Economic and Environmental Accounts: Value Chain Linkage to a National Index on Agri-Food

Panel Discussion on National Index on Agri-Food Performance
September 16, 2020

Delivering insight through data, for a better Canada
International frameworks already exist to link the economy and the environment.

Designed to be compatible with how economic information is structured, the SEEA measures the impact of the economy on the environment.
Start with the economy
Agriculture and Agri-Food Economic Account (AAEA)

- Highlights value-chain relationships
- Highlights production, intermediate uses of good and services and value-added by industry
- Expanded industry classification to provide more detail on various parts of the sector

Crop Production
- Soybean farming
- Canola farming
- Wheat farming
- Grain farming
- Oilseed (except soybean and canola) and pulse farming
- Potato farming
- Vegetable (except potato), melon, fruit and tree nut farming
- Other crop farming
These structural data can be dashboarded

https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2020007-eng.htm
Adding the environmental component – linking the AAEA to the SEEA physical flow accounts (PFA)

- The PFA include a wealth of data regarding upstream and downstream production of goods including energy and water used to create a given product, and GHG emissions

- The PFA provide:
  - Information by sector
  - Embedded physical amounts necessary for the production of a particular commodity
  - Final demand for products (e.g., households or exports)

- Information specific to the agriculture and agri-food sector can be created by linking these accounts to the AAEA
GHG intensities for industries related to agriculture and food (direct plus indirect), 2016

- Fishing, hunting and trapping
- Seafood product preparation and packaging
- Support activities for agriculture and forestry
- Dairy product manufacturing
- Meat product manufacturing
- Crop and animal production

Tonnes per thousands dollars of gross output

- Direct intensity
- Indirect Intensity
Concluding thoughts

During the August 27th Webinar key challenges associated with benchmarking and establishing an index were identified by partners such as:

- A need to align with international standards
- Highlighting the impact of agricultural value-chains
- The need for a convener and integrator of various sources of data
- Consistency in data collection and reporting