

# Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators



**Taller Nacional de Estadísticas Ambientales y de Cambio Climático en Perú**  
**Lima, 13-15 December 2022**



# Outline

1. Background and process
2. Overview of the Global Set
3. Implementation support
4. Current and future work
5. Concluding remarks

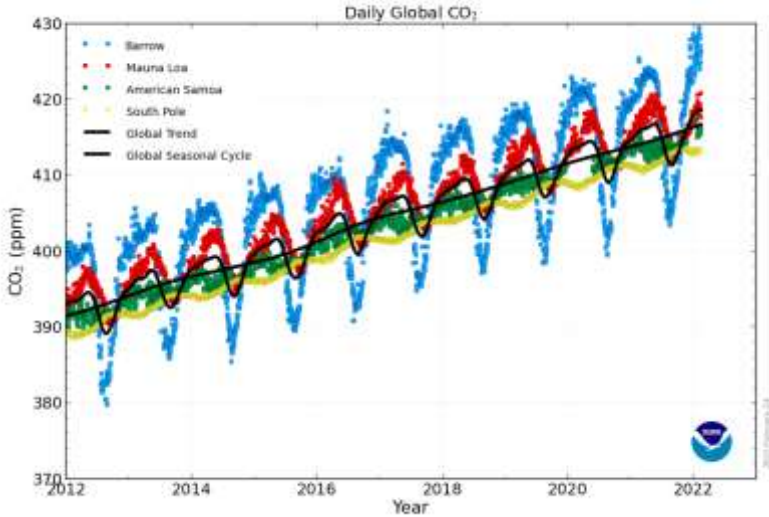


# Overview of the Global Set



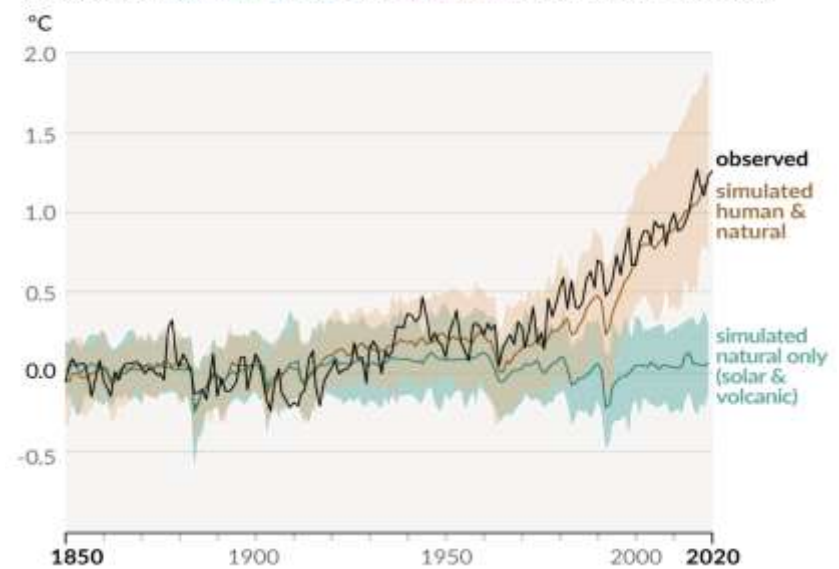
# The need for monitoring climate change and disasters is more compelling than ever

NOAA, [Global Monitoring Laboratory - Carbon Cycle Greenhouse Gases \(noaa.gov\)](https://www.climate.gov/disasters2020)



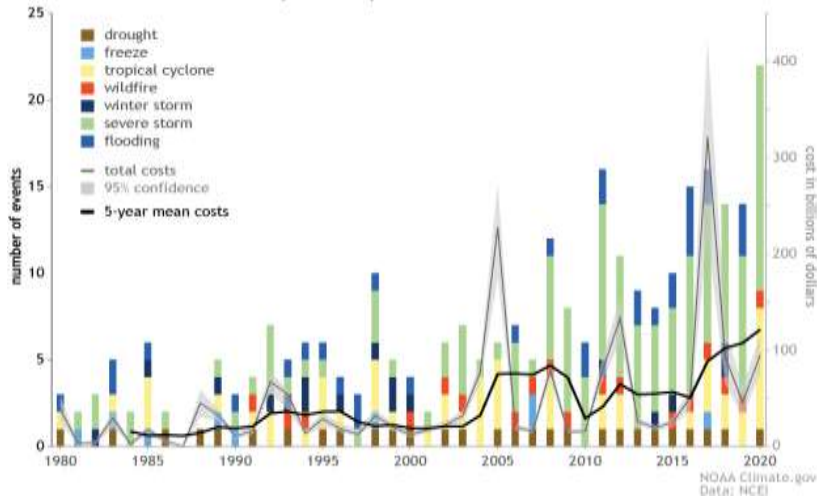
AR6 Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis — IPCC

b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as **observed** and simulated using **human & natural** and **only natural** factors (both 1850-2020)

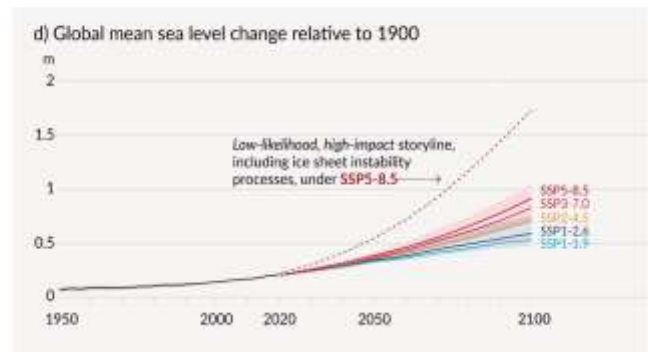


NOAA, <https://www.climate.gov/disasters2020>

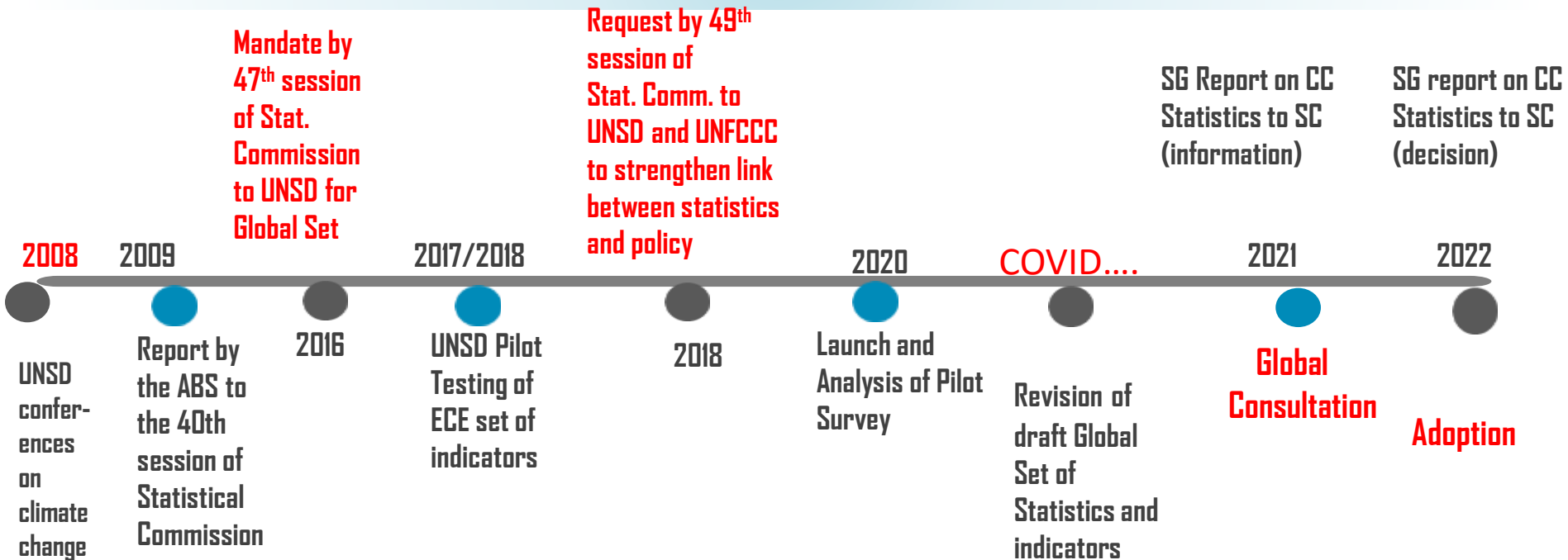
Billion-dollar disasters and costs (1980-2020)



Human activities affect all the major climate system components, with some responding over decades and others over centuries *Figure SPM.8*



# More than a decade long process: 2008 – present



## Decisions of the Statistical Commission:

**Decision 47/112 (2016)**, UNSD requested to develop a global set of climate change statistics and indicators, applicable to countries at various stages of development:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/47th-session/documents/Report-on-the-47th-session-of-the-statistical-commission-E.pdf>

**Decision: 49/113 (2018)**, UNSD and UNFCCC to strengthen the link between statistics and policy

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/Report-on-the-49th-session-E.pdf>

**Decision 53/116 (2022)**, the Global Set was adopted at the 53<sup>rd</sup> session of the Statistical Commission:

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/53rd-session/documents/2022-41-FinalReport-E.pdf>



# Methodological foundation

- Given that there was no underlying framework linking the reporting requirements stemming from the Paris Agreement and the necessary statistics or indicators to support climate policy action, UNSD worked closely with UNFCCC to develop such a framework explicitly for climate change.
- The Global Set, developed in close collaboration with UNFCCC, is structured according to the IPCC framework and FDES, with a tiering system as in the FDES and the SDG indicators.

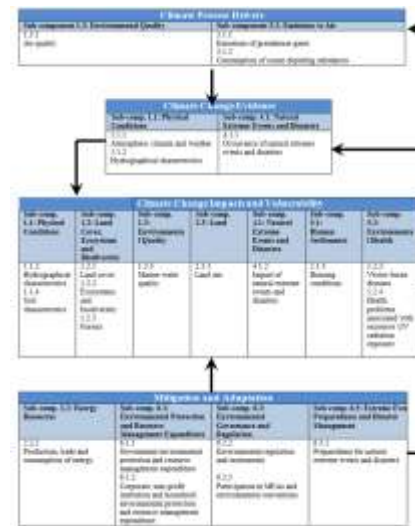


IPCC, 2007, Fourth Assessment Report



Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013)

Relevant chapters of the Manual of the BSES  
[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/manual\\_bses.cshtml](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/manual_bses.cshtml)



FDES cross-cutting application (Chapter 5) links climate change and environment statistics based on the IPCC Framework



Goal 13



# Main structure (1)

- **158 indicators**, which serve to support developing and monitoring of national climate policies and international reporting requirements, in particular those under the Paris Agreement.
- **190 statistics**, which serve three main purposes:
  - (i) to provide less complex options for countries with less developed statistical systems to initiate climate monitoring through official statistics;
  - (ii) to provide statistics needed to compile the indicators (for Tier 1 and 2); and
  - (iii) to provide inputs to further define and develop the Tier 3 indicators.

Statistics were not introduced for indicators for which:

- (i) indicator and statistic are identical (9 cases, denoted with 'Equivalent to the indicator' in the metadata sheets); and
- (ii) indicators for which the statistics and their metadata are fully described within the cited methodology source, e.g. often from SDG and Sendai Framework indicators (21 cases, denoted with 'Refer to original source in metadata' in the metadata sheets).



## Main structure (2)

- **Five areas:** drivers, impacts, vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation. These events are applied as five top-level areas in the Global Set. Each indicator is assigned to one of the five IPCC areas as a primary belonging, while some indicators were also assigned as applicable in one or more additional areas;
- **34 topics,** represent the quantifiable aspects of the areas taking into account the types and sources of the statistics needed to describe them;
- **Paris Agreement article:** Correspondence between the indicator/statistic and the articles in the Paris Agreement specifying the reporting requirements;
- **PAWP-Katowice:** Correspondence between the indicator/statistic and the decisions from the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP), adopted in Katowice, specifying the reporting requirements;
- **Statistical references** (next slide).





# Statistical references

The main statistical references including the internationally accepted frameworks, standards and guidelines, are presented in abbreviated form in the last column (entitled Method):

- **IPCC:** the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2006 guidelines;
- **FDES:** the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and its Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics (BSES);
- **SDG:** Sustainable Development Goal indicators metadata;
- **Sendai:** Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;
- **UN-ECE:** the Conference of European Statisticians set of core climate change-related indicators metadata;
- **IRES:** the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics
- **SEEA-CF:** the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Central Framework;
- **SEEA-EA:** the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting-Ecosystem Accounting.



# Tiers

Defined by considering the relevance (to climate change), methodological soundness and data availability. The relevance or connection to climate change varies per indicator, however a certain relation to climate change has been identified for all the indicators included in the Global Set:

- Tier 1 are relevant, methodologically sound, and for which more than 50 per cent of the countries that responded to the Global Consultation indicated that data are available. However, this rule was not applied for the SDG indicators included in the Global Set and the original SDG indicator Tiers are used;
- Tier 2 are relevant, methodologically sound, and for which less than 50 per cent of the countries that responded to the Global Consultation indicated that country data are available. Again, the rule was not applied for the SDG indicators;
- Tier 3 are relevant, but not methodologically sound, and country data may not be available.



# Indicators and statistics side-by-side

AREA/ TOPIC	Indicator	Statistic	Tier	Paris Agreement	PAWP-Katowice	Method
<b>DRIVERS</b>						
<b>TOTAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</b>						
	<b>1. Total greenhouse gas emissions per year</b>		1	13.7a	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter II, para. 47-49	IPCC; SDG; UN-ECE
		<b>Total emissions of direct greenhouse gases (excluding LULUCF)</b>	1			IPCC; FDES
	<b>2. Total emissions of indirect greenhouse gases</b>		1			IPCC; FDES
	<b>3. Greenhouse gas emissions from land use, land use change and forestry</b>		1			IPCC; FDES; UN-ECE
	4. Total greenhouse gas emissions from the national economy		2			SEEA-CF; UN-ECE
	<b>5. Greenhouse gas emissions per capita</b>		1			IPCC; FDES
		<b>Total emissions of direct greenhouse gases (excluding LULUCF)</b>	1	13.7a	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter II, para. 47-49	IPCC; FDES
	<i>6. Greenhouse gas emissions in gross fixed capital formation of direct investment</i>		3			SEEA-CF
	<i>7. Greenhouse gas emissions in value added of foreign controlled multinational enterprises</i>		3			SEEA-CF
		<i>GHG emissions in output of foreign-controlled multinational enterprises</i>	3			SEEA-CF
		<i>GHG emissions in exports of foreign-controlled multinational enterprises</i>	3			SEEA-CF
	8. Carbon footprint		2			SEEA-CF; UN-ECE
<b>ATMOSPHERIC CONCENTRATION OF GREENHOUSE GASES</b>						
	9. Global concentration of greenhouse gases		2			FDES
<b>ENERGY PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND CONSUMPTION</b>						
	<b>10. Total primary energy production from fossil fuels</b>		1	4.8; 4.13; 13.7b	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter III; Decision 4/CMA.1	IRES
		<b>Total energy production</b>	1			IRES; FDES
	<b>11. Total energy supply from fossil fuels</b>		1			IRES

# Global set, metadata [covers 26 fields]

## 36. Renewable freshwater resources per capita

Field	Description			
Indicator	Renewable freshwater resources per capita			
Statistics		Precipitation	Evapotranspiration	Inflow
Area	Impacts			
Topic	Freshwater resources			
Themes	Water resources			
Paris Agreement article	7; 13.8	7; 13.8	7; 13.8	7; 13.8
PAWP-Katowice	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter IV; Decision 9/CMA.1	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter IV; Decision 9/CMA.1	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter IV; Decision 9/CMA.1	Decision 18/CMA.1, chapter IV; Decision 9/CMA.1
FDES		1.1.1.b	2.6.1.b.1	2.6.1.a.2 [similar to]
SDG				
Sendai Framework				
Tier	2	1	2	2
Definition	<p>The indicator measures the renewable freshwater resources divided by the population of the country.</p> <p>Renewable freshwater resources = Internal flow + Inflow of surface and groundwaters from neighbouring countries.</p> <p>Renewable freshwater (surface and groundwater) resources are replenished by precipitation (less evapotranspiration) falling over the territory of the country that ends up as runoff to rivers and recharge to aquifers (internal flow), and by surface waters and groundwater flowing in from</p>	<p>Total volume of atmospheric wet precipitation (rain, snow, hail, dew, etc.) falling on the territory of the country over one year, in millions of cubic metres.</p> <p>[UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/en/vstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/en/vstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf</a>]</p> <p>[FDES BSES manual, Water resources, p.11, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/en/vironment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/en/vironment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf</a>]</p>	<p>Actual evapotranspiration: Total actual volume of evaporation from the ground, wetlands and natural water bodies and transpiration of plants. According to the definition of this concept in Hydrology, the evapotranspiration generated by all human interventions is excluded, except unirrigated agriculture and forestry. The 'actual evapotranspiration' is calculated using different types of mathematical models, ranging from very simple algorithms (Budyko, Turn Pyke, etc.) to schemes that represent the hydrological cycle in detail.</p>	<p>Total volume of river run-off and groundwater generated over the period of a year, in natural conditions, exclusively by precipitation into a country. The internal flow is equal to precipitation less actual evapotranspiration and can be calculated or measured. If the river and groundwater generation are measured separately, transfers between surface and groundwater should be</p>



# Global set: metadata [covers 26 fields] (2)

	<p>neighbouring countries (inflow). [UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf</a>]</p> <p>[FDES BSES manual, Water resources, p.7, p.48, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf</a>]</p>		<p>[UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf</a>]</p> <p>[FDES BSES manual, Water resources, p.13, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf</a>]</p>	<p>netted out to avoid double counting.</p> <p>[UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf</a>]</p> <p>[FDES BSES manual, Water resources, p.12, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf</a>]</p>
<b>Relevance</b>	<p>Freshwater-related risks of climate change increase significantly with increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations. Modelling studies since AR4, with large but better quantified uncertainties, have demonstrated clear differences between global futures with higher emissions, which have stronger adverse impacts, and those with lower emissions, which cause less damage and cost less to adapt to. For each degree of global warming, approximately 7% of the global population is projected to be exposed to a decrease of renewable water resources of at least 20% (multi-model mean). [IPCC AR5, p 232, <a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WGIIAR5-Chap3_FINAL.pdf">https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WGIIAR5-Chap3_FINAL.pdf</a>]</p>			
<b>National data sources</b>	Meteorological office/Ministry of natural resources/Water and related agencies	Meteorological office/Ministry of natural resources/Water and related agencies	Meteorological office/Ministry of natural resources/Water and related agencies	Meteorological office/Ministry of natural resources/Water and related agencies
<b>Data collection methods</b>		Monitoring systems	Monitoring systems	Monitoring systems
<b>Update frequency</b>		Monthly, annual	Annual	Annual
<b>Category of measurement</b>	Volume	Volume	Volume	Volume
<b>Computation/compilation methods</b>	Precipitation plus inflows minus evapotranspiration divided by the population	Interpolation of point measurements over a geographic area (GCWAS pg. 71). GIS modelling of precipitation.	Residual of precipitation less surface and sub-surface runoff (GCWAS pg. 71).	Sum of inflows from other territories
<b>International primary data reference</b>	UNSD Environmental Indicators (Inland water resources);  FAO	UNSD Environmental Indicators (Inland water resources); AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and Agriculture), <a href="https://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/">https://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/</a> ;	UNSD Environmental Indicators (Inland water resources); AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and	UNSD Environmental Indicators (Inland water resources); AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and

# Global set, metadata (covers 26 fields) [3]

		FAO	Agriculture), <a href="http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/">http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/</a> ; FAO	Agriculture), <a href="http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/">http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/</a> ; FAO
<b>International primary data reference, description</b>	Renewable freshwater resources per capita;  AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and Agriculture)	Precipitation;  AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and Agriculture)	Actual evapotranspiration;  AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and Agriculture)	Inflow of surface and groundwaters from neighbouring countries;  AQUASTAT (FAO's Global Information System on Water and Agriculture)
<b>International primary data reference, URL</b>	<a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/qindicators/">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/qindicators/</a> ; <a href="http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/">http://www.fao.org/aquastat/en/</a>			
<b>Type</b>	C	C	C	C
<b>International secondary data references</b>				
<b>Other data references</b>				
<b>Potential aggregations and scales</b>	National Regional	National	National	National
<b>Methodological guidance</b>	UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Questionnaires/2020/q2020_Water_English.pdf</a> ; FDES BSES manual, Water resources, <a href="https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%20202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/MS%20202.6%20Water%20Resources.pdf</a> ; International Recommendations for Water Statistics, <a href="http://unstats.un.org/unsd/EconStatKB/Attachment491.aspx?AttachmentType=1">http://unstats.un.org/unsd/EconStatKB/Attachment491.aspx?AttachmentType=1</a> ; Draft Guidelines for the Compilation of Water Accounts and Statistics, <a href="https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/guidelines_comp_water_stats_en.pdf">https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/guidelines_comp_water_stats_en.pdf</a> ; Renewable Water Resources Assessment 2015 AQUASTAT methodology review, <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/bc818e/bc818e.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/bc818e/bc818e.pdf</a> ; Key water statistics in AQUASTAT, <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/i9241EN/i9241en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/i9241EN/i9241en.pdf</a> ; Review of world water resources by country, <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/Y4473E/y4473e.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/Y4473E/y4473e.pdf</a>			



# The Global Set, in summary

- The Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators is a comprehensive statistical framework, with statistics, indicators and metadata, designed to support countries in preparing their own sets of climate change statistics and indicators according to their individual concerns, priorities and resources;
- It will assist countries embarking on the development of climate change statistics programmes by providing the scope and coverage as to what may be considered relevant to climate change;
- It can also assist countries already involved in this area of statistics by providing a reference list;
- It will help to streamline the supply of data for national policies and international reporting by mapping the commonalities, overlaps and gaps under multiple policy demands and statistical methods/guidelines.



# Implementation support





# Implementation support

1. Following the adoption of the Global Set, UNSD has focused on completing and promoting a set of implementation support tools, including:
  - Climate-ESSAT (CISAT) which was drafted and currently tested in a number of pilot countries in Africa, South America and the Caribbean regions
  - Implementation guidelines, initially drafted before the adoption of the Global Set, now being revised and improved, to be discussed at this EGES meeting
  - Training materials and presentations



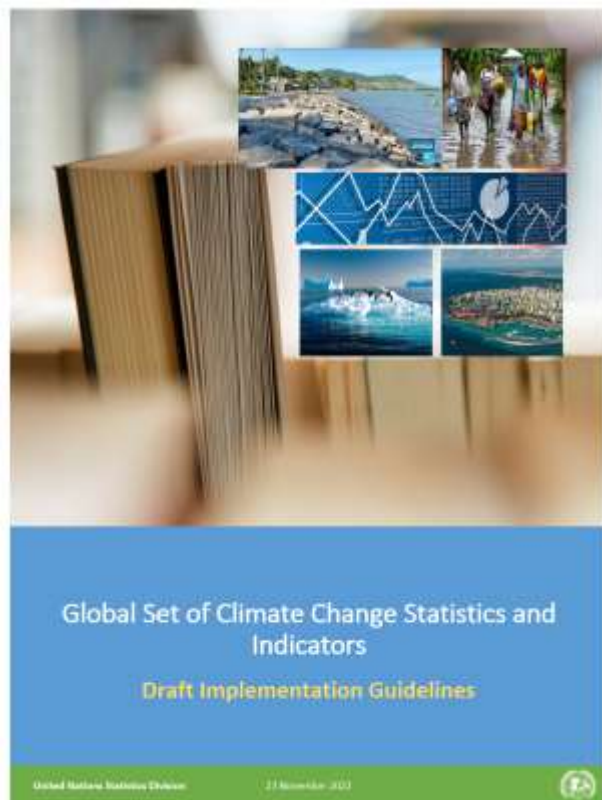
# Access and implementation support for the Global Set

- The Global Set is introduced and briefly described in the [Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the Statistical Commission \(E/CN.3/2022/17\)](#) available in the six UN languages: [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange\\_docs\\_conf.cshtml](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange_docs_conf.cshtml)
- The full description of the Global Set and its metadata is included in the Background document to the Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics, entitled [Global Set and metadata](#).
- Implementation support materials including a self-assessment tool and e-learning materials will be disseminated via UNSD website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange.cshtml>
- In addition, if implementation advice and support are required (including the indicators and statistics in a spreadsheet form – Excel file) please contact UNSD at: [envstats@un.org](mailto:envstats@un.org)



# Draft Implementation Guidelines

(under development)



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# Pilot testing of CISAT, feedback on CISAT and implementation guidelines

## Countries engaged in/ requested CISAT pilot testing

<i>Region (M49)</i>	<i>Country Name</i>
Americas	Antigua and Barbuda
Europe	Belarus
Americas	Belize
Africa	Burkina Faso
Africa	Burundi
Africa	Cameroon
Africa	Ghana
Americas	Grenada
Americas	Peru
Americas	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Americas	Saint Lucia
Americas	Suriname
Africa	Togo
Africa	Zimbabwe

## Feedback on CISAT received from (as of 24 October)

<i>Region (M49)</i>	<i>Country Name</i>
Asia	Bangladesh
Europe	Hungary
Americas	Antigua and Barbuda
Africa	Mauritius
Africa	United Republic of Tanzania
Africa	Zimbabwe
	GCCSTAT
International/ regional organizations	UNEP
	PARIS21/OECD

## Feedback on Implementation guidelines received from (as of 24 October)

<i>Region (M49)</i>	<i>Country Name</i>
Asia	Armenia
Europe	Hungary (nothing to add)
Africa	Cabo Verde
Africa	Mauritius
Africa	United Republic of Tanzania
International organization	UNEP
Consultant	ECLAC



# Relevant examples and resources

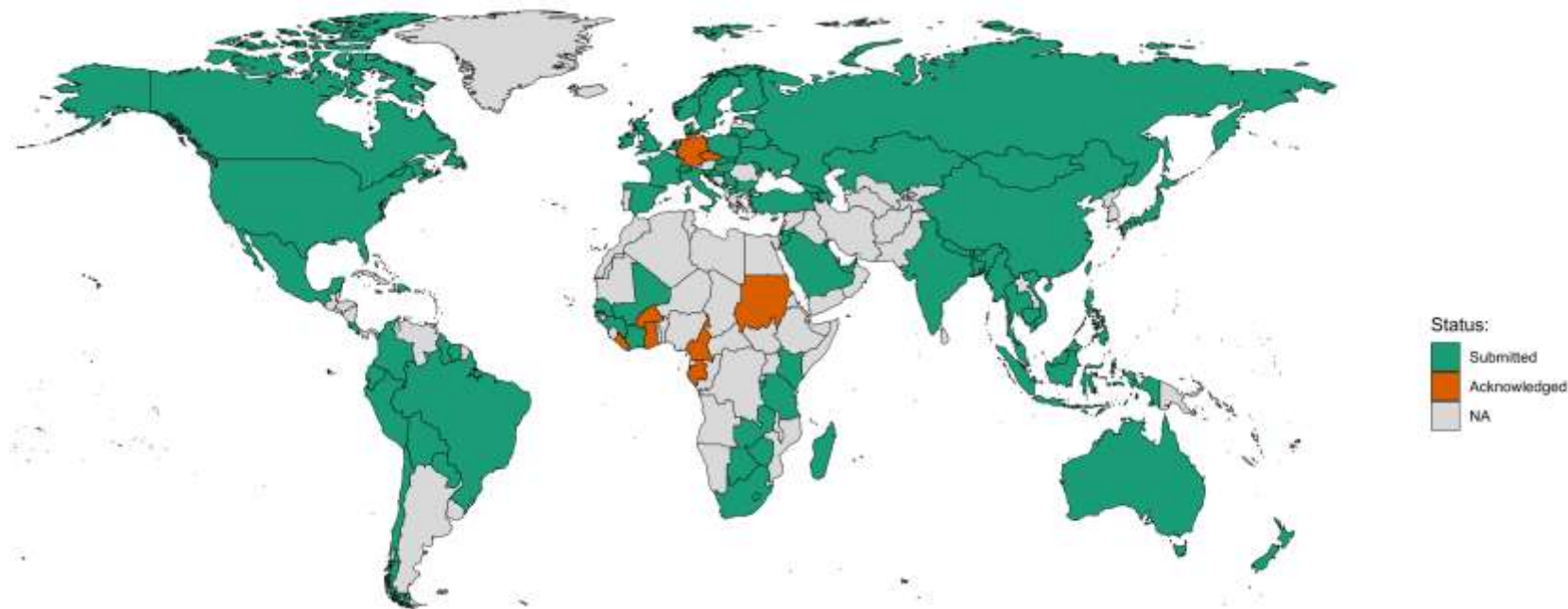
- **Reports and compendia on:**
  - environment statistics:  
<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdescompendia.cshtml> and
  - climate change statistics:  
[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange\\_reports.cshtml](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange_reports.cshtml)
- **Outcomes of the Global Consultation**, responses and feedback were received from 86 States and areas and 26 agencies (see annex I in the [Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the Statistical Commission](#) (E/CN.3/2022/17)). Detailed summaries and geographical analysis are presented in the background document entitled "[Global Consultation on the Global Set](#)".
- Other relevant resources are comprehensively reviewed in the above background report
- **UNFCCC Operationalization of the Enhanced Transparency Framework:**  
<https://unfccc.int/enhanced-transparency-framework>





# Growing engagement of countries

Global Consultation (May- Sept 2021) – 86 countries (68 on part 1 and 75 part 2) and 26 organizations



- The engagement is wider than that, e.g. 14 member states **acknowledged**.
- UNSD funded consultancies helped 2 more countries to do the assessment, another 9 countries to improve their earlier assessments in Africa
- Ongoing regional initiatives are also strengthening climate change statistics in countries

"Acknowledged" means that the national statistical offices of the countries (to whom we sent out the invitations to participate) communicated with us regarding the Global Consultation after we sent out our invitation, but that they did not submit a response.



# Work on Tier 3 indicators

1. The Global Set has proven useful, not only for capacity building and application in countries, but also for supporting methodological development in several topics, including:
  - health,
  - gender and
  - disasters.
2. Further work is needed on the:
  - structure of the Global Set - reflecting the advances in methodology, closer links to policies
  - data collection tools - surveys and censuses
  - metadata.



# Concluding remarks

1. UNSD has stepped up the coordination of activities related to climate change statistics at various levels via collaboration with:

- UNECE Task Force on the Role of NSOs in Achieving National Climate Objectives
- OECD IPAC initiative
- Paris21 initiative on Climate Change Data Ecosystems (CCDE) for better climate action
- Pacific Community (SPC) initiative on incorporating climate change-related questions into data collection instruments such as household surveys
- UK ONS project on Standards for Official Statistics on Climate-Health Interactions
- COMESA project on Environment and Climate Change Statistics for the African Development Fund Countries

2. Following the adoption of the Global Set, UNSD has focused on completing and promoting a set of implementation support tools, including:

- Climate-ESSAT (CISAT) which was drafted and currently tested in a number of pilot countries in Africa, South America and the Caribbean regions
- Implementation guidelines, initially drafted before the adoption of the Global Set, now being revised and improved, to be discussed at the next EGES meeting
- Training materials and presentations

3. The Global Set has proven useful, not only for capacity building and application in countries, but also for supporting methodological development in several topics, including health, gender and disasters.



# 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)

