



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Expert Group Meeting on SEEA-Related Indicators for the Global Biodiversity Framework

10 to 12 February 2026

UNEP-WCMC Offices, Cambridge, UK

Concept note and agenda



**United
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1 BACKGROUND

The [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(GBF\)](#) was adopted at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP 15) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in December 2022. The GBF sets out an ambitious pathway to reach the global vision of a world living in harmony with nature by 2050. It comprises four actionable and measurable [goals](#) for 2050 and 23 [targets](#) for urgent action by 2030.

The GBF is supported by a [monitoring framework](#), agreed by the CBD Parties in 2022 to measure and monitor their progress towards these goals and targets in a transparent and results-oriented manner. The [metadata for the monitoring framework](#) makes reference to the concepts and methods of the [SEEA Ecosystem Accounting \(SEEA EA\)](#) framework as the basis for calculating several GBF indicators. These include the GBF Headline Indicators [A.2 \(Extent of natural ecosystems\)](#) and [B.1 \(Services provided by ecosystems\)](#) that are drawn from the Ecosystem Extent and Ecosystem Services Accounts described in the SEEA-EA.

The project [“SEEA-related indicators for the Global Biodiversity Framework \(GBF\)”](#) was launched in 2024 to help countries compile these SEEA-related indicators and facilitate their reporting to the GBF. This European Union (EU) funded project is being implemented by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and will be delivered via four outputs: 1) Developing guidelines for compiling the GBF headline indicators A.2 and B.1; 2) Testing the guidelines in three project countries (Indonesia, Uganda, Colombia); 3) Developing global ecosystem services data in the [ARIES for SEEA platform](#); and, 4) Conducting capacity building activities.

In November 2026, a Task Team was convened under the auspices of the Technical Committee on SEEA Ecosystem Accounting of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) to support the preparation of the guidelines for compiling the GBF headline indicators A.2 and B.1. The Task Team met twice online in 2025 to identify, discuss and resolve conceptual, methodological and operational issues associated with compiling the indicators. Through these discussions, it has been possible to advance a partial draft of the guidelines. However, a list of conceptual and technical issues remains and these are identified for further discussion.

This Expert Group Meeting brings together around 20 experts from the Task Team, other key strategic stakeholders in the GBF process and practitioners from the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting community to explore these issues. The objective of the workshop is to review, discuss and develop solutions that address these remaining conceptual and technical issues. The expected outcome from the meeting is to resolve these issues and advance the drafting of the operational guidelines for compiling GBF headline indicators A.2 and B.1.

2 VENUE AND CONTACT

The Expert Group Meeting on SEEA-Related Indicators for the Global Biodiversity Framework will be held from the 10-12 February 2026 at the UNEP-WCMC Office in Cambridge, UK.

The venue address is: UNEP-WCMC, 219 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, CB3 0DL. The accompanying logistics pack provides details of how to get to the meeting venue, as well as other useful information for your stay.

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3 MEETING ORGANIZATION

The detailed agenda for the meeting is appended. The agenda is organized around a series of plenary and parallel sessions. The parallel sessions will focus the discussion on clusters of specific issues for A.2 and B.1 separately to make the most effective use of participants' time. Following each parallel session, outcomes of discussions will be shared in plenary. The agenda is interspersed with short presentations on participants' experiences in compiling the indicators to help support discussions.

The parallel sessions are organized around clusters of issues for each of the indicators in identified sections of the guidelines. These parallel sessions will be organized as follows:

- Introductory presentation from UNSD setting out:
 - Overview of the substantive conceptual and technical issues for discussion based on feedback from the Task Team.
 - Description of outputs required from the discussions.
- Discussion on the technical issues and formulation of conclusions for reporting to the plenary session. A note taker will be identified to capture the discussions and report conclusions.

An initial draft of the guidelines will be circulated to participants two weeks in advance of the workshop. This will set out all the issues for each of cluster based on the discussion within the Task Team. The initial draft will also set these clusters of issues in the context of progress made on the guidelines so far.

4 DETAILED WORKSHOP AGENDA

Day 1: Tuesday, 10 February 2026

Time	Indicator A.2 sessions	Indicator B.1 Sessions
08:30 to 09:00	Arrival and registration	
09:00 to 09:20	Welcome and introductions	
09:20 to 09:40	Overview of the project, Expert Group Meeting objectives and ways of working	
09:40 to 10:05	Overview of operational guidelines - Indicator A.2	
10:05 to 10:30	Overview of operational guidelines - Indicator B.1	
10:30 to 10:45	Participant presentation 1 A.2	
10:45 to 11:00	Participant presentation 2 B.2	
11:00 to 11:30 - Photo, Tea & Coffee Break		
Parallel Session 1: Context and rationale of the indicators (Section 2 of the Guidelines)		
11:30 to 12:40	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters of the guidelines for indicator A.2: A. Purpose & Rational for the Indicator B. Interpretation of the indicator	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters of the guidelines for indicator B.1: A. Purpose & Rational for the Indicator B. Interpretation of the indicator
12:40 to 13:00	Report back and discussion in plenary – 10 mins for each indicator	
13:00 to 14:00 - Lunch		
14:00 to 14:15	Participant presentation 3 A.2	
14:15 to 14:30	Participant presentation 4 B.2	
Parallel Session 2: Concepts, definitions, classifications and measurement scope (Sections 3 and Section 4: Step 1 of the Guidelines)		
14:30 to 15:40	Parallel session for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2:	Parallel session for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: C. Selection of ES for inclusion in the indicator

	C. Understanding and definitions of natural, semi-natural, anthropogenic D. Dealing with different realms including transitional realms	D. Dealing with sustainability of ES flows
15:40 to 16:10 - Tea & Coffee Break		
16:10 to 16:30	Report back and discussion in plenary – 10 mins for each indicator	
Plenary Session: Preparation and Institutional Arrangements (Section 4: Step 0 of the Guidelines)		
16:30 to 16:45	Participant presentation 5 A.2	
16:45 to 17:00	Participant presentation 6 B.2	
17:00 to 17:20	Plenary session to discuss guidance for best preparing and establishing a national compilation process, identifying data gaps, establishing roles and responsibilities across institutions and developing a compilation timeline.	
17:20 to 17:30	Wrap up and plans for day 2	

Day 2: Wednesday, 11 February 2026

Time	Indicator A.2 sessions	Indicator B.1 Sessions
09:00 to 09:10	Recap on Day 1	
09:10 to 09:25	Participant presentation 7 A.2	
09:25 to 09:40	Participant presentation 8 B.2	
Parallel Session 3: Collecting and Organizing Key datasets (Section 4: Step 2. Of the Guidelines)		
09:40 to 11:00	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: E. Guidance on ideal requirements for datasets for Extent accounts	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: E. Guidance on ideal requirements for datasets for Ecosystem services accounts F. Use of Global Datasets as an interim measure (can be continued after tea or coffee)
11:00 to 11:30 - Tea & Coffee Break		
11:30 to 12:40	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and

	documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: F. Use of Global Datasets as an interim measure	documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: F. Use of Global Datasets as an interim measure (can be continued after tea or coffee). G. Attributing ES flows to ecosystem types/EFGs/biomes
12:40 to 13:00	Report back and discussion in plenary – 10 mins for each indicator	
13:00 to 14:00 - Lunch		
14:00 to 14:15	Participant presentation 9 A.2	
14:10 to 14:30	Participant presentation 10 B.2	
Parallel Session 4: Calculating The Indicator Using an Accounting Approach (Section 4: Step 3. Of the Guidelines)		
14:30 to 15:30	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: G. Preliminary ecosystem extent account and minimum options	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: H. Preliminary ecosystem services account and minimum options
15:30 to 16:00 - Tea & Coffee Break		
16:00 to 17:00	Parallel session for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: H. Translating an extent account using national ecosystem types to EFGs	Parallel session for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: I. Aggregation method from accounts to indicator
17:00 to 17:20	Report back and discussion in plenary – 10 mins for each indicator	
17:20 to 17:30	Wrap up and plans for day 3	

Day 3: Thursday, 12 February 2026

Time	Indicator A.2 sessions	Indicator B.1 Sessions
09:00 to 09:10	Recap on Day 2	

09:10 to 09:25	Participant presentation 11 A.2	
09:25 to 09:40	Participant presentation 12 B.2	
Parallel Session 5: Reporting on the indicator (Section 4: Step 4 of the Guidelines)		
09:40 to 11:00	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: I. Options for disaggregating the indicator	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: J. Options for disaggregating the indicator
11:00 to 11:30 - Tea & Coffee Break		
11:30 to 12:10	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator A.2: J. Reporting the indicator	Parallel sessions for discussing technical challenges and documenting treatments for the following clusters for indicator B.1: K. Reporting the indicator
12:10 to 12:30	Report back and discussion in plenary – 10 mins for each indicator	
12:30 to 13:30 - Lunch		
13:30 to 14:10	Plenary discussion on overcoming any remaining technical issues	
14:10 to 14:30	Next steps	
Meeting Closes		