

Selected UNECE statistical activities with relevance for the work of the Joint Task Force

Michael Nagy
Statistical Division
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on SEEA Implementation

Endorsement of Waste Statistics Framework by CES

CES Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy

Expert Forum on Climate Change-related Statistics and publication of CES Set of Core Climate Change-related Indicators



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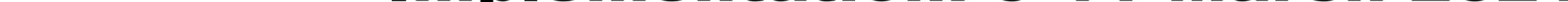
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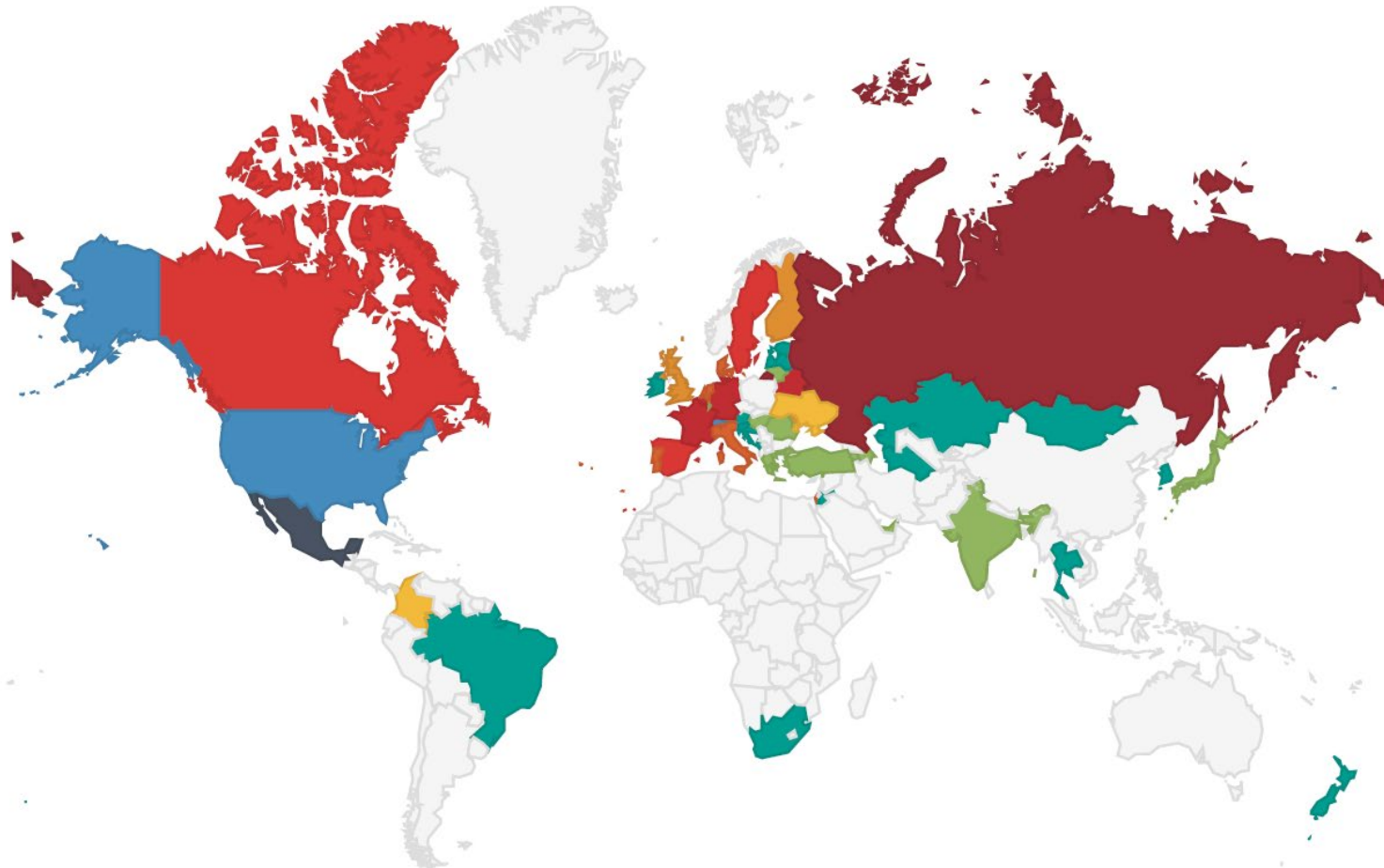
Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on SEEA Implementation: 9-11 March 2021



- Format: Online
- Sessions:
 1. Opening and introduction
 2. **SEEA Ecosystem Accounts (SEEA-EA) and its relevance in policy and decision making**
 3. **Measuring circular economy with SEEA, and the role of waste accounts**
 4. **Using SEEA for policies on climate change and sustainable finance**
 5. **Conclusions and recommendations**


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170-180 participants connected each day.



Map: countries connected on 10 March

Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on SEEA Implementation: 9-11 March 2021



**All presentations, background documents and recordings are available at
<https://unece.org/info/events/event/348372>**

BLOCK YOUR CALENDARS: Next SEEA Seminar will be held 15-16 March 2022

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CES Waste Statistics Framework



Endorsed by CES in June 2021

- Developed by a Task Force chaired by Bosnia-Herzegovina, Canada and the Netherlands
- Includes:
 - conceptual framework for waste statistics;
 - definition of key terms;
 - recommendations for improving waste statistics;
 - recommendations for further work
- Final version will be published early 2022



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Why did the CES Bureau decide to establish a Task Force on measuring CE?



- ❑ Measuring Circular Economy was chosen for an [in-depth review](#) in February 2020; paper was presented to CES Bureau in October 2020:
 - ❑ Authors: Finland (lead), Belarus, Canada, Netherlands, the European Environment Agency (EEA), Eurostat and OECD
 - ❑ Inputs also provided by Colombia, UNECE, UNSD and UNEP
- ❑ The in-depth review recommended to establish a Task Force for developing guidance on measuring CE
- ❑ CES Bureau approved ToR in February 2021

Main measurement issues identified by the in-depth review



- Measurement scope
- Definitions and classifications
- Data availability and fitness
- Coordination across institutions and within the NSO
- Demand and expectations by users (e.g. policy makers, research etc.)
- Dissemination
- Other

Main objectives and activities of the UNECE Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy



- Working period: February 2021 – December 2022
- Main objective: draft practical guidelines for measuring circular economy, including:
 - a) Definition of the measurement scope;
 - b) Clarification of key terms and definitions;
 - c) Identifying key statistics and indicators needed from the policy point of view;
 - d) Identifying data sources for measuring circular economy, with particular attention on SEEA and FDES;
 - e) Describing the required institutional collaboration.
- Other objectives:
 - a) Contribute to the coordination and collaboration of international organisations' related work; and
 - b) Provide platforms for exchange of experience and knowledge (e.g. through Joint OECD/UNECE Seminars on SEEA Implementation).

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Selected outcomes of the 2021 Expert Forum (31 August – 3 September)



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Session 1: Setting the scene

- **Data supply side:** a **data revolution** has been unfolding. Big data analytics, artificial intelligence, the internet of things etc. bring a quantum leap in climate-related data.
- **Data demand side:** a **massive transformation of the economy is needed to avoid the worst consequences** of climate change and biodiversity loss. This transformation should influence planning for statistics
- Recognizing and **embedding requirements for the reporting under the Paris Agreement in official statistics** will enhance the countries' institutional arrangements and readiness to participate in the ETF

Session 2: Measuring climate change vulnerability and adaptation

- Measuring adaptation and vulnerability is **still a considerable challenge** due to contextual and subjective factors
- **Methodological work is needed** on how adaptation metrics can be compared and aggregated across countries and contexts
- More case studies describing contexts, tools and methodologies are needed. The Expert Forum **invited countries to share their work** using the template developed by the Steering Group.

Selected outcomes of the 2021 Expert Forum (31 August – 3 September)



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Session 3: Carbon footprint and consumption-based emissions

- Based on various national experiences, environmentally **extended multi-regional input-output (EE-MRIO) modelling is the best approach** to calculate the carbon footprint of a country.
- Expert Forum **encouraged countries to start activities on producing carbon footprint and consumption-based emissions** using EE-MRIO modelling and share their experience on the UNECE good practice wiki and through the Expert Fora

Session 4: Good practices in producing, disseminating and using CC-related statistics

- **Quarterly data related to climate change are becoming increasingly common**, reflecting the need to provide decision-makers and the public with more regular data on climate change.
- National implementations of the CES Set of Core-Climate-Change-Related Indicators demonstrated that **most of tier I and II and some of the tier III indicators are feasible for statistical offices with well-established environmental statistics programs**. Environmental accounts based on the SEEA framework can provide data for about one-third of the indicators.

CES CC-related indicators, metadata and implementation guidelines now available for download!



<https://unece.org/statistics/publications/CES-set-of-core-climate-change-related-indicators>

Set of 44 core climate change-related indicators



Main purposes of the indicators

1. Paint the big picture of most relevant CC-related issues in an internationally comparable way
2. Address most relevant current policy questions
3. Help to meet upcoming information needs

Complementary with global set of climate change indicators currently being developed by UNSD

Recommendation: National set of CC-related indicators and statistics

- Gradually implement the entire set of core CC-related indicators and related statistics
- If possible, SEEA-based indicators should be prioritized
- If needed, contextual and operational indicators + indicators from the global set of UNSD could be added

Thank you!

Michael Nagy
michael.nagy@un.org

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Key CES resources



- CES Recommendations on Climate Change-Related Statistics (2014)
- Capacity gaps in climate change-related statistics (2015)
- How national statistical offices can support greenhouse gas inventories? (2015)
- Making the case for greater involvement of national statistical offices in measuring climate-change related statistics (2016)
- Report on countries' progress in climate change-related statistics (2017)
- Initial set of key climate change-related indicators and their metadata sheets (2017)
- Tool for countries to prioritize action to improve climate data (2015 and updated in 2017)
- Road maps to improve climate change-related statistics (2017)
- Wiki on good practices on climate change-related statistics (ongoing, since 2017)
- What do national statistical offices need to know about GHG inventories? (2018)
- CES Recommendations on the role of official statistics in measuring hazardous events and disasters (2019)
- CES Refined set of key climate change-related indicators (2020)
- In-depth review on the role of the statistical community in climate action (2020)