System of Environmental Economic Accounting
GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SEEA

Sokol VAko
United Nations Statistics Division
Content

• Global Implementation Strategy
• Implementation Guide and Diagnostic Tool
GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
Global Implementation Strategy

- Adopted by the Statistical Commission in 2013 and updated in 2015 in response to UNSC request to step up implementation
- Implementation to be driven by policy demands and owned by countries
- Strategy takes a flexible and modular approach
1. Targets for the adoption of SEEA as part of National Agendas:
   > **100** countries with ongoing programs on SEEA Central Framework
   > **50** countries initiating work on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting

2. Comparable global baseline data
   > Indicators to support SDGs

3. Programs and material to build capacity
   > Research and education mechanisms

4. Updated SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting
Considerations for implementation

- Strategic approach to implementation
- Linking implementation to policy demands
- National ownership
- Regional and sub-regional approach
- Capacity building
- Communication strategy
Approach to national implementation

Phase 1
• National Assessment and National Plan

Phase 2
• Programs of work for priority accounts

Phase 3
• Pilot compilation of priority accounts

Phase 4
• Data quality assessment and sustainable production of SEEA accounts

Training and Capacity Building
Communication and Advocacy
Tools to support implementation

- **In-country technical assistance**
- **Training materials**
  - Regional and sub-regional workshops
- **Implementation Guide**
- **Compilation manuals**
- **Diagnostic Tool**
- **Technical notes**
  - E-platform – Knowledge center
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE AND DIAGNOSTIC TOOL
Nature of the Implementation Guide

• Introductory and overview document
• Broad direction and support to national level implementation
• Recognizes differences between countries and regions in choice of accounts, institutional contexts etc.
• Reflects implementation lessons learned from past compilers
• Promotes awareness of key implementation issues and risks
• Has two primary audiences: Producer and Sponsor
• Works within the framework of the Implementation Strategy
Structure of the Guide

1. Introduction
   > Rationale for implementation of SEEA

2. Description of key elements of global implementation strategy
   > Including international measurement programs

3. Overview of implementation at country level

4. Preparation of assessment reports and implementation plans

5. Annexes
   > Including diagnostic tool
Overview of implementation at country level: 4 phases

1. Strategic planning
   - Establishing a core group
   - Completing a national assessment report

2. Building mechanisms for implementation
   - Authorized senior board or group
   - Implementation team(s)

3. Compiling and disseminating accounts

4. Strengthening national statistical systems
Diagnostic Tool - Overview

• Tool to support discussions on the implementation of SEEA – particularly in making initial assessment
• Eight areas in line with the logic of the implementation guide
• A guide only
  > Order of areas may vary
  > Questions and additional considerations apply differently
Diagnostic Tool - Areas

1. Stakeholder and institutional arrangements
2. Policy priorities
3. Information and knowledge
4. Existing accounts and previous studies
5. Constraints
6. Opportunities
7. Recommendations for priority accounts
8. Next steps
Key messages

• Essential to undertake strategic planning with range of users and producers
• Make regular and clear decisions and written statements of direction and intent
• Invest in ongoing communication
• Aim to prepare accounts on an ongoing basis
• Incorporate relevant investments in national statistical systems
• Release experimental or research data as part of building capacity and awareness – ‘learning by doing’
• Share experiences and use international support
THANK YOU

seea@un.org