Update on environment-related activities of the UNECE Statistical Division

- UN Development Account programme on statistics – Environment Pillar
- Waste Statistics
- System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)
- Climate Change-related Statistics

Twenty-second session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy
Michael Nagy, 25 January 2017
UN Development Account programme on statistics – Environmental Pillar

• Goal: Strengthen national statistical systems to respond to the data challenges of the 2030 Agenda.
  – Pillar 1- Means of Implementation
  – Pillar 2 - Environment Statistics
  – Pillar 3 - Social & Demographic Statistics
  – Pillar 4 - Economic Statistics

• Implementation period: 2016 – 2019

• Target countries (in UNECE region): EECCA

• Environment Pillar:
  – Advisory missions
  – National training workshops (e.g. Kazakhstan in April)
  – Sub-regional workshops (e.g. blended learning on SEEA in autumn)

• Country support is provided upon request, and is coordinated with other partners (e.g. EEA, UNSD, UNEP, UNDP, World Bank)
Waste Statistics

Paper “Problems with waste statistics and a proposal for action”

- Drafted by UNECE and Netherlands, and consulted with Armenia, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Ukraine, Eurostat, OECD and UNSD. Presented to CES Bureau in October 2016.
- Addressing the main problems with statistics on solid waste, including:
  - Lack of harmonisation of major terms and definitions
  - Overlapping concepts and misunderstandings
  - Undefined system boundaries between products and waste
  - Current waste statistics do not tell the full story (e.g. informal and illegal waste treatment is missing)
- Available in English and Russian http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=43450#

Task Force on waste statistics

- ToR will be presented to CES Bureau in February 2017
- Objective: Develop a conceptual framework on waste statistics and draft a glossary of the most important terms and definitions in waste statistics
- Duration: 2 years
- Building upon existing work of UNSD, Basel Convention, Eurostat and OECD
- Interest to participate: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Eurostat, OECD and UNSD
Joint OECD/UNECE Seminar on Implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) (October 2016)

Main agenda items

- SEEA and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Applications of SEEA and their communication
- Implementation of selected SEEA modules: challenges and solutions (energy, air emissions, taxes, subsidies)

Selected outcomes - basis for further activities:

- Further work on communication and demystifying of SEEA
- Regional implementation strategy with priorities for a common implementation approach
- Next seminar will be held probably early 2018: exchange of practical experience, monitoring the implementation, and discuss coordination issues
- Report and background material:
  http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2015.10.seea.html#
Climate Change-related Statistics

• **Expert Forum in October 2016:**
  - Outcomes of the COP21 and the Paris Agreement
  - Strengthening energy statistics for analysing climate change
  - Set of climate change indicators
  - Road map and progress towards better climate change-related statistics
  - Measurement of disasters and extreme events
  - Next expert forum will be in October 2017

• **Report of the Task Force on a set of key climate change-related statistics using SEEA to be presented to CES Bureau in February 2017:**
  - 39 indicators based on *CES Recommendations on Climate Change-related Statistics*
  - For international comparison, addressing most relevant policy questions and painting the big picture on climate change (drivers, emissions, impacts, mitigation, adaptation)
  - Pilot implementation and follow-up work recommended

• **Steering Group on Climate Change-related Statistics:**
  - Overlooking the work on Climate Change-related Statistics
  - Narrative: [Making the case for greater involvement of national statistical offices in measuring climate-change-related statistics](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41299#)
  - Review on progress of countries
  - Generic roadmap for implementation
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