Environmental Statistics USA

FDES EXPERTS MEETING

MARCH 2014

US Principal Statistical Agencies

- The 13 principal statistical agencies are:
- Bureau of Economic Analysis; Bureau of Justice Statistics; Bureau of Labor Statistics; Bureau of Transportation Statistics; Census Bureau; Economic Research Service; Energy Information Administration; National Agricultural Statistics Service; National Center for Education Statistics; National Center for Health Statistics; National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (SSA); and Statistics of Income (IRS).

Another 116 Executive Branch Programs

- 116 programs in the Executive Branch conduct statistical activities in conjunction with another program missions, such as providing:
- medical care benefits for the elderly and the poor, or enforcing regulations - for example protecting the environment, transportation, or occupational safety.
- This is a much broader set of organizations than principal statistical agencies.

Environment Statistics – Its An Exclusive Club!

• EPA

- Air, waste, water Quality, toxic emissions (TRI/PRTR) & State program data
- USGS (And Interior Department)
 - Water quantity and some quality data
 - Species occurrence data
- USDA Forest Service
 - Forest products data

Reported To OECD – Engaged with UN Institutions

- Most if not all environmental data/statistics reported in response to OECD questionnaires
- Coordination by OECD Working Party on Environmental Information delegate
- Relay request to Agencies to respond to questionnaire and quality check requests
- Participate in ad-hoc cross Agency processes on sustainability metrics
- Engaged in UN Processes

Dynamic Access and Analysis Tools & Methods

- FedStats <u>http://www.fedstats.gov/aboutfedstats.html</u>
- Data.gov <u>http://catalog.data.gov/dataset</u>
- Group on Earth Observations (GEO) -<u>http://www.geoportal.org/web/guest/geo_home_stp</u>
- UNEP Live <u>http://www.unep.org/uneplive/</u>

Make Environmental Statistics Relevant for the Dynamic Data Access & Visualization

- Make the observation platform's mission to serve the statistics
- Make sure FDES/SEEA frameworks are part of capacity building
- Insure the environmental statistics are part of the sustainability and development goals and targets process

Thank you!

William Sonntag Office of International and Tribal Affairs Office of Global Affairs and Policy United States Environmental Protection Agency Sonntag.William@epa.gov