

# Natural Capital Accounting & Valuation of Ecosystem Services

## (Environmental-Economic Accounting in India)



***Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)***

***Government of India***

# Initial Activities EEA in India

- Expert Group on “Green National Accounting for India” constituted in 2011 under Sir Partha Dasgupta to implement SEEA in India.
- Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) constituted in January 2015 as a collaborative mechanism
  - To assess different aspects of data available – timeliness, accuracy, level of disaggregation
  - To recommend measures for improving the quality and coverage of data and strengthening the existing data systems
  - To identify agencies which can help evolve methodologies for valuation of stocks of natural assets



## Activities initiated under the Project

- Interaction with different agencies on activities to be taken up under the project
- Stock-taking landscape assessment of
  - existing ecosystem accounting initiatives and literature in India
  - data sources for compiling ecosystem accounts
  - institutions and agencies active in this field
  - states where a detailed study for compilation of ecosystem accounts could be launched

[https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/india\\_assessment\\_2019.pdf](https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/india_assessment_2019.pdf)



# EnviStats-India 2018

## Supplement on Environmental Accounts

- **First official publication based on SEEA released in September 2018.**
- **Provides asset accounts in physical terms for**
  - **forest, land, minerals and water**
  - **at National and State-levels**
- **Depicts aggregate changes in the cohort of environmental assets of States**

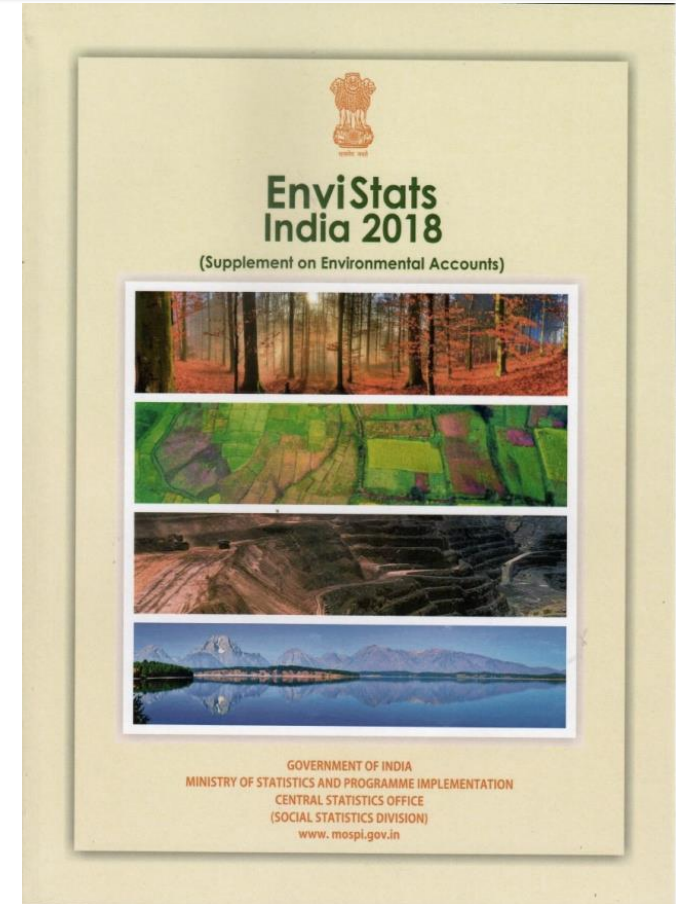
<http://www.mospi.gov.in/publication/envistats-india-2018-supplement-environmental-accounts-0>



# EnviStats India 2018

## Supplement on Environmental Accounts

- Land account – land cover: stock and change over 2005-06 and 2011-12
- Mineral account – proved and probable reserves, remaining resources: 2005, 2010 and 2015
- Water account – availability in river basins and groundwater
- Forest accounts – forest cover, growing stock of timber and carbon: 2004-05, 2010-11 and 2015-16



# Highlights of the Asset Accounts

- **Changes in Assets**
  - Change from fallow to farmland, increases in forest cover, carbon stock, proven reserves and resources of minerals
  - Decline in Growing stock in some States and groundwater resources
- **Effect of climate change**
  - Fluctuations in land under 'snow and glacier' and 'wetlands/water bodies'
- **Urbanization**
  - Increase in built-up area - in some cases, at the cost of farmland



# Current Activities

- Indicators for air and soil quality.
- Compilation of following ecosystem services:
  - Carbon sequestration;
  - Nature based tourism related services (based on Tourism Survey and Tourism Satellite Accounts); and
  - Harvested living resources (agriculture - provisioning of crops and forestry).
- Water Quality Accounts.
- Exploring the possibilities of leveraging on existing datasets.



**THANKS**

