

System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

UNCEEA activities and possible collaboration with UNCEBTS

Alessandra Alfieri

United Nations Statistics Division



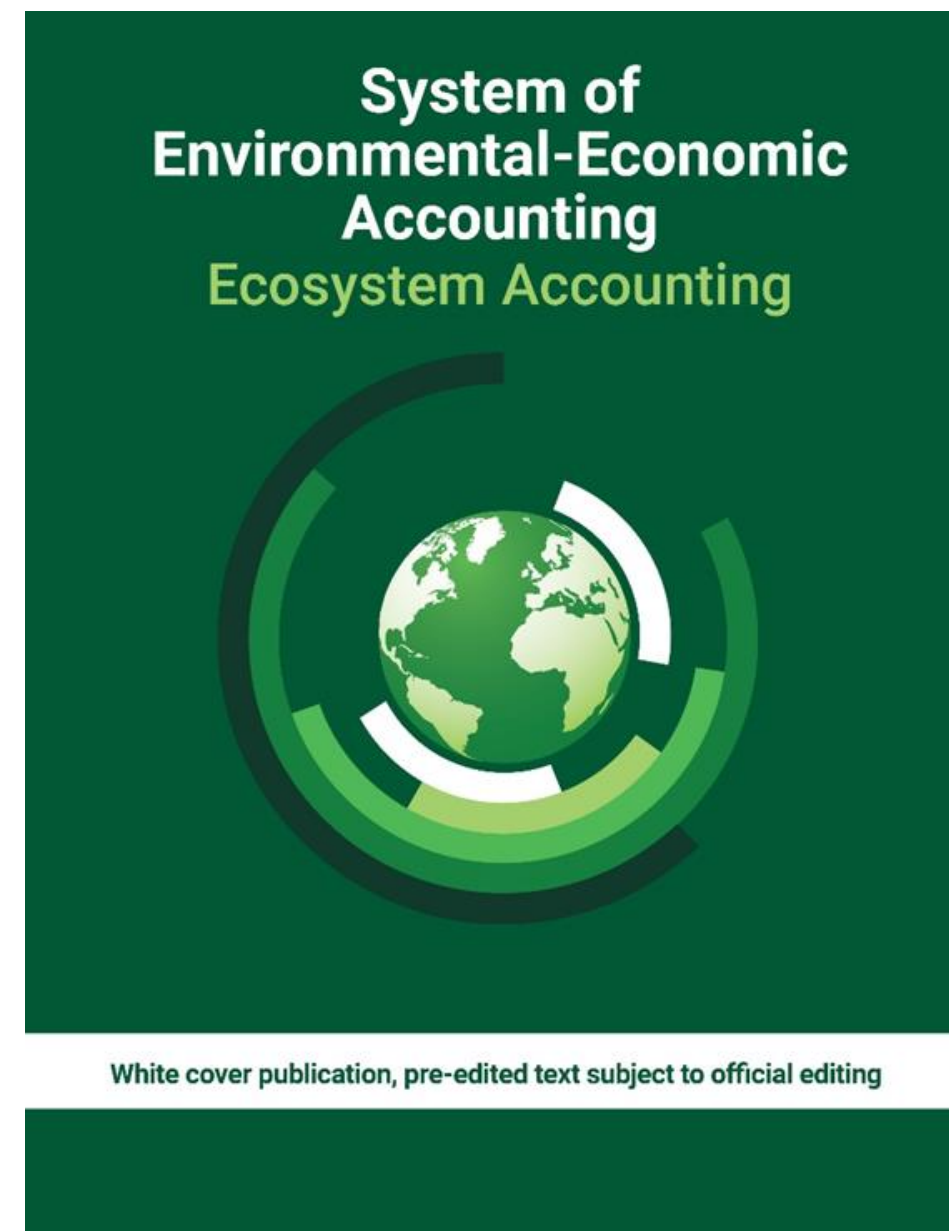
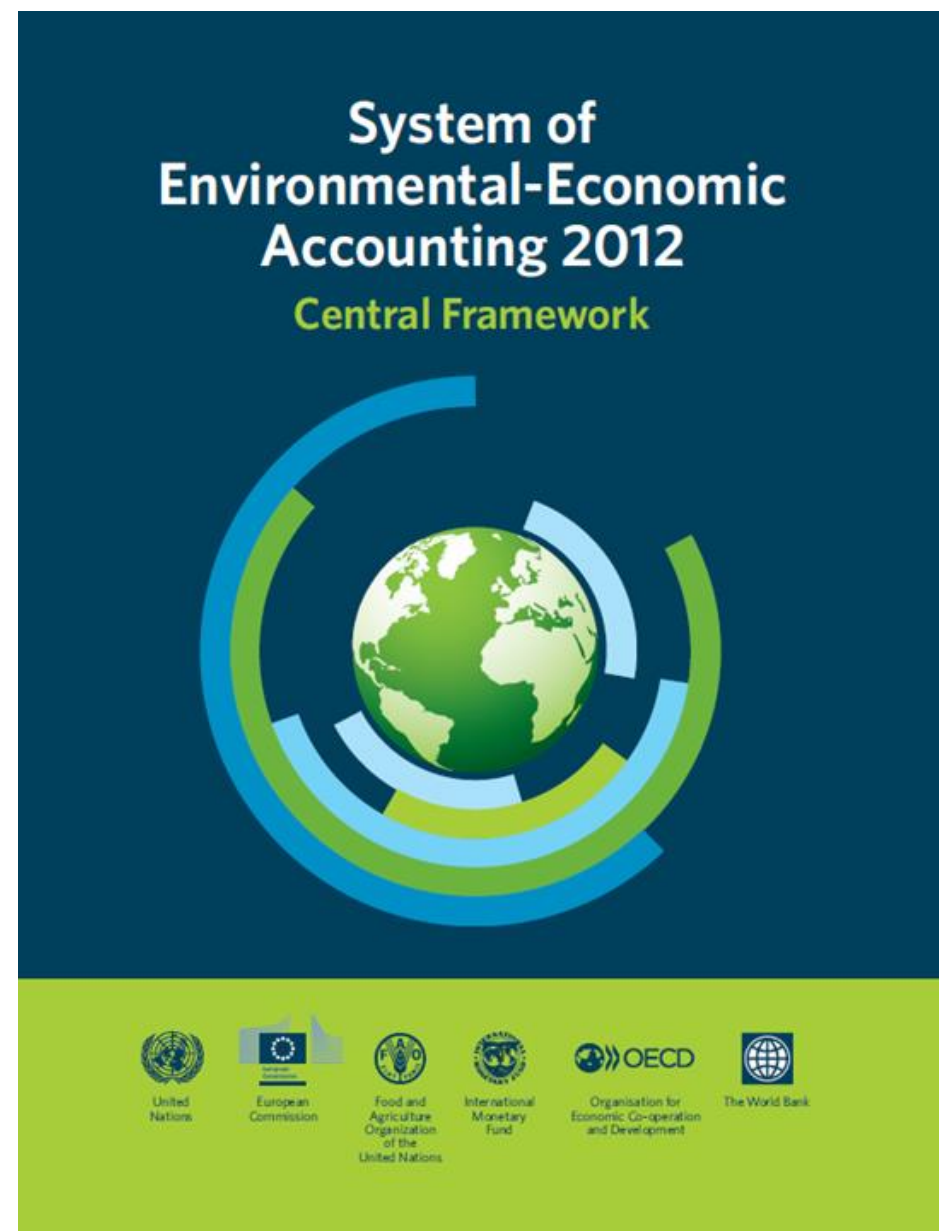
United Nations

The SEEA

The SEEA was adopted as a statistical standard

- SEEA CF in 2012
- SEEA EA in 2021

In 2022 the UNSC adopted an implementation strategy to scale up the adoption and mainstreaming of SEEA in countries



SEEA uptake (1)

- [G7 Climate Energy and Environment Ministers communique](#)
 - > Committed to further mainstreaming biodiversity in decision-making, we will ensure implementation of the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA), which includes a Central Framework (CF) and the recently adopted Ecosystem Accounting (EA), a regular and institutionalised compilation of accounts, will use related indicators for policy and decision-making, and provide international support for further development and implementation of SEEA-EA, including knowledge and capacity development and system refinements.
- [Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action](#)
 - > MoFs can manage nature-related risk using the following policy levers (this will vary by country):
 - Developing and applying valuation, metrics, and decision support tools (e.g., through implementing or supporting natural capital accounting (NCA), developing alternatives to gross domestic product (GDP), and developing nature loss scenarios)

SEEA uptake (1)

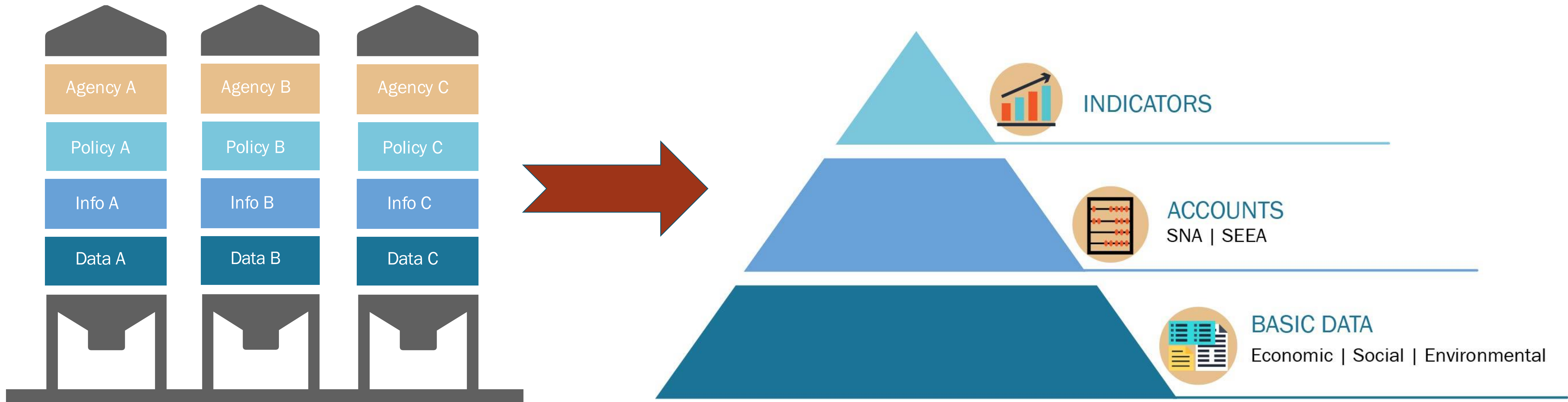
- [Our Common Agenda](#) (United Nations) underscores that “now is the time to correct a glaring blind spot in how we measure economic prosperity and progress.”
 - > The UN SG calls for “new measures to complement GDP”
 - > Urges Member States and others to begin implementation of the **System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Ecosystem Accounting**

The SEEA as a unifying framework

- SEEA accounts integrate numerous data sources, combining economic information with environmental information on areas such as
 - Energy
 - Air emissions
 - Agriculture and forestry
 - Ecosystems and many more
- These data sources are combined to produce an integrated set of accounts and develop policy relevant indicators



From data silos to integrated information



The SEEA supports multiple ongoing initiatives



What is the issue and what can be done?

- Environmental data lacks a systematic collection and mainstreaming within the statistical production process and data quality is poor in a lot of countries
- Many players that collect data from businesses as well as other sources

What can be done?

- UNCEEA-BAWG is engaging with different standard setting initiatives (e.g. EFRAG, TNFD, ISSB, etc.) to ensure alignment of concepts, definition and classifications
- What is the role of UNCEBTS (in collaboration with the UNCEEA)?
 - > Engage with the BAWG and look more at business statistics issues (e.g. reporting units, country boundaries vs. supply chain/avoiding double counting etc.)
 - > Pick a priority area and do a deep dive on a particular topic (e.g. investigate the role of SBR, microdata linking, data sharing, etc.)

THANK YOU

seea@un.org