



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Classification of Environmental Functions

Global Consultation

Comments Form

Deadline for responses: 31 December 2022

Send responses to: seea@un.org

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The comment form has been designed to facilitate the analysis of comments. There are three guiding questions in the form, please respond to the questions in the indicated boxes below. To submit responses please save this document and send it as an attachment to the following e-mail address: seea@un.org.

All documents can be also found on the website at: <https://seea.un.org/content/global-consultation-classification-environmental-functions>

In case you have any questions or have issues with accessing the documents, please contact us at seea@un.org

Question 1: Do you have any comments on the proposed structure of the Classification of Environmental Functions?

There are some overlaps within different mapping CEF into CEPA and CReMA groups, such as: 2.2.3 Replenishment of water resources (CReMA10) overlaps with CEPA4. Also, The presenting proposed structure of the Classification of Environmental Functions quite complicated, it should be presented in different way to facilitate the mapping efforts. Since wide range of countries depend on The Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG) in reporting environmental expenditures, it was very useful to use mapping with COFOG groups together with CEPA and CReMA groups.

Question 2. Do you have any comments on the explanatory notes and on the heading reference?

Prevention of pollution and through in-process modifications since these activates found in different environment activities, should be stated clearly not to be mixed up within CEPA and CReMA groups and should be followed with list of includes and excludes items and examples to ensure no overlapping between different CEPA and CReMA groups. I guess the excludes of Energy savings and management should be double check particularly in the current and future situation which elaborating soaring energy price that might causes the losing opportunities for investing in different environment functions.

Question 3. Do you have any other comments on the Classification of Environmental Functions?

The comments are on the timing of launching CEF as different NOS didn't start CEPA or CReMA yet, which going to confuse their efforts of preparation of elaborating both CEPA and CReMA in their coming surveys or administrative registrations and records. Add to that the complication of comparison of different UN regions and countries since some still produced both CEPA and CReMA (not a push button to shift into CEF), while others will produce CEF. In same sequence the time series comparison will be too complicated. I guess mapping production of CEPA and CReMA internationally for bio annual minimum might facilitate the complication of different production of CEF and (CEPA and CReMA). Why CEPA and CReMA presented separately while they were combined together into one classification of environmental activities (CEA). It was clearly stated in 2008, (Alshatarat, K.S.R) Comparing public environmental expenditures with environmental priorities: Jordan- Master of Science (MS) 2008 UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, Delft The Netherlands. Also later in SEEA 2012 - SEEA Central Framework (2012-2014) Table 4.1 Page (99).