



**UNSC SIDE-EVENT, 3 March 2015**

# **System of Environmental-economic Accounting for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA AFF)**

**CONNECTIONS TO THE SDG**



# Connecting SEEA and the SDG

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- Broad recognition that statistical frameworks (e.g. SEEA) can play an important role in the SDG monitoring process
  - Indicator Architecture, Integration, Parsimony, Headlines indicator
- Generally, focus is on providing a basis for organising coherent data sets and deriving indicators
  - Accounting frameworks enable the integration of coherent datasets to support derivation of indicators (e.g. agricultural productivity measures)
  - Direct indicators (e.g. GDP)
- Quick comparison of coverage of the SEEA AFF and the SDG suggests connections to indicators across 8 goals
- However, focus here is to consider a broader role (beyond indicators) for accounting frameworks and the SEEA AFF in the SDG process



# Role of SEEA AFF in coherence

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- Conceptual and data consistency across domains
  - SEEA AFF facilitates validation and cross checking
- Consistency over time (monitoring progress)
  - SEEA AFF concepts remain even if data sources change
- Compatibility with other datasets
  - Support aligning measurement scope and classification of various environmental and economic datasets
- Identifying and Filling data gaps
  - Accounting relationships and identities help estimate and impute missing data to be consistent with available data elsewhere



# SEEA AFF and the SDG MoI

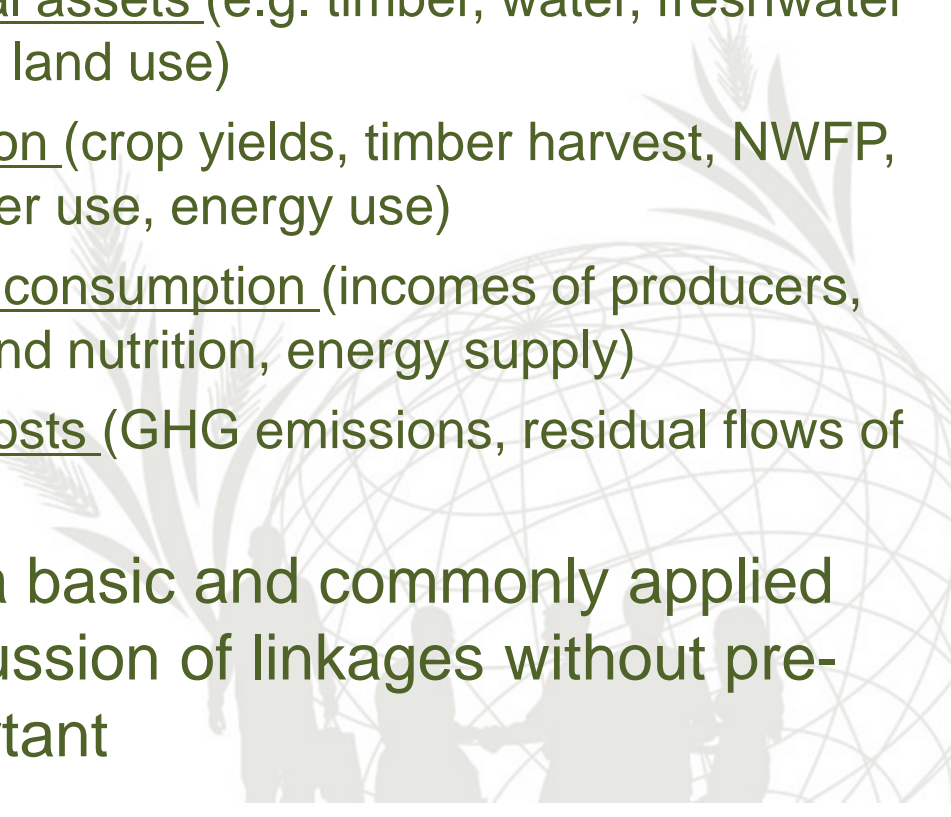
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- The Means of Implementation (MoI): how resources should be allocated to achieve the goals
- Each SDG is not independent (e.g. Goal 1: End poverty and Goal 2: Hunger and food security)
- The interlinked SEEA AFF accounts would support
  - Structured discussion of linkages between goals
  - Sense of scale and relevance concerning the linkages
  - Supply relevant parameters for modelling
  - Focus toward key integrating indicators



# Mol: Possible approach

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- Propose a policy measure (e.g. restoration of upland forests) and use SEEA AFF to work through possible linkages and frame discussion
  - Understanding the possible impacts from a SEEA AFF perspective
    - Potential impacts on environmental assets (e.g. timber, water, freshwater fish, livestock, soil, land cover and land use)
    - Potential impacts on AFF production (crop yields, timber harvest, NWFP, fish catch, irrigation activity, fertiliser use, energy use)
    - Potential impacts on incomes and consumption (incomes of producers, mix of exports and imports, food and nutrition, energy supply)
    - Potential additional benefits and costs (GHG emissions, residual flows of N and P)
  - SEEA AFF could thus provide a basic and commonly applied framework or checklist for discussion of linkages without pre-determining what is most important
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# Overall conclusions

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- SEEA AFF not a silver bullet
  - Accounting still requires source data to be collected and resources for organising multiple datasets into accounts
  - Does not cover all areas of SDG
- However the SEEA AFF in the context of SDG process may
  - encourage and facilitate integration
  - provide a broad framework for data quality and coherence
  - reduce data collection costs through
    - assessing data gaps and minimising overlaps
    - tailoring methods to suit country circumstance and improving methods over time while retaining same measurement concept
    - support application of imputation and modelling approaches
  - support discussion on linkages between various SDG and allocation of resources



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# Questions and discussion

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