

System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Update from the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

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United Nations

Mandate and Governance

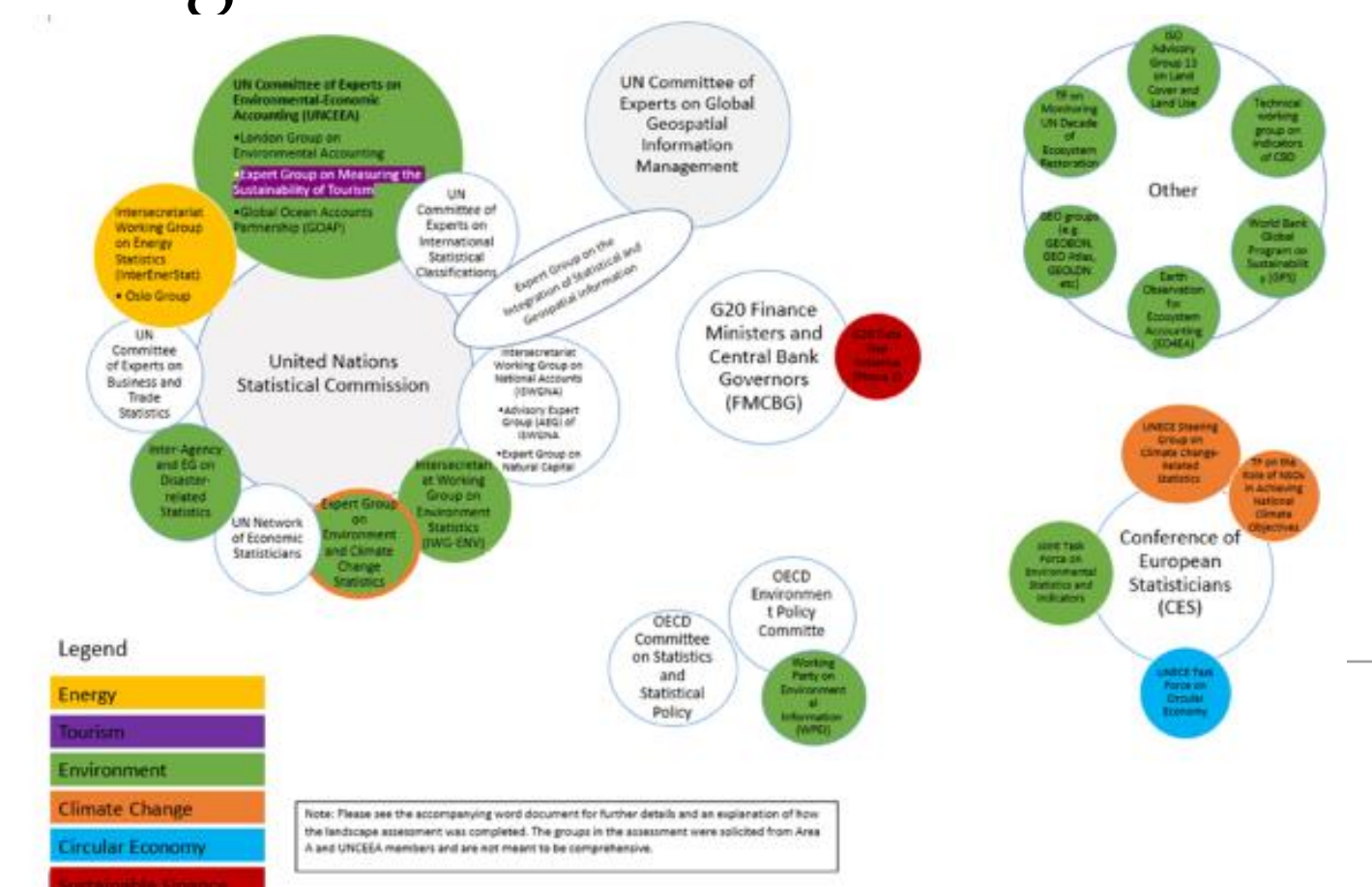
- Current Mandate and Governance last updated in 2010
- UNCEEA Bureau formed a Task Team to review the UNCEEA's mandate and functioning at the beginning of 2024, to ensure that the documents reflect the work of the Committee and its current priorities and practices
- Overall, changes do not significantly alter the mandate and governance of the UNCEEA. However, some objectives of the UNCEEA have been updated.

Mandate and Governance

- Some other changes include:
 - Formalization of a steering group, consisting of the Bureau's delegates to the UN Statistical Commission
 - Possibility of electing a Co-Chair to help manage the large number of responsibilities of the Chair
 - Elaboration of the relationship and close collaboration between the UNCEEA and London Group, explicitly mentioning the Chair of the London Group is a permanent member of the Bureau
- Updated Mandate and Governance to be submitted to the UN Statistical Commission in 2025 for endorsement
- Task Team now working on operational guidelines

Area A: Coordination and Communication

- Continue to update and maintain the landscape assessment, which highlights linkages between the Committee and other groups/activities to foster coordination
- Launched the webinar series, the Uses of the SEEA for Policy, aimed at highlighting emerging policy areas that can be informed by the SEEA
 - Two webinars held on the role of SEEA in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
 - Collaborated with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote webinars directly to CBD Focal Points
 - Attracted large audiences, with approximately 200 participants in each webinar
- Beginning to work on supporting the SEEA CF update through improving engagement and communication with stakeholder communities.



Area B1: Methodology - Central Framework

- Primary focus of the SEEA CF Technical Committee (SEEA CF TC) is the update of the SEEA Central Framework
- SEEA CF TC prepared initial list of issues and project management framework, which were endorsed by the UNCEEA
- Global Consultation of initial list of issues held late July to mid September 2024
- Final list of issues to be sent to the UN Statistical Commission in 2025, along with a roadmap for the update

Area B2: Methodology – Ecosystem Accounting

- Supporting the use of the SEEA for the Global Biodiversity Framework
 - Development of metadata for headline indicators A2 Extent of natural ecosystems and B1 Services provided by ecosystems
 - Metadata being presented at COP16
- Development of practical guidance notes to support the compilation of accounts as well as guidelines for crosswalking national ecosystem classifications to the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology
- Work by the Working Group on Forest Ecosystems and Working Group on Ocean Accounting continues
 - Forest ecosystems group is undertaking methodological work on integrating ecosystem condition and carbon stock accounts and crosswalks between various ecosystem typologies with a specific focus on ecosystems
 - Ocean accounting group is tackling several substantive topics in background papers, including a global stocktake of implementation, data structures, monetary valuation of ecosystems for the ocean domain, indicators and more

Area C: Development of Global Databases

- Good progress made in advancing the global data collection and dissemination for air emission, physical energy flow and material flow accounts
 - Area C is contributing to the Third Phase of the Data Gaps Initiative (DGI-3)
 - Participation in Task Teams and workshops on Recommendations 1 (AEA) and Recommendation 2 (PEFA)
 - Templates for physical energy flow accounts and air emission accounts will be used for data collection
- Currently piloting a land cover questionnaire and conducting a feasibility study for water accounts
- Group is re-assessing the current list of priority accounts with the aim of making a proposal on priority accounts for the next five-year period (2026-2030) at the next meeting of the UNCEEA in 2025

Area D: Capacity Building

2023 (Benchmark) Global Assessment

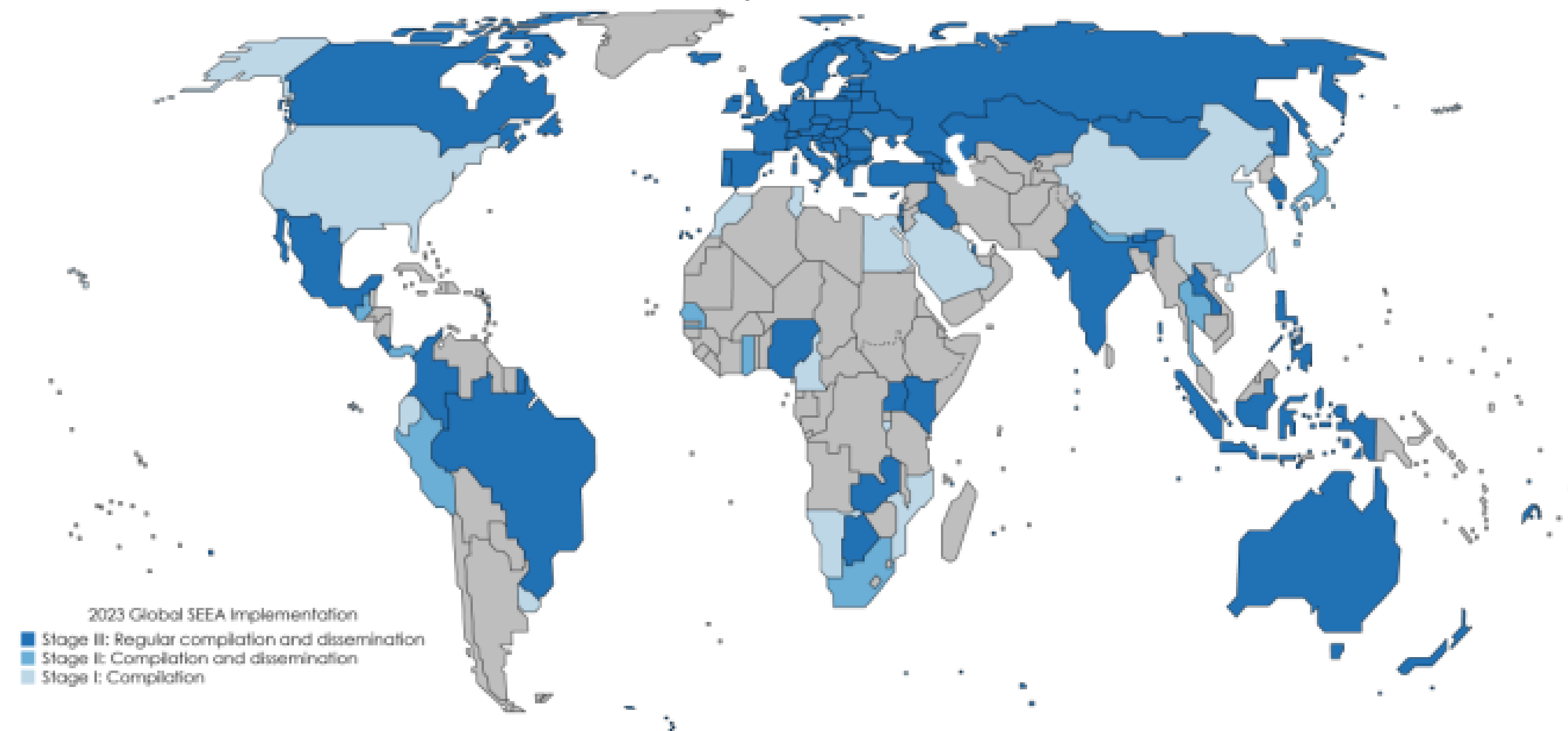
90 countries implementing the SEEA

67 (74 per cent) publish at least one account on a regular basis (stage III)

10 (11 per cent) publish their accounts on an ad-hoc basis (stage II)

13 (14 per cent) compile, but do not yet publish their accounts (stage I)

Nearly all countries (89/90) compile the SEEA CF; nearly half (41) compile SEEA EA and/or thematic accounts



Area D: Capacity Building

- Expansion of Area D to other international organizations, regional development banks and countries to incorporate new perspectives and harness synergies
- Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Focal Point Network was endorsed and Area D is planning to engage more systematically with the Focal Points;
- Currently undertaking the 2024 Global Assessment (**deadline: 16 October**)

THANK YOU

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