



**Capacity-Building Programme on the Compilation and Application of Environmentally Extended  
Supply-Use Tables (EE-SUTs) in Africa  
Phase I: e-Training on EE-SUTs**

**Concept Note**

Economic Statistics and National Accounts Section  
African Centre for Statistics  
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**Background**

High-quality economic and environmental statistics are important inputs into evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making. To measure sustainability, we need wealth statistics and accounting, that incorporate and account for natural capital (including land, air, water, ecosystems, and living organisms), human capital, and social capital beyond conventional economic measurements such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP). To build Environmentally Extended Supply and Use Tables (EE-SUTs) is the first step towards measuring and establishing natural capital accounts. EE-SUTs are built on the national accounts based SUTs with environmental extensions.

The System of National Accounts (SNA) and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) are two international statistical standards that provide useful guidance on the concepts, definitions, classifications, accounting framework, and methodology for computing wealth and capital accounting. They help to bring environmental issues (natural resources and residuals) into the system and framework of national accounting. As a result, resource depletion and pollution damage become part of economic depreciation in this framework. SEEA provides a theoretical system and framework for the construction of EE-SUTs.

EE-SUTs have a wide application: they will enable countries to identify their development priorities, baselines, targets, and goals; directly support countries in measuring, monitoring, and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goals 2, 6, 7, 8, 12, and 14; and are instrumental in evidence-based planning, policy formulation, and decision making.

This e-training is timely after we have recently completed e-trainings on the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) and SUT trainings <<http://ecastats.uneca.org/acsw eb/FocusAreas/eLearning>>. After establishing an environment statistics database in accordance with FDES, and building SNA-based SUTs, countries will be in a good position to compile SEEA-based EE-SUTs. The Capacity-Building Programme consists of a series of activities in three phases: an e-training module, a face-to-face seminar, and follow-up national workshops and on-site technical assistance. We now begin Phase I which centres on the e-training about the knowledge and skills required to compile and apply EE-SUTs in Africa.

## **Purpose and Objectives**

The purpose of the Programme is to strengthen the capacity of African countries to compile and apply EE-SUTs. The specific objectives of the e-training are: (a) for participants to acquire a good understanding of the related concepts, definitions, classifications, accounting framework, techniques, and data sources that are important for the compilation and application of EE-SUTs; (b) to reach out and benefit the maximum number of countries and participants on the continent; and (c) to create a permanent platform and knowledge base that will enable information sharing and learning during and beyond the e-trainings.

## **Activities and Timeline**

To achieve the objectives, the e-training will be conducted as follows:

### Topics and Contents

- (a) The topics include introduction to SEEA, data source and compilation techniques for accounts of water, energy, emission, land, forest; and waste; as well as policy application of EE-SUTs.
- (b) Under each topic, international standards and recommendations will be introduced with an emphasis on practical technical knowledge and skills.
- (c) Case studies and numerical examples and exercises will be used to facilitate learning.

### Organisation of Training Sessions

- (a) The e-training will be organised into 10 sessions over the course of five weeks.
- (b) There will be two sessions on Tuesday and Thursday respectively during the period. Each session will take one hour. The first session will be in English and the second one in French.
- (c) During each session, it will start with a presentation for 45 minutes by the resource person; and followed by 15 minutes of questions and answers that gives opportunity for participants to raise questions and problems which will be interactively addressed and responded.
- (d) At the end of each session, one or two papers or chapters will serve as a reading assignment and several questions and exercises for participants to review on what has been learnt. Submissions of answers before deadlines will be assessed and commented and solutions to the questions will be provided after the deadlines.
- (e) At the completion of the 10 sessions, a final assessment will be conducted in about two to three hours to evaluate the level of technical knowledge and skills that participants have gained from the e-training.
- (f) The training materials (presentation files, recordings of the e-training, all the reading assignments, questions, exercises, and answers) will be posted on the designated e-training website for continuous learning beyond the completion of the e-training.

Indicative Timeline of the e-training is summarized in the following calendar:

Mar 2018					Apr 2018					May 2018				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31	

■ Training      8 Assessment Date

### Beneficiaries

The e-training module is open to all professionals from national statistical offices (NSOs) and related line ministries who are interested in EE-SUTs, and will be conducted in both English and French on every Tuesday and Thursday from 13 March to 19 April 2018, through the online platform: WebEx. Participants of the e-training module who perform well as demonstrated by actively participating in the e-training and successfully passing the final assessment will be considered for selection for the second phase (i.e. the face-to-face seminar) to be held in July 2018. Countries with participants who complete both the first and second phases of the programme and with a good environment statistics database will be invited to continue to the third phase of the programme namely to compile EE-SUTs with a support of national workshops and on-site technical assistance from the programme.

### Contact Persons

Issues related to the organisation and administrative arrangements of the Programme, please contact:

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