

Valuation in the SEEA

Developing a Scope of Work

The World Bank

UNCEEA, June 24-26 2009

Outline

June 10-- Small group of environmental economists with experience in environmental economics + UNSD to draft a Scope of Work

Chapter 1. Conceptual framework and classifications

Chapter 2. Concepts of value

Chapter 3. Valuation of specific ecosystem benefits & damages

Chapter 4. Macroeconomic aggregates and indicators

Chapter 5. The way forward

Chapter 1. Conceptual framework and classifications

Building on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment:

- Classification of ecosystem services

Detailed list of services was derived in a somewhat ad hoc manner by MA, should be revisited

- Classification of ecosystem assets

Ecosystems overlap

Delivery of a service requires a portfolio of assets

Chapter 2. Concepts of value

Economic welfare vs SNA

- For ecosystem services already included in the SNA, 'disentangle' the value of ecosystem service from the product which embodies it.
- For ecosystem services not in SNA, the issue is whether they should be, and how they can be included in a manner consistent with SNA valuation.

Other issues:

- Passive uses/biodiversity
- Valuing ecosystem services where financial payment systems are emerging

Chapter 3. Valuation of specific ecosystem benefits & damages

Describe state of valuation for specific issues that are candidates for moving into the SEEA Standard

Priorities not yet set

Other issues to be addressed:

- Accounting issues related to Human Capital require that this form of capital be addressed.
- Accounting for publicly owned land, not included in the SNA, where most biodiversity is located
- Valuation of transboundary ecosystems
- Assets in the global commons (atmosphere, high seas)

Chapter 4. Macroeconomic aggregates and indicators

Describe macroeconomic aggregates and indicators that are derived from these accounts & how they could be used

Chapter 5. The way forward

- To provide guidance for those national statistical offices that want to start implementing valuation of ecosystem services
- To identify the research necessary to create consensus and to move the accounts discussed here into the statistical standard

Timeline

June 24-26, 2009	Present Draft SOW to UNCEEA
Late June 2009	Circulate draft SOW to larger Technical Experts Group
July 2009	Prepare final SOW and begin work on papers
Nov 2009	Present the final SOW at the London Group meeting
Early 2010	Draft a paper on valuation & circulate to Technical Advisory Group
Spring 2010	Convene meeting of the Technical Advisory Group to discuss the draft paper;
Late 2010	Finalize the paper