

Climate change and S_{EEA}

A strategic perspective

Introduction

- 2009 UNSC considered a programme review on climate change and official statistics, prepared by the ABS
- The review made 13 recommendations, which were in large part accepted by UNSC
- Many of the recommendations are relevant to SEEA/UNCEEA

#1 Ensure that relevant statistical standards and classifications give proper attention to climate change issues, with particular focus on land use/land cover and energy statistics

- LU/LC classifications one of the SEEA Vol 1 issues
 - Ecosystem approach proposed for Vol 2 also relevant
- IRES/SEEA-E

#2 Strengthen the role of greenhouse gas inventories and improve the quality of greenhouse gas emission statistics as part of official statistics

- Emission accounts are an integral part of SEEA Vol 1

#3 Develop new statistics and share best practice on advanced analysis of existing statistics to support mitigation mechanisms and measures

- SEEA provides a wealth of information to support mitigation mechanisms and measures
- Vol 3 will provide information on what is possible from a policy perspective

#4 Ensure that key macroeconomic statistics take account of the implications of emission trading schemes and other mitigation measures

- The treatment of emission permits is one of the key issues for Vol 1.
 - An objective is to harmonise with the SNA

#5 Develop and further implement SEEA with a focus on its application to support climate- change related analysis

- This should be a key aspect of SEEA implementation as well as its development

#6 Share best practices on the statistical analysis of the impacts and vulnerability to climate change

- Vol 3 will play a key part in this.
- The ecosystem approach for Vol 2 will provide new information sets to support analysis of the impacts and vulnerability to climate change

#7 Improve and promote the use of GISs and other spatial infrastructure for the climate change-related spatial analysis of statistics

- SEEA can be applied at different geographical scales
- Small area information could be integrated with GISs to enhance spatial analysis

#8 Develop a framework for climate change-related statistics

- SEEA/FDES can provide this framework

#9 Promote the use of indicators at the national level and provide statistical expertise for indicator development

- SEEA will be a good source of indicators

#10 Advocate the use of official statistics in climate change-related policies

- Vol 3 will support this
- Such advocacy should be part of a broader effort to seek support for SEEA, including its implementation

#11 Support the estimation of macroeconomic impacts of climate change, mitigation and adaptation

- SEEA, particularly the energy, forests, emission and land components, has a significant role in supporting such analysis

#12 Initiate a dialogue with the IPCC on the use of official statistics for scenario development and modelling in future assessments of climate change

- The usefulness of SEEA for this purpose should be a key part of any such dialogue

#13 Expand the mandate and membership of UNCEEA to provide oversight of international statistical activities related to climate change

- This recommendation was not accepted by UNSC, but UNSC has re-affirmed the role of UNCEEA in regard to the economic-environmental accounting aspects of official statistics related to climate change