



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 July2020

Send responses to: seea@un.org

Organization&country:	NSO, MoSPI, India
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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?

We agree with the proposed principles.

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

No additional suggestions.

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

No specific comments

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?

Residual Value Method (Resource Rent Method) has been proposed for monetary valuation of provisioning services under Production Approach and reflecting the entry in the Ecosystem Services and Use Accounts in monetary terms. It has been suggested that it is desirable to have the corresponding entries for each and every entry in Ecosystem Services and Use Accounts in monetary terms in the corresponding cell of the Ecosystem Services and use Accounts in physical terms. It may be helpful to add some options or alternatives for such depiction in physical terms.

For example, if we consider the services of production of agriculture commodities from agriculture land, the monetary value for this production can be calculated using the “resource rent” method by eliminating the cost of all other operating expenses from the total cost of final output. But it would be a challenge to show the corresponding entry in Ecosystem Services and Use Account in Physical terms. It may be appropriate to suggest some indicators which could be used in such cases – like the volume of production of various agricultural crops, which again may not be feasible to show in the form of a single number. So, there is a need to provide some prescriptions on this aspect.

Travel Cost Method has been proposed for estimation of demand function for recreational services by observing the number of trips that take place at different costs of travelling. In this estimation, the Income Profile of the tourists may also be a significant factor for incorporation in the approach, as the expenditure pattern varies with the variation in the income. It is suggested to include this parameter, of “income levels of tourists” in the method.

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

Examples should be given for each method discussed in chapter 9 for ecosystem services valuation. Giving examples would further clarify the concepts and uses of the methods.

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?

We agree with the definitions.

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

No specific comments.

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

No specific comments.

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

No other comments.

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?

In paragraph 11.24 it has been stated that, "Further, in the terrestrial realm an exception is made concerning urban areas (IUCN T4.7 Urban and infrastructure lands). Urban areas are separately identified since it is recognized that the value of land in those areas, in terms of the provision of space, will be the most significant share of the total monetary value."

In the above text, it is stated that urban areas are separately identified, but in the **Table 11.2: Structure of an extended balance sheet for non-financial assets**, urban areas are not included in the asset class.

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?

We agree with the proposed approach to assign ownership of ecosystem assets.

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

No other comments.