

Measuring the connections between environment and gender: the Asia-Pacific experience

Expert meeting on Statistics on Gender and the Environment

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Who is ESCAP?



The **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

“...the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region”

One of five Regional Commissions of the United Nations

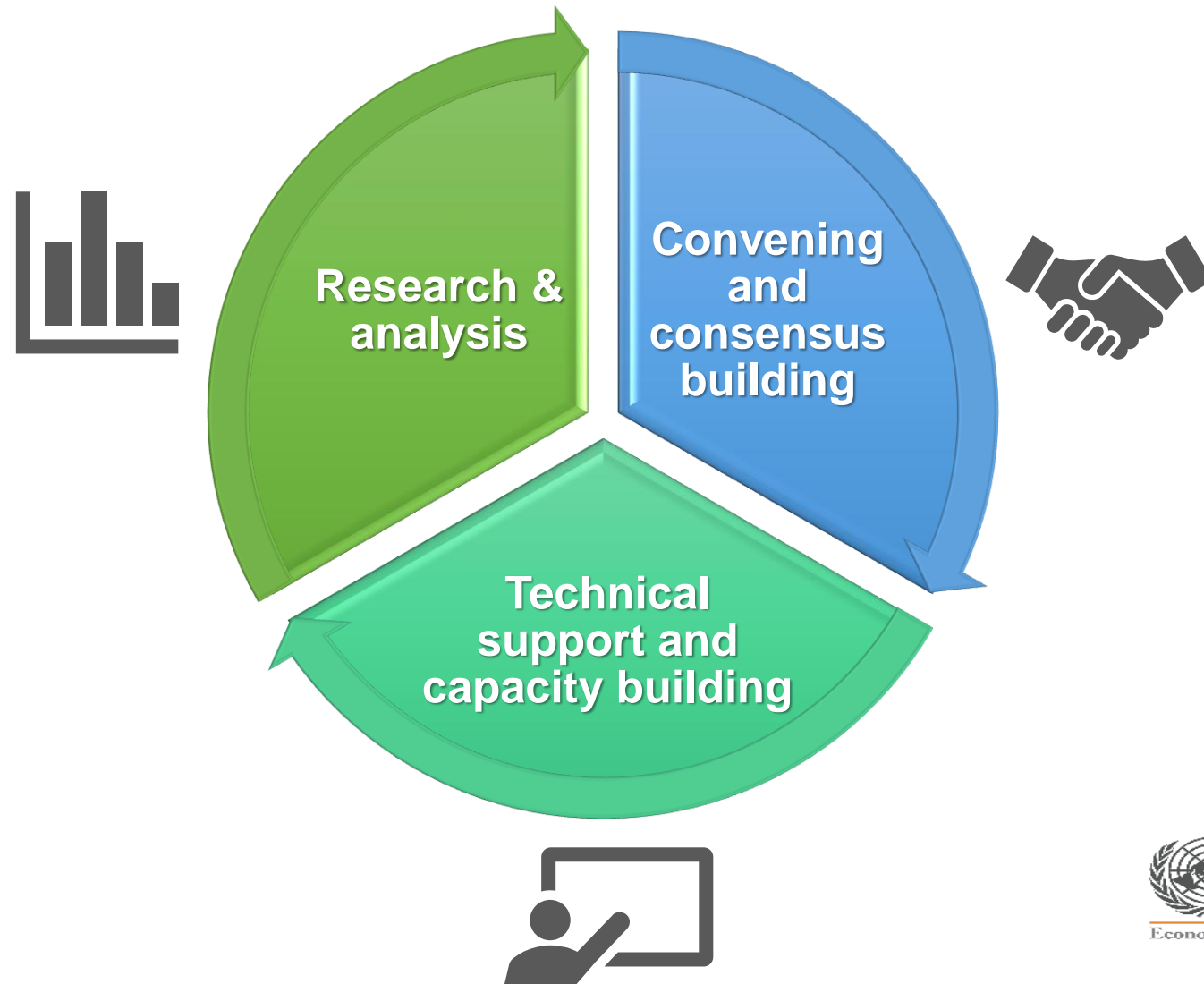
Works closely with other UN programmes and agencies, the Asian Development Bank, NGOs and civil society

53 Member States and 9 Associate Members

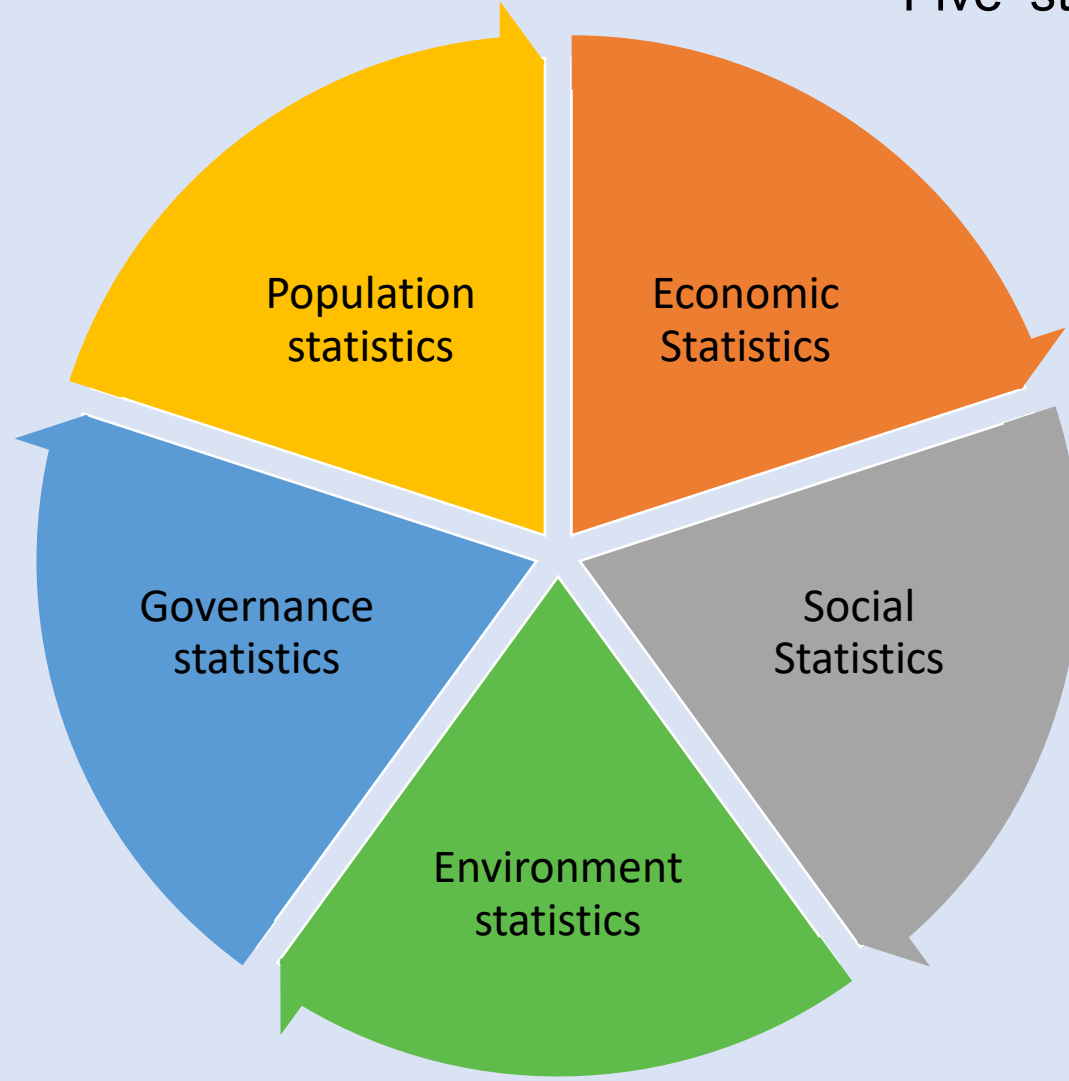
Two thirds of the world's population is located in the ESCAP region.



Three key approaches by UN ESCAP



Five 'standard' areas of official statistics



Plus themes

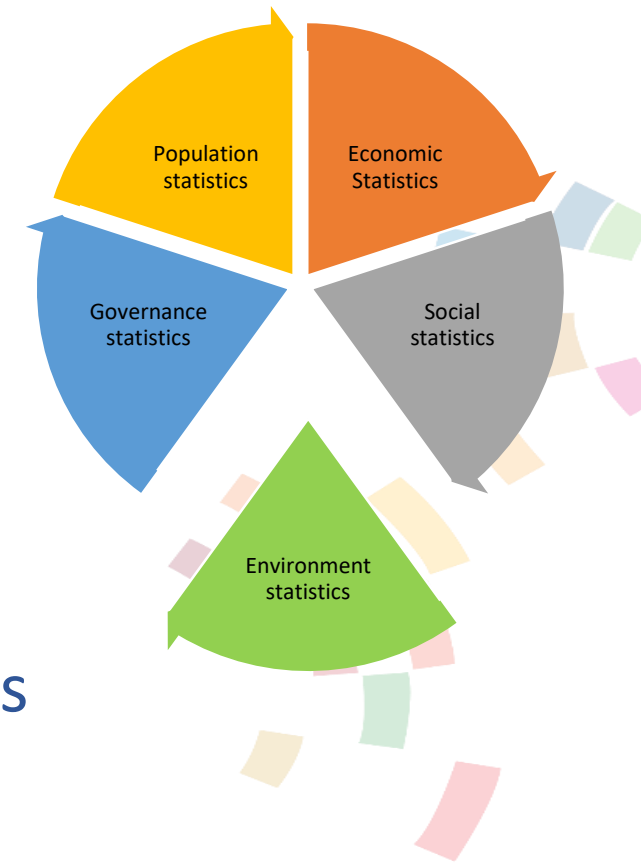
- Disaster-related statistics
- Gender mainstreaming



Environment statistics

Statistical approaches to measuring environmental issues, include:

- Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES)
- System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)



Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES)

The official global framework for environment statistics

The Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) is a flexible, multi-purpose conceptual and statistical framework that is comprehensive and integrative in nature.

It marks out the scope of environment statistics and provides an organizing structure to guide the collection and compilation of environment statistics at the national level.

It brings together data from the various relevant subject areas and sources.

It is broad and holistic in nature, covering the issues and aspects of the environment that are relevant for policy analysis and decision making by applying it to cross-cutting issues such as climate change.

FDES provides information about the state and changes of environmental conditions, the quality and availability/use of environmental resources, the impact of human activities on environment and impact of changing environment conditions on human life.



Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES)

Basic Set of Environmental Statistics

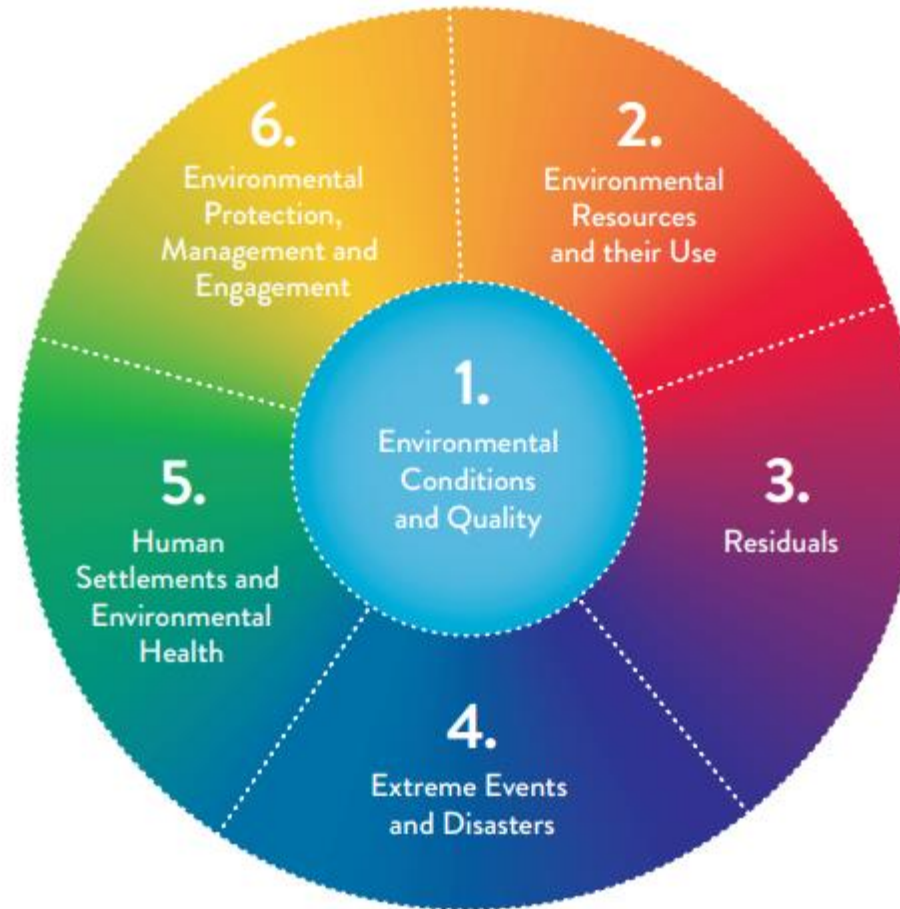
Number of Statistics

Core Set →

100

Total

458

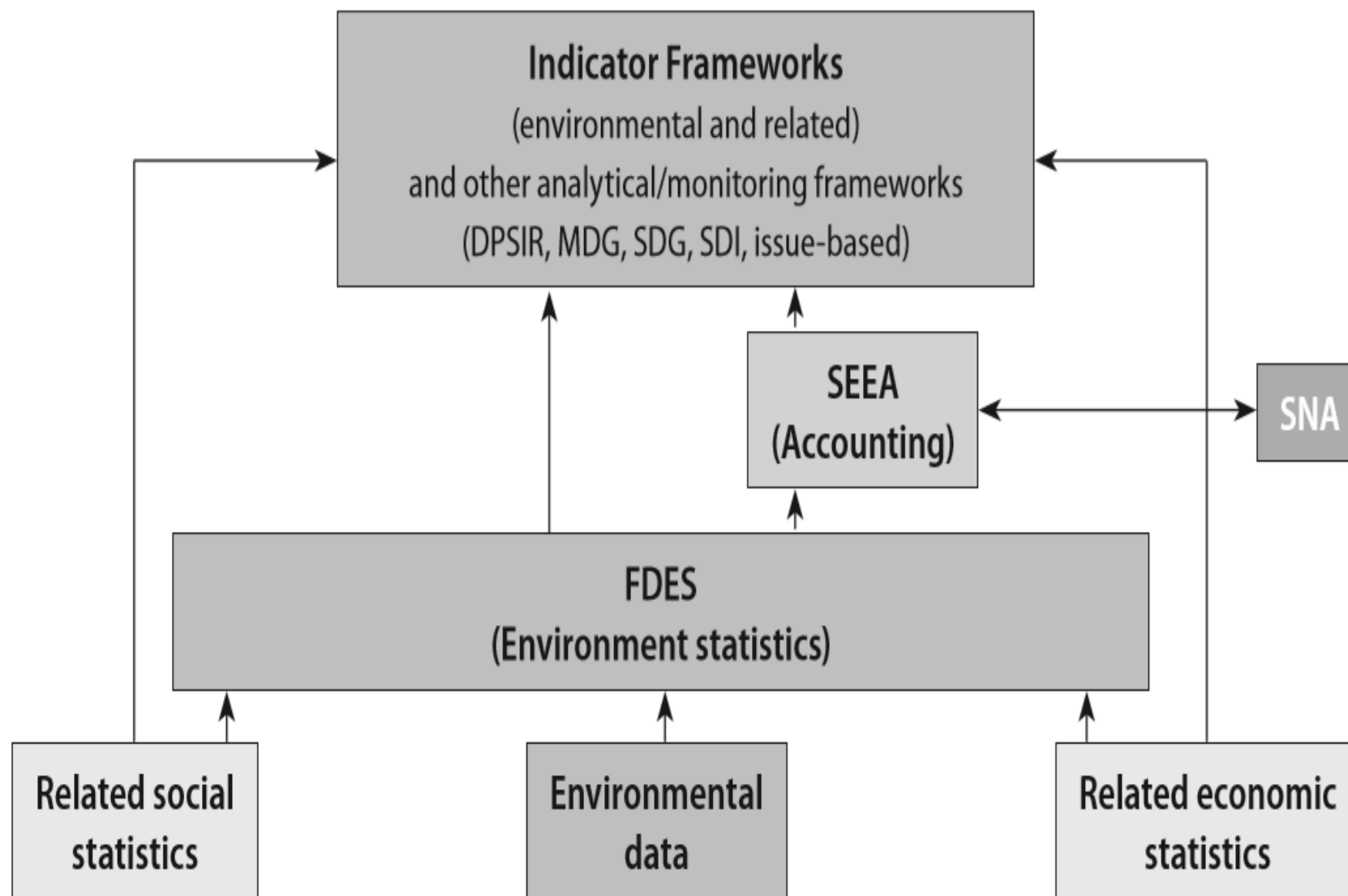


System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

- SEEA is a satellite system to SNA, applies concepts, structures, rules and principles of SNA.
- SEEA Central Framework describes the interactions between the economy and environment.
- SEEA-Experimental Ecosystems is a companion to the SEEA-CF that extends the accounting to the measurement of flows of services ecosystems provide and ecosystems capital
- **Ocean accounts** extension and adaptation of SEEA to the ocean and SDG14 → ESCAP has globally lead in developing a methodology



Relationship of the FDES to other frameworks, systems and indicator sets

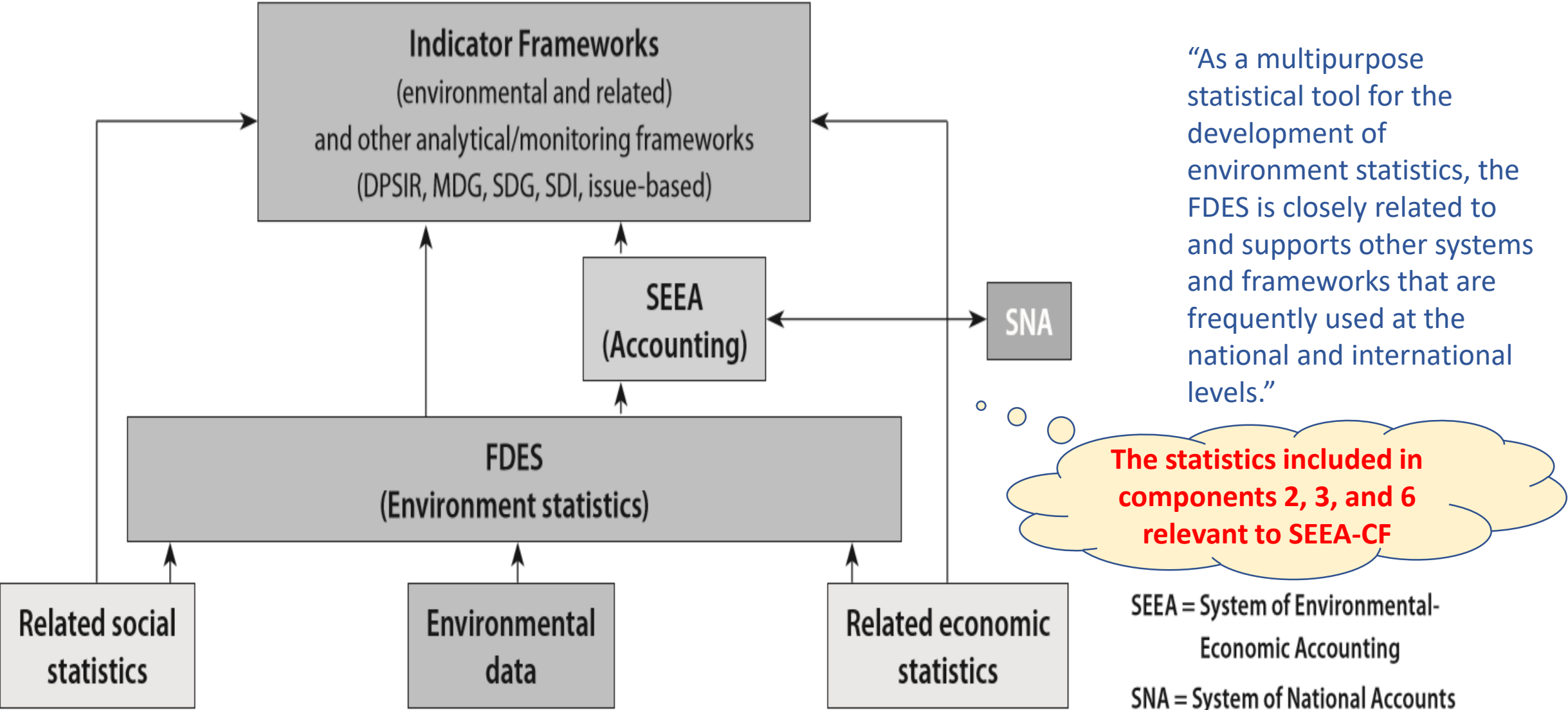


“As a multipurpose statistical tool for the development of environment statistics, the FDES is closely related to and supports other systems and frameworks that are frequently used at the national and international levels.”

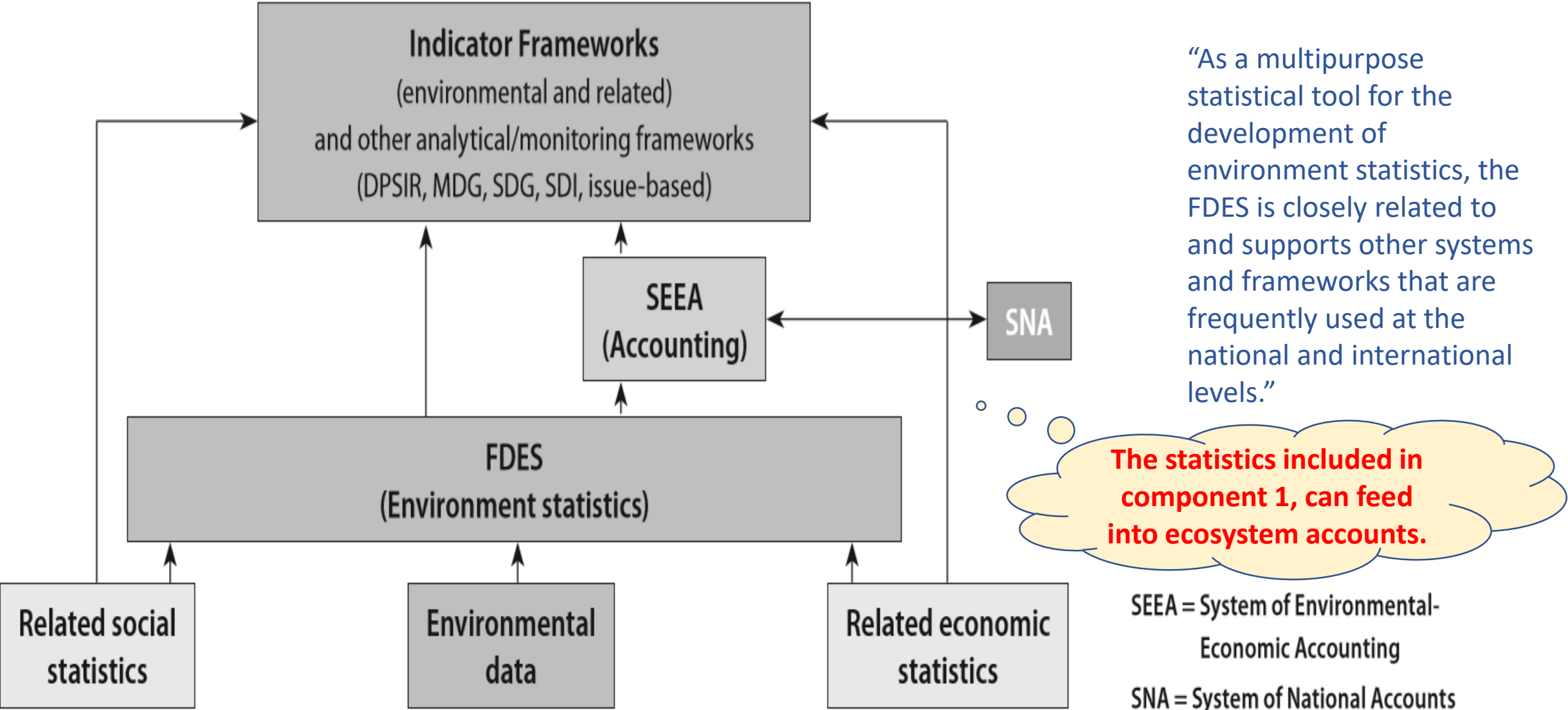
SEEA = System of Environmental-Economic Accounting

SNA = System of National Accounts

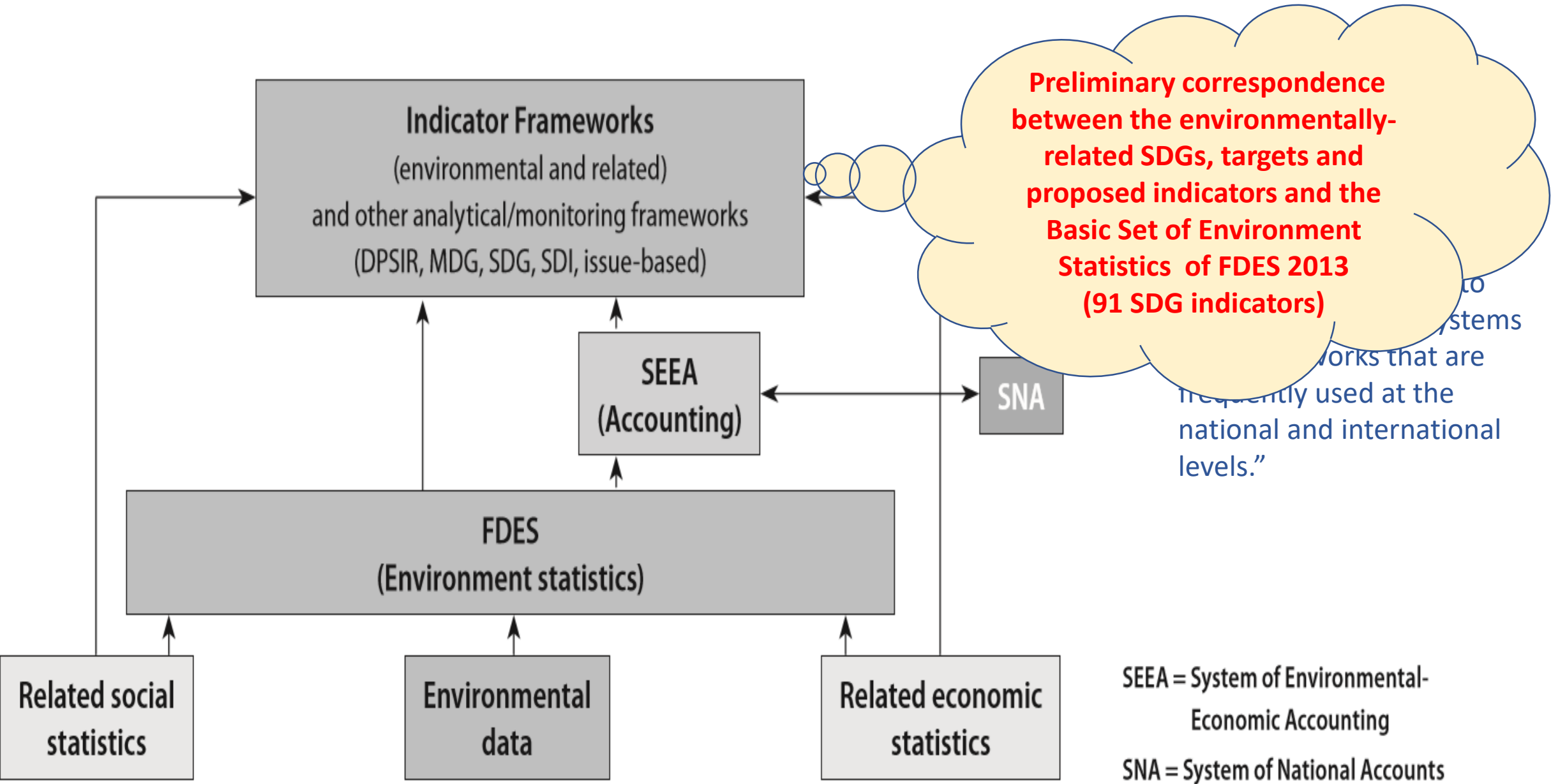
Relationship of the FDES to other frameworks, systems and indicator sets



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Relationship of the FDES to other frameworks, systems and indicator sets

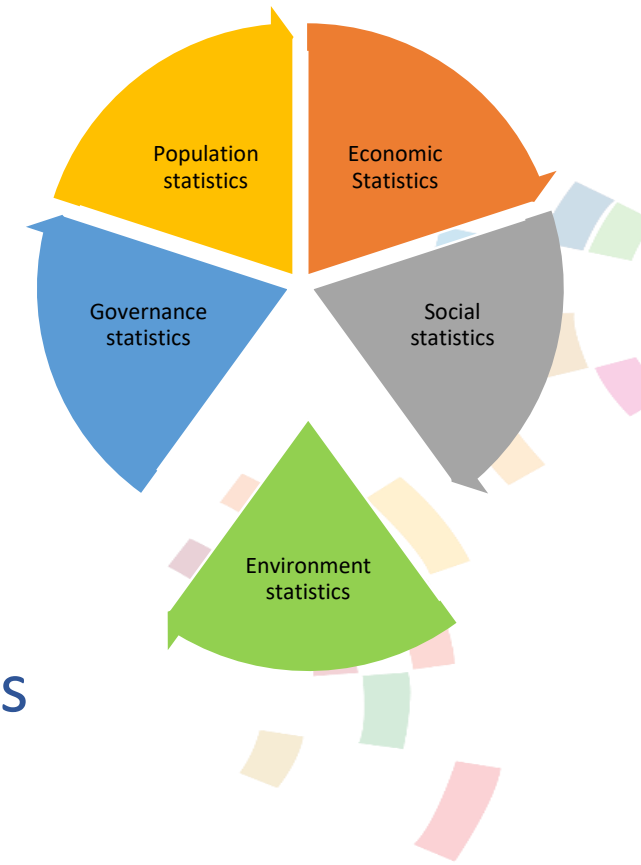


Environment statistics

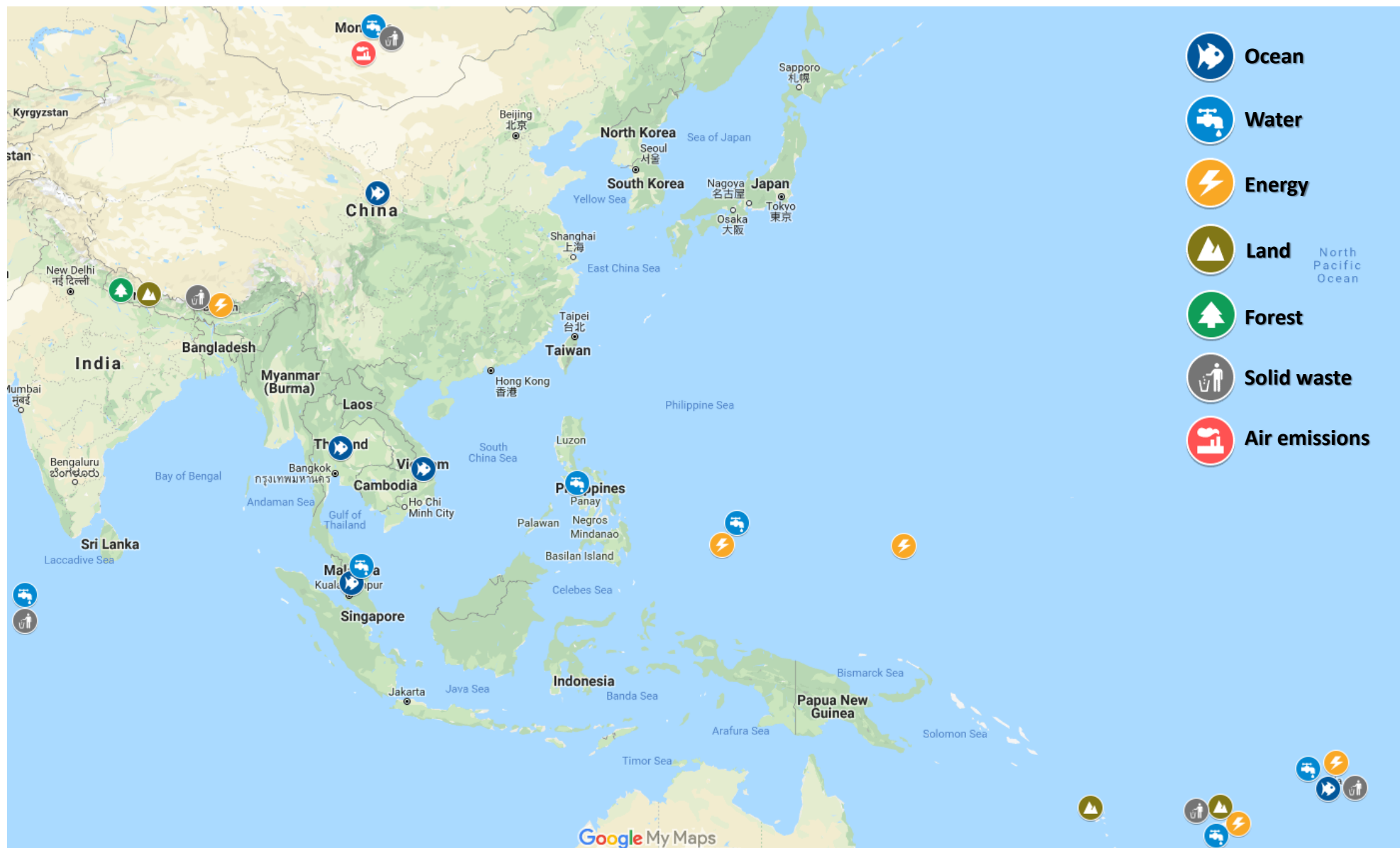
Statistical approaches to measuring environmental issues, include:

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ESCAP SD is primarily focusing on technical support and capacity building for Accounts



Technical support and capacity building - Accounts

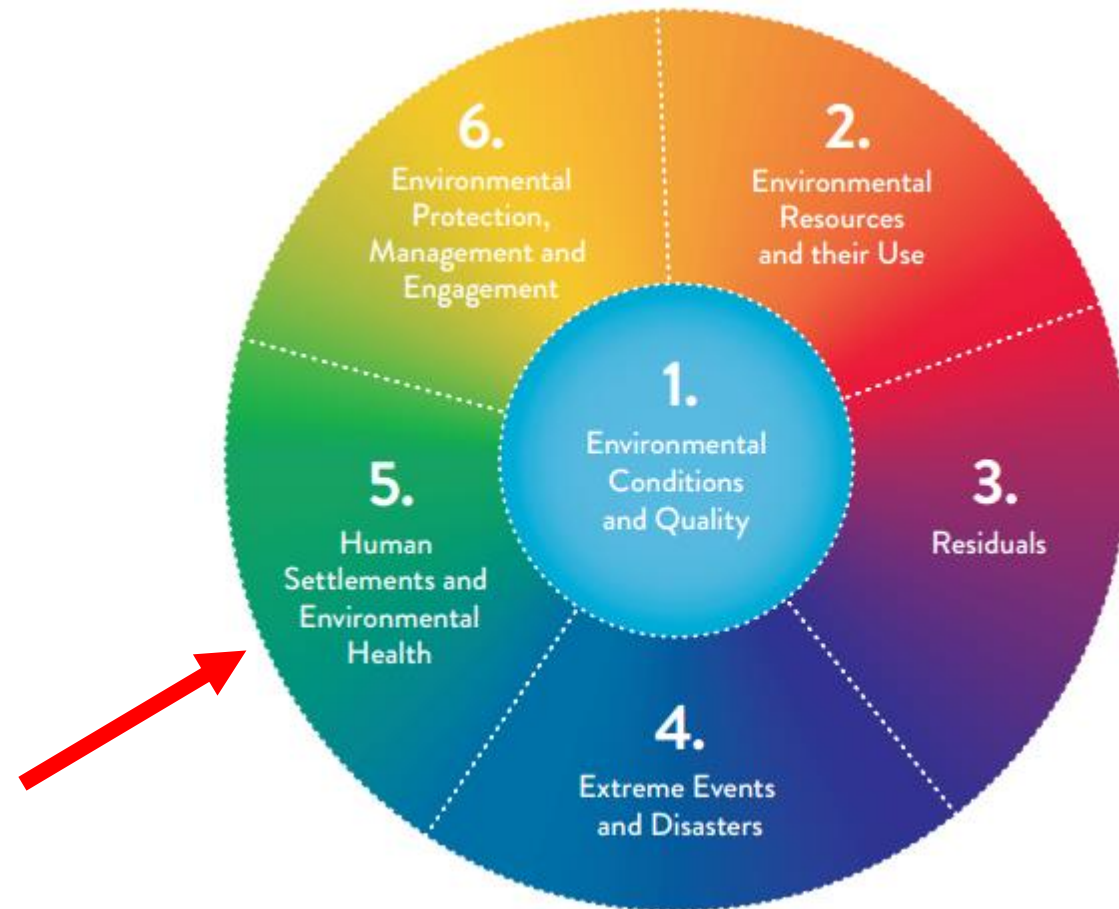


Mainstreaming gender in Accounts

- ESCAP is not aware of any work underway in the global statistical community
- Priority topics in Accounts include water, energy, air emissions, and oceans
- Mainstreaming gender into **SNA** may be a useful first engagement step → UN StatComm work on Future of Economic Statistics could be an opportunity (talk to your economic colleagues)
- Status: much work to be done

Mainstreaming gender in Statistics

- Mainstreaming gender into Environment indicators
 - Not part of the 2013 FDES
 - Entry points exist e.g. human settlements
 - Status: much work to be done

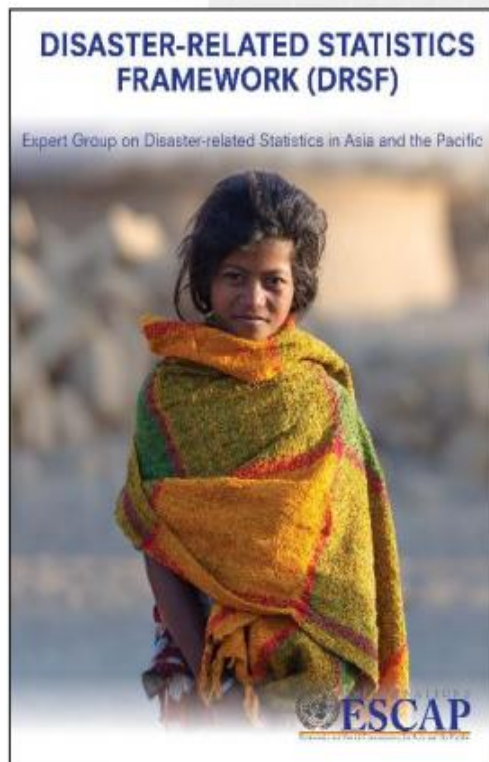


Mainstreaming gender into thematic areas

Asia and the Pacific statistical community are exploring gender mainstreaming through our thematic work on disaster-related statistics



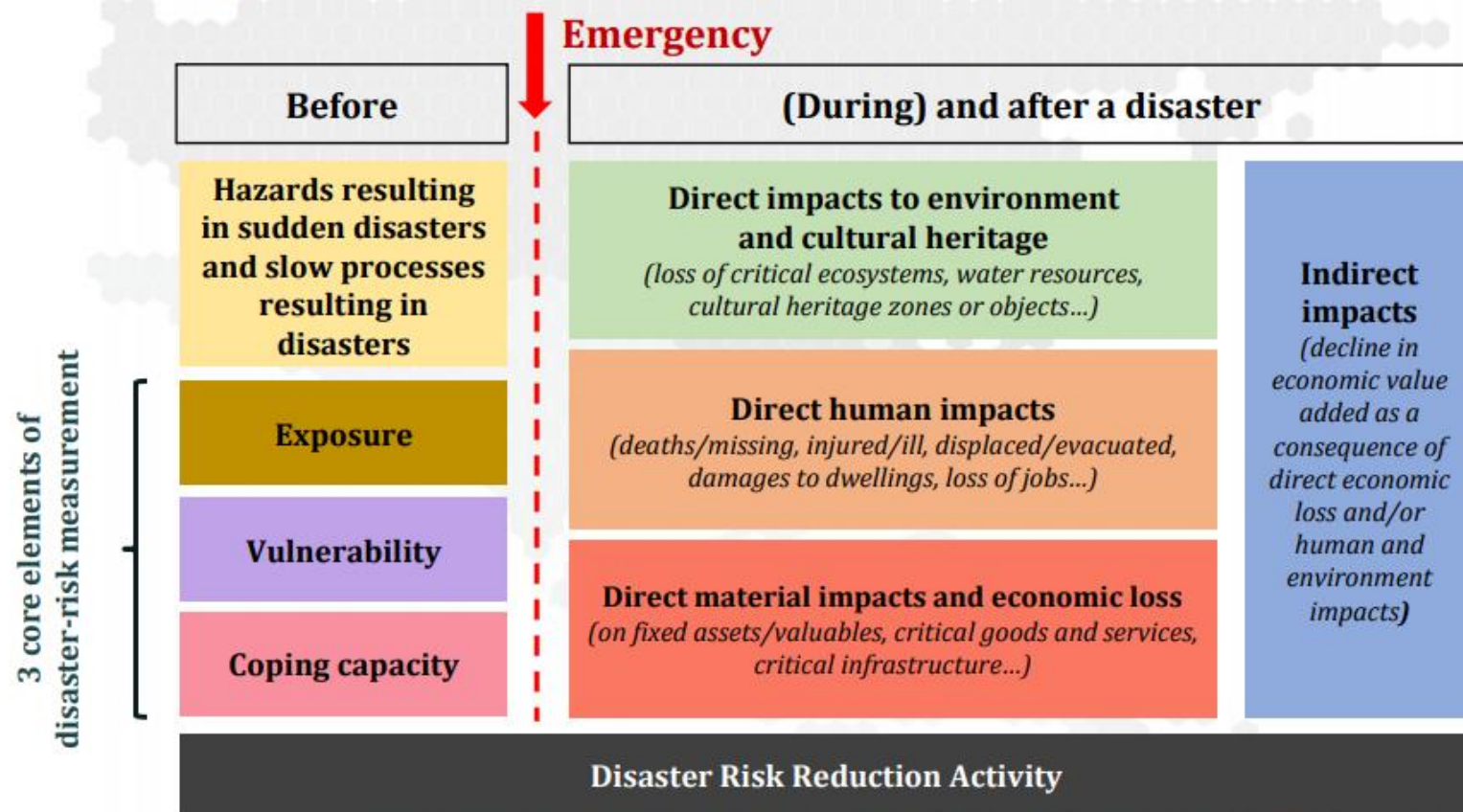
Disaster-Related Statistics Framework (DRSF): A new international statistical guideline



- Developed by Expert Group of NSOs, disaster-management agencies, and international organizations in Asia-Pacific
- Endorsed as statistical guideline by 6th Session of ESCAP Committee on Statistics (October, 2018)
- Methodological foundation for technical assistance/ international cooperation; aligned with terminology/indicators:
 - Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030
 - Disaster-related targets of 2030 Agenda
- Agreed concepts and definitions → specific instructions/ technical recommendations for production and dissemination
- Encourage development of a common and nationally standardized basic range of disaster-related statistics, comparable to other countries
- Currently applied towards design of technical assistance: development of case studies; statistical training materials in A-P



Disaster-Related Statistics Framework (DRSF): basic range of internationally comparable statistics related to disasters



- ✓ Diverse range of existing national data sources
- ✓ Gender is a cross-cutting element

Intergovernmental convening



**UN Women's Regional meeting on Gender Statistics in
Climate Change and Disaster Risk (22 April 2019)**

Held in conjunction with

**Sixth meeting of the Expert Group on Disaster-related
Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (23 – 25 April 2019)**

Intergovernmental consensus building



Which comes first?

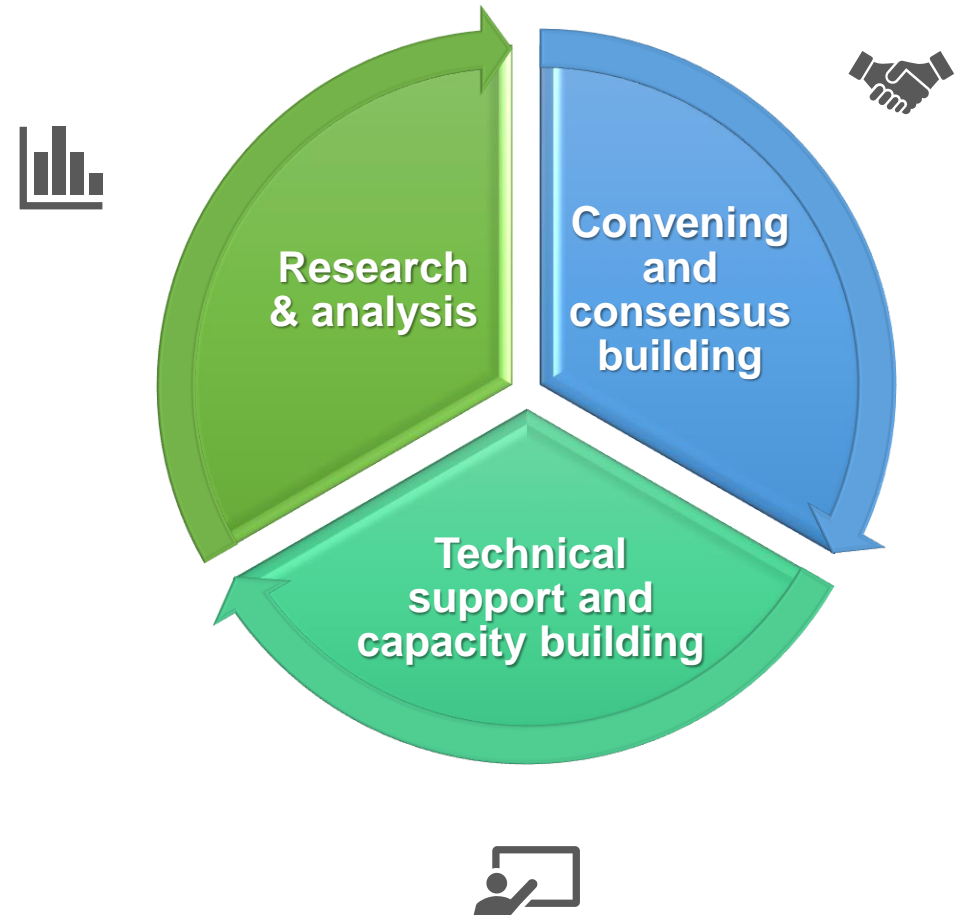
- Environment statistics well established and have visibility
- Mainstreaming gender into environment statistics widens the audience for gender statistics
- Widening the audience for gender statistics could have a multiplier effect e.g. to economic statistics
- National statistical offices do prioritise population and economic statistics, and more and more environment statistics as they relate to policy priorities such as climate change and disasters



HOW CAN ESCAP ASSIST?

Data and statistics

- Advocating for mainstreaming gender into statistical programmes, including CRVS, economic and environment statistical programmes
- Advocating for sex-disaggregation e.g. in SDGs, in core set of economic statistics, in core set of population and social statistics
- Partnering with champions including UN Women, UN Environment and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



UN-ESCAP prioritises enablement and empowerment of National Statistical Offices and National Statistical Systems.

Asia and the Pacific's diversity provides a 'test bed' for trying new things. If it works in Asia-Pacific, it is likely to work elsewhere.

Do we mainstream gender into environment statistics, or are we mainstreaming environment into gender statistics?

UN-ESCAP looks forward to contributing to discussions on the need for a new expert group in Asia and the Pacific on environment statistics to spearhead efforts to mainstream gender into environment statistics



THANK YOU

