

Implementation of the FDES and preparation of a survey on 'State of development of 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

United Nations Statistics Division



Outline

1. Updates on the implementation of the FDES: compendia etc.
2. Examples from newsletter
3. Survey on implementation
 - Feedback received
 - Updated survey
 - Key questions from survey
4. Next steps



Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013)

1. The UN Statistical Commission endorsed the revised **FDES 2013** at its 44th session in 2013 as the framework for strengthening environment statistics programmes in countries.

2. The objectives are:

- Help international and regional institutions to **support strengthening capacity in countries** to develop environment statistics
- Enhance **comparability** and availability of environment statistics using a common framework
- Better inform policy making decisions

3. Implementation supports tools:

- [Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool](#) (ESSAT)
- [Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics](#)
- [SDG indicators + Basic Set \(FDES\) matrix](#)



Download FDES 2013 at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes.cshtml> in English, Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese, Russian and French.



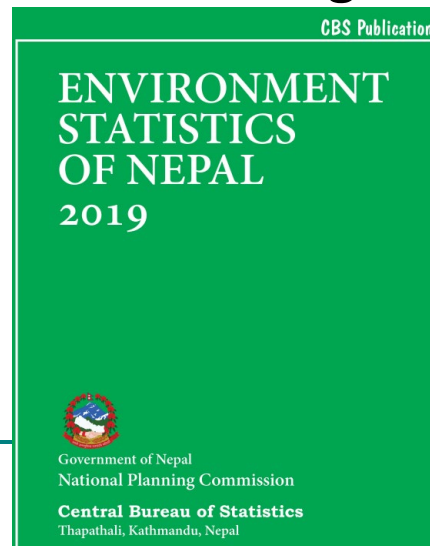
Recent advancements in countries of application of the FDES

- **Nepal:** Advancing environmental data production using the FDES to support data-driven policies for climate resilience, disaster management, sustainable development.
- An “Environment Statistics of Nepal” compendium publication now has three editions (2013, 2019, 2024).
- Many efforts related to environment statistics are being made (e.g. Waste Management Baseline Survey, Climate Change Impact Survey, Climate Change Indicators of Nepal).

COMPENDIUM OF
**ENVIRONMENT
STATISTICS**
NEPAL 2015



Climate Change Indicators of Nepal).



Source: [Nepal's contribution to the EnvStats newsletter, July 2025.](#)

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Recent advancements in countries of application of the FDES

- **Jamaica:** Actively participated in the Expert Group on revision of the FDES (2009-2012).
- Piloted the draft core set of environment statistics using the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT).
- The FDES helped develop the, “Jamaica’s Environment in Your Pocket” reports (2015, ’16, ’18) and the Environment Statistics Report (’19, ’21) with more reports forthcoming.
- A stakeholder mapping process helped identify producers of data.

Source: [Jamaica’s contribution to the EnvStats newsletter, July 2025.](#)



Recent advancements in countries of application of the FDES

- **Zambia:** Received capacity development training on the FDES in 2015.
- Prior to then, environmental data activities were limited to sectors such as energy and fisheries.
- FDES-coherent Compendium of Environment Statistics, 2015 released in 2018, and the ESSAT used in this process.
- ZamStats established a National Technical Working Group on environment statistics which harmonizes methodologies and facilitates inter-Institutional collaboration.

Source: [Zambia's contribution to the EnvStats newsletter, July 2025.](#)

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Survey on ‘State of development of environment and climate change statistics’

Aim:

- Monitor the implementation of the FDES and the Global Set, support data collection
- Identify & review best practices (current effort to inform the ones most in need so not systematic)
- For more systematic work - establish an instrument for countries to be able to assess and compare progress
- Help to streamline further the work on environment and climate change statistics, including closely related frameworks (SDGs, SEEA, Sendai Framework)
- In countries this will help:
 - 1) to improve the supply/quality of data needed for national policies on climate change;
 - 2) the NSO or institution with legal mandate to comprehensively manage the above considering all MEAs (the CISAT is designed to map the overlaps);
- International agencies may also benefit by obtaining information on the progress in countries as well as gaps.



Process on improving the survey

1. This surveys was pilot twice within the EG-ECCS, reworked and circulated for a review
2. Feedback received from:
 - 5 countries: Cabo Verde, Brazil, Italy, Netherlands and Russian Federation
 - 3 International agencies: ECE, UNEP, SPC
 - 1 consultant
3. Overall points:
 - No major concerns, many suggestions for improvement, consensus on some, no or borderline on others
 - consider links with work done by Regional Commissions, e.g. ECE, other similar initiatives.



Structure of survey

Contains 28 substantive questions in 3 sections (formulated in accordance with the implementation steps suggested in Annex 1 of the Implementation Guidelines; Similar to Part 1 of CISAT yet also contains questions on the implementation of Part 2. CISAT is for national purposes, while this survey is intended for international overview)

It helps to define the following:

I. Institutional Set up:

- institution(s) with legal mandate,
- integration aspects,
- collaboration with focal points,
- prioritization of work via self-assessments and national programmes



Structure of survey (1)

I. Institutional set up

3. Has your country designated an institution or institutions with legal mandate to produce and disseminate environment and climate change statistics?

- Yes, environment statistics
- Yes, climate change statistics
- Yes, both environment and climate change statistics
- Partially (legal framework under development)
- No

4. Is there national legislation related to the integration of geospatial data into the national statistical system and/or the integration of gendered aspects? Please select all that apply.

- Integration of geospatial data
- Integration of gendered aspects
- None of the above

5. Which institution(s) produce and disseminate environment statistics? Please consider the components of the FDES to identify the relevant statistics.

- National Statistical Office (NSO)
- Ministry of Environment
- Other line ministries
- Other(s), please specify

- If there is centralised coordination by the NSO, please specify

6. Which institution(s) produce and disseminate climate change statistics? Please consider the five IPCC policy areas and topics of the Global Set to identify the relevant statistics.

- NSO
- Ministry of Environment/Climate Change
- Other line ministries
- Hydrometeorological institutes
- Disaster risk management authorities
- Other(s), please specify

Still to elaborate:

- Role/importance of high-level support
- Maturity of the statistical system (climate and environment parts)
- Role of NSO?



Structure of survey (2)

II. Data collection and compilation of statistics and indicators:

- National sets,
- technical and geospatial integration,
- gender integration,
- types of data collection instruments,
- dissemination types,
- contribution to international data collection processes.

II. Data collection and compilation of statistics and indicators

13. Has a national set of environment or climate change statistics/indicators and metadata been developed?

- Yes, only for environment statistics/indicators
- Yes, only for climate change statistics/indicators
- Yes, for both
- No, for neither

13.1 If yes, please specify by which institution

13.2 If no, please specify the reasons (e.g. "no need")

13.3 If yes, please specify whether the [Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators](#), the [Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics \(FDES\)](#) or other framework(s)/tool(s) have been used. Please consider the [SDGs](#), [Sendai Framework](#), [CBD Global Biodiversity Framework](#), [CES Set of Core Climate Change-Related Indicators and Statistics](#), [Global Goal on Adaptation \(GGA\) indicators](#), [ABAS](#) indicators, etc. Please select all that apply.

- [Global Set](#)
- [CISAT](#)
- [FDES](#)
- [ESSAT](#)
- Other framework(s), please specify:

None of the above

13.4 If yes, please specify if the indicators/statistics were selected in response to the relevant policy requirements, for example the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) required by UNFCCC. Please select all that apply.

- Nationally Determined Contribution
- National Adaptation Plan
- Other policy requirements, please specify

None of the above

Structure of survey (4)

III. Capacity building:

- Existence of statistical units,
- funding, capacity provided and received,
- improvement HR and technical resources,
- outstanding needs and priorities.

III. Capacity building

23. **Is there a unit (department/section) dedicated to environment or climate change statistics in the country?**
Please specify the name of unit and number of staff members dedicated to subject, either full or part-time.

Yes, at the NSO

Yes, at the Ministry of Environment

Yes, at another institution

No, (please specify the reason(s), including if there is 'no need')

24. **Has the institution with legal mandate to produce official statistics obtained funding for environment and climate change statistics and from which donor?** Please specify which institution received the funds and if possible, please specify key objectives, the amount and timeframe.

Yes, from GCF

Yes, from GEF

Yes, from another donor, including bilateral

No, would you specify the reason(s), including if there is 'no need'

25. **Has the institution with legal mandate to produce official statistics received capacity development support for environment or climate change statistics and from which countries or international/regional agencies?**
Please specify which institution received support, the provider and if possible - the objective, type (workshop, study visit, etc.) and timeframe.

Yes, on environment statistics

Yes, on climate change statistics

Yes, on other areas

No, (please specify the reason(s), including if there is 'no need')

Structure of survey (5)

Still to elaborate: **Role of climate finance, ODA, other instruments in supporting data and statistics**

	Climate change and environment questions in surveys and censuses	Use of administrative data sources	Use of big data sources	Statistics and Indicators compilation	Dissemination
Environmental Conditions and Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Resources and their Use ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residuals ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme Events and Disasters ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Settlements and Environmental Health ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Protection, Management and Engagement ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impacts ⁷	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerability ⁷	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mitigation ⁷	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adaptation ⁷	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water ⁸	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Conclusions and Key questions

On FDES: Usage is high, even outside this expert group as illustrated mostly in the newsletter contributions.

Key question: how to enhance learning on the FDES uses and applications?

On Survey:

The survey is expected to support both national level learning and also support the work of international agencies. There is a proposal to meet twice a year to support coordination.

- Which should be the key questions for shorter survey version to be run annually within the EG-ECCS
- What should be the frequency of the long version, should it go via Global Consultation or via nominated focal points (as in SEEA)?



Thank you for your attention!

If you would like to add your publication to this list please contact us at

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