



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

**Expert Group Meeting on the Framework
for the Development of Environment Statistics
New York, 10-12 November 2009**

Organization of work

Tuesday, 10 November 2009

9:30 -10:00 Registration of participants

10:00 -10:30 Opening of the Meeting by Paul Cheung, Director, UNSD
Introductions
Objective of the meeting

10:30 – 1:00 Session 1: The need for a framework for environment statistics

- Need for basic organizing structure
- Integrate with economic and social statistics
- Identify the scope and boundaries of environment statistics
- Assess gaps and weaknesses in existing statistics
- Identify the role of different stakeholders
- Identify a core set of statistics/indicators

Presentations:

A Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics I.
(Robert Smith, Canada)

11:00 -11:30 Coffee break

Environment Statistics: Frameworks, Classifications, Statistics
(Torstein Bye, Norway)

Environmental Statistics, Monitoring and Assessment (Jean-Louis
Weber, EEA)

An application of the framework for the development of
environment statistics: the issue of climate change (Raymundo
Talento, Philippines)

Discussion

1:00 - 2:30 Lunch break

2:30 - 6:00 Session 2: National and international experience with different frameworks for environment statistics and indicators

Presentations:

Framework for the selection of the ESI/EPI indicators (Marc Levy, CIESIN)

The environmental pillar of the MDG Framework (Jochen Jesinghaus, EU JRC)

The State of the Nation's Ecosystems Project and Conceptual Model Development (Robin O'Malley, USA)

4:00 - 4:30 Coffee break

Reference frameworks and Environmental Statistics in Mexico (Jesus Romo Garcia, Mexico)

Overview of Malaysia's experience in the development of environment statistics (Soh Wah Lim, Malaysia)

The environment statistics programme in Cote d'Ivoire and the ECOWAS region (Fanta Kaba, Cote d'Ivoire)

Lessons learned from the country implementations of the UN FDES (Reena Shah, UNSD)

**6:00-8:00 Reception
(DC2-14th floor)**

Wednesday 11 November 2009

9:30 - 1:00 Session 3: The Canadian approach towards a framework based on ecosystems

- The primary purpose of the Framework
- Specifying the target variables
- Identifying the subcomponents
- From concepts to measurement
- Linking framework to policy

Presentation:

A Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics II (Robert Smith, Canada)

Discussion

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

Discussion (continued)

1:00 - 2:30 Lunch break

2:30 - 6:00 Session 4: A review of the UN Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) and its accompanying technical reports

- FDES Chapters I-IV (New York, 1984)
- Concepts and Methods of Environment Statistics: Statistics of the Natural Environment (New York, 1991)
- Concepts and Methods of Environment Statistics: Human Settlement Statistics (New York, 1988)

Presentations:

The UN FDES and the Canadian approach: a comparison (Eszter Horvath, UNSD)

Global Assessment of Environment Statistics (Yongyi Min, UNSD)

Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Global Assessments and Indicator Initiatives (Daniel Clarke, UNSD)

4:00 - 4:30 Coffee break

Summary of comments sent by the participants (Jeremy Webb, UNSD)
Discussion

6:30- Dinner

Thursday 12 November 2009

9:30 – 1:00 Session 5: The way forward: Revision of the UN FDES based on national and international developments

- direction
- modalities
- work programme
- contributions
- timetable

Discussion

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

Discussion

1:00-2:30 Lunch break

2:30-5:00 Session 6: Conclusions

Outline of a report for the 41st Session of the Statistical Commission