

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

in collaboration with

the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNESCAP

19-20 January 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

National statistical systems continue to face increasing demands for producing climate change related statistics. At the policy level there is an understanding of the importance of mitigating and adapting to climate change. Other users of official statistics including those in academia and the public at large continue to require more accurate, timely and trusted information on climate change. The official statistics community has responded to these demands by developing and implementing methodologies for the compilation of climate change related statistics.

As part of the capacity building efforts in this area, an initial series of webinars on Climate Change-related Statistics for EECCA countries was provided in 2020 by EFTA and UNECE in close collaboration with the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNDP Kyrgyzstan, FAO Kyrgyzstan, UNEP, UNEP/CBD, UNESCAP and Statistics Luxembourg¹.

- The first webinar on 18 November 2020 focused on definition and role of “climate change-related statistics” in climate change policies along with the UNECE set of 44 core climate change-related indicators.
- The second webinar, on 25 November 2020, highlighted the information requirements resulting from the Paris Agreement and its Work Programme: the enhanced transparency framework (ETF), the process of preparing, implementing and tracking of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and the process of preparing national adaptation plans (NAPs).
- The third webinar, on 2 December 2020, proved the role of statistics and accounts in assessing climate change, showing the urgency of developing further selected indicators. Experts presented methodologies and practical calculation examples of indicators related to energy, greenhouse gas emissions, finance and land cover.

The evaluation survey highlighted the great success of the webinars; and participants requested to continue with further trainings and learn more about the practical implementation of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) set of core climate change-related indicators with a focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as on SEEA-based indicators. A new series of webinars will lead new and returning participants in learning recent advances and experiences on climate change-related statistics.

¹ Information and material can be found in the dedicated website www.efta.int/Statistics/Climate-Change-related-Statistics.

Target audience and main objectives

The target audience of the webinars are experts from national statistical offices and line ministries in charge of climate change-related issues in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA); experts from South-Eastern Europe and the Asia-Pacific region are welcome to attend!

The webinars will showcase national examples on the development of national sets of climate change-related statistics and indicators (with a particular focus on the CES set of core climate change-related statistics and indicators²), providing practical guidance for the calculation of selected indicators with the help of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and other data sources.

The main objectives of the series of webinars are:

1. Participants increase their knowledge on producing and using climate change-related statistics and indicators;
2. Participants share practical experience in producing and using climate change-related statistics and indicators;
3. NSOs increase their capacity to implement climate change-related statistics and indicators;
4. Further action points, including capacity development needs, are identified.

Structure and dates of webinars

Each webinar will last for 3 hours and start at 08:00 UTC (09:00 Geneva, 14:00 Bishkek).

Some presentations and training tutorials will be made available online before the meeting at <https://www.efta.int/Statistics/ClimateChange-relatedStatistics2022>. **Participants are strongly encouraged to watch those videos in advance of the webinars.** During the webinar it will be possible to ask questions concerning those videos to the presenters.

During the webinars there will be additional presentations by experts from National Statistical Offices and international organisations, with time dedicated for questions and answers.

Participants will have an opportunity to interact with the presenters (e.g. by raising questions already during the registration process or later with the chat function and, if time allows, by oral interventions).

The proposed content is based on participant's feedback at the 2020 webinars. Registered participants will have an opportunity to send questions and proposals for specific indicators to be discussed to the organisers.

Minor changes of the currently proposed webinar structure, including dates, may be possible at a later stage to reflect some of the suggestions provided by participants in the registration form.

Webinar on 19 January 2022 – How to develop a national set of climate change-related indicators, and how to use it in policy making?

In this webinar countries will share their experiences in the development of national sets of climate change-related statistics and indicators. Invited experts will present why these statistics

² CES Set of 44 Core Climate Change-related Indicators: <https://unece.org/statistics/publications/CES-set-of-core-climate-change-related-indicators>

and indicators are needed for informing national and international climate change-related policies and the necessary conditions and capacities for regular data production.

The session will also discuss how embedding requirements for the reporting under the Paris Agreement in official statistics can enhance the countries' institutional arrangements and readiness to participate in the Enhanced Transparency Framework.

Webinar on 20 January 2022 – Producing climate change-related indicators from the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and other sources

The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) is a multi-purpose statistical framework that integrates physical information about the environment with related monetary information following the structure of the System of National Accounts.

At least 27 of the 44 CES core climate change-related indicators can be produced from SEEA; thus the implementation of the underlying accounts is highly recommended.

According to the UNSD Global Assessment of Environmental-Economic Accounting most EECCA countries have already started to implement some accounts.

This session will discuss why the use of SEEA-based indicators is recommended, and how SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting are supporting their production.

Experts from international organizations and NSOs will explain the links between SEEA and production of climate-change-related information. Furthermore, selected countries will share their experience in using SEEA for development of their national indicator sets and showcase calculation of selected indicators.

Nomination of participants

Maximum of 300 devices can be connected to each webinar at a time. Several participants can share one connection by gathering around one computer. However, to not exceed the maximum number of possible connections it is important that all participants are registered in advance.

Each participant is required to complete the [electronic registration form](#) no later than 15 November 2021.

Further information

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

All meeting documents will be made available at the meeting website <https://www.efta.int/Statistics/ClimateChange-relatedStatistics2022>.

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