System of Environmental-Economic Accounting—Ecosystem Accounting

Global Consultation on the complete document: Comments Form

Deadline for responses: 30 November 2020
Send responses to: seea@un.org

Name: BPS
Organization & country: Statistics Indonesia

The comments form has been designed to facilitate the analysis of comments. There are six guiding questions in the form, please respond to the questions in the indicated boxes below. To submit responses please save this document and send it as an attachment to: seea@un.org.

All documents can be found on our website at: https://seea.un.org/content/global-consultation-complete-draft

In case you have any questions or have issues with accessing the documents, please contact us at seea@un.org
General comments

Question 1: Do you have comments on the overall draft of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?

Overall, the explanation of ecosystem accounting concepts are well structured. However, there are several explanations that need to be completed so that the readers could understand ecosystem accounting more clearly.

Comments by sets of chapters

Question 2. Do you have comments on Chapters 1-2 of the draft SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?

1. On page 28 point 2.55, it’s better to explain the values that exist in each framework so the readers can identify which framework included in the values in figure 2.4.
2. On page 28 point 2.56, it only explains the Pascual Framework for Anthropocentric values, Instrumental values, Intrinsic values, and Relational values. Meanwhile, the other values in Figure 2.4 are not explained.
3. On page 29 point 2.60 "From a policy perspective, the focus on anthropocentric, instrumental values may also be considered of high relevance since it is in this quadrant that the sources of pressure on ecosystems are most evident." The word quadrant refers to Figure 2.4 but there is no further explanation regarding which quadrant it refers to. Furthermore, in Figure 2.4 the quadrant is not coded to distinguish each quadrant.

Question 3. Do you have comments on Chapters 3-5 of the draft SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?

1. It is better to give more explanation about how to collect data to compile ecosystem extent and condition accounts.
2. It is better to give more explanation about the structure and data units to compile ecosystem extent and condition accounts.
3. It is better to give more explanation about the concept of ecosystem services.
4. It is better to give more explanation about the valuation of ecosystem assets for each dimensional space (terrestrial and marine ecosystem).
5. It is better to give more explanation about the difference and relationship between ecosystem and environmental assets.
6. Table 3.2 SEEA Ecosystem Type Reference Classification based on the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology. Based on para 3.55 the SEEA Ecosystem Type reference classification consists of: Marine (M), Freshwaters and saline wetlands (F), Terrestrial (T), and Subterranean (S) and transitions between these, while information in the Table 3.2 only explain Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine, and the Transitions. Why the Subterranean (S) realm is not explained in the Table 3.2?
7. It is still not clear enough about standardizing direct pressure that can be used in ecosystem condition accounts. Give more explanation. (Chapter 5)
8. How's the table's format to measure ecosystem conversion with different ecosystem types in an accounting period? (Chapter 5)
9. Paragraph 4.2.2 Structure of extent accounts and accounting entries 4.9 Last sentences should be: Entries are in terms of area using measurement units appropriate for the scale of analysis, e.g. hectares, square kilometres.

Question 4. Do you have comments on Chapters 6-7 of the draft SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?

Question 5. Do you have comments on Chapters 8-11 of the draft SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?

1. para. 8.2. ... highlight the relevance of non-market ecosystem services (e.g., air filtration);
2. Paragraph 8.38 should be removed from chapter 8, as it describes chapter 10.
3. Chapter 9 Accounting...; 9.1 Introduction 9.1 Recording monetary...
   Please check the numbering system for subchapter, there is duplication for subchapter number 9.1
4. Para 9.42. On the 3rd sentence ... to add up all consumption expenditures. (period)
5. Para 9.58. The first sentence tells “discrete choice methods”. Does it refer to the choice experiments method? There is no explanation about discrete choice methods
6. Para 9.6. The first sentence talks about the coverage of provisioning services, while the next sentence starts with the coverage of ecosystem services. Should it focus on provisioning services only?
7. Par 10.30 > Other changes in the volume of ecosystem assets refer to changes in the “value” of an ecosystem asset.
   This concept already compliance with SNA 2008’s concept, but it will be better if this paragraph explains the reason using “value” rather than “volume” or the relationship between value and volume.
8. Par 10.35 > Revaluations refer to changes in the value of ecosystem assets ...... in the unit prices of ecosystem services.
   Based on SNA 2008’s concept, Revaluation refers to changes in value of assets and liabilities from changes in its prices. Why does the concept of Ecosystem assets’ revaluation refer to changes in price of ecosystem services and not for the price of ecosystem asset itself?
9. Table 10.6: it is better if there are description of the units
10. Par A10.31: it is better if there are description of the units → $894, $368, $563
11. Par A 10.6: From Table 10.2, it shows the value in discounted prices. It’s better to elaborate the calculation of discounted prices itself in each unit price.
12. Par 11.6: What is physical data?

Question 6. Do you have comments on Chapters 12-14 of the draft SEEA Ecosystem Accounting?