

EFTA/UNECE Training Workshop on Climate Change-related Statistics for EECCA countries

in collaboration with

the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNDP Kyrgyzstan, FAO Kyrgyzstan, UNEP, UNESCAP and Statistics Luxembourg

CONCEPT NOTE

Date and venue

3-5 June 2020, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Background

In June 2017 the Conference of European Statisticians endorsed an initial set of 39 core climate change-related indicators¹, which is recommended to be implemented by all National Statistical Offices (NSOs). The purpose of the set of these indicators is to measure the main phenomena of climate change in an internationally comparable way and to address the most important climate change-related policy questions. These indicators not only cover greenhouse gas emissions and climate change mitigation, but also indicators related to the impact of climate change on natural resources and interactions between climate change and people.

Kyrgyzstan was among the countries which conducted testing of these indicators in 2017. One conclusion of the testing of the set of indicators was the need for strengthening capacity of NSOs to produce the underlying statistics and environmental-economic accounts in sufficient quality.

In June 2019 Kyrgyzstan offered to host a sub-regional training workshop to share its experience with other countries of the region, and to provide a platform for producers and users of these indicators to identify practical steps for implementation.

The training workshop will bring together experts from statistical offices, ministries and other relevant data producers and users of the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) region to identify practical steps for the implementation of these indicators, with a focus on producing the relevant underlying statistics and environmental-economic accounts. This will support the production of the climate change-related indicators and provide better statistics for informing other policy agendas, such as the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster-Risk Reduction. In addition, improved climate change-related data and indicators will also better inform relevant national, regional and/or global reporting/assessments such as, for example, countries' National Communications to the UNFCCC, UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs)², or UNEP's annual 'Emissions Gap Report'³ and 'Adaptation Gap Report'⁴.

¹ The set of indicators has been refined, now consisting of 44 indicators which will be submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians for endorsement in June 2020. See also <https://www.unece.org/statistics/networks-of-experts/task-force-on-a-set-of-key-climate-change-related-statistics-using-seea.html>

² <https://www.unece.org/env/epr.html>

³ <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2019>

⁴ <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report>

The thematic focus of the workshop will take into account existing data collections, such as for example from Eurostat, including energy statistics and accounts, air emission accounts, monetary environmental statistics and accounts, land cover and land use as well as water statistics and accounts. Linkages will be promoted with ongoing regional and national processes for the establishment of Shared Environmental Information Principles (SEIS) of open access to data⁵ and the implementation of relevant core indicators under the list of UNECE Environmental Indicators⁶ agreed under the scope of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators and Statistics⁷.

Target audience and main objectives

The target audience of this workshop includes experts from National Statistical Offices and line ministries in charge of environmental issues.

The workshop will train participants in producing main statistics needed for producing the climate change-related indicators and for climate action (e.g. for reporting under the Paris Agreement or the link with the SDGs), how to deal with data gaps and identify possible follow-up activities. The main expected accomplishments are:

1. Increased knowledge on producing and using of climate change-related indicators
2. Increased capacity to implement climate change-related statistics and indicators in NSO
3. Identification of future joint activities, including capacity development

Structure of workshop and interpretation

The workshop will be structured by 13 sessions, including six thematic sessions. The main idea is that the thematic sessions 6-11 start with a quick overview on climate change-related indicators and SDG indicators from these areas, present the underlying methodologies and discuss in more detail the data sources, taking into account existing data collections, such as for example from Eurostat. Minor changes of the currently proposed workshop structure may be possible at a later stage.

Countries are invited to share their own experiences.

The training will focus on methodological challenges in producing the data and using them for compiling the indicators.

Training methods include presentations, practical exercises and mutual exchanges of experience between all participants.

Participants are invited to bring laptops with them which can be used for the exercises. Free Wifi will be available at the meeting venue.

Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian will be provided.

⁵ SEIS principles of open access to data: data is managed as close as possible to source; and data is collected once and shared for many purposes

⁶ Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators: <https://www.unece.org/env/indicators.html>

⁷ UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators: <https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/environmental-monitoring-and-assessment/about-us/joint-task-force-on-environmental-statistics-and-indicators.html>

3 June 2020

Morning:

Session 1: Opening

- Opening remarks by high level representatives of governmental agencies and United Nations
- Welcome by organisers and discussion of workshop objectives

Session 2: Climate action and information needs

- Paris Agreement information requirements
- ECE set of core climate change-related indicators
- The link between climate change-related statistics and the SDG indicators

Afternoon:

Session 3: National experiences in implementing sets of climate change-related indicators

- Kyrgyzstan
- Luxembourg
- Other countries

Session 4: Role of statistics and environmental economic accounts in producing climate change-related information

- Presentation and discussion of main statistics and basic SEEA modules needed to produce climate change related indicators

Session 5: Sharing of climate change-related information

- Links with SEIS, environmental assessments, reporting processes etc.

4 June 2020

Morning:

Session 6: Energy statistics and accounts

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- National perspectives from countries
- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

Session 7: Air emissions statistics and accounts

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- National perspectives from countries
- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

Afternoon:

Session 8: Monetary environmental statistics and accounts

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- National perspectives from countries

- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

Session 9: Land cover and land use statistics and accounts

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- Potential of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for measuring climate change
- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

5 June 2020

Morning:

Session 10: Water statistics and water accounts

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- National perspectives from countries
- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

Session 11: Other statistics and accounts (e.g. disaster-related statistics, agriculture and forestry)

- Methodologies and data sources for production of related indicators (CC and SDG)
- National perspectives from countries
- Identification of main challenges in countries, and discussion of possible solutions

Afternoon:

Session 12: Main conclusions and recommendations

- Identification of possible follow-up activities

Session 13: Closing

Nomination of participants

Participants should be nominated by their offices. Each participant is required to complete the registration form and send it along with a copy of the passport to elena.friso@ext.ec.europa.eu not later than **6 April 2020**.

Further information

Registered participants will be given more details nearer to the dates of the workshop, including the timetable, and other logistical information.

All meeting documents will be made available at the meeting website <https://www.efta.int/Statistics/Climate-Change-related-Statistics>.

Contact

UNECE: Mr. Michael Nagy: UNECE Statistical Division, michael.nagy@un.org, +41 22 917 31 09

EFTA: Ms. Elena Friso: EFTA Statistical Office, elena.friso@ext.ec.europa.eu, +352 4301 33894

National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (e.g. for visa letters): Ms. Nazira Kerimalieva, nazira.kerimalieva@gmail.com, +312 32 46 91