



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?

8.13 In this paragraph, could you explain why the second approach, which entails using the discounted present value, is more relevant for ecosystem accounting than the written down replacement cost approach?

8.14 Estimating the monetary value of ecosystem services and making them known could affect the “current institutional context” of markets and thus the values within the SNA (through lowered externalities). Could there be a circularity problem if SNA values are then used to estimating the value of ecosystem services?

8.31 Are the estimates of ecosystem service flows in physical units, which precede monetary valuation, the equivalent of volume measures? If not, the conceptual links should be explained.

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

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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

Par. 8.1 The signal of relative scarcity of ecosystem services and assets given by monetary valuation would often be too late a signal for protecting nature. This assertion should be nuanced to consider, for instance, exchange value sensitivity relative to ecosystem resilience.

8.2 Revise first sentence.

8.23 Missing word on first before last line.

Page 6, Note 7 Should read: “There is...”

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?

This was a very interesting reading.

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

9.33 There seems to be a problem with last sentence of paragraph : "...although where there are multiple goods identifying the production function and marginal product of an individual ecosystem service may be difficult."

9.40 Problem with first sentence: "Similar to defensive expenditures are cases of averting behaviour, which individuals undertake activities to avoid the impacts of a poor environment."

9.57 Wrong word: "The methods described above for similar provisioning services can be used for the valuation of the ecosystem services associated with subsistence production and consumption on the basis of these estimated market prices."

9.58 Rephrase end of first sentence: "...for example services of soil retention with respect to agriculture and water regulation of extreme events with respect to businesses potentially affected by flooding."

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?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)

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?

Click here and start typing (The length of your response is not limited by this text box.)