



The SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting revision process

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Background: ecosystem accounting

- *It is a framework for measuring*
 - **ecosystem extension**
 - **ecosystem condition**
 - **ecosystem services**
 - **and thematic accounts e.g. land, water, carbon, biodiversity**
- *Ecosystems services include:*
 1. **provisioning e.g. crop production**
 2. **regulating e.g. flood protection**
 3. **cultural services e.g. recreation**
- *Some ecosystem services are in the SNA boundary whereas others are not*

Ecosystem accounting: international guidance

United Nations, European Commission, FAO, IMF, OECD and World Bank (2013): ***System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012 – Central Framework (International Statistical Standard)***

https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/seea_cf_final_en.pdf

United Nations, European Commission, FAO, OECD and World Bank (2014): ***System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012 – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting***

https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/seea_cf_final_en.pdf

United Nations (Dec. 2017): ***Technical Recommendations in support of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012 – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting***

https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/technical_recommendations_in_support_of_the_seea_eea_final_white_cover.pdf

Several others



The revision of the SEEA EEA handbook

- *SEEA EEA is experimental*
- *48th UN Statistical Committee in 2017 supported a revision*
- *UNCEEA in June 2017 decided to go ahead*
 - **The aim is to finish revised handbook by end 2020, for submission to UNSC in March 2021**
- *UNCEEA established SEEA EEA Technical Committee*
 - **It oversees revision**
 - **Eurostat is the chair**
- *Funding of an editor was secured*

Organisation of revision process

- *Technical issues for revision were identified*
 - **Long list: production boundary, many valuation challenges incl. consistency and institutional assumptions, issues of ownership**
- *Organised in 5 research areas, each one with:*
 - **one leader**
 - **one working group of 5-7 members**
 - **issue papers will be written**
- *WG members selected to ensure appropriate involvement of experts from all relevant communities of interest*
- *Consultants to prepare materials and documentation*
 - **consultants would become members of the relevant working groups**
- *Also broader expert review groups*
 - **e.g. SEEA EEA forums of experts, London Group,...**
- *Coordination by editor, UNSD and Technical committee*

5 research areas

1. *Spatial units*

lead: Sjoerd Schenau (Statistics Netherlands)

2. *Ecosystem condition*

lead: Joachim Maes (European Commission JRC)

3. *Ecosystem services – concepts and measurement issues*

lead: Lars Hein (Wageningen University)

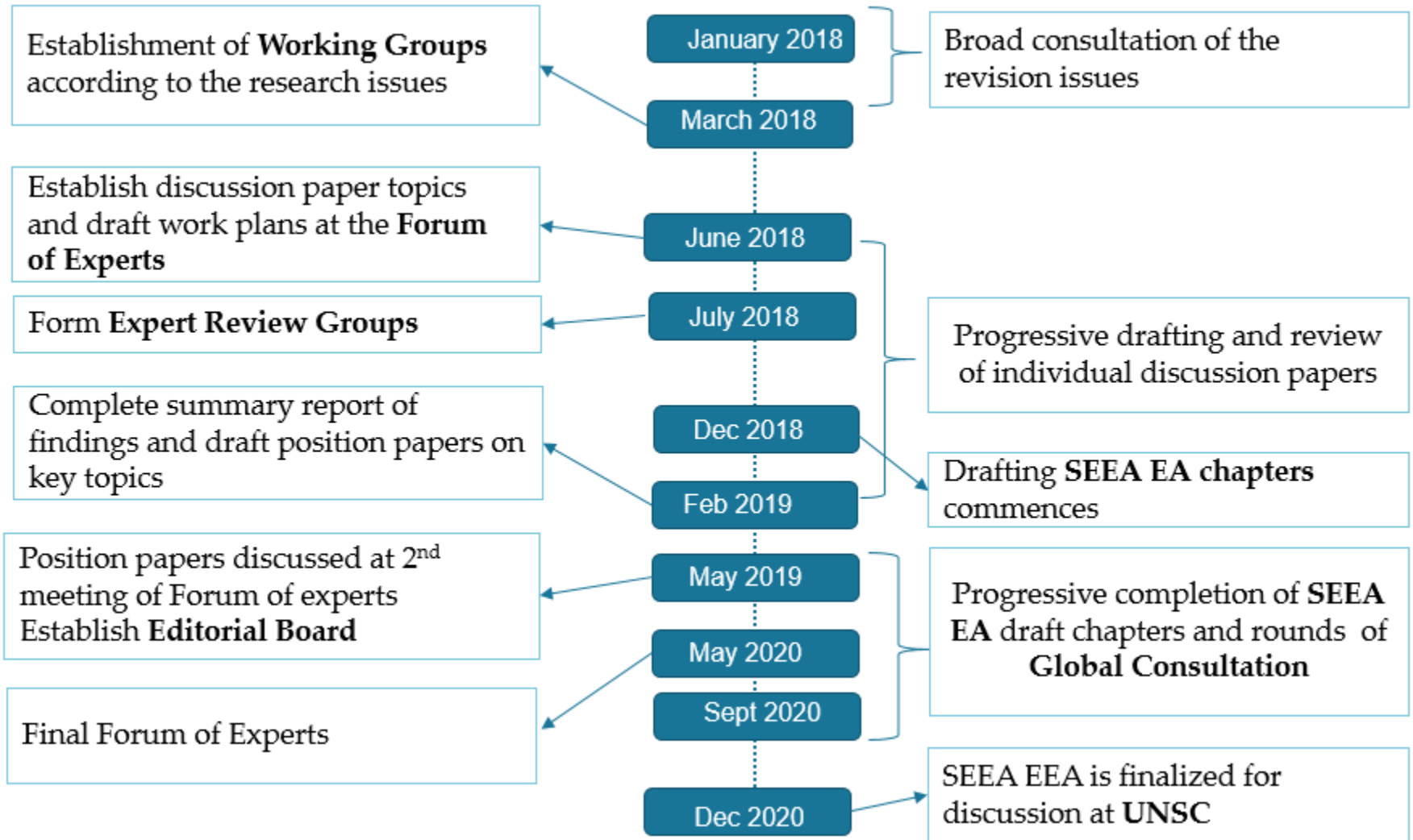
4. *Measurement and valuation of specific ecosystem services*

lead: Rocky Harris (UK DEFRA) & Lars Hein

5. *Valuation concepts and accounting treatments*

lead: Juha Siikamaki (International Union for Conservation Nature)

Revision process: keystones & timeline



International meetings in 2019

- *Expert Meeting on Advancing the Measurement of Ecosystem Services for Ecosystem Accounting on 22-24 January in New York*
- *2nd Forum of Experts in May in the USA*
- *Working groups operate until May*
- *UNCEEA meeting in June in New York*
- *London Group meeting in October in Canberra, Australia*

Thank you for your attention!

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