

B. Environmental-economic accounting for evidence-based policy in Africa and Asia

Department of Economic and Social Affairs jointly with UNEP, ESCAP and ECA and in collaboration with UNDP (\$572,000)	Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals: 6.3, 6.4, 6.6, 7.2, 7.3, 8.4, 9.4, 11.6, 15.3
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Objective

The objective, to which this project contributes, is to strengthen capacities of national statistical offices in North and East Africa and South Asia to produce environmental-economic accounts formulating integrated, evidence-based policy and to measure progress towards sustainable development.

Highlighted planned result

A key aspect of meeting the 2030 Agenda is helping countries to effectively produce relevant indicators and continuously monitor their progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable development policies require an integrated approach based on a better understanding of the interactions and trade-offs among the social, economic and environmental dimensions of policies and action.

The United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting is the international statistical standard that integrates economic and environmental information into a common framework to measure the contribution of the environment to the economy and the impact of the economy on the environment. The System provides countries with a framework to derive internationally comparable sets of statistics and indicators, supporting the measurement of progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as targets for a circular economy, green growth and resource efficiency.

At its forty-ninth session, the Statistical Commission “noted the increased uptake and growing importance of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting” and “the strong support for using SEEA in compiling Sustainable Development Goal indicators when relevant” (see E/CN.3/2018/37). The Commission also urged the scaling-up of the implementation of the System to meet its implementation targets of 100 countries by 2020.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is an improved capacity among the national statistical offices of project countries to compile System of Environmental-Economic Accounting accounts in support of the 2030 Agenda.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include each of the participating countries having compiled at least one new account, with a road map in place for sustained production of the account and the use of the account for both measuring the relevant indicator(s) of the Sustainable Development Goals and its use in policy processes.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made towards the collective attainment of the objective.

<i>Deliverables for the period 2020–2023, by category and subcategory</i>	<i>Budget summary (thousands of United States dollars)</i>
Quantified deliverables	
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge	
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) 30	Consultants and experts 272.0
Technical materials (number of materials) 16	Travel of staff 80.4
Non-quantified deliverables	General operating expenses 1.9
C. Substantive deliverables	Grants and contributions 217.7
Consultation, advice and advocacy	Total 572.0
Databases and substantive digital materials	
