

8th International  
Conference on  
**BIG DATA**  
& Data Science for Official Statistics

**BILBAO 2024**

Informing Climate Change and  
Sustainable Development Policies  
with Integrated Data

**BILBAO. SPAIN** | **10-14 JUNE 2024** | **#UNBigData2024**

## DESA, Data & SIDS:

- Data for SIDS Initiative

- SIDS-SIDS Cooperation Project on Data for Nature

AUTHOR

ORGANIZATION



# Outline

## **DATA AND SIDS: NEEDS & CHALLENGES**

*Following up From the SIDS4 Conference*

## **THE DATAS INITIATIVE-PROGRAMME**

*Objective & Components*

## **SIDS-SIDS COOPERATION PROJECT**

Example of DATAS implementation at Reg. Level

## **RELATIONS WITH STATISTICAL FRAMEWORKS**

FDES, GSGF, SEEA

## **CONCLUSION**

Further Information and Contacts





A photograph of fishermen pulling a net in a boat on a body of water, with a teal overlay containing text. The scene is set outdoors under a clear blue sky with some clouds. In the foreground, a fisherman's arm and hand are visible, holding a section of a dark fishing net. In the background, another fisherman is crouching in the boat, also handling the net. The water is calm, and the shoreline with palm trees and mountains is visible in the distance. A semi-transparent teal rectangle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text "SIDS & DATA Needs and Challenges" in white.

# SIDS & DATA Needs and Challenges



# SIDS SPECIAL CASE FOR DATA MANAGEMENT: NEED FOR EVIDENCE BASED DECISION MAKING

## Barrier 1:

### Data availability and gaps

- Large data gaps still exist in terms of geographic coverage, timeliness and the level of disaggregation required
- While some good examples exist in SIDS, overall there are poor national environmental accounting in SIDS

## Barrier 2:

### Data infrastructure and innovation

- Difficulties maintaining modern data platforms.
- Data stored on disparate systems without proper reliability, scalability, and performance.
- The high physical exposure of SIDS data infrastructure and National Statistical Offices to natural hazards

## Barrier 3:

### Data governance and coordination

- The lack of human and institutional capacities and funding to support data production and promote evidence-based approaches
- No single entity at the country level has all the necessary source data and analytic capabilities
- Inadequate data coordination across sectors

## SIDS4: A&B (New) Agenda for SIDS

Out of the 10 ABAS priorities:

=> *Strengthening data collection, storage and analysis in SIDS*





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**Fourth International Conference on Small Island  
Developing States**  
Antigua and Barbuda, 27–30 May 2024  
Item 10 of the provisional agenda\*\*  
**Outcome of the Conference**

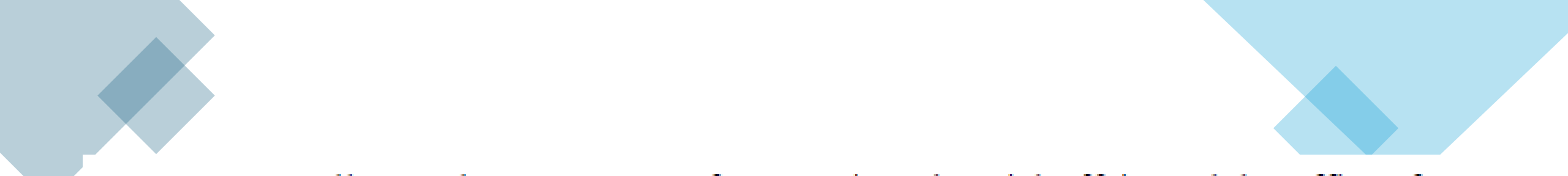
**Draft outcome document of the fourth International  
Conference on Small Island Developing States**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The Secretariat has the honour to transmit to the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, for consideration and adoption, the draft outcome document of the Conference as approved by its Preparatory Committee at the resumed 2nd plenary meeting of its second session, on 11 April 2024 (see annex).


## **G. Data collection, analysis and use**

- (a) Strengthen data collection, storage and analysis by:
  - (i) Investing in building human and institutional capacity in small island developing States to collect quality, accessible, timely and reliable, disaggregated data, according to their national contexts, to measure progress and to ensure that no one is left behind;
  - (ii) Strengthening and modernizing national data infrastructure and systems in small island developing States to better integrate data into development planning, and enhancing the capacity of statistical offices in small island developing States;
  - (iii) Enhancing science-based and innovative approaches, including sustainable development-oriented, inclusive and responsible use of artificial intelligence, in the non-military domain, in full respect, promotion and protection of human rights and international law, for the collection, storage, analysis, disaggregation, dissemination and use of demographic data in small island developing States, including use of geospatial technologies;
  - (iv) Enhancing partnerships and the sharing of best practice, expertise, digital public goods and data in order to facilitate small island developing States peer-to-peer learning, including through the Small Island Developing States Centre of Excellence and existing statistical initiatives, including through regional organizations;
  - (v) Providing high-quality spatial data for small island developing States and working to downscale global datasets to provide accurate information for small island developing States;

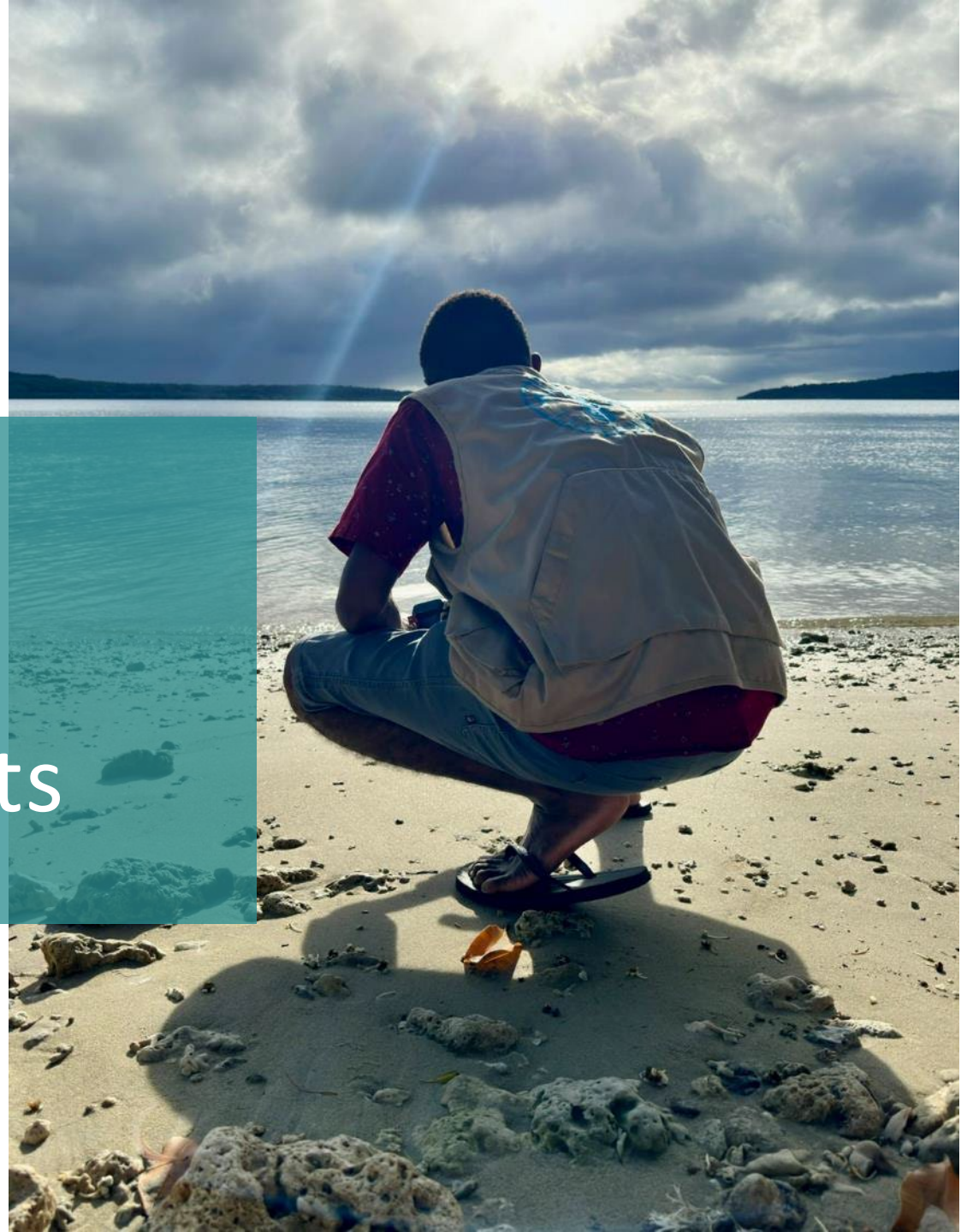


39. We call upon the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to conduct workshops to familiarize small island developing States with the application of the framework and build capacity to collect and submit their data.

40. We call for the annual small island developing States segment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council to be repurposed to review annually progress against commitments in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States that are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals under review. To support this, we request the Secretary-General to prepare an annual report on progress in implementing the Agenda, drawing on data from the monitoring and evaluation framework.



DATAS INITIATIVE:  
DATA FOR SIDS  
Objective & Components





# DATA for SIDS

## - DATAS -

SUPPORTING SIDS NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS' CAPACITIES AND ENHANCING INFORMED-DECISION MAKING, SDGs IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING THROUGH:

- DATA GOVERNANCE,
- DATA PRODUCTION,
- DATA DISSEMINATION
- SIDS-SIDS COLLABORATION



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

OVERALL OBJECTIVE:

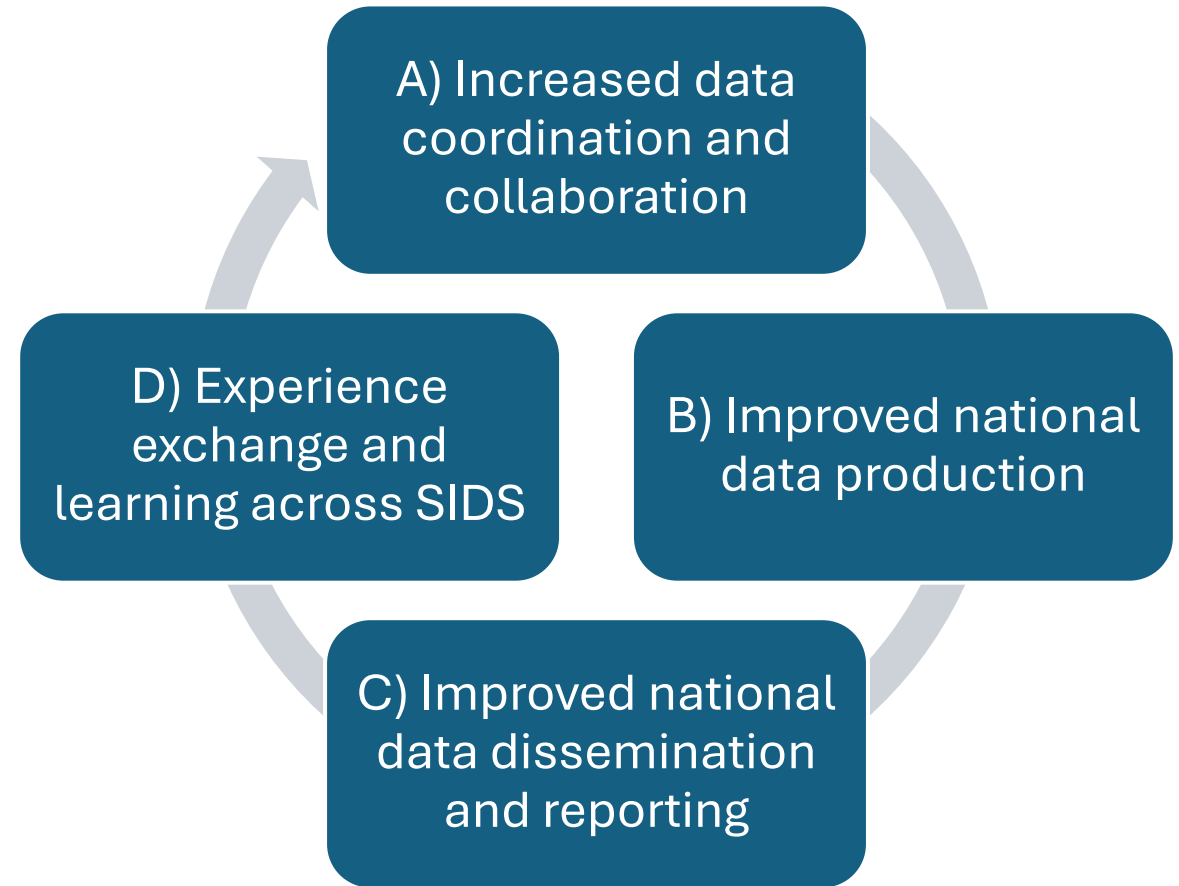
SUPPORTING SIDS NATIONAL  
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- DATA GOVERNANCE
- DATA PRODUCTION
- DATA DISSEMINATION
- SIDS-SIDS COLLABORATION



DATA AS AN SDG  
ACCELERATOR  
IN SIDS

## DATAS : OBJECTIVE AND COMPONENTS







**PROJECT: SIDS-SIDS COOPERATION  
ON DATA SOLUTIONS FOR NATURE**  
When DATAS is unlocking SIDS-SIDS  
potential in the Caribbean





**Belize Prime Minister** announcing the project on behalf of the **SIDS Coalition for Nature**  
*(at 2023 SDG Summit)*



**Spain** announcing support to SIDS Coalition's priority #2 (data management) through SIDS-SIDS cooperation in the Caribbean  
*(at 2023 SIDS Partnership Committee in NYC)*

**SIDS4 (2024)**  
**A&B (New) Agenda for SIDS**

*“Supporting SIDS-SIDS cooperation, capacity-building and knowledge exchange”  
(...)*





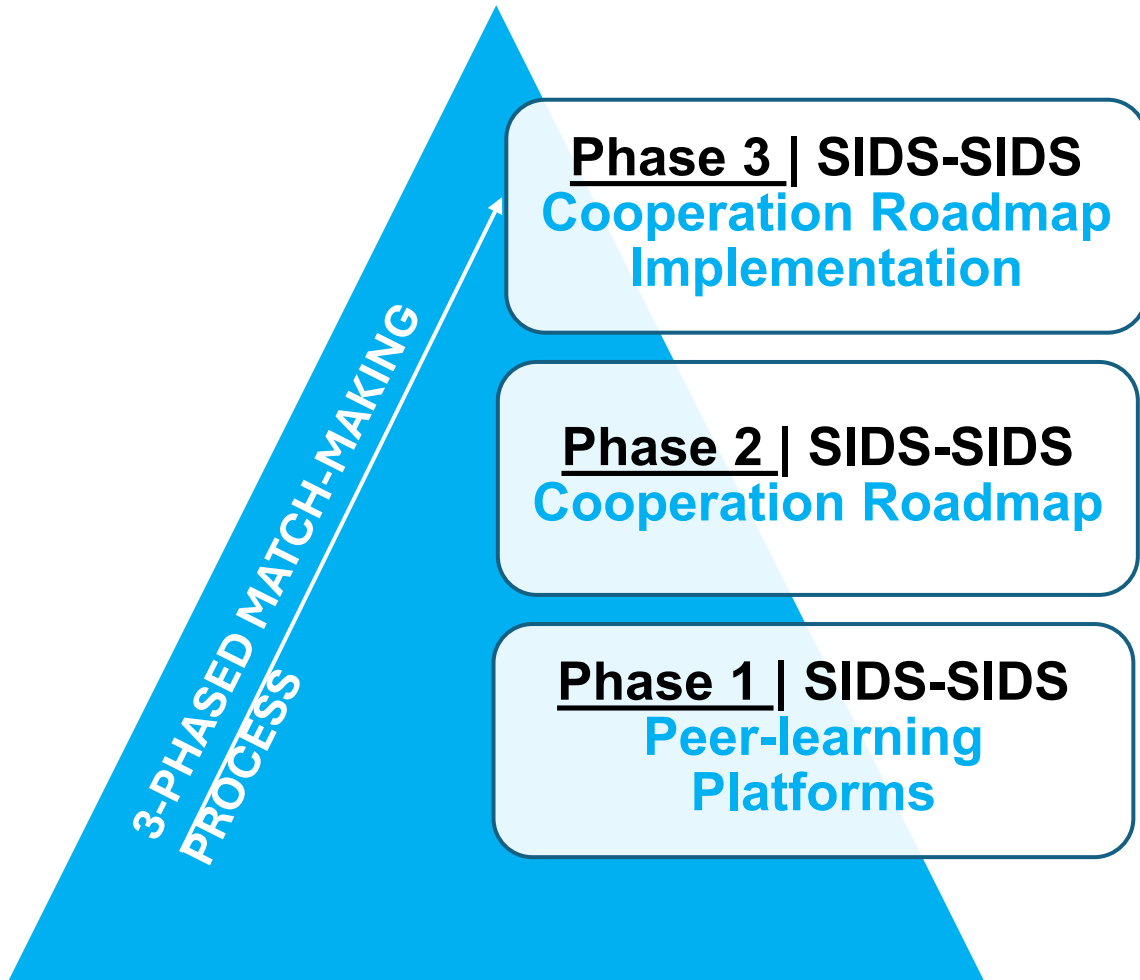
## Partnerships



- Covering **Caribbean SIDS** : **NSOs + MoE**
- **Strategic support** by **Belize**  
(as Caribbean co-lead of the **SIDS Coalition for Nature**)
- **Financial support** provided by **Spain** -as Friend of the Coalition- and **South Korea** (through UNDESA/UNOSD office)
- **Technical support** provided by **UNDESA** (SIDS Unit, UNSD) in close collaboration with **CARICOM** Secretariat, UNRCO/UNCT (**ECLAC**, etc)

# Project Approach


## SIDS-SIDS Peer-learning and Cooperation at its Core : **3-Phased Match-Making Process**



=> Increased SIDS capacities through specific **SIDS-SIDS know-how transfer implementation**

=> Increased understanding about **SIDS-SIDS know-how transfer opportunities** and potential cooperation schemes

=> Increased **knowledge and awareness** amid SIDS about best practices, lessons learned

 Here we are today –mapping of best practices and regional workshop (April-May 2024)



# Global frameworks for environment and geospatial statistics and accounts



Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, [FDES](#)'s objectives are:

- Enhance comparability and availability of environment statistics
- Support strengthening capacity in countries to develop environment statistics
- Better inform policy making decisions



System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, [SEEA](#):

- Brings together environmental and economic data using the same accounting principles of the system of national accounts (SNA)
- Provides a framework for organizing and presenting statistics on the environment and its relationship with the economy.



The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework, [GSGF](#):

- Facilitates the integration of statistical and geospatial information to unlock insights and data relationships that would not have been possible by analysing socio-economic, environmental, or geospatial data in isolation
- Provides a framework for improving comparability, data sharing and awareness

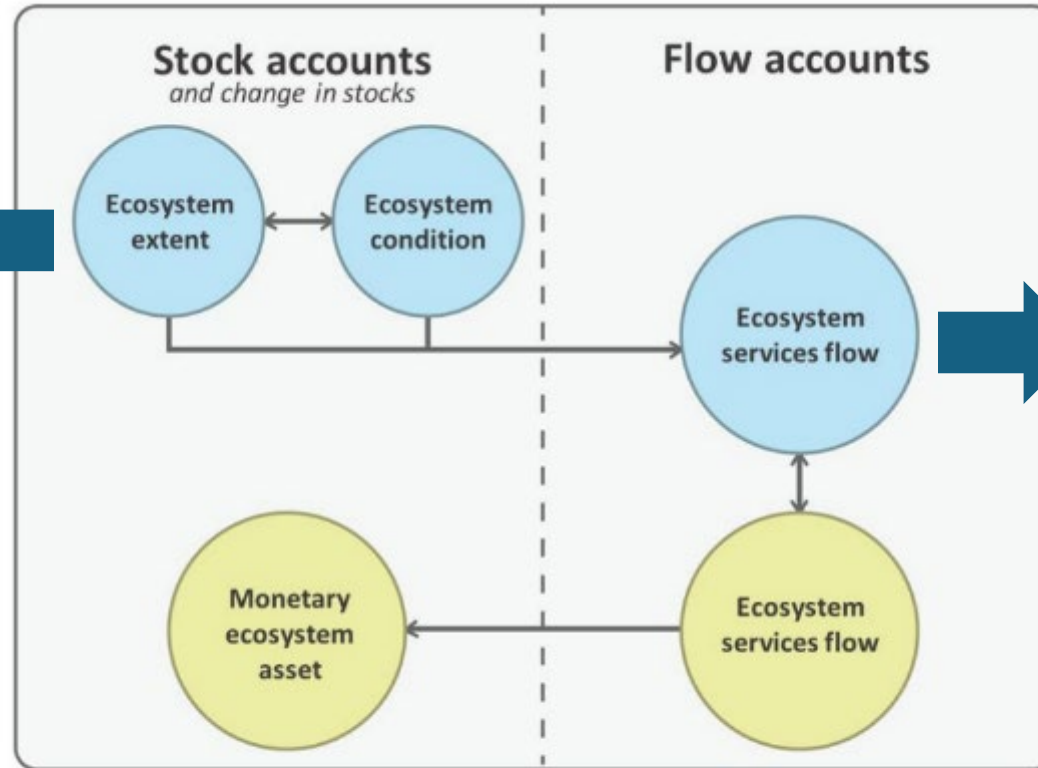
# System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) – the statistical standard for linking environmental and economic information

## Two sides of the SEEA



## SEEA and CBD Biodiversity Monitoring Framework

Ecosystem extent account provides the basis for **Indicator A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems**



Ecosystem services account (physical) provides the basis for **Indicator B.1 Services from ecosystems**

Figure 2.2 from SEEA Ecosystem Accounting

● Physical accounts  
● Monetary accounts



# Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators

1. Links policy targets and statistical indicator frameworks across:

- Paris Agreement
- Sendai Framework

Sustainable Development Goals

to define scope and content of:

national programmes

national approaches

and steer:

inter methodology development

capacity development

contribute to:

**Independent** national policies evaluation

**Comparable** UNFCCC reporting

**Assessment** of climate change and environment



## Self-Assessment tool (CISAT)

### Part I: Institutional Dimensions of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators

### Part II: Statistics and Indicators Assessment

- Instructions for Part II
- Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators \*
- Metadata \*

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Statistics Division

## Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators

Implementation Guidelines

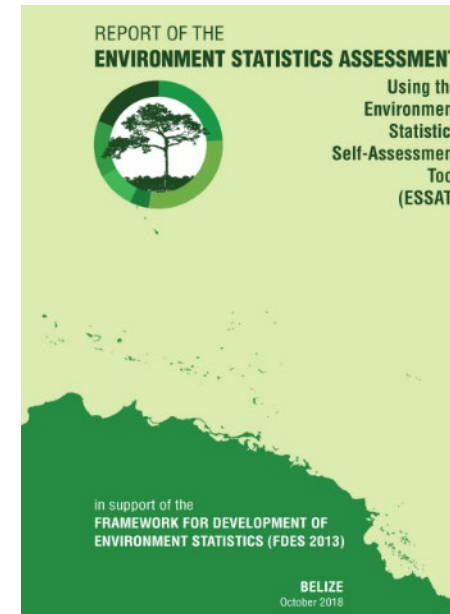
# Best practices from countries (1)

## Best Practice 1 – Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) and Department of Environment

- Mandate for environmental data acquisition and reporting held by Department of Environment
- Deep expertise in data gathering, cleaning, processing, and dissemination by SIB
- Effective communication and collaboration between the two has resulted in improved data governance
- Relationship building and mandate alignment have been important



- Belize has extensive experience with the FDES ESSAT
- Published ESSAT report

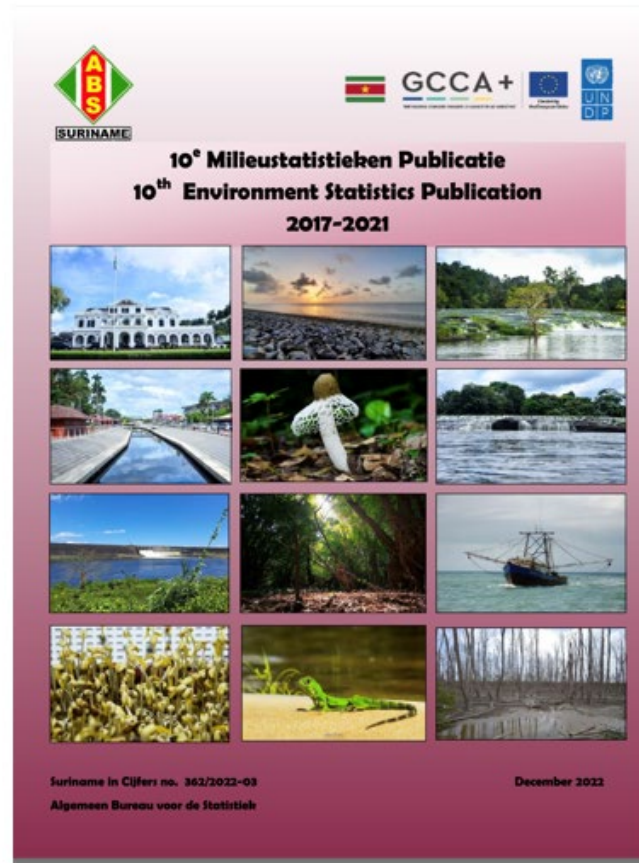




# Best practices from countries (2)

## Best Practice 4 – Suriname Compendium Environmental Statistics

- Suriname was widely cited as demonstrating leadership in environmental statistics
- Their compendium on Environmental Statistics was referenced several times by interview participants
- Upon even initial inspection one can see the depth and breadth of data sources used



- Suriname has extensive experience with the FDES and the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, CISAT
- Latest publication: ‘Climate change statistics Report’





## SIDS-SIDS Project Potential and Perspectives

- Leveraging SIDS' commitment to **lead by example** and unlocking SIDS-SIDS cooperation potential.
- Potential to **accelerate transformative actions**, through inter-ministerial collaboration and synergies
- The SIDS Coalition for Nature will **promote this approach** and project outcomes in major regional and global events



# Conclusions and future work

- SIDS need unique data solutions – several of which were identified within the Data for Nature (as suggested by the DATAS approach).
- Matchmaking is ongoing – to develop a road map with specific country-to-country solutions to be implemented in the next phase of Data for Nature
- The global frameworks for environment and geospatial statistics and accounts have supported the advance of several best practices in the Caribbean region
- These frameworks will support the implementation of the next phase of Data for Nature and related activities

# THANK YOU

For more information on the **DATAS Initiative**:

To Add  
QR code



For more information on A&B **Agenda for SIDS**:

To Add  
QR code

<https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/n2409990.pdf>

For more information on the **SIDS-SIDS Project** :



For more information about the **SIDS Coalition for Nature**:



Contact: Ronald Jansen [jansen1@un.org](mailto:jansen1@un.org)