



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?

The section on concepts and definitions is quite clear; however, to distinguish SNA and non-SNA benefits, I thought it would be better to make use of the former as *economic benefit* throughout.

There are no comments regarding concepts and definitions, they are well put

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

Well defined, especially since it is clear that the reference list is not exhaustive and that countries would still need to come up with their country-specific list while still observing the internationally agreed classification system.

The contents and description in the reference list is clear though some services are not relevant to the country

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?

Lesotho uses biomass primarily for the purposes of energy; therefore, the gross quantity of biomass that is harvested would be complex to align with the measurement of the ecosystem services. It would be challenging to obtain quantity of grazed biomass.

Biomass in Lesotho is mainly for energy purposes. I think the **Gross** quantity of biomass that is harvested would be a bit tricky to align with the measurement of the ecosystem services. Also quantity of grazed biomass might not be easy to obtain.

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

None

No other comments on this chapter

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?

Similar to the supply and use accounting framework in the National Accounts. A bit complicated, but then again that is the ecosystem accounting.

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

None