



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?

Para 6.15, the three situation described below is more relevant to the nature of the benefits rather than SNA or non-SNA benefits. For instance situation ii could be either SNA or non-SNA benefits, so the more specific elaboration may be required.

Para 6.2.6 Technically water flow, wind flow, solar radiation are also parts of the abiotic flow but contribute to ecosystem services, so the example emphasize mineral resources but without given the definition of what is biotic and abiotic flow make this para confused.

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

The reference list (Table 6.2) seems substantially improved from previous EEA version, the distinguish of global and local climate regulation made no confusion literally (from our practicing experiences).

But Nursery population and habitat maintenance services as intermediate services added to Regulating Services is quite reluctant, and will make difficulty in the final aggregation. We suggest it only represents in qualitative way rather quantifying.

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?

Yes we agree the treatments stated in the draft

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

Cultural services in practice is recorded most in recreation-related services which make the services are overall underestimate and mix of SNA and non-SNA benefits, Para 6.4.3 may provide more concrete example of the services' boundaries, range, identification for users.

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?

Currently,no

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

Table 7.2-7.5 step by step illustration as breakdown of Table 7.1 is very useful for guiding the physical accounting practice. We suggest to add more examples for better understanding the Final ecosystem services; Intermediate services and Abiotic flows and their characteristics in Supply and Use