**Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)**

**Part I: Institutional Dimension of Environment Statistics**

in support of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics

(FDES 2013)





Prepared by the United Nations Statistics Division

27 June 2016

Version 1.0

Start date (dd/mm/yyyy):

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Completion date (dd/mm/yyyy): Country:

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1. Identification of institutions

A1. Name and title of person and institution responsible for the completion of the ESSAT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Institution |  |
| Email |  |
| Website |  |
| Phone |  |
| City |  |

A2. Additional collaborating persons and institution(s)

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| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Institution |  |
| Email |  |
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Add other institutions as necessary.

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B. Existing national policies relevant to the environment

B1. Are there specific environmentally-relevant policies or strategies in place, such as on environmental protection/sustainability, sustainable development (national sustainable development strategy), green economy/green growth, climate change etc.?

Yes (list policy or strategy and list responsible institution)

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No

B2. Rank the most important national environmental issues. (H = High importance; M = Moderate importance; L = Lesser importance; NR = Not relevant[[1]](#footnote-1); NAp = Not applicable[[2]](#footnote-2))

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | land use change |
|  | waste management |
|  | biodiversity loss |
|  | deforestation |
|  | water scarcity |
|  | freshwater quality |
|  | marine water quality |
|  | sea level rise |
|  | climate change |
|  | natural resource depletion |
|  | air quality |
|  | soil degradation |
|  | wastewater treatment |
|  | other (specify) |

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C. Mandate and organization of national statistics

C1. Is there a Statistical Act or Law in place?

Yes

No

C2. Are there institutions which are legally mandated to produce national statistics?

Yes (specify institution)

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No

C3. Is there a national statistical system in place?

Yes

No Skip to question C6

C4. Which institution is responsible for the coordination of the national statistical system?

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C5. Which other institutions are included or involved in the national statistical system?

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C6. Is there a national statistical plan/programme/strategy in place (e.g., National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS))?

(If there are more than one, list)

Yes (specify responsible institution)

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| --- | --- |
| Name of plan/programme/strategy |  |
| Period |  |
| Responsible Institution |  |
| Website |  |

No Skip to question D1

C7. Is environment statistics included in the national statistical plan/programme/strategy?

Yes

No

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D. Mandate and organization of environment statistics

D1. Is there an institution with a legal mandate to produce environment statistics?

Yes (specify institution)

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No

D2. Is there a national environment statistical system in place?

Yes

No Skip to question D5

D3. Which institution is responsible for the national environment statistical system?

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D4. Which other institutions are included or involved in the national environment statistical system?

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D5. Is there a national environment statistics plan/programme/strategy in place?

Yes (specify responsible institution)

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| Name of plan/programme/strategy |  |
| Period |  |
| Responsible Institution |  |
| Website |  |

No

D6. Is there a department, division or unit responsible for environment statistics in the National Statistical Office?

Yes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of department, division or unit: |  |

No Skip to question D9

D7. What is the status of the environment statistics department, division or unit in the National Statistical Office?

The same as economic and social statistics

Within social statistics

Within economic statistics

Other (specify)

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D8. How much resources are allocated to environment statistics compared to economic and social statistical domains at the National Statistical Office?

More than other statistical domains

Same as other statistical domains

Less than other statistical domains

Comments:

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D9. Is there a department, division or unit responsible for environment statistics or environmental information in the Ministry of Environment or equivalent?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Environment statistics | Environmental information |
| Yes |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Institution | Name of the Department, Division or Unit | Contact Person, Position | Email | Website |
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|  | Environment statistics | Environmental information |
| No |  |  |

D10. Are there other national institutions (e.g., Meteorological Office, Ministry of Water) that have an environment statistics department, division or unit, or that have a responsibility to collect environmental information? (If so, list)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Institution | Name of the Department, Division or Unit | Contact Person, Position | Email | Website |
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E. Production of environment statistics

E1. Is the FDES 2013 being implemented at the national level?

Fully implemented

Partially implemented

Not implemented

Not yet implemented but planned to be

Comments:

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E2. Is the FDES 2013 being used or planned to be used for strengthening statistical capacity to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Yes

No

E3. In which year were environment statistics first produced and disseminated either in hard copy, electronically or online?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Compendium |  |  |
| Chapter/section in a statistical yearbook | |  |
| Other(specify) |  |  |

ther (specify)

E4. Check the main issues which the national production of environment statistics currently covers. (A detailed assessment at the statistic level can be found in Part II)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | land use change |
|  | waste management |
|  | biodiversity loss |
|  | deforestation |
|  | water scarcity |
|  | freshwater quality |
|  | marine water quality |
|  | sea level rise |
|  | climate change |
|  | natural resource depletion |
|  | air quality |
|  | soil degradation |
|  | wastewater treatment |
|  | other (specify) |

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E5. What are the regular methods of disseminating environment statistics?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Product | Website | Paper | Digital |
| Environment statistics Compendia/Yearbooks |  |  |  |
| Chapter in multi-domain statistical Compendia/Yearbooks |  |  |  |
| Thematic publications |  |  |  |
| Database |  |  |  |
| Tables/tabulated data |  |  |  |
| Maps |  |  |  |
| Social media/networks |  |  |  |
| Other (describe)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |

E6. How can the level of development of national environment statistics be categorized? (Refer to footnotes for typical characteristics of each category)

Consolidated[[3]](#footnote-3) /Established

Developmental/incremental phase[[4]](#footnote-4)

Initial phase[[5]](#footnote-5)

Preparatory phase[[6]](#footnote-6)

Non-existent

Other (specify)

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E7. List the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to which environment statistics are reported by the country.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) | Contact person | Focal point institution |
| Basel Convention |  |  |
| Convention on Biological Diversity |  |  |
| Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) |  |  |
| Convention on Migratory Species |  |  |
| World Heritage Convention |  |  |
| Montreal Protocol |  |  |
| Ramsar Convention |  |  |
| Rotterdam Convention |  |  |
| Stockholm Convention |  |  |
| UN Convention to Combat Desertification |  |  |
| UN Convention on the Law of the Sea |  |  |
| UN Framework Convention on Climate Change |  |  |
| Other  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |
| Other  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |

E8. Are national environment statistics reported to international and regional organizations? (e.g., UNSD/UNEP Water and Waste Questionnaire, OECD/Eurostat Questionnaire on the State of the Environment, FAO agri-environmental questionnaires.)

Yes (Specify)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sender institution |  |
| Respondent institution |  |
| Issue or variables reported |  |
| Periodicity |  |

|  |  |
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| Sender institution |  |
| Respondent institution |  |
| Issue or variables reported |  |
| Periodicity |  |

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| Sender institution |  |
| Respondent institution |  |
| Issue or variables reported |  |
| Periodicity |  |

Add other tables as necessary.

No

E9. To which regional or sub-regional agreements, conventions or initiatives does the country report environment statistics?

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F. Uses of environment statistics

F1. Are environment statistics used to design and assess national policies?

Yes (Describe)

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No

F2. Are environment statistics used to build environmental and sustainable development indicators?

Yes (Describe)

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No

F3. Are environment statistics used to develop environmental-economic accounts?

Yes (Describe)

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No

F4. Were environment statistics used to compile indicators of the Millennium Development Goals, (Goal 7)?

Yes (Describe)

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No

F5. Are environment statistics used to compile indicators related to the SDGs and targets?

Yes (Describe)

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G. Inter-institutional collaboration for the production of environment statistics

G1. Is there a committee, inter-institutional working group or task force in place to coordinate the production of environment statistics?

Yes

No Skip to question G6

G2. Is there a formalised (scheduled/financial) arrangement or memorandum of understanding for the functioning of the committee, inter-institutional group or task force?

Yes (describe)

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No Skip to question G6

G3. Which institutions are members of the committee, inter-institutional group or task force?

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G4. What is the average periodicity of meetings of the committee, inter-institutional group or task force?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | times a year |

Ad-hoc (when necessary)

G5. Are there technical committees, inter-institutional groups or task forces focusing on specific themes/topics of environment statistics?

Yes (list themes/topics of environment statistics)

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No

G6. Is there a forum where producers and users of environment statistics meet and discuss issues and priorities for the country?

Yes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of forum: |  |
| Member institutions: |  |
| Functioning: | Yes  No |
| Is it formal? (explain) |  |

No

G7. What are the main barriers to collaboration among institutions for the production of environment statistics? (select from the following options)

Lack of resources for regular meetings (infrastructure, transportation)

Lack of time

Insufficient visibility of benefits of collaborating

Not a priority for institutions

Lack of political will

Overlapping responsibilities of institutions

Lack of an organized committee

Confidentiality of data

Other (specify)

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H. Existing and required resources for environment statistics

H1. List the resources allocated for the last available year to the environment statistics departments, divisions or units:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Resources | | Main authorities dealing with environment statistics | | |
| National Statistical Office | Ministry of Environment or equivalent | Other (specify) (e.g. Ministry of Fisheries/ Agriculture/ Forestry) |
| Last year information available:  (Write the year to which the information in the column refers) | |  |  |  |
| Human Resources (full time-equivalent number of persons) | Professional |  |  |  |
| Support |  |  |  |
| 10 year rate of change |  |  |  |
| Financial Resources (executed budget) | Regular budget |  |  |  |
| Regular budget 10 years ago |  |  |  |
| 10 year rate of change in regular budget |  |  |  |
| Project extra-budgetary resources |  |  |  |
| Project extra-budgetary resources 10 years ago |  |  |  |
| 10 year rate of change in project extra-budgetary resources |  |  |  |
| Currency used |  |  |  |

H2. Are the executed resources steady, increasing or decreasing over time?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | National Statistical Office | Ministry of Environment or equivalent | Other (specify)  (e.g., Ministry of Fisheries/ Agriculture/  Forestry) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Increasing |  |  |  |
| Decreasing |  |  |  |
| Steady |  |  |  |

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I. International and regional network

I1. Does the National Statistical Office participate in the following?

Expert Group on Environment Statistics (UNSD)

Regional environment statistics expert group, committee or forum (specify)

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Other (specify name)

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I2. Does the Ministry of the Environment or equivalent participate in the following?

Expert Group on Environment Statistics (UNSD)

Regional environment statistics expert group, committee or forum (specify)

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Other (specify name)

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J. Technical assistance and training

J1. Has the country requested technical assistance (e.g., short-term assistance, project proposals) or capacity building in the field of environment statistics from organizations (e.g., United Nations Statistics Division, UN Regional Commissions, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank, regional development banks, regional institutions, international development agencies) or countries that support the development of national statistics?

Requested and received with that organization’s or country’s own resources (specify body)

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Requested and received with resources external to that organization or country (donor/project)

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Requested but not yet received (main reason)

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No Skip to question J3

J2. What kind of assistance has the country received from organizations or countries in terms of technical assistance and capacity building in the field of environment statistics?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type of assistance received | When or duration (dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy or ongoing) | From whom | Main focus, objectives and results |
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J3. Has the country provided technical assistance to other countries in the field of environment statistics (e.g., short-term assistance, project proposals) or capacity building through international and regional organizations (e.g., United Nations Statistics Division, UN Regional Commissions, UNEP)?

Yes

No

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type of assistance provided | When or duration (dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy or ongoing) | To whom | Through whom | Main focus, objectives and results |
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J4. What kind of assistance has the country provided directly to other countries in terms of technical assistance and capacity building in the field of environment statistics?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type of assistance provided | When or duration (dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy or ongoing) | To whom | Main focus, objectives and results |
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K. The way forward in environment statistics

K1. In which areas are there plans to strengthen and develop environment statistics programmes, units and/or activities in the country?

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| --- | --- |
| Legal framework (describe) |  |
| Institutional set up (describe) |  |
| Budgetary resources (describe) |  |
| Human resources (describe) |  |
| Technical assistance and training (describe) |  |
| Advocacy (describe) |  |
| Other (describe) |  |

K2. What are the main vehicles through which the country requires technical assistance and capacity building to develop environment statistics?

Manuals/technical guidance in the language used in the country

Regional/sub-regional workshops

National workshops

Country visits/study tours

Bilateral consultations

E-learning

Networking

Other (describe)

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K3. What are the most important areas where the country needs technical assistance and capacity building to develop environment statistics? [e.g., water, energy, disasters, natural resources, emissions and concentration of pollutants, environmental surveys, geographic information systems] Specify:

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K4. Are there other types of necessities that the country requires for developing environment statistics?

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1. Not relevant: The environmental issue is so insignificant as to not be relevant to the country. For example, a country with an abundance of water resources and a relatively small and stable population, may not regard water scarcity as a relevant issue. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Not applicable: The environmental issue is not applicable to the country. For example, a land-locked country may regard marine water quality or sea level rise as not applicable. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Consolidated: Existence of a dedicated allocation of budget for staff and resources for environment statistics at the national level; maintenance and further development of environment statistics’ coverage and timeliness; mechanisms in place to ensure quality of environment statistics. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Developmental/incremental phase: Environment statistics being produced at the national level; much metadata still under development; preparations being made for regular future publications; feedback from key stakeholders being obtained. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Initial phase: Assessment of environment statistics’ needs and users; inter- and intra-institutional collaboration mechanisms being established; future environment statistics products being defined. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Preparatory phase: Team building taking place; establishment of institutional arrangements; identification of national and policy priorities; identification of a national strategy for establishing an environment statistics programme. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)