



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

UPDATE ON UNCEEA

Anton Steurer

Eurostat

Head of unit, Environment statistics and accounts; sustainable development



United Nations

Summary of discussion at 21-22 June 2018 UNCEEA meeting

Have a look at new <https://seea.un.org/>

Deliberations of UNCEEA covered 5 main areas:

- Coordination
- Methodology
 - SEEA central framework
 - SEEA ecosystem accounting
- Global SEEA databases
- Capacity building
- Communication (incl. SEEA News and Notes)

Conclusions are available as LG background doc.

Highlights on coordination

- Calendar of meetings available on seea.un.org
- Training material is being collected and e-learning resources are available
- Newly established subgroup on use of SEEA for SDGs (sub to Working Group on interlinkages). Lead: Germany. UNCEEA suggested to explore potential of SEEA also in light of 2020 and 2025 revisions of global SDG indicator set
- CCRS: dual approach (residence and territory)
- Cooperate with big data global WG on use of earth observation data

Highlights on methodology: CF

- Many research issues of interest but focus on priority areas with volunteer willing to advance (in other words the bottle neck is capacity to advance the research areas)
- Welcomed Eurostat work on integrated framework
- Asked to examine link between CF research agenda and future SNA revision
- Tourism: a SEEA/TSA technical note exists now
- MFA: global handbook well advanced (UN Environment leading)

Highlights on methodology: EEA

- Good progress on EEA revision. Funding of editor more or less secured. Aim is to supply revised handbook to UNSC in March 2021.
- Make link to SNA research agenda
- UNCEEA recommended to focus on exchange values in the core SEEA EEA
- Several large projects are under way (WAVES and WAVES+, EU INCA, EU-funded UNSD project on NCA...)

Highlights on global databases

- Aim is to gather and disseminate global data sets for key accounts areas (air emissions, energy, MFA, water and land) -> DSDs now in test phase
- Endorsed OECD method for estimating air emissions accounts for UNFCCC Ann. 1 countries
- On land, FAO estimates land cover accounts
- MFA: UN Environment to maintain global DB
- Energy: a tool exists that uses energy statistics
- Water: need to harmonise collections, accounts will be discussed at 2019 UNCEEA meeting.

Highlights on capacity building

- 2017 global assessment was analysed. Next assessment 2020. Aim is 100 countries with CF and 50 with EEA activities
- Need to coordinate technical assistance
- Integrated information systems that can serve several purposes, incl. accounts
- Global Environmental Facility a possible funding source for countries

Highlights on communication

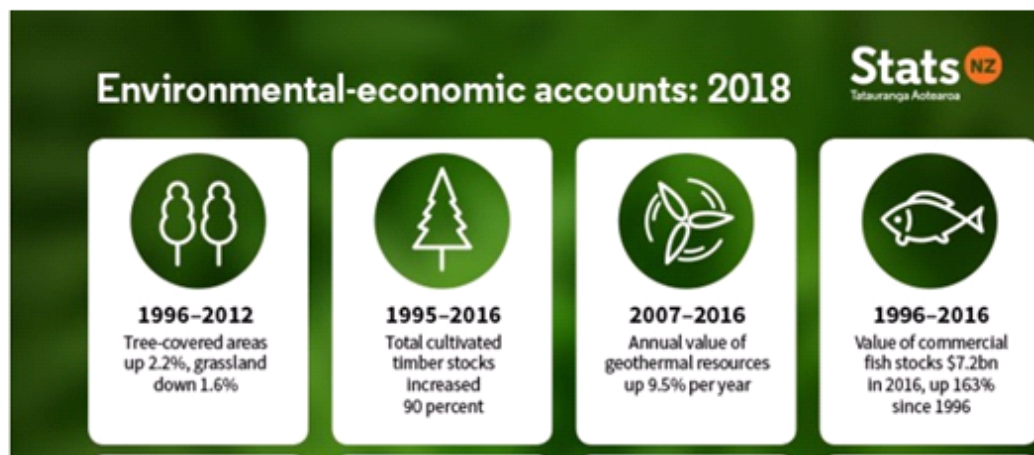
- New website (already mentioned)
- News and notes (Sept issue came this morning!)
- Awareness raising activities are encouraged
- Strategic thinking (e.g. influence revision of SDG indicators nationally and globally, keep an eye on the SNA revision...)

Highlights on communication

SEEA NEWS AND NOTES, Issue 3, September
2018

In this issue

- SEEA developments in Asia and the Pacific
- Measuring air quality benefits of vegetation in the UK
- 2018 Expert Forum on ecosystem accounting
- Report on the 13th meeting of UNCEEA
- Inaugural meeting of Ocean Accounts Partnership
- Now available: Online courses on ecosystem accounting
- Using Earth observation for water-related ecosystem indicators
- Ecosystem accounting and environmental policy in China
- Stats NZ restarts environmental-economic accounts
- Upcoming meetings
- Resource corner





THANK YOU

seea@un.org