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**Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on  
International  
Standards of Accounting and Reporting  
(ISAR)**

**35th SESSION**

24 - 26 October 2018

Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Thursday, 25 October 2018

Morning Session

**Agenda Item 3.**

**Enhancing comparability of sustainability reporting:  
Selection of core indicators for entity reporting on the  
contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable  
Development Goals**

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System of  
Environmental  
Economic  
Accounting

# CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING AND OFFICIAL STATISTICS FOR SDG MONITORING

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*35th Session of ISAR*

*24-26 October 2018*



United Nations

# Outline

1. Integrated official statistics and the SDGs
2. Aligning corporate and national natural capital accounting
3. Roadmap

# The missing piece of the puzzle

- Every country follows the System of National Accounts and every business relies on a balance sheet
- However, they largely omit the benefits from nature
- We need to integrate the contribution of nature into decision-making.

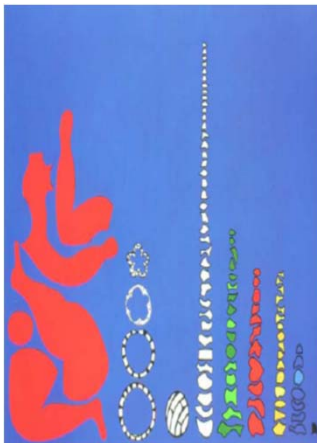
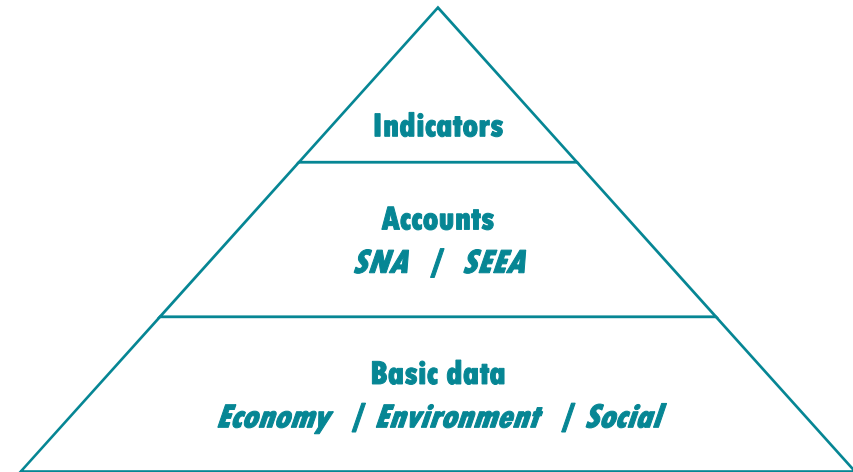
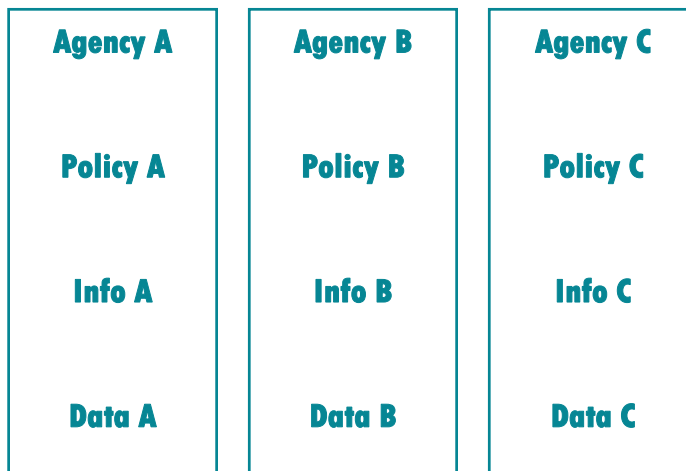


# The System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA)

- The **SEEA Central Framework** was adopted as an international statistical standard by the UN Statistical Commission in 2012 to measure the environment and its relation with the economy
- The **SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting** complements the Central Framework and represents international efforts toward coherent ecosystem accounting



# SEEA: From a silo approach to integration



## Towards integration

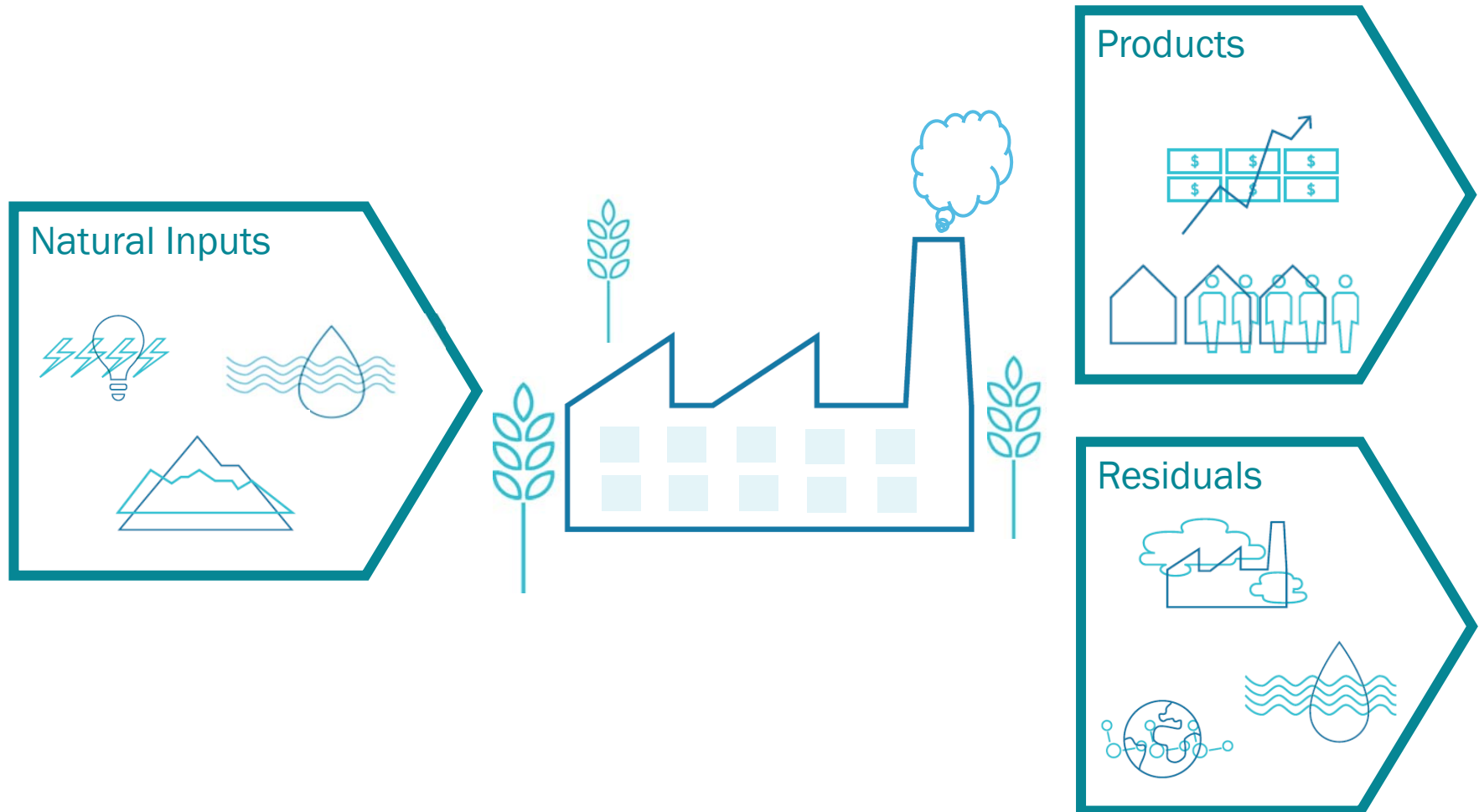
- Institutional arrangements/ governance
- Integrated decision making

# SEEA and the SDG indicators



The **SNA** and **SEEA** are statistical standards that can be used to monitor a number of environmental-economic SDG Indicators **in an integrated way**.

# Corporate natural capital accounting





# National natural capital accounting



# Aligning corporate and national efforts

- Corporate sustainability accounting is an important **information source** for statistics to support national-level monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Contributions of the corporate sector to obtaining and monitoring the **Sustainable Development Goals** will require a harmonized monitoring effort
- Alignment of national and corporate sustainability will:
  - › Reduce the **reporting burden** for businesses by aligning business surveys with corporate reporting
  - › **Streamline** the process of using business statistics in the production of national statistics
  - › Provide a set of **common definitions** and concepts so businesses can use statistical products efficiently

# Alignment – How?

Multiple initiatives in corporate and finance sectors:

→ **Common definitions and concepts can build bridges among different initiatives**

1. Map existing initiatives and identify the differences and similarities with SEEA standard
  2. Work to align terminology and classifications
  3. Develop common valuation methodology and data validation techniques
  4. Work towards a standardized collection process
- Business statistics have already been aligned with the System of National Accounts for economic statistics. The same steps can be taken for the environment.



**THANK YOU**

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