



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 8: Principles of valuation for Ecosystem Accounting

Chapter 9: Accounting for ecosystem services in monetary terms

Chapter 10: Accounting for ecosystem assets in monetary terms

**Chapter 11: Integrated and extended accounting for ecosystem services and
assets**

Comments Form

Deadline for responses: 6 July 2020

Send responses to: seea@un.org

Name:	This is a collation of comments provided by Gabriela Scheufele and Sean Pascoe. <i>We are a team of CSIRO economists engaged in environmental-economic accounting. These comments are not the consolidated view of CSIRO as an organisation.</i>
Organization & country:	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia

The comment form has been designed to facilitate the analysis of comments. There are twelve 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 8

Question 1: Do you have comments on the principles proposed to underpin monetary valuation for the revised SEEA EEA, including the use of exchange values and net present value approaches?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 2. Do you have any suggestions for topics to include in Annex 8.1?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 3. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 8?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Questions related to Chapter 9

Question 4. Do you have comments on the range of valuation methods proposed for use in estimating exchange values of ecosystem services?

Section 9.16

Marginal value pricing based on random utility travel models of travel choice suggested in the Discussion Paper 10 (Recreation Services) does not seem to be included in the overview of available methods.

Section 9.21

Convergent validity tests involve comparisons between different non-market valuation estimates. This implies that several methods need to be applied, which is costly. It is unclear what this section recommends to quality-assure estimates.

Section 9.41

The consumer expenditure approach seems to contradict Chapter 8, which states that intermediate consumption (such as expenditure that enables e.g. recreation) needs to be deducted to estimate the value-added generated by the ecosystem asset through the provision of ecosystem services.

If, nevertheless, expenditure is used as a proxy for the value of the ecosystem service, it may not relate in any significant/informative way to the value of the provided ecosystem services (and level changes). Using these values seems problematic.

Section 9.53

Does this section refer to the Marginal Value Pricing approach?

Section 9.54

Table 9.2/ Residual value: Wouldn't return on manufactured capital also have to be deducted?

Section 9.54

Table 9.2/ Table notes:

Wouldn't marginal value pricing based on revealed and stated preference methods be an alternative to the simulated exchange value method? Or is marginal value pricing interpreted as a simulated exchange value based on an estimated demand curve and an inelastic supply?

Section 9.65

We recommend including a note on the potential temporal volatility of non-market values and the consequences for using this method to elicit exchange values.

Question 5. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 9?

Section 9.5

We recommend defining the terms associated with recreation and tourism to avoid confusion and potential double-counting.

Questions related to Chapter 10

Question 6. Do you have comments on the definitions of entries for the ecosystem monetary asset account including ecosystem enhancement, ecosystem degradation and ecosystem conversions?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 7. Do you have comments on the recommendations concerning the selection of discount rates for use in NPV calculations in ecosystem accounting?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 8. Do you have comments on Annex 10.1 describing the derivation and decomposition of NPV?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 9. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 10?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Questions related to Chapter 11

Question 10. Do you have comments on the proposed structure of the extended balance sheet that integrates the monetary values of ecosystem and economic assets?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 11. Do you have comments on the approaches to assigning the ownership of ecosystem assets that underpins the structure of the extended sequence of institutional sector accounts?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

Question 12. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 11?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)