



System of  
Environmental  
Economic  
Accounting

# Business statistics indicators related to the environment and the SEEA

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# Topics

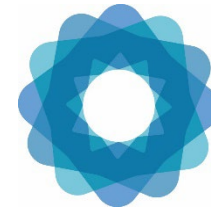
- Brief overview of the SEEA
- Business statistics indicators for the environment and the SEEA
- Linking the SEEA to business accounting
- UNCEEA Business Accounting Working Group

# Brief Overview of the SEEA

# The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

The SEEA is the international statistical standard to measure the environment and its interactions with economy.

- The **SEEA Central Framework** was adopted as an international statistical standard by the UN Statistical Commission in 2012.
- The **SEEA Ecosystem Accounting** complements the Central Framework and was adopted in 2021.
- Close relationship with the **System of National Accounts**



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# Assets & Resources + Ecosystems = SEEA



Measures environmental assets and individual resources and how the economy used them.



Timber



Water



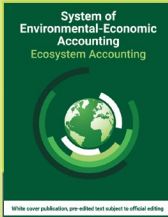
Fish




Soil




Minerals



Measures ecosystems and the services they provide to economic and human activity.



Forests



Rivers

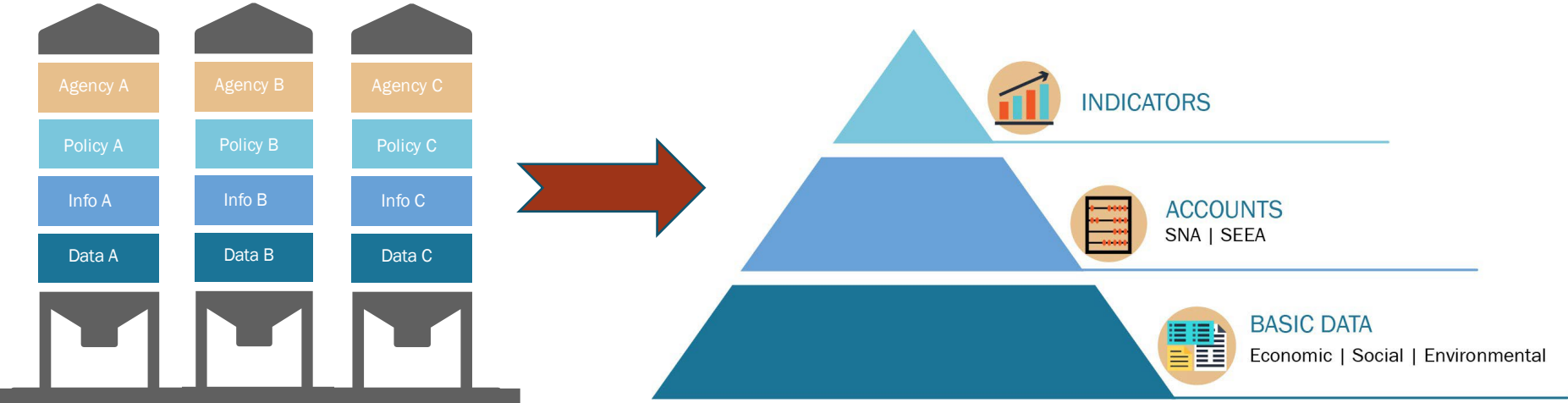


Coral reef



Wetlands

# From data silos to integrated information



# Business statistics indicators for the environment and the SEEA

# The SEEA supports the SDGs

The SEEA provides data for 40 indicators for 9 SDGs...

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

GOAL 14: Life Below Water

GOAL 15: Life on Land





# Data sources for the SEEA

- Business and trade statistics are a key data source for the SNA, but also the SEEA
- Will have even greater importance in the future
- Consistency in definitions, boundaries, scope → easier integration of information, greater efficiencies

# Business Statistics Indicators

- Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics also makes the case for alignment between data production framework for business statistics and the SEEA
  - > Disaggregation by ISIC and use of GVA for efficiency/productivity indicators – SEEA makes use of same classifications, boundaries/scope
  - > High quality, granular, “ready to use” data for compiling SEEA accounts
  - > Recommendation to align with the SEEA in methodology for compiling:
    - Water use (water use efficiency, water stress)
    - Energy use (energy use, renewable energy share, energy efficiency)
    - GHG emissions (emissions per unit VA)

# Linking the SEEA to business accounting

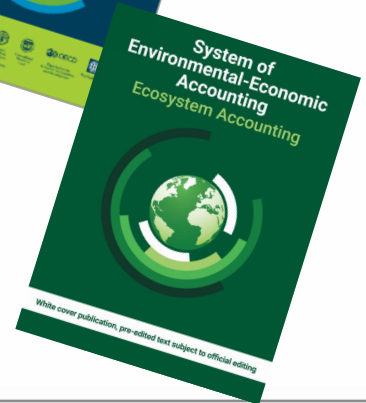
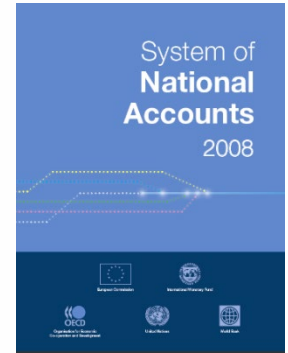
# Links with business accounting



Business surveys  
Structural business statistics



Benchmarking  
Sector-specific statistics



and more

# Links with business accounting

- What would alignment look like?
  - > Standardization /consistency of definitions, classifications, concepts  
OR crosswalking and better understanding of relationships
- Benefits of alignment?
  - > On the side of businesses: Meaningful benchmarks and reference levels; new data sources; easier reporting
  - > On side of NSOs: Better quality input data for compiling the accounts

# UNCEEA Business Accounting Working Group

# UNCEEA Business Accounting Working Group (BAWG)

- UN Committee of Experts on Environmental Economic Accounting
- Agreed upon in 2019, chaired by INEGI
- Goals:
  - Better linkages between public and private sector natural capital accounting and reporting
  - Increased collaboration and awareness raising
  - Greater exchange and use of high quality, interoperable data on natural capital between businesses and NSOs

# Example: Input to GRI Standard for Biodiversity

- UNCEEA BAWG provided comments on the recent draft GRI Biodiversity Standard
- Already some references to SEEA
- Further suggestions to align definitions with those used in the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting
- Made link to the SEEA Central Framework, which can provide important contextual information for businesses on drivers of biodiversity loss
- Suggestion to incorporate more nuanced measures of condition and align disclosure on State of Biodiversity with the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting condition typology
- Recommendation to align classifications and units, e.g. Ecosystem Functional Groups of the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology



# THANK YOU

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