

# UNCEEA WORKING GROUP ON SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (AREA B2)

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## Summary of activities to progress ecosystem accounting

### Introduction

The SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) has generated a wide range of activities since its release in 2013. A primary focus in the past 12 months has been on the revision process of the SEEA EEA but there are many other activities around testing and implementation, engagement and communications. Collectively, these advances highlight the sustained and increasing interest in ecosystem accounting. This report summarizes key points of activity since the 2019 UNCEEA meeting.

### Demand for ecosystem accounting

The time is right for the statistical community to develop an agreed statistical framework to measure the contribution of the ecosystems to the economy and to well being systematically as part of the regular programme of official statistics. The opportunity is there to contribute to the development of a statistical framework that supports climate change and biodiversity, two big policy challenges at the top of the policy debate, in particular in view of the Post 2020 global biodiversity framework to be adopted at the Biodiversity COP tentatively scheduled to be held in May 2021.

To that effect the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) recognized the SEEA as an important framework to support many initiatives, including the SDG agenda, the post-2020 biodiversity framework in developing the monitoring framework, the climate change agenda, the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, the UN Ocean Conference, etc. The SEEA EEA has a role to play and is increasingly being recognized as an important framework to develop indicators and support policies.

### Drafting of chapters for the revised SEEA EEA

The process for the revision of the SEEA EEA has continued to build since mid-2019. Through 2019 and into early 2020, the focus concerned drafting discussion papers on selected issues with multiple papers on each of the four research areas<sup>1</sup> completed and reviewed by relevant experts. The drafting of chapters for the revised SEEA EEA commenced in early 2020. In March, the global consultation commenced on chapters covering spatial units, ecosystem extent and ecosystem condition. Over 80 responses were received. Global consultation on four valuation chapters commenced at the end of May and it is expected that consultation on ecosystem services chapters will commence in early July. This will cover the technical material for the core ecosystem accounts. Other chapters including the introduction and overview and material on thematic accounts and indicators will be prepared through July. A full version of

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<sup>1</sup> The four areas of the research agenda cover ecosystem extent, ecosystem condition, ecosystem services and valuation.

the revised SEEA EEA is intended to be released for global consultation in early October 2020 incorporating all feedback and findings from ongoing testing and discussions. Annex 1 contains additional details on the status of the revision.<sup>2</sup>

Key issues emerging from the discussion to date that will require consideration in the coming months leading to finalisation of the draft for submission to the UNSC in March 20201:

- Clarifying the role of valuation and values in an ecosystem accounting context. While focus of the revised SEEA EEA with respect to valuation will be on the use of exchange values, there is a need to ensure that these values are appropriately placed in a broader context especially with respect to the non-monetary aspects of ecosystem accounting.
- Showing the relationship between exchange values and welfare values and illustrating how the accounts can help support welfare measures, although not the focus of the SEEA EEA.
- Working through issues of aggregation in both monetary and non-monetary contexts. Since most approaches to ecosystem accounting are applying detailed spatial data and the concepts of ecosystem accounting are explained working from ecosystem assets delineated at small scales there is a need to discuss aggregation.
- Ensuring coherence across the chapters in the presentation of concepts of ecosystem extent, condition, ecosystem services and valuation of ecosystem services and assets. A particular focus here will be on ensuring a common understanding of the concept of ecosystem capacity.
- Ensuring clarity of language and use of terms especially to support communication of the wide range of areas of expertise within a statistical context.
- Incorporating feedback from experts in specific areas, especially concerning biodiversity, and ensuring ongoing connection to the application of ecosystem accounting data in decision making, including the derivation of aggregates and indicators.

### Testing work

As part of the revision process a particular focus has been on the testing of approaches to the measurement of ecosystem extent and condition. This work helps to understand the draft chapter content explained in conceptual terms, aids understanding of the feasibility of compiling accounts and supports development of aggregates, indicators and associated data sets.

As part of the revision process and with the support of the project Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) project, a tool using the Artificial Intelligence for Ecosystem Services (ARIES) a networked software technology to compile ecosystem

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<sup>2</sup> More information on the global consultation on chapters can be found in the cover note accompanying the global consultation at:

[https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/documents/EEA/1\\_seea\\_eea\\_global\\_consultations\\_on\\_chapters\\_cover\\_note.pdf](https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/documents/EEA/1_seea_eea_global_consultations_on_chapters_cover_note.pdf).

extent, ecosystem condition and selected ecosystem services using earth observations combined with national data, when available. Effort is under way to define Account Ready Data from various Earth Observation data sources that can support the compilation of the accounts. EO4EA, a group established under GEO and with Conservation International as Secretariat, is developing a work programme in close collaboration with the statistical community and the geospatial community. This work aims to significantly facilitate the implementation of ecosystem accounts.

### Progress in implementation

Progress in implementation of the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) project is provided in a separate report to the Committee. Beyond the NCAVES project, there is clear evidence of substantive research and development of ecosystem accounts in many contexts and high-profile recognition of this work. An article in *Science* in January 2020<sup>3</sup> highlighted a range of the examples, there is progress being made in Europe through the INCA and MAIA projects and the World Bank WAVES project has been made part of a larger Global Program on Sustainability (GPS) aiming to measure the contribution of natural capital to countries' development. Several countries have made significant progress and have published results.<sup>4</sup>

### Engagement

The breadth of material and the inclusive approach taken to the development of ecosystem accounting has made possible many opportunities for engagement. Of particular importance has been the high levels of interest from policy and decision makers including on the themes of biodiversity, land degradation, climate change.

Key connections built during the past 12 months include:

- IPBES – values assessment discussion
- Biodiversity: IUCN (and RLE/GET), CBD and biodiversity indicators, Dasgupta review?
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Corporate accounting and the October 2019 workshop on Scoping Workshop on the SEEA and Business Accounting
- Wealth accounting and the postponed Yale symposium – connection with economists
- SNA revision, presentation at the AEG meeting in October 2019, participation and contribution to the subgroup on well being and sustainability
- London Group discussion sessions on draft Chapters
- Sessions on ecosystem accounting at the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) and A Community on Ecosystem Services (ACES) conferences

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<sup>3</sup> Progress in natural capital accounting for ecosystems BY LARS HEIN, KENNETH J. BAGSTAD, CARL OBST, BRAM EDENS, SJOERD SCHENAU, GEM CASTILLO, FRANCOIS SOULARD, CLAIRE BROWN, AMANDA DRIVER, MICHAEL BORDT, ANTON STEURER, ROCKY HARRIS, ALEJANDRO CAPARRÓS, *SCIENCE* 31 JAN 2020: 514-515.

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/367/6477/514>

<sup>4</sup> See a recent example from the Netherlands: <https://www.cbs.nl/en-gb/society/nature-and-environment/natural-capital>

- Ocean accounts – Global Ocean Accounts Partnership
- Data discussions –ESA, EO4EA, German Space Agency, etc.
- Ocean accounting work
- The Decade on Ecosystem Restoration which will also involve a monitoring framework

#### *Virtual Expert Forum on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting 2020*

The annual Forum of Experts on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting has been transformed into a Virtual Forum that will be held online in several sessions between June and October 2020. Starting with the session on ecosystem extent and condition on 23 and 24 June and the session on valuation on 14 and 15 July. This Virtual Forum builds on the previous Forums which contributed to the advancement of the theory and practice of ecosystem accounting. Its objective is to provide a general overview of the status of the revision process, present the results of testing in countries and discuss remaining methodological issues, including some cross-cutting issues.<sup>5</sup>

#### *Work on biodiversity and indicator development in the SEEA EEA*

A dedicated Subgroup on Accounting for Biodiversity in the SEEA EEA was established to support further bridging this gap in terminology and understanding between the biodiversity and the environmental-economic accounting communities. The Subgroup has membership from both the biodiversity and SEEA communities. The Terms of Reference of the Subgroup are attached in Annex 2. In addition, a Working Group on Indicators for the SEEA EEA is being established under the Technical Committee on the SEEA EEA. The Working Group will aim to support further development of a core set of aggregates and indicators from the SEEA EEA and its mainstreaming for the global indicator monitoring framework. The Terms of Reference of the Working Group are attached in Annex 3.

### **Steps planned to complete the SEEA EEA revision**

As indicated above, the consultation process on the revised SEEA EEA is well underway. By early July, the first round of global consultation will be completed on 7 of 13 chapters and commenced on two further chapters. Collectively this covers the core technical material of the core ecosystem accounts. Drafts of remaining chapters, as explained in Annex 1, will be completed in the coming months ahead of a complete document being finalised for a second round of global consultation in early October. Feedback from this second round of consultation will be evaluated by the SEEA EEA Technical Committee through December and January with a final version to be completed for submission to the UNSC in early February. Summary status reports will be provided progressively.

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<sup>5</sup> For details on the Virtual Forum schedule and more information see: <https://seea.un.org/events/virtual-expert-forum-seea-experimental-ecosystem-accounting-2020>

In addition, the following activities are planned to support the revision process:

- Feedback and summaries of the Virtual Expert Forum
- Research notes on the inclusion of biodiversity and capacity in the revised SEEA EEA
- Development of a glossary and an example to flow through the chapters
- Establishment of a working group on indicators to ensure that applications of the revised SEEA EEA can be readily envisaged, particularly in the context of measuring progress towards the SDGs and the strategies and targets of the CBD.
- Completion of technical guidance on biophysical modelling and valuation to support compilers of ecosystem accounts
- Ongoing engagement with data suppliers, such as the European Space Agency, and spatial data platforms, such as ARIES, to ensure a robust, Tier 1, compilation approach can be established to support implementation at country level.
- Ongoing engagement with the early phases of the SNA revision process to ensure appropriate levels of consistency and coherence
- Ongoing engagement with the London Group of Experts on SEEA
- Implementation of a publication strategy aimed at supporting exchanges between researchers in the development and advancement of ecosystem accounting

Collectively, these steps are aimed at not only finalising the conceptual content of the revised SEEA EEA but also on putting in place the requisite compilation guidance, data support and policy applications (including indicators) that are needed to accompany the agreed concepts and ensure the its relevance and feasibility.

## Background papers and resources

- Draft Chapters 3-5 and 8-11 released for global consultation (<https://seea.un.org/content/global-consultation-individual-chapters>)
- Background paper on the progress of implementation of the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES)
- ARIES for SEEA EEA: Leveraging networked data and models on the cloud for rapid, transparent, and customizable production of ecosystem accounts
- Earth Observations for Ecosystem Accounting – outcome from meeting with European Space Agency (ESA) in April 2020

## Questions for the Committee

The 51<sup>st</sup> session of the UNSC in March 2020 noted the high demand and interest from the statistical, scientific and policy communities, emphasized the urgency of providing a standardized methodology for ecosystem accounting, and supported the aspiration to elevate the revised SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting to SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. In addition, the statistical community is being asked to contribute to the

development of the monitoring framework of the Post 2020 biodiversity framework to be adopted at the CBD COP tentatively scheduled in May 2021.

In that context, and cognisant of the range of activities on ecosystem accounting that are currently underway, the UNCEEA is asked to consider:

- 1) What are the Committee's views on the steps planned over the coming months of 2020 and early 2021 to complete the revision process of the SEEA EEA?
- 2) What are the Committee's views on the adoption of the revised SEEA EEA at the UN Statistical Commission in March 2021, including the dropping of "Experimental" from the title?
- 3) How can the Committee members best engage with the revision process between July 2020 and March 2021 to support the understanding of the SEEA EEA among the statistical community and beyond?
- 4) The process of finalization of the biophysical, valuation and scenario modelling guidelines as outlined in the background paper on the progress of implementation of the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES).

## Annex 1: Status of SEEA EEA revision chapter drafts

The status of the drafting and consultation per chapter is as follows:

Chapters	Status
<p>Section A: Introduction and overview</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Overview of the ecosystem accounting framework</li> </ol>	<p>Chapters will be drafted in August/September and reviewed by the SEEA EEA Technical Committee, before they are included in the revised SEEA EEA for the global consultation on the whole document.</p>
<p>Section B: Accounting for ecosystem extent and condition</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Spatial units for Ecosystem Accounting</li> <li>4. Accounting for Ecosystem Extent</li> <li>5. Accounting for Ecosystem Condition</li> </ol>	<p>Chapters have been submitted for global consultation on 24 March and 84 comments have been received.</p>
<p>Section C: Accounting for ecosystem services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Ecosystem services concepts for accounting</li> <li>7. Accounting for ecosystem services in physical terms</li> </ol>	<p>Chapters will be submitted for global consultation in the beginning of July with a deadline in late August.</p>
<p>SECTION D: Monetary valuation and integrated accounting for ecosystem services and assets</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Principles of valuation for Ecosystem Accounting</li> <li>9. Accounting for ecosystem services in monetary terms</li> <li>10. Accounting for ecosystem assets in monetary terms</li> <li>11. Integrated and extended accounting for ecosystem services and assets</li> </ol>	<p>Chapters have been submitted for global consultation on 29 May and the comments deadline is 6 July.</p>
<p>Section E: Extensions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Complimentary approaches, combined presentations and indicators</li> <li>13. Accounting for specific environmental themes and areas (Thematic accounting)</li> <li>14. Annexes</li> </ol>	<p>Chapters will be drafted in July/August and reviewed by the SEEA EEA Technical Committee, before they are included in the revised SEEA EEA for the global consultation on the whole document.</p>

## Annex 2: Terms of Reference of the Subgroup on Accounting for Biodiversity in the SEEA EEA

### Introduction

In March 2013, the United Nations Statistical Commission endorsed the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) as the basis for commencing testing and further development of this new field of environmental-economic accounting. The SEEA EEA was formally published in 2014 as a joint publication of the United Nations, European Commission, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank. The design and ongoing development of the SEEA EEA has brought together experts from a wide range of disciplines across ecology, statistics, economics, accounting, geography and others.

One of the key areas of interest is on the potential for the SEEA to better understand the connection of biodiversity from ecosystem extent and condition to ecosystem services, economic activity and well-being, and vice versa, as well as to support policy and decision making concerning the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity at all levels including ecosystems. While there is widespread agreement that biodiversity is an important and appropriate area of investigation and that the SEEA is a useful framework to measure biodiversity, there exist a variety of perspectives on how the SEEA can better reflect the measurement of biodiversity throughout the framework. It is recognised that a broader discussion to close the gap in understanding between the statistics/accounting, economics and biodiversity community is needed.

The introduction provided in the first SEEA EEA offered the first attempt to link the SEEA and biodiversity measurement. In the context of the revision of the SEEA EEA and the need to better reflect biodiversity in the revised document, this discussion has newly emerged. The basic starting point is common, the Convention on Biological Diversity definition of biodiversity as spanning genetic, species, and ecosystem levels of ecological organisation: i.e. “the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part: this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems”. However, the use of terms, understanding of ecology and links to applications requires ongoing engagement to ensure that the SEEA EEA reflects biodiversity in a fashion akin to the biodiversity community views.

Hence, it was recognized that a dedicated subgroup on accounting for biodiversity in the SEEA EEA be established to support further bridging this gap in terminology and understanding between the biodiversity and the environmental-economic accounting communities, spanning membership from both communities.

## Objectives

The objectives of the Subgroup are to support the SEEA EEA revision process, building on the range of conceptual advances and practical experiences in accounting for biodiversity, in the following areas:

- a) **Terminology related to biodiversity:** The Subgroup's objective will be to help clarifying terminology with respect to the use of terms in the SEEA EEA, particularly/ "biodiversity" and "ecosystems", also in terms of appropriately reflecting the relevant ecological interactions and levels of ecological organisation.
- b) **Ecosystem extent:** Many countries do not have well developed ecosystem extent maps or an appropriate ecosystem classification. The Subgroup can assist in proposing approaches for incorporating species composition into the ecosystem classification process as part of the extent account
- c) **Ecosystem condition:** The Subgroup's objective will be to suggest ways in which measures of biodiversity (including but not limited to species diversity) should be best integrated into measures of ecosystem condition in the SEEA EEA taking into account issues of scale and practicalities of measurement.
- d) **Ecosystem services:** There has been general agreement in the SEEA EEA community that, except in specific circumstances, biodiversity itself is not an ecosystem service, notwithstanding the fact that biodiversity is accepted to underpin the supply of ecosystem services especially via increasing ecosystem resilience. In addition, there is recognition that there are a range of habitat related services, for example nursery services for fish and for the conservation of threatened species, whose place in the ecosystem accounting framework needs to be carefully articulated. The Subgroup will also assist in clarifying the treatment of these services as well as the role of biodiversity in supporting the capacity of ecosystems to supply services.
- e) **Valuation:** There is general interest in the valuation of biodiversity in both monetary terms and in terms of wider cultural, relational and intrinsic values. However, the interpretation of this interest in ecosystem accounting terms and the appropriate role/scope of SEEA EEA is not yet clear. The Group's objective will be to help interpret the relevant literature, including the links to the valuation of ecosystem services and valuation of ecosystem assets that has already progressed in the SEEA EEA revision process, and propose options for the considering the valuation of biodiversity while recognising the significant challenges involved and the high relevance of biophysical data and metrics.
- f) **Thematic accounts for biodiversity:** Building on original work and incorporating the new developments achieved in accounting for biodiversity, the Subgroup's objective will be to synthesize the material developed and

present it in a concise text for the revised SEEA EEA on thematic accounts for biodiversity.

- g) Promotion of the SEEA EEA accounts in different fora:** Considering that 2020 is a key year for ecosystem and biodiversity, accounting for biodiversity using the SEEA can provide an important support for the design and implementation of resulting frameworks and policy targets. The Group will develop a list of possible entry points for informing various groups of what the accounts for biodiversity can do. Each member of the group will also advocate for the accounts within their respective communities.

The Subgroup may establish a medium-term work programme following the revision of the SEEA EEA, incorporating the discussions at the 2020 IUCN World Conservation Congress and 15th CBD Conference of the Parties. The Subgroup's Terms of Reference would be reconsidered in order to expand the objective related to the development of accounting for biodiversity on a broader level. Specifically, this medium-term work programme would be anticipated to address accounting for the species and genetic dimensions of biodiversity, alongside the accounting for ecosystem dimensions of biodiversity in the SEEA EEA, consistent with CBD definition of biodiversity, and with the likely goals of the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

### **Governance**

The Group is established under the auspices of the UNCEEA with regular oversight from the SEEA EEA Technical Committee of the UNCEEA and secretariat support from UNSD. As applicable, the Group engages with the IUCN Science & Economic Knowledge Team, as well as other groups engaged in the SEEA revision process as well as in measuring biodiversity, to ensure the integration of biodiversity in the various accounts and connection to the biodiversity community.

The work of the Subgroup will be closely coordinated with the work of the Technical Committee on the SEEA EEA, the London Group on Environmental Accounting, the Forum on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting and other groups working on ecosystem accounting and related statistics. Experts on different topics may be invited to participate in the meetings of the Committee as guests depending on its agenda.

### **Membership and the chair**

With the aim to seek broad agreement and consensus, the Subgroup would be composed of members from both the biodiversity and environmental-economic accounting communities. Members of the Subgroup would include experts from national governments, international organizations, NGOs and academia who will coordinate and engage as appropriate with institutions in their respective countries, organizations and networks.

The Subgroup would be chaired by one of the members of the Subgroup for an initial period of 12 months to support the revision process, after that the existence of the Subgroup and its TOR will need to be reassessed. The role of the Chairs would be to advance the work programme of the Subgroup as set by the UNCEEA, as well as coordinate with other groups in the space, in particular the SEEA EEA Technical Committee. UNSD will serve as the secretariat of the Subgroup.

## Annex 3: Terms of Reference of the Working Group on SEEA EEA Indicators

### Introduction

COP15 will adopt at its next session in Kunming, China the post 2020 global biodiversity framework as well as a monitoring framework, which includes a set of indicators. To increase the accountability of Parties, there is a need for a common set of headline indicators that are harmonized and aggregatable. An organizing framework that brings together data from different sources into a common accounting framework with consistent definitions, classifications and accounting rules would provide a useful framework to underpin these headline indicators.

The approach of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) enables countries to adopt a holistic and integrated approach to develop sets of indicators to support the implementation, monitoring and reporting of sustainable development agenda and post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The United Nations Statistical Commission at its 51<sup>st</sup> Session in March 2020 “welcomed the background document on interlinkages ..... and stressed the importance of the System of Environmental Economic Accounting for monitoring the Goals”<sup>6</sup>. At the same session it “stressed the importance of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in supplying a common measurement framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and related indicators that are currently being negotiated and are expected to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity”<sup>7</sup>.

The UNCEEA has assessed that currently 40 indicators for nine SDGs can be informed by SEEA.<sup>8</sup> A preliminary analysis undertaken by the United Nations Statistics Division indicates that SEEA can be used as an integrated framework to potentially monitor 27 out of 45 suggested indicators of the 2050 Goals, and 60 out of 147 of the 2030 targets indicators proposed in the draft monitoring framework accompanying the Zero draft of the global biodiversity framework<sup>9</sup>.

Ongoing effort is currently undertaken by the Technical Committee on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) under the auspices of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) to identify a core set of aggregates and indicators that can be derived from the SEEA as part of the SEEA EEA revision process. The revision process, expected to be completed with the submission of the SEEA EEA to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2021, provides a window of opportunity for the statistical community to support the indicators framework for the post 2020 global biodiversity agenda.

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<sup>6</sup> E/2020/24, E/CN.3/2020/37, 51/101, para (g)

<sup>7</sup> E/2020/24, E/CN.3/2020/37, 51/110, para (c)

<sup>8</sup> [https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/sdg\\_cover\\_note\\_broadbrush.pdf](https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/sdg_cover_note_broadbrush.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/api/v2013/documents/A5FDE4DF-ED6B-61CF-3190-891C442E1209/attachments/UNSD.pdf>

In consideration of the above, a dedicated working group on indicators for the SEEA EEA will be established under the Technical Committee on the SEEA EEA. The group will support further development of a core set of aggregates and indicators from the SEEA EEA and its mainstreaming for the global indicator monitoring framework.

### **Objectives**

The main objective of the working group is to support the SEEA EEA revision process and in particular the drafting of Chapter 12 of the revised SEEA EEA. It will also support the mainstreaming of the SEEA EEA in the on-going discussions on the global indicator monitoring framework, including but not limited to, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The working group would, as appropriate:

1. Oversee the identification of a core list of aggregates and indicators derived from the SEEA EEA that can support global and national indicator reporting initiatives, with a priority focused on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and SDGs.
2. Support the mainstreaming of the SEEA EEA for the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework by following the ongoing discussions and identifying entry points with whom the SEEA focal points in country could work for the development of the indicator framework.
3. Promote SEEA EEA at relevant international conventions, by assisting in making strategic links with related initiatives at global level and developing a list of possible entry points for informing various group on how the SEEA can support the global indicator monitoring framework.
4. Contribute to the drafting of the relevant chapter on aggregate and indicators in the revised SEEA EEA.

### **Governance**

The Group is established under the Technical Committee of the SEEA EEA under the auspices of the UNCEEA and secretariat support from UNSD. The Technical Committee will review the work of the working group and may revise these terms of reference based on the work this group has completed and any new items that the UNCEEA would like this group to consider.

### **Membership and the chair**

With the aim to seek broad agreement and consensus, the working group would be composed of experts on indicators and environmental-economic accounting. Members of the working group would include experts from national governments and international organizations who will coordinate and engage as appropriate with institutions in their respective countries, organizations and networks.

The working group would be chaired by one or two members of the Subgroup for an initial period of 6 months to support the revision process, after that the existence of the Subgroup

and its TOR will need to be reassessed. The role of the Chairs would be to advance the work programme of the working group as set by the UNCEEA, as well as coordinate with other groups in the space, in particular the inter-governmental agency working group set up for the post-2020 and SDG process. UNSD will serve as the secretariat of the working group.