

# Consolidating the work programme on environment and climate change statistics



**Twelfth Meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics**

*(in-person and hybrid)*

*London, 23-25 September 2025*



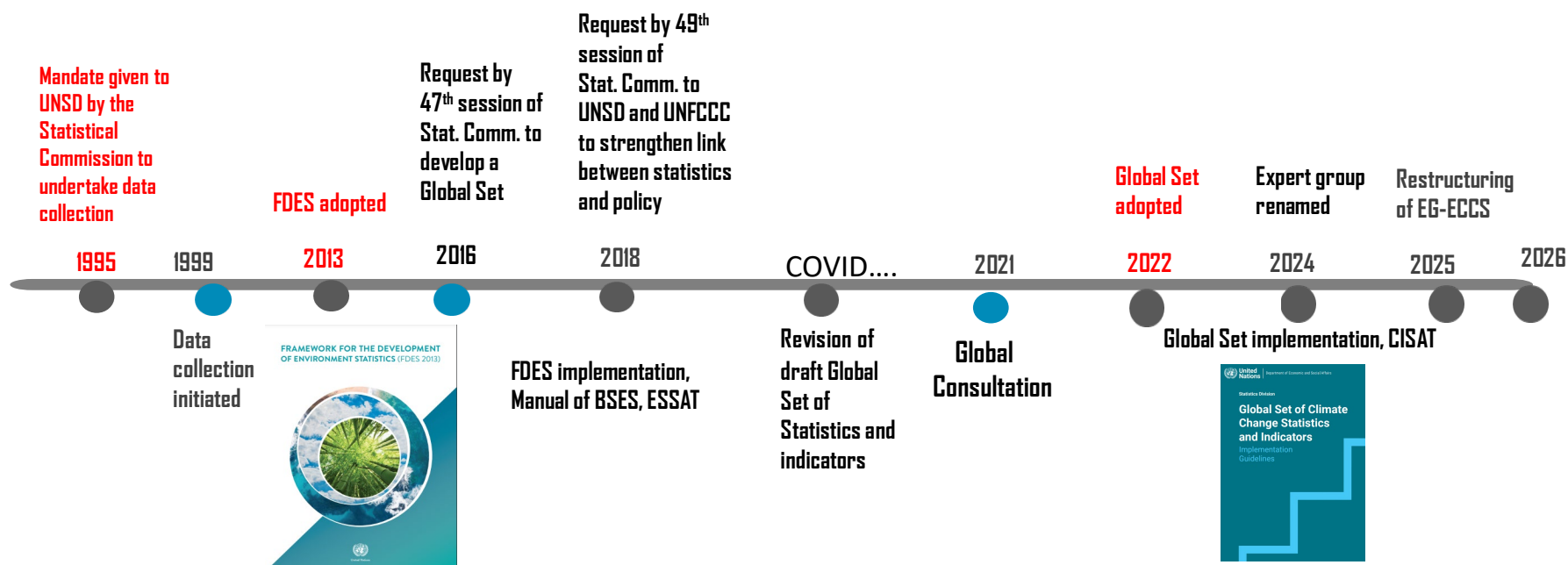
# Outline

1. Background
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# Background and process:

## Collaboration between UNSD, UNFCCC and the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics (EG-ECCS)



UNSD programme on climate change statistics supports countries with less developed statistical systems to start and advance work in this area, special attention to **SIDS and least developed countries**, guidance tailored to their needs.



# Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics (EG-ECCS)

- The Expert Group has met annually since 2014, started with focus on the implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistic (FDES), international data collection on water and waste (UNSD/UNEP; OECD/Eurostat joint questionnaires) and gradually expanded to cover equally climate change.
- It comprises experts on environment statistics and related areas from all geographical regions representing United Nations member States, as well as international and regional organizations
- Following its expansion endorsed by the Commission with its [Decision 56/124 \(2025\)](#) the group was restructured with subgroups on climate change questions for censuses and surveys, integrating climate and health statistics and work processes supporting climate and gender, big data, coordination and capacity development activities.
- More info here: [UNSD — Environment Statistics](#)



# Building and consolidating the programme as recommended by the 11<sup>th</sup> EG-ECCS meeting

- At its 11th meeting, the EG-ECCS addressed the need, in order, inter alia: to further define the structuring of the EG-ECCS given its expanded scope of work
- The structuring of this expansion is managed by the Steering Group and UNSD and specified in draft ToR of the EG-ECCS as well as ToRs for two subgroups
- Based on 48 responses to the invitation to express interest in 12 activities recommended at the 11th meeting of the EG-ECCS, we have set up the following:
  1. Subgroup on **climate and health statistics**
  2. Update and expansion of the Subgroup on **Climate Change Questions** for Surveys and Censuses .
  3. Discussion on **implementation** of the FDES and the Global Set, **capacity development and coordination** of activities.
  4. Consultancy on best practices and support materials on using **big data** for climate change statistics
  5. Support to **climate and gender** integration
  6. **Water and waste** discussions with key partners



# Updated ToR of the EG-ECCS

## 1. Mandates and Preamble

## 2. Objectives

- Development and standardization of methods, classifications and definitions in environment and climate change statistics.
- Data collection, processing and dissemination of environment statistics, in particular in the areas of water and waste, support for the work of the environmentally-related SDG indicators, as well as support to climate change and other data collection.
- Technical cooperation programme, training and capacity development in environment and climate change statistics
- Coordination and dialogue on activities promoting harmonization of data collection, statistics and indicator programmes and implementation support on environment and climate change statistics.

## 3. Membership, Composition and Chairs

- Currently, 39 countries and 27 agencies
- The membership is based on active participation, regional balance and technical expertise of member states and international organizations in the meetings of the EG-ECCS during the last three years.

## 4. Reporting

## 5. Secretariat



# Subgroup on climate questions for surveys and censuses

- Recommended by the 10th Meeting of the EGES to form a sub-group on censuses and surveys
- Subgroup initiated in Jan. 2024, chaired by Ms Janet Geoghagen-Martin and Keith Ahumiza (UBOS), with members from 16 countries and 5 international agencies
- Met six times in 2024, compiled materials for a core set of climate change questions for surveys and censuses. The materials were reviewed, complemented and consolidated via a consultancy and further discussed with the sub-group
- Three meetings took place up to now in 2025 and another one is planned
- Current efforts are targeting the completion of a guidance document on the use of traditional data collection instruments, e.g. censuses and surveys, in support of a core set of questions suitable for the compilation of climate change statistics and indicators at the national level.

Compilation of environmentally-related censuses and surveys and specialized environmental surveys: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/censuses/>



## Subgroup on climate and health statistics

- Recommended by the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EG-ECCS, based on groupwork at the last three meetings and the methodological advances under the project “[The Standards for Official Statistics on Climate-Health Interactions \(SOSCHI\)](#)” led by the UK-ONS
- Led by the UK ONS and the WHO with members from 11 countries. To date, this subgroup has met five times and another two meetings are scheduled to take place in 2025.
- The main goal is to exchange experiences on testing and refining the proposed health indicators to ensure their suitability for updating the Global Set, as well as to support the preparation of standards and tools for official statistics to monitor the impacts of climate change on health to be presented at a future session of the Statistical Commission.
- It also supports coordination with related activities part of WHO programme and the Lancet Countdown.
- Further information in session 4.2



# Contributions to climate and gender statistics

- A subgroup was also recommended by the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EG-ECCS, based on groupwork at the last three meetings, but has not been established yet. The overall EG-ECCS has nevertheless maintained its collaboration with [the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics \(IAEG-GS\)](#)
- Contribution to the development of a **Guidance note for incorporating the gender perspective in environment and climate change statistics**, which was drafted by Colombia with inputs from the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS).
- The draft note was circulated to the EG-ECCS and 12 countries and six international and regional organizations provided extensive comments.
- Colombia is currently reviewing these comments towards an updated draft guidance note which will be discussed at the 12th meeting of the EG-ECCS. It will also be presented during the upcoming 19th meeting of the IAEG-GS and the final version is expected to be submitted to the Statistical Commission at its next session in 2026.



# Capacity development and Implementation support for climate change statistics

- Based on the 48 expressions of interest where the activities on implementation of the FDES and the Global Set and capacity development gained most of the interest, a first discussion was held on 26 Feb and a second one on 28 July.
- Key activities were introduced and discussed, including the preparation of surveys for countries and agencies to collect and exchange lessons; preparation of more user-friendly support tools, improving communication of official statistics, strengthening capacity development based on implementation challenges.
- Feedback was provided on the survey on 'State of development of environment and climate change statistics' by 5 countries and 4 agencies, the feedback and improvement needs were discussed during the second meeting.
- The survey was revised and will be reviewed in the next sessions.



# Key outputs to review at this meeting

The following outputs will be discussed at this 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change statistics (EG-ECCS):

- A draft Terms of Reference reflecting the consolidation and restructuring of the Expert Group (for this Session 1 of the agenda);
- A survey on the ‘State of development of environment and climate change statistics’ which was drafted by UNSD and circulated for feedback and reviewed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> discussion on coordination, capacity development and implementation (of environment and climate change statistics) which took place on 28 July 2025. Based on the feedback this survey was further improved, It will be discussed in Sessions 2 and 3 of the agenda;
- A working document summarising the outcomes of the Subgroup on Climate Change Questions for Censuses and Surveys, entitled ‘Review of National Surveys and Censuses Incorporating Environment and Climate Change-Related Questions’ will be discussed in Session 5.2.
- Another working document presenting a ‘Review of climate change data collection via big data and novel data sources’ will be discussed also in Session 5.2.
- A document reflecting the ‘Development of methodology and indicators on integration of climate and health’ which is prepared by our Colleagues from the UK-ONS. It presents an update on the SOSCHI project, the subgroup on climate and health statistics and several indicators proposed for inclusion in the Global Set. This will be reviewed in Session 4 and groupwork 5.2.



# Conclusions and future work

- This meeting will help to assess the performance of the overall work programme, including the subgroups and other work processes
- The subgroups on climate and health and climate change questions for surveys and censuses are expected to continue meeting over the next period, the meeting until end of 2025 are scheduled and for 2026 will be scheduled based on the recommendations of this meeting.
- Climate and gender will be addressed in session 4.3, the possible set up of a subgroup will be prioritized based on the recommendations of this meeting.
- New efforts on data collection support including big data and administrative data sources will be addressed and prioritized based on the recommendations of this meeting.



# Key questions

**Conclusion:** the expert group recommends the Commission to support further integration and strengthening advocacy and communication on environment and climate change statistics under the FDES and Global set

**Key question:** do you support the updated ToR, especially the proposed participation rules?

**‘The membership is based on representation and active participation, regional balance and technical expertise of member States and international organizations in the meetings of the EG-ECCS during the last three years. In the absence of representation of a country or agency, the membership is transformed into an observer status subject to review of the Steering Group. The membership may be expanded or modified as the needs and priorities of the Expert Group evolve and require approval of its Steering Group. Rotation of member States may be considered in the future in a gradual manner to maintain continuity and ensure equitable regional, institutional representation, expertise and emerging priorities among others.’**



# Thank you for your attention!

For more information please contact the Environment Statistics Section  
at the United Nations Statistics Division:

E-mail: [envstats@un.org](mailto:envstats@un.org)

Website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/>

Climate Change Statistics Website

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange.cshtml>

and

[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/ClimateChange\\_StatAndInd\\_global.cshtml](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/ClimateChange_StatAndInd_global.cshtml)

