

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
STATISTICS DIVISION (UNSD)
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
TWO UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, DC2-1670, NEW YORK, NY 10017
TELEPHONE NO: 1 (917) 367-4130
Internet location: unstats.un.org/unsd

21 February 2023

Dear colleague,

Data Collection for Physical Energy Flow Accounts and Air Emission Accounts

It is my pleasure to announce the first global data collection for the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA). This data collection focuses on the Physical Energy Flow Accounts (PEFA) and Air Emission Accounts (AEA) and marks an important achievement for the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) towards the establishment of global databases for the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA).

You are kindly requested to complete the attached PEFA and AEA questionnaires if your country is already compiling these accounts. If you are not compiling these accounts, I hope that the questionnaires will guide the establishment of a programme within your institution. UNSD's data collection will complement existing PEFA and AEA data collection efforts by Eurostat for European Union (EU) countries and the soon to be launched data collection of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for non-EU OECD countries.

The questionnaires, developed under the auspices of the UNCEEA, are fully consistent with the SEEA and were developed on the basis of existing Eurostat PEFA and AEA questionnaires but tailored to fit the circumstances of countries with different levels of data availability. In particular, each questionnaire contains three different templates which correspond to different levels of data disaggregation. The templates were tested with a number of different countries to ensure that they are fit for purpose.

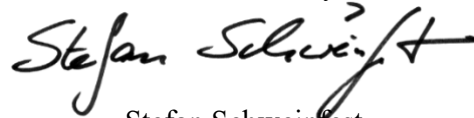
Data from the questionnaires will be disseminated through a database maintained by UNSD, thereby providing easy access to high-quality, comparable official statistics relevant for climate change and energy policy. It is also important to mention that the questionnaires will serve the purposes of the Group of Twenty (G20) new Data Gaps Initiative (DGI), which aims to close climate change data gaps (among others) using SEEA PEFA and AEA. As the methodology behind the DGI is still being developed, it should be noted that there may be small additions to the PEFA and AEA questionnaires in the future.

If your country compiles PEFA or AEA, I would appreciate it if your organization can send the completed questionnaire(s) to seea@un.org by **Friday, 14 April 2023**. If PEFA or AEA are compiled by other institutions in your country, I ask that you coordinate with the relevant institutions to ensure that your country's response is received. Please refer to the attached instructions for enabling the macros in the attached questionnaires. If you are unsuccessful in enabling the macros in the attached questionnaires, you can also download the questionnaires [here](#). A number of resources are available on the SEEA website (seea.un.org) on both [energy](#) and [air emissions](#) , including [e-Learning resources](#) that cover both accounts.

Please confirm receipt of this mail along with the names, e-mail addresses and institutions of the persons responsible for reporting these accounts for your country. For any questions, please contact my colleagues in the Environmental-Economic Accounts section (e-mail: seea@un.org). UNSD and OECD will hold a webinar on how to fill out the questionnaires on 22 February 2023. More information on this webinar can be found [here](#).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Stefan Schweinfest
Director

United Nations Statistics Division/DESA