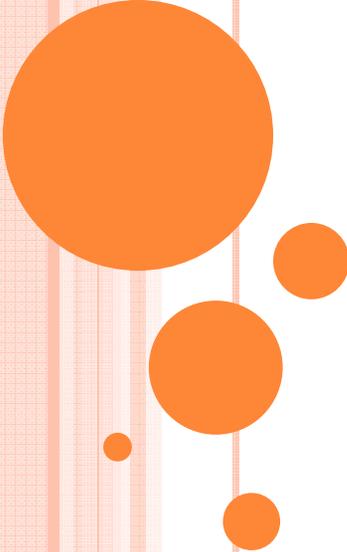# SEEA: THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL-ECONOMIC ACCOUNTING

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS FOR THE SEEA

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Conference on Global Implementation Programme for the SEEA

CONTEXT

- Conceptual framework described in SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts

- Broad implementation strategy described covering principles, objectives and approach

- Question of common tools that could be developed
  - Support individual countries
  - Support agencies and consultants providing training and implementation
  - Encourage common understanding and consistency of advice
  - Reduce overlap and duplication of effort

POSSIBLE TOOLS

- Generic Implementation Guide
- Diagnostic Tools
- Topic specific Technical Notes
- Designated core accounts and tables
- SEEA Presentations
- SEEA "Knowledge Base"
- Training materials, including "Train the Trainers"

SEEA IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

- Identify and describe key steps and principles
- Underpin flexible and modular implementation
- Links to relevant information

- Main elements
  - Description of global implementation strategy and links to other projects (e.g. WAVES, TEEB, etc)
  - Seven general steps for country implementation
  - Strategic planning and priority setting
  - Assessment of data sources and statistical system
  - Compilation and resourcing issues

DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS

○ In the context of the Implementation Guide diagnostic tools could provide a stylised approach to help countries work through the required stages

○ Both longer form and "rapid" tools have been proposed (Thanks to Michael Bordt)

○ Could potentially be adapted to specific topics / themes (e.g. water, ecosystem accounts)

SEEA TECHNICAL NOTES

- Topic specific – currently around 13 proposed
- Aim to support modular focus but within a broad model
- Provide a quick understanding of key issues – get people started
- Proposed structure
  - General description
  - Key policy questions and indicators
  - Core accounts and tables
  - Extensions and links
  - Compilation steps
  - References

CORE ACCOUNTS AND TABLES

- Issue here is whether, for a given topic, there is a core or basic account/s that should be identified
  - Reflect a basic set of information on that topic
  - Relevant for deriving key indicators
  - Capable of extension
  - Focus for initial compilation
- Example for water
  - Core accounts: Water PSUT & Asset account with some industry detail, no geographic breakdown
  - Supplementary accounts: Water emissions, Water quality
  - Extensions: Additional industry and household detail, geographic breakdown (e.g. river basin)

SEEA PRESENTATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE BASE

- Presentations
  - Proposal to create some "standard" presentations (PPT) for common use
  - Could cover general introductory material, topic specific, different audiences

- Knowledge Base
  - Proposal to develop further the UNSD repository/library of materials to support implementation
    - Conceptual materials
    - Country examples
    - Related research

TRAINING MATERIALS

- Preparation of worked examples and supporting materials for specific topics

- Proposed "Train the Trainers" strategy
  - Improve consistency in understanding of key SEEA technical issues
  - Provide understanding of implementation context, principles and generic strategy
  - Provide information on the design and delivery of training
  - Give awareness of materials and support

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- Are there missing tools?

- Should the proposed tools include additional elements?

- What should be the priorities in the development of the tools?

- What are the links to other work underway to develop tools related to compilation of SEEA based accounts?
  - Co-ordination
  - Consultation
  - Sign-off and endorsement