- Support implementation of the *CES Recommendations on Climate Change-Related Statistics* (2014) and the *CES Set of Core Climate Change-related Indicators and Statistics Using the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting* (2020).
- Inform about related global developments, such as data needs related to the Paris Agreement or the UNSD Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators.
- Show good practices and innovative approaches to producing, disseminating and using climate change-related statistics.
- Identify priorities for future work.

IV. Topics of the Expert Forum

The Expert Forum is planned to include the following sessions:

1. **Setting the scene**
2. **Progress and challenges in measuring climate change vulnerability and adaptation**
3. **New frontiers in climate change-related statistics**
4. **Conclusions and recommendations**

1. Setting the scene

Session organizers: Arthur Denneman (UNECE Steering Group Chair, Statistics Netherlands) and Malgorzata Cwiek (UNECE Secretariat)

The main objective of the session will be to provide a common foundation for the rest of the Expert Forum. The session will be an opportunity to:

- Take stock of the recent work of the Steering Group and the new UNECE Task Force on the role of NSOs in achieving national climate objectives
- Share information about recent developments at the global level
- Share information about other relevant initiatives related to the production, dissemination and use of climate change-related statistics, including institutional aspects.

2. Progress and challenges in measuring climate change vulnerability and adaptation

Session organizers: Giovanna Tagliacozzo (ISTAT) and MChristiana Photiadou (European Environment Agency)

This session will follow up on the related sessions at the 2020 and 2021 Expert Fora. The presentations and conclusions from the previous meetings are available on the meeting websites in English and Russian: 2020 Expert Forum and 2021 Expert Forum.

Understanding climate change vulnerability and resilience, and planning adaptation to climate change is an increasingly important component of climate change response. However, their measurement still poses significant challenges. Vulnerability, exposure, risk appetite and adaptation actions vary between and within countries and regions and over time, and are interconnected. The information needs are highly context-specific, and it seems impossible to define a fully harmonized, internationally agreed set of statistics and indicators.

In August 2020, the Steering Group on Climate Change-Related Statistics conducted a survey to determine what NSOs do in this area. Many countries reported that they undertake some statistical activities related to climate change adaptation, such as producing statistics, linking and disseminating data from other producers or supporting monitoring of national adaptation plans. The Expert Fora concluded that further work should include sharing best practices, starting with available relevant indicators, analysing interlinkages, clustering relevant thematic areas and creating taxonomies.

The session will:

- Inform about the developments related to the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation established at COP26 in Glasgow.
- Share and discuss practical examples of climate change adaptation, vulnerability and resilience statistics and indicators used in countries.
- Share experience of other activities related to providing data on climate change adaptation, vulnerability and resilience, i.e., a presentation, paper and/or case study on, e.g., linking and disseminating data from other producers, supporting monitoring of national adaptation plans, providing data for risk maps, including nature-based solution strategies.
- Share knowledge and good practices of statistical, policy and research communities working on climate change adaptation, vulnerability, resilience, and hazardous events and disasters.
- Discuss what is needed to accelerate progress in this area, e.g., by identifying the highest priority activities and better coordinating each other's efforts.

3. New frontiers in climate change-related statistics

Session organizers: Pouya Taghavi-Moharamli and Roberta Quadrelli (International Energy Agency) and Rob Smith (Midsummer Analytics)

The session will discuss innovative approaches to improving climate change-related statistics.

The first part of the session will focus on addressing data gaps for producing climate change indicators, including strengthening primary data collection, using modern data sources and emerging technologies. The second part of the session will look at other innovations such as improving timeliness, frequency and granularity of GHG emission estimates, developing new indicators and measuring linkages between climate impacts and socioeconomic development.

The session will discuss:

- In which areas of climate change-related statistics the need for strengthening data collection is the most urgent and what can be done?
- What administrative and new data sources can already be used for regular production of climate change-related statistics, and which have potential that is not yet tapped into? E.g., Earth observations, sensor data, water/gas/electricity meter data, building energy ratings, vehicle test data (odometer readings), citizen-generated data?
- What are the enablers and obstacles in using administrative and non-conventional data sources? How can innovative approaches be brought into the regular production of official data? What are the success stories and lessons learnt?
- What has been the rationale for producing infra-annual or subnational GHG emission estimates in the countries/international organizations that produce them on a regular basis?

What has been the impact? What are the pros and cons? Is there a need for all countries to produce them?

- What other new initiatives and approaches are being used to develop new climate change-related statistics or improve usefulness of existing ones? What good practices can be replicated?

4. Conclusions and recommendations

Session organizers: Arthur Denneman (UNECE Steering Group Chair, Statistics Netherlands) and Malgorzata Cwiek (UNECE Secretariat)

The session will discuss the conclusions of the Expert Forum highlighting concrete issues for further work and ways to respond to emerging issues. The conclusions will feed into further work of UNECE in climate change-related statistics and provide input for the planning of the next Expert Forum in 2023.

V. Further information

All meeting updates and documents will be posted on the meeting website:
https://unece.org/statistics/events/EFCCRS2022

VI. Contact

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