



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

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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?

Ecosystem valuation may consider including global harmonization with respect to pricing of asset or service.

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

Clarification may be provided regarding the fixed and variable list of services by an ecosystem.

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

Page-6 footnote-7: 'The is an extensive literature on the theory and application ' may be corrected as 'There is an extensive literature on the theory and application '

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?

The range of evaluation methods is quite elaborative.

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

Regulating & Maintenance services: 'Soil carbon and nutrients fixation' and 'biodiversity conservation' may be considered as services, in addition to their role in thematic accounts.

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?

I 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?

Besides discount, appreciation may also be considered. For example, the bio-diversity conservation service for longer periods needs appreciation.

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

In table-10.5, 5th row (down, up, up) combination is possible in case of forest loss compensated with afforestation in existing forest areas, while having the demand for timber being high.

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

Table-10.1: In ecosystem monetary assets accounting, weighted approach may be followed especially for ecosystem degradation and ecosystem conversion. Weights may be based on external agents responsible for such change. For example, the intentional logging in a forest may attract higher weight as compared to loss of tree cover due to natural process / problem.

10.34. If changes in estimated values due to change in accounting method is treated as 'revision', then how the table-10.1 is modified. Will all the estimates under other heads like enhancement, degradation, etc be summed up as 'revaluation'? Some more clarification may be provided with examples.

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?

The Government consumption and household consumption may have lot of overlap and redundancy. For example, the allocation of consumption under public distribution: whether Government or household consumption? Similarly, accounting of ration and goods provided to defence sector requires clear divide.

Is there any built-in cross check mechanism for consistency of accounts provided across different heads?

Table-11.2: Sceptical on correctness of information provided under Weapon system head. Due to sensitivity of this information, better to merge under 'Other assets'. Can 'Radio spectrum' be considered under 'Atmospheric system'?

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?

Table 11.1-Mining and related may be considered as separate product.