



System of  
Environmental  
Economic  
Accounting

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# Regional Training Workshop on SEEA Asset Accounts for Sustainable Development

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Chiba, Japan

Concept note and provisional agenda



UNITED NATIONS  
**siap**  
Statistical Institute for  
Asia and the Pacific



**United  
Nations**

Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Statistics

## 1 BACKGROUND

The System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) provides the internationally agreed statistical framework for measuring the relationship between the environment and the economy. It is comprised of two complimentary international statistical standards: the SEEA Central Framework (SEEA CF) and the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA). The SEEA CF takes a resource-based approach to measuring the supply and use of resources and availability of environmental assets. The SEEA EA takes a more holistic approach in providing a spatially explicit approach to compiling accounts on ecosystems. The SEEA can be flexibly implemented by countries prioritizing accounts based on availability of information and policy priorities. The accounts are designed to respond to data needs for multiple policy initiatives including global initiatives on sustainable development goals (SDGs), on mitigating and adapting to climate change, disaster related statistics and on measuring the contribution of the environment to well-being. The accounts are also a necessary input to the compilation of headline indicators such as net domestic product as part of the recently adopted 2025 System of National Accounts (SNA).

In Asia, good progress has been made in the compilation of SEEA accounts with many countries regularly compiling SEEA CF accounts. National statistical offices (NSOs) of countries in the region continue to express strong interest in compiling SEEA accounts, including taking steps towards compiling asset accounts which are relevant for informing the relationship between the economy and the environment.

With the recent adoption of the 2025 SNA which has expanded its asset boundary to include several natural resources assets of the SEEA CF, demands for environmental asset accounts will increase as the SEEA CF can provide input data for the compilation of the 2025 SNA. More broadly, there is a need to strengthen the capacities of NSOs to produce and disseminate SEEA accounts to better meet the needs of users for high quality integrated data on the contribution of the environment to the economy and the impact of the economy on the environment. Countries in the region are also well placed to substantively contribute to the update of the SEEA CF considering the experience gained in implementing the SEEA accounts.

The workshop, organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), with the support of the Office of the Director-General for Policy Planning on Statistical Policy, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of the Government of Japan aims to further build capacities in the Asia for the compilation of SEEA accounts in support of economic and environmental policies.

## **2 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- a) increase knowledge and skills of environmental-economic accounts, in physical and monetary terms;
- b) share country practices in the compilation and dissemination of the SEEA accounts and resulting indicators; and
- c) inform on the process for the update of the SEEA CF.

## **3 LANGUAGE**

The workshop will be conducted in English.

## **4 TARGET PARTICIPANTS**

Target participants are staff of national statistical offices and other agencies that have experience in SEEA and its implementation, particularly those working on asset accounts. Nominations shall include a representative responsible for the compilation of SEEA asset accounts from your office as well as a representative responsible for the implementation of the SEEA such as the national SEEA focal point.

## **5 ORGANIZATION**

The 4-day workshop will take place in Chiba, Japan. During the workshop, participants will discuss technical issues related to the compilation of environmental-economic accounts in physical and monetary terms. Participants will also be informed on the process and the list of issues being considered for the update of the SEEA Central Framework. Participants will also learn about good practices in dissemination.

Besides technical issues, participants are expected to share their experiences in producing and disseminating accounts. The workshop will consist of presentations, practical exercises and the sharing of experiences among countries both in plenary and breakout group discussions.

## **6 CONTACT PERSONS**

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## **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

### Day 1

- Opening and introductions
- Introduction to SEEA CF, SEEA EA and policy demands
- Introduction to asset accounts
- Energy and water asset accounts
- Material flow accounts
- Country presentations

### Day 2

- Land and forest asset accounts
- Asset accounts for other environmental resources
- Valuation of assets
- Country presentations

### Day 3

- Overview of the SEEA CF update process
- Panel discussion on how to be involved in the SEEA CF update process
- Country presentations

### Day 4

- Overview of other SEEA accounts
- Compilation and dissemination practices
- Country presentations
- Way forward