



## **Workshop on Environment Statistics and Information for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region**

Beirut, Lebanon

12-16 November 2018

Recommendations

The workshop recommended that:

1. Custodian agencies use official national data in the Global SDG Indicators Database and when estimated to get back to the countries for validation as the data for many of the environmentally-related SDG indicators reviewed by participating countries in the workshop were not consistent with the national data.
2. UNESCWA, UNSD, UN Environment, European Environment Agency, UNFCCC, UN University, FAO to continue support to countries on areas of work in environment statistics, climate change statistics and geospatial data for SDG and environmental indicators.
3. International and regional organizations coordinate their environment data collection exercises from countries to minimize duplication and reporting burden.
4. Countries ensure and maintain strong inter-institutional coordination to better streamline production and use of environmental statistics and indicators.
5. ESCWA, LAS, UN Environment and partners consolidate the environmentally-related SDGs Priority list of the Arab Working Group on Sustainable Development agreed in March 2017 in Amman with the environmentally-related SDGs Priority list of the Implementation Framework for the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda in the Arab Region adopted in Cairo in September 2017 in line with CAMREE recommendation.
6. Countries implement the statistical environmental frameworks, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) and the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) and incorporate this work into their national action plans or national strategies for the development of statistics.
7. Countries apply the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT) (Parts I and II) at the national level in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.
8. Countries make use of the cooperation with the EEA on SEIS that helped countries setting-up and strengthening institutional set up to provide data on environment indicators supporting evidence-based decision making.
9. ESCWA and other partners provide translation of the FDES and the e-training course on FDES into Arabic and organize training for countries in the region on technical subjects of FDES.



10. UN Environment invite countries to set up the Indicator Reporting Information System (IRIS) for national implementation of the Arab Region Indicators, linked to the implementation of the FDES, and provide guidance on using IRIS for indicator-based reporting.
11. National statistical offices improve collaboration with the ministry responsible for climate change reporting to UNFCCC to promote the use of common underlying statistics serving multiple reporting requirements under, inter alia, UNFCCC, SDGs and the Sendai Framework.
12. Countries participate in the Global Consultation on Climate Change Statistics to be conducted by UNSD in 2019.
13. South-South cooperation be encouraged to share experiences and best practices in environment statistics among similar countries.
14. Countries include environmentally-related questions in censuses/surveys and/or develop specialized environmental surveys and share lessons learnt.