



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

ESA/STATISTICS/236
EGM-FDES/2/1

Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of the Framework
for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES)
New York, 4-6 May 2011
Landmark View Room
Millennium Plaza Hotel, West Tower 29th floor
One United Nations Plaza

4 May 2011

Agenda and Organization of Work

Wednesday, 4 May 2011

Morning session (09:30-13:00)

09:00 – 09:30 Registration (Millennium Plaza Hotel, Landmark View Room)

09:30 – 10:00 Opening of the Meeting (Paul Cheung, Director UNSD)

Adoption of Agenda

Progress report (EGM-FDES.2.4 - UNSD)

10:00 – 11:30 Session 1: Review of key concepts, frameworks, geospatial and statistical developments relevant to the FDES

Session 1 will discuss the impact of major environmental policy initiatives and statistical developments on the revision of the FDES.

Presentations:

- Results of Canada's national consultation process on environment statistics (EGM-FDES.2.8 - Robert Smith, Statistics Canada)
- Review of key concepts and analysis of explicit and implicit frameworks relevant to environment statistics (EGM-FDES.2.5 - UNSD)
- Existing and emerging environment statistics classifications (EGM-FDES.2.7 - UNSD)

Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:00 Session 1 continued

Presentation:

- Geospatial developments relevant to environment statistics (EGM-FDES.2.6 - Jean-Louis Weber, EEA)

Discussion

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

Afternoon session (14:00 – 18:00)

14:00 – 15:30 Session 2: Towards a Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics

Session 2 will concentrate on the revised framework for environment statistics. It will present a synthesis of the missing elements, topics and dimensions reflecting the state of the art. The role, objectives and main properties of the framework will be discussed including the identification of the target audience and main users. The session will then focus on the possible designs and structures, dimensions and contents of the revised FDES. The session will be organized as plenary (Wednesday afternoon), and working groups (Thursday morning and afternoon). The working groups will report back to the plenary (Thursday afternoon). The session is expected to conclude with an agreement on the proposed structure, contents and tables of the revised FDES.

Presentations:

- Results of the review of the 1984 FDES: missing elements, topics and dimensions (EGM-FDES.2.9 - UNSD)
- Objective, scope and coverage of the revised FDES (EGM-FDES.2.11 - UNSD)
- Categories of frameworks and their relevance to the FDES revision process (EGM-FDES.2.15 - Robert Smith, Statistics Canada)

Discussion

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 18:00 Session 2 continued

Presentations:

- Notes on the structure and contents of the revised FDES (EGM-FDES.2.12 - UNSD)
- Comments by invited experts

Discussion

Formation of working groups, nomination of Chairs

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

Thursday, 5 May 2011

Morning session (09:30 – 13:00)

09:30 – 11:00 Session 2 continued: Working groups on structure, dimensions and contents of the revised FDES

The working groups are expected to focus on specific types of structure, rows, columns and cell contents of the synthesis matrix of the revised FDES according to the guidelines prepared for these discussions.

- **Working Group 1: Landmark View Room**
- **Working Group 2: Small room adjacent to Landmark View Room**
- **Working Group 3: DC2-1684 Conference Room**

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 Session 2 continued: Working groups

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

Afternoon session (14:00 – 18:00)

14:00 – 15:30 Session 2 continued: Working groups

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 18:00 Presentations to plenary

- **Working Group 1: Rapporteur**
- **Working Group 2: Rapporteur**
- **Working Group 3: Rapporteur**

Discussion and conclusions

Friday, 6 May 2011

Morning session (09:30 – 13:00)

09:30 – 10:30 Session 3: Outline of the Revised FDES

Session 3 will discuss the detailed outline of the revised FDES and the possible contributions from the experts to the drafting of specific sections of the revised FDES.

Presentation:

- **Proposed outline of the revised FDES (EGM-FDES.2.10 - UNSD)**

Discussion and conclusions of Session 3

10:30-13:00 Session 4: Towards a Core Set of Environment Statistics

Session 4 will discuss the process leading to, and the criteria to use for the identification of an agreed core set of environment statistics.

Presentations:

- Selection criteria of environmental indicators – the European experience (EGM-FDES.2.16 - Christian Heidorn, Eurostat)
- Preliminary results of the analysis of existing environment related indicator sets (EGM-FDES.2.13 - UNSD)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 Session 4 continued

- Common indicators of existing indicator sets (EGM-FDES.2.14 - UNSD)

Discussion and conclusions of Session 4

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break

Afternoon session (14:00 – 17:00)

14:00 – 16:30 Session 5: The way forward

Session 5 will discuss practical matters such as the work programme for May 2011 – February 2012, expected outputs and the timetable, distribution of work and responsibilities.

Presentation:

- The way forward (Chair, UNSD)

Discussion

Agreement on contributions

Adoption of Conclusions

16:30 – 17:00 Evaluation and closing of the meeting