System of Environmental Economic Accounting
The UNCEEA and the SDG Indicators Process

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(on behalf of Bert Kroese, Chair of the UNCEEA)

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UNCEEA and the SDG -Process so far

**June:** UNCEEA agreed to promote alignment of the SDG indicators with the SEEA where appropriate

**7th Sep:** A two-pager, two discussion papers and the broad brush analysis were submitted to the IAEG in early September

**15th Oct:** Suggestions for alignment of relevant SDG indicators were submitted for the Bangkok meeting

**July/Aug.:** UNCEEA did a broad brush analysis, identifying roughly 35 of SDG indicators which were “SEEA relevant”

**Sept/Oct:** Working groups within the UNCEEA (based on themes) worked to align the indicators, providing detailed definitions
Two discussion papers...

1. **UNCEEA/10/3a: ‘SEEA and Transforming Global and National Statistical Systems for Monitoring SDG Indicators’**
   - Considers the need for integration of environmental-economic statistics, and the role of the SEEA as the conceptual framework
   - Discusses benefits accruing to national and global policy-making of integrating of environmental-economic statistics
   - Lays out a transformative roadmap for aligning SDG monitoring mechanisms with the statistical standard of the SEEA

2. **UNCEEA/10/3b: ‘The SEEA as the Statistical Framework in meeting Data Quality Criteria for SDG indicators’**
   - Illustrates how integrated statistical frameworks such as the SEEA can facilitate and enhance the production of statistics and indicators by national statistical systems
Legacy Frameworks in Statistics

National statistical system operating in silos:

- Lack of integrated information for policy-making

Legacy Framework of International Organizations:

- Multiple and distinct thematic monitoring initiatives
Scope for Integration...

The SDGs represent important moves towards an integrated policy agenda.

To support this, integration of statistics is needed:

- National Statistical Systems need integrated information systems to inform sustainable development initiatives
- Global Reporting Mechanisms should reduce overlap, streamline reporting and ensure an integrated approach
Importance of Standards-based Integration:

- Indicators based on Standards
  - Higher quality
  - International comparability
  - Comprehensive basis for (dis)aggregation

- Standards for Statistics
  - Aligned Definitions and Classifications
  - Improved capacity to compare and/or combine statistics from different sectors
  - Basis for coherent and comprehensive data sets
Integrated Architecture for SDGs

Architecture of integrated global and national monitoring requires **methodological consistency** across **themes** and **levels of monitoring**.

The SEEA should be the methodological basis for:

1. The **integration** of environmental-economic indicators for the SDGs.

2. The **disaggregation** of aggregate ‘global indicators’ to inform national policy.
Roadmap

• Reflecting the SEEA in the SDG Indicators;
  - Indicators aligned with SEEA where relevant
  - Existing monitoring mechanisms should align to SEEA
  - Where new mechanisms are being set up, they should be established in alignment with the SEEA

• Incorporating the SEEA in other policy frameworks;
  - Further adoption of SEEA as underlying statistical framework to support policy frameworks and thematic indicators (e.g. 10YFP, UNCCD, etc)
  - Common message and approach to in-country work
THANK YOU

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