



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

System of Environmental-Economic Accounting 2012 – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Revision

First Global Consultation on:

Chapter 6: Ecosystem services concepts for accounting

Chapter 7: Accounting for ecosystem services in physical terms

Comments Form

Deadline for responses: 20 August 2020

Send responses to: seea@un.org

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The comment 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 the following e-mail address: seea@un.org.

All documents can be also found on the SEEA EEA Revision website at:

<https://seea.un.org/content/seea-experimental-ecosystem-accounting-revision>

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

Questions related to Chapter 6

Question 1: Do you have comments on the concepts and definitions for ecosystem services, benefits and associated components of the ecosystem accounting framework?

Concepts are elaborative and clear. No further comments.

Question 2. Do you have comments on the content and descriptions in the reference list of selected ecosystem services?

The list provided in table-6.2 is quite interesting and has a lot of scope for improvement over time. I suggest to add the following services:

Healing services : Psychological and physical healing of humans due to interaction with ecosystem. The medicinal value provided ecosystem can also be part of this.

Sports service: The services offered by ecosystem for sports and adventure activities.

Nutrient enrichment service by soil erosion / sediment transport: This will benefit development of near coast fish population.

Paleoclimate service: The lithosphere profile information can offer paleoclimate related knowledge which could be useful for climate change studies.

Bovine and other milk/meat producing animals may be recorded as separate entry under biomass provisioning service.

Question 3. Do you agree with the proposed treatments for selected ecosystem services described in Section 6.4 for biomass provisioning services, global climate regulation services, cultural services, water supply and abiotic flows?

Factors for normalization of Short term services vs long term services; perpetual service vs one time service for the accounting period may be required.

Question 4. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 6?

NIL

Questions related to Chapter 7

Question 5. Do you have comments on the proposed recording approaches for ecosystem services supply and use tables described in section 7.2?

Measuring pollination service units as #visits may be a very tedious task to obtain measurements. Normalization factor as relative benefit / increasing in economic yield could be a measurable parameter.

Point 7.39: In case of climate regulating (CR) service, recording the export of CR service is required even if it is beyond EAA. This will encourage the countries to work towards negating Global warming.

Question 6. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 7?

A new head may be created on the name 'Global Account' and all the topics related to Global 'use' could be recorded in 'Global account'. This includes topics like fish catch beyond EEZ, Global climate regulating service, etc.