

Development of Environmental Accounts in Russia: Plans and Experience

**Federal State Statistics Service,
Russian Federation**

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1. Plans and priority areas on the implementation of the SEEA

Present condition:

- environmental statistics in Russia is still fragmentary;
- mostly concentrated on assessment of direct impact of economic activity on environment.

Need for further development:

- growing interest in development more precise quantitative estimates of the role of natural capital in economic development

1. Plans and priority areas on the implementation of the SEEA

Priorities in SEEA implementation by main groups of environmental accounts

#	<i>Account</i>	<i>Priority rate</i>	<i>Present stage of development</i>
1.	<i>Asset accounts</i>	1	Methodological research; Experimental assessments at the regional level
2.	<i>Accounts of economic activities and products related to the environment</i> (environmental protection expenditures)	1	Methodological research; Regularly compiled statistics on protection expenditures; Assessments at the national level
3.	<i>Physical flow accounts</i> (natural resources, products, residuals)	2	Methodological research; Experimental assessments at the regional level
4.	<i>Accounts for extended SNA aggregates</i> (environmental depletion of natural resources, degradation of natural assets)	3	Conceptual consideration

1. Plans and priority areas on the implementation of the SEEA

Asset accounts

The present demand is mostly determined by the needs of SNA development:

- In 2015 SNA *balance sheet* by institutional sectors should be compiled and published on the *annual basis*;
- In 2016 it will be built and published on *quarterly basis*.

Natural capital assessment is thus the first priority.

Accounts of economic activities and products related to the environment

Several parts of this block (*environmental protection expenditures*, in particular) are of prime priority.

The present level can be qualified as environmental statistics, rather than environmental accounts.

The basis for integration will appear after 2015 with the completion of *new input-output tables*.

1. Plans and priority areas on the implementation of the SEEA

Physical flow accounts

Regular studies of stocks and use of natural resources for different regions of Russia.

Result is presented as a generalised description of annual change.

Supply and use are not presented in matrix form.

Further development is dependent on introduction of new surveys and completion of new input-output tables (2015).

2. Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the SEEA

According to the Law on Official Statistics in the Russian Federation Rosstat is the body responsible for development of state statistics in the Russian Federation.

In Russia state statistics is produced by a set of governmental entities, including Rosstat, and the Central Bank, which are called “subjects of official statistical accounting”.

The role of Rosstat is:

- development of the Federal plan of statistical works,
- co-ordination of development of statistical methodology,
- co-ordination and control of implementation of the Federal plan.

2. Institutional arrangement for the implementation of the SEEA

The role of Rosstat in environmental accounting

- formulation of requirements for environmental accounting, which is directed to the governmental bodies responsible for different fields of statistical accounting;
- inclusion of the formulated tasks into the Federal plan;
- development of the methodology for reflection of natural assets in the system of national accounts and other specific items of economic and environmental accounts;
- development of the system of data sources;
- co-ordination of interactions of Rosstat with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Forestry Agency, Federal Fisheries Agency, Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr), etc.

3. Lessons learnt from past experiences

A. Improvement of data sources

DATA AVAILABILITY*

<i>Assessment items</i>	Water resources			Forest resources		Mineral resources	Fishery resources	Recreation resources	Hunting resources	Land resources
	Surface	Deep ground	Shallow ground	Wood	Other					
Natural resource stocks	A	A	C	A	B	A	B	B	A	B
Intensity of utilization	A	A	C	B	B	A	B	B	A	B
Depletion	A	A	C	B	B	A	C	C	A	B
Change of stock due to natural factors	A	A	C	A	B	A	C	C	A	A
Change of stock due to anthropogenic factors	A	A	C	A	B	A	C	C	A	A

A	All data is available	B	Incomplete availability	C	Data is unavailable
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*Regional experts assessment (Yaroslavl, Tomsk, Kaluga and Ryazan)

3. Lessons learnt from past experiences

A. Improvement of data sources

QUALITY OF DATA*

<i>Resource types</i>	Water resources			Forest resources		Mineral resources	Fishery resources	Recreation resources	Hunting resources	Land resources
	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Deep ground</i>	<i>Shallow ground</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Other</i>					
<i>Assessment items</i>										
Natural resource stocks	A	A	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Intensity of utilization	A	A	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B
Depletion	A	A	C	C	B	B	C	C	B	B
Change of stock due to natural factors	B	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Change of stock due to anthropogenic factors	B	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B

A

Complete and reliable data

B

Low reliability

C

Expert assessments

*Regional experts assessment (Yaroslavl, Tomsk, Kaluga and Ryazan)

3. Lessons learnt from past experiences

A. Improvement of data sources

- Associated fixed capital investments are not properly covered by statistical surveys;
- Noise and vibration protection are not observed in statistical surveys;
- Lack of data on by-products of environmental protection activity;
- Survey on environment protection of households is not carried out;
- Lack of complete information on subsidies and other transfers received by enterprises.

3. Lessons learnt from past experiences

A. Improvement of classifications

- Classification of Environmental Protection Activities and Expenditure (CEPA 2000) is not introduced in Russia;
- Lack of detailed budget classification of environmental protection expenditures;

Thank you!