



UPDATING THE 2008 SNA: ENVIRONMENTAL-ECONOMIC ISSUES

**UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic
Accounting (UNCEEA)
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Update of the 2008 SNA: general information

- Beginning of 2020: Agreed to set up Task Teams to consider items in the SNA Research Agenda, with the **goal to update the 2008 SNA in 2025**
- Close **coordination with other international standards** for compiling macroeconomic statistics (BPM6, GFSM 2012, etc.)
- In addition to other Task Teams, three Task Teams on the following **priority areas**:
 - Digitalisation
 - Globalisation
 - Well-being and Sustainability
- Process (annual batches):
 - **Draft guidance notes** to be agreed by Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts
 - **Broad consultation**
 - **Testing**
 - Finalisation of guidance notes, and editing of standards



Task Team on Well-being and Sustainability

- **General objective:** Defining a broader consistent framework of (extended) accounts which better capture and monitor well-being and sustainability
- **Areas of work:**
 - Environmental-economic issues
 - Unpaid household service work
 - Education and human capital
 - Health and social conditions
 - Distribution of household income, consumption, saving and wealth
 - Defining a broader framework



Area group on environmental-economic issues: list of issues

- Refining **economic ownership** of natural resources
- Accounting for **biological resources**
- Accounting for a broader range of **renewable natural resources**
- Stronger guidance on **valuation methods**
- Recording **losses**
- **Classifications**
- Recording of **pollution permits**
- Recording of **provisions**
- Recording of **depletion of natural resources**
- Defining **elements of SEEA which should be part of the broader framework of extended accounts**



Area group on environmental-economic issues: membership

- Mark de Haan (Statistics Netherlands), chair
- Alessandra Alfieri and Bram Edens (UNSD)
- Adam Dutton and Gemma Thomas (UK ONS)
- Raul Figueroa Diaz and Francisco Guillen Martin (INEGI Mexico)
- Dennis Fixler (US BEA)
- Glenn-Marie Lange (World Bank)
- Greg Legoff and Jim Tebrake (IMF)
- Carl Obst (editor SEEA Ecosystem Accounting)
- Viveka Palm (Statistics Sweden)
- Joe St.Lawrence (Statistics Canada)
- Anton Steurer (Eurostat)
- Peter van de Ven (OECD)

Members recently added (in respect of government finance statistics):

- Philippe Samborski (Statistics Canada)
- Phillippe De Rougemont (Eurostat)
- Phil Stokoe (IMF)



Recent developments and further way forward

- Meeting of the Advisory Expert Group (AEG) on National Account (October 5 – 9, 2020):
 - Two guidance notes have been discussed:
 - Accounting for the **economic ownership and depletion of natural resources**
 - Accounting for **biological resources**
 - In addition, there was a **first discussion on considering the atmosphere as an asset**, and its impact on accounting for emission permits
- **General agreement on both guidance notes**, but need to further elaborate the one on biological resources => start of broader consultation on economic ownership and depletion of natural resources
- Need to have a further look at how to **involve the Technical Committee on SEEA CF, and the UNCEEA** more generally



Thank you for your attention!

