

General Acknowledgements

Acknowledges the partners, expert panel members and contributors whose work underpins the Technical Guidance on Ocean Accounting.

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ABOUT THIS CIRCULAR

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1. Requirements

¶1 None. This Circular serves as a standalone reference.

2. Acknowledgements

2.1 Global Ocean Accounts Partnership

¶1 The Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (<https://www.oceanaccounts.org/>) (GOAP) represents a commitment to improving, harmonising, and applying ocean-related data in accordance with international standards and in keeping with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Partnership was established in response to growing recognition that no single organisation has the mandate or influence to improve how the ocean is measured, how its benefits are realised, or how it is protected. Effective ocean accounting requires collaboration across levels, countries, disciplines, and sectors. ESCAP initiated the first Asia and the Pacific Regional Expert Workshop on Ocean Accounts in August 2018 and supported pilot studies in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Samoa, Thailand, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam during 2019.

¶2 The GOAP Panel of Technical Experts comprises specialists in various aspects of ocean accounting from around the world. Its work is framed towards improving understanding of the economic and scientific factors affecting the health of the ocean, and towards generating information that will make more effective action possible. The Panel identifies new challenges in ocean accounting, provides advisory assistance to countries undertaking ocean accounts, and defines priority areas for technical guidance development. The UN Statistical Commission requested ESCAP and UN Environment to take the lead in developing guidance for ocean statistics. The Technical Guidance also provides input to, and benefits from, the revision of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and the development of SEEA for Oceans¹.

2.2 Institutional Contributors

¶1 Founding and hosting institutions

- ¶2 University of New South Wales (UNSW) – hosts the GOAP Secretariat
- ¶3 United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) – founding partner, pilot study coordination

¶4 United Nations system

- ¶5 United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)
- ¶6 United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)
- ¶7 Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (IOC-UNESCO WESTPAC)
- ¶8 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN-FAO)
- ¶9 International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- ¶10 United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

¶11 International organisations

- ¶12 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- ¶13 World Bank
- ¶14 GRID-Arendal
- ¶15 Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
- ¶16 GEO Blue Planet Initiative

- ¶17 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
- ¶18 The Pacific Community (SPC)
- ¶19 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ¶20 Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)
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- ¶59 National statistical offices of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu (through workshops and dialogues)

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¶1 The Technical Guidance benefited from the enthusiasm and technical excellence of the participants in the ESCAP pilot studies.

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2.3.6 Second Edition Authors and Reviewers

¶1 [To be completed upon finalisation of all circulars.]

2.3.7 Consultation Contributors (Second Edition)

¶1 The global consultation on the Second Edition invites comment from anyone who produces, checks or uses ocean accounts. Two lists will be published here when the consultation closes.

¶2 **Consultation respondents** – everyone who commented under their own name and asked to be recognised, listed alphabetically with their organisation, with no comment attributed to

any individual.

¶3 **Named contributors to a circular** – respondents whose comments were accepted and substantively changed a circular are additionally named on that circular itself, in its contributor list, and are carried in its citation. The threshold, per circular, is one accepted substantive comment that supplied the replacement wording or a supporting reference, or three or more accepted substantive comments; a substantive comment is one that changes a definition, method, classification, recommendation, data source, numeric value or factual claim, as distinct from a typographic or formatting correction. Anonymous comments carry no identity and cannot be credited. Every entry is confirmed with the person before it is published. The full criteria are set out in [How to comment](#).

¶4 [To be completed upon closure of the global consultation.]

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¶2 [Additional funding acknowledgements to be confirmed.]

3. Circular Publication Information

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4. References

- ¶1 United Nations et al. (2021). *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting – Ecosystem Accounting* (SEEA EA). United Nations, New York. Available at: <https://seea.un.org/ecosystem-accounting> (<https://seea.un.org/ecosystem-accounting>)
- ¶2 GOAP (2021). *Technical Guidance on Ocean Accounting for Sustainable Development* (First Edition). Global Ocean Accounts Partnership. Available at: <https://www.oceanaccounts.org/> (<https://www.oceanaccounts.org/>)