

**SIDE EVENT OF 53RD SESSION OF THE UN STATISTICAL
COMMISSION**

**CLOSING CLIMATE CHANGE DATA GAPS:
A NEW G20 DATA GAPS INITIATIVE**

WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022

7:00AM – 8:30AM EST

*Meeting organized by the United Nations Committee of Experts on
Environmental Economic Accounting (UNCEEA), International Monetary Fund
and United Nations Statistics Division*

As countries continue to formulate plans to build back better and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, they are increasingly looking for statistics that go 'beyond GDP'. Addressing this need is a central theme to the new Group of 20 (G20) Data Gap Initiative (DGI). This new initiative calls for the G20 and all countries to address data gaps related to climate change; household distributional information; fintech and financial inclusion; and as well as scale up access to private and administrative data and improve data sharing.

Similar to the other data gap initiatives, this new DGI seeks to address data gaps that have been identified as crucial for macroeconomic policy making and micro-financial stability. This side event will outline the proposed climate change indicators and how international statistical initiatives and frameworks, such as the System for Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), provide a methodological basis for addressing climate change data gaps.

For the recommendations of climate change, the SEEA provides the integrated statistical framework that brings together disparate economic and environmental data to provide a systems approach for understanding the environment-economy nexus. By accounting for the relationship between the economy and society, the SEEA provides the necessary data for central banks and finance ministers to create policies enabling a low-carbon, resilient economy. While the DGI is limited to G20 countries, it is expected that the initiative will provide all countries with a tremendous incentive to develop climate change data and indicators directly related to economic dimensions.

This side event will provide an overview of the new DGI and discuss how countries can use the SEEA to address these data gaps and produce indicators

to monitor the transition to a low carbon economy. The side event will also include a panel discussion that focuses on the role of national statistical offices in the new DGI and the climate change pillar in particular.

AGENDA

Chair: Greg Peterson, Assistant Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada (TBC)

Setting the scene – The need for a new Data Gaps Initiative:

Louis Marc Ducharme, Director of the Statistics Division and Chief Statistician and Data Officer, International Monetary Fund

Bert Kroese, Chair of the UNCEEA and Deputy Director General and Chief Information Officer of Statistics Netherlands

Presentation 1 – Overview of the new Data Gaps Initiative

Gabriel Quirós, Deputy Director of the Statistics Division, International Monetary Fund

This presentation will provide an overview of all pillars of the new Data Gaps Initiative, including the relevant recommendations, targets and timeline.

Presentation 2 – Data and indicators to monitor the transition to a low carbon, resilient economy

Etjih Tasriah, Senior Statistician, Statistics Indonesia

This presentation will explore how the SEEA is already being used to provide data and indicators on the environment-economy nexus in Indonesia and showcase how national statistical offices can play a role in the new DGI.

Presentation 3 – Indicators to monitor transition and physical risk

Robert Kirchner, Deputy Director General Statistics, Deutsche Bundesbank

This presentation will explore users' needs on forward looking physical and transition indicators in Germany and outline how these indicators help a better understanding of the risks climate change poses for the economy and the financial system.

Panel discussion

This panel discussion will explore the role of official statistics in the new DGI, as well as the challenges national statistical offices and other data producers may face in addressing climate change data gaps.

- **Moderator: Gabriel Quirós, Deputy Director of the Statistics Division, International Monetary Fund**
- **Joe de Beer, Deputy Director General : Economic Statistics, Statistics South Africa**
- **Alfonso Rosalia, Deputy Head of the Statistical Analysis Directorate, Bank of Italy**
- **Melle Bijlsma, Head of Financial Sector Accounts, Netherlands Central Bank**