



Side event of the 55th session of United Nations Statistical Commission

## **New challenges for national statistical offices for environment and climate change statistics: role of the SEEA**

*Organized by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental Economic Accounting, UNSD, and IMF*

Tuesday, 27 February, 13:15-13:50

The environment and climate change play an increasingly prominent role in our daily lives, forcing policy makers to take new issues into account for macroeconomic policy and decision making. Policy makers now need understand the impact of economic activities on the environment and climate change, as well as how economies can create and finance a pathway to green economies and net zero emissions. This understanding requires the integration of environmental and climate data with economic data.

Existing statistical standards such as the [System of Environmental-Economic Accounting \(SEEA\)](#) already provide national statistical offices with a methodology to help policy makers take into consideration tradeoffs and synergies between the environment and economy. Using the SEEA, national statistical offices can produce credible, comparable and integrated data on the environment-economy nexus. At the same time, there is an urgent need to ensure that the accounts speak to the needs of today's policy makers and address existing data gaps that impair the goals of the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and more.

This side event will review new and emerging demands for environmental and economic information that are being faced at global, regional and national levels. It will identify ways that the statistical community can address these demands through existing SEEA frameworks, as well as identify areas which could be addressed through an update of the SEEA Central Framework in order to make the SEEA CF more responsive to the new demands.

### **Agenda:**

Moderator: André Loranger, Chair, UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

Panel discussion:

- Jim Tebrake, Deputy Director of the Statistics Department, IMF
- Shailja Sharma, Director, UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
- David Gruen, Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Mariana Kotzeva, Director General, Eurostat

