

#### WEALTH ACCOUNTING AND THE VALUATION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

# **Forest Accounting**

Presentation to the London Group

India, October 2014

### Sofia Ahlroth, Juan-Pablo Castaneda

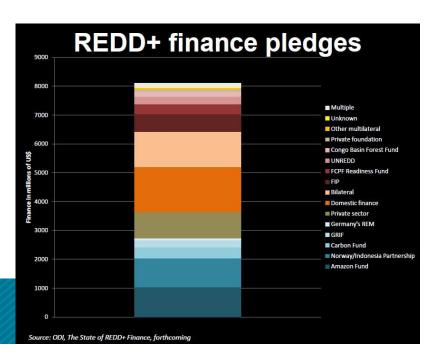
Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice, The World Bank



# What are some of the current policy agendas involving forests?

## Global agenda

- Mobilize finance for REDD+ and adaptation
- Remove subsidies for unsustainable biofuels
- Implement other demand-side policies to provide incentives for legal and sustainable production
- Legality assurance initiatives
- Green procurement programs
- Links to green growth



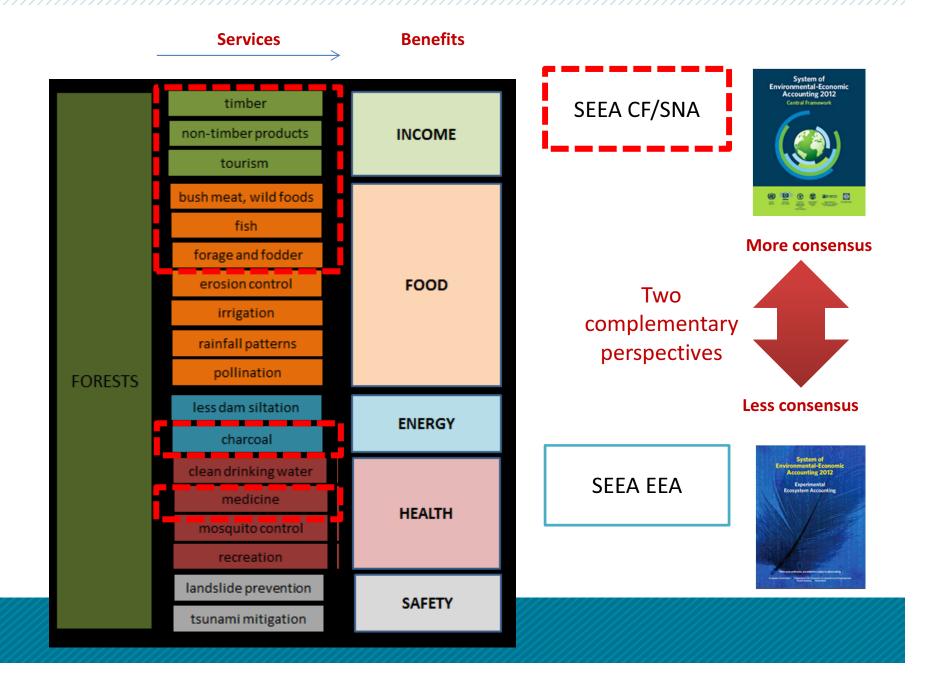
# **National agendas**

### These agendas include, among other things, the need to:

- Enhance revenues from forests managed as forests (REDD+)
- Include forest-based income in national income accounts
- 3) Reveal the value forests for food security. Recognize forest-based ecosystem services as input to agriculture.
- 4) Increase forest productivity (green infrastructure)
- 5) Increase forest related activities productivity
- 6) Value forests for adaptation and mitigation
- 7) Ensure that appropriation of forest resources is legal
- 8) Ensure equitable distribution of forest resources

# The accounting framework

### What do we want to measure and how?



### What are the differences?

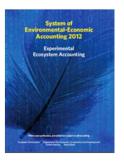
A RESOURCE BASED PERSPECTIVE: Forests are measured through their <u>individual components</u>, i.e. traditionally, forest land and timber (including timber outside the forests) -> SEEA CF







SEEA EEA



Less consensus

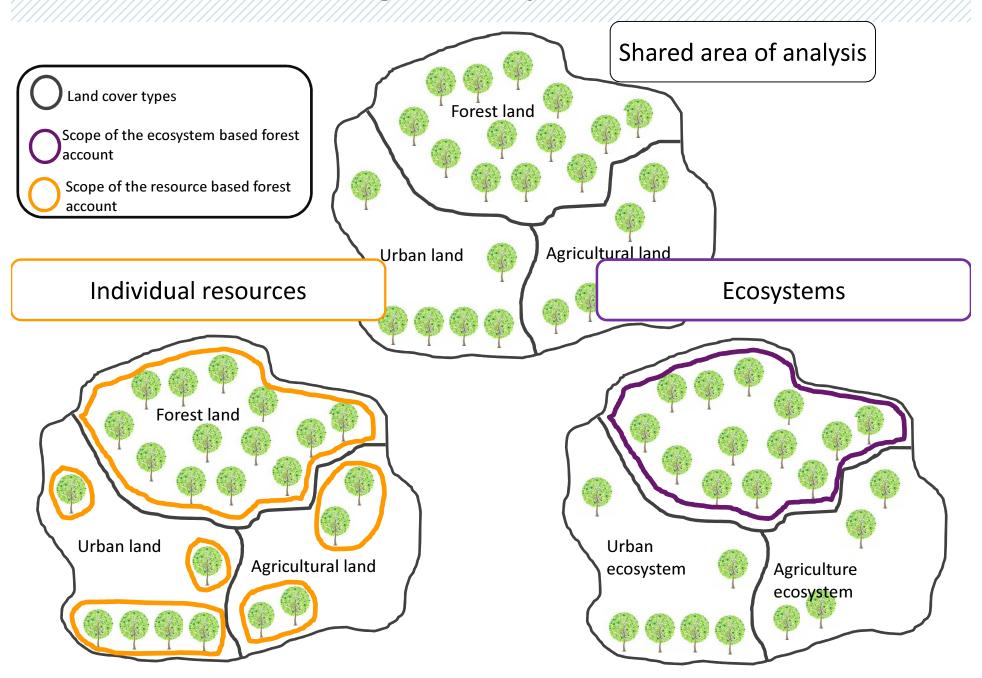
#### AN ECOSYSTEM BASED PERSPECTIVE:

Acknowledges the role of forests as *ecosystems* providing a multiplicity of services that benefit the society: <u>forest assets</u>.

In line with ongoing initiatives mapping ES and their flow 

SEEA EEA

### Looking more closely at the differences...



# For discussion

## What is the proposal?

- Try to integrate both perspectives
- How?
  - We have a rough first draft of a sourcebook (guidelines to compile the accounts)
  - We are doing some testing in countries using a preliminary draft, which follows the SEEA methodology
  - We will share results during the process
  - We will share final results on the next LG meeting.
- We hope this could lead to a SEEA-Forest,
  - Does the LG think this could be useful?
  - Will the agencies involved be eager to contribute?
  - Next steps?