

**Nineteenth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on
Environmental-Economic Accounting
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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

**Area A: Coordination and Communication
Summary of activities and future work**

Paper prepared by the Working Group on Coordination and Communication

(for discussion)

UNCEEA WORKING GROUP ON COORDINATION (AREA A)

Introduction

1. This note reports on the activities of Area A over the last year. Area A focuses on the role of the Committee to foster coordination, integration and complementarity of programs in environmental-economic accounts and related statistics. It also promotes the use and broader implementation of SEEA to meet user needs.

Developments in 2023-24

2. In the past year, Area A saw a change in Chair as the Australian Bureau of Statistics has taken over this role from Statistics Canada. The current Chair extends their gratitude to Statistics Canada for their leadership of this important area of work.

3. The Working Group meet regularly in 2023/2024 to discuss updates and opportunities to mainstream SEEA on various initiatives. As presented at the [18th Meeting of the UNCEEA](#), the two main components of the 2023/2024 workplan included the completion of a landscape assessment and the organization of a webinar series.

4. In late 2023, the Working Group completed the landscape assessment, which provides an overview of the space in which the UNCEEA operates, focusing on groups and initiatives relevant to the Committee's work. The landscape assessment comprises two parts: a color-coded table providing detailed information on each group as well as a visual mapping. The assessment highlights the large number of inter-relationships and opportunities for the SEEA community to influence across a broader range of users. The landscape assessment is meant to be a living document, which is periodically updated; the Working Group reviewed the assessment in their June 2024 meeting, and the latest version is being circulated to the Committee.

5. In addition, the SEEA webinar series commenced in 2024. The series, '[Uses of the SEEA for Policy](#)', has the goals to showcase the benefits of the SEEA, demonstrate how the SEEA can address policy questions, and explore areas where the SEEA could potentially play a role in informing policy and decision-making.

6. Two webinars were conducted so far this year, both related to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The first webinar, titled '[Using the SEEA for Monitoring and Informing the Global Biodiversity Framework](#)', was

held on 15 April 2024 and provided an understanding of the SEEA framework and how the SEEA can support national implementation of the monitoring framework of the GBF. The second webinar, titled '[Implementation of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting: Recent country experiences and the pathway to synergies with the Global Biodiversity Framework](#)', was held on 20 May and provided an opportunity to learn about recent country experiences in compiling the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. These webinars provided a bridge to other communities beyond SEEA, particularly Focal Points to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as other line ministries and stakeholders. The webinars attracted a large audience, with approximately 200 participants in each webinar. In addition, the two recordings of the webinars have garnered more than 600 views, combined.

Future work

7. Area A will continue to play a role in its traditional space of fostering communication and coordination by meeting regularly and discussing key ongoing initiatives, such as the Kunming-Montreal GBF and third phase of the G20 Data Gaps Initiative, as well as other emerging issues across relevant areas.

8. One of the key activities planned for the 2024/2025 is continuing the webinar series. Future webinars on sustainable finance and business accounting are in the early stages of planning over the coming year.

9. In addition, it is suggested that a new component be added to the 2024/2025 work programme, which aims at supporting the update of the SEEA Central Framework (CF). It is envisaged to engage a broad set of users in the update process of the SEEA CF, including statisticians, national accountants, policy makers, academia, the environmental economics community, private sector, etc. The Committee will need to actively reach out to engage user communities and organizations. It is suggested that Area A liaise with Area B1 to help identify stakeholder communities to engage with during the update process, particularly during global consultations. Area A may also provide input in the overall communications of the update of the SEEA CF.

10. We welcome suggestions from UNCEEA on feedback on these areas of work and support in their implementation.

Questions for the Committee

11. The UNCEEA is asked to:

- Provide feedback on the 'Uses of the SEEA for Policy' webinar series, including suggestions for topics or communities that could be reached through the webinar series.
- Comment on the proposed activities for the group in 2024/2025.