



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

**Tenth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on
Environmental-Economic Accounting
New York, 24-26 June 2015**

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA (23 June 2015)

Wednesday, 24 June 2015, 9:30AM – 5:30PM

9:00-9:30 Registration of participants

1. Opening and objectives of the meeting (9.30AM- 9.40AM)

Welcome speech:

- *Stefan Schweinfest, Director, UNSD*

2. Election of chair (9.40AM-10.00AM)

- *Ian Ewing, Outgoing Chair of UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician*
- *Incoming Chair of UNCEEA*

SEMINAR

3. The SEEA and the SDG indicators – General process and engagement (10:00AM-12:00PM)

The Statistical Commission requested the UNCEEA to prepare a paper on the contribution of the SEEA to informing the goals, targets and proposed indicators of the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The Committee will be informed of the on-going processes in the development of indicators in the context of the Post 2015 development agenda and discuss way to engage.

Discussion papers:

- *SEEA and Transforming Global and National Statistical Systems for Monitoring SDG Indicators*
- *The SEEA as the Statistical Framework in meeting Data Quality Criteria for SDG indicators*

Presentations (10.00AM - 11.00AM):

- Update on the progress of the Open Working Group and the International Conference on Financing for Development– Friedrich Soltau, UNDSO*
- Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators – Matthias Reister, UNSD*
- The SEEA and SDG indicators – Ivo Havinga*

Coffee break 11:00AM – 11:30AM

Discussion (11.30AM - 12.00AM)

4. SEEA and SDG indicators – Thematic issues and Partnerships (12:00PM – 5:30PM)

Several international agencies and thematic groups are working on the development of SDG indicators for global, regional and sectoral reporting. Several agencies and groups are seeking SEEA compliance of their indicators within the various thematic groups. The Committee will be informed of steps that are under way in some areas of statistics.

Presentations on thematic issues (12:00 AM – 1:00AM)

- i) Sustainable Consumption and Production indicators – *Elliot Harris, UNEP*
- ii) Water indicators – *Liz Mullin Bernhardt, UN-Water*
- iii) Food security indicators – *Francesco Tubiello, FAO*

Lunch break 1:00PM – 2:15PM

Presentations on thematic issues (2:15 PM – 3:30PM)

- iv) Partnership with UNEP Live – *Jacqueline McGlade, UNEP*
- v) Mainstreaming Tourism in Sustainable Development, *Oliver Hermann/ Clara Van Der Pol, UNWTO*
- vi) BIOFIN indicators – *Yves de Soye, UNDP*
- vii) Indicators on terrestrial and marine ecosystem – *Markus Lehmann, CBD*

Coffee break 3:30PM – 4:00PM

Discussion (4.00PM – 4:15PM)

Presentations on partnerships (4:15PM-5:00PM)

- i) Partnership with TEEB/VANTAGE – *Pushpam Kumar, UNEP*
- ii) Partnership with the World Bank – *The World Bank*
- iii) Partnership with IUCN – *Gernot Brodnig, IUCN*

Discussion (5.15PM – 5:30PM)

Background paper:

- A Statistical Project to Support Mainstreaming Tourism in Sustainable Development

Reception at DC2- 15th floor, Two United Nations Building 6:00PM

5. SEEA and the modernization of the statistical system (9:00AM-11:15AM)

The Committee will discuss the role of the SEEA as being a catalyst in developing an integrated statistical system for sustainable development, with emphasis on the environment-economy relationships, bringing together the various stakeholders and supporting the modernization of the statistical system.

Discussion paper:

- Institutional Arrangements and Statistical Production Processes for the Implementation of the SEEA Central Framework

Presentations and discussion: (9:00AM – 10:45AM)

- i) Statistical production process for implementation of the SEEA Central Framework – *Ivo Havinga*
- ii) National plan in advancing environmental-economic accounts in Indonesia - *Kecuk Suhariyanto, Statistics Indonesia*
- iii) Country experiences – *Statistics South Africa*
- iv) Discussion

Background paper:

- National Plan for Advancing Environmental-Economic Accounting in Indonesia

Coffee break 10:45AM – 11:15AM

6. Big data, integration of geospatial and statistical information and the SEEA (11:15AM-12:30PM)

The Statistical Commission recognized the importance of Big Data as secondary data source. A global working group and related task teams have been working in various areas. The use of geospatial information in the production of SEEA related accounts, in particular the modules on land accounts and the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting has resulted in concrete applications and has established partnerships with the natural management communities and data providers.

Presentations and discussion (11:15AM-12:30PM):

- i) Big data task team on satellite imagery, remote sensing and geospatial data – *Ian Ewing, ABS*
- ii) Big data, integration of geospatial and statistical information and the SEEA – *Emil Ivanov, UNSD*
- iii) Discussion

Background paper:

- Terms of reference of the Big data task team on satellite imagery, remote sensing and geospatial data

Lunch break 12:30PM – 2:00PM

MANAGEMENT MEETING

1. Implementation strategy for the SEEA (2:00PM-4:15PM)

The UN Statistical Commission requested fast tracking the SEEA implementation programme in countries in view of its important role in the development and collection of the SDG indicators. Building on the implementation strategy of the SEEA Central Framework adopted by the UN Statistical Commission in 2013, an updated strategy covering both the SEEA Central Framework and the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting is presented. The strategy recommends the establishment of partnerships and in particular close coordination with the UN Regional Commissions, in addition with other international partners. At the national level, the strategy recommends a close coordination among the various ministries involved with the data production and use of the SEEA accounts.

Discussion papers:

- Implementation Strategy for the SEEA
- Advancing Environmental-Economic Accounting – National Program of Work Template
- Training Programme in Support of Implementation of the SEEA in Countries

Presentations and discussion: (2:00PM-3:30PM)

- i) Strategy for the SEEA implementation – *Alessandra Alfieri, UNSD*
- ii) Capacity building – training of trainers and DA project – *Sokol Vako, UNSD*
- iii) Presentation from UN Regional Commissions – *Daniel Clarke, ESCAP*
- iv) Country experiences – *Statistics Canada*
- v) Country experiences - *Statistics Netherlands*
- vi) Discussion

Coffee break 3:30PM – 4:00PM

Discussion: (4:00PM-4:15PM)

2. SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA AFF) – Implementation strategy (4:15PM-5:30PM)

The SEEA Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has undergone a first round of global consultation and it is expected to be submitted to the next UN Statistical Commission. The implementation strategy of the SEEA Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries should be closely coordinated with the implementation of the SEEA. Concrete proposals on the SEEA AFF implementation strategy will be presented.

Discussion paper:

- Development and Implementation Activities for the SEEA AFF

Presentation and discussion (4:15PM-5:30PM):

- i) Implementation strategy of the SEEA AFF - *Francesco Tubiello, FAO*
- ii) Discussion

Friday, 26 June 2015, 9:00AM – 3:30PM

3. Data collection (9:00AM – 11:45AM)

Technical notes on land, water, energy, EGSS, EPEA, air emission accounts have been prepared to assist countries in the SEEA implementation. The notes present the core tables and accounts that could serve as a basis for global data collection fully compliant with SEEA. Eurostat and OECD have already started collecting, compiling and disseminating data for selected modules. Based on their experience and that of the FAO, the Committee will discuss whether the Secretariat should explore possibilities to move into data collection within a reasonable time frame, in particular focusing on the demands for SDG indicators.

Discussion paper:

- Towards a Global Data collection and Dissemination Programme on Environmental-Economic Accounts

Presentations (9:00AM-10:30AM):

- i) Technical notes on the SEEA Central Framework – *Sjoerd Schenau, Statistics Netherlands*
- ii) Towards a global data collection and dissemination programme on environmental-economic accounts – *Julian Chow, UNSD*
- iii) Discussant – *Anton Steurer, Eurostat*
- iv) Discussant – *Myriam Linster, OECD*
- v) Discussant - *Francesco Tubiello, FAO*
- vi) Discussant - *UNSD*

Background papers:

- SEEA Technical Note: Land Accounting
- SEEA Technical Note: Energy Accounting
- SEEA Technical Note: Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS)
- SEEA Technical Note: Water Accounting
- Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics 2014

Coffee break 10:30AM – 11:00AM

Discussion: (11:00AM-11:45AM)

4. SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (11:45AM-1:15PM)

A technical guidance document on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting to provide guidance to countries wanting to embark in testing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting has been completed. The Committee is invited to discuss the way forward in advancing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting testing and research agenda including the establishment and composition of a technical committee.

Discussion paper:

- Advancing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Project: Research Agenda

Presentation and discussion (11:45AM-1:15PM):

- i) Way forward on advancing the testing and research agenda for the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting – *Mark Eigenraam, UNSD*
- ii) Knowledge innovation project (KIP) on Accounting for Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services – *Anton Steurer, Eurostat (tbc)*
- iii) Discussion

Background papers:

- Advancing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Project Update
- Advancing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting – Expert Forum Minutes
- SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting: Technical Guidance
- Knowledge Innovation Project (KIP) on Accounting for Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services – Scoping paper

Lunch break 1:15PM – 2:15PM

5. SEEA Outreach and Communication (2:15PM-3:15PM)

Over the past twelve months, branding materials for the SEEA have been developed in close collaboration with a communication company. The materials strategically highlight the value proposition of the SEEA in particular regarding its independence and credibility. Countries and international agencies are encouraged to use these communication tools and adapt them to their circumstances. The Committee will review the branding material as well as main messages. In addition, future communication initiatives will be presented for discussion.

Discussion paper:

- SEEA Communication Strategy

Presentation and discussion (2:15PM-3:15PM):

- i) SEEA outreach and communication- *Simon Hunter, Communication consultant*
- ii) Discussion

Background paper:

- SEEA Communication and Outreach – Draft communication materials

6. Closing (3:15PM-3:30PM)