



ECA e-Learning on Energy Accounting for African Countries

1 September to 19 October 2024.

Concept Note

1 Introduction

Energy plays a crucial role in Africa's development, driving economic growth, social progress, and environmental sustainability, and transition to clean and affordable energy sources forms an important concern for policymakers to improve energy access, manage energy supply and use and reduce pressure on the environment. Accurate and robust data are essential for effective energy planning and policy. Energy accounts that form part of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Central Framework (SEEA-CF) accounts are suitable to enable and enhance effective policy research with relevant data.

SEEA-CF provides a comprehensive framework for integrating environmental information into economic accounts, fostering better understanding of the complex relationships between human activities, the environment, and economic well-being. Within this framework, energy accounts serve as a priority block within SEEA implementation, capturing the physical flows and economic values of energy resources throughout the economy as well as emissions to the environment. This information is vital for:

- Monitoring progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 7: Ensuring affordable and clean energy access for all;
- Informing energy policy decisions: Prioritizing investments in renewable energy, promoting energy efficiency, and managing potential environmental impacts;
- Assessing the economic and social implications of energy choices: Understanding the impacts of energy prices on different sectors and income groups;
- Providing a robust data foundation for further SEEA-CF implementation: Energy accounts can be integrated with other SEEA-CF modules, such as water and ecosystem accounts, to create a holistic picture of environmental-economic interactions.

To strengthen this essential knowledge base of African countries, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is launching an e-learning course on Energy Accounting to serve a basis for further capacity building works in countries the undertake to develop energy accounts.

The E-learning Course on SEEA-Energy

This comprehensive online course, hosted on the UN Learning Platform for Official Statistics (learning.officialstatistics.org), will equip participants with the theoretical and practical knowledge to compile and analyse energy accounts according to international standards, particularly the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES).

The course is composed of following six modules, each of which can be viewed in about 30 minutes:

1. Introduction to the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA-Energy
2. Definition and accounting structure
3. Physical supply and use tables
4. Asset accounting
5. Basic statistics and energy balances
6. Practical guidance

The e-learning course targets energy statisticians from NSOs in African countries, researchers and academics working on energy issues, as well as government officials and policymakers responsible for energy planning and development.

ECA will organize live Q&A sessions throughout the programme's duration. These sessions will allow participants to interact with energy accounting experts, seek clarification on complex concepts, and share their specific challenges and experiences.

Successful completion of the course will be proven by passing the final test. Good performance at the e-learning phase of participants from the national statistics offices will serve as an important criterion for country selection in the future for support to the development of the accounts.

2 Objectives

The objective of the e-learning course is to enhance the understanding and application of internationally recognized energy accounting methodologies among national statistical offices (NSOs) and national experts.

3 Call to Action

Statisticians in NSOs and energy experts in African countries are encouraged to register for the e-learning course on SEEA Energy by first creating an account on the UN Global Platform - Learning Management System: <https://learning.officialstatistics.org/> and once logged in, enrolling in the SEEA - Energy (English) course under the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) rubric.

Enrolled participants are kindly invited to notify ECA's focal person (Mr. David Boko: bokod@un.org) of their enrolment.

For NSOs interested in undertaking the development of energy accounts and that require technical support, they are invited to submit a formal request to the Director of ECA's African Centre for Statistics, Mr. Oliver Chinganya (chinganya@un.org) indicating their plan and need for support.

4 Timeline

Applications for the e-learning course are open from 15 to 31 August 2024.

The course's duration is 6 weeks, starting from 1st September 2024. Participants can complete the course at their own pace within this timeframe. The live Q&A sessions will be held every other week, after each bloc of two modules or adapted as the course progresses, via an online platform as of the second week of the course. Participants who notify ECA of their enrolment will receive the connexion links and updates on the schedules of Q&A sessions.

Schedule of activities

Date	Activity
27 -31 August	Registrations (they are extended until 7 September)
1-7 September	Module 1: Introduction to the SEEA-CF and SEEA-Energy
8-14 September	Module 2: Definitions and Accounting structures
13 September	Q&A session on Molude 1&2

15-21 September	Module 3: Physical supply and use tables
20 September	Q&A session on Module 3
22-28 September	Module 4 Asset accounting
27 September	Q&A session on Module 4
29 September – 5 October	Module 5: Basic statistics and energy balances
6-12 October	Module 6 Practical guidance
11 October	Q&A session on Module 5&6
13-19 October	Review and final exam

5 Contact information

For any inquiries, please contact:

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We look Forward to your participation in this important initiative.