Overall process
Governance and co-ordination

• SEEA EEA Technical Committee (TC) extended to form the Editorial Board – regular monthly meetings since September 2019

• Five working groups covering: (i) spatial units; (ii) ecosystem condition; (iii) ecosystem services concepts; (iv) individual ES; and (v) valuation and accounting

• Recently formed Technical group on biodiversity and Group on indicators – the latter met for the first time in Sept 2020

• Small, short term, editorial support groups convened on specific issues in drafting chapters and discussion papers and to considering specific issues/topics

• Virtual Forum of Experts organized in 4 online sessions between June and November 2020

• Ongoing engagement with many fora incl. London Group (virtual meetings held)

• Ongoing testing and feedback from wide range of projects including NCAVES, INCA and MAIA

• Testing and production in many countries and locations
Timing of steps

• 2017: UNSC and UNCEEA endorsement to embark on revision given high policy interest and high speed of development (experimentation and testing)

• 2018: Establish research agenda and working groups

• 2018 – 2020: Discussion papers presented to various forums, meetings, workshops and expert review processes (>100 experts involved in drafting and >500 experts involved in review)

• 2019 – 2020: Draft chapters reviewed by TC, working groups and selected experts

• March-August 2020: Global consultation (1\textsuperscript{st} round) on core chapters (3-11)

• June-September 2020: Review feedback – redraft chapters

• October-November: Global consultation (2\textsuperscript{nd} round) on complete draft

• December-January 2021: Finalise draft for UNSC
Current outline of chapters
Chapter outline (1)

• Section A: Introduction & overview
  > Chapter 1: Introduction
  > Chapter 2: Overview of the ecosystem accounting framework

• Section B: Accounting for ecosystem extent and condition
  > Chapter 3: Spatial units for ecosystem accounting
  > Chapter 4: Accounting for ecosystem extent
  > Chapter 5: Accounting for ecosystem condition

• Section C: Accounting for ecosystem services
  > Chapter 6: Ecosystem services concepts for accounting
  > Chapter 7: Accounting for ecosystem services in physical terms
Chapter outline (2)

• **Section D: Monetary valuation and integrated accounting for ecosystem services and assets**
  > Chapter 8: Principles of monetary valuation for ecosystem accounting
  > Chapter 9: Accounting for ecosystem services in monetary terms
  > Chapter 10: Accounting for ecosystem assets in monetary terms
  > Chapter 11: Integrated and extended accounting for ecosystem services and assets

• **Section E: Complementary valuations, thematic accounting and indicators**
  > Chapter 12: Complementary approaches to valuation
  > Chapter 13: Accounting for specific environmental themes
  > Chapter 14: Indicators and combined presentations
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<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Jonathon Khoo / Steven May / Peter Meadows</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Francois Soulard</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Bhanumati</td>
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<td>Sjoerd Schenau (AL)</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Gerhardt Bouwer</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Rocky Harris (AL)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>EEA</td>
<td>Jan-Erik Petersen</td>
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<td>Michael Bordt</td>
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<td>Anton Steurer (Chair)</td>
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<td>Francesco Tubiello</td>
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<td>Juha Siikamaki (AL)</td>
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<td>Lars Hein (AL)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
<td>Raffaello Cervigni / Glenn-Marie Lange / Sofia Ahlroth / Juan-Pablo Castañeda / Stefano Pagiola</td>
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<td>IMF</td>
<td>James Tebrake</td>
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<td>Conservation International</td>
<td>Rosimeiry Portela</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>UNSD (Secretariat)</td>
<td>Alessandra Alfieri / Jessica Chan / Julian Chow / Bram Edens / Marko Javorsek</td>
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The revision process: overall timeline

- **Jan 2018**: Broad consultation of the revision issues

- **Mar 2018**: Establishment of four Working Groups according to the research issues

- **June 2018**: Establish discussion paper topics and draft work plans at the 2018 Forum of Experts

- **July 2018**: Form Expert Review Groups

- **Dec 2018**: Discussion papers discussed at the 2019 Forum of Experts

- **Mar 2020**: Technical Committee to oversee the drafting of the chapters

- **Jun 2020**: Drafting of the chapters and research on individual topics and cross-cutting issues

- **Aug 2020**: Expert review of the discussion papers and their finalization

- **Oct 2020**: Global Consultation on (grouped) individual chapters and review by the Subgroup on accounting for biodiversity

- **Jan 2021**: Global Consultation on the whole document

- **Jan 2018**: Form Expert Review Groups

- **June 2018**: Discussion papers discussed at the 2019 Forum of Experts

- **June 2019**: Progressive drafting and review of individual discussion papers

- **Dec 2018**: Drafting of the chapters and research on individual topics and cross-cutting issues

- **Jan 2021**: Global Consultation on the whole document
Encouragement for implementation

• A number of documents and initiatives are being prepared to support the implementation:
  > Guidelines on biophysical modelling
  > Guidelines on valuation
  > Data solutions: ARIES for the SEEA

• Several activities are aligned around the SEEA EA being a “standard”, such as EU directive, link to business, indicators initiatives, etc.
Engagement and finalization
Ongoing global level engagement

• SEEA Community
  > Expert forums, London Group

• Global Indicator initiatives
  > SDG, CBD, UNCCD

• Global data and accounting initiatives
  > NCAVES, ARIES, MAIA, ESA, NASA, EO4EA, SNA revision (AEG meetings); Global Ocean Accounts Partnership

• Other engagement
  > IUCN World Congress, IPBES values assessment, Dasgupta review, wealth accounting (incl WAVES); Corporate accounting & Capitals Coalition; Postponed Yale conference with leading economists; GEP project with NatCap - Stanford
Map from article in *Science* “Progress in natural capital accounting for ecosystems” *Science* 31 Jan 2020, Vol. 367, Issue 6477, pp. 514-515. Note additional countries depending on criteria used would include Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Germany, Ireland, Portugal, Russia, Sweden and others. Note also the existence of EU wide accounts.
Steps to finalize the revised SEEA EEA

- **Oct - 30 Nov**: 2nd round of Global Consultation on complete draft
- **16 & 18 Nov**: UNCEEA extraordinary meeting
- **1-11 Dec**: analysis of the comments received
- **16 Dec**: meeting of the Technical Committee to review changes to be made
- **Dec – 15 Jan 2021**: Revised draft of SEEA EA incorporating comments from the global consultation
- **20 Jan**: meeting of the Technical Committee to review the final draft
- **End Jan**: UNCEEA to review the final document and sign off on the submission to the UNSC
- **End Jan**: Final draft to be submitted to the UNSC together with a summary of the comments received and how they have been addressed
- **March 2021**: UNSC
Key issues at stake

• Revision marks very significant progress for the area for statistics. The process already has very positive spillover effects.

• Title: to drop ‘experimental’ (only handbook that had this)

• Valuation (=putting money values on ecosystem services flows and on ecosystem assets). Approach to align with national accounts principles (exchange values) now much more widely accepted. Of the 61 comments received only 5 were not in favour and after consultation with the 5, they seem to come from different perspectives. Some of these perspectives have been included in Chapter 12 and include welfare measures and different institutional frameworks. However, practical challenges are significant.

• To make the document an international standard of some kind. An international document is not legally binding but is an influential reference and accelerator enabling shared learning, efficient production and better access to funding but there are risks of being called to deliver. We need to remember the difference between concepts and practically implemented estimates. An estimate based on a standard can be labelled provisional.
Thank you