Current and planned UNECE/UNEP activities on capacity building on environment statistics

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Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, 29-30 June 2017

UNECE and UN Environment capacity building mechanisms on Environment Statistics and Environmental-Economic Accounting

1. **UN-Development Accounts, Environmental Pillar – Joint UNECE/UN Environment project**
   - Target countries: Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)
   - Main objective: Strengthen capacity to measure and monitor SDG indicators in environment statistics areas. Focus on SDGs 6,7,12,13,14 and 15
   - Activities: Country sensitization and initiation workshops, regional workshops, targeted training, advisory missions and other capacity building activities

2. **Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators**
   - Target countries: EECCA and South-Eastern Europe
   - Main objectives: Assist to a) implement SEIS data methodologies, b) implement SEEA, c) communicate environmental data, d) environmental indicators for SDGs and Green Economy

3. **Joint OECD/UNECE Seminars on SEEA Implementation**
   - Capacity building component, back-to-back training workshops planned

4. **Expert Fora on Climate Change-related Statistics**
   - Capacity building component & support to the development of Roadmaps

Coordination with other initiatives and actors in the region (examples)

1. **UNESCAP:** Disaster-related Statistics & Capacity building on Environment Statistics and SEEA

2. **World Bank:**

    a) WAVES (Natural Capital Accounting, e.g. in Kyrgyzstan)

    b) Projects to strengthen the capacity of National Statistical Systems (e.g. KAZSTAT, TAJSTAT)

3. **OECD:** Green Economy and SEEA implementation

4. **UNDP:** Poverty-Environment Initiative; MAPS missions and reports (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan)

5. **European Environment Agency:** ENI-SEIS II (2016-2020)

6. **EU-funded UN Environment SEIS Capacity Building project in Central Asia**

    a) Target countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

    b) Main objective: strengthen capacity for data sharing to support state of environment reporting and other assessment and reporting processes including on the SDGs

    c) Activities: needs and readiness assessments; technical support on environmental data sharing; and exchange of knowledge and lessons learned

7. **Other UN Environment SEIS-related activities in West Balkans:**

    a) GEF-funded CCCD project in Bosnia and Herzegovina

    b) Technical support to Montenegro and Serbia on testing of IRIS tool

Main Activities in 2017

Regional training on SEEA (autumn 2017)
- ➤ Blended learning module of UNSD
- ➤ E-learning, webinars, workshop
- ➤ Russian version of e-learning module currently being set up (Note: official Russian version of SEEA-CF now available!)

Joint UNECE/UN Environment National Training Workshop on Environment Statistics & SDGs in Astana (Kazakhstan) 25-28 April 2017
- ➤ Basic training on UN-FDES and SEEA
- ➤ Focus on waste and water
- ➤ Identification of further capacity building needs to inform more training in 2018

1-2 further country missions
- ➤ to assess country needs and plan capacity building/training workshops (e.g. mission to Tajikistan on 12-13 June 2017)

Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators
- ➤ 13th Session: 29-30 June 2017 (Geneva, Switzerland)
- ➤ 14th Session: 2-3 October 2017 (Rome, Italy)

Planned activities for 2018 - 2019

Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on SEEA Implementation
- ➢ 21-22 February 2018, probably with a back-to-back training workshop
- ➢ Another seminar is foreseen to be held in 2019

Expert Forum on Climate Change-related Statistics
- ➢ 1 meeting per year

Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators
- ➢ 2 meetings per year

Targeted country missions and regional activities under joint UNECE/UN Environment project (UNDA 10th tranche)
- ➢ As identified via country sensitization workshops

Targeted country missions + collection of lessons learned
- ➢ on sharing and using environmental data in reporting and assessment processes (under EU-funded SEIS Capacity Building project in Central Asia)

Conclusions

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1. Well coordinated approach for capacity building leveraging expertise, resources, and access to joint networks and national focal points

2. Activities based on concrete requests from countries

3. Good country examples which could be applied also in other countries (e.g. April 2017 training on SEIS & environment statistics for the SDGs in Kazakhstan; planning of similar training workshops in Tajikistan and in Kyrgyzstan in Set-Dec 2017)

4. Receivers of assistance gradually becoming deliverers of assistance (e.g. providing technical support in neighboring countries)

5. Concrete capacity building needs & requests should be reported to:
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