

# 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 2022/23
- Proposed work programme 2023/24
- Questions to the committee

# Area D Priorities

- Coordination of implementation initiatives
- Statistical capacity building activities for the SEEA in countries
- Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics

Achievements for year  
2022/23



- **Updating the implementation guide**
- Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities: (So far: Global assessment 2022 by country and updating the list of priorities, SEEA Focal Points and experts by region)
- Conducting a global assessment “light” in 2022: The results were successfully completed in early 2023 and a background paper was submitted to the UNSC. The reports from the 2022 assessment as well as prior assessments can be found on the SEEA website.
  - See <https://seea.un.org/content/global-assessment-environmental-economic-accounting>.

Area D members meet on a quarterly basis to deliberate on the progress in the three components of the work programme.

- **Updating the implementation guide**

- Over the past 12 months, Area D undertook a review and update of the SEEA Implementation Guide, which was developed in 2014 and was mostly focused on the implementation of SEEA CF.
- Members of Area D and UNSD drafted the guide. The draft was circulated to Areas **B1** and **B2** for review and the presented version of the guide has incorporated comments received from member of those areas.
- The updated implementation guide is entitled *“Towards the Institutionalization of the SEEA: An Implementation Guide”* and is available at <https://seea.un.org/content/towards-institutionalization-seea-implementation-guide>.
- The new online format of the Implementation Guide is relatively short so as to provide a general guidance on how to start the implementation of the SEEA but provides links to other documents for those interested in additional information. It is intended to be a ‘live document’ that can be updated and improved based on feedback received from countries and partners.

- **Updating the implementation guide**

- It has five (5) core sections: Strategic planning; Building mechanisms for implementation; Compiling the accounts; Disseminating the accounts; and Institutionalizing the SEEA.
- Each section outlines the main aspects related to the implementation of both SEEA CF and SEEA EA and includes at least one country example to illustrate the particular aspect of the SEEA implementation.
- The new online format of the Implementation Guide is relatively short so as to provide a general guidance on how to start the implementation of the SEEA but provide links to other documents for those interested in additional information. It is intended to be a 'live document' that can be updated and improved based on feedback received from countries and partners.



# Proposed Work Programme 2023/24

- **Area 1: Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities**
- Area D will continue to hold regular meetings in 2023-24 to ensure coordination of capacity building and implementation activities at the regional and global levels.
- We will also aim to continually update our database on list of priorities, SEEA Focal Points and experts by region
- We have received interest from a wide number of partners, including from regional and international organizations, as well as a variety of NGOs and other players, working in the field of the SEEA implementation.
- Members resolved that the co-chairs in consultation with UNSD will invite representative(s) of interested organizations to participate in some of the regular meetings of Area D and to brief Area D on their SEEA related activities.

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

- The SEEA focal point network was established in 2020, by requesting nominations from all UN Members States. UNSD received approximately 192 nominations from 123 countries.
- They serve as the first point of contact on all matters related to the SEEA, including the updates on compilation programme, responding to the global assessment, data validation and coordination of SEEA work.
- The network has served well as a point of contact for all SEEA related matters; however, it has not constituted itself as a group of technical experts on the SEEA.
- **The aim under this priority would be to review the terms of reference for the focal points, review and update the current membership of the group, clearly communicate what the expectations from the network and, if possible, energize the group to become more active.**

- **Area 3: Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics**

- As agreed by the Committee during its 16<sup>th</sup> 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).
- The abbreviated Global Assessment was conducted in 2021 and 2022, 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**


- In 2023, a full (benchmark) Global Assessment will be carried out.
- It will be administered to all UN Member States in September 2023.
- It provides a comprehensive picture of the SEEA implementation around the world including compilation of CF and EA accounts in detail, institutional arrangements, technical assistance, plans, and use of the accounts.
- Responses will be validated and analysed by UNSD and a background report prepared for the UN Statistical Commission's session in March 2024.
- 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 2024).

- **Area 3: Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics**
- **Dissemination**
- The results of the Global Assessment have been widely used and cited by different organizations and the press in the past years. To increase the communication and outreach of the Global Assessment, Area D will explore possibilities for the dissemination of results through, for example, webinars, communication products, etc.

Questions to the Committee

- 1) Endorsement of the new implementation guide “Towards the Institutionalization of the SEEA: Implementation Guide” (<https://seea.un.org/content/towards-institutionalization-seea-implementation-guide>)
- 2) Priorities for the workplan of Area D as outlined above:
  - a) Coordination of capacity building and implementation activities;
  - b) Revitalize the SEEA Focal Point network; and
  - c) Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics.
- 3) What are the capacity building and implementation areas of particular interest for countries that Area D should focus on?
- 4) Possible avenues for communication and dissemination of the results of the Global Assessment.





Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Future Generations