

Statistical Commission
Forty-ninth session
6 – 9 March 2018
Item 3h of the provisional agenda

Background document
Available in English only

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

International Coordination Survey 2018

Prepared by United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic
Accounting

International Coordination Survey 2018 – an Introduction

As an international statistical standard and integrated framework supporting the measurement of sustainable development, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) plays a vital role in measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In reflection of this, the UN Statistical Commission at its 46th session in 2015 '*Urged the Committee of Experts to advocate for and promote the scaling up of its implementation programme, exercising strong leadership in developing a concrete and well-resourced programme to support countries in implementing SEEA, with a clear timeline of objectives and deliverables*'. In response, the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEAA) updated its implementation strategy to place the SEEA implementation in the broader context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As part of the implementation strategy, the Committee aims to support the global implementation targets of having at least 100 countries with ongoing, well-resourced programmes in SEEA Central Framework accounting and 50 countries with ongoing, well-resourced programmes in ecosystem accounting by 2020. Well-coordinated capacity building efforts and the provision of targeted technical assistance are vital to reaching these goals.

The current document compiles information from various international and regional organizations to identify ongoing and planned capacity building activities for 2018 by country. The capacity building activities identified in the current document include targeted technical assistance to countries on the compilation of specific modules, training initiatives and work carried out under environmental-economic accounting projects (among others). By sharing this programme of work, the document will help providers of assistance avoid duplication of efforts and encourage synergies when planning future activities.

This document also functions as a complementary document to the Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics 2017. The Global Assessment examines the progress made in meeting the targets of the SEEA implementation strategy and provides information on the SEEA modules countries plan to compile in the future.