



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

**SEEA Revision
Chapters 1-6**

Comment Form

Global Consultation Comment Form

Revised SEEA Chapter 1 - 6

Deadline for responses: 7 December 2011

Send responses to: seea@un.org

Your name:	Sjoerd Schenau
Your country/organization:	Statistics Netherlands
Contact (e.g. email address):	SSCN@cbs.nl

To submit responses please save this document and send it as an attachment to the following e-mail address: seea@un.org.

The comment form has been designed to facilitate the analysis of comments. In Part I general comments on the general style, content and coverage of the chapter are sought. In Part II any technical and other comments should be included.

Relevant documents

Before submitting responses you are encouraged to read the accompanying papers available on the website.

Revision of the SEEA: Draft Version for Second Round of Global Consultation, October 2011 – Chapters 1 – 6

Reading guide for the SEEA Revision Second Round of Global Consultation

Supporting material for selected classifications and lists in the revised SEEA

Part I: General comments

This is the first global consultation based on the complete set of chapters for the SEEA Central Framework. In this section please provide general comments on the drafts chapters. You may like to consider providing comments on the style and tone, the content and coverage, and the general accessibility of the material.

Statistics Netherlands fully supports the standardized framework of the revised SEEA as represented by the Chapters 1-6 (Draft version for 2nd round of consultation). We would like to congratulate the SEEA editor with this excellent achievement. In our opinion the overall style of the document in terms of chapter structure, tables and language is very clear and accessible.

Part II: Technical and other comments

In the box below please supply any additional comments including those of a more technical nature. As this is the first consultation where the complete 6 chapters have been released, comments on the consistency of the technical content across the chapters would be appreciated.

Please reference your responses with the relevant paragraph number or section number.

For par. 3.269 we propose the following text:

3.269 Discarded materials sold as second hand products – for example the sale of a second hand car or furniture – should be treated as flows of products and not treated as solid waste. In the determination of whether a material is a second hand product may be given to the extent to which the receiving unit can use the product again for the same purpose for which it was conceived without any need for further treatment , repair or other types of processing.

With regard to table 3.6.3 solid waste:

- 1) In the supply table the grey area for waste residuals generated by landfills might be omitted. We suggest that waste gathered by people on landfills can be considered as the supply of residuals by landfills.
- 2a) In the use table the grey area for waste products used by the recycling and other treatment industry might be omitted. It is not unlikely that these kinds of treatment industries (especially the recycling industry) would purchase certain types of waste.
- 2b) In the use table. It seems unlikely that households use waste products. As such the corresponding entry in this table might be shaded grey

Table 3.2.5 causes confusion with regard to the definition of waste products and residuals. Although the heading of table 3.2.5 reads “typical components for groups of **residuals**”, footnote (a) says that flows defined as **products** are also included. Some people have concluded from this that waste products can be residuals. We would suggest changing footnote (a) into: This list of typical components for groups of residuals can also be applied to certain flows defined as products.

Par 3.60 Inputs from soil : *Inputs from soil comprise nutrients and other elements present in the soil that are absorbed by the economy during production processes or released to the*

environment as a result of production processes

This description may still be somewhat unclear. "Or released to the environment" indicates a flow from the economy to the environment, which is not an input. Possibly "or" could be replaced by "including those"?

In the section on energy accounts the treatment of energy production from biomass and waste could be described in more detail.

Par 4.49 mentions three EPEA tables, while there are now four since the financing table is now included.

The annex (Para 33-37; p.274) provides a justification for an interpretation within the physical approach of "net income" as a return to capital by introducing a notion of depletion adjusted resource rent. It is shown that the depletion adjusted RR equals the nominal return to capital (ex ante) less expected revaluation of the asset. This linkage to expected revaluation seems to be totally ignored in the main text (par 5.156 and table 5.4.1). This is unfortunate since it leaves the impression that the annex and main text are not fully consistent. This could be avoided by extending the discussion in the main text on decomposing the resource rent in depletion and income elements.