



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES' ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SEEA

This document is a compilation of the responses to a questionnaire which was sent to international agencies working on the SEEA. Agencies were asked about; 1) The international/regional groups and bodies that they support; 2) Work being undertaken that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA; 3) Any SEEA related data collection initiatives; and 4) The technical assistance being provided to countries.

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This document will be updated as responses are received.

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Secretariat Convention Biological Diversity

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

In your answer, please provide an overview of a) what mandate the group responds to, b) the composition and output of the group, and c) the perceived relation of the group to the UNCEEA (i.e. does all or part of the group's work lie within the auspices of the UNCEEA?).

Please note that it is unnecessary to provide such detail on the London Group, the Technical Committee of the SEEA CF or the Technical Committee of the SEEA EEA other than to mention your organization's involvement.

With 196 Parties (195 State Parties and one regional organization), the Convention on Biological Diversity is one of the three global Conventions signed at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro. Its three objectives are: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. In order to give further effect to its provisions, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010, adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which provides an overarching framework on biodiversity for the entire United Nations system and all other partners engaged in biodiversity management and policy development.

Work on environmental and ecosystem accounting is a sub-set of the activities of the Convention. Goal A of the Strategic Plan seeks to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society. As one of the four targets under this goal, Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 inter alia aims to incorporate, by 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

In light of the policy demand emanating from Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 above, the Secretariat of the Convention became a full member to the UNCEEA in 2015. It is also participating in the WAVES partnership, which was launched at CBD COP-10.

The CBD Secretariat cooperated closely in the implementation of the Norway-funded project on Advancing Natural Capital Accounting (ANCA), together with UNSD and UNEP.

After the release of SEEA volume II on experimental ecosystem accounting, the CBD Secretariat commissioned the development of a 'Quick Start Package' to jumpstart experimentation on ecosystem accounting (see link). The QSP has since been reflected and integrated into the guidance developed under the ANCA project.

The CBD Secretariat, in cooperation with the Secretariats of the other Rio Conventions and UNEP, has launched in October 2015 a scoping study on Environmental-Economic Accounting and the production of indicators of relevance for the three Rio conventions. The study aims to assess the potential contribution of

environmental accounting, in conceptual and operational terms, to the identification and production of such indicators. The final report is expected to become available by June 2016.

Raising awareness about the opportunities associated with environmental/ecosystem accounting in the SEEA and providing introductions into pertinent approaches has been reflected in the capacity-building programme operated by the Secretariat, in particular regional or sub-regional capacity building workshops, to support implementation of the Strategic Plan at national level, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. As an offshoot and responding to the recognized need for more in-depth capacity-building, the Secretariat will be supporting an international summer school on ecosystem accounting for francophone countries, to take place at the Université de Québec à Montréal in summer 2016.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

The Conference of the Parties agreed to start using a list of indicators for measuring progress in implementing the twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision XI/3 and Annex), and further work on the framework was recently undertaken by an Ad-hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its nineteenth meeting and twentieth meeting, taking into account inter alia the indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (Recommendation XX/13) and called for a process to incorporate comments from SBSTTA-20. This work is supported by the AHTEG and the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP), which brings together over forty organizations working internationally on indicator development to provide the most comprehensive information on biodiversity trends.

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ind/id-ahteg-2015-01/official/id-ahteg-2015-01-03-en.doc>

<https://www.cbd.int/recommendation/sbstta/default.shtml?id=13424>

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/SBSTTA-20/sbstta-20-rec-13-en.doc>

<http://www.bipindicators.net/about>

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

See above on capacity building activities.

GIZ

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

GIZ (on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is part of the WAVES Partnership. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is a member of the Steering Committee of WAVES with a contribution over 2.2 Mio USD.

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

None

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

None

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

Technical assistance, policy advice and capacity development:

- On global level: Development of a SEEA Blended Learning Training together with UNSD (GIZ on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); 3 Regional Trainings were held in 2014-2016, potentially another training planned in 2016/2017 for Central America and/or French Africa. Further development of the training with in depth modules on water, ecosystems and policy makers planned
- Namibia: Project "Resource Mobilization for an effective implementation of updated biodiversity strategy in Namibia", 2013-2017, (implemented by GIZ on behalf of The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB); one component focuses on SEEA Implementation (water accounts
- Kyrgyzstan: Pilot measure of GIZ project Rioplus Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ): capacity development and technical assistance to implement fast-track forest accounts and present at a regional conference on Natural Capital for the Transition to a Green Economy 30 June-1 of July
- Brazil: Project "Conserving Biodiversity by integrating ecosystem services into public programmes and economic activities"-TEEB Brazil (implemented by GIZ on behalf of The German Federal

Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), 2012-2019; one component supports IBG and the Ministry of Environment in the SEEA Implementation (water, forest and possibly land accounts)

- Mexico: Project “Assessment of Ecosystem Services in Natural Protected Areas” (implemented by GIZ on behalf of The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB); 2013-2018; support to coordinate SEEA implementation with SEMARNAT
- Peru, India: work in the past to raise awareness for the SEEA

European Environment Agency (EEA)

- 1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.**

Support to international bodies:

- The EEA is an active member of the London Group and the Technical Committee of the SEEA EEA.
- EEA cooperates with UNSD and the US-EPA in reviewing ecosystem services classifications for the purpose of ecosystem accounting. We co-organise and co-finance with UNSD an expert meeting on ecosystem service classifications in New York on 20 – 21 June 2016
- EEA staff contribute to the development of guidelines for biodiversity accounts under SEEA EEA which is a process facilitated by UNEP WCMC.
- The EEA also participates in Eurostat working groups on environmental expenditure and environmental accounts.

Support to regional processes:

The EEA is project partner of the EU Knowledge Innovation Project on Integrated Natural Capital and ecosystem services Accounting (KIP- INCA project). This project is the main EU process for the planning and implementation of an integrated EU ecosystem accounting system.

The KIP- INCA project can be considered as the EU contribution to the testing and further development of the UN SEEA guidelines on experimental ecosystem accounting and uses SEEA-EEA as its main methodological reference.

Other project partners are directorates general of the European Commission: DG Eurostat, DG ENV, DG JRC and DG RTD, with Eurostat being the overall project leader.

EEA also supports the EU 'MAES' process (Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services). This process has an important accounting component which is currently being implemented via the KIP INCA project. Outputs by EEA and others (in particular the EU Joint Research Centre – JRC) within the MAES process provide important foundations for the implementing components of the SEEA EEA system, e.g. by looking at how to describe and measure ecosystem 'condition' or by research activities to better describe ecosystems and their spatial extent in Europe.

- 2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.**

Please provide links if helpful.

- The work done by EEA and partners in the framework of the KIP INCA project tests and advances the SEEA guidelines by practically applying them for the development of the integrated natural capital accounting system. Activities under KIP INCA is documented via working documents that capture the process and progress of the project. Additional documents are technical and methodological briefings, and methodological proposals for different parts of the SEEA EEA system. The latter are expected to become available during the course of the summer 2016.
- Currently the EEA is reviewing the latest version of CICES with the support of academic experts at the University of Nottingham (Roy Haines-Young and Marion Potschin). A workshop under the EU

ESMERALDA project took place in March 2016 at the EEA to review and develop CICES further. This will feed into the international expert meeting at UNSD in June in New York.

- The EEA is contributing to the advancement of proposals for marine ecosystem accounting in the EU. A workshop on options for marine accounting took place at the French Ministry of Sustainability in Paris in April 2016. Presentations and a summary of the workshop will become available under this link:
<http://projects.eionet.europa.eu/ecosystem-capital-accounting/library/>
- There is EEA in-house development of thematic accounts, in particular on land, water, biomass carbon and fish biomass. This work involves the development of methodological and technical document which will become available by the end of 2016.
- The EEA is contributing to the research agenda through the use of environmentally-extended input-output analysis.
- The EEA increasingly uses environmental accounts and derived indicators in assessments and in recent publications has highlighted the important role they can play in developing the knowledge base to support policymaking.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

One of EEA's core tasks is to help establish an environment information system for Europe, in cooperation with its member countries and EU partners. EEA therefore helps compile the data foundation for environmental and ecosystem accounting for a wide range of data domains.

In addition, EEA has recently been given responsibility for the *in situ* coordination of the Copernicus land monitoring service; hence helping to establish earth observation data sets of relevance for environmental and ecosystem accounting.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

EEA activities cover in principle all its member countries (the EU-28 Member States, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey).

The focus of cooperation with countries on ecosystem accounting is the KIP INCA project. This mainly operates on the basis of expert workshops that involve the countries that are more active with regard to ecosystem accounting. Outreach to all EU Member States (and additional countries) is achieved via the EU MAES working group which hears regular reports about the KIP INCA process.

European Commission (Eurostat)

- 1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.**

Support to international bodies:

- Eurostat is a member of the UNCEEA and the Technical Committee of the SEEA.
- Eurostat is a member of the London Group Bureau.
- Eurostat is a member of the organising committee of the UNECE/OECD joint seminar on SEEA.
- Eurostat participates in the OECD task force on SEEA implementation

Support to regional processes:

- Eurostat runs two working groups on physical environmental accounts and monetary (=activity) environmental accounts. Participants are the European Union Member States (see list in question 4), Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, candidate countries of the EU (Turkey and Balkan countries (see list in question 4)). International organisations attend as observers. Canada also attends in the last years. These two working groups are the EU platform to discuss common data collections, methodologies, common problems, support and assistance, etc. These working groups report to and depend on higher level decision making groups, also run by Eurostat, as part of the European Statistical System.
- Eurostat sets up EU legislation about SEEA-based data collections, definitions, classifications, etc. which become binding for EU Member States, Norway, Iceland and Switzerland.
- Eurostat is in partnership with other environmental-oriented services of the European Commission and the European Environmental agency to develop common projects. In particular there is an ongoing project on natural capital accounting (KIP INCA) using the SEEA EEA methodology.

Eurostat also produces non-SEEA related environmental statistics, in some cases in joint data collections with other international organisations.

- 2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.**

Please provide links if helpful

Since 2011 Eurostat has created and extended EU legislation for the collection and methodological advancement of SEEA-based accounts in Europe (see question 3). Also voluntary data collections (question 3 below). In addition, the following are other activities:

- **Develop solutions to outstanding methodological problems.**
The following quality issues are being addressed:
- As regards air emissions accounts, reconciliation with the estimates for the UNFCCC and CLRTAP reporting obligations (so-called 'bridging items'), coverage of emissions of fluorinated gases and allocation of road transport emissions to NACE industries
- As regards environmental taxes, the main difficulty for circa half of the Member States is the estimation of tax revenue to non-residents. Besides, some countries allocated tax revenues to economic activities using administrative data (taxes) that are not sufficiently relevant for this purpose; this is in phase of resolution. In general, improved cooperation with national accountants would facilitate consistency with the very last version of the national tax list, thus preventing

divergences

- As regards material flow accounts, challenging items are those who need to be estimated, at least partly, because statistics are not available: crop residues, fodder crops and grazed biomass, sand and gravel extraction, the adjustment to the residence principle.
- Allocation of emissions and use of natural resources by NACE industry
- Developing an integrated framework for the monetary environmental accounts modules (environmental protection expenditure, resource management expenditure, environmental goods and services sector, environmental taxes and subsidies). The latter facilitates the integrated production of these various modules from a set of common data sources and thus has potential to reduce administrative burden.

Other issues are being discussed in the working groups. The agendas of the last meeting are attached for indication.

- **Provide handbooks and methodological guidance.** Since 2013 Eurostat has completed several manuals, handbooks and guidelines, and made them publicly available, as follows: [Environmental taxes](#) (2013), [economy-wide material flow accounts](#) (2013), [physical energy flow accounts](#) (2014), [resource management expenditure accounts](#) (2014), [environmental subsidies and similar transfers](#) (2015) [environmental goods and services sector accounts](#) (2015) and [air emission accounts](#) (2015). Another 3 handbooks and guidelines are in preparation for publication in 2016. This reference material facilitates the production of statistics and it is used by statisticians not only in the European Union but around the world.

More material is available on [this page](#).

- **Provide compilation tools.** Eurostat makes available to Member States and other countries tools to compile accounts. For instance, there is an IT tool that compiles physical energy flow accounts on the basis of energy statistics. This tool is called PEFA-Builder. Eurostat also maintains operational lists (classifications) of products and activities needed to compile the accounts e.g. for Environmental Goods and Services Sector and for PEFA. Eurostat also offers tools to calculate footprints, which identify the economic actors ultimately responsible for use of natural resources and the impact of the economy on the environment.
- **Facilitate training courses** under the European Statistical Training Programme. The European Commission organises circa 5 courses per year on environmental economic accounts. The material of past courses is published in the online [CIRCABC site](#).
- **Grants for pilot studies and quality improvements.** Eurostat has co-financed pilot studies every year (up to 70% of the costs) and published the results in the online [CIRCABC site](#). These findings are taken into account for introduction of new environmental economic account modules.
- **Improve timeliness with early estimates.** Eurostat is working with the Member States to assess how environmental accounts could be compiled earlier. Eurostat is also examining ways to make early estimates for some main indicators. This work has led to Eurostat start producing and publishing early estimates of economy-wide material flow accounts 9 months after the end of the reference year. This is a considerable improvement as the deadline in the Regulation for the transmission of data is 24 months. Eurostat also streamlines the data collected on environmental taxes with data on national tax lists compiled under the National Accounts ESA2010 transmission programme. This activity allows improving timeliness by a few months and comes with zero increase of burden to the Member States. Ideas for compiling air emission accounts one year earlier are being explored.
- **Producing EU aggregates even with missing Member States data.** A first indicator of quality is the existence of estimates for the EU. The default method to produce data for the EU is summing Member States data. Whenever this is not possible because of insufficient data, Eurostat uses alternative techniques. This is applied chiefly for environmental goods and services accounts and

environmental protection expenditure accounts, which are still under a regime of voluntary transmissions.

- **Developing and implementing standards for data and metadata transmission (SDMX) and for quality reports.**

The work on project KIP INCA using SEEA EEA as methodology is also mentioned in this questionnaire.

- 3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.**

Eurostat collects data from EU Member States, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, candidate countries of the EU (Turkey and Balkan countries) in two ways:

First, data collections with a legal obligation from [Regulation \(EU\) No 691/2011](#). This covers 6 types of accounts: Air emission accounts, Environmentally related taxes by economic activity, Economy-wide material flow accounts, Environmental protection expenditure accounts, Environmental goods and services sector accounts, Physical energy flow accounts.

Secondly, data collections on voluntary basis. Frequently those data collections pave the way for future legally-binding mandatory data collections. Presently in this category there is a data collection on environmental subsidies and other transfers.

These are all annual data collections. The questionnaires are available on [this page](#).

In addition, Eurostat is setting up ecosystem accounts for the EU as part of the KIP INCA project. This is done without data collection from countries but rather using existing EU-wide data sources.

- 4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.**

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

Eurostat activities concern mostly EU Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and United Kingdom), Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, candidate countries of the EU (Turkey and Montenegro, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Serbia, Kosovo (under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99))

On request, and provided we have resources, we also provide support, assistance, training, capacity building material, etc. to other countries.

FAO

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

FAO has the following roles within the UNCEEA process:

- Member of the UNCEEA and the Bureau of the UNCEEA
- Member of the London Group
- Member of the Technical Committee of the SEEA Central Framework

Involvement with other groups includes:

Member of the Steering Committee and Task Force of the UNECE Working Group on Climate Change Related Statistics:

- The aim of the activity is to bring together a suite of climate change indicators, allowing for a more comprehensive and consistent monitoring and assessment of national, regional and global climate change trends, including impacts, adaptation and mitigation, with a view to measuring progress towards UNFCCC goals to minimize anthropogenic interference with the climate system.
- Likewise, based on CES recommendations on this topics, the activity seeks to raise awareness among NSOs of the role they can play in supporting countries develop robust and comparable statistics, and to promote consistency with international standards, chiefly IPCC, SEEA and FDES.
- A Steering Committee, of which FAO is a member, has been established to advise on the general direction of the activity and on key outputs.
- A Task Force on Statistics and Indicators, of which FAO is a member, has been established to propose a framework of data and indicators in support of member countries.
- The activity does not lie under the auspices of the UNCEEA, but it coordinates with relevant groups working on SEEA related statistics and the SDG process.

Participant in the OECD Task Force on SEEA Implementation:

Main objectives were described by UNSD in its SEEA questionnaire

Member of UN Global Working Group on Big Data - Task Team on Satellite Imagery and Geo-Spatial Data

Main objectives were described by UNSD in its SEEA questionnaire

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

- Finalization and publication of SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (in coordination with UNSD) in 2016
- Support to UNSD on the development of select SEEA Technical Notes in 2016
- Ongoing development of the SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Country Implementation Guide (to be completed by 2017)
- Ongoing development of training material for the SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries for country use, to be completed by Jun 2017

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

FAO does not currently collect or disseminate SEEA-based data. However a test site in FAOSTAT has been developed to compile combined presentations by country for SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries. Furthermore, the FAOSTAT agri-environmental indicators domain is being re-designed for consistency with SEEA AFF. Implementation and dissemination by Dec 2017

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

- **Uganda:** Completed training course jointly with World Bank on SEEA AFF and Air Emissions <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-events/envacc/en/>
- **Kenya:** Same as above, planned for second half of 2016
- **Uruguay:** Provide support to a FAO-funded (national office) test piloting of SEEA AFF; ongoing through 2016
- **Netherlands:** Planned exchange on their experience in testing SEEA AFF, late 2016.
- Regional workshop on organic fertilizer statistics and SEEA AFF provided to nine countries (Dec 2015) in the context of the FAO African Commission on Agricultural Statistics <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-events/ninputs/en/>
- Presentation on SEEA AFF at the 2016 Asia-Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics (Feb 2016)
- Support on SEEA AFF within the SEEA Workshop for Asia Pacific organized jointly by UNSD and NBS China (Nov 2015)

OECD and IEA

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

The **OECD** is a member of the UNCEEA (and of the UNCEEA Bureau) and is involved in the work of the London Group and the Technical Committee of the SEEA-CF. It coordinates and oversees the work of the OECD Task Force on the implementation of the SEEA-Central Framework (see item 2 below).

The **OECD** also participates in the UNECE Task Force on Climate Change Related Statistics and Indicators, in the UNECE Task Force on Environmental Indicators, and in Eurostat meetings related to environment statistics and accounts (related, but not under the auspices of the UNCEEA).

The **International Energy Agency (IEA)** has the following roles (related, but not under the auspices of the UNCEEA):

- Convener of the InterEnerStat group – gathering international and regional organisations working on strengthening cooperation in energy statistics worldwide (with UNSD, IRENA, Eurostat, OLADE, APEC, UNFCCC, IPCC, IEF, etc ...)
- Contributor to the Oslo Group on energy statistics- and to the related work on the International Recommendations on Energy Statistics (IRES)
- Taking part in the Steering Group on Climate Change-related Statistics (UNECE)
- Secretariat to the IEA Energy Statistics Development Group, where the evolution of the Joint IEA/Eurostat Annual Questionnaires on energy statistics is discussed.
- Observer to the Eurostat Energy Statistics Working Group
- Observer to the APERC Energy Statistics Working Group

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

The **OECD Task Force on the implementation of the SEEA-Central Framework** (under the joint authority of the Environment Directorate and the Statistics Directorate) has the following main objectives:

- Develop standard tables for the collection of internationally comparable data on air emissions (volumes) and natural resources (stocks and flows, volumes and monetary units)
- Provide guidelines and practical examples showing how to build air emissions accounts starting from inventories or energy accounts
- Provide methodological guidelines on the monetary valuation of natural assets
- Advise on other areas where standard tables could be developed in line with the SEEA to support the integration and the evaluation of environmental and economic policies and the OECD Green Growth strategy.
- The work of this group is not mandated by the UNCEEA but it is relevant to the implementation strategy of the UNCEEA and to the coordinating role of the UNCEEA in Environmental Accounting and Supporting Statistics.
- The TF is composed of experts from 12 countries (Australia, Canada, France, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, the UK and the USA), 3 international institutions (Eurostat, UNSD, the World Bank), and the chair of the London Group on environmental accounting.

The **IEA** has contributed to the IRES, and believes in the importance of bridging energy statistics and accounts (see the London Group and the SEEA-energy expected manual; as well as the Eurostat PEFA builder).

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organisation conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

A. Several datasets covered in the OECDs biennial data collection through the State of the Environment questionnaire (joint questionnaire with Eurostat for EU Member States) and the annual quality assurance of environmental reference data, are based on accounting principles and broken down by industry. This includes data on waste generation, water resources and flows (abstraction, supply, discharges), and environmental protection expenditure and revenues (EPER).

- Related questionnaire tables will be reviewed in 2017-2018 to ensure a coherent basic coverage of industries in a core table logic (done in cooperation with UNSD and Eurostat) and encourage countries to produce more and better environmental data by industry in line with the SEEA.
- The further alignment of the questionnaire section on EPER with SEEA expenditure accounts and the best way to arrive at harmonised data for all OECD member and partner countries will be discussed in 2016-2017. N.B. from 2017 onwards, environmental expenditure accounts in line with the SEEA will become mandatory in the European Union.

B. Concerning material flow accounts, the OECD established in 2005 a regular data compilation process for economy-wide flows broken down by material categories. The data are currently compiled from Eurostat and complemented with estimates for other OECD member and partner countries. Close co-operation exists with UNEP and its International Resource Panel.

- Recent developments have been focusing on the measurement of **demand-based material flows** (raw materials embodied in international trade) and on establishing an international consensus on the methods and underlying multi-regional input-output databases to use. A third OECD-UNEP IRP expert workshop on this topic is planned in Q4 2016 or Q1 2017.
- It has also been proposed to update the volume II on national material flow accounts of the **OECD guide** on measuring material flows and resource productivity (released in 2008). This would include a full alignment with the SEEA-CF (*work to be confirmed*).

C. A database on air emission accounts by industry has been released on OECD.Stat in January 2015 (see <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=AEA>).

- The database covers all OECD countries that are members of the European Union (through cooperation with Eurostat), plus Australia, Canada, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. It gives information on the emissions of six greenhouse gases (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, SF₆), sulphur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), non-methane volatile organic compounds (VOC) and particulates (PM_{2.5}).
- The database follows **SEEA standards** in that it relies on a harmonised industry classification (ISIC Rev. 4) and is consistent with the residence principle of economic units, thus allowing the emissions to air to be related to economic activities according to national accounts.
- Work in 2017 and 2018 will aim at **expanding** the geographical coverage of the database. For the countries that do not yet compile data on air emissions, the possibility of estimating CO₂ emission accounts will be explored, based on the International Energy Agency (IEA) methodology for computing CO₂ emissions induced by fuel consumption by industry (based on the 2006 IPCC guidelines).

D. A database on mineral and energy assets has been compiled and will be made available on the OECD Statistics Directorate's website (<http://www.oecd.org/std/na>) before the end of the first Semester 2016.

- The database follows **SEEA standards** and covers 7 resource-rich countries (Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, Mexico, the UK and the US) and up to 14 mineral and energy commodities (crude oil, natural gas, hard coal, brown coal, iron ore, bauxite, copper, lead, nickel, tin, zinc, gold, silver and phosphate). It provides underground stock levels for different resource categories, depending for instance on their economic viability, and distinguishes different types of flows increasing and decreasing these stocks.

- The database only uses **national data sources**, because the work done by the OECD SEEA Task Force revealed that international data sources (e.g. US Energy Information Agency, US Geological Survey, OPEC, BP) provide estimates that may be significantly different from national estimates even when definitions are supposed to be aligned. Additionally, detailed metadata support these data and show graphically how national classifications relate to each other and to the classes of resources advocated by SEEA.
- Work in 2017 and 2018 will aim at **expanding** the geographical coverage of the database.

E. The OECD also compiles data and information on environmental policy instruments including revenues from **environmentally related taxes**.

F. The **IEA** has been collecting and disseminating **energy statistics** to support energy policy since its foundation in 1974. It does not currently collect or disseminate SEEA based data, although it would encourage development and strengthening of tools to bridge from energy statistics to accounts for the effectiveness of the work of both communities of statisticians.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Kazakhstan: In November 2015, the **OECD** Statistics Directorate organised a mission to **Kazakhstan** in order to provide technical assistance to the Kazakh Committee on Statistics on SNA and SEEA implementation. Regarding SEEA implementation, the focus was on the compilation of physical and monetary accounts for mineral and energy resources. The next workshop will take place in June 2016.

China: In March 2016, the **OECD** Statistics Directorate organised the 19th joint Workshop on National Accounts with NBS of **China**. It was an opportunity to discuss the compilation of physical and monetary accounts for mineral and energy resources following SNA and SEEA guidelines.

EECCA countries: The **OECD** organises jointly with UNECE a series of seminars on the implementation of the SEEA. The first seminar took place in October 2015; the second seminar will take place on 3-4 October 2016 in Geneva.

The **IEA** works on:

- **Capacity building in energy statistics**, with a variety of countries, regional and international partners, worldwide. Recent examples include but are not limited to:
 - Energy statistics training week – twice a year at the IEA
 - China (with UNSD energy), May 2016
 - Indonesia, June 2016
 - Mexico, ongoing work
 - Thailand February 2016
 - Vietnam November 2015 (with APERC)
 - AFREC October 2015
- **Methodological publications** to support countries in their energy data collection and reporting effort – Examples include:
 - Energy Statistics Manual (translated in about 10 languages)
<http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/energy-statistics-manual.html>
 - Energy Efficiency Indicators Manual (translated in three languages: Chinese, Russian, Spanish)
<http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/energy-efficiency-indicators-fundamentals-on-statistics---.html>

The IEA has also established a **database of energy end use data collection practices** with over 160 examples from Member and non-Member countries <http://www.iea.org/eeindicatorsmanual/>

UNCCD Secretariat

5. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): Established in 1994, the UNCCD is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment, development and the promotion of healthy soils. The Convention's 195 signatory Parties work to alleviate poverty in the drylands, maintain and restore the land's productivity, and mitigate the effects of drought. The functions of the UNCCD Secretariat are:

- (a) to make arrangements for sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies established under the Convention and to provide them with services as required;
- (b) to compile and transmit reports submitted to it;
- (c) to facilitate assistance to affected developing country Parties, on request, particularly those in Africa, in the compilation and communication of information required under the Convention;
- (d) to coordinate its activities with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies and conventions;
- (e) to enter, under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions;
- (f) to prepare reports on the execution of its functions under this Convention and present them to the Conference of the Parties; and
- (g) to perform such other secretariat functions as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties.

The work of the UNCCD does not lie under the auspices of the UNCEEA. However, the potential of environmental accounting to respond to the demands of the Rio Conventions in terms data and information is being explored.

6. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

- The UNCCD has an indicator-based reporting system. The UNCCD has adopted a set of 6 indicators (decision 22/COP.11 <http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Science/Monitoring-Assessment/Documents/Decision22-COP11.pdf>) to measure progress towards the its strategic objectives (i.e. To improve the living conditions of affected populations; To improve the condition of affected ecosystems; To generate global benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD):
 - Trends in population living below the relative poverty line and/or income Trends in access to safe drinking water in affected areas
 - Trends in land cover
 - Trends in land productivity or functioning of the land
 - Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground
 - Trends in abundance and distribution of selected speciesThe UNCCD secretariat is mandated to:
 - Prepare reporting templates, guidelines and glossaries to facilitate reporting by country Parties. Reporting tools are currently being revised;
 - Compile and make available to Parties national estimates of the indicators derived from global data sources as default data for validation in accordance with the procedure established in decision 22/COP.11.
- The UNCCD, FAO, UNEP and UNSD collaborated to deliver one consensus indicator on land

degradation for SDG target 15.3 within the ongoing IAEG-SDGs process. The UNSC agreed formulation for indicator 15.3.1 – Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area – was discussed at the February 2016 DC expert meeting co-organized by the UNCCD, FAO, CBD and GEF-STAP. The computation of the indicator 15.3.1 is based on the use of 3 sub-indicators, namely land cover, land productivity and carbon stocks above and below ground. For more information, see: Indicator 15.3.1. Metadata description: <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/metadata-compilation/Metadata-Goal-15.pdf>

Framework and Guiding Principles for a Land Degradation Indicator, Outcome of the February DC expert meeting: <http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Rio+20/LDN%202016/Framework%20and%20Guiding%20Principles%20for%20a%20Land%20Degradation%20Indicator.pdf>

Work is underway to develop a Good practice guidance for each of the sub-indicators to support countries in their measurement and evaluation of changes within each sub-indicator and their combination. An Inter-Agency Advisory Group (IAAG) on SDG indicator 15.3.1 has been established; UNCCD, FAO, UNSD, UNFCCC, CBD and UNEP are represented in the group.

- The twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties endorsed SDG target 15.3 and the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) as a strong vehicle for driving implementation of the UNCCD and invited all country Parties to formulate voluntary targets to achieve LDN. The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD in close collaboration with the UNCCD secretariat established the LDN Target Setting Programme (TSP) which aims to enable interested country Parties to define national baselines and to identify voluntary targets and associated measures to achieve LDN by 2030 (<http://www.global-mechanism.org/content/land-degradation-neutrality-target-setting-programme>)
- The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is conducting a scoping study entitled “Towards the production of an integrated information system and indicators for the three Rio conventions”. The UNCCD secretariat, together with the CBD, UNFCCC, UNSD, UNEP and selected technical experts is part of the steering committee established for oversight and review of the study to ensure consistency and coherence with other ongoing and related processes.

7. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

UNCCD does not currently collect or disseminate SEEA based data. However, in the framework of the UNCCD reporting process, it is expected that starting from 2018 country Parties will submit to the UNCCD data and information on among others land cover, land productivity and carbon stocks above and below ground. Reporting will be facilitated by providing country Parties with national estimates of the indicators derived from global data sources as default data for validation. Technical support to reporting is provided as part of the Global Support Programme funded by the Global Environment Facility “Increasing the quantity and improving the quality of information for the review of implementation of the UNCCD Implementation”.

8. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

The UNCCD has 195 signatory Parties. Assistance is provided particularly to affected developing country Parties in the compilation and communication of information required under the Convention.

As of May 2015, 85 country Parties have expressed interest to participate in the LDN Target Setting Programme (TSP). A list of countries is available at: <http://www.global-mechanism.org/content/supporting-countries-set-land-degradation-neutrality-targets>

UNDP

- 1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.**

UNDP, through the BIOFIN programme, supports tracking of biodiversity expenditures in greater detail than the SEEA CF standard; however, UNDP is aiming to respect align with SEEA categories in our methodology. We also support strong collaboration with WAVES, TEEB and other natural capital valuation and accounting efforts in our 30 countries where these efforts are ongoing.

In addition, as part of a comprehensive review of 41 NBSAPs, UNDP has:

- Created a spreadsheet to incorporate every strategy and action;
- For every action (5622 in all), each was tagged according to: a) a own bottom-up global taxonomy (see attached PPT that explains this); b) Aichi Biodiversity Targets; c) primary and secondary SDGs and their targets; and d) the relevant SEEA code;
- From this analysis, it is now possible to assess the breadth and depth of different types of actions that would fall under the SEEA categorization scheme.
- UNDP also conducts a range of costings and public environmental expenditure reviews.

- 2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.**

BIOFIN is developing and refining its methodology that includes the assessment of biodiversity expenditures that includes Environmental Protection, Resource Use and other CEA categories but in greater detail. BIOFIN is interested in collaborating with SEEA and related bodies to add detail to various expenditure categories that relate to biodiversity and ecosystem services. See www.biodiversityfinance.net

- 3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.**

See comments above. Future developments will include an attempt to integrate environmental stocks and flows into long term tracking of biodiversity finance initiatives.

- 4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.**
Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

BIOFIN is supporting Governments in the following countries:

Belize, Brazil, Botswana, Bhutan, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia.

UNEP, including UNEP-WCMC

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

Involvement with other groups includes:

- Acting as the Secretariat of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP)

The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP) is a global initiative to promote the development and delivery of biodiversity indicators for use by the CBD and other biodiversity-related Conventions in achieving all the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, for IPBES, for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals, and for use by national and regional governments in implementation and reporting of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), SDGs and in supporting the development of ecosystem accounts. The BIP was initially established in 2007 in response to CBD Decision VII/30, *to assist in monitoring progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target*. It has continued this role in relation to the current Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with a mandate from subsequent decisions by CBD. The BIP partners contributed to the production of Global Biodiversity Outlook-4, the mid-term review of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, and a range of tools and publications on best practice in indicator development are available on the BIP website. www.bipindicators.net

- **Observer on IAEG:**

UNEP is involved in the IAEG SDG and is a custodian agency for 30 SDG indicators.

- **UNEA**

UNEP convenes the United Nations Environment Assembly. The role of UNEP in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was outlined in United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution in May 2016 which “requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the leading global environmental authority, to enhance its activities, in cooperation with other United Nations entities, in support of the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national, regional and global levels, taking into account the recommendations of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development”. In the context of the SDG indicators, the resolution “encourages the Executive Director to continue UNEP’s work, in a manner that avoids duplication, on indicators to support monitoring the delivery of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development”.

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

- *Monitoring the Shift to SCP Patterns in the context of the SDGs.*

In 2016 we launched a guidance document with the Government of Sweden and Chile on measuring SCP using SEEA across the SDGs. This was launched at the UNSC in March 2016. www.scpclearinghouse.org/upload/file_management/file/170.pdf

- *Experimental Biodiversity Accounting as a component of SEEA-EAA*

In 2015 UNEP-WCMC was commissioned through UNEP to prepare a guidance document for the testing of the SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. The guidance document contains organizational and technical information on how to develop ecosystem accounting at the national level for biodiversity natural capital assets; training materials were also prepared on biodiversity for

the testing of the SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

<http://www.unep-wcmc.org/news/guidance-on-experimental-biodiversity-accounting-using-the-seea-eea-framework>

- *Step-by-Step Working Guide for constructing Species Accounts in the context of SEEA-EEA – in prep (publication summer 2016)*

This project builds on the work done on SEEA in 2015. A workshop of international biodiversity and ecosystem accounting experts was convened in February 2016 to produce a step by step guide for practitioners and will support the development of biophysical accounts of biodiversity in practice and their integration into national accounting systems. It will use an African case study country, to explore data and scope of methodologies, establish the feasibility of biophysical biodiversity accounting, identify policy contexts where this accounting information can inform decision-making and test risk register approach to communicate information on biodiversity assets and their associated ecosystem services. It will also build consensus built around key steps and guidance for physical accounts for biodiversity and methods of communicating risks associated with biodiversity condition to decision makers.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

We are the custodian agency for 30 SDG indicators, including the material flows related indicators which are directly SEEA related. Additionally, we host a number of major global biodiversity related datasets including the World Database on Protected Areas, Species + and Ocean Data Viewer

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

- See the attached excel file.

UNSD: Economic Statistics Branch

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

UNSD has the following roles: *(For a description of these groups, please refer to Appendix Document on SEEA related international bodies)*

- Secretariat of the UNCEEA and the Bureau of the UNCEEA
- Secretariat of the London Group (up to present)
- Secretariat of the Technical Committee of the SEEA Central Framework
- Secretariat of the Technical Committee of the SEEA EEA
- Organizer of the Forum of Experts on Ecosystem Accounting

Involvement with other groups includes:

Participant in the OECD Task Force on SEEA Implementation: UNSD participates in the OECD task force which has the main objectives to;

- Develop standard tables for the collection of internationally comparable data on air emissions (volumes) and natural resources (stocks and flows, volumes and monetary units)
- Provide guidelines and practical examples showing how to build air emissions accounts starting from inventories or energy accounts
- Provide methodological guidelines on the monetary valuation of natural assets
- Advise on other areas where standard tables could be developed in line with the SEEA and the OECD Green Growth strategy.
- The work of this group is not mandated by the UNCEEA but it is relevant to the coordinating role of the UNCEEA in Environmental Accounting and Supporting Statistics.

Member of WAVES Policy and Technical Experts Committee: PTEC is a multidisciplinary body consisting of experts in economics, environmental accounting, natural sciences, and policy. It leads the work conducted by WAVES to help develop internationally agreed guidelines for ecosystem accounting. In addition to methodology development, PTEC also leads work to compile evidence on policy applications of natural capital accounts and to develop training materials. The work of this group is not mandated by the UNCEEA but it is relevant to the coordinating role of the UNCEEA in Environmental Accounting and Supporting Statistics.

Member of the Steering Committee of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP):

- The aim of the project is to bring together a suite of biodiversity indicators, allowing for a more comprehensive and consistent monitoring and assessment of global biodiversity, with a view to measuring progress towards the CBD's target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss. The Partnership provides a platform to coordinate and support the regular delivery of biodiversity indicators into a range of decision-making processes.
- In addition, the Partnership links biodiversity initiatives at national, regional, and global scales, and will contribute information to a number of international mechanisms and initiatives, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Convention on Migratory Species, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and the Millennium Development Goals.
- A project Steering Committee, of which UNSD is a member, has been established to advise on the

general direction of the project and on key outputs.

- The BIP does not lie under the auspices of the UNCEEA, but coordination with relevant groups working on SEEA related statistics is encouraged.

Member of UN Global Working Group on Big Data - Task Team on Satellite Imagery and Geo-Spatial

Data: The broad objectives of this task team are to;

- Provide strategic vision, direction and development of a global work plan on satellite imagery and geo-spatial data for official statistics in the short to medium term, including for indicators of the post-2015 development goals, and
- Build on the existing precedents and find solutions for the many challenges facing the use of satellite imagery and geo-spatial data sources for official statistics.

The group has the specific objective to :

- Identify the most reliable and accurate statistical methods for estimating quantities of interest, using satellite imagery data,
- Suggest approaches for collecting representative training data of sufficient quality,
- Research, develop and implement assessment methods for predictive models including measures of accuracy and goodness of fit,
- Establish strategies to reuse and adapt algorithms developed for one topic to others, and their implementation for large volumes of data.

The Group does not lie under the auspices of the UNCEEA, but coordination with relevant groups working on SEEA related statistics is encouraged.

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

- Development of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Technical Recommendations (to be completed by Dec 2016)
- Finalization and publication of SEEA-Energy and SEEA Agriculture (in cooperation with FAO)
- Development of SEEA Technical Notes on Land Accounting, Water Accounting, Energy Accounting, Air Emission Accounting, Environmental goods and Services Sectors, Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts and Material flows Accounting (to be completed by Dec 2016)
- Ongoing development of the SEEA Technical Note on Biodiversity Accounting and Tourism Accounting (to be completed by 2017)
- Expert group meeting on developing a standard international classification on ecosystem services for ecosystem accounting to be convened in June 2016
- Drafting of the chapter on “Compiling Physical Supply and Use Tables and Environmentally Extended Input-Output tables” for the *UN Handbook on Supply, Use and Input-Output Tables with Extensions and Applications*, to be completed by Dec 2016

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

UNSD does not currently collect or disseminate SEEA based data. A proposal for developing a global database on SEEA-coherent data is under discussion with the UNCEEA.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

- **Kenya and Uganda:** Will develop national plan for implementation of the SEEA plus technical assistance in compiling one account of their choice
- **Malaysia:** Will provide training and technical assistance in compiling water and energy accounts
- **Brazil, China and India:** Will develop national plan and start testing and compilation of ecosystem accounts
- **Mexico and South Africa:** Developed national plan for implementation of the SEEA and provided training on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Pilot testing of ecosystem accounts underway - UNSD will continue to provide technical assistance.
- **Bhutan, Indonesia, Mauritius, Vietnam:** Developed national plan for implementation of the SEEA and provided training on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting
- **Chile:** Developed National Plan for implementation of the SEEA and provided training on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Piloted ecosystem accounts in a region

- Regional training workshops on SEEA Central Framework based on blended learning provided in New York (Global), Latin America, Africa and Asia-Pacific over the past 2 years
- Training workshop on SEEA Central Framework provided in China (end-2015) which also included participants from the Region
- Regional training workshops on SEEA EEA provided in Latin America and Asia-Pacific

UN Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA)

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

None.

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

ECA's 2016 Economic Report on Africa had as a theme "Greening Africa's Industrialization." This flagship publication of ECA assembled a significant amount of data and country case studies of Africa's sustainable development.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

None.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

Together with UNSD and GIZ, ECA organized a training on the SEEA including an on-line and in-person component between September 2014 and February 2016. The following countries participated: Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Furthermore, ECA participated in two regional workshops on the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics: one in Tanzania in July 2015, and one in Togo in October 2015.

UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE)

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

UNECE has the following roles:

- Secretariat of the “Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators”: The Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (JTF) assists the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (target countries) in their efforts to: (a) correctly apply the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) data methodologies and in line with statistical standards; (b) analyse and communicate environmental data; (c) implement the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA); and (d) apply environmental indicators in the context of sustainable development and green economy initiatives. The Joint Task Force is also to assist the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment in evaluating the application of the internationally accepted methodologies and statistical standards in SEIS data production. Terms of Reference of the JTF: See Annex II of <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2015/ece/cep/ece.cep.2015.12.e.pdf>
- Secretariat of the “Task Force on a set of key climate change – related statistics and indicators, using SEEA”: The objective of the Task Force is to define an internationally comparable set of key climate change-related statistics and indicators that can be derived from the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and other sources. For more information see <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40336>.
- Organizer (in cooperation with OECD) of the annual OECD/UNECE Seminars on SEEA Implementation: These seminars are organised annually to provide a forum to share experience and knowledge on the implementation of SEEA in Member Countries of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES). The CES decided in April 2014 to organize these joint OECD/UNECE Seminars, following the request of member States to provide such a forum. For more information see website of the next seminar (3-4 October 2016): <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41150#>
- Developing a SEEA implementation strategy for the EECCA sub-region, which helps to follow a an implementation approach which is aligned with the global implementation strategy and takes into consideration national priorities and available funding for capacity building activities (e.g. through UN Development Accounts)
- Organising and carrying out capacity building activities related to environment statistics and environmental-economic accounts, following the recommendations of the Global Assessment Reports of national statistical systems in South East European (SEE) and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) (see <http://www.unece.org/statcoop/ga.html>). These reports provide an in-depth and comprehensive analysis of the institutional, organizational and technical capacity of the countries to produce official statistics that comply with international and European guidelines and recommendations, including the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (FPs) and the European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP). Funding of these activities includes the UN Development Accounts and other sources.
- An inventory of activities of international organisations and other actors in the region related to SEEA is being established in close cooperation with UNSD and OECD. As agreed with both partners, this inventory will use the information collected with this particular questionnaire. A process to keep the inventory up-to-date needs to be established.

Involvement with other groups includes:

- Member of UNCEEA
- Member of the London Group
- Member of the UNSD Expert Group on Environment Statistics

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

- Translation of methodological documents in to Russian (if funding is provided). Currently, the Eurostat Manual for Air Emission Accounts is being translated into Russian (<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/environment/methodology>)
- Outcomes of the work of the “Task Force on a set of key climate change – related statistics and indicators, using SEEA” will include concrete recommendations for the SEEA research agenda.
- UNECEs Task Force on “Measuring Extreme Events and Disasters” contributes to international work on the classification of hazards.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

Currently there is no SEEA-related data collection initiative.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

Technical assistance is currently provided to East European, Caucasus and Central Asian (EECCA) countries¹ in form of the above mentioned JTF meetings (1-2 times a year) and the annual Joint OECD/UNECE Seminars on SEEA Implementation. Further technical assistance is planned in accordance with the SEEA implementation strategy, depending on availability of extra-budgetary funding (UNDA and other sources).

UNECE made already a stock-taking exercise about existing accounts in the EECCA sub-region (only 2 countries have SEEA-type accounts so far) and about implementation priorities.

¹ Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC) (Statistics Division)

- 1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.**

The Statistics Division of UN ECLAC has the role of the Secretariat of the Statistics Commission of the Americas. However, there is so far only a working group on Environmental Statistics, not yet on Environmental Accounting.

- 2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.**

Please provide links if helpful.

In recent years UN ECLAC developed a regional strategy for the SEEA implementation as well as methodological guidelines for the measurement of environmental protection expenditures. UN ECLAC also coordinated the revision of the Spanish translation of the SEEA 2012 CF.

- 3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.**

UN ECLAC is currently not collecting SEEA-related data.

- 4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.**

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

UN ECLAC is currently executing a three-year development account project on SEEA implementation in six pilot countries (together with UN ESCAP which has 4 pilot countries). The countries are Brazil, Colombia, Curacao, Jamaica, Paraguay and Uruguay. In all countries (apart from Brazil) an evaluation mission has been conducted and currently capacity building and technical assistance activities are under way (technical assistance has been provided to Colombia, capacity building has been undertaken in Jamaica, plans exist for the other countries). In March 2016, a regional conference on SEEA implementation and its policy use was organized together with WAVES and GIZ.

UN ECLAC has conducted a training on environmental protection expenditures in Costa Rica in January of 2016 and has supported Chile in conducting its first environmental protection expenditure account.

In 2015 a regional training on SEEA implementation was organized in collaboration with UNSD and GIZ.

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP)

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

ESCAP is a member of the Ulaanbaatar Group on Statistics for Economies based on Natural Resources
http://web.nso.mn/ub_city_group/
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/citygroup/ulaanbaatar.htm>

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

- **Federated States of Micronesia (FSM):** National assessment was completed in 2015. The SEEA module on Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries in the context of the agricultural census was identified as an initial area of interest for further work and technical assistance; discussions are however still ongoing.
- **Fiji:** Fiji authorities plan to produce draft SEEA on water, energy and waste (amongst others) in 2016. Technical assistance will be provided to review and finalize the accounts. ESCAP also partners with Fiji Bureau of Statistics and UNWTO to prepare a case study on linking tourism satellite accounts with SEEA to account for related environment use/supply for supporting tourism in Fiji.
- **Nepal:** A series of activities including training, workshops, a country exchange visit and technical assistance are planned during 2016-2017 for compiling land and forest accounts.
- **Palau:** National assessment was completed in 2015, resulting in identification of water and energy accounts as current priorities. Technical assistance will be provided in these areas.
- **Samoa:** Technical assistance on water statistics was provided for Samoa; Samoa released experimental water accounts in early 2016.
- **Vanuatu:** An initial scoping/assessment mission is planned (first half of 2016).

In addition to the above, ESCAP through the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) provides training courses related to SEEA:

2015

- SEEA online training course in collaboration with UNSD/GIZ for ESCAP countries (November-December 2015). Participating countries included Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Niue, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam.
- Introduction to SEEA module in the Group Training Programme on Improving Capability in Producing Official Statistics for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (Chiba, Japan, August-December 2015). Participating countries included Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Egypt, Iran, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, and Viet Nam.

2016

- Regional Workshop on SEEA (Chiba, Japan, 23-26 February 2016) in collaboration with UNSD and GIZ. Participating countries included Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Turkey, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam.
- Introduction to SEEA module in the Group Training Programme on Improving Capability in Producing Official Statistics for Monitoring the post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (Chiba, Japan, August-December 2016).
- SEEA training for Asia-Pacific Small Island Developing States, led by the ESCAP Subregional Office for the Pacific (Fiji, second half of 2016)

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

- ESCWA provided to member countries training and technical assistance on SEEA and on International Recommendations on Water Statistics from 2007-2010 through DA project with UNSD. Several countries developed SEEA-Water tables on Assets and Supply and Use Physical and Monetary
- ESCWA also provided training and technical assistance through DA project on Energy with UNSD and IEA from 2011 to 2013 on IRES and SEEA-Energy

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

- ESCWA contributed to the translation of UNSD manuals related to environmental accounting and questionnaires on energy into Arabic
- ESCWA developed a methodological guideline on energy survey in the transport sector and assisted in implementing surveys in 3 countries Jordan, Egypt, Palestine in 2014-2015.

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organisation conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

- SEEA-Water tables on Assets and Supply and Use Physical SUT in Jordan, Palestine and Egypt. Those countries still produce the tables. Other ESCWA countries developed pilot tables but did not update such as Oman and Bahrain
- In Jordan ESCWA assisted in producing study on Environmental protection Expenditures

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

The assistance is demand based. ESCWA worked with all ESCWA countries. There is no national programme until now. The countries that are interested are Jordan, Egypt and Palestine depending on the budget.

World Bank WAVES program

1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.

- **Organizer of WAVES Policy and Technical Experts Committee (PTEC):** PTEC is a multidisciplinary body consisting of experts in economics, environmental accounting, natural sciences, and policy. It leads the work conducted by WAVES to help develop internationally agreed guidelines for ecosystem accounting. In addition to methodology development, PTEC also leads work to compile evidence on policy applications of natural capital accounts and to develop training materials. The work of this group is not under the auspices of the UNCEEA but it is relevant to the coordinating role of the UNCEEA in Environmental Accounting and Supporting Statistics.
- Member of the UNCEEA and the Bureau of the UNCEEA
- Member of the London Group and its Bureau
- Member of the Technical Committee of the SEEA Central Framework
- Member of the Technical Committee of the SEEA EEA
- Member of the Forum of Experts on Ecosystem Accounting
- Participant in OECD Task Force on SEEA Implementation
- Supporting body for ESAfD – research program on valuation for ecosystem accounting (<http://www.efdinitiative.org/our-work/research-programs/esaford>, <https://www.wavespartnership.org/en/research-project-eight-countries-working-advance-methods-ecosystem-accounting>)
- Supporting ECLAC in regional activities related to SEEA
- Supporting GDSA in regional activities related to SEEA

2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.

Please provide links if helpful.

- **Methodology development of valuation of ecosystem services and assets for ecosystem accounting;** technical reports and guidance documents for practitioners (includes testing of effects of data and model choices for biophysical quantification of ecosystem accounts)
- **Case studies of ecosystem accounting** in partner countries – the Philippines, Rwanda, Colombia, and Costa Rica
- **Forest accounting sourcebook** - Policy applications and basic compilation. Including accounts for forest as resource and ecosystem.
- **Policy uses of accounts** – report series with country examples of uses and policy conclusions from natural capital accounts Is this the NCA in action series?
- **Pilot ecosystem accounts:** In Costa Rica and Rwanda, national ecosystem accounts are being developed, while in Colombia accounts are being developed in the Orinoquia region macro watershed. In Guatemala national ecosystem accounts will be developed to connect to the existing SEEA framework.
- With other international experts, developed a new paper to better **conceptualize capacity and**

degradation in the context of the SEEA-EEA

- With UNEP-WCMC, UNSD, CI, and others, participating in the development of guidance for biodiversity/species accounts in the context of the SEEA-EEA
- In partnership with the U.S. State Department, Conservation International, the European Environment Agency, UNSD, and other partners, co-leading a proposed Group on Earth Observations (GEO) initiative on Earth Observation for Ecosystem Accounting (EO4EA)

3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.

- Compilation of the Little Green Data Book: key environmental data for over 200 economies (<http://data.worldbank.org/products/data-books/little-data-book/little-green-data-book>)
- Calculation of Adjusted Net Savings, and Changes in Wealth (<https://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821384886>)
- Data collection for accounts in WAVES Core Implementing Countries (CICs): including water, land, energy, minerals, forest and ecosystem accounts.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

WAVES provides technical assistance, training, workshops and support to institutionalize NCA to core implementing countries (CIC). Policy briefs available for most countries. Policy analysis using developed accounts ongoing.

New countries is envisaged to be signed up in WAVES+ (the extension of WAVES). A regional engagement component will be set up in WAVES+ in 3-4 regions (tentatively EAP, Africa, LAC and ECA), in collaboration with regional organizations.

Accounts produced in 5 first CIC

Botswana Water 2010/11, 2011/12	Colombia Water 2012	Costa Rica Water 2000-2014 (Asset accounts), 2012 (Flow accounts)	Madagascar Water 2001 – 2003 In progress	Philippines Mineral Gold, copper, nickel and chromite (2001-2012)
Minerals 1994 - 2012	Forest 1990 - 2012	Forests 2008-2013 (Asset accounts), 2011 (Flow accounts)	Forest 2005, 2010, 2013	Ecosystem: Laguna de Bay Between 1997 and 2014 (varies by account)
Energy 2010/2011 - 2014/2015	Ecosystem: Tota Lake 2012	Energy 2011-2013		Ecosystem: Southern Palawan Between 2001 and 2014 (varies by account)
Macroeconomic indicators of sustainable development In progress	Ecosystem: Chinchiná River Between 2010 and 2014 (varies by account)	Ecosystem: National 1997-2008-2013		
Tourism component of land and ecosystem accounts In progress	Ecosystem: Orinoquia 2001-2007 (In progress)			
	Land 2000 - 2009			

Accounts produced/in progress in new CICs

Rwanda: land, water, mineral accounts; national ecosystem accounts

Indonesia: Land and mineral accounts, water accounts for select watersheds

Guatemala: updates of forest, water, waste, energy, emissions and land accounts

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

- 1. Describe the international/regional groups and bodies that your organization supports in areas related to environmental-economic accounting, e.g. as a member, secretariat, through technical support, etc.**

UNWTO participates (since 2015) in:

- UNCEEA
- London Group

UNSD/UNWTO have jointly set up the Working Group on Measuring Sustainable Tourism, under the auspices of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA), the UNWTO Committee on Statistics and Tourism Satellite Accounts and the UNWTO Committee on Tourism and Sustainability.

- The Working Group is tasked with developing a statistical framework for sustainable tourism that has as a central feature the connection between accounts from the SEEA framework and the established accounting framework for tourism: the Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA).
- It is intended that the Working Group function as a platform for engaging the various key stakeholders in the work towards a statistical framework for sustainable tourism, bringing together both producers and users of relevant statistics at international and national levels.

- 2. Provide an overview of the work your organization is doing that relates to the technical advancement of the SEEA, e.g. through the development of manuals, development of classifications, or work on other issues related to the Research Agenda.**

Please provide links if helpful.

Collaboratively with UNSD, UNWTO initiated the Measuring Sustainable Tourism (MST) project on developing a statistical framework for sustainable tourism that has as a central feature the connection between accounts from the SEEA framework and the established accounting framework for tourism: the Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA). Besides the continuing work of engaging key stakeholders, work is now focused on:

- An initial framing of sustainable tourism for measurement purposes
- The drafting of a series of issue papers on some of the key technical issues in measuring sustainable tourism
- Identifying and developing case studies in countries

Also as part of this effort, UNWTO supports UNSD in the ongoing development of a SEEA Technical Note on Tourism Accounting (to be completed by 2017).

- 3. Provide an overview of any SEEA-related data collection initiatives your organization conducts, including type of data, coverage and future developments.**

UNWTO is currently not collecting SEEA-related data.

4. Provide an overview of the countries that you work with to, e.g. provide technical assistance, run national work programs, workshops and training, etc.

Please provide details on which accounts you are helping countries with.

The Measuring Sustainable Tourism (MST) project has been launched in response to increasing requests from UNWTO Member States for guidance in measurement to better support policy and management in the areas of tourism and sustainability. It is narrowly related to the UN's 2030 Agenda and the monitoring of the SDGs, and indeed part of the work involves the development of indicators for monitoring sustainable tourism and its role in the relevant Goals and Targets.

Additionally, 2017 has been declared by the UN General Assembly as International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. It is within this framework that UNWTO will organize its next International Conference on Tourism Statistics in 2017 with the theme "measuring sustainable tourism".

The MST project comprises, beyond the incorporation of experiences by countries that have already undertaken work on the measurement of sustainable tourism, also the elaboration of country case studies to examine the relevance and feasibility of the statistical framework under development. Case study work is generally focused on the linking of SEEA based accounts with Tourism Satellite Accounts as a means to start integrating relevant data. Case studies are being explored or underway in:

- Fiji: Together with UNESCAP, Fiji Bureau of Statistics and Fiji Ministry of Tourism
- Austria: Together with Statistics Austria and the Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of Austria (National Tourism Authority)
- Netherlands: Discussions with Statistics Netherlands and the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands (National Tourism Authority)
- Mexico: Discussions with National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

A first informal meeting of the Working Group on Measuring Sustainable Tourism was held in Nov 2015 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the group has since been working via e-mail. The next (first official) meeting of the Working Group will be held on 20-21 Oct at UNWTO Headquarters in Madrid, Spain.