



WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS FOR THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY REGION

ARUSHA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA 27-31 MARCH 2017

Final Report

United Nations Statistics Division in collaboration with the East African Community Secretariat

Background and objectives of the Workshop

- 1. The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with the East African Community (EAC), organized a Workshop on Environment Statistics for the East African Community Region. The Workshop was held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania from 27 to 31 March 2017, with on-ground support provided by the EAC Secretariat and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of Tanzania.
- 2. The Workshop was one of the activities of the Development Account project "Supporting Member States in developing and strengthening environment statistics and integrated environmental-economic accounting for improved monitoring of sustainable development", of which Module A focuses on strengthening environment statistics in the EAC Secretariat and its five member states, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. This Workshop followed the inception regional Workshop on Environment Statistics in support of the implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) held in Arusha in July 2015 and national missions conducted by UNSD in each of the EAC member states during 2016 and 2017.
- 3. The objectives of the Workshop were to:
 - i). Discuss the progress in the implementation of the FDES 2013 and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT), the development of national work plans and the establishment of inter-agency committees.
- ii). Review national data availability for the environmentally-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators and other international datasets.
- iii). Develop a list of regional indicators based on regional policies, environmental issues and priorities, national data availability and linkages to the SDG indicators.
- iv). Develop a Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics and terms of reference for a Regional Technical Working Group on Environment Statistics.
- 4. To achieve these objectives the following activities were carried out during the Workshop:
- i). The countries presented the progress made in the compilation of environment statistics since the project's inception and shared their experiences by presenting the main challenges they faced and how they overcame them. They highlighted what had been achieved with regard to the implementation of the FDES 2013 and the ESSAT. They also described the status of their national work plans and the establishment of inter-agency committees.
- ii). A draft list of regional indicators according to the EAC policies was reviewed. The countries discussed their relevance and data availability in their national context during working groups. A review of national data availability for the environmentally-related SDG indicators and other international datasets and plans for filling gaps was conducted using the draft EAC Regional Environment Statistics Compendium as a basis.

- iii). A draft Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics and terms of reference for a Regional Technical Working Group on Environment Statistics were presented and discussed during the Workshop. Further comments will be provided by the countries to the EAC Secretariat.
- 5. The Workshop was attended by 35 persons. These included representatives from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and Ministries of Environment (or equivalent institutions) of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as from the following regional/international organizations and training institutions: UNSD, the EAC Secretariat, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC). The Workshop was chaired by Ms. Ruth Minja, Manager for Environment and Statistical Analysis, NBS of Tanzania.
- 6. The list of participants is attached in Annex 1.

Opening session

- 7. Dr. Margaret Martin (Arusha Regional Statistical Manager, NBS of Tanzania) thanked the participants for their attendance at the Workshop. She also welcomed the Guest of Honour to the Workshop and requested participants to introduce themselves. She then invited the Chairperson of the Workshop to give her remarks.
- 8. Ms. Ruth Minja (Chairperson of the Workshop) welcomed all participants to the Workshop. She also expressed appreciation to the Guest of Honour for coming to preside over the official opening of the Workshop. She informed participants that besides the technical discussions, there would be an environmental excursion to the Snake Park in Arusha in the afternoon of 29 March.
- 9. Mr. Wilberforce Mariki (EAC Director of Planning) welcomed the participants to Arusha and reminded them of the importance of the Workshop. He mentioned that the demand for environment statistics was increasing day by day due to the growing environmental issues, such as climate change and biodiversity loss. This was reflected at the international level by the environmentally-related SDG indicators, at the regional level by the Agenda 2063, and at the national level by national development plans. He told the participants that the Workshop would build on the knowledge about the FDES 2013 developed previously in the project to develop a regional compendium of environment statistics. To keep the data up to date, he expected the Workshop to make recommendations for initial data submission as well as subsequent data to the EAC Secretariat. Finally, he thanked the participants for their attention.
- 10. Ms. Reena Shah (UNSD representative at the Workshop) appreciated the Director General, NBS of Tanzania, for creating time to come to officially open the Workshop. She recognized the progress that had been made towards achievement of the project on developing environment statistics in the region. Noted was that, a couple of years back, one or two persons were dedicated to environment statistics, but at this moment a number of NSOs had more officers working in this

area. She also pointed out that, after the conduct of national missions in each of the five member states, there was a clear indication that countries had committed to working in this subject and that there had been a clear improvement in environment statistics.

She reminded participants that:

- i). Strengthening national statistical systems was a crucial component of environment statistics and that ad-hoc data collection without countries' involvement would not provide sustainable statistical programmes.
- ii). The main purpose of the first regional workshop in 2015 was to build capacities in for the implementation of the FDES 2013 and the ESSAT and that this current workshop would focus on the developments in environment statistics in each of the countries as well as the review of a draft EAC compendium on environment statistics.
- iii). Increase in the production of environment statistics at the national level would assist countries to meet the increasing demand for environmental information for monitoring the SDGs and for developing a set of regional indicators required for planning.
- iv). The development of national work plans would contribute to the development of a Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics for the EAC partner states.
- 11. Dr. Albina Chuwa (Director General, NBS of Tanzania Guest of Honour) welcomed all participants to the Workshop and appreciated UNSD and EAC for funding the Workshop and developing the compendium on environmental statistics respectively.

She informed participants that:

- i). At the EAC level they were developing the EAC Statistics Act which would go a long way in streamlining statistical issues in the EAC through the EAC Statistics Bureau.
- ii). The development visions in all EAC Partner States and the global development agendas such as the SDGs and Agenda 2063 require data, hence the need to develop systems to collect and analyze this data to inform decision making.
- iii). The SDGs address three dimensions, i.e. the economic growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability. Statisticians are therefore central in the measurement of progress in the implementation of the SDGs. Tanzania has developed the National Environmental Policy, the National Environment Act, as well as the National Environment Action Plan. However, the measurement of environmental issues via regularly monitored indicators and statistics remains a big challenge. They therefore appreciated UNSD's intervention to try and address such challenges.
- iv). There was need to develop a culture of including an environment module on the Population and Housing Census/other surveys and censuses by all EAC Partner States.

She finally appreciated UNECA, AfDB, FAO, UNEP and Partner States for their participation in the Workshop and thereafter officially opened the Workshop.

12. In his vote of thanks, Mr. Emmanuel Menyha (Principal Statistician-Agric and Environment Statistics, Uganda Bureau of Statistics) expressed his feeling of honour and privilege for the opportunity of extending a vote of thanks on this historic occasion. He informed participants that the day was indeed a very memorable one in the history of environment statistics in EAC, when the Director General, NBS of Tanzania was with participants for the Workshop on the development of the sector statistics. On behalf of the participants, entire fraternity of this profession and on his behalf, he conveyed deep regards and hearty thanks to the Director General, NBS of Tanzania for gracing this occasion and sharing with participants her vision/technical words of wisdom, not forgetting the immense support rendered. He hastened to assure the Director General and Development partners that they would continue to work in the right direction of creating a knowledgeable platform for environment statistics in the EAC, and quoted "TOGETHER WE CAN TAKE ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS TO THE GREATEST HEIGHTS".

Status of activities on the Development Account project on: Supporting Member States in Developing and Strengthening Environment Statistics and Integrated Environmental-economic Accounting for Improved Monitoring of Sustainable Development (UNSD)

13. Delivered by Ms. Reena Shah, the presentation focused on Module A (Strengthening Environment Statistics in EAC Secretariat and its five member states and its expected accomplishments.

Activities undertaken so far were highlighted and these included:

- i). Holding the first sub-regional workshop in Arusha in July 2015.
- ii). Carrying out of national missions to EAC countries in 2016/17 to hold bilateral discussions with NSOs and conduct national workshops.
- iii). Recruitment of consultants in some countries and commencement of recruitment processes for other countries, to provide support in:
 - Finalizing the National Action Plans for Environment Statistics
 - Reviewing the environmental data from national and international data sources
 - Preparing a policy document defining the role of each agency
 - Assisting in the compilation of data from relevant agencies.

Adoption of the agenda

- 14. The chairperson took the participants through the agenda of the Workshop for adoption. The EAC Secretariat suggested making a presentation under Session 6 regarding EAC's current efforts towards addressing climate change. This was accepted and thereafter, the agenda was adopted.
- 15. The following agenda items were adopted:
 - i. Opening of the workshop
- ii. Objectives and organization of the workshop in the context of the Development Account project
- iii. Session 1: Current regional and international activities in environmental statistics and indicators
- iv. Session 2: National presentations on the state of environment statistics (contd.)
- v. Session 3: Results and Analysis of the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)
- vi. Session 4: EAC regional environment statistics compendium
- vii. Session 5: EAC regional environment statistics compendium (Group Work)
 - a) Group work on data related to FDES Component 1 in draft compendium
 - b) Group work on data related to FDES Component 2 in draft compendium
 - c) Group work on data related to FDES Component 3 in draft compendium
 - d) Group work on data related to FDES Component 4 in draft compendium
 - e) Group work on data related to FDES Component 5 in draft compendium
 - f) Group work on data related to FDES Component 6 in draft compendium
 - g) Plans for finalization of the draft compendium
- viii. Excursion
 - ix. Session 6: Other current topics in environment statistics
 - a) Climate change statistics and the FDES (UNSD)
 - b) EAC aiming to achieve sustainable climate change (EAC)
 - c) FAOSTAT Emissions Database (FAO)
 - d) Pilot testing of water quality and e-waste (UNSD)
 - x. Session 7: Training activities and the implementation of the FDES 2013
 - xi. Session 8: Supporting the regional programme of environment statistics
- xii. Closing remarks
- xiii. Evaluation
- 16. The discussions were organised in both plenary and working group (country break-up) sessions. The agenda is attached hereto as Annex 2.
- 17. The Workshop's discussions were based on presentations made by various facilitators and participants. When discussing the compendium, each country composed a group and each group discussed its country's data and indicator(s) based on what was reported in the compendium.

18. All documentation and presentations used in the Workshop are available and can be downloaded at: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/EAC.html

Outcome of deliberations

Session 1: Current regional and international activities in environmental statistics and indicators

- 19. Seven presentations were made in this session but broken down into the above two categories. Under regional activities there was the Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics (EAC), Regional policy needs (EAC), UNECA and AfDB presentations. The international activity presentations included: Environmentally-related SDG indicators and the FDES (UNSD), UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics (UNSD), Environmentally-related agricultural statistics (FAO).
- 20. Eng. Kyaruzi Ladislaus presented on the EAC Regional Policy needs for environmental statistics. He highlighted the steps to EAC integration, Article 45 of the EAC treaty which talks about the environment and natural resources, the challenges of the environment in the EAC region such as depletion of natural resources; climate change; disasters; environmental degradation; rapid urbanization, poverty; rapid population growth, etc. The presenter also enlightened participants that, at the policy level, the EAC has the EAC Treaty, the Draft EAC Trans-boundary Ecosystem Bill, the EAC Forestry Bill of 2015, the Draft Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources, the Climate Change Policy of 2011, the Strategy & Master Plan, EAC Development Strategies and the EAC Vision 2050. The presenter concluded by outlining the regional environment data gaps, challenges and the next steps to follow.
- 21. Mr. Michael Gitau (EAC) made a presentation on the draft Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics. His presentation highlighted the importance of the statistical sector both at the EAC and country level, the available statistics and the way forward.

The issues in the way forward included:

- Need for National Statistical Offices to develop and improve systems for compilation and dissemination of environmental statistics
- Develop an action plan in four phases i.e., preparatory stage; foundation stage; operational stage and implementation stage. He thereafter presented a matrix detailing activities that would be undertaken in respect to the four stages highlighted above.
- 22. Mr. Stephen Bahemuka (AfDB) made a presentation on AfDB Capacity Building for Environment Statistics. The presentation included information on: the AfDB policy on environment (including the institutional support and capacity building for member countries), the Bank's Strategic frameworks with the high five priority strategic areas, the Bank's capacity building programme for environment statistics, and the way forward.

Specifically, the way forward included:

- AfDB to finalize the Capacity building programme to improve availability of environment statistics
- The Bank to continue to partner with development partner and mobilise resources to support the development of environment statistics on the continent
- To encourage the NSO and Ministry, Department and/or Agency (MDAs) to collaborate with all specialized agencies that produce environment statistics.
- 23. Mr. Greg Gong (UNECA) presented on the ECA Work plan for FDES and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) in Africa 2017. The presentation underlined a matrix on activities to be undertaken during the three-year period in Africa including;
 - i. E-learning for all countries in Africa on FDES and SEEA
 - ii. Preliminary analysis of environmental data availability in selected countries
 - iii. Regional capacity building workshop on FDES and SEEA (face to face).
- 24. Mr. David Rausis (UNSD) presented on the UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics. The presenter indicated that the Questionnaire was launched in 1999 and was now operational in 172 countries or territories in five official UN languages. Two additional Pilot Questionnaires on E-waste and Water Quality had been launched recently. He also presented the process of how data are received and handled, from prefilling the data in the Questionnaire to the dissemination of indicator tables.
- 25. Mr. David Rausis (UNSD) also made a presentation on SDG-related indicators. He gave a brief explanation about how the SDGs came about after the duration of the MDGs. He highlighted the 17 SDGs and put emphasis on those that relate to the environment. He talked about the 169 targets and 230 indicators. Finally, he presented some of the current technical issues concerning the six indicators UNSD is working on.
- 26. A presentation on Environment Statistics for evidence-based decision making was made by Ms. Silvia Cerilli from FAO. The presentation highlighted issues including:
 - FAO process of collecting national data, which involves core statistics collected directly from countries via Questionnaires and analytical statistics (achieved from further analysis of received data e.g., GHG emissions for Agriculture and Land Use, etc.). Core statistics and analytical statistics are both published in FAOSTAT database.
 - Adoption of a phased approach for analytical statistics to allow countries produce and report statistics at different levels of complexity.
 - A brief statement on the FAO contribution to the 21 SDG indicators for which FAO is custodian through collaboration with national and international institutions.

Discussions

- 27. Presentations indicated that some countries (such as Togo) were receiving funds to develop the statistics. Participants requested the development partners to help and provide guidelines on how they can also benefit from such resources. They were informed that the safe guards were project specific and country specific based on international frameworks.
- 28. On the issue of challenges of collecting environmental information from different sources, member states agreed that this can be solved through effective coordination of all the stakeholders with an overall designated coordinator of the statistics.
- 29. AfDB enlightened participants that it has a dissemination tool for data from countries and information from countries is published on this platform.
- 30. Participants appreciated the presentation by FAO on environmentally-related agricultural statistics. Given several indications of non-response by countries triggered an interesting discussion where participants offered to try to submit data to FAO in response to questionnaire requests so as to minimize data discrepancies between national data and FAO estimates. Participants discussed the issue of Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS) and National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and agreed that there is need for the two strategies to be harmonized for better coordination of statistics within national statistical systems but this should be based on national policies.
- 31. With regard to the work of FAO on the estimation of emissions, participants requested FAO to link up with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to harmonize their data with those contained in the National Communications of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) to the UNFCCC. FAO also informed member states that there is continuous sharing of methodologies between the two organizations on the Tiers used since different Tiers give different results.
- 32. Participants discussed waste data and agreed that getting aggregated national data on waste is important. So it was deemed paramount to provide available information for some cities or towns as long as the metadata and footnotes bring it out clearly. Participants also observed that the disaggregation of waste into household waste, commercial waste, agricultural waste etc., was still a big problem for the collectors of waste data.
- 33. On the issue of who should report the statistics to the international organizations, participants agreed that the mandate of statistics and its coordination is by the NSO. The NSOs should therefore continue to do the reporting.

Session 2: National presentations on the state of environment statistics

34. Following the order of presentations in the session, the five presentations were made by Mr. Gerard Barutwanayo from the Institut de Statistiques et d'Etudes Economiques du Burundi, Mr. Silvester Maingi from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Mr. Modeste Tuyishime Ngondo

from the Ministry of Natural Resources-Rwanda, Emmanuel Menyha from the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and Ms. Ruth Minja from the NBS of Tanzania.

All the country presentations were made focusing on the following major areas:

- the current work in environment statistics
- implementation of the FDES 2013
- establishment of inter-agency committees
- development of national work plans and national compendia.

Discussions

- 35. Seeking clarification on how Burundi evaluates the losses after disaster, participants were informed that when a disaster has just occurred, a committee of experts is instituted. This committee works with the national disaster platform and they go on the ground and undertake an evaluation using several dimensions.
- 36. Participants also appreciated that there is a need to develop environmental-economic accounts, which would, however, only be facilitated by the availability of the required environment statistics.
- 37. Based on the Kenyan presentation, participants sought a brief on the SEEA project in Kenya since it ends this year. Participants were informed that Kenya has a challenge with regard to the availability of the underlying statistics to compile the accounts. It was also noted that Part 1 of the institutional assessment was finished and they had embarked on head hunting the consultant to start developing either energy or water accounts or both.
- 38. There was some discussion about the use of national consultants who were being hired for each of the countries as part of the Project and it was encouraged that these consultants work closely with the relevant institutions to contribute to national institutional capacity building.
- 39. It was noted that the link between climate change statistics and the FDES should be made in the countries given the close relationship between environment statistics and climate change statistics.
- 40. Discussing how Rwanda collects the environment statistics, participants were informed that the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR) has focal persons in almost every MDA and they link with the NISR in the collection and compilation of statistics. The participants were further informed that these focal persons have been very vital in data collection and the implementation of the FDES 2013.
- 41. Regarding whether Rwanda produces the State of the Environment (SOE) report, participants were informed that Rwanda compiles the report through the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) and environment and natural resources' stakeholders, and this is published every two years.

- 42. Participants congratulated Uganda for including an environmental module in surveys and asked for more information. They were informed that Uganda added about 20 questions in an environmental module of the annual agricultural survey and included environmental questions in the population and housing census.
- 43. To the presentation from Tanzania, the issues raised for clarification were reacted to as follows:
 - i). Tanzania has started domesticating SDG indicators. Thereafter, environmentally-related SDG indicators will be handled coupled with the establishment of data gaps and plans are under way to convene a working group to this effect.
 - ii). Regarding SEEA, it was noted that there was currently not a strong correlation between national accounts and environment statistics and that in order to compile environmental-economic accounts it was necessary to first strengthen the production of basic environment statistics.
- 44. With regard to training and e-learning participants recognised that EASTC was very useful in capacity development/training but lacks trainers. It was therefore noted that participants in the Workshop were a very vital resource for this training, given their experience and expertise on environment statistics, and that ways should be sought to integrate them more into ongoing training efforts.

Session 3: Presentation on the results and Analysis of Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)

- 45. This was made by David Rausis (UNSD), who guided the participants through the entire sections of the draft ESSAT reporting template. He explained that it had been designed to align with strategic reporting such as the NSDS and could also align with sectoral strategy assessments. He further informed participants that this template had been sent out earlier to them for appreciation before the Workshop.
- 46. In the plenary, participants made the following comments:
 - i). Some questions of the template should be refocused for better understanding
 - ii). Participants proposed that the template should be piloted to test for compliance
 - iii). There was need for more time for wider consultations with all relevant national stakeholders.

Session 4: Presentation on EAC regional environment statistics compendium

47. Mr. Michael Gitau (EAC) presented on the draft EAC Policy-Indicator Publication on Environment Statistics. He explained that the draft document described the link between the policy needs and the production of indicators by listing the EAC environmental policies from the EAC Treaty and identifying a set of draft environmental indicators and the FDES statistics that could support the monitoring of these policies. The document also included the relationship

between the environmentally-related SDG indicators and the EAC environmental policies. Mr. Gitau explained that as the EAC was trying to produce a compendium of environment statistics, it was extremely important to select environmental indicators and statistics that could be used to monitor the EAC policies.

48. The presentation on the draft EAC Regional Environment Statistics Compendium was made by Ms. Reena Shah (UNSD). She explained that the EAC compendium included information for all the EAC countries. It was prepared by using data from the member states already available at the EAC Secretariat and data from international agencies, including those for the environmentally-related SDG indicators. The information in the draft compendium was organized according to the six components of the FDES. Member countries were requested to break into country groups to discuss and validate the information in the EAC compendium.

Session 5: Group Discussion on EAC regional environment statistics compendium

49. Five groups from the EAC member states present were formed to discuss the contents of the draft compendium, and provide their views and comments about the draft tables included. The compendium was discussed along the six components of FDES 2013. A number of country observations and discussions were made and presented in the plenary session. Participants generally appreciated the effort made to prepare this draft compendium and provided concrete inputs with regard to its revision. UNSD and EAC will review the comments provided and update the draft compendium accordingly and submit a second draft to the countries for review prior to the next regional workshop.

Session 6: Other Current topics in Environment Statistics

- 50. Mr. Ladislaus Kyaruzi Leonidas (EAC) presented on EAC's work on climate change statistics and indicators. The presentation underscored the importance of climate change statistics within EAC member states, regionally and internationally. It was noted that climate change was one of the pressing issues globally and should equally be taken seriously within the EAC. The presentation noted that sea level rose by 19cm in the recent years due to the effects of climate change. The presentation stipulated that EAC has taken some responsive measures including:
 - i). Regional Climate Change Policy adopted in 2011
 - ii). Climate Change Technical Working Group was established to provide technical guidance with the design and implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation
- iii). Road Map for Implementation of the Paris Agreement Oct 2016
- iv). A metadata under design for better interpretation of statistics
- v). Climate Change Coordination Unit (CCCU) established to ensure sustainability
- vi). EAC Climate Change bill being proposed. A draft concept paper prepared ready for sharing
- vii). Draft Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources
- viii). EAC Climate Change Finance that has been established and is now operating with an annual budget of about USD60m.

- 51. Ms. Reena Shah (UNSD) presented on the Climate Change statistics and the FDES. The presentation discussed the importance of climate change statistics and also noted that climate change affects all countries whether they are Annex I countries (large volume emitters) or non-annex I countries (low emitters). The sequence of climate change as per the IPCC framework was discussed along the areas of:
 - Climate Process Drivers
 - Climate Change Evidence
 - Climate Change Impacts and Vulnerability
 - Mitigation and Adaptation

It was also noted that Chapter five of the FDES captures well the underlying statistics needed to measure climate change. It was mentioned UNSD had previously organised two conferences on climate change and official statistics, one in Oslo (April, 2008) and the other in Seoul (Dec, 2008). Most recently, UNSD prepared a report on climate change statistics to the Statistical Commission at its 47th session in 2016, and the Commission, inter alia, requested UNSD to develop a global set of climate change statistics and indicators based on work carried out by the UN Economic Commission for Europe on this subject.

- 52. The Pilot Survey on Climate Change-related Statistics and Indictors was also briefly discussed. Member states gave a brief update on the progress made in filling out the survey. Member countries were encouraged to review the survey with the respective technical working groups and give feedback by 30 June 2017.
- 53. A presentation on the FAOSTAT Emissions Database was made by Ms. Silvia Cerilli from FAO. She indicated that GHG emissions estimates were calculated for land use and agriculture. She concluded by encouraging EAC member states to make use of the FAOSTAT database to obtain available Global GHGs emissions. She informed member states that, it also acts as a tool for national, regional and global analysis.
- 54. The Pilot Questionnaire 2017 on Water Quality was presented by Mr. David Rausis from UNSD. The Chairperson then requested member countries to give an update on the progress made in ensuring that the questionnaire is filled. The following questions were asked to the countries:
 - Is it an important topic in your country?
 - Is there information available?
 - If yes, in which institution? Is it routinely collected?
 - If not, do you think that you will collect data on this topic in the near future?
 - Is the questionnaire clear? Do you understand what you are asked to fill?
 - Do you think it is too much data?
 - Are you aggregating by water body or by type of water body in your country?
 - Do you collect information for the same parameters?
- 55. The presentation of the Pilot Questionnaire on E-Waste was made by Mr. David Rausis from UNSD. He asked the following questions to the countries:
 - Is it an important topic in your country?
 - Are there any mandates or policies on this topic?

- Is there information available?
- If yes, in which institution? Is it routinely collected?
- If not, do you think that you will collect data on this topic in the near future?
- Is the questionnaire clear? Do you understand what you are asked to fill?
- Does the UNU correspondence table help?
- Do you think the UNU estimates are close to reality?

Discussions

- 56. Regarding the EAC presentation, more details about the project undertaken in the countries and the portal containing data and metadata were asked about. Mr. Leonidas said that the priority areas for the projects have to be decided between the EAC and the member states. He added that EAC wanted to have projects in the area of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and sustainable energy. Concerning the portal, he said that it would include all information about climate change (temperature, precipitation, etc.). It would also make links to the national websites.
- 57. Concerning the UNSD presentation on climate change statistics and indicators, the participants said that many statistics were difficult to produce and that they would need capacity building for that. Moreover, they added that statistics on impacts, mitigation and adaptation were not readily available. They welcomed the use of a standardized template for monitoring statistics in this challenging field and agreed to try to submit responses to the Pilot Survey on Climate Change-related Statistics and Indictors after national level consultations. One participant noted the close relationship between climate change statistics and environment statistics.
- 58. The participants were interested in the example given by FAO on the emissions in the region. They asked if there was an explanation for the big gaps shown in the presentation, for example a change of methodology or a policy intervention. One participant from Kenya also asked if it was possible to get capacity building from FAO, even though they are not in the Ministry of Agriculture. Another one noted that Africa was producing only a small percentage of the global emissions to which FAO responded supporting this point but noting that in terms of emissions from agriculture and land use, African had higher emissions.
- 59. With regard to water quality the Workshop discussions revealed urgent need for the information on water statistics. It was also noted that various institutions in different EAC countries are responsible for water quality data therefore wider consultation would be required. Participants mentioned that the questionnaire was generally clear but that some parts needed further guidance. The member states agreed to complete and submit the questionnaires to UNSD by 30 June 2017.
- 60. Participants expressed that e-waste statistics was a relatively new area and there was need for data to monitor the impact of electronic waste. It was noted amongst the EAC countries that, as much as the regulations on e-waste exist, little has been done in terms of enforcement. The importance of involving the manufacturers and/or importers of e-waste in its disposal was also mentioned. Kenya and Uganda indicated the existence of regulations but lacked effective

implementation strategies even within the government institutions. The other EAC countries promised to give feedback once progress had been made in terms of tracing existing policies and possible sources of data.

Session 7: Training activities and the implementation of the FDES 2013

- 61. The presentation on Training Environment statisticians at EASTC was made by Mr. Godfrey Saga from EASTC. He informed the Workshop that, as much as the centre does not offer diplomas and degrees in environment statistics, it has ensured that modules of environment statistics are incorporated within the curriculum of the centre. This was implemented after the initial training by UNSD on the FDES at the regional workshop in Arusha in 2015, which was also attended by staff from training institutions of EASTC and Makerere University. This provided the tutors a better appreciation of the FDES components and thus eased their work in incorporating it into the curriculum of both Master and Bachelor courses. He also informed member states of the existing lecturing opportunities in environment statistics for the willing PhD holders. He presented the various courses being taught which are directly linked to the FDES components. He concluded by highlighting the challenges being faced at the centre when it comes to finding professors for Master courses.
- 62. The Member states however advised that EASTC should convert the challenges into opportunities and take advantage of the lack of environment statisticians in the region to promote their courses. Some countries informed the Workshop that they various staff have availed themselves of the training opportunities provided by EASTC and others mentioned that they would like to send statisticians from line ministries to attend some of the training courses.
- 63. A presentation on the Implementation of FDES in the COMESA Region was made by Reena Shah (UNSD) on behalf of COMESA whose representative sent apologies to the organisers. The presentation highlighted the current work being done in the region which included:
 - i). 2014: assessments of the existence of environmental statistics in countries had been conducted, but it was realised not much data is found within these countries
- ii). 2015: a regional workshop was held in Mauritius jointly with UNSD for all the COMESA member states except those of the EAC region as they were benefiting from the UNSD project. This was followed up by the development and adoption of a Road Map for the Implementation of the FDES 2013 in the COMESA member states.
- iii). 2016-2017: COMESA has been conducting national workshops in several member states to increase capacity in environment statistics and develop Road Maps. These missions are followed up by data collection activities, validation workshops and the production of draft reports.
- 64. In the discussion the work that COMESA has been doing was appreciated and some participants asked about support to the other regional economic communities (RECs) in Africa. It was also emphasized that coordination of efforts must be maintained, as in the example of the clear and close coordination of work being undertaken by UNSD, COMESA and EAC for these two RECs, so as to avoid any potential conflict of interest.

Session 8: Supporting the regional programme on environmental statistics

65. The EAC shared Terms of Reference (TORs) for a Regional Technical Working Group on Environment Statistics. Member states were requested to comment and refine the TORs.

66. It was decided that countries should give their comments on the Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics, presented in Session 1, to the EAC by 30 April 2017.

Recommendations from the Workshop

67. After very positive discussions, the following recommendations were agreed upon by the plenary:

- 1) EAC to officially establish the EAC regional working group on environment statistics by June 2017. The Working Group should be composed of officials from the ministries responsible for environment, National institutions responsible for environment management, National Security and the NSOs in each Partner State.
- 2) Partner States to send the respective updates on the Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics by 30 April 2017.
- 3) UNSD in collaboration with the EAC Secretariat will review the comments on the compendium and revise the draft compendium. The revised draft compendium will be shared with the Partner states ahead of the next regional workshop for further review and adoption.
- 4) Partner States to complete the application of ESSAT (Parts I and II) at the national level by 30 June 2017.
- 5) Partner States to complete the reporting template for ESSAT and send the form together with the comments for improving the template by 30 June 2017.
- 6) UNSD in collaboration with the EAC Secretariat to identify the core set of environmental indicators to support national and regional policy making, the production of core statistics for the FDES and the Sustainable Development Goal indicators ahead of the next workshop for consideration during the workshop.
- 7) Partner States to develop national work plans for the production of environment statistics by 30 June 2017.
- 8) Partner States to produce national publications on environment statistics by March 2018.
- 9) The EAC Secretariat to compile a regional environment statistics publication by December 2017.

- 10) The EAC Partner States to ensure that the FDES work plan is incorporated into their National Strategies for the Development of Statistics and this will guarantee funding and hence sustainability of the FDES programme.
- 11) Strengthening of training and capacity building on environmental statistics is important for the region and need to be enhanced through participation in formal trainings, participating in national and international forums on environmental related issues. Partner states need to take advantage of programmes offered on environmental statistics at the EASTC and Makerere University.
- 12) There is need for UNSD to review existing instruments to capture data on plastic waste management.
- 13) The meeting observed that the areas of climate change, water quality and e-waste are important for the partner states and therefore need to have systems for developing statistical data. EAC Partner States in consultation with the national technical working group to review and respond on the UNSD questionnaires on:
 - a. climate change;
 - b. water quality pilot survey; and
 - c. e-waste survey, and submit the responses to the three questionnaires alongside any written comments on the questionnaires by 30 June 2017.

Closing Remarks

- 68. On behalf of the Director General, NBS of Tanzania and her own behalf, Dr. Margaret Martin thanked participants for active participation and requested UNSD to always think about Arusha as the host of similar workshops.
- 69. Mr. Michael Gitau (EAC) appreciated the support and commitment made during the last five days and thanked UNSD for organizing the Workshop in collaboration with EAC. He pledged for continued allegiance with UNSD and other international agencies that provided technical and financial support for the success of the Workshop. He particularly thanked Dr. Albina Chuwa (Director General of NBS of Tanzania), Dr. Margaret Martin (Arusha Regional Statistical Manager, NBS of Tanzania) and Ms. Ruth Minja (the Workshop Chairperson) for the wonderful work well done in achieving the Workshop objectives.
- 70. Ms. Reena Shah (UNSD) expressed appreciation to the EAC Secretariat and to the NBS of Tanzania for providing support to this Workshop. She thanked the partner states for their collaborative effort and commended them again on the excellent progress made to date. She informed the participants that UNSD would be organizing the final closing workshop in late 2017 to, inter alia, finalize the list of regional environmental indicators and the EAC Regional Environment Statistics Compendium.

Annex 1

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Workshop on Environment Statistics for the East African Community Region Arusha, Tanzania, 27-31 March 2017

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Annex 2

Agenda

Monday, 27 March 2017

8:00-9:00 Registration of participants

9:00-9:30 Opening of the workshop

- National Bureau of Statistics Tanzania
- East African Community (EAC)
- United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

9:30-10:00 Objectives and organization of the workshop in the context of the Development Account project

- Status of activities on the Development Account project on: Supporting Member States in Developing and Strengthening Environment Statistics and Integrated Environmental-economic Accounting for Improved Monitoring of Sustainable Development (UNSD)
- Presentation and adoption of agenda
- Introduction of participants

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-12:00 Session 1: Current regional and international activities in environmental statistics and indicators

- Regional activities
 - Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics (EAC)
 - Regional Policy Needs for Environmental Statistics (EAC)
 - African Development Bank Capacity Building for Environment Statistics (AfDB)
 - Current activities in environmental statistics, indicators and accounting (UNECA)

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-15:00 Session 1: Current regional and international activities in environmental statistics and indicators (contd.)

- International activities
 - Environmentally-related SDG indicators and the UNSD/UN Environment Questionnaire on Environment Statistics (UNSD)
 - UNSD/UN Environment Questionnaire on Environment Statistics (UNSD)
 - Environment statistics for evidence-based decision making (FAO)

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-17:00 Session 2: Country presentations on:

- current work in environment statistics
- implementation of the FDES

- establishment of inter-agency committees
- o development of national work plans and national compendia
- o monitoring of environmentally-related SDG indicators

Tuesday, 28 March 2017

8:30-10:00 Session 2: National presentations on the state of environment statistics (contd.)

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

10:30-12:00 Session 3: Results and Analysis of the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)

- Reporting template for the results of the ESSAT (UNSD)
- Experiences from countries in the application of the ESSAT
- Discussion

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-15:00 Session 4: EAC regional environment statistics compendium

- Presentation of draft compendium (EAC/UNSD)
- Discussion

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-17:30 Session 5: EAC regional environment statistics compendium (Group Work) a) Group work on data related to FDES Component 1 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators and their metadata
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

Wednesday, 29 March 2017

8:30-10:30 b) Group work on data related to FDES Component 2 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 c) Group work on data related to FDES Component 3 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-17:00 Excursion

Thursday, 30 March 2017

8:30-10:30 Session 5: EAC regional environment statistics compendium (Group Work contd.) d) Group work on data related to FDES Component 4 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 e) Group work on data related to FDES Component 5 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 f) Group work on data related to FDES Component 6 in draft compendium

- review of indicators/statistics presented, including the environmentallyrelated SDG indicators
- comparison of data between international/regional sources and national sources
- plans for filling data gaps, including use of censuses and surveys

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:30 g) Plans for finalization of the draft compendium

Friday, 31 March 2017

8:30-10:00 Session 6: Other current topics in environment statistics

- a) Climate change statistics and the FDES (UNSD)
 - review of indicators/statistics presented in draft list
 - applicability of list to EAC countries
 - data availability
- b) EAC aiming to achieve sustainable climate change (EAC)
- c) FAOSTAT Emissions Database (FAO)

10:00-10:30 Session 6: Other current topics in environment statistics (contd.)

d) Pilot testing of water quality and e-waste (UNSD)
Discussion

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Session 7: Training activities and the implementation of the FDES 2013

- Training environment statisticians at EASTC in support of the FDES (EASTC)
- Progress on FDES 2013 Implementation in COMESA Member (COMESA)

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Session 8: Supporting the regional programme of environment statistics

- Development of a Regional Action Plan for Environment Statistics and Terms of Reference for a Regional Technical Working Group on Environment Statistics (EAC)
- Further follow-up activities of the Development Account project (UNSD)
- Way forward

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:15 Closing remarks

- EAC
- UNSD

17:15-17:30 Evaluation