

UNCEEA Working Group on Implementation and Statistical Capacity Building

BY: AREA D

AREA D MEMBERSHIP



United Nations
Statistics Division



Outline

- Area D Priorities
- Achievements for 2023/24
- Proposed work programme 2024/25
- Questions to the committee

Area D Priorities for 2023/24 year

1. Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities; Area D members meet on a quarterly basis to deliberate on the progress in the three components of the work programme.
2. **Revitalization of SEEA Focal Points Network (more details on this the next slide)**
3. Conducting a global assessment in 2023: The results were successfully completed in early 2024 and a background paper was submitted to the UNSC. The reports from the 2023 assessment as well as prior assessments can be found on the SEEA website.
 - See <https://seea.un.org/content/global-assessment-environmental-economic-accounting>.

Revitalize the SEEA Focal Point Network

Process

- At its 18th meeting, the UNCEEA recommended updating the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the SEEA Focal Points Network to better reflect the changing landscape around the SEEA implementation.
- Initial draft of the ToRs was developed by Area D
- A survey of current focal points was conducted to inform the updates
- Consultations with the Bureau

Updates to the ToRs

- Up to 2 focal points per country (CF and EA, management and technical)
- Profile of focal point more relevant: coordination, knowledge of SEEA and awareness raising at national level
- Main responsibilities
 - Responding to international requests
 - Serve as contact point on account in the country
 - Knowledge sharing

Proposed work programme for 2024-25

- **Areas 1 and 4 of the paper: Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities and composition**
- Area D will continue to hold regular meetings in 2024-25 to ensure coordination of capacity building and implementation activities at the regional and global levels.
- **Composition**
 - Invite UNEP, CBD, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, and GOAP
 - Regional development banks: ADB, AfDB, IABD and IDB.
 - One country per region to bring the country perspective to the discussion.

- **Area 2: Revitalize the SEEA Focal Point network**

- Updated ToRs
- List to be initially non-public
- Potential engagement with FoC to be discussed by Area D
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- **Area 3: Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics**

- As agreed by the Committee during its 16th meeting, in 2021, the Global Assessment is carried out every year as either a benchmark assessment (detailed, every 3 years) or an abbreviated assessment (Years between benchmark assessments).
- An abbreviated Global Assessment will be conducted in 2024, mainly for the purpose of monitoring needs for the two Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators focusing on the SEEA (12.b.1 and 15.9.1). The results of the previous Global Assessments are available on the SEEA website.
 - See <https://seea.un.org/content/global-assessment-environmental-economic-accounting>
- These two indicators measure the implementation of tools to monitor sustainable tourism and the mainstreaming of biodiversity values into policy and accounts, respectively.

- **Area 3: Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics**
- It will be administered to all UN Member States in September 2024.
- Responses will be validated and analysed by UNSD and a background report prepared for the UN Statistical Commission's session in March 2025.
- Area D members will assist the benchmark Global Assessment with: reviewing the questionnaire; following-up with countries in their regions; and reviewing the final report for the Statistical Commission (by end January 2025).

Questions to the Committee

- 1) Endorse of the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Focal Point Network as outlined in the annex to this paper.
- 2) Agree to the expansion of membership of Area D
- 3) Comment on the priorities for the workplan of Area D for 2024-25 as outlined above in section 2 and centered around 3 areas: (1) Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities; (2) Revitalize the SEEA Focal Point network; and (3) Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics.
- 4) Provide advice if there are potential new priority areas for Area D to consider.