

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)

There are several researches that are related with the NBS in recent years. We have a cooperation project with the Statistics Norway from 1998 to 2001. The major work of this project is working on energy accounts compilation and emission estimates of eight kinds of air contamination in China. Now we are working with the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) for estimating environmental-economic accounts basing on environmental affect and working with the State Forestry Administration and Chinese Academy of Forestry for estimating environmental-economic accounts basing on forest resources.

In 2002, pilot works on industrial pollution and forest accounts have been launched mainly by Statistics Chongqing and Statistics Hainan. Both of the two researches have already finished in 2004 and 2003.

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?

As I know, SEEA-2003 is mainly used as a theoretic reference in the recent researches launched by the NBS cooperated with SEPA and the State Forestry Administration. Since industrial and sector statistics are not fairly suitable for the national accounts, the operational manual is just a reference in the implementation.

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.).

First of all, financial support is always the constraint in the work. Secondly, lack of human resources is also the reality. We have only two staff whose work is related with environmental-economic accounts in the Department of National Accounts, NBS. Thirdly, professional training is very important. Actually, we got very good experience by working with Norwegian colleagues in the past cooperation project. Fourthly, lack of data sources and unfitted data are also the problems in our work.

Finally, valuation technique is so important in the compilation of accounts and is certainly the major difficulty in our work.

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

The implementation of the accounts was driven from a policy demand, which is the scientific development idea advanced by the central government in recent years.

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

Not yet. Since we do not have mature compilation techniques, all works on this area are just researches up to now.

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

Sure. As planed by NBS, we want to compile the environmental-economic accounts in physical terms in the first step in the future. Forest, mineral, land and water sources will be considered primarily. Estimate related with environmental protection is also taken into accounts.

Since the weak of valuation technique described above, we want to get some opportunities working with other countries or organizations who has advanced experiments in this area.

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

Everything is described in question No. 3.

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

In my point of view, a user-friendly training handbook and support and facilitate the implementation of country projects which was mentioned in the proposal are most important. Meanwhile, training courses for national accountants is also important.

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?

Staff training.