DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

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Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of the Framework
for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES)
New York, 8-10 November 2010
**DC2-23<sup>rd</sup> floor Conference Room**

# Organization of Work

## Monday, 8 November 2010

Morning session (09:30-13:00)

**08:45 – 09:30  Registration (Lobby of 2 UN Plaza)**

**09:30 – 10:00  Opening of the Meeting**
**Introductions**
**Adoption of Agenda**
**Objective of the Meeting**

**10:00 – 11:30  Session 1: The Nature of Environment Statistics**
**(Chapter I of the Revised FDES)**

Session 1 will discuss the characteristics of environment statistics such as its objective, scope and coverage, links with economic and social statistics, statistical units and classifications, data sources and institutional aspects. The discussion and agreement on objective, scope and coverage is essential for selecting the adequate framework.

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/11: Challenges in organization of environment statistics (Leo Kolttola, Finland)
- EGM-FDES/1/7: The interface between core environmental statistics and other information systems: which interaction is important? The role of sector statistics, environmental monitoring and geographical information systems (Jean-Louis Weber, EEA)

- EGM-FDES/1/13: Data integration in environment statistics (Christian Heidorn, Eurostat)

**11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break**

**12:00 – 13:00 Session 1 (continued)**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/12: The relationship between FDES and the main ways to obtain environmental statistics (Wadih Neto, Brazil)
- EGM-FDES/1/9: Towards a sound data basis for environment statistics: requirements for multiple use of data and institutional cooperation (Michael Nagy and Eva Milota, Austria)
- EGM-FDES/1/10: Institutional dimension of environmental statistics (Rayen Quiroga and Kristina Taboulchanas, ECLAC)

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break**

Afternoon session (14:00 – 18:00)

**14:00 – 15:00 Session 1 (continued)**

**Presentation:**
- EGM-FDES/1/8: Statistical units and their classifications in environment statistics (Michael Vardon, Australia)

**Discussion and conclusions of Session 1 (chair and moderators)**

**15:00 – 15:30 Country practices**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/23: Insight into environment statistics: its strengths and weaknesses (Ditshupo Gaobotse, Botswana)
- EGM-FDES/1/24: 40 years of development of environment statistics in the Netherlands (Hendrik Jan Dijkerman, Netherlands)

**15:30 – 16:00  Coffee break**

**16:00 – 18:00  Session 2: A Framework for Environment Statistics**
**(Chapters II, III and IV of the Revised FDES)**

Session 2 will concentrate on the framework for environment statistics and the criteria for its selection. The possible approaches to the conceptual basis, the role, objectives and main properties of the framework will be discussed including the identification of the target audience and main users of the revised framework. The session is expected to conclude with an agreement on the recommended approach. Participants will discuss the main dimensions of the framework and their aspects to be measured, and will outline the building blocks and components (statistical topics) of the framework, its structure and tables, and its application to identifying statistical variables and assess data requirements, sources, quality and gaps.

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/15: Frameworks for Environment Statistics – A Common Denominator? (Torstein Bye, Norway)
- EGM-FDES/1/16: Merging the Ecosystem Approach with the Conventional PSR/DPSIR Framework (Jean-Louis Weber, EEA)
- EGM-FDES/1/28: A Framework for Environmental Information (Adriana Oropeza Lliteras, Mexico)

**18:00 - 19:30  Reception (DC2-14th floor)**

# Tuesday, 9 November 2010

Morning session (09:00 – 13:00)

**09:00 – 11:00  Session 2 (continued)**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/14: Criteria for a conceptual framework for developing environment statistics (Rob Smith and Michael Bordt, Canada)
- EGM-FDES/1/21: Integrating Ecosystem Service concepts into the Framework for Development of Environmental Statistics (Christian Layke, World Resources Institute)
- EGM-FDES/1/17: What Do the Ecosystem Boundaries Have to Say to the FDES? (Kaia Oras, Estonia)

**11:00 – 11:30  Coffee break**

**11:30 – 12:30  Discussion and conclusions of Session 2 (chair and moderators)**

**12:30 – 13:00 Country practices**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/25: Philippine practices in developing environment statistics (Raymundo Talento, Philippines)
- EGM-FDES/1/26: The Framework for Developing Environment Statistics in Jamaica (Janet Martin, Jamaica)

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break**

Afternoon session (14:00 – 18:00)

**14:00 – 16:00 Session 3: Core Set of Environment Statistics
(Chapter V of the Revised FDES)**

The core set of environment statistics will be recommended as a starting point to develop or prioritize environment statistics at the national level and for global (international) collection of comparable data. Session 3 will discuss the process leading to, and the criteria to use for identification of an agreed core set of environment statistics on the basis of the statistical topics of the Framework.

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/20: Lessons learned through the Montréal Process Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests (Richard Guldin, USA)
- EGM-FDES/1/29: The user perspective: Important questions to be answered by environment statistics in sustainable crop production intensification (Mike Robson, FAO)
- EGM-FDES/1/19: The Criteria to Use When Determining the Core Set of Environment Statistics (Khamis Raddad, United Arab Emirates)

**16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break**

**16:30 – 18:00 Session 3 (continued)**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/22: Streamlining environmental indicators (Christian Heydorn, Eurostat)
- EGM-FDES/1/30: An analysis of existing indicator sets (UNSD)

**Discussion and conclusions of Session 3 (chair and moderators)**

## Wednesday, 10 November 2010

Morning session (09:00 – 13:00)

**09:00 – 12:30 Session 4: Outline of the Revised FDES (Working Groups)**

Session 4 will break out to three parallel sessions, in which participants will agree, based on the conclusions of Sessions 1-3, on the detailed annotated outline of the revised FDES and the distribution of work

**Working Group 1:** Outline and work programme for Chapter I: The nature of environment statistics

**Working Group 2:** Outline and work programme for Chapter II: The framework and its conceptual basis; Chapter III: Main dimensions and components of the framework; and Chapter IV: Links with other frameworks and analytical models

**Working Group 3:** Outline and work programme for Chapter V: Core set of statistics, and Annexes

**11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break**

**Plenary: The conclusions of the breakout groups will be presented by their respective chairs/moderators at a plenary session.**

**12:30 – 13:00 Country practices**

**Presentations:**
- EGM-FDES/1/27: Good practices in Environment Statistics – the example of Mauritius (Anand Sookun, Mauritius)

**13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break**

Afternoon session (14:00 – 16:15)

**14:00 – 16:00 Session 5: Programme of Work and Conclusions**

Session V will discuss practical matters such as the Terms of Reference of the Expert Group and its programme of work for 2011, expected outputs and the timetable, distribution of work and responsibilities. It will adopt the conclusions of the meeting which will be reported to the 42$^{nd}$ session of the Statistical Commission.

**16:00 – 16:15 Evaluation and closing of the meeting**