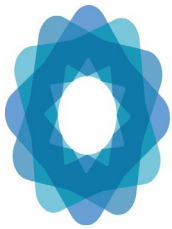




System of Environmental Economic Accounting



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Update from the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting



United Nations

Area A – Coordination and communication (Lead Statistics Canada)

- Focus on coordination and mainstreaming the SEEA in relevant emerging initiatives
- Priority areas of climate change, biodiversity and circular economy

Biodiversity

- Facilitating engagement between national statistical offices and CBD Focal Points through webinars
- Proposed establishment of an expert group for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to oversee development of metadata for indicators

Climate change

- Opportunity for the Committee to take a leading role in G20 Data Gap Initiative on climate change

Circular economy

- Participation in UNECE Task Force on Circular Economy
 - Subgroup looking at in using the SEEA Central Framework as the underlying framework for measuring the circular economy

Area B1: Methodology - Central Framework (Lead Statistics Netherlands)

- Progressing on SEEA CF Research Agenda with four workstreams:
 - Classifications
 - Links between SEEA CF and SEEA EA
 - Valuation issues (together with EEA EA)
 - Input-output and indicators linked to frameworks
- Current focus on ISIC and CPC revisions
- Formalization of collaboration of the UNCEEA and the subgroup of SNA update dealing with SEEA issues
- Outputs of the SEEA CF research agenda to take the form of technical notes which are released through the SEEA website and SEEA News & Notes
- Decision on a revision of the SEEA CF could be made in 2023 on the basis of the status of the SNA update and progress on the SEEA CF research agenda

Area B2: Methodology – Ecosystem Accounting (Lead Eurostat)

- Adoption of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting at the 52nd Session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2021
- Focus on global implementation:
 - Implementation strategy to submit to the UNSC in 2022 – comments are welcome
 - Establishment of groups to support implementation
- Research agenda to advance with TC and other experts
- Forum of Experts to be held online 7-8 December 2021

Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) project

- Significant progress made by the partner countries on the EU-funded Project, ending this year
- Publications:
 - Technical report on scenario analysis recently released
 - Methodological documents on biophysical modeling to be sent to UNSC in 2022
 - Valuation guidelines to be finalized in 2022

Area C: Global SEEA databases (Lead OECD)

Dissemination of SEEA Global Databases on the SEEA Website

- Development of data templates to expand geographic coverage, quality and improve timeliness for five priority areas (air emissions, energy, land, material flow, water)
- Dissemination of all SEEA global datasets on SEEA site will provide a “one-stop shop”

ARIES for SEEA

- Launched in April 2021, uses artificial intelligence to produce rapid, standardized, scalable and customizable ecosystem accounts for any user-specified terrestrial area in the world using global data and models
- Current functionalities of ecosystem extent, condition (forest ecosystems) and select ecosystem services (physical and monetary)
- Plan to explore deriving global land and other accounts from ARIES
- Plan to integrate SEEA CF priority accounts into current ARIES for SEEA platform
- Recent release of an interoperability strategy

Area D: Capacity Building

- Global Assessment "light" to be administered in between benchmark Global Assessments to inform SDG indicator 15.9.1 (last benchmark in 2020)
- Dissemination of select data items on Assessment results on the SEEA website and UNECE SEEA wiki page coming soon
- Strong contributions from regional Communities of Practice (CoPs) in advancing SEEA implementation and fostering regional collaboration
- Greater involvement of UN Regional Commissions in Area D leadership planned

Business Accounting (Lead INEGI)

- Committee agreed it should play a role in aligning business accounting and reporting with the SEEA, which would result in better quality data to feed into the accounts
- Consultative workshop with Bureau and business community held in Spring 2021
- Focus on the real (non-financial) economy
- Two main areas of work at substantive level
 - Alignment of methodology and standards
 - Align and Transparent projects; work being done by IFRS and EFRAG
 - Communication and presentation of data
 - More direct exchanges between NSOs and businesses; co-designing products through collaboration
- Subgroup to involve NSOs and select representatives from business sector (e.g., standard setters)



THANK YOU

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