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DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROGRESS REPORT

Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts
in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals
in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions

REPORTING PERIOD COVERED: January 2008- December 2008

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ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROGRESS REPORT

COVER PAGE

PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts *in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions*

PROJECT DURATION: September 2007- December 2009

REPORTING PERIOD COVERED: January 2008- December 2008
FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION RATE: 48%

SUMMARY OF IMPACT:

The overall objective of the project is to enhance the national capacities of ESCWA Member Countries in environment statistics, indicator and accounts in order to integrate environmental concerns into economic development, by taking advantage of an integrated environmental statistical system approach (IESS) in support of progress towards achieving national and international agreed development goals (IADGs).

From January until till December 2008, ESCWA, UNSD, MEDSTAT, ECLAC and UNEP had invested in partnership to implement the selected planned activities jointly. ESCWA conducted two subregional meetings, five missions in ESCWA, three study visits. ESCWA also developed a website for the project, a docubase and a network for experts, and published several publications and reports.

ECLAC was successful in carrying out a number of activities including the following: technical assistance missions, an expert group meeting, a study on the state of environmental statistics and accounts in the region and building important partnerships and mechanisms for regional coordination.

The impact of the partnership was highly significant at the financial and substantive levels. At the financial level, sharing expenses allowed for inviting more experts and delegates from ministries of water or environment while making more economies to be allocated for other activities. The expertise of staff from ESCWA, UNSD, MEDSTAT, UNEP in the field of environment and water statistics and accounts provided high quality training materials and comprehensive explanations on the methods and procedures. The training material was prepared in advance, translated into Arabic, and uploaded on the websites of the concerned organizations. PCs were provided to work with the real data. The impact of the hands-on trainings, and the missions expedited the compilation of water accounts in Jordan, Egypt, Bahrain and Palestine. The discussions and the recommendations provided feedback to adapt the standard tables and the International recommendations of water statistics to the regional priorities and specificities. The progress made and countries experiences will be presented at the World Water Forum in Istanbul, in March 2009. The activities were disseminated on the Internet and in local News (Att.1)

ESCWA promoted the project by developing the network, the docubase on the ESIAP website <http://esiap.escwa.un.org/index.php>. The website was launched during the opening of sub-regional workshop on water accounts, in presence of high officials from the statistical offices and the ministries of water in Lebanon and the Gulf states. The Network members are already consulting the docubase and are exchanging ideas and discussing issues in the field of environment statistics and accounts.(Att.2)

The Implementation rate for the project up to December 2008 is 48%.



A1.1. Organize 1 regional training session in ESCWA for national statistical offices and other concerned departments to strengthen their capacity a) in the production of environment statistics and accounts, indicators of relevance to national and Internationally agreed development goals; b) in adopting international definitions and standards, in using information and communication technologies for data storage and dissemination, and c) in improving user-producer relationships. Workshop will provide a forum for a dialogue among the countries of the region and for exchange of country experiences. ECLAC will participate to present lessons learned.

The meeting is planned for end of 2009 beginning 2010. After 2 subregional meetings in ESCWA region, 2 EGMs, one in ECLAC and one in ESCWA, and several mission, the regional meetings will bring together to share experience and lessons learned within the region and between the 2 regions.

A1.2. Deliver 4 technical assistance missions in ESCWA at the national level, according to national needs and capacities, incorporating horizontal technical cooperation activities amongst ESCWA-ECLAC countries (South-South cooperation).

ESCWA conducted five technical assistance missions to Statistical Offices of ESCWA member countries:

1. Mission to Jordan, Department of Statistics (DOS), 9 March 2008

ESCWA organized a mission to the Department of Statistics (DOS) in Jordan in coordination with Ms. MEDSTAT and UNSD preceding the joint sub-regional workshop. Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn, from ESCWA, Ms. Rodier-Quéflec from MEDSTAT and Mr. Michael Vardon of UNSD met with representatives from the environment statistics unit in and national Accounts unit in DOS and from the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and discussed the progress made by DOS on the preparation of water accounts and how ESCWA, UNSD and MEDSTAT can assist in further development of the accounts in the country. Discussions and advice was given on data, surveys and coordination needed to prepare the Water Accounts and means of cooperation on the development account project with MEDSTAT II and UNSD in such a way to complement each others activities and not to duplicate.

The mission was useful in promoting the coordination between organizations (ESCWA_UNSD_MEDSTAT) for the benefit of member countries and promoting the coordination with concerned departments within the statistical office and with other departments 4) encouraging the implementation of recommendation from previous mission by UNSD to DOS in 2007.

At the meeting it was announced that the Jordanian water accounts would be published within 6 months. In fact Jordan had produced the first draft of the Pilot Water Accounts in December 2008 (attached)

2. Mission to Lebanon, Central Administration of Statistics (CAS), 29 August 2008

ESCWA organized a mission to CAS following the second subregional meeting in Beirut. ESCWA and UNSD representatives met with the General Director of CAS and representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Energy and Water and Council of Ministers to review data sources related to Water Accounts. proposed mechanisms for coordination and suggested timetable for the development of water accounting in Lebanon and identified possibilities of cooperation with UNEP, MEDSTAT, UNDP. CAS requested ESCWA and UNSD to provide further technical assistance missions on surveys, data collection, etc. (1 to 2 weeks).

3. Mission to Oman, Ministry of National Economy (MONE), 30-31 August 2008.

ESCWA and UNSD representatives met with staff from Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Regional Municipalities and Water Resources and a presentation officials of



these and other agencies at which a draft of this report along with a presentation on the SEEAW and its implementation in selected countries (China, Dominican Republic, Jordan and South Africa) were presented. This meeting was held on 31 August 2008 at the Ministry of the National Economy.

The director of Economic Statistics Department and the Officials for different ministries requested further assistance of ESCWA and UNSD on the implementation of SEEAW. MONE requested that ESCWA and UNSD provide further technical assistance missions and assistance in conducting national training workshop for users-producers.

4. Mission to Egypt, Central Administration for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), 23 November-2 December 2008.

ESCWA and MEDSTAT planned joint missions to consultant from ESCWA (Mr. Raddad) and consultant from MEDSTAT (Ms. Spanneut). During the mission, the consultants assisted the National Working group on the following:

- A review of the concepts, framework and vocabulary used in the SEEAW in the light of the first work did by the Egyptian colleagues;
- Fill-in the first water accounts standards tables and adapt them the national context;
- Estimate missing data;
- Design an implementation plan for water accounts;
- Set-up a water accounts development process gathering all the partner institutions and working group participants.

5. Mission to, Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) in Damascus, Syria, 2-4 December 2008.

The mission was conducted jointly by one staff from ESCWA and two experts from MEDSTAT. The purpose is to follow-up on the status of preparation environmental accounts in Syria and to join efforts to advance the field of environmental accounting in ESCWA-MEDSTAT member countries.

The experts made presentations to invited officials from different ministries and department to emphasize the benefits of the implementation of the System of Environmental Economic Accounting in general and in Syria in particular. A discussion followed on the interest of the different parties to undertake such an exercise and the ways to implement it. Experts assessed the situation of environment accounts in Syria and identified users and producers of environment statistics in Syria and data sources, and gave recommendations about CBS environmental surveys.

A work plan with the activities and partners involved was proposed to CBS and its partners to produce environment statistics, water accounts and environmental expenditure accounts. The work plan was discussed with the representatives and left to CBS to set the time-line according CBS plans and priorities. The building of water accounts and of EPEA seems to be on a right track. Pilot accounts can be built, which will be refined later with the help of a revision of CBS surveys and transmission of more detailed data by its institutional partners.

A CD-ROM including documents about MEDSTAT/ESCWA workshops in the past two years has been left for reproduction to all participants to the meeting.

Five Final reports on the missions attached along with presentations that were given to audience provided on CD (Sample Att.3.).



A1.3. Organize 2 subregional workshops on environment statistics, indicators and accounts for ESCWA to strengthen capacities and subregional networking

1. ESCWA MEDSTAT II sub-regional training session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW), Amman, Jordan, 10-13 March 2008.

<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=683E>

In collaboration with MEDSTAT II Environment Sector and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ESCWA organized the Joint Sub-regional Training Session on the System of Integrated Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water Resources, from 10 to 13 March 2008. The session fell within the framework of the activities of the *Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts Project (ESIAP)* and was pursuant to the Expert Group Meeting on the Production of Statistics on Natural Resources and Environment held in Cairo from 5 to 7 June 2007. The training session was attended by representatives from National Statistical Offices and water ministries in nine ESCWA member countries, as well as by an expert from the Austrian Federal Environment Agency.

The meeting was attended by 29 participants, including 24 representing ESCWA member countries (14 men and 10 women), and five representing the international organizations.

The Session focused on explaining and discussing the basic concepts, definitions, methodologies and classifications used in the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW), which was adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission as a statistical benchmark in 2007, in the framework of the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA). Hands-on exercises and examples of how to complete in detail standard tables for water supply and use, emission accounts, asset accounts and others were also presented.

Discussions revolved around ways to collect data related to the SEEAW and on the difficulties faced by those producing these data. Participants unanimously agreed on the need for both coordination between the parties involved in producing environmental and water data and National Statistical Offices, and for the standardization of concepts and methodologies in order to prepare integrated environmental and economic accounts.

The discussions culminated in the drafting of a set of recommendations addressed to both member countries and ESCWA aimed at enhancing the quality of water statistics so as to produce standard tables in SEEAW on which decision makers in water resources management could rely in order to achieve economic growth that would ensure sustainable development.

2. Training Session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf Countries, August 25-28, 2008, Beirut, Lebanon

<http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=819E>

ESCWA organized a second training session on SEEAW for the Arab Gulf country jointly with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which was held in UN House, Beirut, during the period 25-28 August 2008.

The training sessions was attended by 19 participants from Central Statistical Offices and the water and environment authorities and from other agencies of the 6 Arab Gulf Countries and Lebanon. In addition an expert from the Austrian Federal Environment Agency, UAE, and representatives from Lebanon, UNESCWA, UNSD and UNEP also attended.



The workshops provided knowledge on the compilation, practical and operational use of the SEEAW, and sharing experiences which may enable pilot water accounts for some countries to be produced as well as strengthening national statistical capacities and enhancing sub-regional networking.

Discussions and exercises focused on: (a) The compilation of data required by the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW); (b) the preparation of the SEEAW standard tables; (c) Practical and operational process, and application examples.

Participants of the workshop agreed on the importance of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the region and proposed the following to support its implementation:

1. Build capacity to obtain reliable, continuous & harmonious primary water data including strengthening national statistical bureaus and establishing and operating water monitoring facilities, applying standard monitoring procedures and QA/QC programs.
2. Undertake comprehensive knowledge mapping effort to assess water and environment monitoring systems and related economic data collections that generate primary data in terms of achievements, gaps, constraints, challenges, opportunities, lessons learned, best practices and coordination instruments building on existing studies in the region by ESCWA, UNEP and their partners.
3. Enhance coordination among the national authorities concerned with environment, water and statistics via an institutionalized coordination mechanisms among various agencies that generate primary data for water & environment accounting with a specific action program with the assistance of ESCWA, UNEP and UNSD.
4. Collect the necessary information via surveys, administrative records or other means to obtain the required information for the development of water accounts according to the international standard SEEAW.
5. Develop the information systems necessary for integrated information on environment, water and economic sectors building on existing initiatives in the region.
6. For UNSD to continue to develop and provide material for the implementation of SEEAW and water statistics and in particular provide guidance on the definition of freshwater, taking into consideration the peculiarity of this region and input from countries.
7. For ESCWA and UNEP to provide documentation on environment and water statistics, indicators and accounts in Arabic language
8. For ESCWA, UNSD, and UNEP to provide technical support to GCC Countries on mechanisms for integrating components of environmental accounting (economic & environmental).
9. Adapt and provide to countries the SEEAW standard tables in order to take into consideration the regional peculiarities of member states:
10. To expand the cooperation and sharing experience with other regions and specifically with institutions and experts of the European Union, OECD, and the World Bank, etc.

Final reports of the meetings attached (Att.4)



A2.1. Convene an expert group meeting for ESCWA in collaboration with UNSD, ECLAC, and other concerned agencies on environment and water statistics and accounts to set guidelines and provide recommendations on methodological documents on integrated environmental statistical systems (basic statistics, indicators and integrated accounting), taking into account the manuals produced by UNSD in particular documents on water accounting (Supply/use, hybrid accounts, environmental expenditures)

The ESCWA EGM was rescheduled to first half 2009 after consultation with UNSD and ECLAC. Contacts with MEDSTAT, UNEP and the World Bank have been pursued and agreement on cooperation.

A2.2. Produce and distribute the methodological documents on integrated environmental statistical systems (basic statistics, indicators and integrated accounting) in particular documents on water accounting: Supply/use, hybrid accounts, environmental expenditures, definitions and guidelines and indicators on water statistics/accounting questionnaire for ESCWA for ESCWA (in Arabic).

ESCWA had provided the below publications or reports:

1. ***“Manual on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW). Part. I. Arabic. 2008. 112 pages.***

The UNSD manual SEEAW Part I and the standard tables were translated through a consultancy from the project budget. The Arabic version helped the participants better understand and apply the compilations process. The manual was uploaded on the website for dissemination and sharing.

2. **ESCWA 2008a. General and Specific Surveys to Compile data on Water Accounts in the Arab Countries. 48 pages. Arabic.**

The publication aimed at reviewing the methods for environment and water statistics in general, data sources and definitions, and in particular the SEEAW. The publication presented samples for different surveys related to water and environment information. It was distributed to network members and concerned stakeholders.

3. ***Framework for environmental economic accounting in the ESCWA region. English. 61 pages.***

The publication explains the SEEA approach developed by UNSD and proposes the system to the ESCWA countries with an adaptation to take into account regional priorities and specificities. Such a system addresses in the context of environmental accounting, scarce water resources, land degradation, and exploitation of oil and gas resources which are considered main constraints in achieving sustainable development. It is composed of five parts. Part 1 gives a background on environmental and economic accounting. Part 2 explains specific resource accounts of priority to the region, in particular water, energy, soil and land and ecosystem accounts. Part 3 explains the environmental protection expenditure component of the SEEA. Part 4 overviews the cost of environmental degradation, Part 5 presents a regional agenda, recommendations and conclusions.

The publication will serve as background document for discussion in the ESCWA EGM on Economic and Environmental Accounting planned for first half 2009.

The publication is intended to be a useful guide to statisticians, environment experts and policymakers in their efforts to develop a system for collecting environment statistics. The ESCWA member countries, in their commitment to achieve sustainable development, will benefit from the implementation of SEEA by compiling and disseminating timely, reliable, relevant and comparable environmental data that can be integrated in the economic data for use by Government officials, concerned stakeholders and the public.



4. Regional study on the state of environmental statistics, indicators and accounts

ECLAC carried out a regional study to determine the state of national environmental statistics programs; identify main challenges and offer some suggestions to strengthen the development of environmental statistics in the region. The study was based primarily on the results of a survey known as the Global Assessment of Environmental Statistics carried out by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in 2007. Moreover, telephone interviews were carried out with representatives from organizations in 16 countries to deepen understanding of the state of their environmental statistics programs.

The study indicates that in the past 8 years significant progress has been made with a greater number of national organizations taking steps to institutionalize environmental statistics. The study points to the need to enhance various aspects of the national environmental statistics systems among which stand out the need to strengthen inter-institutional mechanisms, the development of metadata and methodological documents and the need for capacity building programs in both technical and organizational terms. To accelerate the development of environmental statistics in the region, the document presents some recommendations directed to both national and international organizations working in the production and development of environmental statistics.

A2.3. Produce, distribute and update a database, docubase, and expertbase on environment information for ESCWA. <http://esiap.escwa.org.lb/>

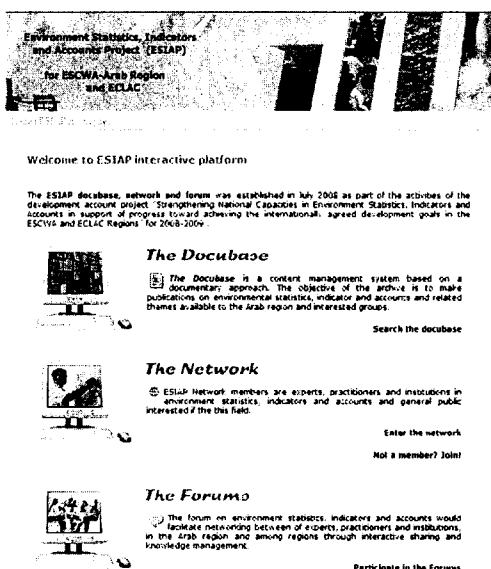
Database:

The existing ESIS database-Module Environment <http://esis.escwa.org.lb/> is being regularly updated. Consultancy for further development and distribution to countries will be pursued.



ESIAP Docubase: <http://esiap.escwa.org.lb/docubase/index.php>

ESCWA developed a Docubase which is a content management system based on a documentary approach. The objective of the archive is to make publications on environmental statistics, indicator and accounts and related themes available to the Arab region and interested groups. ESCWA added existing documents on environment statistics and accounts at ESCWA and United Nations websites and libraries, as well as other publications in the field, in the docubase.





A3.2.Undertake 6 study tours:4 practitioners within ESCWA from selected countries to learn best practices from leading countries or agencies and 2 tours between ESCWA and ECLAC;

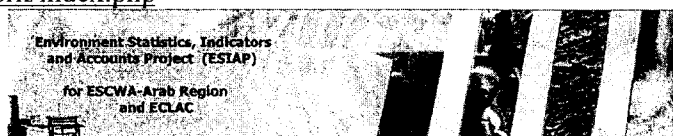
Three officials from the least developed ESCWA member country: officials from Yemen, Palestine and Iraq, ESCWA member countries affected by conflict, followed a fellowship for one week in the department of Statistics in Jordan to learn on the preparation of surveys on environment and water, and the compilations procedures as well as the data analysis and reporting.

A3.4.Establish a network in ESCWA, using lessons learned from ECLAC model, to promote information sharing and exchange of experiences among environment statistics experts, to encourage the implementation of international definitions, methodologies and standards; access to information on websites and exchange of statistical reports.



ESIAP Network <http://esiap.escwa.org.lb/network/index.php>

ESIAP Network members are experts, practitioners and institutions in environment statistics, indicators and accounts and general public interested in this field.



The Network



ESIAP forum
<http://esiap.escwa.org.lb/forums/index.php>

ESIAP forum on environment statistics, indicators and accounts would facilitate networking between experts, practitioners and institutions, in the Arab region and among regions through interactive sharing and knowledge management.

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ECLAC

A1.4. Deliver 6 technical assistance missions in ECLAC countries, according needs and capacities in environmental statistics and indicators. 4 TA will be directly performed by ECLAC staff, complemented by the realization of 2 horizontal cooperation technical assistance amongst ECLAC countries.

During May 14-16, 2008 ECLAC carried out a technical assistance mission to Cuba to build the capacities of the National Environmental Indicators Group (NEIG) coordinated by the National Statistical Office (NSO) and the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Environment in the construction of environmental indicators. Approximately 30 persons received capacity building and 20 national environmental indicators were examined and refined during the exercises. The Cuban NSO is currently working on developing its first national set of environmental indicators and the methodological sheets will be submitted to ECLAC for review. Moreover, as a result of the mission, Cuba is keen on organizing with the help of ECLAC a national workshop on environmental indicators to be attended by staff from all over the island. The Cuban NSO is currently looking for funds to support this activity which pending funding would take place in May 2009.

From June 30 to July 4, 2008 ECLAC carried out a technical assistance mission in Caracas, Venezuela that consisted of a national workshop on the construction of environmental indicators. The workshop was hosted by the National Statistical Office and attended by 85 participants representing the national Sub-Committee on Environmental Statistics including the Ministry of Environment, Central Bank, provincial offices of the NSO and national offices of UNDP and FAO. During the workshop 10 environmental indicators were produced which likely will form part of Venezuela's environmental indicators. The follow-up to the workshop includes the further development of a set of indicators and their submission to ECLAC for review.

From July 14-18, 2008 a technical assistance mission was carried out by the United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico's National Water Commission (CONAGUA) on Water Accounting in the Dominican Republic. ECLAC financed the participation of water expert Ricardo Lagunes Martinez of CONAGUA as part of the horizontal technical assistance missions of the project. The Environmental Secretariat of the Dominican Republic is elaborating integrated water accounts and during the mission the UNSD/CONAGUA team reviewed progress to date; supported the completion of six standard tables of the *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water* (SEEAW); helped produce diagrams showing the physical and monetary flows of the east region, and assisted the team in elaborating a plan for the completion of the accounts. All 17 participants increased their knowledge of SEEAW as well as the practical skills needed to estimate and record the stocks and flows of the standard tables.

A2.4. Organize an Expert Group Meeting for ECLAC on environment statistics and indicators to strengthen capacities and subregional networking

A regional expert group meeting was held from May 19-21, 2008 in Havana, Cuba. The objectives of the EGM were to provide a space to discuss and reflect on the main advances and challenges in the development of environmental statistics in the region, and contribute to the elaboration of a strategy and a plan of action for the next 10 years. The Expert Group Meeting produced valuable inputs for the improvement of the following: the study carried out by ECLAC on the state of environmental statistics; the terms of reference being developed for the establishment of a working in environmental statistics by the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA). Moreover, valuable discussions were held that resulted in the identification of key elements for the elaboration of a regional agenda for the development of environmental statistics, indicators and accounts.



Partnerships and regional coordination mechanisms

The cooperation between MEDSTAT II, ESCWA and UNSD enhanced inter-regional synergies, maximized cost effectiveness, and contributed to sub-regional, regional and interregional networking.

The impact of the partnership was highly significant at the financial and substantive levels. At the financial level, sharing expenses allowed for inviting more experts and delegates from ministries of water or environment while making more economies to be allocated for other activities.

The expertise of staff from ESCWA, UNSD, MEDSTAT, UNEP and the participating consultants in the field of environment and water statistics and accounts provided high quality training materials and exercises and comprehensive explanations on the methods and procedures. The training manuals were prepared in advance, and uploaded on the websites of the concerned organizations. Most of the material was translated into Arabic which was highly appreciated by participants. PCs were made available for participants to work with the real data and prepare standard tables on water accounts with the assistance of experts. The impact of the hands-on trainings, and the missions expedited the compilation of water accounts in Jordan, Egypt, Bahrain and Palestine. The discussions and the recommendations provided feedback to adapt the standard tables and the International recommendations of water statistics to the regional priorities and specificities. The progress made and the countries experiences will be presented at the World Water Forum in Istanbul, in March 2009.

At the international levels, ESCWA's membership to the London Group and UNCEAA, was strengthened and the regional input to the group's activities was beneficial since the group is most of the members are from OECD countries.

In 2008, ECLAC began coordinating the establishment of a working group on environmental statistics under the auspices of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA). During the regional expert group meeting the draft terms of reference of the new SCA working group were discussed and recommendations were made for their improvement. Moreover, the project has facilitated the elaboration of the terms of reference for the new working group through improved contact with national organizations and ECLAC's growing visibility as a key player in the development of environmental statistics in the region. During the 8th meeting of the executive committee of the SCA that took place on October 22-24, 2008 in the Dominican Republic, approved in preliminary form the terms of reference and work plan of the new group and recommended its definitive approval and establishment in the next meeting of the Conference (August 2009).

Through the technical assistance missions, the study and expert group meeting the project has helped build and strengthen partnerships with several national environmental statistical organizations especially NSOs and environment ministries. Moreover, the project is strengthening collaboration with UNSD and the regional office of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)

A new cooperation was created through the project with the Austrian Ministry of Environment. A training for Iraq on water statistics and indicators and other ESCWA countries will be organized in December 2009 co-funded by OPEC. Savings from sharing cost in the joint meetings will allow ESCWA to add this activity to the project.



1. REVIEW OF EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN LINE WITH THE LOG FRAME AS PER PROJECT DOCUMENT

EA1	Strengthened skills of National Officials to produce relevant, quality, comparable and timely environment statistics, indicators, and accounts using the systemic approach, Integrated Environmental Statistical Systems (IESS) that incorporates statistics, indicators and environmental accounting, for monitoring progress towards national and internationally agreed development goals.
I.1.1: <i>Quantitative Performance</i> (Indicator(s) related to EA1)	<p>Increased number of national officials, practitioners, institutions, trained in producing environment statistics, indicators, and accounts through the workshops, technical assistance missions and study tours developed by the project.</p> <p>In the ESCWA region, 93 officials: 50 from training workshops, 3 from study visits and at least 40 from the 4 technical assistance missions had enhanced their skills in environment statistics and accounts.</p> <p>In the ECLAC region in 2008 the project has strengthened the skills of over 100 public service professionals in the production of environmental statistics, indicators and accounts.</p> <p>The Network and docubase as well as the publications produced within the project have a longer term effect in improving the skills of members. The results can be quantified in a year from now.</p>
Qualitative Results achieved for EA1:	<p>Apart from building capacities and increasing knowledge on environmental statistics, indicators and accounts, the project has helped raise awareness and increase the profile of environmental statistics within national statistics organizations at varying degrees.</p> <p>The most impact seen in Jordan, Egypt, Oman in the ESCWA region and in Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela in the ECLA region. Moreover, the project has contributed to strengthening the national coordination mechanisms in these countries responsible for producing environmental statistics. Cuba has expressed its enthusiasm and commitment to continue supporting capacity building activities by looking to secure funds to co-organize with ECLAC a nationwide workshop to build capacities in environmental statistics and indicators</p>
A1.1	Organize 1 regional training session in ESCWA for national statistical offices and other concerned departments to strengthen their capacity a) in the production of environment statistics and accounts, indicators of relevance to national and Internationally agreed development goals; b) in adopting international definitions and standards, in using information and communication technologies for data storage and dissemination, and c) in improving user-producer relationships. Workshop will provide a forum for a dialogue among the countries of the region and for exchange of country experiences. ECLAC will participate to present lessons learned. (End 2009-beginning 2010)
A.1.2	<p>Deliver 4 technical assistance missions in ESCWA at the national level, according to national needs and capacities, incorporating horizontal technical cooperation activities amongst ESCWA-ECLAC countries (South-South cooperation). (2008-2009)</p> <p>ESCWA conducted five technical assistance missions to Statistical Offices of ESCWA member countries: Jordan, Oman, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, in cooperation with UNSD and MEDSTAT. An upcoming</p>



	mission is planned for the ECLAC expert on water to 2 ESCWA countries. Time and agenda in preparation.
A.1.3	Organize 2 subregional workshops on environment statistics, indicators and accounts for ESCWA to strengthen capacities and subregional networking. (2008-2009)
A.1.4	ECLAC delivered two technical assistance missions, one in Cuba benefiting about 30 participants and one in Venezuela benefiting approximately 85 persons that focused on building national capacities for the construction of environmental indicators. Moreover, a technical assistance mission was carried out by UNSD on water accounting in the Dominican Republic and supported with horizontal cooperation through the participation of an expert from Mexico's National Water Commission. The five day training workshop was attended by 17 persons from five national institutions.
EA2	Increased national and regional production, dissemination and use of environment statistics, indicators and accounting using advanced information and communication technology and improved metadata production, for knowledge management by policy makers, the public and the media towards achieving sustainable development
1.2.1: <i>Quantitative Performance</i> (Indicator(s) related to EA2)	<p>Increased number of countries and institutions disseminating environment statistics, indicators and accounts, using common statistical definitions, methodologies and metadata format.</p> <p>The Department of Statistics has published a pilot water accounts for Jordan in 2008.</p> <p>The Venezuelan NSO has recently published its environmental statistics and indicators in an online portal available at: http://www.ineinfo.ine.gob.ve/</p> <p>In 2008, the Cuban NSO published its environmental panorama which consists of the main national environmental statistics and indicators.</p> <p>The Dominican Republic is using the SEEAW to compile water accounts and plans to publish the accounts for its eastern region in 2009.</p> <p>In 2008, ECLAC received environmental statistics from 20 countries in the region. The data are being published in ECLAC's statistical yearbook and in its online database available at www.eclac.org/deype/badeima</p> <p>The database was visited regularly by external users and approximately 7000 downloads were registered in 2008.</p>
Qualitative Results achieved for EA2:	<p>Increased knowledge by National partners in ESCWA Region on environment statistics through dissemination of ESCWA electronic format publications to stakeholders such as "the Compendium of Environment Statistics in the ESCWA Region", the "framework for Environmental Accounting" and the "General and Specific Surveys to Compile data on Water Accounts in the Arab Countries" and through consulting the existing database on environment statistics on ESCWA's website.</p> <p>Increased knowledge by national partners in ECLAC of environmental statistics through participation in the regional study, expert group meeting and through participation in the publication of environmental statistics in the Statistical Yearbook and CEPALSTAT.</p>



A.2.1	Convene an expert group meeting for ESCWA in collaboration with UNSD, ECLAC, and other concerned agencies on environment and water statistics and accounts to set guidelines and provide recommendations on methodological documents on integrated environmental statistical systems (basic statistics, indicators and integrated accounting), taking into account the manuals produced by UNSD in particular documents on water accounting (Supply/use, hybrid accounts, environmental expenditures). (2009-Coordination with UNSD, ECLAC, MedStat on organization).
A.2.2	Produce and distribute the methodological documents on integrated environmental statistical systems (basic statistics, indicators and integrated accounting) in particular documents on water accounting: Supply/use, hybrid accounts, environmental expenditures, definitions and guidelines and indicators on water statistics/accounting questionnaire for ESCWA for ESCWA (in Arabic). Three publications were produced by ESCWA in 2008: The UNSD manual "SEAW Part I" and the standard tables; "General and Specific Surveys to Compile data on Water Accounts in the Arab Countries. 48 pages. Arabic"; and "Framework for environmental economic accounting in the ESCWA region. English"; The IRWS manual by UNSD will have a priority to be translated and further discussed among experts during ESCWA planned EGM.
A.2.3	Produce, distribute and update a database, docubase, and expertbase on environment information for ESCWA. (2007-2008-2009) ESCWA developed a Docubase which is a content management system based on a documentary approach. The objective of the archive is to make publications on environmental statistics, indicator and accounts and related themes available to the Arab region and interested groups. The existing ESIS database-Module Environment is being regularly updated. Consultancy for further development and distribution to countries will be pursued.
A.2.4	A regional expert group meeting was held from May 19-21, 2008 in Havana, Cuba and attended by 18 experts (including ECLAC staff) from 12 countries in the region and one UN staff person from New York.
EA3	Strengthened regional network of experts and practitioners and increased interchange of experiences, best practices and methodologies.
I.3.1: <i>Quantitative Performance (Indicator(s) related to EA3)</i>	The links among national officials and with international experts have been strengthened. Interactions during meetings and through the web-based network were enhanced. 320 experts from the ESCWA region and international experts accepted to be members of the ESIAP Network. A consultancy will be prepared for a facilitator to the forum to exchange documents and ideas.
Qualitative Results achieved for EA3:	The development of the network of experts in the field is underway. Terms of reference for the development of the network have been prepared and a consultant was identified. Exchange of documents and experiences with existing emailing list. Through the expert group meeting several key players in the environmental statistics field were able to reconnect, exchange experiences and contribute to elaborating a regional plan of action and to



	enhance the terms of reference for the development of a working group on environmental statistics that is being established by the Statistical Conference of the Americas. The study carried out in 2008 also provided the opportunity to collect experiences and good practices which will be published in early 2009.
A.3.1	Organize a regional training workshop in ECLAC for national statistical offices and other concerned departments to strengthen their capacity in the production of environment statistics and indicators (location: LAC country). ESCWA participates for networking and knowledge sharing. Other suggested participants: UNEP, UNSD, country representatives, experts. (2009)
A.3.2-3.3	Undertake 6 study tours: 4 practitioners within ESCWA from selected countries to learn best practices from leading countries or agencies and 2 tours between ESCWA and ECLAC; and Undertake study tour for 4 practitioners for ECLAC from selected countries to exchange best practices from leading countries or agencies (2008-2009) Officials from the least developed ESCWA member country: officials from Yemen, Palestine and Iraq, ESCWA member countries affected by conflict, followed a fellowship for one week in the department of Statistics in Jordan to learn on the preparation of surveys on environment and water, and the compilations procedures as well as the data analysis and reporting. Two more study tours will be offered to Lebanon and Jordan to the World Water Forum 5 where they will meet with ECLA expert as well. A study tour is being organized for Paraguay to visit Mexico in early March 2009. Paraguay is interested in learning about Mexico's environmental statistics system and is particularly interested in water statistics. Mexico has agreed to receive the Paraguayan delegation.
A.3.4	Establish a network in ESCWA , using lessons learned from ECLAC model, to promote information sharing and exchange of experiences among environment statistics experts, to encourage the implementation of international definitions, methodologies and standards; access to information on websites and exchange of statistical reports. (2007-2008-2009)

Activities for Inter-Agency Coordination and Review, Monitoring and Evaluation

Two inter agency video-conferences for project planning and coordination (representatives of ESCWA, ECLAC, and UNSD)

2. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Description: Insecurity in the Middle East and Language in Latin America

Given the continuity of uncertainties in the security situation which prevailed in Beirut, the first subregional meeting was not conducted in Beirut. The participation of ESCWA to ECLAC's EGM in Cuba was not realized due to the closure of Beirut Airport on the same week of the EGM. Other insecurity problems may arise which might affect the venues and/or the dates of the meetings planned for 2009 in ESCWA.



There is an interest to engage at least on English speaking Caribbean country in the project. Efforts have been made to build partnerships with CARICOM in hope to identify a country that could participate in at least one of the project's activities. A representative from CARICOM attended the expert group meeting but no concrete opportunities have been identified to date. One of the major challenges is the language barrier and the project does not have the resources to address this. Additionally, the needs of Small Island states are very particular while local technical capacities are limited making it more challenging to share knowledge from mainland Latin America to the Caribbean.

Actions taken to solve the issues, if possible:

Regarding insecurity, the first sub regional workshop was conducted in Jordan. Regarding the Cuba meeting, after preparation of the input, Ms. Aboul Hosn from ESCWA provided Ms. Alessadra Alfieri of UNSD with the papers to present on her behalf the ESCWA experience and the final report of the meeting has been shared.

Regarding language, in 2009, additional efforts will be made to engage with the English speaking Caribbean.

3. SUSTAINABILITY

The project provided a significant support to member countries on environment statistics, indicators and accounts. For example Water accounts had been put now on the agenda of member countries which will try to complement their requests on assistance from other organizations or from national sources. The World Bank is now developing a project on Environmental Accounting for the MENA Region. When this project is implemented, member countries will have a basis to continue with the WB.

4. REVISIONS

The regional meeting is planned for end of 2009, beginning 2010. After 2 subregional meetings in ESCWA region, 2 EGMs, one in ECLAC and one in ESCWA, and several mission, the regional meetings will bring together to share experience and lessons learned within the region and between the 2 regions. A bottom-top approach was found to be more effective where technical people were involved and trained on environment Statistics and Accounts. The learning experience of participants, the reports and the media coverage gave raised awareness among governments and public on environmental accounting.

A new cooperation was created through the project with the Austrian Ministry of Environment. A training for Iraq on water statistics and indicators and other ESCWA countries will be organized in December 2009 co-funded by the OPEC fund. Savings from sharing cost in the joint meetings will allow ESCWA to add this activity to the project.

During the study carried out by ECLAC on the state of environmental statistics in the LAC region and the Expert Group Meeting it became clear that they is great interest and high demand for capacity building in environmental accounting. Due to this demand UNSD has received requests from 22 countries for technical assistance on water accounts in the LAC region. It was decided that carrying out a small workshop for countries committed to carrying out water accounting would add significant value to the project. The workshop will be co-organised and co-funded by UNSD and ECLAC.

In terms of the study tours, the project does not have sufficient funds to sponsor three study tours within the LAC region and one study tour from ECLAC to OECD, therefore, two study tours will take place within the LAC region and pending on funding a third tour will be organized from ECLAC to OECD.



5. WORK PLAN FOR THE REMAINING ACTIVITIES

	Duration / Date of completion
EA1	Strengthened skills of National Officials to produce relevant, quality, comparable and timely environment statistics, indicators, and accounts using the systemic approach, Integrated Environmental Statistical Systems (IESS) that incorporates statistics, indicators and environmental accounting, for monitoring progress towards national and internationally agreed development goals.
A1.1	Regional training session in ESCWA 3 days- 2 months preparation -November 2009.
A.1.2	3 Missions in Q1-2009, Q2-2009 and Q4-2009, each mission is 4 days
A.1.3	Completed
A.1.4	Missions in Q2-09 and Q3-09, each mission is four days
EA2	Increased national and regional production, dissemination and use of environment statistics, indicators and accounting using advanced information and communication technology and improved metadata production, for knowledge management by policy makers, the public and the media towards achieving sustainable development
A.2.1	3 days in Q3 2009 (2 months preparation)
A.2.2	2 months 2009 (IRWS in Arabic)
A.2.3	The existing ESIS database-Module Environment is being regularly updated. Consultancy for further development and distribution to countries will be pursued. (1 month at the end of Q2 and Q4 2009)
A.2.4	Completed
EA3	Strengthened regional network of experts and practitioners and increased interchange of experiences, best practices and methodologies.
A.3.1	Revision: practical workshop on water accounts 4 days in June 2009 (2 months preparation) Regional training workshop 5 days in September 2009 (3 months preparation)
A.3.2	4 study tours within ESCWA, 5 days each depending on availability of host NSO Revision: 2 study tours one from ECLAC to ESCWA and vice versa
A.3.3	Revision: 2 study tours within ECLAC and one from ECLAC to OECD. These study tours will be 3-5 days each depending on availability of participants and budget.
A.3.4	Developed. Follow-up and Maintenance needed-2 months in 2009

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

Please provide a small sample of the most relevant information on the progress of the project.

- Evaluations of activities:
 1. Evaluations were carried out the Su-Regional Meetings in ESCWA
 2. Evaluations were carried out for the technical assistance missions to Cuba and Venezuela.
- Publications:
 1. "Manual on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEA-W). Part. I. Arabic. 2008. 112 pages.
 2. ESCWA 2008a. General and Specific Surveys to Compile data on Water Accounts in the Arab Countries. 48 pages. Arabic.



3. Framework for environmental economic accounting in the ESCWA region. English. 61 pages.
 4. State of environmental statistics in the LAC region: advances, challenges and perspectives (Spanish)
- **Media coverage:**
 1. Article in Jordan daily News Paper on Water Accounts Meeting, 11/03/2008
 2. Article in Dominican Republic's Press on the Water Accounts DR 8/5/2008
 3. ESCWA News Letter March 2008
 4. EuroMed Info News Center, 01/02/2008
 5. ESCWA News letter August 2008
 - **Meeting reports:**
 1. ESCWA MEDSTAT II sub-regional training session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW), Amman, Jordan, 10-13 March 2008.
 2. Training Session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf Countries, August 25-28, 2008, Beirut, Lebanon
 3. Report on the ECLAC's expert group meeting
 4. Terms of reference of the working group to be established under the Statistical Conference of the Americas (English)
 5. Five mission reports Missions reports to Jordan, Oman, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria

PROJECT TITLE: **Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts *in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions***

List of Attachments

I. Media Coverage

Article in Jordan daily News Paper on Water Accounts Meeting, 11/03/2008
ESCWA News Letter March 2008
EuroMed Info News Center, 01/02/2008
Article on the water accounts in the DR 8/5/2008
ESCWA News letter August 2008

II. Project Websites, Docubase and Network

ESIAP
REDESA
ESIAP Docubase
ESIAP Network

III. Five meeting reports and five Mission Reports

1. ESCWA MEDSTAT II sub-regional training session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW), Amman, Jordan, 10-13 March 2008.
2. Training Session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf Countries, August 25-28, 2008, Beirut, Lebanon
3. Report on the ECLAC's expert group meeting
4. Terms of reference of the working group to be established under the Statistical Conference of the Americas (English)

IV. Five mission reports

Missions reports to Jordan, Oman, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria

V. Publications


Manual on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW). Part. I. Arabic. 2008. 112 pages.
ESCWA 2008a. General and Specific Surveys to Compile data on Water Accounts in the Arab Countries. 48 pages. Arabic.
Framework for environmental economic accounting in the ESCWA region. English. 61 pages.
The ECALC report of the study under ECLAC's Statistical Studies Series

Attachment 1

Media Coverage

Attachment 2

Project Website



Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts Project (ESIAP)

for ESCWA-Arab Region and ECLAC

[About ESCWA](#)
[Partners](#)
[Topics](#)
[Contact Us](#)

- Home
- Background
- About ESIAP
- Expected Results
- ESCWA Activities
- ECLAC Activities
- ESIA Docubase
- ESIA Forum
- ESIS Database
- ESIA Network
- Questionnaires

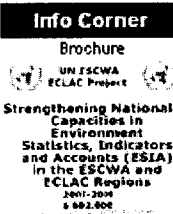
Home

"Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts Project" (ESIAP) *in support of progress toward achieving* the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions" is a development account project that aims to strengthen National Capacities of ESCWA and ECLAC countries in the collection, coverage, dissemination and exchange of reliable, timely and comparable environment statistics, indicators, and accounts taking advantage of an integrated environmental statistical system approach (IESS) to provide policy makers with tools to monitor and ensure environmental sustainability in line with national and internationally agreed development goals (IADGs) such as WSSD and MDGs.

The 2-years project includes missions to countries, expert group meetings, regional and sub-regional workshops, fellowships, development of database and docubase, and the development of a network for experts and institutions in the field to learn from their peers and exchange success stories and lessons learned.

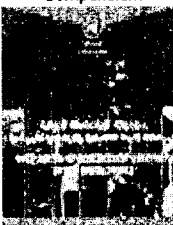
Info Corner

Brochure



Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts (ESIAP) in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions
2007-2009
\$ 102,800

Compendium














News

- Fellowship**
 - Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions
- Training Workshop**
 - Training Session on the System of Environmental - Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf Countries
 - MEDSTAT II Environment Sector / UNESCWA / UNSD Joint Sub-regional Training Session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW)

Links

- Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics
- European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE)
- South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics
- International and Regional Resources**
- National Statistical Offices in Arab Western Asia**

Home Basic search Advanced search New documents Services Guide

Welcome to the DOCUBASE!



The docubase is a content management system based on a documentary approach. Documents are described with fields and users can process research in various ways. Full text, title words, index, authors, etc. This docubase is accessible to any user on the website.

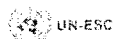
The aim of the docubase is to produce, distribute and update a database and expertise on environment information.

- Perform basic search
- Perform advanced search
- See the recently added documents
- A quick reference guide to ESIAP Docubase

IF YOU ARE A ESIAP NETWORK MEMBER

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The Docubase

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Basic search

Type any word:

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Click on the title to see the detailed data and the document

- دور قسم برسمه النساء في خلعن المنظمة على النساء

دور قسم برسمه النساء في خلعن المنظمة على النساء
وزارة التخطيط والبيئة والتنمية البشرية
NA / 2007

Yemen Country Paper -

وزارة التخطيط والبيئة والتنمية البشرية
NA / 2007

Yemen Country Paper -

وزارة التخطيط والبيئة والتنمية البشرية
NA / 2007

- انضمام الى النساء في العراق

البن الإقليمي للمركز المركزي للإحصاء والتطوير والتنمية البشرية
NA / 2007

Home | THE DOCUBASE | THE NETWORK | THE FORUM | ESIAP Homepage

The Network

You are logged as admin

Home Your profile Search the Network Logout

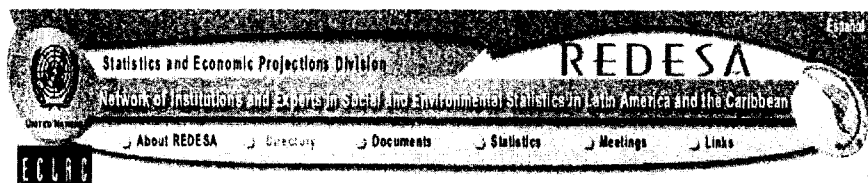
The network's main menu

The ESIAP network and forum was established in July 2008 as part of the activities of the development account project "Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Regions" for 2008-2009.

The development the network and forum on environment statistics, indicators and accounts would facilitate networking between of experts, practitioners and institutions, in the Arab region and among regions through interactive sharing and knowledge management. The network and forum enhances inter- and intra-regional cooperation and strengthen links between producers and users.

- See & modify your profile
- Search the Network's members database

UN-ESCWA



Directory

The REDESA Directory contains information on Institutions and Experts linked to social and environmental statistics. It provides contact information and is classified by topic and area of expertise.

- Expert and Institution Search
- Add Institution
- Add Expert
- FAQs

Back - Search - Favorites

Address http://webse.eclac.cl/redesa/aplicacion/ParametrosSeleccion_en.asp

REDESA
Statistics and Economic Projections Division
Network of Institutions and Experts in Social and Environmental Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean

ECLAC

Expert and Institution Search Add Institution Add Expert

Expert and Institution Search

Select DIRECTORY ☐ Institutions ☐ Experts ☒ Both

Select TOPIC ☐ Social ☐ Environmental ☒ Both

Select AREA(S) OF EXPERTISE

Poverty / Income distribution / Living conditions	▼
Other social area	
Atmosphere / Climate Change	▼
Biodiversity & Protected areas	▼
Coastal Areas and Marine Ecosystems	▼

Select COUNTRY

All countries of Latin America and the Caribbean	▼
Anguilla	
Antigua and Barbuda	
Netherlands Antilles	
Argentina	▼

All Countries from the rest of the world	▼
Albania	
Germany	
Andorra	
Angola	▼

CEPALSTAT
Latin America and The Caribbean Statistics

Version español

Associated to selected subject: Introduction News

Select subject [Select by country]

Ambiental Indicators and Statistics [BADEIMA]

Select area

Air - Consumption of Exhausting Substances of Capa de Ozono

Select variable / indicator

Consumption of substances that deplete the ozone layer

Select disaggregations

Country	Substance	Years
1997		
1998		
1999		
2000		
2001		
2002		
2003		
2004		
2005		
2006		

Output by default (design dragging disaggregations)

Header	Years
Country	
Substance	

Excel HTML Notes Sources

Attachment 3

Three Final Meeting Reports



ESCWA



EUROMED



MEDSTAT II Environment

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/SCU/2008/1
14 April 2008
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

REPORT

OF THE JOINT SUB-REGIONAL TRAINING SESSION ON THE SYSTEM OF INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL-ECONOMIC ACCOUNTING FOR WATER RESOURCES AMMAN, 10-13 MARCH 2008

Summary

In collaboration with MEDSTAT II Environment Sector and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ESCWA organized the Joint Sub-regional Training Session on the System of Integrated Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water Resources, from 10 to 13 March 2008. The session fell within the framework of the activities of the *Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts Project (ESIAP)* and was pursuant to the Expert Group Meeting on the Production of Statistics on Natural Resources and Environment held in Cairo from 5 to 7 June 2007. The training session was attended by representatives from National Statistical Offices and water ministries in nine ESCWA member countries, as well as by an expert from the Austrian Federal Environment Agency.

The Session focused on explaining and discussing the basic concepts, definitions, methodologies and classifications used in the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW), which was adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission as a statistical benchmark in 2007, in the framework of the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA). Hands-on exercises and examples of how to complete in detail standard tables for water supply and use, emission accounts, asset accounts and others were also presented.

Discussions revolved around ways to collect data related to the SEEAW and on the difficulties faced by those producing these data. Participants unanimously agreed on the need for both coordination between the parties involved in producing environmental and water data and National Statistical Offices, and for the standardization of concepts and methodologies in order to prepare integrated environmental and economic accounts.

The discussions culminated in the drafting of a set of recommendations addressed to both member countries and ESCWA aimed at enhancing the quality of water statistics so as to produce standard tables in SEEAW on which decision makers in water resources management could rely in order to achieve economic growth that would ensure sustainable development.



Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/SD/2009
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

REPORT

Training Session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf Countries, August 25-28, 2008, Beirut, Lebanon

Summary

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) organized a training session on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW) for the Arab Gulf country jointly with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which was held in UN House, Beirut, during the period 25-28 August 2008. The meeting complements the ESCWA-MESTAT sub-regional training for the Mashreq Arab countries that was held in Amman in March 2008. Both meetings were under the project "*Strengthening National Capacities in Environment Statistics, Indicators and Accounts in support of progress toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals in the ESCWA and ECLAC Region 2007-2009*" that ESCWA is implementing.

The meeting aimed at providing a sound knowledge of the compilation, practical and operational use of the SEEAW and the sharing of experiences. This may enable pilot water accounts for some countries to be produced as well as strengthening national statistical capacities and enhancing sub-regional networking.

Discussions focused on: (a) The compilation of data required by the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water (SEEAW); (b) the preparation of the SEEAW standard tables; (c) Practical and operational process, and application examples.

At the conclusion of the workshop, recommendations were made to facilitate the implementation of the SEEAW in the region.

Reunión de expertos regionales
“Hacia una agenda regional de desarrollo estadístico ambiental: estadísticas, indicadores y cuentas ambientales en América Latina”
Mayo 19-21, 2008, La Habana, Cuba

Informe Ejecutivo

Introducción

1. La reunión de expertos regionales organizada por la División de Estadística y Proyecciones Económicas de la Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL) se realizó entre el 19 y 21 de mayo de 2008 en La Habana, Cuba. La Oficina Nacional de Estadísticas (ONE) de Cuba fue el anfitrión de la reunión y quien se encargó de organizar exitosamente todos los aspectos logísticos locales, brindando a los participantes todas las facilidades para el desarrollo de los trabajos, así como muestras de su generosa hospitalidad. Dispuso salas de reuniones y servicio de interpretación, y se hizo cargo de los almuerzos y el transporte local.
2. Fueron invitados en calidad de expertos regionales una serie de personas que han estado involucradas y que en algunos casos continúan estando a cargo de los departamentos oficiales de estadística e indicadores ambientales en sus respectivos países (tanto en los INEs como en los Ministerios o Secretarías Ambientales). Algunos han colaborado con CEPAL y acompañado el trabajo en otros países e iniciativas regionales en la materia durante la última década. Otros son actualmente gestores a cargo de los procesos estadísticos ambientales en sus respectivos países.
3. En total se reunieron 18 expertos provenientes de 12 países de la región, junto con un representante de la División de Estadística de la ONU (ver anexo I). No fue posible contar con la presencia de la representante de la Comisión Económica y Social de Oriente Occidental (CESPAO), pues no pudo viajar por la situación por la que atraviesa Líbano.
4. La reunión de expertos se realizó en el marco del proyecto “Fortalecimiento de Capacidades Nacionales en Estadísticas, Indicadores y Cuentas Ambientales en países de América Latina y el Caribe”. Este proyecto se realiza en conjunto con la Comisión Económica y Social para Asia Occidental (CESPAO), y es financiado por el fondo Development Account (DA) de las Naciones Unidas. El objetivo del proyecto es fortalecer las capacidades nacionales de los países en la recolección, cobertura, difusión e intercambio de estadísticas, indicadores y cuentas ambientales confiables, oportunas y comparables.
5. El objetivo central de esa reunión de expertos consistió en construir un espacio de reflexión y discusión de los avances de la década anterior así como los desafíos de la próxima década respecto del desarrollo de las Estadísticas Ambientales (series estadísticas básicas, indicadores y cuentas ambientales). Asimismo, contribuir con insumos sustantivos para la elaboración de una estrategia y un plan de acción regional para los próximos diez años. La reunión consistió en cinco sesiones de trabajo. En las siguientes páginas se presenta un breve resumen de las discusiones y sus conclusiones principales.

Sesión 1: ¿En dónde estamos y con qué contamos?

6. *Durante esta sesión fue discutido el borrador del diagnóstico realizado por la CEPAL sobre el avance en el estado de situación de EA en la región al año 2008; se presentó a la discusión una perspectiva sobre las dinámicas institucionales nacionales, regionales e internacionales*

Attachment 4

Five mission reports

**MEDSTAT-ESCWA Technical assistance mission
Environment Statistics and Accounts**

Syria, CBS

2-4 December, Damascus, Syria

Draft Agenda

Ms Cécile Roddier Quefelec (MEDSTAT), Mrs Christine Spanneut, International expert,
Ms Wafa Aboul Hosn, Team Leader, Statistics, UNESCWA, Beirut.

Day 1.

1. Presentation of attendees
2. Follow-up on the previous training in June 2006, March 2008 and technical assistance missions of MEDSTAT.
3. Ongoing activities of CBS and the and concerned ministries environment and water statistics and Indicators
4. Presentations on Environmental Accounting: international concepts, framework and vocabulary used in the SEEA;

Day2.

5. Documents and resources for environment statistics and accounts
6. Data Collection (Surveys, etc.,)
7. Data compilation and Dissemination (Questionnaires, Databases)
8. Coordination mechanisms

Day3.

9. Special requirements of CBS
10. Work plan
11. Future cooperation in the field
12. Closing

Distr.
LIMITED
A/ESCWA/PPTCD/JOR/02/2007
DATE: March 2007
ORIGINAL: Arabic

اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي آسيا
(الإسكوا)

تقرير مهمة

تقديم المعونة والمشورة الفنية من قبل الإسكوا

حول الإحصاءات البيئية والحسابات المائية

الفترة: 2008/11/22 ولغاية 2008/12/3

الجهاز المركزي للإحصاء والتعبئة في جمهورية مصر

تقرير معد من قبل *:

خميس رداد

خبير الإحصاءات البيئية

المستشار لدى وزارة الاقتصاد، الإدارة المركزية للإحصاء في دولة الامارات العربية المتحدة

* ملاحظة: الأفكار والآراء المطروحة في هذا التقرير هي آراء المؤلفين وليست، بالضرورة، آراء الإسكوا.

Report on the Development of Environmental Accounts in the Department of Statistics, Jordan

Michael Vardon
Interregional Advisor on Environmental-Economic Accounting
United Nations Statistics Division

12 July 2007

Introduction

This report presents a brief review of the development of environmental accounts in the Department of Statistics of Jordan. The review took place in Amman, 10-13 June 2007 at the invitation of Department of Statistics. The review focused on water accounts but other types of accounts were also discussed and of interest to the Department of Statistics and other parts of the Jordanian Government.

Recognition of usefulness

The Department of Statistics clearly recognized the potential of environmental accounts to assist decision-makers and policy development in Jordan. The Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation also recognized the potential of environmental accounts to provide them with relevant information. Both Ministries expressed interest in the development of environmental accounts expressed the need for close cooperation on their development. This would ensure the policy relevance of the accounts and that they are of the highest quality possible.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation has a Nation Water Master Plan as well as a Water Strategy supported by a number of more detailed policies which could be informed by information from water accounts. For example, the Irrigation Water Policy mentions, among other things, water pricing and water efficiency. Item 41 of this policy says:

“The water price shall at least cover the cost of operation and maintenance, and, subject to some other economic constraints, it should also recover part of the capital cost of the irrigation water project. The ultimate objective shall be full cost recovery subject to economic, social and political constraints. Due consideration shall be made of any water rights as established by law.”

Source: <http://www.mwi.gov.jo/mwi/WaterStrategy.aspx>

Coordination and collaboration

At present coordination between the Department of Statistics, the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation is done on an informal basis and could be improved.



Mission Report

**Meeting of ESCWA-SD and UNSD with CAS,
29 August 2008.**

Prepared By

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and

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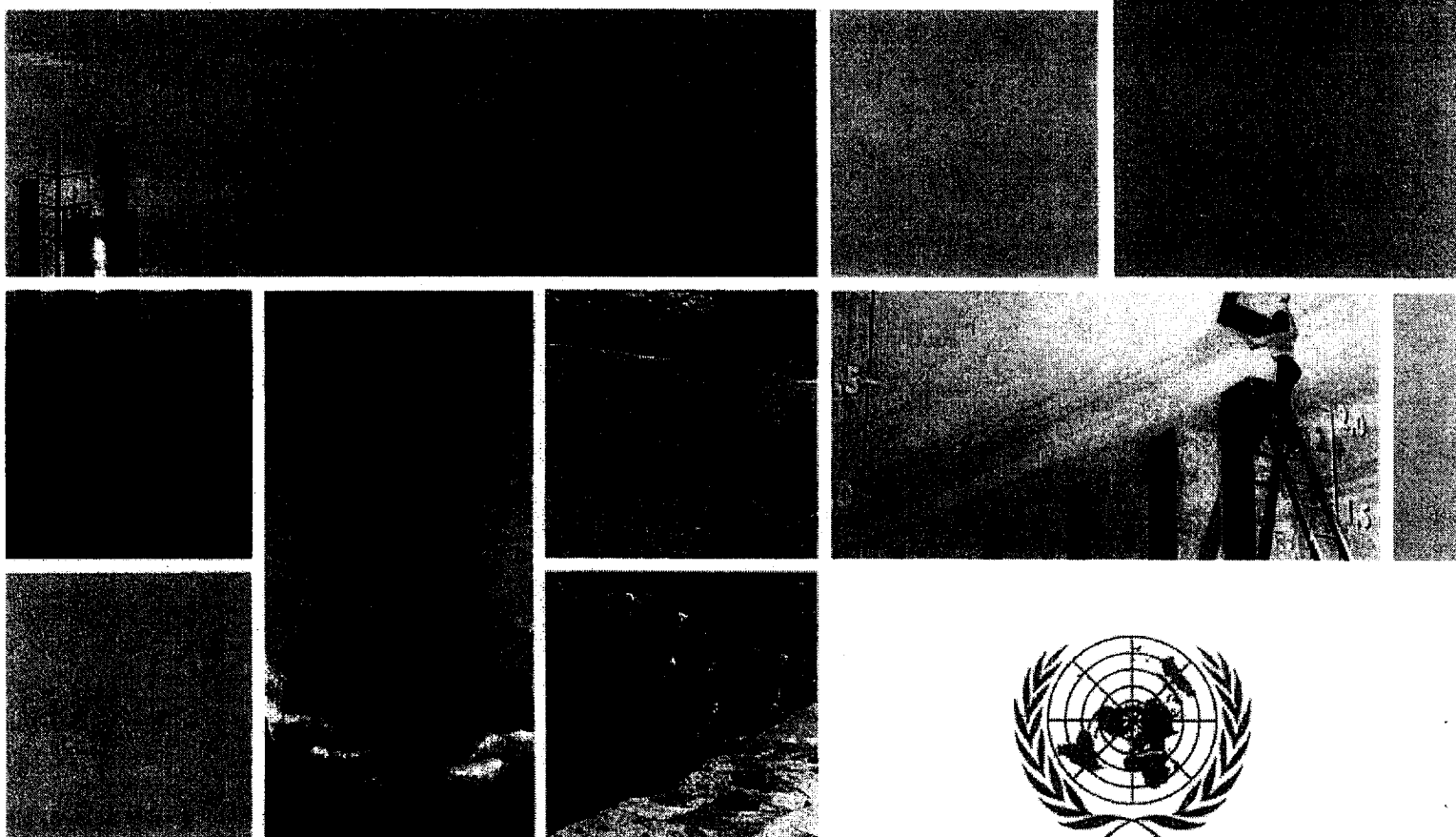
Inter-regional Advisor on Environmental Accounting

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

Attachment 5

Publications

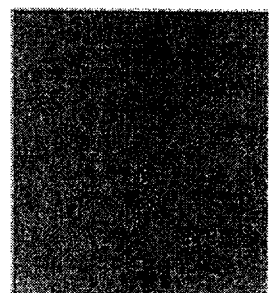
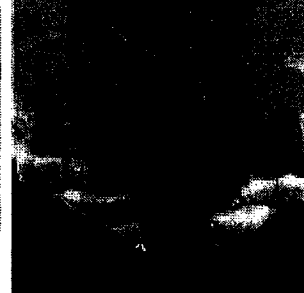
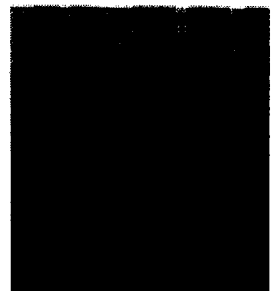
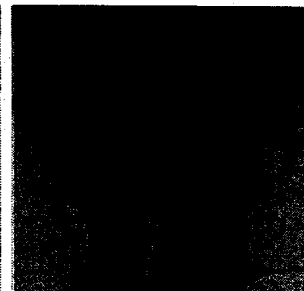
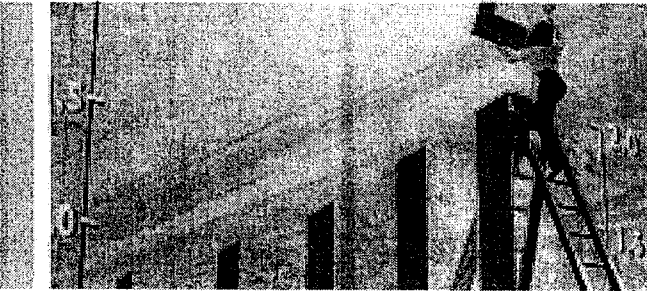
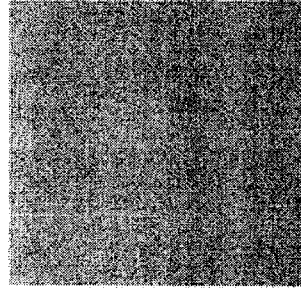
Framework for Environmental Economic Accounting in the ESCWA Region



ESCWA

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

إطار للمحاسبة البيئية الاقتصادية في منطقة الإسكوا



الاسكوا

الأمم المتحدة - اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي اسيا



نظام المحاسبة البيئية والاقتصادية المتكاملة للموارد المائية

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