UNECE work on climate change-related statistics

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Governing body in statistics

- **65 countries:**
  - 56 UNECE Member States, including Canada, Russian Federation and United States
  - All other OECD countries: Australia, Chile, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand
  - Some additional countries: Brazil, Colombia, South Africa

- Chief Statisticians of international organizations
  - CIS-STAT, Eurostat, OECD, IMF, World Bank, UNSD etc.

- A number of partner organizations
  - Specialized UN agencies, regional commissions and several organizations interested in statistics for SDGs
UNECE Statistical Division: Statistics on Environment and Climate Change
Filling important gaps for measuring sustainable development

- Methodological work by the Division
  - Climate change-related statistics
  - Extreme events and disasters
  - Waste statistics

- Coordination of these activities with key-partners

- Providing platforms for knowledge exchange and capacity development in the region for a wide range of topics:
  - Environmental indicators
  - SEEA
  - Climate change-related statistics
  - …
Approved by CES in 2014
Define the scope

Recommend practical steps to:
- Inform emission inventories
- Inform analysis of climate change
- Improve the fitness of official statistics to inform climate policies

Now focus of work is in implementation
Steering Group on Climate Change-related Statistics

Drives the implementation of the CES Recommendations

- Provides a road map to develop official statistics for climate policies

- Steers the two task forces:
  1. CC-related indicators
  2. Measuring extreme events and disasters

- Organises the annual "Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-related Statistics"
  - Last Forum (3-5 October 2017, FAO, Rome) discussed:
    - Climate change-relevant data on agriculture, forestry and land use
    - Implementation of the set of climate change indicators
    - Road map and success stories
    - Measurement of extreme events and disasters

- Next Forum planned 3-5 October 2018 in Geneva
Set of key climate change-related indicators
39 indicators with definitions and sources

A well-aligned set:
- 75% linked with the Framework for Development of Environment Statistics
- Over 50% are in the System of Environmental Economic Accounting
- 25% are SDG indicators
- 10% are Sendai indicators

Covers the scope of climate change-related statistics:
- **Drivers**: 8 indicators
- **Emissions**: 7 indicators
- **Impacts**: 13 indicators
- **Mitigation**: 6 indicators
- **Adaptation**: 5 indicators

Further methodological work to develop practical guidance and support implementation until 2019
In 2016 (47th session) the UNSC adopted decision 47/112 which considers the UNECE set of indicators as a basis for developing a global set of climate change statistics and indicators.

Task Force is now refining the set of indicators based on the results of a pilot testing with 17 countries and FAO.

Initial results (10 countries + FAO) show that:

- For several of the proposed indicators long time series (e.g. back to 1990) can already be produced
- With some exceptions not much work is needed for indicators identified for “drivers” and “emissions”
- Most work on refining indicators and identifying the right methodologies is needed in the areas “impacts”, “adaptation” and “mitigation”
Objectives:

- Clarify the role of official statistics
- Identify practical steps how NSOs can support disaster management and risk reduction
- Identify main data needs and data sources
- Identify needs for harmonisation of classifications, terms and definitions

- Cooperates with UN agencies and other international organizations
- Draft recommendations by end-2018

www.unece.org/stats/extreme.html
Thank you!

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