Part I: Questionnaire for Country Participants

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1. What types of environmental and economic accounts have already been implemented in your country and for how long? (If none, go to question 6)

Since 1995, NSCB has been compiling asset and activity accounts, following the SEEA framework

2. Have you used or are you aware of any use made by others in your country of the handbook of National Accounting Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting 2003, commonly referred to as SEEA 2003 and/or of the Handbook of National Accounting Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting – An Operational Manual (2000)? How useful were these documents in the implementation of the accounts?

The Philippine environmental accounts are based on the first version of the SEEA. The implementation of the SEEA 2003 recommendations will be undertaken starting this year with the water resources accounts. The operational manual continues to be used as guide in compiling the environmental accounts

3. Please describe the major difficulties/constraints that have been encountered during the compilation of these accounts (e.g. financial support, lack of human resources, training, etc)

From 1995 to 2001, the major difficulties/constraints that were encountered were the availability of data.

From 2002 to present, lack of financial and human resource have been the major constraints in the compilation of the accounts. Data availability is still a problem.

4. Was the implementation of the accounts driven from a policy demand or was it supply driven?

From 1995 to 2001, compilation of the accounts was supply driven.

5. Have environmental-economic accounts been used for policy making in your country? If so, what were the policy issues?

ENRA was included in Philippine Agenda 21 (PA 21) as one of its strategy/action plan agenda for adoption.

PA 21 also called for the institutionalization of localized or area based ENRA for environmentally critical areas.

PEENRA system became a component of an Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation System which was developed to determine the status of the environment in support to the implementation of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) of the province of Palawan ENRA provided policy makers and planners a sound basis for formulating the appropriate decisions and programs to address the issues in line with Palawan's sustainable development goals.

The CAR regional accounts were used as basis in the institutionalization of the provincial ENRA (Mt. Province and Ifugao).

6. Does your country have future plans for starting/continuing and/or expanding the implementation of environmental-economic accounting? Please describe.

Although limited in financial and human resources, NSCB continues to compile environmental accounts. Next year, the fishery and forest accounts will be updated using the SEEA 2003.

NSCB is also scouting for fund support for two project proposals, Reforming Real Estate Pricing in the Philippines and Redesigning Water Resource Valuation: A mechanism for Sustainable Use of Water Resources in the Philippines.

In the pipeline also is the conduct of fishery resource accounting using the draft Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Fisheries and the updating of the Forest resource of the Philippines in view of the updated inventory of the Philippines forest which was conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

NSCB is exploring ways and means to have a training on the new/revised SEEA and the use of the manuals for water and fishery resources before compiling these accounts.

7. What seems to be the major constraints in further implementing environmental economic accounting in your country?

Financial and human resources; there is still very little use and appreciation of the accounts.

8. In your opinion, what should be the role of the Task Force on environmental accounting?

Advocacy to governments on the implementation and use of environmental accounting; more examples of the applications of the accounts

9. In your opinion, which activities of the Task Force would best facilitate in your country the implementation of environmental-economic accounting and the promotion of its uses at the policy level?

The four activities stipulated in the draft TOR