

# Towards a medium term programme of work for the UNCEEA (2013-2020)

Alessandra Alfieri
UN Statistics Division

### Context

- Broader measures of progress
- Post 2015 Development Agenda
- Green Economy/green growth
- Aichi targets
- WAVES
- TEEB
- **.** . . .



### Recommendation 5) of International Conference

"Given the window of opportunity created by government recognition of the key role of statistical systems in monitoring progress on the policies to be developed through the post-2015 agenda, UNCEEA should immediately develop a short-term program of work for SEEA implementation, demonstrating the role of SEEA in monitoring and reporting requirements, including determination of baseline as well as a longer-term roadmap for implementation."



United Nations Statistics Division

### Mandate of UNCEEA

- Provide strategic vision, direction and coordination to mainstream env.-eco. accounting and supporting statistics in national, regional and international statistical systems
- Develop normative international statistical standards and supporting methodological documents on env.-eco. accounting and supporting statistics
- Promote the development of databases at international, regional and national level on environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics



United Nations Statistics Division

### Mandate of UNCEEA

- Promote the implementation of international statistical standards of environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics in countries
- Promote the use of environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics in scientific and policymaking communities.

United Nations Statistics Division

### Areas of work of the UNCEEA

- Coordination
- Methodological development for normative statistical standards and other research
- Development of databases
- Implementation and statistical capacity building
- Promotion
- Formulation of a statistical response on emerging policy issues.



## System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Towards medium term programme of work - Coordination

To foster collaboration, integration and complementarity of programmes

- •Until now focus has been on coordination with statistical groups on development of methodologies
  - Oslo Group on Energy Statistics
  - Expert Group on the FDES (etc.
- Moving forward should also coordinate with policy and scientific community on all areas of work
  - WAVES, TEEB, IPBES, Vantage, UNFF, CBD, CI, etc.
- ⇒Call for strong coordination at the international, regional and country level
- ⇒Establishment of a partnership for implementation and mainstreaming of SEEA



### Methodological development of the Statistics Division normative standards

- To oversee development of standards and other methodological documents
- SEEA Central Framework
  - SEEA Energy
  - SEEA Agri
  - ESCM Chapter 6 on energy accounts
  - Water compilation guidelines (etc.)
- Tools to support implementation
  - Implementation guide
  - Technical notes
  - Training materials
  - E-learning (etc.)



### Methodological development of normative standards

- SEEA Central Framework Research agenda
  - Classification of land use and land cover
  - Classification of Environmental Activities
  - EGSS
  - Valuation of water resources
  - Accounting for soil resources
  - Depletion of natural biological resources

SEEA-EEA



United Nations Statistics Division

### Governance

- Establish a small Steering Committee reporting to the UNCEEA and its Bureau to advance the research agenda and review and advice on consistency with the SEEA
- Work in close consultation with the London Group on Environmental Accounting



United Nations Statistics Division

### Methodological development of normative standards

- SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting
  - (separate presentation)



### Development of databases

- Core tables to guide countries in the implementation of the SEEA leading to a national reporting
- Core tables should be able to inform policy demands in particular the Post 2015 Development agenda
- Coordinated development of tables leading to joint questionnaire



United Nations Statistics Division

### Implementation and statistical capacity building

- To develop concerted implementation strategies encompassing relevant supporting statistics and their integration in the SEEA
- Key elements of implementation
  - Linked to policy
  - Strategic approach linked to strategic frameworks
  - Linked to SNA implementation where relevant
  - Flexible and modular approach
  - Bottom-up approach
  - Incremental
  - Sub-regional, regional and global coordination



United Nations Statistics Division

### Implementation and statistical capacity building

- Map international initiatives related to the implementation of SEEA and related statistics and define roles and responsibilities of each agency and maintain it
- E-platform bringing together tools in support of implementation and interactive
- Calendar of events
- Track countries progress in the implementation of the SEEA
- Workshops bringing together users (policy makers, finance ministries, environment ministries) and producers of statistics to be organized jointly with international agencies working with ministries beyond NSI
- Facilitate coordination with existing activities related to SEEA implementation at the country level (TEEB, CBD, etc.)



### **Promotion**

- To mainstream the environmental-economic accounting and relevant supporting statistics in the statistical systems
- Develop a communication strategy to include
  - Key messages to be communicated to promote the SEEA in different contexts
  - Objectives and principles of the communication strategy
  - Tools/instruments channels and activities
  - Audience

United Nations Statistics Division

### Formulation of a statistical response on emerging policy issues

- To engage prominently in the international agenda in articulating a coordinated statistical response, for example on climate change, sustainability and natural resources management
  - Post-2015 agenda
  - Development of measurement frameworks and indicators for various initiatives
    - green economy
    - thematic initiatives
    - measuring nexuses (e.g. water-energy-land nexuses)



- As part of the mapping exercise
  - Develop list of initiatives on which the UNCEEA could be engaged
  - Develop a strategy on how the UNCEEA could engage in the different initiatives