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Global databases – Updated roadmap and remaining questions

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SEEA databases - Next steps

Topic	Lead agency (partner)	Current and planned tasks	Timeline
Air emissions	OECD (Eurostat)	Endorsement by SEEA-CF TC and UNCEEA	Q2-18
		Release estimated accounts for available (Annex-I) countries	Q3 2018
		Ongoing work on residence/territory adjustment, non-Annex-I countries and LULUCF emissions	2018/19
Energy	UNSD (Eurostat, IEA)	Endorsement by SEEA-CF TC	Q3/Q4 2018
		Testing of Excel based tool	Ongoing
		Release of accounts	TBD
EW-MFA	UN Environment (Eurostat, OECD)	Finalisation of global manual / endorsement by SEEA-CF TC and UNCEEA	Q2 2019 at most
		Release of global EW-MFA database	Done (2017), but not secured
Land cover	FAO (OECD)	Release of land cover accounts	Done
		Technical discussion with SEEA-CF TC (mapping to SEEA classification)	2018/19
		Work on land cover change matrices	Ongoing

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Quality assurance and validation principles

- **Data collected from countries**
  - Use QA and validation processes with countries already in place.

- **Data not, or not yet, collected from countries and estimated**
  - Apply *harmonised methodologies* that benefit from an international consensus, i.e. endorsed through a formal process by UNCEEA/SEEA-CF TF
  - Use commonly *agreed upon validation processes*, e.g. make the estimates available to countries for review, documentation and possible amendment before release
  - Clearly **distinguish official and estimated** accounts

- **All data: apply principle of *mutual recognition***

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Dissemination and communication

- ## Documentation
    - Underlying data sources, compilation methods, validation criteria
    - Distinction between official country data and estimated data
        - Using flags or releasing "official" and "estimated" data in two separate datasets

- ## Access (short term)
    - Via statistical platforms of involved agencies
    - Cross-referencing among SEEA databases
    - Establishment of a dedicated webpage (portal) on SEEA website

- ## Access (longer term)
    - Envisage creation of *consolidated SEEA databases* combining several selected SEEA related datasets using a common structure and industry breakdown

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The case of water accounts

- **No progress so far**
  - Limited data availability; many data quality issues
  - Low interest is some countries (EU)

- **International collection and production of water data well established**
  - OECD/Eurostat and UNSD/UNEP coordinated questionnaires
    - quasi-global coverage; ISIC breakdown for key variables; partially building on accounting principles (resources, abstraction, supply & use, wastewater)
  - FAO Aquastat: database (and new questionnaire)
  - Link to SDG indicators

- **Discussions on harmonised international questionnaire and collection process initiated to avoid duplication**
  - OECD/Eurostat/UNSD with FAO

- **Proposal to review feasibility at next UNCEEA meeting (2019)**
  - Build on SEEA-Water and Technical notes
  - Build on earlier review of questionnaire(s) and current response rates

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Questions for discussion

- **Does the UNCEEA agree with the proposed roadmap and timelines?**

- **Views on the proposed validation process for estimated accounts:**
  - Endorsement of the estimation methodology by SEEA-CF TC and the UNCEEA, and
  - Review of estimates by countries for possible amendment before release

- **Views on the best way to disseminate global SEEA databases?**

- **Views on how to best progress on water accounts?**

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