

Part I: Questionnaire for Country Participants

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Country: México

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)

A= The System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (SEEAM), that includes environmental themes as petroleum, forests, underground water, pollution air; and water and soil degradation. It includes indicators such as Net Ecological Domestic Product (NEDP).

We are implementing environmental accounts since 1991.

SEEAM Publications

| PUBLICATION | COVERAGE | PERIOD OF GENERATION | PRINTING DATE |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting. A Case Study for Mexico | Reference 1985 | November 1989-December 1991 | Dec-1991 |
| 2. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1985-1990, inside the CD "Historical Statistics of Mexico" | Reference 1985-1990 | January 1992-January 1994 | Feb-1994 |
| 3. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1985-1992 | Reference 1985-1992 | March 1994-March 1996 | Apr-1996 |
| 4. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1988-1996 | Reference 1988-1996 | May 1996-February 1998 | Jan-1999 |
| 5. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1993-1997 | Reference 1993-1997 | January 1998-February 1999 | August-1999 |
| 6. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1993-1998 | Reference 1993-1998 | January 1999-March 2000 | Jun-2000 |
| 7. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1993-1999 | Reference 1993-1999 | January 2000-Dec 2000 | Dec-2000 |
| 8. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1995-2000 | Reference 1995-2000 | January 2001-Feb 2002 | Mar-2002 |
| 9. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1996-2001 | Reference 1996-2001 | April 2002-March 2003 | May-2003 |
| 10. System of Economic and Ecological Accounts, Mexico (Spanish), publication 1997-2002 | Reference 1997-2002 | May 2003-March 2004 | June-2004 |

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?

A= Yes, we are used the SEEA but I'm not sure if anybody had used it. I feel that in Mexico just INEGI implements this handbook. We've worked with the Ecological Institute, the Environmental Ministry, with several Institutes and Universities, etc., and when we've showed our job about the SEEM and the links with the SEEA, we notices that nobody knows about it.

The useful in the implementation of SEEA 2000 can be related as follow:

- As a general framework
- To measuring the flows of residuals associated with the economic activities
- Implementing the asset accounts (Opening stocks, increases during the year, decreases during the year, closing stocks)
- Including flows of natural resources, flows of product, flows of residuals
- Showing supply and use tables including environmental accounts (SUTEA)
- Including environmental protection and resource management accounts, considering the classification of environmental protection activity (CEPA)
- As a guiding framework for the development of environmental information system
- To knowing what percentage of their current gross economic output might be consumed by the loss of natural capital

In this way, the environmental assets covered by the SEEAM are:

Mineral and energy resources

Soil resources

Water resources

Land and associated surface water

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.).

A = Maybe the lack of human resources

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

A = in the beginning was a supply driven, but at present it is necessary to follow the economic increase with sustainability, as the GDP "green", including in the Development National Plan (DNP) as an indicator of sustainable development.

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

A = Like in the previous answer, to check the sustainable development. The policy lines are detailed in the DNP and in the “National Programme on Natural Resources and Environmental Resources” by the Environmental Ministry (SEMARNAT), with special interest in the NDP adjusted by the environmental (degradation and depletion costs).

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

A = Yes. We have the support of the INEGI authorities, including the SEEAM in the National Accounts development. At present we have a team compound of 6 members. At present we are checking the methods of work (for all themes), to incorporate the news approaches and environmental dates. We pretend to incorporate a study about hazardous residuals.

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

A = We don't have problems, but is important to us, to account with speakers in Latin America to discuss about the methods of work and the ways to include the environmental dates. We think that is important to expand the implementation of the SEEA in Latin America, at least to answer the agreements obtained in the 21 Agenda,

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

A = Set up the implementation of the SEEA in the world, especially in the underdevelopment countries, and in the transition economies. Obtaining funds to support with technical specialists the development of the accounts. Develop specific manuals to the implementation of water accounts, land accounts, air accounts, and etcetera. To shape work teams by zone, supervised by a member of the L. G. Group “A: Latin America”, Group “B: North America”, Group “C: Africa”, Group “D: West European”, and etcetera.

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?

A = make an invitation to the Governments to implement the SEEA as a following of international agreements: 21 Agenda, Kyoto, and etcetera.

Additional comments:

Thank you for your invitation.