



# DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS DIVISION UNITED NATIONS

International Conference "Global Implementation Programme for the SEEA" and the Eighth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting
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### **Proposal for 2013 SEEA Implementation Global Assessment Survey**

Paper prepared by UNSD

(for discussion)

#### Proposal for 2013 SEEA Implementation Global Assessment Survey

In 2006 the UN Statistics Division conducted a global assessment of environment statistics and environmental-economic accounting. A total of 100 countries responded to Phase I of the survey. Phase II of the survey, which included follow-up questionnaires focusing on the specific subject areas of water and energy, started in 2007 and only went to those countries that indicated work in statistics related to those specific subject areas. Results from Phase I indicated that 49 countries had an Environmental-Economic Accounting programme and 20 countries were planning to implement a program in the near term.

Given these 2006 data, the UN Statistics Division is seeking approval from the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) to conduct a follow up to the 2006 survey. The follow up survey will provide an update on the countries that completed the 2006 survey and, importantly, serve as a baseline as the SEEA 2012 implementation strategy moves forward. As with the 2006 survey, the 2013 survey would be sent to all of the UN Member States for completion.

Annex I includes a draft of potential question ideas for the 2013 SEEA Implementation Global Assessment Survey. This is a shorter and more defined set of questions than the 2006 survey (Annex II), partly because the 2013 survey would solely focus on the status of environmental-economic accounts (Part B in the 2006 survey). The questions are designed to focus on accounts implemented (e.g., water flow accounts, waste, land use and land cover accounts), future plans for environmental-economic accounting, role of technical assistance, and data sources for environmental-economic accounting tables. A shorter, focused survey may encourage completion and improve the response rate when compared with the 2006 survey (response rate of approximately 50%).

The next steps for would include finalization of the set of survey questions and confirmation of the appropriate contacts for completing the survey within the Member States. Pending approval from the Bureau of UNCEEA on the final set of questions, UNSD would begin administration of the survey in late summer 2013. Data would be compiled by UNSD beginning in late 2013 and results presented by early 2014.

### Annex I. Ideas for questionnaire to undertake global assessment of environmentaleconomic accounting activities

#### **SEEA Implementation 2013-2014**

#### **Background**

#### **Possible questions**

1. Does your country have an environmental-economic accounting program/s that is developing or compiling SEEA based datasets?

If yes – go to question 2

If no – go to question 5

(Note: all respondents to answer question 6)

2. What are the key elements of the environmental-economic accounting program? Which are the leading agencies? Over what time periods have statistics and accounts been released? Please complete the following table as appropriate

<b>Environmental-economic accounting</b>	Lead agency/s *	Statistical releases /
program/ modules		reference years
Water flow accounts		
Water resources		
Water quality / Emissions to water		
Energy flow accounts		
Emissions to air		
Waste		
Mineral and energy resources		
Forests – timber resources		
Fish and aquatic resources		
Land use and land cover accounts		
Environmental protection expenditure		
accounts (EPEA)		
Environmental goods and services		
sector (EGSS) statistics		
Environmental taxes and subsidies		
Soil resources	_	
Ecosystem accounting		

<sup>\*</sup> Where the lead agency is a national statistical office please specify whether the unit leading the work is located within the national accounts division, within the environment statistics division or in another section of the agency.

3. Are there plans to extend or expand the compilation of environmental-economic accounts? Please specify the relevant programs.

4. Has your country received technical assistance from international organisations, NGOs or other institutions? Please complete the following table as appropriate.

Environmental-economic accounting program/ modules	Provider or program of technical assistance	Periods during which technical assistance received
Water – physical flows		
Water resources		
Water quality / Emissions to water		
Energy		
Emissions to air		
Waste		
Mineral and energy resources		
Forests – timber resources		
Fish and aquatic resources		
Land use and land cover accounts		
Environmental protection expenditure accounts (EPEA)		
Environmental goods and services sector (EGSS) statistics		
Environmental taxes and subsidies		
Soil resources		
Ecosystem accounting		

- 5. Does your country have plans to commence a program of work on environmental-economic accounting? If so, please specify the priority areas.
- 6. The development and maintenance of environmental-economic accounting programs is based on the availability and co-ordination of economic and environmental data from a range of data sources. Please complete the following table as appropriate to provide a general indication of the data currently available in your country that is of relevance in environmental-economic accounting.

Type of data	Source data agency*	Years for which data are available	Notes on data coverage
Water resources (stocks and			
flows)			
Water abstractions			
Water use by type of economic			
unit			
Water quality statistics			
Energy statistics/balances			
Emissions to air			
Air quality statistics			
Solid waste flows			
Environmental protection			
expenditure			
Environmental goods and			
services statistics			

Environmental taxes and	
subsidies	
Mineral and energy resources	
Forestry and timber resources	
Fisheries statistics	
Land use statistics/maps	
Land cover statistics/maps	
Economic production data by	
industry (incl output, value-	
added)	
Supply and use / I-O tables	
Household consumption	
statistics	
International trade statistics	
Geo-spatial data program	
Measures of ecosystem services	
and/or ecosystem condition	
Biodiversity statistics	

Annex II: 2006 Global Assessment of Environmental Statistics and Environmental-Economic Accounting (Phase I)

Please provide your contact information:	
Country:	
Name of institution:	
Contact person:	
Email:	
Tel:	
Part A – Enviro	nment Statistics
For additional space, please use the last page.	
Help is available at the end of the Questionnaire for selected qu	uestions identified with 🤨.
<ol> <li>Is there a legal framework for Environment Statistics in your country?</li> </ol>	* Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):
Yes - Please check all that apply	Comments:
☐ Statistical Act	
☐ Environmental Protection Act	Does your Institution/Agency cooperate with other Institutions/Agencies in the compilation of
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	Environment Statistics? ?
number of character):	Yes - Please describe the coordination mechanism
∐ No	and the name of the institutions involved (there is
2. Does your Institution/Agency have a Programme on	no limit in the number of characters):
Environment Statistics? ?	No → Skip to Question 8
Yes	7. If you answered yes to question 6, is your
$\square$ No $\rightarrow$ Skip to Question 15	Institution/Agency the leading agency in Environment
	Statistics?
3. In the Environment Statistics Programme, which subject areas are covered by your institution? <i>Please</i>	In all areas
check all that apply ?	Only in specific areas - Please specify which areas:
□ Water	In no areas - Please specify the name of the
☐ Land	leading Institution/Agency and the subject matter:
☐ Biodiversity	
Forest	8. In compiling Environment Statistics, has your
☐ Energy	Institution/Agency made use of the following: 8.a Training material, methodological guidelines or
Minerals	country experiences?
☐ Agriculture	Yes - Please specify (e.g. FDES (UN), SEEA
☐ Transport	2003, Eurostat, OECD, practices from other countries, etc.):
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):	No
<u> </u>	8.b Technical assistance from international
4. Total number of staff working in the Environment	organizations or countries?
Statistics Programme (in full time equivalent) (?) 4.a In your institution:	Yes - Please describe (e.g. during which period,
(i) Number of Professional staff:	nature of assistance, etc.):
(ii) Number of Support staff:	∐No
4.b In other institutions:	8.c External funding? (?)
	Yes - Please describe (e.g. during which
5. Where is the Environment Statistics Programme located within your Institution/Agency? <i>Please select</i>	period, from which sources, etc.):
one	
In a Not in a	9. Are there plans to continue the compilation of
separate separate Unit Unit	Environment Statistics in your Institution/Agency?
Within Social Statistics	Yes
Within Economic Statistics	∐ No
Other*	10. Are there plans to expand the compilation of
	Environment Statistics to areas not yet compiled?

Yes - Please check all that apply	☐ Yes - <i>Please specify</i> :
☐ Air	Name of the institution/agency:
☐ Water	Name of contact person:
☐ Land	Email:
☐ Biodiversity	Telephone:
☐ Forest	Fax:
☐ Energy	
☐ Minerals	15. In your country, are the Environment Statistics used
☐ Agriculture	for: Please check all that apply
☐ Transport	☐ Deriving indicators
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	☐ Development of Environmental-Economic Accounts
number of characters):	☐ Modeling, economic analysis
No	Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):
11. What have been the major constraints in developing	AC Deville Testil Institution (Alternative (
the Environment Statistics Programme? <i>Please check</i>	<ol> <li>Do other Institutions/Agencies (Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Agency, etc.)</li> </ol>
all that apply	have a Programme on Environment Statistics in your
☐ Lack of institutional set-up/coordination	country?
☐ Lack of financial resources	☐ No
☐ Lack of human resources	Yes - Please describe (Rows can be added to the
☐ Lack of interest by the users	tables in case there are more institutions):
☐ Lack of access to training material	Name of Type of Contact person
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	institution/ statistics agency compiled
number of characters):	Name Email Tel. Fax
12. What are the major constraints in committing the	a
12. What are the major constraints in compiling the Environment Statistics? <i>Please check all that apply</i>	b
☐ Lack of institutional set-up/coordination	c
☐ Lack of financial resources	
☐ Lack of human resources	
☐ Lack of interest by the users	
☐ Lack of access to training material	
☐ Availability of data	
Quality of data	
Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	
number of characters):	
13. How are the Environment Statistics disseminated?  Please check all that apply	
☐ Statistical Publications	
☐ Internet	
☐ State of the Environment Report	
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	
number of characters):	
14. Are Environment Statistics transmitted/reported to International/Regional Organizations?	
□ No	
Yes - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):	
(i) To which International/Regional Organizations?	
(ii) Is there a single focal point for reporting?	
□ No	

### Part B - Environmental-Economic Accounting

17. Does your Institution/Agency have a Programme on Environmental-Economic Accounting? ?	No → Skip to Question 24
Yes → Answer Questions 18 through 33	23. If you answered yes to question 22, is your
No → Answer Questions 32 through 38	Institution/Agency the leading agency in
No 7 Answer Questions 32 through 30	Environmental-Economic Accounting? ?
18. Which modules of Environmental-Economic Accounting	Yes
are compiled by your Institution/Agency? Please check	No - Please specify the name of the leading
all that apply 🤨	Institution/Agency and the subject matter:
☐ Water Accounts	24 In compiling Environmental Economic Associate has
☐ Mineral Asset Accounts	24. In compiling Environmental-Economic Accounts, has your Institution/Agency made use of the following: ?
☐ Energy and Emission Accounts	
Forest Accounts	24.a Training material, methodological guidelines or country experiences?
☐ Fisheries Accounts	Yes - Please specify (e.g. 1993 SNA, SEEA
Land and Ecosystem Accounts	2003, Eurostat, etc.):
☐ Material Flows Accounts/Waste Accounts	□ No
<ul><li>☐ Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts</li><li>☐ Physical Supply and Use Tables</li></ul>	24.b Technical assistance from international organizations or countries?
Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the	Yes - Please describe (e.g. during which
number of characters):	period, nature of assistance, etc.):
19. Total number of staff working in the compilation of	∐ No
these accounts (in full time equivalent)	24.c External funding
19.a In your institution:	Yes - Please describe (e.g. during which
(i) Number of Professional staff:	period, from which sources, etc.):
(ii) Number of Support staff:	∐ No
19.b In other institutions:	25. Are there plans to continue the compilation of the
20. Where is the Environmental-Economic Accounting	25. Are there plans to continue the compilation of the Environmental-Economic Accounts in your
Programme located within your Institution/Agency?	Institution/Agency?
Please select one	Yes
In a Not in a	□ No
separate separate Unit Unit	_
Within National Accounts	26. Are there plans to expand the compilation of
Within Environment Statistics	Environmental-Economic Accounts? ?
Other*	Yes - Please check all that apply
* Please specify (there is no limit in the number of	☐ Water Accounts
characters):	☐ Mineral Asset Accounts
Comments:	☐ Energy and Emission Accounts
	☐ Forest Accounts
21. Is the Environment Statistics Programme integrated	☐ Fisheries Accounts
with the Environmental-Economic Accounting  Programme? ?	☐ Land and Ecosystem Accounts
_	☐ Material Flows Accounts/Waste Accounts
Yes - Please specify relationship:	☐ Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts
∐ No	☐ Physical Supply and Use Tables
22. Does your Institution/Agency cooperate with other	☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):
Institutions/Agencies in the area of Environmental-	□ No
Economic Accounts? ?	
Yes - Please describe the coordination mechanism and the name of the institutions involved (there is no limit in the number of characters):	27. What have been the major constraints in developing the Environmental-Economic Accounting Programme? Please check all that apply

	☐ Modeling, economic analysis
☐ Lack of financial resources	☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the
☐ Lack of human resources	number of characters):
☐ Lack of interest by the users	22. Do other Institutions/Agencies (e.g. Central Bank
☐ Lack of access to training material	33. Do other Institutions/Agencies (e.g. Central Bank, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economic
☐ Availability of data	Affairs/Planning) compile any parts/modules of the
☐ Quality of data	Environmental-Economic Accounts in your country?
☐ Other - <i>Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):</i>	☐ No☐ Yes - <i>Please describe</i> ( <i>Rows can be added to the</i>
28. What are the major constraints in compiling the	tables in case there are more institutions):
Environmental-Economic Accounts? <i>Please check all</i>	Name of Type of Contact person institution/ accounts
that apply  ☐ Lack of institutional set-up/coordination	agency compiled Name Email Tel. Fax
☐ Lack of institutional set-up/coordination	a
☐ Lack of himan resources	b
	c.
Lack of interest by the users	
Lack of access to training material	34. Are Supply and Use Tables and/or Input-Output
Availability of data	Tables compiled in your country?
Quality of data	Yes - Please specify last year of compilation,
☐ Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):	frequency of compilation and number of industry categories (e.g. ISIC classes):
29. How are the Environmental-Economic Accounts disseminated? <i>Please check all that apply</i>	L No
☐ Statistical Publications	35. Have any modules of the Environmental-Economic
☐ Internet	Accounts been compiled in the past in your country?
☐ Other - <i>Please specify</i> (there is no limit in the number of characters):	No Yes - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):
30. At what time lag are the Environmental-Economic	(i) Type of accounts compiled:
Accounts figures disseminated as compared to National Accounts figures?	(ii) For which years:
Please specify:	(ii) Agency/Institution responsible:
	(iii) Type of funding - Please check all that apply:
31. Are Environmental-Economic Accounts transmitted/reported to International/Regional	External sources - Please specify source:
Organizations?	☐ Internal sources - <i>Please specify source</i> :
<u></u> No	
Yes - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):	□ None
(i) To which International/Regional Organizations?	36. What were the reasons for not continuing with the compilation of Environmental-Economic Accounts?
(ii) Is there a single focal point for reporting?	Please check all that apply
□ No	☐ Lack of institutional set-up/coordination
☐ Yes - <i>Please specify</i> :	☐ Lack of financial resources
Name of the institution/person:	☐ Lack of human resources
Name of contact person:	☐ Lack of interest by the users
Email:	☐ Lack of access to training material
Telephone:	☐ Availability of data
Fax:	Quality of data
	Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the
32. In your country, are the Environmental-Economic Accounts used for: <i>Please check all that apply</i>	number of characters):
☐ Deriving indicators	

7. Are there plans to compile any modules of the Environmental-Economic Accounts in your country in the near future?	Box for additional comments (there is no limit in the number of characters):
No	Thank you for responding to the Questionnaire!
8. What seem to be the major constraints in starting the compilation of Environmental-Economic Accounts in your country? (Please check all that apply)  Lack of institutional set-up/coordination  Lack of financial resources  Lack of human resources  Lack of interest by the users  Lack of access to training material  Availability of data  Quality of data  Other - Please specify (there is no limit in the number of characters):	

#### Help on selected questions

#### Question 2: Does your Institution/Agency have a Programme on Environment Statistics?

For the purposes of this Assessment, an Environment Statistics Programme is intended as a comprehensive programme (even if it is not exhaustive in terms of subject areas covered) for the provision of information on the environment as opposed to information on specific subject areas often carried out for resource management purposes by line ministries. For example, water statistics may be available in the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Water, Meteorological Institutes, and Ministry of Agriculture etc. In the context of this Assessment, these programmes should not be considered as Environment Statistics Programmes. A Programme in which water statistics is compiled together with statistics on other resources in order to provide information on the environment is considered an Environment Statistics Programme (independently on whether it collects data directly or receives information from other institutions). However, if this convention is not considered applicable in the country, the respondent is kindly requested to provide a comment on the specific organizational set-up.

#### Question 3: Which subject areas are covered by your institution?

For the purposes of this Assessment 'subject areas covered by your institutions' include the areas for which either (i) your institution carries out data collection activities or (ii) your institution compiles information from other sources.

### Question 4: Total number of staff working in the Environment Statistics Programme (in full time equivalent)

'Professional staff' refers to professionals in the subject matter as opposed 'support staff' which refers to other administration staff). 'Number of staff working in other institutions' refers to the number of people (professional and support staff) working in institutions other than the one of the respondent, which have an Environment Statistics Programme and with which there exists cooperation on Environment Statistics. See Question 6 for a clarification of what is intended with 'cooperation'.)

# Question 6: Does your Institution/Agency cooperate with other Institutions/Agencies in the compilation of Environment Statistics?

For the purpose of this assessment, cooperation refers to the existence of a formal or informal agreement for data sharing between institutions.

# Question 7: If you answered yes to question 6, is your Institution/Agency the leading agency in Environment Statistics?

For the purpose of this Assessment, leading agency refers to the agency which is responsible for the overall coordination, compilation and dissemination of statistics on a specific subject area.

### Question 8.c: In compiling Environment Statistics, has your Institution/Agency made use of external funding?

For the purpose of this Assessment, external funding refers to funding external to the institution of the respondent. It includes funding from international organizations and other countries as well as from other agencies within the country.

# Question 10: Are there plans to expand the compilation of Environment Statistics to areas not yet compiled?

If the plans to expand the compilation of environment statistics include broadening the coverage (e.g. spatial and temporal disaggregation), please indicate it in the category 'Other' and specify.

#### Question 17 Does your Institution/Agency have a Programme on Environmental-Economic Accounting?

For the purpose of this assessment, an institution is considered having a programme on Environmental-Economic Accounting if it compiles any part/module of the accounts in physical or in monetary terms.

### Question 18: Which modules of Environmental-Economic Accounting are compiled by your Institution/Agency?

For the purposes of this Assessment, a module is considered to be compiled if any part(s) of it is compiled. For example, the module 'water accounts' should be considered as being compiled even if only physical supply and use tables for water are compiled.

### Question 19: Total number of staff working in the compilation of these accounts (in full time equivalent)

'Professional staff' refers to professionals in the subject matter as opposed 'support staff' which refers to other administration staff). 'Number of staff working in other institutions' refers to the number of people (professional and support staff) working in institutions other than the one of the respondent, with which there exists cooperation on on Environmental-Economic Accounting. See Question 22 for a clarification of what is intended with 'cooperation'.

# Question 21: Is the Environment Statistics Programme integrated with the Environmental-Economic Accounting Programme?

For the purpose of this Assessment, the Environment Statistics and the Environmental-Economic Accounting Programmes are considered to be integrated if they use the same definitions, classifications and data collections.

### Question 22: Does your Institution/Agency cooperate with other Institutions/Agencies in the area of Environmental-Economic Accounts?

For the purpose of this assessment, cooperation refers to the existence of a formal or informal agreement for data sharing between institutions.

# Question 23: Is your Institution/Agency the leading agency in Environmental-Economic Accounting?

For the purpose of this assessment, the institution in charge of the integration of the accounts, coordination with other institutions and dissemination is considered the leading agency in Environmental-Economic Accounting. Note that different institutions may compile different modules of the accounts. If this convention is not considered applicable in the country, the respondent is kindly requested to provide a comment on the specific organizational set-up.

# Question 24.c: In compiling Environmental-Economic Accounts, has your Institution/Agency made use of external funding?

For the purpose of this Assessment, external funding refers to funding external to the institution of the respondent. It includes funding from international organizations and other countries as well as from other agencies within the country.

### Question 26: Are there plans to expand the compilation of Environmental-Economic Accounts?

Plans to expand the compilation of Environmental-Economic Accounts in terms of broadening the coverage of modules already compiled (e.g. compile physical or monetary accounts not compiled previously, more detailed spatial and temporal disaggregation) should be specified under the category 'Other'.