



The London Group,  
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## **A draft work plan for the London group 2016-2018**

- Including a new draft mandate and governance structure as well as draft agenda for the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the group



## Summary

This paper outlines a draft work plan for the term 2016-2018 in order to enhance the transparency and the direction of the work that the London Group can contribute with in the field of environmental-economic accounting. The document also includes a new up-dated draft mandate and governance structure for the group as well as the draft agenda for its 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to be held in Oslo in September 2016.

The UNCEEA are welcome to contribute to this development. The strategies and directions the UNCEEA foresee in the area are most relevant for the London Group to incorporate and bring forward.

The strength of the London Group lies in the technical capabilities of the experts attending the meetings thus enabling, among other things, a harmonised approach for quality assured statistics under the framework on environmental accounting.

The current objectives of the London Group are at a technical level to:

- a. support the further methodological development of the SEEA-CF;
- b. support the promotion and implementation of SEEA-CF;
- c. contribute to the further development of SEEA and the Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EEA);
- d. provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise and experience.

The number of participants vary each meeting but around 70-80 experts receive the invitation and there are about 50 key experts receiving and providing information on e-mails continuously, from statistical offices, to international organisations, academia and to lobby groups.

With the push for more data on environmental-economic accounting that are seen globally, regionally and nationally, synergies between different groups that are established in the field can provide high potentials for success. The London group can provide assistance to this end.

## 1. Introduction

The London Group was created in 1993, as a UN City group<sup>1</sup>, to provide an informed forum for practitioners to share their experience of developing and implementing environmental satellite accounts linked to the economic accounts of the System of National Accounts.

Originally, the objectives of the London group were to:

- play a leadership role in defining international best practices in the theory and practice of environmental accounting within the framework of the System of National Accounts
- provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise in this field
- encourage the adoption of best practices in the field by promoting the results of the Group's efforts via concepts and methods manuals, operational manuals, material on websites and other means

Prior to the adoption of SEEA Central Framework by the UNSC in 2012, the London Group was instrumental in pushing the area forward, evaluating methodologies and verifying new achievements, all of it being fed into the SEEA CF. After the completion of the SEEA CF the London Group has focused on exchanging experience and best practices and has started to dedicate significant attention to help further advance ecosystem accounting.

In order to further advance in the area, three components for the programme of work of the London Group may be highlighted.

- a. Methodological research**
- b. Implementation advice and best practices for SEEA**
- c. Development and sharing of uses, applications, and extensions of the environmental-economic accounts**

Broadly speaking, the topics covered by the Group to date have included (see annex 1):

- a. Physical flow accounts (air emissions, materials use, water use and energy use);
- b. Asset accounts for natural resources such as fossil fuels, forest, fish and land;
- c. Environmental activity accounts (environmental sector jobs and trade, environmentally related taxes and subsidies, emissions trade);

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<sup>1</sup> <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/citygroup/index.htm>

- d. Ecosystem accounts;
- e. Applications and extensions of environmental accounts (e.g. environmental pressure from consumption through input-output analysis, social data in the accounts);
- f. Training and implementation material.

II. The current objectives of the London Group are to:

- a. support the further methodological development of the SEEA-CF
- b. support the promotion and implementation of SEEA-CF
- c. contribute to the further development of SEEA: Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EEA)
- d. provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise and experience;

## **2. The strength of the London group**

The participants of the London group are experts in the field of compiling, presenting and disseminating data on environmental accounts. They are not necessarily connected with a certain organisation or authority, but participate in the capacity of knowhow in environmental accounting.

They are often as a community strengthening the knowledge in the technical aspects of compiling data linking environmental statistics to economic accounts and extracting from the economic accounts data that are useful for environmental analysis. Best practices in compilation can be identified. They are also highly experienced in application of the data often working closely with the user community.

As such it is reasonable to consider the London group to enhance the work further and look into the areas that e.g. did not find a place in the SEEA CF or have been developed at a minimum level in the SEEA CF.

As the area becomes more visible and more countries apply the techniques of SEEA in the compilation, dissemination and analysis of data more experts will become available. The group has grown already from around 20-30 colleagues in the early days to up to 70-80 in more recent meetings who are interested in participating.

However, as other groups and compositions are available to meet and exchange information and knowledge through it can be time to re-evaluate the composition of the London group in particular.

### **3. In cooperation with the SEEA community**

#### **The UNCEEA**

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting was established through the UNSC 36<sup>th</sup> session in 2005. The committee has an umbrella function in providing overall vision, coordination, prioritisation and direction in the field of environmental-economic accounting and related statistics (ToR UNCEEA<sup>2</sup>).

The London Group as a technical expert group should be working in close collaboration with the UNCEEA. It is an aspiration that the UNCEEA will provide guidance with regard to the work programme of the London group and the agenda for its meetings. However, there remains a degree of flexibility for the Group to identify its own avenues of research in addition to the work suggested by the UNCEEA.

The London Group will continue to report its work progress and meeting outcomes to the UNCEEA for submission to the UNSC. This will be done in close cooperation with the two SEEA Technical Groups to ensure clear communication and to avoid the risk of double work and conflicting agendas.

#### **Groups established by the UNCEEA**

In more recent years the UNCEEA has created topical groups

#### **Technical committee SEEA CF established in 2014 with the mandate to:**

- Advance the research agenda for the SEEA Central Framework;
- Advance the development of the implementation materials/tools, including the development of core tables and accounts and associated technical notes, in support of the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework and ensure consistency with the SEEA Central Framework;
- Lead the development of the communication strategy for the SEEA Central Framework.

#### **Technical committee SEEA EEA**

- Advance the research agenda on ecosystem accounting within the general framework provided by SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting;

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<sup>2</sup> [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/ceea/documents/torunceea\\_final.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/ceea/documents/torunceea_final.pdf)

- Identify and recommend best practices related to the testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in countries in particular concerning the use of models and tools as well as testing of methods for measuring ecosystem services, ecosystem conditions and ecosystem capacity;
- Promote the SEEA framework and the associated research and ensure sound relationships with other similar initiatives and projects;
- Assist the Steering Committee in organizing relevant meetings and conferences to advance the research agenda.

#### **Expert Forum on Experimental ecosystem accounts**

- Showcasing advances in research and testing on the SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting;
- Highlighting to the potential for more definite methods and guidelines;
- Providing recommendations for the revision of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting.

#### **Other groups and conferences**

The UNSD has for the 11<sup>th</sup> UNCEEA meeting in 2016 made a summary of which groups work with topics that touch upon SEEA.

These are groups established by e.g. the World Bank, the OECD, the UNECE and Eurostat

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/ceea/meetings/eleventh\\_meeting/BK-11-5-3.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/ceea/meetings/eleventh_meeting/BK-11-5-3.pdf)

### **4. A three year tentative work plan**

Establishing a work plan facilitates the communication with other groups that work in the field. A work plan has not been available before in the London group but each meeting has evolved and developed with the items currently on the global agenda.

It is not the intention to specify and lock down the topics and tasks but to provide a direction of work in line with the specifications of the UNCEEA and its members.

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Milestones</b>        | <b>Achievement(s)</b>                       |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|
| 2016        | UNCEEA meeting | Input from the committee | The UNCEEA gives the LG direction and tasks |
|             | LG meeting     | The meeting outcome      | <b>Methodological work</b>                  |

|               |  |                                     |  |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
|               |  | provides direction for next year(s) | <p>Providing technical input to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- current state of play on the research agenda</li> <li>- thoughts on international data collections</li> </ul> <p><b>Implementation and practises</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- capacity building</li> <li>- issues arising when compiling of data for SEEA Agriculture</li> </ul> <p><b>Development and sharing of uses, applications and extensions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- new emerging areas e.g. on speeding up the access to more up-to date data, and on bio economy</li> <li>- development of ecosystem accounts</li> <li>- sharing knowledge and strengthening the capacity in providing policy useful data. This includes best practices on bridging SEEA data and policy via indicators and how SEEA data could feed into analytical tools (IO, SAM, CGEM).</li> </ul> |
| 2017 - Spring | Preparing next LG meeting              | Calling for issue papers            | <p>Based on the outcome of LG 2016 topics in need of further discussion to be picked up</p> <p>These could be (e.g.): any testing done on SEEA-Energy? Any testing done on tables as specified in the Technical notes? Any progress on environmental economic instruments?</p>   |
|               | Drafting agenda of the LG meeting 2017 | The LG Bureau draft                 | A final draft to be circulated to the UNCEEA and the LG for additional input   |

|               |  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| 2017 - summer | UNCEEA meeting                         | Input from the committee   | The UNCEEA gives the LG direction and tasks  |
| 2017          | LG meeting                             | The meeting outcome provides direction for next year(s)                      |  |
| 2018 - Spring | Preparing next LG meeting              | Calling for issue papers   | Based on the outcome of LG 2017 topics in need of further discussion to be picked up |
|               | Drafting agenda of the LG meeting 2018 | The LG Bureau draft  | A final draft to be circulated to the UNCEEA and the LG for additional input         |
| 2018 - summer | UNCEEA meeting                         | Input from the committee   | The UNCEEA gives the LG direction and tasks  |
| 2018          | LG meeting                             | The meeting outcome provides direction for next year(s)<br>New chair elected |  |

### 5. Potential discussion questions:

1. Is the work plan a step forward in transparency of what the LG can contribute to? And can this reduce the risk of double work of the different groups existing today?
2. Does the UNCEEA have any contributions to provide the draft mandate and the draft agenda for the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting? (see annex 2+3)
3. Should the LG keep expanding in terms of participants or be limited to experts for in-depth discussions about methodologies, best practices and policy applications? If expanding, how do you foresee the group to deliver suitable output?



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## Annex 1: Topics covered in past London Group meetings

Table 1: Topics covered in past London Group meetings

| Topics                                 | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2004 | 2006* | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| SEEA manual 2003, 2012                 | X    | X    |      | X    | X     | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |      | X    | X    |      |
| Country up-dates                       |      | X    |      | X    | X     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | x    |
| EPEA, taxes, subsidies, permits, REMEA | X    | X    |      |      |       | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |
| Physical flows (air, energy, waste)    | X    | X    |      |      | X     | X    | X    | X    |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |
| Asset accounts incl. subsoil           | X    | X    | X    | X    | X     | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |      | X    | X    |      |
| Valuation                              | X    | X    |      |      | X     |      | X    | X    | X    |      |      | X    |      |      |
| Applications (incl IO) and policy use  | X    | X    |      | X    | X     | X    | X    | X    |      | X    | X    | X    |      |      |
| Water accounts                         |      |      | X    | X    | X     | X    |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |

|  | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2004 | 2006* | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Topics</b>                              |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry          |      |      | X    |      | X     | X    | X    | X    |      |      | X    | X    |      | X    |
| Land and ecosystem                         |      |      | X    |      | X     | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |
| Social dimensions                          |      |      |      | X    |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| MFA  |      |      |      | X    | X     | X    | X    |      |      |      |      | X    |      |      |
| Research agenda                            |      |      |      |      |       | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | X    |
| Sustainable development, wealth accounting |      |      |      |      |       |      |      | X    | X    |      |      |      | X    | X    |
| Training and capacity building             |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      | X    | X    |      |
| Timeliness/<br>nowcasting                  |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      | X    | X    | X    |

\* New committee UNCEEA established



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## Annex 2: Draft Mandate and Governance structure

# London Group Mandate and Governance Structure – 3rd Draft

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**Update of “London Group Governance Structure” (2007, LG11/1)  
following discussions at the 21st London Group meeting  
2-4 November 2015, Den Haag, The Netherlands**

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### Background

2. The London Group was created in 1993, as a UN City group<sup>3</sup>, to provide an informed forum for practitioners to share their experience of developing and implementing environmental satellite accounts linked to the economic accounts of the System of National Accounts. It convened its first meeting in 1994 in London, England. Participation includes representatives from statistical offices, environment agencies, and international organizations as well as research institutes, universities, and individual researchers. Originally, the objectives of the London group were to play a leadership role in defining international best practices in the theory and practice of environmental accounting within the framework of the System of National Accounts, to provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise in this field, and to encourage the adoption of best practices in the field by promoting the results of the Group's efforts via concepts and methods manuals, operational manuals, material on websites and other means.

3. At the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the London Group in 2015, members were asked for their input so that the terms of reference and governance structure of the group could be updated to reflect the completion of the revision process of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting: Central Framework (SEEA-CF) and to more clearly define the relationship to United Nations Committee of Experts on

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<sup>3</sup> <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/citygroup/index.htm>



Environmental-economic Accounting (UNCEEA) and the two SEEA technical committees (Central Framework and Experimental Ecosystem Accounting) going forward.

### **Mandate of the London Group**

4. Broadly speaking, the topics covered by the Group to date include:

- a. Physical flow accounts (air emissions, materials use, water use and energy use);
- b. Asset accounts for natural resources such as fossil fuels, forest, fish and land;
- c. Environmental activity accounts (environmental sector jobs and trade, environmentally related taxes and subsidies, emissions trade);
- d. Ecosystem accounts;
- e. Applications and extensions of environmental accounts (e.g. environmental pressure from consumption through input-output analysis, social data in the accounts);
- f. Training and implementation material.

5. The current objectives of the London Group are to:

- a. support the further methodological development of the SEEA-CF
- b. support the promotion and implementation of SEEA-CF
- c. contribute to the development of SEEA: Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EEA)
- d. provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise and experience;

6. In order to achieve the above objectives, three components for the programme of work of the London Group have been identified.

a. **Methodological research.** The London Group will conduct research into issues both conceptual in nature as well as related to implementation of the SEEA. The research focus has traditionally been on the SEEA-CF, but going forward it will be a more balanced mix of work related to the Central Framework, Applications and Extensions, and Experimental Ecosystem Accounting; particularly in areas where there is a strong linkage across these domains. The

group will draft and review technical papers based on the SEEA-CF and SEEA-EEA research agendas. This work will be done in close cooperation with the related technical committees.

**b. Implementation advice and best practices for SEEA.** The London Group will encourage the adoption of best practices in the field by promoting the results of the Group's efforts via websites, through its meetings, and other means such as contributing to training.

**c. Development and sharing of uses, applications, and extensions of the environmental-economic accounts.** The London Group will continue to explore means of applying the accounts to practical issues. These experiences will also be shared through the annual meeting and through contribution to various technical and compilation materials being developed for the SEEA.

## **Governance of the London Group**

7. The London Group will be managed by a Chair, a Bureau and a Secretariat. The roles and responsibilities of each of these functions are outlined below.

### **The Chair**

8. The Chair, in cooperation with the Bureau, will develop the programme of work and related time schedule for the London Group, organize and develop the agenda for the meetings, facilitate the discussion during and in-between meetings, and ensure that the programme of work is implemented according to schedule.

9. The Chair in consultation with the London Group will evaluate requests made from the UNCEEA with regards to the participation of the London Group in working on the UNCEEA work programme and research issues. For the areas accepted for further development by the London Group, specific project management plans to implement these areas will be developed.

10. The Chair, in working out the programme of work of the LG and setting priorities for the Group, should strike a balance between the short-term research agenda and requests from UNCEEA and the long-term perspective and independent research goals of the Group.

11. The Chair should seek input from leading developing countries to ensure appropriate developing countries' participation in the activities of the Group. He/she will also make an effort to enhance communication with the Chairs of other statistical entities to ensure consistency, coordination and cooperation. This could be achieved through the UNCEEA forum.

12. The process for selecting the Chair of the group will proceed as follows. Expressions of interest in the position will be sought from group members at least two months before the intended change in leadership. The Bureau will then consider the candidates, aiming to ensure an appropriate rotation of representation in the position. If an obvious successor emerges from this process, the candidate will be acclaimed and communicated to the London Group in writing and at the following annual meeting. The change will also be communicated to the UNCEEA members. If there are several expressions of interest and no clear replacement can be decided by the Bureau, an internet-based vote will be held, with each country/organisation that normally attends the London Group meeting being given a vote for the successor. The new Chair will then be announced at the following London Group meeting and will take on the Chair duties at the close of the meeting.

13. The position of Chair has a tenure of 3 years.

#### **The London Group Bureau**

14. The formation of the Bureau was agreed to by London Group members at the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the request of the Chair who felt the need for such a body given the complexity of the work plan and the need for coordination and consideration of the many activities currently ongoing in the field.

15. The Bureau of the London Group takes on a function similar to the original coordinating committee of the Group in that it will assist the Chair in the realisation of his or her responsibilities related to the London Group mandate.

16. In particular, the Bureau will be a decision making body with the tasks of helping coordinate the work plan for the Group, assisting with agenda setting for the annual meeting, arranging for hand-over

of the Chair responsibilities, and other administrative decisions related to the management of the Group.

17. Representation in the Bureau will include both countries and international organisations. The current membership will be posted to the London Group website. The group is not closed and consideration should be given to rotate countries in depending on interest, but it should be kept to no more than 9 members to facilitate communication and decision making.

18. Several London Group members are also members of the SEEA Technical Committees formed in March 2014, so there is a degree of overlap between the three groups. To help coordinate efforts of these bodies, the Chairs of the two SEEA Technical Committees should be also members of the London Group Bureau.

#### **The Secretariat**

19. The Secretariat will assist the Chair and the Bureau in their tasks, including input on developing the agenda and organizing London Group meetings; maintaining a website for the London Group; and maintaining internal and external communication on behalf of the Group (e.g. posting meeting materials and organising official correspondence). UNSD is currently providing the Secretariat function for the London Group.

#### **Reporting structure and relationship with UNCEEA and the Technical Committees**

20. The London Group is an independent technical expert group working in close collaboration with the UNCEEA. The UNCEEA will provide guidance with regard to the work programme of the London group and the agenda for its meetings. However, there remains a degree of flexibility for the Group to identify its own avenues of research in addition to the work suggested by the UNCEEA.

21. The London Group will continue to report its work progress and meeting outcomes to UNCEEA for submission to the UNSC. This will be done in close cooperation with the two SEEA Technical Groups to ensure clear communication. In addition, the Chair of the London Group will attend the UNCEEA meetings whenever possible to facilitate agenda setting for the following London Group meeting.

### **Annex: A short history of the London Group.**

22. The London Group was created in 1993 to provide an informed forum for practitioners to share their experience of developing and implementing environmental satellite accounts linked to the economic accounts of the System of National Accounts. It convened its first meeting in March 1994 in London, England. Participation includes representatives from statistical offices and international organizations, as well as research institutes, universities, and individual researchers. Originally, the objectives of the London group were to play a leadership role in defining international best practices in the theory and practice of environmental accounting within the framework of the System of National Accounts, to provide a forum for the sharing of national and international expertise in this field, and to encourage the adoption of best practices in the field by promoting the results of the Group's efforts via concepts and methods manuals, operational manuals, material on websites and other means.

23. In 1993 the United Nations published *the Handbook of National Accounting: Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting* (SEEA). The discussion of concepts and methods had not come to a final conclusion and the handbook was issued as an "interim" version. After the publication of the SEEA - 1993, several developing and developed countries started experimenting with the compilation of the SEEA. This work eventually contributed to the production of a revised volume of the SEEA (SEEA-2003).

24. An important event in the international environment having repercussions on environmental-economic accounting and related statistics was the creation of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEE), established by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2005 with the objectives of: (a) Mainstreaming environmental-economic accounting and related statistics; (b) Elevating the *System of integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting* (SEEA-2003) to an international statistical standard; (c) Advancing the implementation of the SEEA at the global level.

25. Given its mandate, expertise and role in advancing the methodologies in environmental-economic accounting, the London



Group accepted the request of the UNCEEA to assist in the SEEA revision. The London Group re-evaluated its governance structure following the request of the Committee to undertake the research within an agreed time schedule (LG11/1).

26. The input of the London Group helped with the successful adoption of the *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012: Central Framework* (SEEA-CF) as a statistical standard at the 43<sup>rd</sup> session of the UNSC in 2012.

27. Since 2012, the London Group has continued to work on projects related to the SEEA-CF research agenda, experimental ecosystem accounting, the exchange of practical experience and technical guidance, and capacity building related to SEEA implementation.

28. At its March 2014 meeting, the UNCEEA Bureau agreed to establish the following committees to aid in SEEA implementation:

- a. Technical Committee on the SEEA Central Framework with a mandate to 1) Advance the research agenda for the SEEA Central Framework; 2) Advance the development of the implementation materials/tools, including the development of core tables and accounts and associated technical notes, in support of the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework and ensure consistency with the SEEA Central Framework; and 3) Lead the development of the communication strategy for the SEEA Central Framework.
- b. Technical Committee on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting with a mandate to 1) Advance the research agenda on ecosystem accounting within the general framework provided by SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting; 2) Identify and recommend best practices related to the testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in countries in particular concerning the use of models and tools as well as testing of methods for measuring ecosystem services, ecosystem conditions and ecosystem capacity; 3) Promote the SEEA framework

and the associated research and ensure sound relationships with other similar initiatives and projects; and 4) Assist in organizing relevant meetings and conferences to advance the research agenda.

**29. Meetings held since 1994**

March 1994, London, England  
March 1995, Washington, D.C., USA  
May 1996, Stockholm, Sweden  
June 1997, Ottawa, Canada  
May 1998, Fontevraud, France  
November 1999, Canberra, Australia  
May 2001 Voorburg, the Netherlands  
November 2003, Rome, Italy  
September 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark  
June 2006, New York, USA  
March 2007, Pretoria, South Africa  
December 2007, Rome, Italy  
October 2008, Brussels, Belgium  
April 2009, Canberra, Australia  
November 2009, Wiesbaden, Germany  
October 2010, Santiago, Chile  
September 2011, Stockholm, Sweden  
October 2012, Ottawa, Canada  
November 2013, London, England  
October 2014, New Delhi, India  
November 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands

30. In 2015, the London Group agreed to review its mandate and governance structure to reflect ongoing developments in the field of environmental-economic accounting.

## Annex 3: Draft agenda 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the LG

### LONDON GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTING

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING

28-30 SEPTEMBER 2016

STATISTICS NORWAY

OSLO

#### OUTLINE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 28 September 2016

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INTRODUCTIONS and WORK PLAN 09.00-13.30

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#### 9:00 - Registration

##### *Session A: Introduction (9.30-13.30)*

*The goal of this session is to welcome the participants and provide a platform to begin the meeting. Among other things, at the 21st meeting of the London Group it was decided to up-date the mandate and governance structure for the group. The final document will be presented and the LG is invited to approve the document*

*The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the UNCEEA has taken place. The LG will be informed about the outcomes of that meeting, including updates about e.g. the SEEA implementation strategy and the progress of the technical notes.*

1. Welcome address by XX (YY of ZZ, Statistics Norway) (á 10 min)
2. Opening remarks and previous meeting notes (London Group Chair) (á 10 min)
3. Round table of participants (Please present yourself briefly – name and institution) (á 50 min)
4. UNCEEA business and UNSD update – for information (TBD) (á 20 min)
5. LG Mandate, Governance structure and tentative work plan – for discussion and approval (London Group Chair) (á 30 min to be continued after lunch)

**(Lunch 12:00-13:00)**

5. Cont. LG Mandate, Governance structure and tentative work plan – for discussion and approval (*London Group Chair*) (á 45 min)

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**INTERNATIONAL WORK AND CAPACITY BUILDING 13:30-15:00**

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*The goal of this section is to provide an up-date of the current status of the sustainable development goals, of international initiatives for data collections and capacity-building*

**Session B: Sustainable development goals, Agenda 2030 (13:30-14:45)**

6. Current up-date from the IAEG-SDGs and tasks from the UNCEEA– for information (*Viveka Palm, Statistics Sweden*) (á 10 min)
7. National, regional or international initiatives related to SDG indicators – quick round table (*All – please mention possible implications for environmental accounting*) (á –60 min )

**(Break 14:45-15:00)**

**Session C: International data collections and SEEA initiatives (15:00-15:30)**

8. What is collected today by international organisations on SEEA and data that can be used to construct SEEA related data? – For information (Update from the UNCEEA seminar, *UNSD or NL?*) (á 15 min)
9. Future international data collections – for information (OECD, *UNSD, ??*) (á 15 min)

**Session D: Capacity building (15:30-17:00)**

10. Tasks from the UNCEEA? (á 20 min ?)
11. Regional capacity building – experiences from the WAVES programme (*JP Castaneda, World Bank*) (á 20 min)
12. SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries: current status and country implementation plans - *for information* (FAO) (á 20 min)
13. Involvement of LG members – *for discussion* (All) (á 30 min)

**Summary of day 1 (17:00-17:20)**

The day is concluded – open for discussion (*chair*)

**(Closing of day 1)**

**Post-meeting reception hosted by Statistics Norway**

**THURSDAY, 29 September 2016**

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**METHODOLOGICAL WORK 09:00-11:00**

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*The goal of this section is to provide an up-date of the current status of the SEEA CF research agenda. It will provide input from those who have addressed some of the topics of the research agenda and where work has advanced. The session ends with setting out some recommendations on how the LG can further contribute to the research agenda.*

**Session E: SEEA CF Research agenda (08:30-10:30)**

14. The SEEA CF research agenda – for information (*Sjoerd Schenau, CBS*) (á 15 min)
15. SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries: Land use, land cover and GHGs: relations between SEEA CF and the IPCC - a discussion (*Francesco Tubiello, FAO*) –(á 20 min)
16. SEEA Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries: Methodological issues identified – an example of the Seychelles – a presentation (*Julie Hass*) (á 20 min)
17. Integrated framework for environmental activity accounts– a presentation (*Sjoerd Schenau, CBS*) (á 20 min)
18. Environmental goods and services sector - a presentation (*Arturo de la Fuente, Eurostat*) (á 20 min)
19. The role of the London Group in the future work of pushing the research agenda – for discussion (*All*) (á 25 min)

**(Break 10:30-10:45)**

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**IMPLEMENTATION, and EXTENSIONS 10:45-12:15**

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**Session E: SEEA domains and extensions (10.45-12.15)**

*The goal of this section is to provide a platform for exchanges of implementation done nationally and internationally. It will also enable sharing best practises and extensions in the context of SEEA CF. This knowledge will feed into e.g. the continued push in the area of environmental accounts. Critique and inspiration are aspired for.*

20. Bio economy (Finland?) (*á 15 min*)
21. Quarterly air emission accounts and research project PRINCE (Sweden) (*á 15 min*)
22. Land accounts in Canada (TBD) (*á 15 min*)
23. Land and Forest accounts in South America (JP Castaneda, World Bank) (*á 15 min*)

**(Lunch 12:15-13:00)**

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**ECOSYSTEM ACCOUNTS 13.00-14.30**

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**Session F: SEEA Experimental Ecosystems Accounts (13.00-14.30)**

*The goal of this session is to provide an update on current developments in Ecosystem Accounting, providing examples that contribute to the research agenda.*

24. State of Play on guidance, research agenda, development of standards for EEA and tasks from the UNCEEA (TBD) (*á 15 min*)
25. Classifications of ecosystem assets and services (Jan-Erik Petersen, EEA?) (*á 20 min*)
26. Delineation of spatial units (TBD) (*á 20 min*)
27. Carbon accounting (Brendan Freeman, UK?) (*á 15 min*)

**Summary of day 2 (14:30-15:00)**

The day is concluded – open for discussion (*chair*)

**An outing TBD**

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**FRIDAY, 30 September 2016**

**ECOSYSTEMS ACCOUNTS (cont) 09:00-12:00**

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28. Biodiversity accounting (TBD) (*á 20 min*)
29. Valuation of ecosystem services and assets (TBD) (*á 30 min*)
30. Measurement of ecosystem capacity and degradation (TBD) (*á 15 min*)
31. Any other items from UNCEEAA discussion
32. Role of the London Group in a future revision of the SEEA EEA handbook

**Lunch 12.00-13.00**

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**POLICY USES 13.00-14.30**

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***Session G: Policy uses: push and pull (13:00-14:30)***

*The goal of this section is to provide a platform for exchanges on how SEEA can be used in policy and the drivers of increasing the use of SEEA.*

33. National, regional and international uses of environmental accounts. – for information *Quick presentation from the LG (beforehand participation notice required, including short document 'a 3 min)*
34. Experiences from the WAVES program (WB)

***Summary of day 3 (14:30-15:00)***

The day and meeting is concluded – open for discussion (*chair*)