Integration of SEEA land accounts

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Three SEEA land accounts

1) Land cover accounts
2) Land use accounts
3) Ecosystem extent accounts

→ All these accounts in km²/ha
→ All show changes in km²/ha between accounting periods
→ Each has a different classification
→ Each has different uses
SEEA land cover account

**Land cover** refers to the observed physical and biological cover of the Earth’s surface and includes natural vegetation and abiotic (non-living) surfaces.

Land cover data is often readily available.
Land use reflects both (a) the activities undertaken and (b) the institutional arrangements put in place for a given area for the purposes of economic production, or the maintenance and restoration of environmental functions.

- The classification by type of surface reflects the primary use
Ecosystem (CBD definition): “[A] dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organisms communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit”

→ The classification typology should represent ecosystems
→ Classification basis for extent account but also other ecosystem accounts
land accounts - structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Realm</th>
<th>Selected ecosystem types</th>
<th>Ecosystem classification</th>
<th>Land use classification</th>
<th>Land cover classification</th>
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### Additions to extent
- Managed expansion
- Natural expansion
- Upward revaluations

### Reductions in extent
- Managed regression
- Natural regression
- Downward revaluations

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Opening extent

Additions in extent

Closing extent

Reductions in extent
Questions for discussion

• How can we best integrate (or at least harmonise) these different accounts with the SEEA EEA extent account?
Question

How can land accounts support the delineation of ecosystem assets
Questions for discussion

• How to establish links between the classifications?
Questions for discussion

• How best to explain the complementary nature of these accounts?