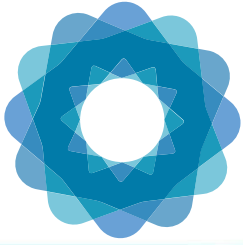


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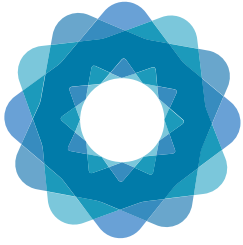
# The SEEA CF update process

Sjoerd Schenau

30<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 | Washington D.C

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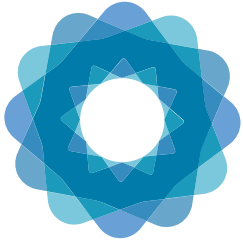
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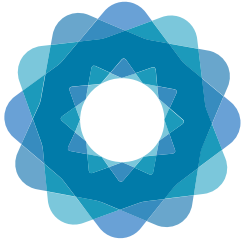
# Content

- ⚙️ Background
- ⚙️ Issue list
- ⚙️ Global consultation
- ⚙️ Project management framework
- ⚙️ Role of the London Group
- ⚙️ What's next



# Background

- Mandated by the **UN Statistical Commission in March 2024** to:
  - Better respond to emerging demands for integrated environmental and economic data in support of climate change, circular economy, disaster risk reduction, resource management, green growth and jobs, biodiversity and other policies
  - Reflect the changes of the 2025 SNA and BPM and other recently revised standards, classifications and manuals, as appropriate
- Timeline for the revision process: **March 2028**
- Also **coordination with other revision processes**, in particular Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and Classification of Functions of Government (COFOG)



# Issue list for SEEA CF update

## ⚙️ Review list of issues

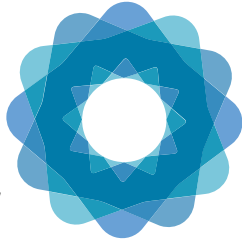
- Input by SEEA CF TC, London group, UNCEEA Bureau, UNCEEA, various experts
- List contains 35 issues (before global consultation)

## ⚙️ Grouping of the issues

- a) Overarching topics, including consistency with SNA
- b) Physical flow accounts
- c) Environmental activity accounts and related flows
- d) Asset accounts

## ⚙️ Prioritization

- Based on policy impact and benefit; conceptual impact; complexity; and time requirements → priority 1 to 4
- Additional: issues identified as “must-do’s”



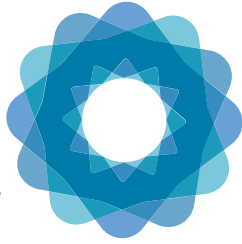
# Initial list of issues for the SEEA CF (1)

**A: Overarching topics, including consistency with SNA (10)**

A1	Providing a broad overview of links between SEEA CF and SEEA EA
A2	Indicators
A3	Update of existing information on EE-IOT
A4	How SEEA CF accounts can be made spatially explicit
A5	Harmonization with other international classifications
A6	Introduction of thematic accounts to link to policy
A7	Extension to social domain
A8	Explicitly linking/integrating environmental activity accounts (ch. 4), asset accounts (ch. 5) and flow accounts (ch. 3)
A9	Consistency with the 2025 SNA revision issues
A10	Treatment of the atmosphere as an asset

**B: Physical flow accounts, ch. 3 (12)**

B1	Description of PSUTs
B2	Further clarifying treatment of losses (e.g. energy, water)
B3	Inclusion of LULUCF in air emission accounts
B4	Inclusion of carbon flows
B5	Inclusion of text on quarterly accounts
B6	Differences between PSUTs and EW MFA
B7	Inclusion of residual flows to ecosystem type, i.e. pressure account
B8	Elaboration of waste accounts
B9	Further guidance on recording own account production
B10	Creation of a classification of residuals
B11	Further clarifying treatment of goods sent for processing abroad and providing guidelines
B12	Borderline cases for the production boundary



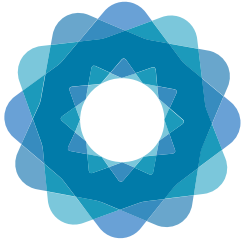
## Initial list of issues for the SEEA CF (2)

### C: Environmental activity accounts and related flows, ch. 4 (6)

C1	Inclusion of the Classification of Environmental Purposes (revised CEA)
C2	Inclusion of the integrated framework for monetary accounts
C3	Elaborating environmental tax abatements
C4	Incorporation of sustainable finance into an accounting framework
C5	Inclusion of potentially environmentally damaging subsidies/related transfers
C6	Extending the scope of environmental activities

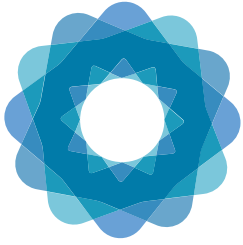
### D. Asset accounts, ch. 5 (7)

D1	Inclusion of the carbon stock account
D2	Inclusion of water quality accounts in the SEEA CF
D3	Inclusion of accounts for physical produced assets
D4	Consideration of water as a produced asset (e.g. (artificial reservoirs)
D5	Revision of the interim land use and land cover classifications
D6	Evaluation of need for soil resource accounts in SEEA CF
D7	Valuation of water



# Global consultation

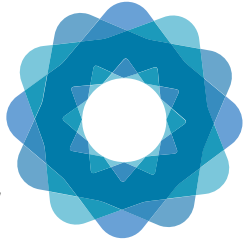
- On 26 July 2024, launched the global consultation on the list of issues for the SEEA CF update
- Global consultation was aimed at **broad audience** —SEEA community, national accountants, environmental economists, academia, private sector, etc.
- Sent to more than **1600 contacts**
- Received **117 responses as of 25 September 2024**
- Suggestions for **changes in prioritization and some additional issues**
- The SEEA CF TC will summarize the results of the global consultation and revise the list of issues based on the feedback



# Project management framework

- **Project management framework** has been further refined and clarified; underwent consultation with UNCEEA in April
- **Three-pronged approach:**
  - (a) undertaking technical research and reaching recommended guidance on a set of specific issues;
  - (b) engaging in progressive rounds of inclusive, global consultations and review
  - (c) coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders.
- Plan to include a **broad set of users** in the update process, including statisticians, national accountants, policy makers, academia, environmental economics community, private sector, etc.

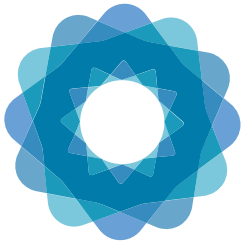




# Project management framework

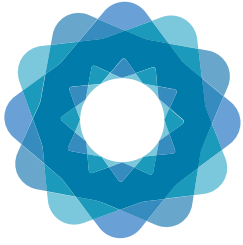
## Overall governance

- **SEEA CF TC**, with UNSD as Secretariat, will lead the management of the SEEA CF update process
- **Task teams** will be established under the TC CF to address the issues and prepare guidance notes
- **Editorial Board** will be established to oversee drafting, and includes the SEEA CF TC and co-publishing agencies
- **Bureau of the UNCEEA**, including all copublishing agencies, will provide regular oversight and coordination
- **Committee** to provide oversight at a high level



# Role of the London Group in the SEEA CF update

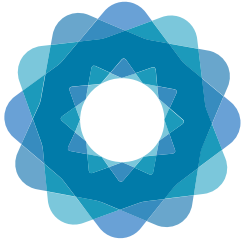
- Broad group of experts on SEEA
- Physical meetings (!), platform for more in depth discussions
- Discuss some key issues from the SEEA CF update issue list
- Provide direct input to the task teams
- Discuss crosscutting issues with SEEA EA and SNA



# Timeline

- 2024:
  - List of issues: drafting, global consultation and finalization
  - Work on certain high priority issues can begin already (e.g. meeting of the London Group on Environmental Accounting)
  - Organization of task teams
- 2025-2026:
  - Drafting of issue papers by task teams
  - Global consultation of issue papers
  - Drafting updated text of the SEEA CF
- 2027:
  - Continued drafting of updated text of the SEEA CF
  - Global consultation of the chapters
  - Submission to the UN Statistical Commission
- 2028: Endorsement by the UN Statistical Commission





# What's next ?

- ❁ Finalization of the list of issues for the update process
- ❁ Establishment of the Task Teams
- ❁ Submission of the final list of issues and roadmap for the update to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2025



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**THANK YOU**

<https://seea.un.org/content/london-group-environmental-accounting>