Overview of the SEEA CF update and expectations for the TC meeting

Meeting of the SEEA Central Framework Technical Committee
on the update of the SEEA CF

17-21 November 2025

United Nations

Update of the SEEA Central Framework

- 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 BPM7 and other recently revised standards, classifications and manuals, as appropriate
- Revision process to be completed by **March 2028**
- Emphasis on the coordination with ongoing revision processes, in particular:
  > Government Finance Statistics (GFS)
  > Classification of Functions of Government (COFOG)
- Carried out under the auspices of the UNCEEA

29 issues for the update of the SEEA CF

Overarching topics, including consistency with SNA	
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**

Physical flow accounts	
B1/5	**Description of PSUTs and EW MFA**
B2	**Further clarifying treatment of losses (e.g. energy, water)**
B3	**Treatment of carbon flows**
B4	Inclusion of text on quarterly accounts
B6	Inclusion of residual flows to ecosystem type, i.e. pressure account
B7	Elaboration of waste accounts

Asset accounts	
D1	**Inclusion of the carbon stock account**
D3	Inclusion of accounts for physical produced assets
D4	**Consideration of water as a produced asset (e.g. artificial reservoirs)**
D7	Valuation of water
D8	Treatment of the atmosphere as an asset

Environmental activity accounts and related flows	
C1	Inclusion of the Classification of Environmental Purposes
C2	**Inclusion of the integrated framework for monetary accounts**
C3	**Extending the scope of environmental activities**
C4	**Primary and secondary purpose**
C5	**Climate mitigation and climate adaptation expenditure**
C6	Inclusion of potentially environmentally damaging subsidies/related transfers
C7	Elaborating environmental tax abatements
C8	Incorporation of sustainable finance into an accounting framework

SEEA

*** Bold are GNs in tranche 1**

SEEA update timeline

Prioritization and timeline for Guidance Notes development

- Prioritization of Guidance Notes (GNs) to make the process efficient for lead authors, TTs and global consultation
- Proposal to hold three tranches of global consultation, with each tranche involving around 10 GNs:
  - Tranche #1 – January – February 2026
  - Tranche #2 – May – June 2026
  - Tranche #3 – September – October 2026
- In-person meeting of the SEEA CF Technical Committee, 17-21 November 2025
- Possible TC meetings in 2026 (TBD):
  - 23 & 27 March 2026 in Geneva (on the margins of the UNECE-OECD SEEA implementation seminar) to discuss GNs for tranche 2
  - Oct/Nov 2026 in NYC to finalize GNs for tranche 3

TC meeting November 2025

- **Main objective** of the meeting is to discuss GNs for tranche 1 of the global consultation
- Content of the TC meeting:
  - 12 GNs
  - Clarification Note on the Definition of Environmental Assets
  - Proposed Chapter Structure
  - Initial presentations for 2 issues in tranche 2 (C6 & C7)
  - Discussion on next steps
- **Outcome of the discussion** should be whether the GN is ready for global consultation, what amendments are needed to get there, and what specific questions should be asked for the global consultation
- The TC should aim to reach a **key set of recommendations** for each issue for tranche 1 and thus go beyond the options stage
- The TC will have the opportunity to provide **written comments** and responses to questions by 30 Nov

Structure of sessions

- Each session consists of:
  - Introductory presentation by issue lead author (15 min) covering:
    - quick summary of the GN
    - proposed recommendations for the issue
    - overview of the comments received from TT and others
    - discussion on outstanding issues
    - Identification of gaps in the GNs where additional content is needed
  - Discussion centred around the questions outlined in the agenda
  - Summary of the discussion by the moderators

- Everyone's active participation is highly encouraged