



# Capacity Development and Training in support of SEEA

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## Overview

- UNCEEA and the SEEA Technical Committee
- UNSD Capacity Development Project on SEEA
- Technical Notes, Knowledge Base, Communication
- Training Material



## Background

- Implementation strategy for the SEEA Central Framework adopted by United Nations Statistical Commission in 2013
  - Mandate for its implementation was given to the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA)
- International Conference on Global Implementation of SEEA (June 2013)
- UNSC 2014 Report
  - *Requested the Committee of Experts to continue its work in the **development of technical notes, training material and courses and compilation guidelines** in support of the SEEA implementation, and requested that attention be also paid to the compilation of basic statistics supporting the accounts*



## Mandate and Role of UNCEEA

- Provide strategic vision, direction and coordination to mainstream environmental-economic accounting
- Develop normative international statistical standards and supporting methodological documents
- Promote the development of databases on environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics
- Promote the implementation of international statistical standards of environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics
- Promote the use of environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics in scientific and policymaking communities



## SEEA Technical Committee

At its 45<sup>th</sup> session, the Statistical Commission agreed to establish to establish:

- A technical committee on the SEEA Central Framework responsible for advancing the research agenda of the SEEA Central Framework and support the implementation of the SEEA
- A technical committee on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting to advance its research and testing agenda prioritizing those issues that could be solved in the short to medium term.



## UNSD Capacity Development Project on SEEA

- UN Development Account project on SEEA implementation
- UNSD-UNEP-CBD project on Advancing SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Project in Pilot Countries



## UN Development Account project

- Supporting Member States in developing and strengthening environmental-economic accounting

- **Objective:** Strengthening national capacities of developing countries for the sustained, regular production of a priority set of environmental-economic accounts to measure progress towards sustainable development
- **Scope:** Implementation of the SEEA Central Framework
- **Time plan:** 2014-2018
- **Countries:** Kenya, Malaysia, Vietnam and Uganda
- **Implementing agencies:** UNSD



# Advancing SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in pilot countries

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/eea\\_project/default.asp](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/eea_project/default.asp)



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS





# Project Overview

## Advancing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

| <b>List of pilot countries<br/>(7 countries)</b>  | <b>Non-exhaustive list of potential<br/>associate country pilots</b>  |
|---|---|
| Africa: South Africa, Mauritius<br><br>Asia: Indonesia, Vietnam, Bhutan<br><br>Latin America: Mexico, Chile | * Australia<br>* Canada<br>* Ecuador<br>* Netherlands<br>* Norway<br>* Peru (project managed by Conservation International)<br>* Philippines (through WAVES)<br>* Colombia (through WAVES)<br>* United Kingdom<br>* United States |



## Project activities

- Country missions:
  - two missions per country, first for institutional- and data assessment, and second for drawing work plans
- Regional workshops: will gather and exchange experiences from the country pilots and other initiatives
- Forum of experts: contacts of people involved in ecosystem accounting at national level and other (related) initiatives
- Develop Knowledge base: will include data and materials generated in the course of guidelines development and country missions
- Update and maintain Research agenda: addressing challenging issues (for ex. mainstreamed classification of ecosystem services)
- Develop guidance and training material
- Develop a global strategy



## Pilot countries

- The core component of the project is for seven pilot countries to test the relevance and feasibility of the SEEA ecosystem accounting approach by:
  - (i) developing a SEEA EEA program of work based on identified policy priorities; and
  - (ii) Assist with an assessment of data availability and measurement practices.



# Approach for developing SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

1 • Land Cover Accounting

2 • Land Use Accounting

3 • Framing the Measurement of Ecosystem Conditions

4 • Carbon Stock Accounting

5 • Biodiversity Stock Accounting

6 • Water Stock Accounting

7 • Accounting for Ecosystem Services

8 • Integrating Ecosystem Accounting with National Accounts



## Global Strategy for Advancing SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

- Reflects the early experience of advancing ecosystem accounting using the SEEA EEA in pilot and associate countries
- Identifies linkages and contributions to relevant initiatives, platforms and processes, including IPBES and CBD
- Identifies relevant data sources and measurement techniques including those used and managed by national and international agencies and others
- Identifies tools that may be used to develop baselines measures for ecosystems for 2016
- Provides a list of desirable outputs, associated outcomes and timelines at the global and national level beyond 2015
- Proposes a basic set of input data requirements and a related list of desired accounting outputs.



## Project guidance, technical guidance and training materials:

A preliminary guidance document providing practical guidance to countries on how to embark on SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. The manual will:

- help country expert and practitioners understand the available options for models and links to policy demand;
- explain, in particular, how to compile the data, including from non-conventional data sources (e.g. remote sensing);
- help determine which tools may be applied in various circumstances;

Training material on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting and supporting statistics will also be developed.



# Developing guidance and training materials for the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

## Modules

**Land cover accounting – cover and change (note link to land condition and capacity)**

**Land and ecosystem condition & capacity**

**Ecosystem services – classification and links to measures of condition**

**Spatial units, scaling and aggregation methods and approaches**

**Full worked example of ecosystem asset and service accounts with supporting narrative – fictitious data – illustrative purposes**

**Carbon– stock and flow accounts – with a focus on EEA ecosystem services**

**Water – stock and flow accounts – with a focus on EEA ecosystem services**

**Valuation update of SEEA EEA Chapter 5 combined with other contemporary material**

**Demonstration of linkage between ecosystems asset accounts and ecosystem service accounts (with a focus on the physical accounts)**

**Biophysical modelling and analysis of ecosystem service flows and assets for the purpose of EEA**



## SEEA Technical notes, core tables and accounts

- The general purpose : to summarize, for a given topic, a range of relevant features and considerations within a limited number of pages (e.g. 10-15) to support countries in the implementation of the SEEA.
- In 2012 and 2013 some initial work was done on the development of the technical notes by members of the London Group.
- The Statistical Commission at its last session (March 2014) stressed the importance of finalizing a set of technical notes to support countries in the implementation of the SEEA





## Work process: prioritization

- Water accounting
- Energy accounting
- MFA and waste accounting
- Air emission accounting
- Land accounting
- Forest accounting
- Environmental Protection Expenditures Accounting
- Environmental Goods and Services Sector
- Environmental taxes and subsidies



## Work process: Responsibilities

- SEEA technical committee will provide overall technical guidance to the process by providing general guidelines , checking and reviewing the technical content of the draft SEEA technical notes and core tables
- London group topic leaders will collect all relevant material for the topic of their technical note and submit this material to the editor. They will assist the editor when additional questions arise.
- The editor collects all relevant material and is responsible for drafting the technical notes and core tables, including revising old drafts based on comments received.



## Developing a Knowledge Base

- A key element of the SEEA implementation strategy as mandated to the UNCEEA
- UNSD in its role as secretariat to the UNCEEA is working to develop a SEEA-website
- The Technical Committee's role is to support development of the knowledge base
  - By reviewing material
  - By addressing methodological issues



# The SEEA Knowledge Base

***Interactive / User Friendly / Easy to Understand***

## Reference Material

- SEEA publications (part 1,2 and 3)
- SEEA subsystems (e.g. SEEA Water, SEEA Agri, etc.)
- International recommendations (e.g. IRWS, IRES)
- Compilation guidelines (e.g. water)
- etc

## Library (new)

## Statistical Hotline

## Communication Material

- Key messages
- Briefing Notes
- Advocacy Presentation

## Links to related initiatives

e.g. WAVES, TEEB, BIOFIN, CBD, etc.

## DATA

...(later)

**Related Documents  
from international  
organizations – e.g.  
EUROSTAT publications**

## Country Profiles

- Country overviews of SEEA-related activities
- Description of projects in-country

## Resources for Implementation

- Implementation Guidelines
- Technical Notes and Core Tables and Accounts

## Training Resources

- Standard set of training materials including exercises to be used by multiple trainers and widely available**
- Pack 1: Slides for introductory materials (both Central Framework and Experimental Ecosystem Accounting)
- Pack 2: Set of in depth-training modules for practitioners (including separate modules on Water, Energy, Ecosystems, Land, etc.)
- Online training modules and e-learning**



## Communication Materials

- International Conference on Global Implementation:
  - “The SEEA requires a **global communication strategy** that targets multiple potential audiences and conveys the key SEEA messages, presented in a way that appeal to various audiences”*
- The SEEA Communication program is underway:
  1. Development and design of master brand for the SEEA
  2. Design of core tools and templates
    - Standardized messaging and graphic templates
    - “Master presentation” explaining the value of adopting the SEEA
  3. SEEA Website Development
    - Architecture, functionality and structure
  4. Campaign preparation



## Training Materials: Training of Trainers

- Training-of-Trainers (ToT) course run in April-July 2014
  - Obligatory **online** course to assure a common level of technical knowledge on the SEEA
  - **In-person** seminar week to deepen technical knowledge and develop facilitation skills
  - Course developed and run by GIZ and UNSD with input from NSO experts
- Follow-up:
  - Trainers to lead national seminars on the SEEA
  - UNSD to develop standard set of training materials in cooperation with GIZ under the auspices of the Technical Committee of the SEEA-CF



## ToT: A preview of the online phase

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für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

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The screenshot shows a user interface for the ToT online platform. At the top is a red navigation bar with icons for Home, My Courses, My Communities, My Messages, My Profile, and Help. Below the navigation bar, the user's name 'Sokol Vako' is displayed next to a profile picture icon, with a 'My Calendar' button below it. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'My Courses' and 'My Communities'. The 'My Courses' section features two course cards, both titled 'Fit for Global Campus 21', one in English and one in French. The 'My Communities' section features a card for 'SEEA-TOT' with a link to 'Pilot Training of the Trainers on...'. On the right side, there is a sidebar with several notification and news boxes: 'New Messages' (currently no messages), 'Latest News', 'E-Academy News' (with sub-items 'Employee of the GIZ?' and 'The new Dashboard'), and 'Participants' (with 'Who's online?' and 'Show all' options).



## ToT: Lessons learned

- Targeting of sessions to audience
  - ‘General SEEA’ module for general stakeholders
  - In-depth modules emphasizing more technical issues for practitioners
- Engagement of participants
- Use of technology
  - Ease of communication
  - Importance of facilitation
  - Ability to share information
  - Community of trainers





## Training: Plans for the short term

- Training courses planned in Africa (online phase started this week until Jan-2015), Latin America (early-2015) and Asia-Pacific (early-2015)
- Refine and further develop training materials with GIZ:
  - In the short term
    - Refine existing introduction to the SEEA (for those who require a general overview of the SEEA and its applications)
    - Develop water, energy, ecosystems including land accounts
  - In the medium term
    - Environmental Activity Accounts
    - Environmental Goods and Services Sectors
- Based on an interactive web platform



## Training: Where do we go from here

- Develop standardized training (general and in-depth)
- Community of trainers
- High demand but constraints (human resources, financial)
- Central repository of training materials to be widely used
- Shared calendar of training activities
- LG members to review and develop training materials in support of the work of the SEEA Technical Committees
- Supporting developed and developing countries



**National and international communities must join hands in advancing the work!**





Thank you