



## **Regional Seminar on System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Central Framework in the Caribbean**

*Castries, Saint Lucia  
6-7 February 2014*

### **Draft agenda**

#### **Thursday, 6 February 2014**

**08:30 – 09:00 Registration**

#### **I. Opening (9:00-9:30)**

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Brief opening statements will be made by the host/lead country; sub-regional, regional and international agencies will elaborate on the sub-regional, regional and international perspective to the objectives of the regional seminar in identifying priorities and strategies to strengthen capacities to apply the SEEA in the region.

Opening remarks- Saint Lucia, UNSD, Caricom, ECLAC, OECS, UNDP, UNEP, WB

Objectives of the Seminar

Adoption of agenda

#### **II. Policy demands and priorities to monitor the interactions between economic and other human activity and the environment (09:30 – 13:00)**

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The session will be divided into three parts that discuss the growing policy demands and priorities to monitor the relationship between economic, other human activity and the environment in the region. In the first part, different international agencies will provide an overview of the various initiatives that rely on integrated information emerging from the SEEA. These initiatives include, by way of example, the WAVES/Natural Capital Accounting initiative, the Green Economy and TEEB initiatives, etc. In the second part, policy initiatives at the regional and sub-regional level will be presented. In the third part, policy demand at the national level will be presented.

## **Presentations**

### **Part 1.**

Global context, international initiatives and policy applications of SEEA

- Post 2015 agenda, and the role of statistics (UNSD)
- Policy applications of SEEA (World Bank)
- UNDP
- UNEP
- Other

## **Coffee break (11:00 – 11:20)**

### **Part 2.**

Regional policy initiatives:

- CARICOM Secretariat
- ECLAC
- OECS

### **Part 3.**

National policy programmes and applications of SEEA

- National demand for SEEA information (Saint Lucia, Bahamas-tbc, Jamaica)
- Policy applications of SEEA in Canada

## **13:00 – 14:00 Lunch**

## **III. Overview of the SEEA**

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In this session an overview of the SEEA 2012 – SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting - will be provided.

*Presentations:*

- Introduction to the SEEA (UNSD)
- Environmental-Economic Accounting in Canada (Statistics Canada)

## **IV. Selected country presentations**

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In this session selected CARICOM member states will discuss their current situation in terms of data availability - of the SEEA.

- Saint Lucia
- Jamaica

## **V. Selected SEEA accounts**

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This session will outline a selection of SEEA accounts relevant in the Caribbean context. Countries are invited to discuss possible approaches to increase awareness of SEEA standards in the region and opportunities and barriers to their greater incorporation in environmental and ecosystem accounting in the Caribbean.

### *Presentations:*

- SEEA-Water (UNSD)
- SEEA-Energy (Statistics Canada)
  
- Discussion

## **Friday 7 February 2014**

## **VI. Global and regional initiatives for the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework and ecosystem accounting**

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This session will present the global and regional SEEA implementation strategies as well as the proposed the initial statement of strategy that countries are encouraged to develop.

### *Presentation*

- SEEA global implementation (UNSD)
- SEEA regional implementation strategy (ECLAC)
- Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (World Bank)

### **10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break**

## **VII. Discussion on national policy priorities, major stakeholders and data availability using a rapid diagnostic tool**

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The rapid diagnostic tool will be distributed to the participants to assist in the discussion on identifying existing policy initiatives, national policy priorities, main stakeholders and data availability in countries. Countries are encouraged to reflect on initial steps to establish a coordination mechanism and broad assessment of policy priorities and data availability.

### *Presentations*

- SEEA implementation guide, diagnostic tool and suggested structure of initial assessment for integrated environmental- economic statistics in support of SEEA implementation (UNSD)
- Environmental data, information and assessment in the Caribbean – current status, challenges, and next steps (CARICOM and UNEP)

- Discussion

Exercise by countries (90 min)

- Rapid diagnostic tools and identification of policy priorities relating to SEEA and key technical capacity needs

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch** (could be used to further discuss in group the self-assessment exercise)

**VIII. Potential for the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework and the development of environmental economic accounts – issues for consideration and the way forward**

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This session will explore with participants the way forward in considering sub-regional and national institutional mechanisms and on the potential for moving towards the development of environmental-economic and ecosystem accounts in the Caribbean countries on the basis of the countries' discussion and initial self-assessment. The session will also discuss possible synergies with other programme and how to move away from the silos approach of information development through integrated statistics and policies.

Presentations

- Draft recommendations on way forward on the SEEA Central Framework – country report back discussions
- Discussion

**IX. Closing (15:30-16:00)**

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Closing remarks by the organizers