



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Natural Capital Accounting – a global snapshot

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Regional NCA Policy Forum

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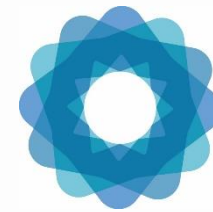


United Nations

The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

The SEEA is the statistical framework to measure the environment and its interactions with economy.

- The **SEEA Central Framework** was adopted as an international statistical standard by the UN Statistical Commission in 2012.
- The **SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting** complements the Central Framework and represent international efforts toward coherent ecosystem accounting.
- **SEEA Applications and Extensions** helps compilers and users of SEEA accounts understand how the accounts can be used in decision making, policy review and formulation, analysis and research.



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Governance - SEEA

UNCEEA Work Programme

- The UNCEEA is the umbrella body for coordinating efforts in environmental-economic accounting
- A **Work Programme 2017-2020** was developed by the Bureau of the UNCEEA and takes a **5-pronged approach** to global implementation
- For each area of work, different **area leads** are responsible for; a) acting as a champion and providing leadership, b) developing more detailed work plans and strategies, and c) coordinating with other members of the UNCEEA

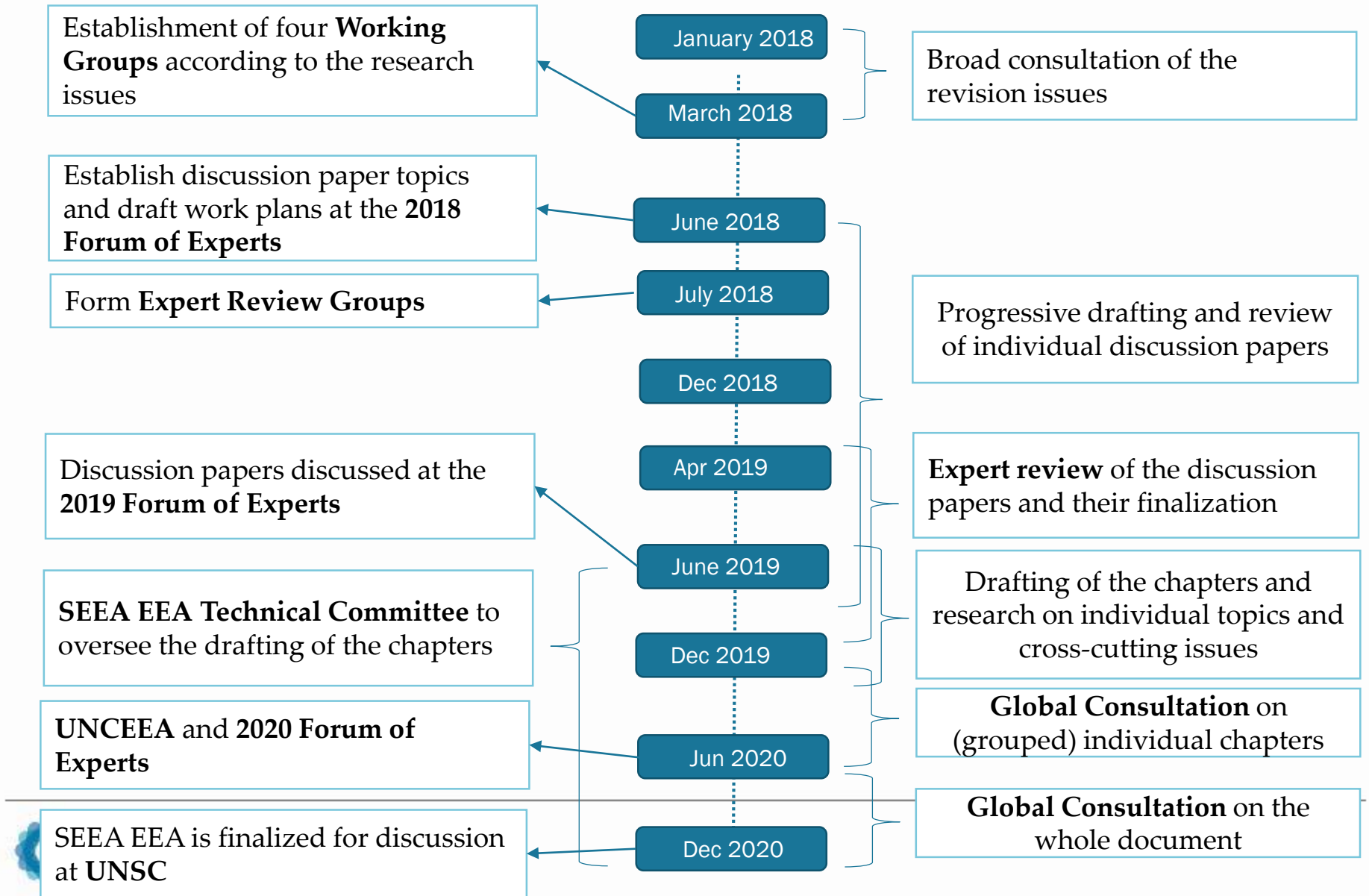


Methodological developments

Revision of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

- Launched in March 2018 with the aim to finish by the end of 2020
 - > For endorsement by UN Statistical Commission in March 2021
- Engagement with various stakeholders – wide engagement of various communities, including ecologists, environmental economists, earth observation, etc.
- Seek for broad involvement of partners and experts in the process – **in the first year over 80 experts contributed to drafting of the discussion papers**
- Ambition is to elevate it to an agreed methodological document – international statistical standard
- Process aligned with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, review of SDG and climate change process

Revision process: keystones & timeline



Other methodological work

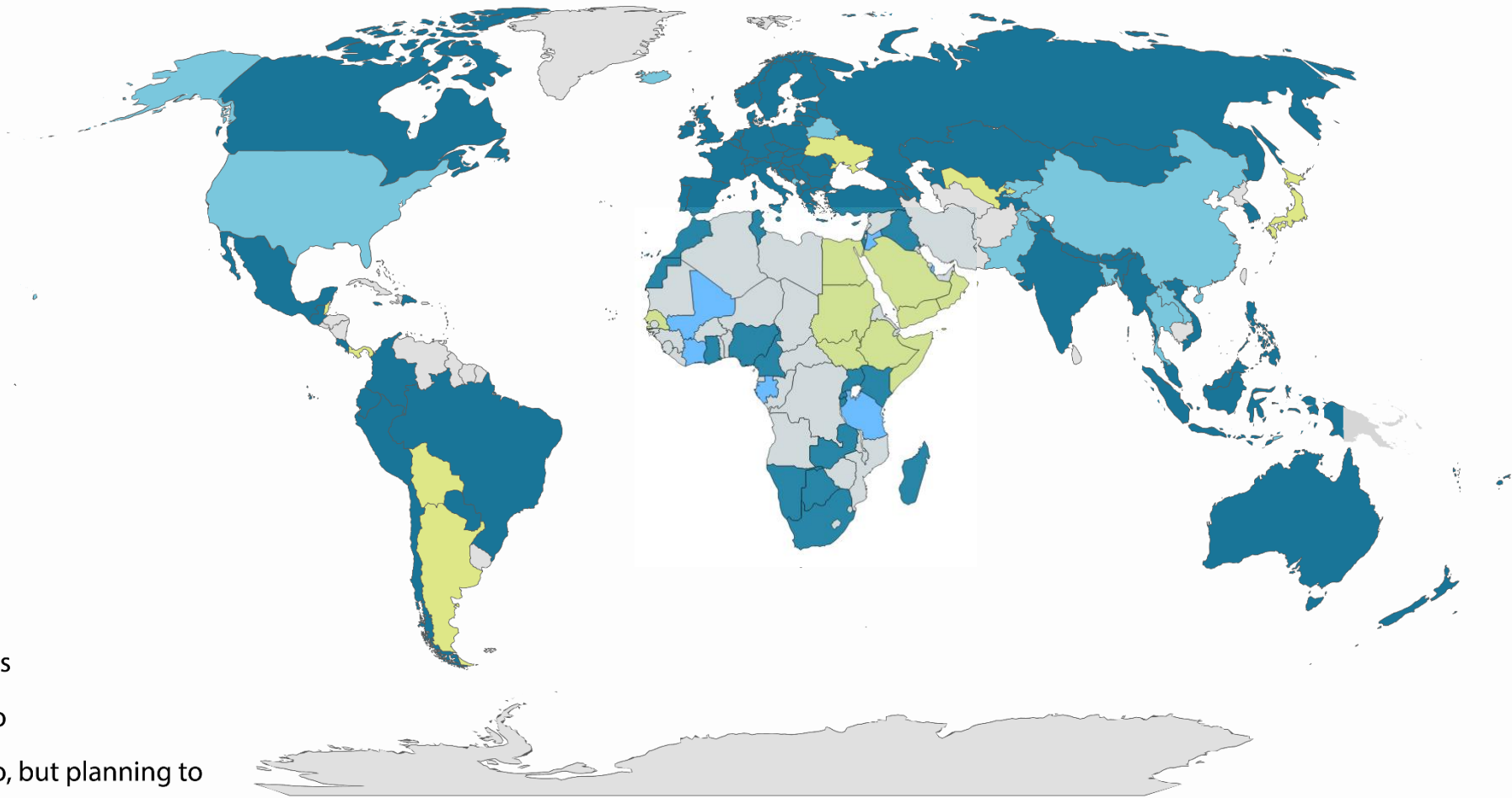
- Thematic accounts
 - > Accounting for biodiversity
 - > Ocean accounts
 - > Protected areas
- Ecosystem accounting manuals:
 - > Guidelines on biophysical modelling
 - > Guidelines on valuation of ecosystem services and ecosystem assets
 - > Guidelines on the use of ecosystem accounts in policy scenario analysis

Capacity building

Implementation of the SEEA

- Implementation strategy (2013) objectives:
 - > Adopt the SEEA as the measurement framework for sustainable development
 - > Mainstream SEEA implementation in countries
 - **Target 100 countries by 2020** for implementation of SEEA Central Framework
 - **Target 50 countries by 2020** for implementation of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting
- **Establishment of SEEA focal points**
 - > To support data collection
 - > Provide coordination of SEEA-related statistical activities in the country
- Capacity building and technical assistance
 - > Setting up country programmes (National Plans)
- Training – online courses and workshops
 - > UNSD eLearning platform (<https://elearning-cms.unstats.un.org/>)

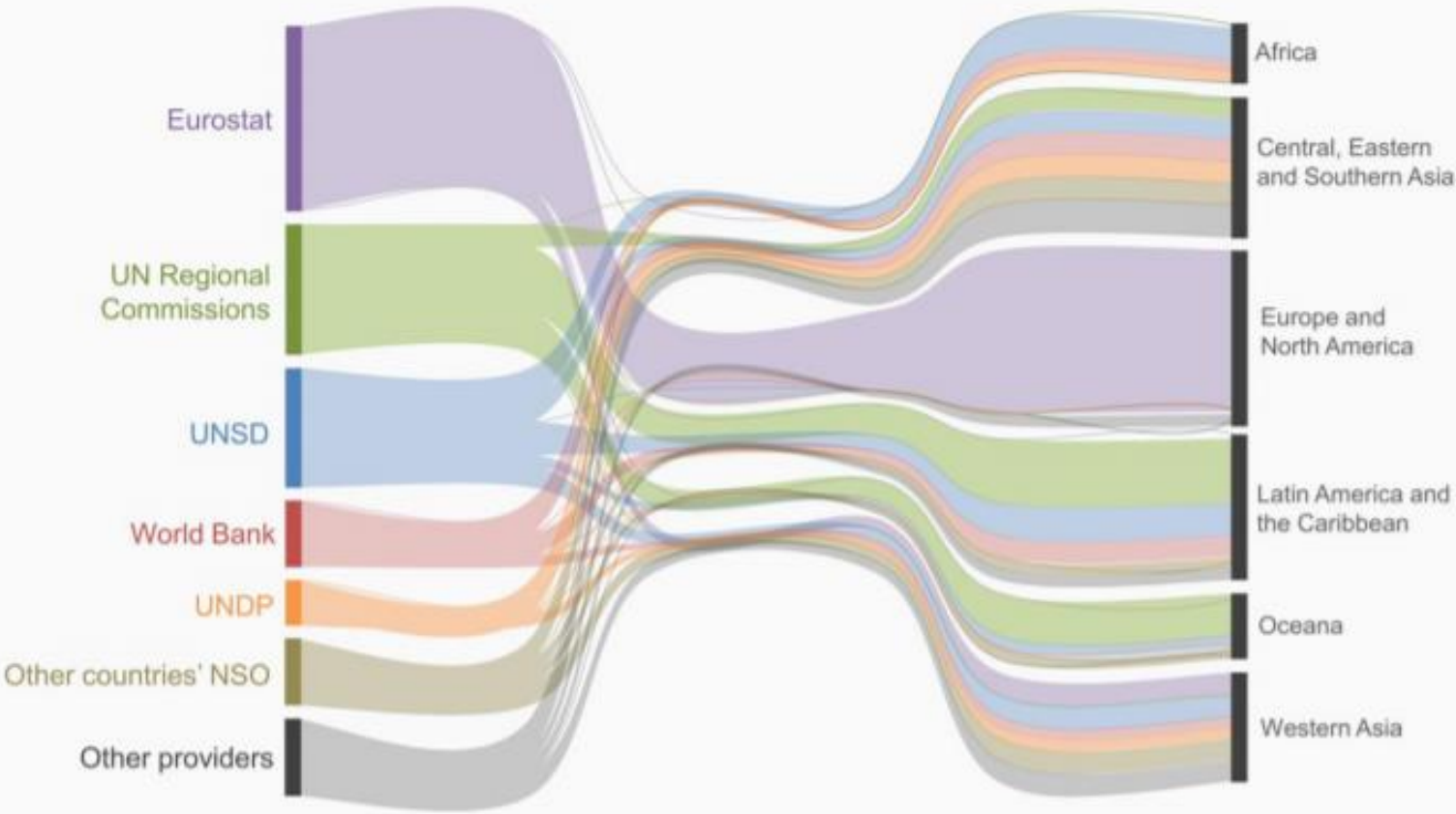
SEEA Around the World



- Yes
- No
- No, but planning to
- No data

Major project partners and technical assistance

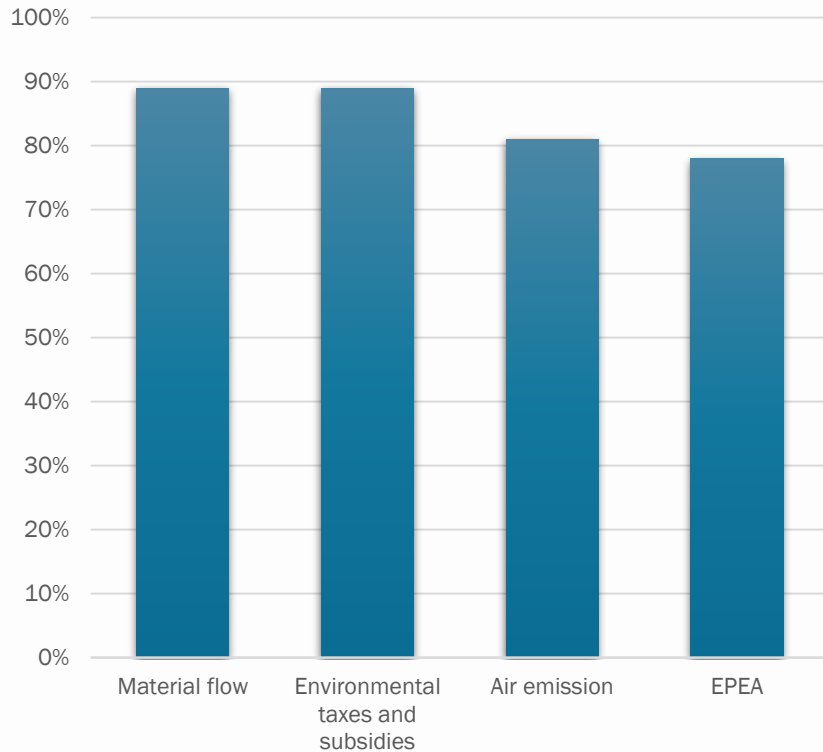
Providers of technical assistance and receivers of technical assistance



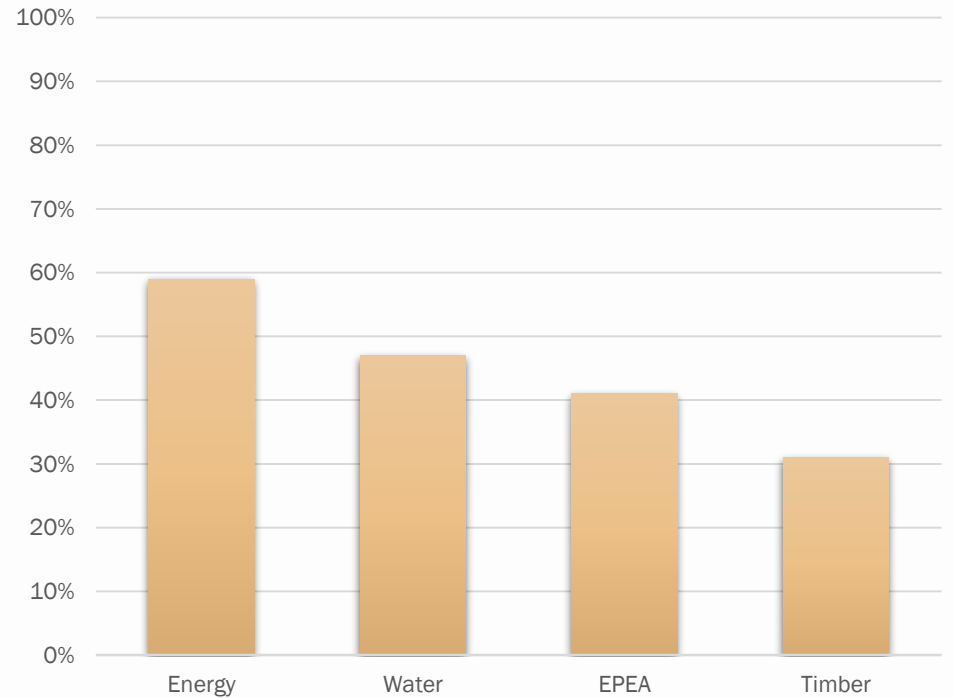
Other providers includes national development agencies, regional development agencies and other providers of technical assistance

Most common accounts compiled

Developed countries



Developing countries



Policy and communication

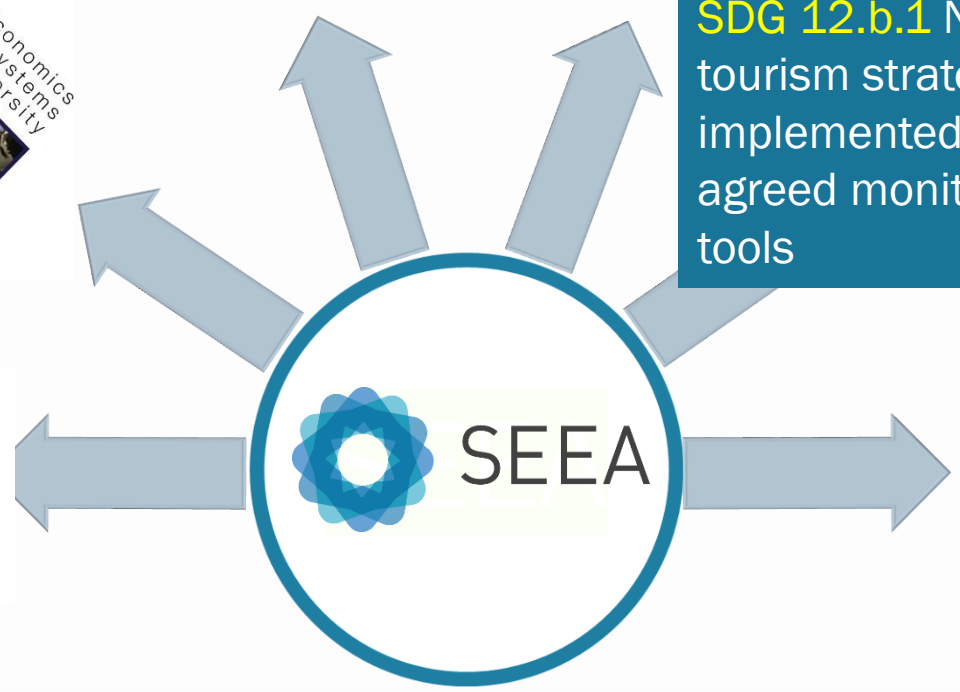
SEEA as supporting framework



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



SGD15.9.1 Number of countries implementing the SEEA
SDG 12.b.1 Number of sustainable tourism strategies or policies and implemented action plans with agreed monitoring and evaluation tools



Events and engagement

Events in 2020

- UN Statistical Commission (March 2020, New York)
- Yale Conference on NCA Communication (March 2020, Connecticut)
- UN Ocean Conference (June 2020, Lisbon)
- IUCN World Conservation Congress (June 2020, Marseille)
- Forum of Experts in SEEA EEA (July 2019, New York)
- 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Oct 2020, Kunming)
- 5th Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Policy (tbd)

THANK YOU

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