

System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

SEEA EA Implementation Strategy

Alessandra Alfieri

Chief, Environmental-Economic Accounts Section

United Nations Statistics Division



United Nations

Outline of the Implementation strategy

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Context for the implementation strategy
 - > 2.1 Policy demands for the SEEA EA
 - > 2.2 Data situation
- 3 Strategy for the implementation of the SEEA EA
 - > 3.1 Objectives for the implementation
 - > 3.2 Approach and main principles
- 4 Activities in support of the implementation - key elements and activities
 - > 4.1 Capacity building
 - > 4.2 Development of guidelines and material to support compilation
 - > 4.3 Strengthening collaboration
 - > 4.4 Data and tools
 - > 4.5 Communication and advocacy
- 5 Monitoring the implementation
- 6 Governance mechanism
- 7 Resourcing the strategy
- Annex on country implementation

Objectives for the implementation

Overall objective: scale up the uptake of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting

Suggested target: at least 60 countries implement at least one account of the SEEA EA by 2025

Proposed specific objectives:

- Regular production of selected ecosystem accounts, starting from ecosystem extent accounts to ecosystem condition and ecosystem services in physical and monetary terms;
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems into (sub)national policies;
- Use of the SEEA EA for monitoring and reporting in particular in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), the Voluntary National Reports that present country progress towards achieving the SDGs, and the National Determined Contributions (NDCs) that present country progress towards climate targets and highlight the government actions and policies to combat climate change;
- Dissemination of ecosystem accounts through global data sets.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Uptake of the SEEA EA in countries following the adoption by the UN Statistical Commission

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Regular compilation of the ecosystem accounts, starting from ecosystem extent and expanding to ecosystem condition, ecosystem services in physical and monetary terms
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems in (sub)national level policy planning and implementation
- Use the SEEA EA for monitoring and reporting to global initiatives (VNRs, NBSAPs, NDCs)
- Development of tools, E-learning and guidance documents to support the implementation
- Dissemination data on the SEEA website

OUTPUTS

- Enhanced capacity on ecosystem accounts in countries and regions
- National work programme on SEEA EA in countries
- Adoption of internationally agreed methodologies to compile ecosystem accounts
- Release of the accounts, initially as experimental
- Raised awareness of SEEA EA

ACTIVITIES

- Training, E-learning, in-country support, communities of practices
- Guidelines and technical notes to support compilation
- Global data sets
- Tools (e.g. ARIES for SEEA Explorer)
- Exchanges, events and knowledge sharing
- Communication material to support disseminating the results and making the case for the SEEA EA

INPUTS

- Governance
- Financial resources
- Human resources



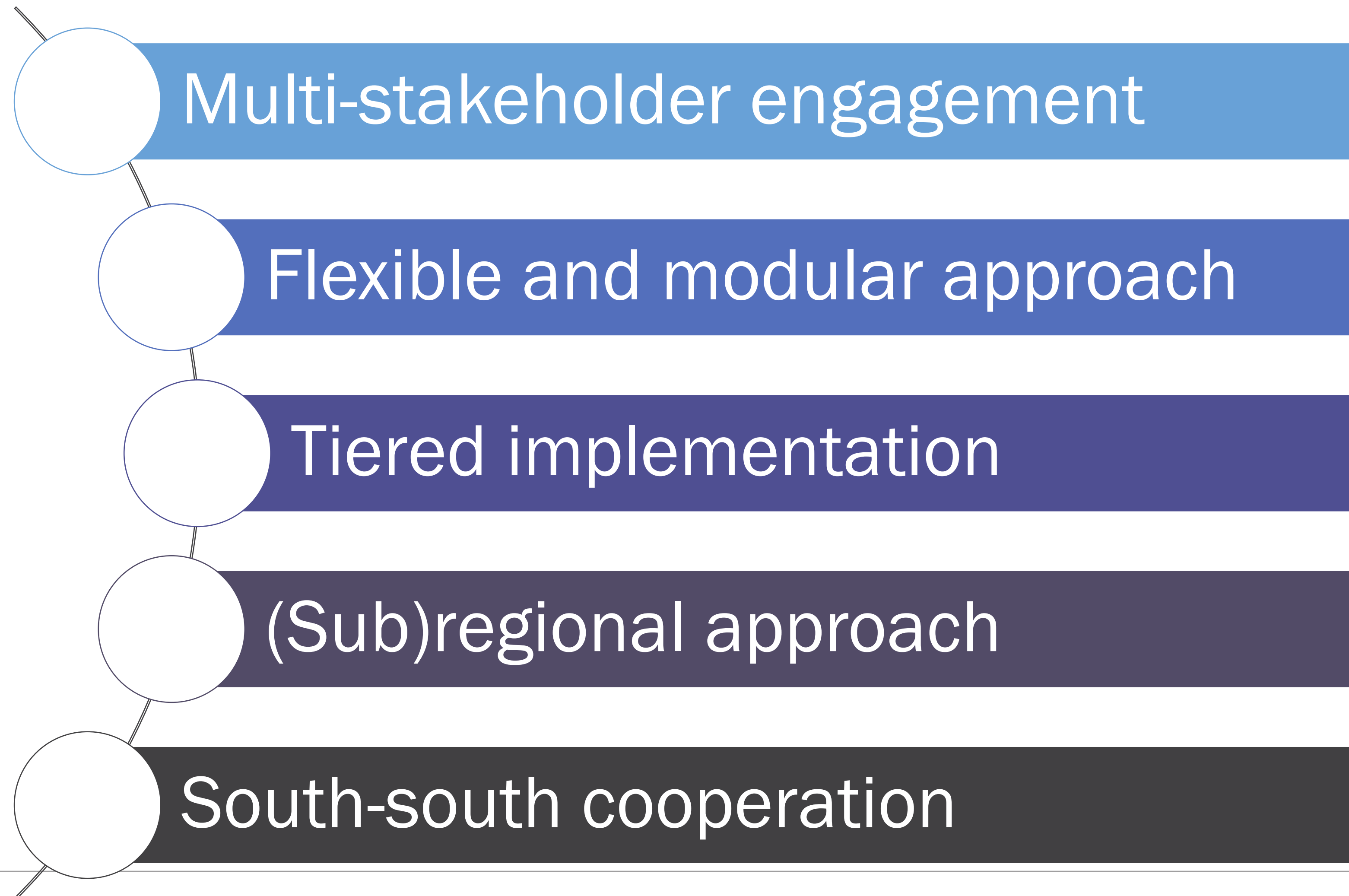
Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into national statistical systems and development policies remains poorly articulated in many countries. New tools and operational approaches need to be developed in order to (i) determine and quantify the benefits that ecosystems and biodiversity provide to economic sectors, and (ii) provide a framework for policy assessment. Communication and advocacy are important element to address the problem.

NEEDS / PROBLEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

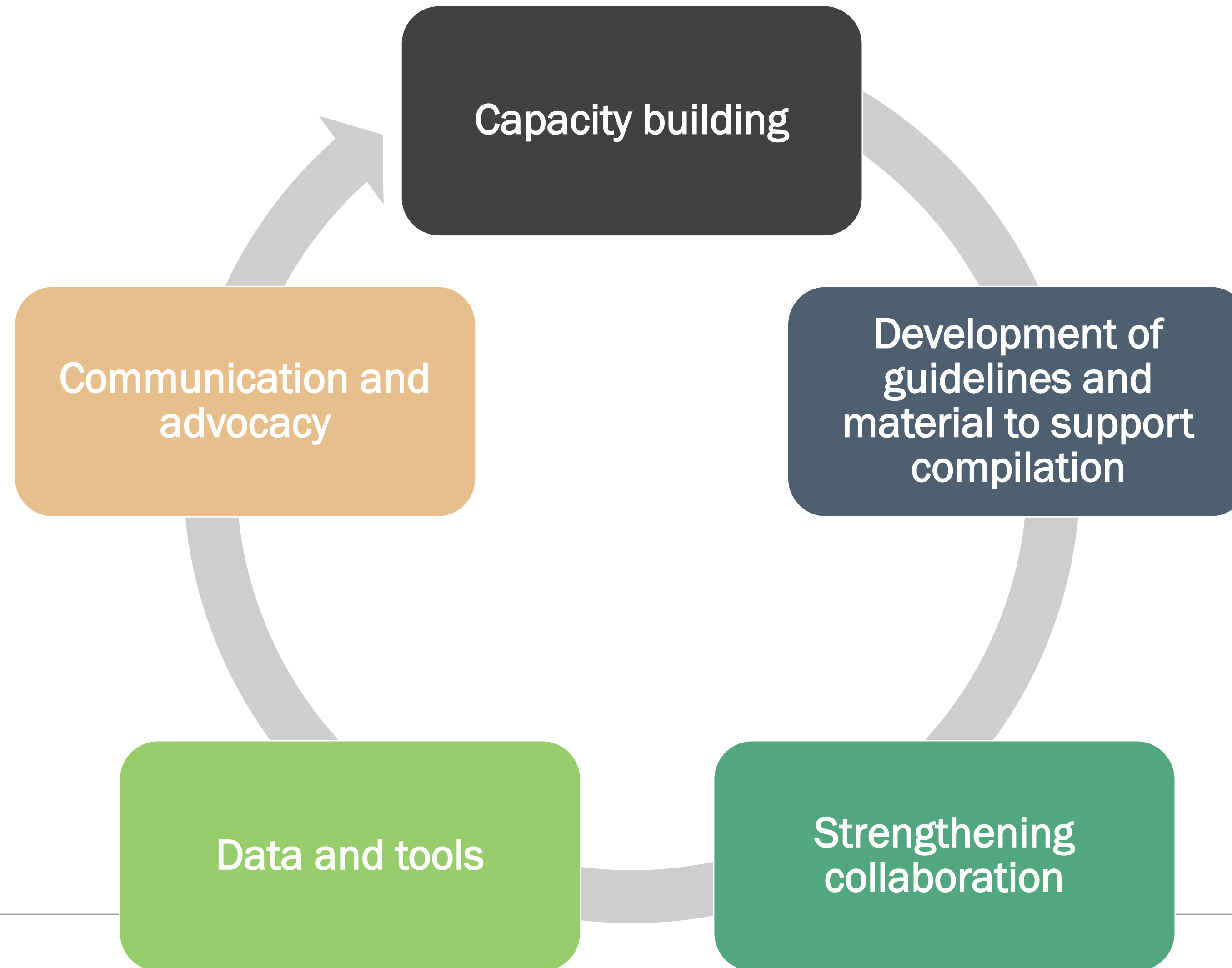
The implementation of the monitoring framework of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted by the CBD COP15; the increased focus on nature in the climate change discussions, the implementation of the SDGs present opportunities to scale up the uptake of the SEEA EA

OPPORTUNITIES

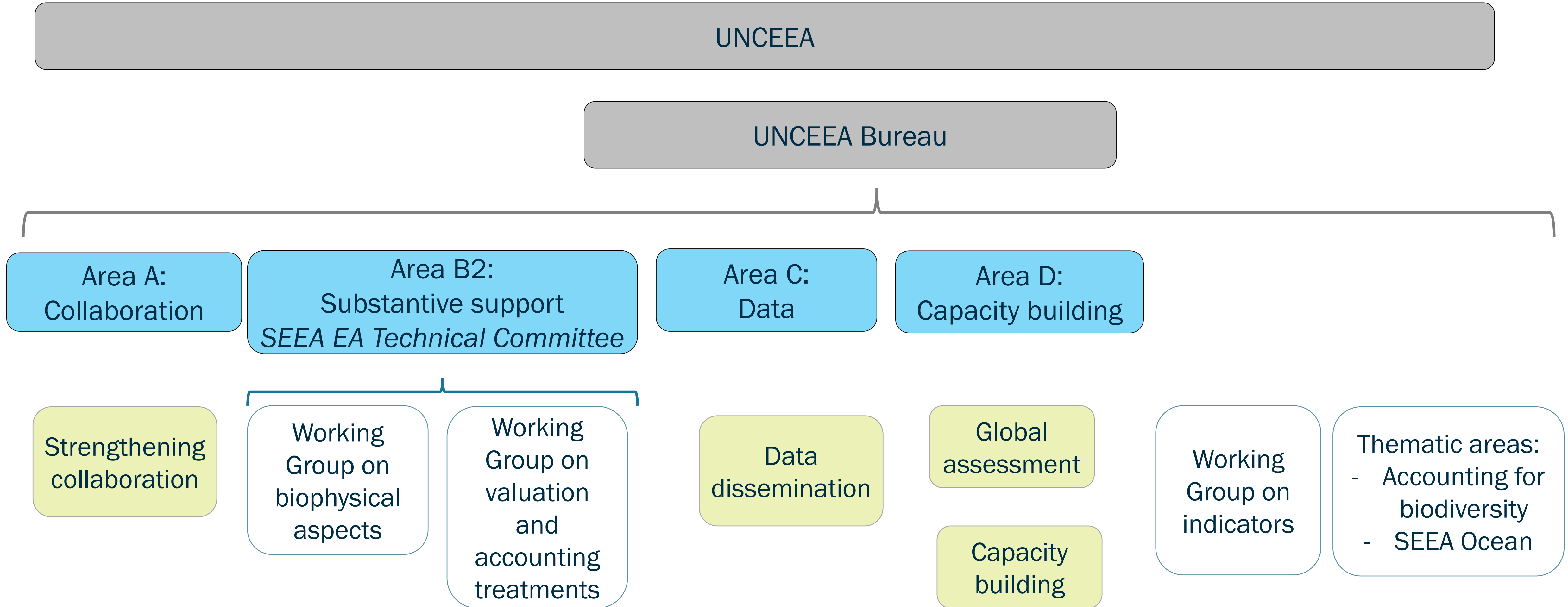
Approach and main principles



Activities in support of the implementation



Governance mechanism



Questions to the UNCEEA

1. Structure and content of the implementation strategy, including the scope of the strategy, which currently focuses on the SEEA EA but could easily apply to the SEEA CF as well
2. The use of the theory of change logic to organize the objectives, outputs and activities of the strategy
3. Governance and in particular the mechanism providing oversight of the strategy considering that it goes beyond the technical expertise of the various groups and involves aspects of resource mobilization.

THANK YOU

seea@un.org