

# Programme of work Technical committee SEEA-CF

Sjoerd Schenau



Statistics  
Netherlands

# Background

- At its 44<sup>th</sup> session in February 2013, the UN Statistical Commission urged UNCEEA to agree on a **medium term programme of work for the implementation of the SEEA**, including advancing the issues on the SEEA Central Framework research agenda and the development of a core set of tables and accounts.
- In March 2014 the **Technical Committee for the SEEA-Central Framework (TC)** was established under the auspices of the UNCEEA
- The work of the Technical Committee will be closely coordinated with the work of the **London Group** on Environmental Accounting, other technical expert groups

# Mandate

1. Advance the **research agenda** for the SEEA Central Framework;
2. Advance the **development of the implementation materials/tools**, including the development of core tables and accounts and associated technical notes, in support of the implementation of the SEEA CF and ensure consistency with the SEEA CF;
3. Lead the development of the **communication strategy** for the SEEA Central Framework.

# Members of the Technical Committee

- UNSD
- Worldbank
- Eurostat
- OECD
- IMF
- FAO
- Statistics Canada
- ABS
- Statistics Netherlands (chair)

# Workprogramme

# 1. Development of SEEA technical notes and core tables and accounts

- The SEEA technical notes will provide guidance to countries on the steps to take to start the implementation of the SEEA.

→ **Main task of TC:** to advance the work on the technical notes and core tables in close collaboration with international organisations and the London Group

→ *More details in next presentation*

## 2. Reviewing and contributing to materials relevant to the implementation of the SEEA-CF

- Beside the technical notes and core tables, numerous other documents are being developed by international organisations to support the implementation of SEEA
- The work of the TC will focus on addressing remaining methodological issues which may come up during the implementation of the SEEA-CF

→ **Main task of TC:** to review these documents with regard to their SEEA content.

### 3. Addressing remaining methodological issues related to the implementation of the SEEA-CF

- The TC shall act as the recognised "place" where questions on the SEEA CF can be posed by those working on implementing SEEA or developing manuals, handbooks.
- An **inbox** shall be established to collect all the questions related to technical issues related to SEEA implementation. For the interim the [seea@un.org](mailto:seea@un.org) is used.

→ **Main task of TC:** to provide technical/conceptual direction in cases where the SEEA Central Framework seems unclear, inconsistent, incomplete or otherwise deficient.



## 4. Advancing the research agenda for the SEEA-CF

- As outlined in annex 2 of SEEA CF, the process for reviewing and updating the SEEA CF will follow standard processes that have developed for the review of international standards.
- The following priority issues have already been identified :

1. The classification of Environmental Activities and the EGSS
2. The classification of land cover and land use
3. Issues including the classification of waste

→ **Main task of TC:** to advance the work on the research agenda, together with the London Group, and review the forthcoming documents.

## 5. Harmonizing environment statistics with SEEA and mainstreaming SEEA into statistical systems

- Harmonizing environment statistics with the SEEA is important to ensure that the basic data is generated in such a way to be used in the accounting framework without ad-hoc transformation.
  - 1) For **international agencies**, the process involves mainstreaming the SEEA as part of the regular collection and compilation of statistics.
  - 2) For **national statistical offices**, mainstreaming of the SEEA involves moving towards an integrated statistics programme which involves an integrated production process of basic statistics using common business architecture.

→ **Main task of TC:** to contribute to this process

## 6. Advancing the communication strategy for the SEEA Central Framework

- The communication strategy of the SEEA is a key component of the overall implementation strategy for the SEEA-CF.
- **Main task of TC:** to support the development of the communication strategy, in particular reviewing and providing comments on material being developed and in ensuring that a common message is used

# Points for discussion

1. Do you have any comments or questions with regard to the work programme of the Technical committee ?
2. How can we advance the research agenda ? What could be additional topics ? How to arrange the process of work ?