



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Training on Ecosystem Accounting in Support of the Sustainable Development Goals and Global Biodiversity Framework

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Concept note and provisional agenda



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1 BACKGROUND

The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) provides the agreed upon 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 environmental 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 initiative on sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

In the Asia-Pacific region, there is an increased demand for the compilation of ecosystem accounts in support of national policies aimed at the management of ecosystems, and compilation of indicators for national and international reporting. National statistical offices and ministries of environment of countries in the region have expressed strong interest in compiling various SEEA accounts, including taking steps towards compiling ecosystem extent, condition and services accounts which are among the most relevant accounts for informing biodiversity. Furthermore, with the recent adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), demand by users for ecosystem accounts will increase as the SEEA EA is the methodological base for several headline indicators of the GBF. There is a need to strengthen the capacities of national statistical systems to produce and disseminate SEEA ecosystem accounts to better meet the needs of users for high quality integrated data on ecosystems in general and biodiversity.

The “Monitoring Framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework” project, which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), aims to support countries to report on the SEEA-related indicators of the GBF Monitoring Framework by developing compilation guidelines and global tools and datasets for these indicators, and testing these in the project countries. This activity will help with national implementation of the project, compilation of ecosystem accounts and reporting on the indicators in Indonesia as one of the project countries.

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, and in collaboration with the BPS Statistics Indonesia, aims to further build capacities in the Asia and the Pacific for the compilation of SEEA EA in support of SDG and GBF reporting.

2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- a) increase knowledge and skills on environmental-economic accounts, in particular ecosystem accounts.
- b) introduce participants to SEEA EA accounts and provide training on compilation of SEEA-related SDG indicators and headline indicators of the KMGBF .
- c) share country practices in the compilation and dissemination of the SEEA accounts and resulting indicators; and
- d) support countries to set up a strategy and work plan for the implementation and further development of SEEA accounts.

3 LANGUAGE

The course will be offered 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 ecosystem accounts, biodiversity monitoring and production and use of biodiversity indicators. The training is intended for national participants from various Ministries and agencies from the Government of Indonesia, as well as other countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Nominations shall include a representative responsible for the compilation of SEEA accounts, in particular ecosystem accounts, from the national statistical office as well as a representative responsible for biodiversity monitoring or related areas from the ministry of environment or other Government agency.

5 ORGANIZATION

The 4-day workshop will take place in Jakarta, Indonesia. During the workshop, participants will discuss technical issues related to the compilation of SEEA EA along with relevant applications to SDGs and GBF. Participants will also learn about good practices in institutional mechanisms.

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 the SEEA and policy demands
- Introduction to the Global Biodiversity Framework and its indicators
- Discussion on country practices with reporting on the biodiversity indicators
- Country presentations

Day 2

- Ecosystem extent
- Exercise on compiling extent accounts
- Compiling indicators from extent accounts
- Ecosystem conditions
- Exercise on compiling condition accounts
- Country presentations

Day 3

- Ecosystem services
- Exercise on compiling services accounts
- Compiling indicators from services accounts
- Introduction to ARIES for SEEA and global tools and data
- Country presentations

Day 4

- Country presentations
- Institutional mechanisms
- Way forward