

Session 9: Panel discussion on units, classification, data sources or land accounts

Wednesday 15 April

Fundamental to all accounting is the need for a clear conceptual framework to delineate accounting units (i.e. statistical units for ecosystem accounting), to classify ecosystem assets and services, and to identify appropriate data sources for the compilation of accounts. Many agencies are embarking on work in these areas.

The focus of the panel discussion will be to share experiences and highlight opportunities and challenges faced by national statistics offices and government agencies in moving forward the testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting on issues related to spatial units, data sources or land accounts

Discussion questions:

- 1) What is the status of your country's progress on the compilation and use of spatial data for statistical/ecosystem accounting purposes?
- 2) Land cover information and land accounts are identified as fundamental for the testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. What is the nature of the development of such accounts and information in your country?
- 3) The building up of the ecosystem accounts relies on supporting basic statistics collected and compiled according to standard classifications. What are data availability and quality of these supporting basic data/statistics in your country?