

Ocean Accounts: Priorities for research and implementation

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Ocean accounting continues to advance globally

- **Ocean Panel of heads of government of 14 countries included ocean accounts as priority action**
 - Priority action goal of “complete sequence of national ocean accounts”
- **Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP) has continued to grow and launch new pilots**
 - Voluntary partnership (co-chaired by ESCAP and Fisheries and Oceans Canada) to share lessons learned from ocean accounts, build guidance, and advance implementation
 - GOAP pilots underway in Asia-Pacific and Africa
 - Technical guidance work continues

ESCAP work with pilot countries ongoing

- **ESCAP completed pilots in 5 countries in 2018-2020 (China, Malaysia, Samoa, Thailand, Viet Nam)**
 - Covered varied thematic areas (fisheries, tourism, waste)
- **Fiji, Palau, and Samoa work to continue in 2021-2022**
 - Ecosystems likely to include mangroves, corals
 - Initially scoping extent and condition accounts

Multiple ocean ecosystem and ocean contribution to GDP ("satellite accounts") analyses are completed, ongoing or planned

Ocean Economy Accounts

- **Canada**
- **China**
- **Norway**
- **Portugal**
- **United States**
- **Others planned**

Ocean Ecosystem Accounts

- **Australia**
- **Canada**
- **Mexico**
- **Netherlands**
- **UK**
- **Others planned**

SEEA-Ocean advancement supported at UNSC in 2021

- **Will build from international standards (SEEA Central Framework, SEEA Ecosystem Accounting)**
- **Draft research agenda developed to progress toward SEEA-Ocean**
 - Technical and conceptual issues and gaps
- **ESCAP and GOAP working with United Nations Statistics Division to advance SEEA-Ocean**
 - Working group planned for 2022
 - Pilot country experiences provide important practical experience/inputs

Input needed on priority areas on ocean accounting technical development and implementation

- **Technical development of accounts**

- Spatial considerations (terrestrial/coastal interaction, multi-habitat interactions, depth profile)?
- Priority condition indicators?
- Priority services? And logic chain development?
- Role of models in ocean accounting?
- Development of global data platforms?
- Improvements in ocean economy metrics/classifications?

- **Elements of implementation plan**

- Financial support for implementation?
- Building use cases for ocean accounts?
- Sharing of experiences and lessons learned?

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