



Our Story.
Our Future.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to their cultures and Elders, past and present.

Area A Discussion

UNCEEA meeting 25/26 June 2024

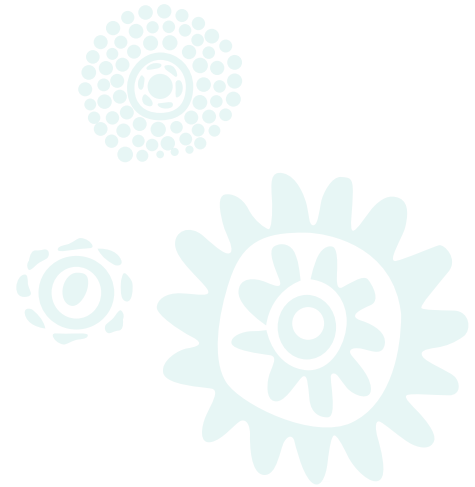


Outline



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- Mandate
- Current activities
 - Landscape Assessment
 - ‘Uses of the SEEA for policy’ webinar series
- Future activities
- Questions for the committee



- Area A focuses are:
 - Fostering coordination, integration and complementarity of program in Environmental-economic accounts and related statistics.
 - Promoting the use and broader implementation of SEEA to meet user needs.

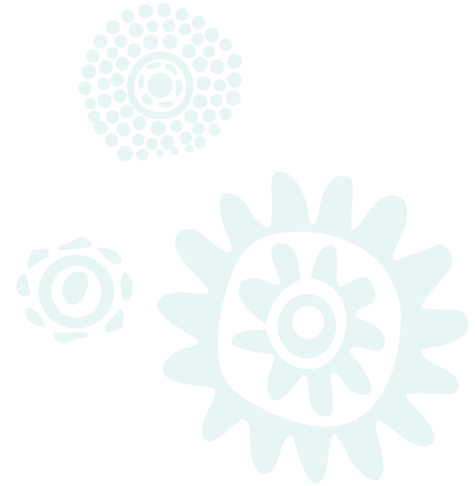


Current activities



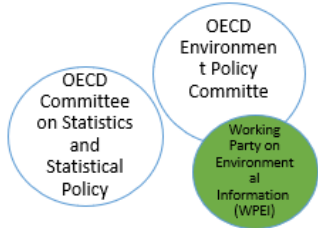
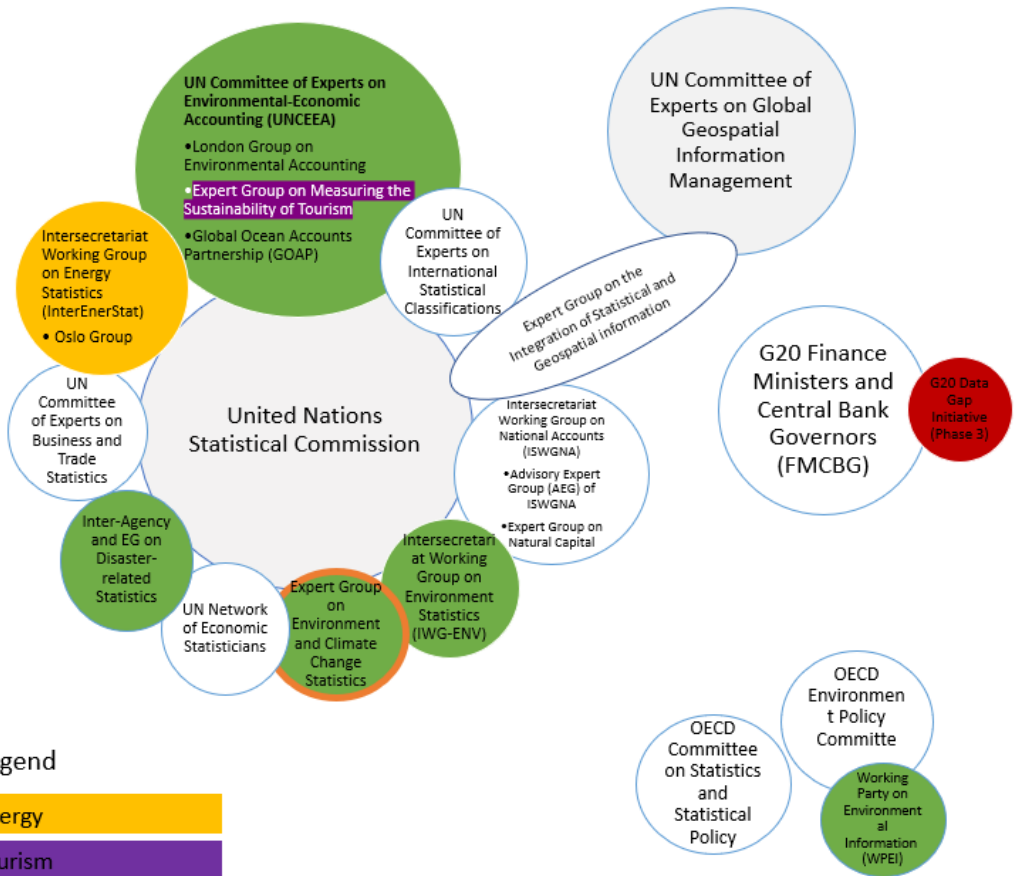
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- 2 key activities for area A:
 - Landscape assessment.
 - ‘Uses of the SEEA for Policy’ webinar series.



- The goal of the landscape was to create an internal resource that would help UNCEEA members identify emerging policy issues and important topics, including relevant initiatives and groups.
- The assessment was initiated under the leadership of Statistics Canada and was ‘finalised’ at the end of 2023.
- The assessment consists of:
 - A table providing detailed information on relevant groups.
 - A mapping that provides a visual overview of the space in which the UNCEEA operates.
- The landscape is not meant to be comprehensive. It represents the areas where we have familiarity.
- It is expected that the landscape will be updated annually by Area A members.





Legend

- Energy
- Tourism
- Environment
- Climate Change
- Circular Economy
- Sustainable Finance

Note: Please see the accompanying word document for further details and an explanation of how the landscape assessment was completed. The groups in the assessment were solicited from Area A and UNCEEA members and are not meant to be comprehensive.

Name of Committee/expert group/task force/working group	Type of Group	Who does the Group report to?	Purpose and Priorities of Group	Structure	Terms of Reference	Linkages to other international initiatives	Other comments
UN Committee of Experts on Environmental, Economic, Accounting (UNCEEA)	Management group	UN Statistical Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide overall vision, coordination, guidance and direction in the field of environmental economic accounting and supporting statistics. Three main objectives: 1) Mainstream the SEEA and supporting statistics; 2) elevate the SEEA to an international statistical standard; 3) Advance the implementation of the SEEA in countries. Current priorities include coordination; methodology and normative standards; global databases; capacity development; and business accounting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNCEEA is a management group whose members include NSOs and IOs Bureau established to assist Chair, comprises senior officials from NSOs and IOs and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the activities in between plenary meetings UNSD (environmental-economic accounting section) serves as Secretariat UNCEEA includes six WGs, including technical WGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area A: Coordination and communication Area B1: SEEA Central Framework Technical Committee Area B2: SEEA Ecosystem Accounting Technical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ToG Operational guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works in close collaboration with the LG and provides guidance on its research agenda. UNCEEA reports to the UNSC include EG updates A collaboration agreement on an exists between the UNCEEA and ISWGNA/AFG with regards to the update of the 2008 SNA and issues related to the environment. UNWTO provides input to the UNCEEA reports on progress on “Measuring Sustainability of Tourism” to the UN Statistical Commission The mandate of the UNCEEA is to report on all things related to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports to UN Statistical Commission Communication strategy See also the WG on Indicators, which is a crosscutting WG of the UNCEEA

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Task Force on the Role of National Statistical Offices in Achieving National Climate Objectives	Task Force	Conference of European Statisticians (CES)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee, including two working groups on ocean and forest ecosystems Area C: Global Databases Area D: Capacity Building 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> environmental accounts to the UN Statistical Commission. This includes areas such as UNWTO’s “Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism”, work on circular economy and climate change by UNECE task forces, the work of GOAP, SEEA-related work by regional commissions and IOs, etc 	

Name of Committee/expert group/task force/working group	Type of Group	Who does the Group report to?	Purpose and Priorities of Group	Structure	Terms of Reference	Linkages to other international initiatives	Other comments
London Group on Environmental Accounting	City group (technical)	The LG works in close collaboration with the UNCEEA and reports to the UN Statistical Commission via the UNCEEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall purpose is to provide a forum for sharing of national and international expertise in the field and to encourage adoption of best practices. Topics covered include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical flow accounts Asset accounts for natural resources and land Environmental activity accounts Ecosystem accounts Applications and extensions of environmental accounts; and Training and implementation material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LG, as other city groups, is an informal group of experts and practitioners from NSOs and IOs. A Bureau supports the Chair to carry out activities in between and to the lead-up to meetings. Members of Bureau are from NSOs, line ministries and IOs. UNSD SEEA team serves as Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> london-group-mandate-and-governance-structure.pdf (un.org) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the ToG the LG is an independent technical EG which works in close collaboration with the UNCEEA. The UNCEEA provides guidance page 29 of the work programme of the LG and the agenda for its meetings. However, there remains a degree of flexibility for the Group to identify its own avenues of research in addition to the work suggested by the UNCEEA. 	

Name of Committee/expert group/task force/working group	Type of Group	Who does the Group report to?	Purpose and Priorities of Group	Structure	Terms of Reference	Linkages to other international initiatives	Other comments
UNCEA Steering Group on Climate Change-Related Statistics	Management group	Conference of European Statisticians (CES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> long-standing group which provides overall guidance on climate-change related statistics, including organizing EGM, identifying topics for further group and advising current task forces. Support the implementation of the Conference of European Statisticians’ (CES) Recommendations on Climate Change-Related Statistics Advance international work on climate change-related 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN GGM Regional Committees (America, Arab States, Europe, Africa), liaise with UN GGM Secretariat to facilitate regional discussion and formally feeds into the Committee of Experts. Functional groups, focus on progressing the work items of the Committee and following up on decisions adopted Thematic groups include academic, private sector and professional networks UNSD serves as Secretariat Rep-experimentalists from NSOs, IOs and individual experts UNECE serves as Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://unece.org/files/dims/default/491414380/inline/491414380mainbody_ces/ku/2018/October09-05_onclimate_change-related_statistics-Progress_report.pdf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided guidance on the work of the TF on a Core Set of Climate Change-Related Statistics. Also provided guidance to the TF on Measuring Extreme Events and Disasters 	

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Task Force on the Role of National Statistical Offices in Achieving National Climate Objectives	Task Force	Conference of European Statisticians (CES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidance on how NSOs can contribute to achieving national climate objectives. The guidance will identify concrete ways in which NSOs can be involved and showcase what the statistical system already offers to support climate action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives from NSOs, IOs and individual experts UNECE serves as Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ToG appraised.pdf ToG will be renewed October 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follows the work of the Steering Group and Task Forces on the Set of Core Climate Change-Related Statistics and Indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follows the efforts of the UNCEE Task Force on a Core Set of Climate Change Related Statistics
UNCEA Task Force on Circular Economy	Task Force	Conference of European Statisticians (CES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main objective of the Task Force is to draft practical guidelines for measuring circular economy, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition of the measurement scope Clarification of key terms and definitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members include experts on CE from NSOs, line ministries, academia, IOs. Countries from outside the UNCEA region may be invited to participate in the TF. UNECE serves as Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://unece.org/body/252983 https://unece.org/files/dims/default/491414380/inline/49141438017-Add_2023-0817.pdf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the ToG, the activities of the TF will align with related work of the UNCEEA to ensure global relevance. The UNCEEA will be informed about the progress of the TF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Originally foreseen to conclude at end of 2022, the TF will continue until June 2025, to allow for finalizing the guidelines and undertaking an exploration of

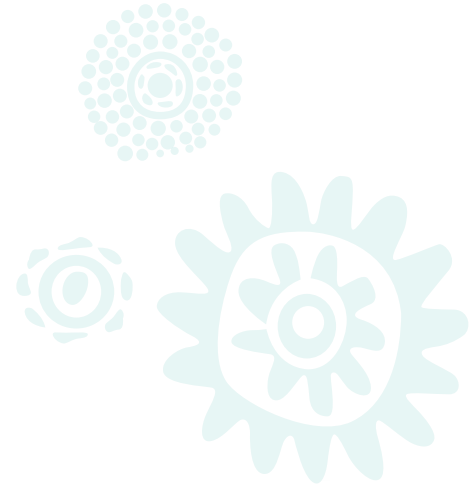
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Extension CE Task Force			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying key statistics and indicators needed from the early point of sales Identifying data sources for measuring circular economy, with particular attention on SEA and ESAs Describing the required institutional collaboration. <p>Other objectives of the Task Force are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the coordination and collaboration of related work of IOs and Provide platforms for exchange of experience and knowledge. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension CE Task Force - a glossary.pdf 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> methods and data sources 26-29, 29-30, 29-31 and 29-32 agreed core indicators.

Landscape assessment (summary)



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- The landscape assessment has highlighted strong linkages between activities and opportunities to foster coordination.
- The interlinkages in the landscape assessment also highlight the complexities in using SEEA and related statistics.



'Uses of the SEEA for Policy' webinar series.



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- A new webinar series has been launched in 2024.
- The webinar series aims to highlight various priority and emerging policy areas that can be informed by the SEEA.
- The goals of the webinar series are to:
 - Showcase the benefits of the SEEA
 - Demonstrate how the SEEA can address policy questions
 - Explore areas where the SEEA could potentially play a role in informing policy and decision-making.
- The webinars also provide an opportunity to bring together different disciplines.



Webinar 1: Monitoring and Informing the GBF



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- The 1st SEEA webinar was held on Monday 15 April.
- The webinar outlined how SEEA provides the methodological basis for several indicators of the monitoring framework of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
- The programme included presentations from the CBD secretariat, an overview of the key indicators and a panel discussion with selected countries (Mexico, Canada, and Australia).
- This webinar was aimed to provide a bridge to other communities, particularly CBD focal points.

WEBINAR SERIES

Using the SEEA for

**Monitoring and Informing the
Global Biodiversity Framework**

Organized by the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)

Monday, 15 April 2024 | 7:30 a.m. (ET) | Online

 System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

The banner features a blue header with the text "WEBINAR SERIES". Below this, on an orange background, is the text "Using the SEEA for" followed by the main title "Monitoring and Informing the Global Biodiversity Framework" in bold. It also states "Organized by the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)" and "Monday, 15 April 2024 | 7:30 a.m. (ET) | Online". At the bottom left is the logo for the System of Environmental Economic Accounting, and at the bottom right is a decorative graphic of a butterfly and a person on a bicycle. The background of the banner is a colorful mosaic of geometric shapes.

Webinar 2: Implementation of the SEEA ecosystem accounting



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- The 2nd SEEA webinar was held on Monday 20 May.
- The webinar outlined country experiences in implementing SEEA ecosystem accounts, which underpin key headline indicators from the Global Biodiversity Framework.
- The webinar was hosted by the chair of Area B2 and included country presentations from South Africa, India, Ireland and the United Kingdom.



 SEEA **WEBINAR**

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEEA ECOSYSTEM ACCOUNTING

Recent **country experiences** and the
path to synergies with the
Global Biodiversity Framework

 Monday, 20 May 2024 | 7:30 a.m. (EDT)
Online



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 seea.un.org

Summary of webinars.



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- The webinars were well attended with approximately 200 participants in each webinar.
- Both webinars have been recorded and are freely available online. The two recordings have garnered more than 600 combined views.
- Future webinars are in the early stages of planning over the coming year, with sustainable finance and business accounting identified as possible topics.



Future activities



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- Continuing the ‘Uses of the SEEA for Policy’.
 - Identified topics include sustainable finance and business accounting.
- Communicating and coordination key ongoing initiatives
 - G20 Data Gaps Initiative
 - Kunming-Montreal GBF
- SEEA Central Framework update.
 - Assist Area B1 to help identify and target appropriate stakeholder communities beyond National Statistics Offices.
 - Provide input in the overall communications of the SEEA CF update, particular for non technical communication.

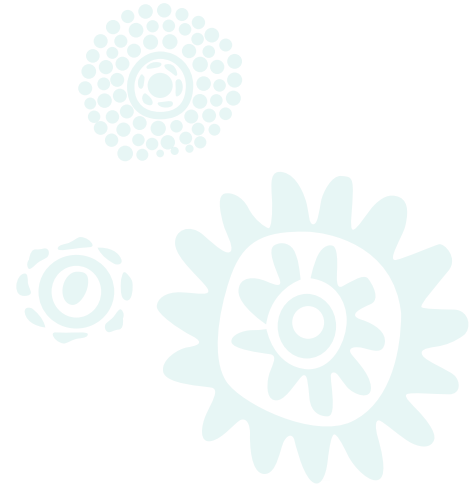


Questions for UNCEEA



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- 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.





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Discussion

