"Implementing the SEEA in Countries-Lessons Learned"

A Sustainable Development Learning Event co-Sponsored by Australia, Brazil, Italy, Netherlands
and South Africa

DATE: 14 June, 2012, 10:00am-1:00pm
VENUE: Major Groups/Side Events Pavilion, Room T-7

Background: Twenty years ago Agenda 21 identified the need for a systems approach in support of monitoring sustainable development and green economy policy and proposed a specific solution: integrated environmental and economic accounts. The international official statistics and accounting communities have responded to this demand through the development of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) which was adopted as an international statistical standard at the forty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in February 2012. The SEEA is a multi-purpose system that organizes and integrates environment, economic and socio-demographic statistics to answer sustainable development and green economy policy questions. It allows for the generation of consistent and comparable statistics and indicators. It is a flexible system in that its implementation can be adapted to countries' priorities, policy needs and data availability while providing a common framework with internationally agreed concepts, terms and definitions.

During this SD-Learning event, representatives from national statistical offices will share their experience on the implementation of the SEEA, including the institutional arrangements put in place, mapping and assessing existing information available in various institutions, promoting the accounts and more in general what has worked and what has not worked. It will also discuss how to manage the high policy demand for ecosystem accounts and implementation at the sub-national level.

Introductory Remarks by the Chair:

- **Peter Harper, Chair UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) and Deputy Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)**

Lessons Learnt from Implementation (Panel):

- **Ms. Wasmalia Bivar, President, Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, Brazil**
- **Mr. Art Ridgeway, Assistant Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada, Canada**
- **Mr. Jorge Bustamante, National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), Colombia (tbc)**
- **Mr. Paolo Soprano, Director Sustainable Development Division Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, Italy and and Vice-Chair Rio+20**
- **Mr. Geert Bruinooge, Deputy Director General, Statistics Netherlands, Netherlands**
- **Andrei Tatarinov, Director Department of National Accounts, Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat), Russia**

Q& A: Interactive Discussion

Wrap-Up and Moving Forward

- **Peter Harper, Chair UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)**