

11 September 2023

Dear colleague,

Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics

I am writing to invite you to participate in the 2023 Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics, being conducted by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) under the auspices of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA). The Global Assessment monitors progress of implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and supports the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 15.9.1(b) on the integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts. Results of the previous Global Assessments can be found via the following link: <https://seea.un.org/content/global-assessment-environmental-economic-accounting>.

This year's Assessment will be a benchmark Assessment, which takes place every three years. The Assessment will survey: the current status of national SEEA implementation, including institutional arrangements; countries' priorities and future plans for the implementation of the SEEA; and how SEEA accounts are used in countries. The 2023 Assessment will play an important role in informing the UNCEEA's work stream on capacity building, monitoring progress towards the UNCEEA implementation goals for the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting and providing data for SDG indicator 15.9.1(b).

An analysis of survey results and individual country responses will be made available on the UNSD website (unless respondents indicate otherwise), and the UNCEEA will report the results of the Global Assessment to the next session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2024 and other fora as appropriate. The UN Regional Commissions will support the administration of the assessment and make use of the results to develop regional support programmes.

The assessment should take approximately 15-30 minutes to complete and is available in English, French, Arabic, Russian and Spanish. The assessment should be completed online via the following link: <https://input.un.org/EFM/se/3995D1A41C1B0122>, as its interactive features enable the respondent to answer only those questions which are relevant based on previous answers. Please note that each country should submit only one response. Thus, we kindly request that you liaise with the relevant institutions in your country to ensure that your response covers all SEEA implementation. Please note that SEEA accounts which have been endorsed by the government but compiled by non-governmental institutions should be included in your response.

We ask that all respondents complete the Assessment by Monday, 2 October 2023. If you have any questions, concerns, or technical issues with filling out the questionnaire, please contact Ms. Ilaria di Matteo (Email: seea@un.org). In addition, we will be holding a webinar which will elaborate on the Assessment's purpose and how its results are used. The webinar will also provide an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have. More information on the webinar can be found here: <https://seea.un.org/events/webinar-global-assessment-environmental-economic-accounting-0>.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,



Stefan Schweinfest
Director
United Nations Statistics Division/DESA