



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

**SUPPORTING CAPACITY BUILDING IN
ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS AND ACCOUNTING
IN AFRICA**

African Centre for Statistics, UNECA

at

The 12th meeting of the UN Committee of
Experts on Environmental-Economic
Accounting UNCEEA

New York, USA, 19-21 June 2017

Outline of the Presentation

- A. The current state of environment statistics and accounting in Africa
- B. The on-going capacity building programme on FDES
- C. Mainstreaming the SEEA in Africa: Strategy, plans, and needs sought from UNCEEA



A. THE CURRENT STATE OF ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS AND ACCOUNTING IN AFRICA



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Current State of Envstat and Accounting in Africa

- Many countries in Africa are still in an early stage of development of environment statistics.
- Low capacity of governments to collect, compile and disseminate environment statistics and environmental-economic accounts.
- A lack of environmental data on the continent; and thus inadequate monitoring and measurement of progress towards environmental sustainability and sustainable development.
- According to the global assessment UNSD conducted in 2014, less than five out of the total fifty-four African countries had a programme of work on the accounts in place.
- The DA project 9th tranche: Training on FDES in EAC for five Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda; and Kenya and Uganda are the two pilot countries from Africa participating in the project to implement the SEEA in their countries.



B. THE ON-GOING CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON FDES IN AFRICA



Overview of the Programme on FDES

- Funded by the UN Development Account Project 10th tranche and jointly conducted by UNECA, UNSD, and UNEP.
- The purpose is to support African countries to develop environment statistics in their national statistical systems.
- There are three phases in the programme:
 - e-Training module
 - Face-to-face seminar
 - National workshops and technical assistance missions to pilot countries



Objectives of Phase 1 e-Training

- To increase the awareness of the important role of environment statistics *and*
- To learn the needed knowledge and skills of the FDES for a broader range of environmental stakeholders within the national statistical system.



Objectives of Phase 2 Face-to-face Seminar

- To deepen the technical knowledge and skill in producing, compiling, and disseminating environment statistics based on the FDES *and*
- To increase the understanding of the process to design national action plans.



Objectives of Phase 3 Technical Assistance

- To identify environment statistics and indicators that are most relevant to the country;
- To link them to the environmentally-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators;
- To finalize the national action plan in discussion with national stakeholders *and*
- To compile a compendium of environment statistics and indicators in a year.



Capacity Building on FDES in Africa: Activities and Timeline [1 of 2]

Date/Time	June				July				August				Sept				2017- 18
Activities	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
1. E-training	x	x	x	x													
- Assessments					x	x	x	x									
- Preparation for face-to-face seminar (Identify key statistics and related data sources)									x	x	x	x					
2. Face-to-face seminar													x				
3. Technical assistances														x	x	x	x

Capacity Building on FDES in Africa: Activities and Timeline [2 of2]

Activities		2018											
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12
Compilation of Compendium of EnvStat in pilot countries	A2.1: Technical assistance missions I (assist data collection in pilot countries)	x	x	x	x								
	A2.2: Technical assistance missions II (assist data processing in pilot countries)					x	x	x	x				
	A2.3: Technical assistance missions III (assist data compilation in pilot countries)									x	x	x	x

E-Training for All Countries in Africa

- To organize an e-training module to introduce the related technical materials and to build up national capacities.
- All the African countries are invited to participate in the e-training.
- At the end of the e-training, an assessment session will be held to evaluate if the participants have acquired the technical skills and to identify the pilot countries based on the technical readiness of the country task teams and data availability.
- This is also to achieve the goal of promoting and elevating the environment statistics and accounting in the Africa region.



E-Training: Curriculum and Timetable [1 of 2]

<u>Date</u>	<u>Session and Topic</u>
<p>Tuesday, 6 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time)</p>	<p>Opening Session</p>
<p>Thursday, 8 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French</p>	<p><u>Session 1:</u> - Presentation of the DA programme pillar II on environment statistics - Chapter 1: Overview of Environment Statistics – Characteristics and Challenges</p>
<p>Tuesday, 13 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French</p>	<p><u>Session 2:</u> - Chapter 2: Conceptual Foundation and Structure of the FDES - Linking the FDES and the SDGs</p>
<p>Thursday, 15 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French</p>	<p><u>Session 3:</u> - Chapter 3, Component 1 - Environmental Conditions and Quality</p>
<p>Tuesday, 20 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French</p>	<p><u>Session 4:</u> - Chapter 3, Component 2 - Environmental Resources and their Use</p>

E-Training: Curriculum and Timetable [2 of 2]

<u>Date</u>	<u>Session and Topic</u>
Thursday, 22 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French	<u>Session 5:</u> - Chapter 3, Component 3 - Residuals
Tuesday, 27 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French	<u>Session 6:</u> - Chapter 3, Component 4 - Extreme Events and Disasters - Chapter 3, Component 5 - Human Settlements and Environmental Health
Thursday, 29 June 2017 8:00-9:00 a.m. (New York Time) English 9:00-10:00 a.m. (New York Time) French	<u>Session 7:</u> - Chapter 3, Component 6 - Environmental Protection, Management and Engagement - Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics - The Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)

Organization of the e-Training [1 of 2]

- Total sessions: 7 sessions of e-training
- Total period of time: 4 weeks (from 6-29 June)
- Two sessions per one week: Tuesday and Thursday) each of which will be for 2 hours (1 hour in English and another hour in French)
- Reading list and assignment: At the end of each session, one or two papers or chapters will be recommended as a reading assignment and two to three review questions will be proposed to the participants for review. Participants are welcome to submit to ECA their answers to the review questions by the due date.



Organization of the e-Training [2 of 2]

- **WebEx session recording:** The recording of WebEx live session is posted on the e-training website (<http://ecastats.uneca.org/acsweb/FocusAreas/eLearning.aspx>).
- **Question & Answer:** Q&A was done during live sessions. Minutes of the questions and answers for both English and French session are compiled and posted on the e-training website.
- **Presentation files:** All relevant files including presentation files can be found at the e-training website.
- **Final assessment:** At the completion of the 7 sessions, a final assessment will be conducted in about two to three hours to evaluate the level of technical knowledge and skills that participants have acquired from the e-training.



Moving from Phase 1 to Phase 3

- e-Training module: is open to all.
- Face-to-face seminar: participants of the e-training have successfully passed the assessment at the end of the e-training.
- Pilot countries of Phase 3: countries with participants who have successfully completed both the first and second phases of the programme will be invited to be pilot countries.
- Phase 3 is to compile a compendium of environment statistics and indicators selected by the participating countries in a year with needed support in the form of national workshops and on-site technical assistance from the programme.



Selection of Pilot Countries

- Pilot countries will be selected based on two assessments to be conducted at the end of the e-training:
 - The first assessment will evaluate the knowledge and skills developed from the e-training; and
 - The second assessment will be on country data availability administered among those who have done well in the first assessment.



Registered Participants of the e-Training by Organization and Language

Organization	Number of Participants
NSO	71
Line ministry	95
Training and research institutes	7
International/regional organization	11
Unidentified	12
Total number of participants	196
Language	Number of Participants
English	129
French	67
Total number of participants	196



Registered Participants of e-Training on FDES

- 196 participants from each and every African countries.
- The line ministries include Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, Meteorological Agency, Water Authority among others.
- The above figure is based on the list of participants updated on Friday, 9 June 2017. After that we are still receiving, registering, and updating new requests and participants.



C. MAINSTREAMING THE SEEA IN AFRICA: STRATEGY, PLANS, AND NEEDS SOUGHT FROM UNCEEA



Capacity Building Programme on SEEA in Africa

- Based on the good experience with the FDES, a similar approach will be taken for SEEA.
- We will take the three phases:
 - e-Training module
 - Face-to-face seminar
 - National workshops and technical assistance missions to pilot countries
- The objective is for each pilot country to compile one account that is most relevant to the country by the end of one year and followed up with application, analysis, publication, and dissemination.



Capacity Building on SEEA in Africa: Activities and Timeline [2 of 5]

Activities		2018											
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12
EA2: Compilation of natural capital accounts in pilot countries	A2.1: Technical assistance missions I (assist data collection in pilot countries)	█	█	█	█								
	A2.2: Technical assistance missions II (assist data processing in pilot countries)					█	█	█	█				
	A2.3: Technical assistance missions III (assist data compilation in pilot countries)									█	█	█	█

Needs sought from UNCEEA

Activity	Needed Inputs	
	Resource persons/Experts	Financial resources
e-Training module	???	???
Face-to-face seminar	???	???
National workshops and technical assistance missions to pilot countries	???	???

- All kinds of resources are most welcome: human resources, technical resources, and financial resources.
- Especially we expect that the number of countries that wish to participate in the project as pilot countries will be more than what can be supported by the resources earmarked by ECA.



THANKS / MERCI



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