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**Economic Commission for Europe****Conference of European Statisticians****Seventieth plenary session**

Geneva, 22-23 June 2023

Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme of the****United Nations Economic Commission for Europe;****Reports on the work of the Conference of European Statisticians, its Bureau and Teams of Specialists****Implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission  
for Europe Statistical Programme 2022****Addendum****Summary of discussions and conclusions of the Joint OECD/UNECE  
Seminar on the Implementation of the System of Environmental-  
Economic Accounting (SEEA)****Prepared by the Secretariat***Summary*

The report presents the key outcomes of the Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on the Implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) which took place on 13-15 March 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The report is submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians for information.



## I. Introduction

1. The eight Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on the Implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) was held on 13-15 March 2023. It was jointly organized with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and an organising committee with members from National Statistical Offices of Australia, Canada, Estonia, Finland (chair), Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, and the United States. Eurostat, UNEP and UNSD are represented in the Organising Committee in addition to OECD and UNECE.
2. Experts from the following countries participated in the meeting: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.
3. Representatives of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Labour Organization (ILO), European Commission – Eurostat, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), European Environment Agency (EEA), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS (CIS-STAT), UNITAR, World Trade Organisation (WTO), European Space Agency (ESA) also participated in the meeting. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was also represented.
4. Academia and research were represented by the Technical University of Civil Engineering in Bucharest, Griffith University, University of York, Institute Cadastr, Ecosystem Capability Accounting, Italian Institute for environmental protection and research and French Development Agency.
5. The European Union provided financial support for the participation of experts from the Eastern Partnership countries.

## II. Organization of the meeting

6. The seminar was chaired by Ms. Johanna Pakarinen from Statistics Finland.
7. The participants adopted the agenda of the seminar.
8. The seminar consisted of six sessions:
  - (a) **Session 1: Opening** – Session Chair: Johanna Pakarinen (Statistics Finland);
  - (b) **Session 2: Setting the scene** - Session Chair: Sarah Barahona (OECD);
  - (c) **Session 3: Towards Circular Economy Measurement** – Session Chair: Johanna Pakarinen (Statistics Finland);
  - (d) **Session 4: Implementing Ecosystem Accounting** – Session Chair: Sjoerd Schenau (Statistics Netherlands);
  - (d) **Session 5: Forest Accounts** - Session Chair: Paulo Augusto Lourenço Dias Nunes (FAO);
  - (e) **Session 6: Organisational and Institutional arrangements for SEEA implementation** – Session Chair: Myriam Linster (OECD);
  - (f) **Session 7: Environmental taxes and subsidies** – Session Chair: Simon Felgendreher (Federal Statistical Office of Germany);
  - (g) **Session 8: Integration of accounts for analytical purposes** – Session Chair: Susanna Roth (Statistics Sweden);

(h) **Session 9: Water accounts and related indicators** – Session Chair: Paulo Augusto Lourenço Dias Nunes (FAO);

(i) **Session 10: Conclusions and recommendations for future work** – Session Chair: Johanna Pakarinen (Statistics Finland);

(j) The meeting also featured a poster session at the lunch break of 14 March where the following 3 posters were presented:

- Building a geographic information systems-based methodology for calculating rooftop solar photovoltaic potential for the formation of energy communities and its energy accounts;
- AfriKENCA: Valuation of ecosystems in Africa;
- Ecosystem Extent - Accounting Implementation in Italy.

9. A tribute to Mr. Rocky Harris was held in the afternoon of 13 March. Rocky Harris played a very important part of international environmental accounting community for more than 20 years and passed away in January 2023.

10. All documents of the meeting and weblinks to meeting recordings are available at <https://unece.org/statistics/events/joint-oecd-unece-seminar-implementation-seea>.

11. The meeting was planned to start on 13 March at 9:30. Problems at UNOG accreditation forced several participants to queue up to 3 hours for receiving their badges, and many complaints of meeting participants were received by the ECE Secretariat. Because of this problem the meeting started 20 minutes later and had to be extended into the lunch break. This also caused interpretation getting lost before end of the morning sessions. Furthermore, some agenda items had to be swapped. The ECE secretariat apologised for these inconveniences. The incident was beyond control of the ECE secretariat, the complaints were passed on to the UNOG security team in charge of accreditation of delegates.

### **III. Summary of the discussion and main conclusions reached at the meeting**

#### **A. Session 1: Opening**

12. The meeting was opened by Johanna Pakarinen (Chair), Lidia Bratanova (UNECE, Director of Statistical Division) and Sara Barahona (OECD, Head of National Accounts Division at the Statistics and Data Directorate).

13. After agreement on some minor changes in the provisional programme the meeting agenda was adopted. These changes were necessary to take into account that most participants were not present in the conference room at the start of the meeting because of long waiting queues at UNOG accreditation.

#### **B. Session 2: Setting the scene**

14. One of the objectives of the session was to share experience and provide updates from some of the related international organisation and groups that are involved with international coordination of SEEA implementation. Updates were provided by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounts (UNCEEA), the London Group on Environmental Accounting, the statistics office of the European Union (Eurostat), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

15. The presentation on UNCEEA included an overview of the results from the 2022 Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting and Supporting Statistics. Topics of focus of UNCEEA work included the launch of data collection through global questionnaires on Air Emission Accounts and on Physical Energy Flow Accounts, involvement in updates to 2008 SNA and international classifications, the working group on

business accounting and the development of a statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism.

16. The main discussions at the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the London Group on Environmental-Economic Accounting in Siegburg (Germany) included measuring ecosystem services in biophysical terms and their monetary valuation, the alignment between SEEA CF/EA and SNA, integration of environmental activity accounts, quarterly physical flow accounts, ocean accounts, discussion of related classifications and deriving indicators. The meeting made some recommendations on topic for further discussion at the next meeting: for further work on SEEA based indicators and on more and better communication on SEEA outputs. The London Group Chair also presented proposed topics for the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is planned in 11-14 September 2023 in South Africa. Stakeholders were encouraged to submit papers by the beginning of April. Quarterly timeseries including seasonal adjustments is a possible topic to be discussed.

17. Eurostat updated the audience with its recent activities, including preparation for three new mandatory SEEA accounts in the European Union (i.e. Forest accounts (SEEA CF), Environmental subsidies and similar transfers, Ecosystem accounts).

18. UNEP shared SEEA related activities including data collection of economy-wide material flow accounts (EW-MFA) and capacity building activities for EW-MFA and SEEA Ecosystem Accounts (SEEA EA). Regarding the UNEP's global online footprint tool, a coordinated approach through different organisations (e.g. OECD and Eurostat) through DGI (Data Gap Initiative) was suggested by seminar participants.

19. The session also featured presentations on emerging areas of policy relevance for the SEEA, namely: the Convention on Biodiversity (COP) from a representative of the European Commission, the G20 Data Gaps Initiative by the International Monetary Forum (IMF), the Expert Group on Measuring Sustainability of Tourism (MST) by the Group's Chair (Statistics Austria), and on the importance of earth observation for SEEA implementation from the European Space Agency.

20. European Commission explained the outcome from the COP 15 of the Convention of Biodiversity, including the monitoring framework which notes value of aligning national monitoring with SEEA. Gaps will be identified and filled stepwise.

21. IMF explained activities under the G20 DGI which draws on existing international statistical initiatives, focusing on recommendations 1-7 relevant to climate change. A seminar participant emphasised growing interest on carbon footprint from policy makers. IMF is looking at all related models available at the moment.

22. The chair of the Expert Group of the Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (MST) explained the definition of sustainable tourism, the role of UN World Tourism Organisation, connection of Tourism Satellite Accounts and SEEA as well as challenges. A seminar participant highlighted possible importance of micro data.

23. European Space Agency (ESA) explained the European /Copernicus Programme and the opportunities and challenges for using Earth Observation in SEEA-compliant Ecosystem Accounting. A seminar participant emphasised the importance of exchanging knowledge from different areas of competency instead of working in silos.

## Conclusions

24. Currently 92 countries are implementing SEEA. The session highlighted important policy areas which already or potentially benefit from being informed via SEEA-based statistics and indicators.

25. Countries are encouraged to continue with their efforts to produce and use SEEA accounts, and to utilise new and alternative data sources, such as from ESA for filling data gaps and/or quick-start with the production of selected accounts.

26. Future OECD/UNECE Seminars on SEEA Implementation will continue to provide a platform for informing about ongoing global and regional activities which are of relevance for the ECE and OECD regions.

### **C. Session 3: Towards Circular Economy Measurement**

27. The main objective of the session was to provide an update of the work of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy, related work at the OECD, Eurostat and other international organisations. Another objective was giving countries an opportunity to present national examples on measuring circular economy with SEEA.

28. The UNECE Deputy Executive Secretary introduced activities of UNECE on measuring circular economy as this is a crosscutting topic. Developing capacities at governments in member states, methodological guidance for transition based on clear definition as well as monitoring would be key elements. He stressed that UNECE integrates the circular economy concept into practically every domain of its work on standard setting and policy development support, such as trade, transport, sustainable resource use and waste management.

29. An update on guidelines development for measurement of circular economy was provided by OECD and UNECE. The guidance has two parts: the first part focussed on the conceptual framework, which is already endorsed by CES and undergoing wider electronic consultation from end of March, and a second part that focusses on practical implementation topics, such as reviewing data sources and practical measurement challenges. The conceptual framework includes a proposed indicators list.

30. Eurostat will introduce new indicators on Material footprint (raw material consumption), Resource productivity, Greenhouse gas emissions from production activities, Material import dependency and Consumption footprint (based on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)). The first four indicators are based on SEEA. Discussion with the audience included two complementary methodologies on SEEA-based material footprint by Eurostat and LCA-based consumption footprint by Joint Research Centre (JRC).

31. A third part of the session focussed on circular economy and international trade, beginning with a presentation from the Director of UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, followed by a presentation from a representative of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on Harmonized System (HS) classification for trade statistics and improving its relevance for circular economy and related analyses

32. UNECE explained the relevance of circular economy to international trade and importance of measurement to be able to direct policy towards the objective.

33. WTO emphasised importance of the HS as the common language of international trade and explained benefits and challenges (e.g. legal challenges in classifying products) from greening the HS. Question from the audience addressed to possible issues related to quality of trade data.

34. The fourth and final part of this session featured national case examples on measuring the circular economy. Three case studies were presented: decomposition analysis in the Netherlands, circular economy indicators including material footprint indicators for Sweden, and development of national critical raw material and secondary raw material data in the FutuRaM project, presented by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

35. The Netherlands showed a decomposition analysis of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for a long timeseries for 1971-2020, which reveals economic growth has been the most important driver for changes in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions/Further testing of the robustness of the model and presentation of results to policy makers are expected.

36. Sweden applied the Eurostat model to measure the circular economy at the national level in Sweden and showed the results including material footprint per capita and per material category.

37. UNITAR presented the FutuRaM project to develop national critical raw materials and secondary raw materials datasets and showed a country example for mapping e-waste flows based on material composition on product level.

## Conclusions

38. The international work on measuring circular economy is progressing and SEEA is an important framework in this work. The joint work of UNECE and OECD in close collaboration with Eurostat and others provide a milestone moving towards an internationally harmonised way in measuring circular economy.

39. Circular economy is not very well reflected yet in the international trade statistics, but there is potential for new important source data and indicators to be developed also in this area through cooperation and discussions between statistical communities.

40. SEEA offers many options for analysing and disseminating circular economy related information, such as material footprints and decomposition analysis. Combining SEEA accounts with other data for analysis across different statistical domains and disseminating the accounts for smaller regions could provide even more insights to circular economy.

41. Future joint OECD/UNECE Seminars will continue to provide a platform for exchanging practical experiences in measuring circular economy.

## D. Session 4: Implementing Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA)

42. The main objective of the session was to share practical experiences from around the world on selected key topics from the ecosystem accounting framework, including Measuring Ecosystem Services, Ecosystem Extent Accounts, and Ecosystem Condition Accounts.

43. Colombia presented the results of ecosystem extent account, condition account, service account and monetary ecosystem asset account as well as operational framework and data processing for the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta Ramsar Site which includes mangroves important for its ecosystem.

44. Germany presented its progress for ecosystem extent and condition accounts at municipal level with accounting tables, ecosystem atlas and methodological report.

45. Spain showed methodological approach (e.g. mapping with existing ecosystem typology) and data sources for ecosystem accounts implementation which are not yet officially published by the NSO. Their ecosystem extent accounts have a long timeseries for 1970-2015. Condition accounts have been developed currently for forest ecosystems and will be further developed for other ecosystem types in the future. Biophysical ecosystem service accounts and thematic accounts including biodiversity with species presence data have been developed, too.

46. Estonia shared their experience on developing ecosystem accounts with the emphasis on collaboration with stakeholders such as academia and international partners. Their ecosystem extent account has been prepared by using a spatial data set based on a set of source maps. Extent account with an ownership dimension has been useful for them. Estonia showed valuation of ecosystem services with an example of wild berries from Estonian Social Survey.

47. Outcomes of projects of implementation of ecosystem natural capital accounts in Africa and the Guiana Shield were presented. Ecosystem Natural Capital Accounting “Quick Start Package” (ENCA-QSP) are broadly compatible with SEEA EA and show a total ecosystem capability as a composite index comprising elements of bio-carbon, water and ecosystem infrastructure.

48. FAO emphasised the importance of national land cover and land use maps which constitute a core input information for national ecosystem accounting and an action plan for nationally articulated/participative global land cover data collection and validation, which is

developed through collaboration with OECD and UNSD and can be used in SEEA ecosystem accounts, among other uses.

49. Many of the practices shared during the session prioritized initial work on developing ecosystem accounts and ecosystem condition accounts in physical terms.

50. It was noted by several speakers that international cooperation, e.g. via support from Eurostat and via advice and contributions from international experts, has been crucial for development of the examples of experimental accounts that were shared.

51. While several examples of successful development of new results for ecosystem accounts were presented during the session, presenters also discussed the technical challenges in compiling robust ecosystem accounts, particularly gaps in data for assessing the condition of ecosystems.

52. Discussions also focussed on policy relevance for the ecosystem accounting outputs and the potentially most useful indicators, or aggregations across indicators, including via monetary valuation, for the accounting variables.

## Conclusions

53. There is an increasing number of countries which compile ecosystem accounts. There are more examples with local data and examples of monetary valuation of services.

54. Future joint OECD/UNECE Seminars should continue to provide a platform for exchanging practical experiences in implementing SEEA-EA.

## E. Session 5: Forest accounts

55. The co-chairs of Forest Ecosystem Accounting Working Group set the scene for the session with introductory presentations on opportunities and challenges for forest accounting.

56. FAO informed the meeting on related experiences at FAO for current international commitment and policy frameworks for forest. Eurostat provided an update on forest accounting for the European Union and described the combination of forest accounts compilations according to the SEEA Central Framework and compilations for the SEEA Ecosystem Accounts. Eurostat is proposing to make four tables related to flows of timber from forests from voluntary to mandatory reporting under the Eurostat regulations for SEEA reporting by European countries.

57. The session concluded with the presentation of the French and Finnish experiences. France brought forward the importance of producing and working with indicators such as carbon vitality and diversity of a forest. Finland presented an overview on the national forestry inventory and highlighted the need to take into account to different aspect of quality of forest products.

## Conclusions

58. Forests accounts reveal to be of particular interest when it comes to measuring bio-carbon.

59. It was also emphasized the need to discuss and agree on the element of value, when referring to forest ecosystem services, i.e. the unit of analysis/valuation.

60. The potential of scenario analysis and its compatibility with forests accounts has been discussed and its potential was highlighted for policy (including the link to circular economy).

61. There is a high potential to improve the use of Earth Observation without increasing the burden of reporting by countries

62. The need for international and universal framework, and respective concepts is key.

63. Future Joint UNECE/OECD Seminars on SEEA Implementation could continue to provide a platform for discussion and connecting the dots between different concepts, and for sharing practical experiences of countries in implementing and using forest accounts.

## **F. Session 6: Organisational and institutional arrangements for SEEA implementation**

64. Main objectives of the session were to present the *draft SEEA Implementation Guide* and to allow for a dialogue between experienced countries and less experienced countries to discuss the main challenges the key factors for success in the implementation of SEEA.

65. The Seminar heard from two quite different national examples: the development of a new strategy for statistics for environmental-economic decisions in the United States and the example from the long and rich history of environmental-economic accounts production in Finland. The UN Statistics Division (UNSD) also presented the development of an international SEEA Implementation Guide.

66. The example from the United States was presented by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs. He emphasized the involvement of many different government agencies across government in the compilation and communication of accounts and talked about how the environmental-economic accounts in the United States are viewed as a fundamental tool for statistics production and thus not linked to any specific policy but rather a part of the general information system for economic decision-making.

67. Finland shared information on the history and structure of environmental-economic accounting work in the country and some of the benefits and challenges for the ambitions to further expand the programme of work in the future. The presenter emphasised the importance of cooperation between relevant authorities and interacted with the audience on different advantages of having environmental accounts team close to national accounts or to energy statistics in the statistics office.

## **Conclusions**

68. Participants considered it as useful to have a session focus on organisational and institutional arrangements, which is always a crucial element for production of statistics. It was suggested, to continue with presentation of case examples in future Joint OECD/UNECE Seminars as this provides an inspiration on how to start the implementation of SEEA or specific accounts in the different institutional contexts.

## **G. Session 7: Environmental taxes and subsidies**

69. The main objectives of the session were to present country experiences on implementing environmental taxes and subsidy accounts and to present the practical work of international organisations on how they organise their data collections.

70. National experiences were shared by Canada, Sweden and Luxembourg. In addition, Eurostat, UNEP and the OECD presented the work of their respective organisation.

71. Eurostat focused in its presentation on the modules of environmental taxes and environmental subsidies and similar transfers. The module on environmental taxes is already well-established within the EU and reporting mandatory, while reporting on environmental taxes is voluntary at the moment but will become mandatory under the new Annex VIII of the regulation 691/2011.

72. UNEP and OECD presented work on the methodology and data collection of fossil fuel subsidies. This data serves as a base for the OECD Inventory of Support Measures for Fossil Fuels and for the reporting on SDG indicator 12.c.1, "Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP". Subsidies taken into account in the data collections are direct transfers of government funds, induced transfers and tax expenditures.

73. Canada presented its work on the environmental tax account. Here, it follows the OECD methodological guidelines and data is available on a disaggregated level by geographic region. Data on environmental taxes is reported to OECD and to the IMF. A current challenge is the inclusion of new taxes under the federal carbon pollution pricing system that came into force in 2018. At the moment these new tax types are under review for the reference years 2019 and onwards.

74. Sweden presented work on the calculation of fossil fuel subsidies and on the effective carbon rates (ECR). For fossil fuel subsidies, the focus was on implicit transfers and the revenue forgone method was applied. Depending on the chosen benchmark taxation, the result of the amount of fossil fuel subsidies varies. For the calculation of the ECR, combustion related carbon emissions were considered. For now, expenditures under the EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS) are not included. The ECR can be disaggregated by industry and compared against the carbon emissions by industry. When comparing fossil fuel subsidies and the ECR, it can be concluded that average ECRs are more suitable for cross-country comparisons.

75. Luxembourg also presented its work on the calculation of fossil fuel subsidies. In the calculation, freely allocated allowances under the EU ETS were taken into account, but there are several methodological challenges related to it as well as to how select a suitable benchmark for tax abatements. As a consequence, the results on fossil fuel subsidies are not directly comparable between countries.

## Conclusions

76. Reporting on environmental taxes is already well established in many countries and can serve as a starting point to base calculations of the effective carbon rates on.

77. Data on fossil fuel subsidies can give insights into national circumstances of tax structures and in which areas there is potential to optimize it in order to improve climate policy. However, since national circumstances are so heterogeneous, it is difficult to base a comparison between countries only on a comparison of the amount of fossil fuel subsidies. Such information should always be accompanied by more detailed side information that gives a more detailed picture. Therefore, for cross-country comparisons, the effective carbon rates can be more suitable.

## H. Session 8: Integration of accounts for analytical purposes

78. Countries and International Organisations were invited to present examples where development of multiple SEEA accounts creates opportunities to establish links between databases and data sources towards a system of accounts that can be compiled, verified, and combined into efficient production of indicators for monitoring environmental-economic policies.

79. OECD presented ideas for increased integration of SEEA data for their work on global databases.

80. Ireland presented its Climate Action Plan and discussed how choosing suitable indicators can be useful to monitor progress towards climate action targets and the ensuing effects on economic sectors.

81. Sweden presented its data on environmental pressures from Sweden's exports and compared them with equivalent foreign products.

82. Netherlands showed its carbon accounts which currently comprise geo-carbon, bio-carbon, carbon in the economy and carbon in the atmosphere, which was developed with academia. They discussed further development (e.g. carbon in the oceans).

## Conclusions

83. Three country examples from different areas demonstrated a high potential of integrating SEEA accounts for analysis. The concept of learning-by-doing was raised and a general sense that statistical agencies should try to do more, as feasible, into analytical applications of the statistical series they are producing, especially when integration with other datasets are involved, which can have multiple benefits for users of statistics.

### I. Session 9: Water accounts and related indicators

84. There have been developments in harmonising international collections of water statistics and aligning them better with SEEA-CF and SEEA Water. The session discussed these new developments in water statistics and water accounts as well as the applications of related indicators.

85. OECD explained the efforts in aligning questionnaires and definitions with international stakeholders such as Eurostat and UNSD, and discussed the relationships between collection of data via joint international water statistics questionnaires and compilation of SEEA-water accounts.

86. Austria presented the EU4Environment project component Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries. This component aims to strengthen governance and capacity for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the beneficiary countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Improving availability of policy-relevant water data is ensured by supporting these countries in developing and improving their national water accounts.

87. Two national case studies were presented from Armenia and Netherlands. Armenia has started to use SEEA Water-based indicators in various of their information products, such as the Report on Environment and Resources, the Statistical Yearbook and a range of other publications of the government. Statistics Netherlands has been working on water statistics and water accounts for several years and informed several policy applications and the growing demand, e.g. for providing more granularity of the water accounts.

## Conclusions

88. The efforts to internationally harmonise water-statistics questionnaires and to make them fit for water accounting were well received. Participants called for continuation of the work on aligning of concepts and definitions.

89. Water accounts have a high potential for information water-related policies but are still not used to the maximum extent possible.

90. The EU4Environment project provides a good example on how capacity development for implementing water accounts helps to strengthen IWRM.

### J. Session 10: Conclusions and recommendations for further work

91. All participants were invited to take part in a survey to collect opinions about the Seminar and interest in the potential for a ninth Joint Seminar in 2024. There was nearly unanimous support for OECD and UNECE to organise another SEEA Implementation seminar in about one year.

92. Most participants wished to organise the next Seminar as an in-person event with a possibility to also connect remotely.

93. According to the survey results possible topics for the next seminar were ranked as follows: 1. SEEA-EA (ecosystem services and ecosystem condition); 2. Forest accounts; 3. Environmental protection expenditures; 4. Taxes and subsidies; 5. Energy accounts.

94. Participants also suggested to continue with the discussion of the relationship of SEEA with emerging areas, such as circular economy, nature-based solutions, climate adaptation, etc. Another area that should be tackled is the using new techniques and new data sources for filling of data gaps and/or increasing granularity of the accounts.

95. The ECE Secretariat thanked the European Union for their financial support towards the participation of some of the meeting participants.

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