

Area A - Coordination and Communication

(Area Lead: Statistics Canada)

June 20, 2023



Developments in 2022-23



Programme of Work

Objectives

1. Identify entry points to mainstream the SEEA into policy and statistical initiatives;
2. Members act as champions and provide leadership in advancing the SEEA in the various initiatives;
3. Promote collaboration with the technical working groups of the UNCEEA and support the interaction of experts with Area A where appropriate.

Key topics of interest

1. Biodiversity
 2. Circular Economy
 3. Climate Change
 4. Sustainable finance
 5. Nature Based Solutions
 6. Beyond GDP
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Key Activities (to date)

- **Discussions and presentations on initiatives:**
 - Global Biodiversity Framework
 - The Data Gaps Initiative
 - UNECE's Task Force on the role of NSOs in Achieving National Climate Objectives
 - Circular economy initiatives led by UNECE and the OECD
 - Measuring the sustainability of tourism (UNWTO)
 - Beyond GDP (UN Network of Economic Statisticians)
 - **Input to:**
 - 6th Policy Forum on Natural Capital Data for Better Decision Making, which focused on financing for nature
 - **Creation of visual tool of international organizations working in the environmental accounting space and their relationships**
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Landscape Assessment

Purpose

- Promote coordination with SEEA-relevant groups to evaluate the linkages between existing efforts.
- Identify areas of work to promote the use of SEEA.
- Provide a roadmap for engaging with different groups on emerging priority areas.

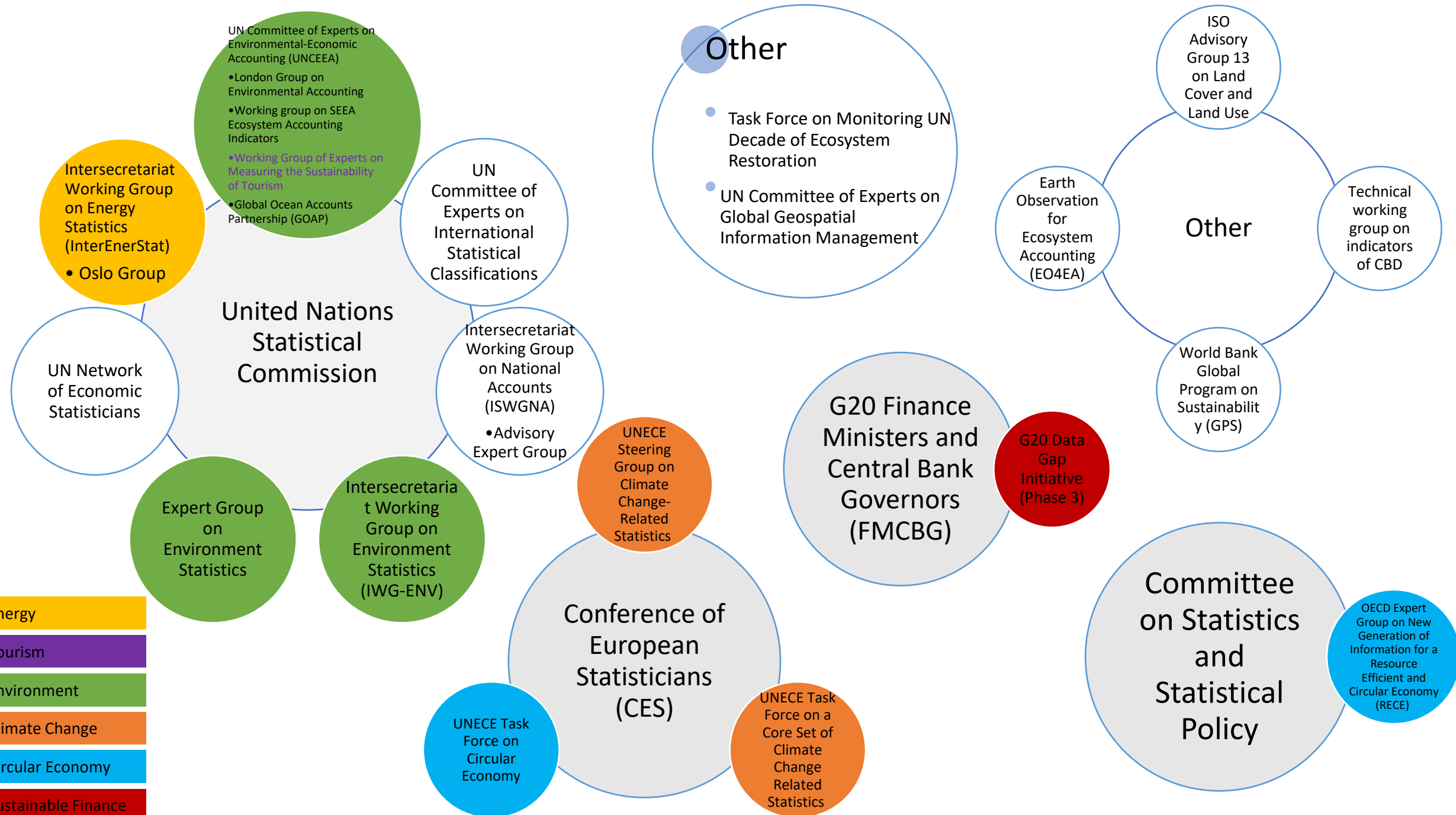
Strong connections:

- **Biodiversity** - indicators under the monitoring framework being based on SEEA
- **Circular Economy** – measurement framework linked to SEEA
- **Climate Change** - Data Gaps Initiative indicators, quarterly SEEA air emissions accounts, UNECE climate change indicators

Weaker connections:

- **Sustainable finance**
 - **Nature Based Solutions**
 - **Beyond GDP**
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- Energy
- Tourism
- Environment
- Climate Change
- Circular Economy
- Sustainable Finance



SEEA Governance mechanism

UN Statistical Commission

UN Committee of Expert on Environmental Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)

UNCEEA Bureau

Area A:
Coordination and
communication

Strengthening
collaboration

Identifying entry
points for NCA:

- circular economy
- biodiversity
- climate change
- ocean

Tourism
SEEA

Area B1:
Methodology
SEEA CF

SEEA CF research
agenda

SNA update

Classifications
ISIC/CPC,
SIEC, COFOG

Area B2:
Methodology
SEEA EA

WGs on forest
accounts

WGs on ocean
accounts

Area C:
Data

Data
dissemination

Data
interoperability
/ARIES for SEEA

Area D:
Capacity
building

Global
assessment

Capacity
building

E-learning

Area E:
Business
accounting

Engagement
with TNFD, GRI,
EFRAG, etc.

Working Group on biodiversity indicators



Future Work



Landscape Assessment Completion

- Re-prioritization and discussions regarding the identification of gaps in the landscape assessment
 - Assessment of relationship between various groups and SEEA
 - Completion of visual tool
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Webinars (new)

Goals

1. Bring people together from various disciplines, including statisticians, policy makers, environmental economic accountants, national accountants, ecologists, etc.
2. Showcase the benefits of the SEEA, demonstrate how the SEEA can answer policy questions, and explore areas where the SEEA has not been used but could play a role.

Requirements

- Need to clearly identify audiences (e.g., policy departments, banking community) and how to engage these audiences.
 - Need to identify user needs and with that information develop series that reflect those needs as well as current topics and emerging issues.
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Next steps

- Continue to play a role in its traditional space of fostering communication and coordination by meeting regularly and discussing key initiatives and emerging issues
- Identify key events and milestones relevant to the environmental accounting community which are happening in the next year and plan webinars around them

Questions for the Committee

- The UNCEEA is asked to:
 - Provide feedback on the addition to the work programme, namely webinars to foster communication and linkages within various groups, while promoting SEEA.
 - Provide feedback on how Area A can identify the right audience for the webinars.