The Brazilian experience in Environmental-Economic Accounting Water and Forest

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Panel discussion: Work area D – Capacity Building

Miriam Barbuda
Diretory of Geosciences
Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics

Environmental-Economic Accounting
Water and Forest

The Environmental Economic Accounts for Water in Brazil (CEAA) were elaborated for the period from 2013 to 2015 and were multidisciplinary. Overcoming the challenges of institutional articulation and data integration can be a reference for other non-framed initiatives of reference and sustainable development.

Although the historical data presented is composed of only three years, available data, compiled methods, institutionalized cooperation and results obtained were able to characterize the physical stocks and flows of water resources within the economic sectors, it was also constructed hybrid accounts related to physical and monetary flows.

Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water : The Role of Technical Assistance

The physical accounting activities of the Environmental Economic Accounts for Water focused on the measurement of water stocks in Brazil and on water flows in the economy. Until the year 2016 there was an important report regarding the accounting of inventories.

The contribution of technical assistance promoted by ECLAC with the participation of international experts was essential for the evaluation and characterization of water stocks in Brazil and the definition of the challenges to be overcome. This technical assistance was carried out in November 2016.

Question

Were your SEEA accounts based on country priorities only? If so, is the plan to continue to produce these accounts frequently or rather to expand into other accounts?

Yes. The President of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), Roberto Olinto Ramos, unveiled Brazil's water accounts (English) at the 8th World Water Forum, held in Brasilia from 17-23 March 2018.

The release of the water accounts, a result of collaboration between IBGE, the National Water Agency (ANA) and the Ministry of Environment, marks the first time Brazil has produced water accounts.

The intention is to continue developing the water accounts and also to begin other environmental accounts. Let's start looking at energy, forest and ecosystem accounts.

Question

1. Funding and mainstreaming:

IBGE has regular funding and the Environmental Economic Accounting for Water received technical and financial support from GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation), firstly with two specific consultants to match some physical variables. And then GIZ put four fulltime consultants inside the IBGE to build and finalize the water Environmental Economic Accounting for Water, but also, start building the Environmental Economic Accounting for forest and energy.

Question

2. *Based on a recent successful capacity building initiative, what would you highlight as being a critical success factor?*

   IBGE and the national institutions have the technical structure to develop resource accounting, but for the interconnection of accounts with SDGs, there is a need for technical support.

   After the technical assistance was provided, the already qualified technicians of the National Water Agency and the IBGE continued to building of the stocks and flows datas and they concluded in 2017.

3. *Based on a less successful experience, what is itcapacity building initiative, what would you highlight as being a critical success factor?* Doesn't aplay

Question

4. What specific aspects of capacity building and mainstreaming the SEEA can international organizations improve on?

Workshops, Compilation Guides, exchange of experiences with countries and profissionals who have advanced in methodologies.

We are programming a Regional Training in Ecosystem Accounting in november,2018 in Brazil supplied with UNSD with nacional and internacional participations.

Question

Now that you have received assistance, how will you ensure that the momentum is kept going?

With Brazil recently mandating the calculation of a SEEA compliant Green Domestic Product, the water account is the first of many SEEA accounts to come.

President Michel Temer recently signed a new law requiring the calculation of Green Domestic Product in Brazil, which was signed on 17 October 2017, stipulates that the IBGE is required to calculate the Green Domestic Product of Brazil, which includes the valuation of national ecological capital.

Question

Now that you have received assistance, how will you ensure that the momentum is kept going?

IBGE will develop a methodology aligned with the SEEA, which will be made available to the public and public institutions, including the National Congress, for comment. Once the methodology has been developed, Brazil will officially adopt SEEA accounts and begin publishing their Green Domestic Product figures.

The intention is to continue developing the water accounts and also to begin other environmental accounts: energy, forest and ecosystem accounts.

Environmental-Economic Accounting for Forest

The Environmental Economic Accounts for Forests are part of a series of efforts to promote the economic and sustainable use of Brazilian forests, providing a necessary information base to integrate forest-based development in the country's economic and strategic agenda

Two approaches:

1) Forest Stocks through land use;

2) Timber Products, which are accounted by IBGE's economic research.

Environmental-Economic Accounting for Forest

There are data, information, studies and research in Brazil, which are dispersed and can be used as inputs for the construction of Environmental Economic Accounts for Forests (CEAF), such as the National Forest Inventory (IFN of the Brazilian Forestry Service / MMA) the research PEVS, PIA - Product of the IBGE and Mapping of the Use and Coverage of the Earth.

Forest Accounts and Relationship with Ecosystem Services

The Ecosystem Service Accounts can answer which services ecosystems will generate for human activity, and how human activities impact ecosystems.

Forest Accounts can provide important inputs to accounting for ecosystem services:

- Support services (nutrient cycling, oxygen production, among others)
- Cultural Services (non-material benefits that ecosystems offer)
- Provisioning Services (encompasses all materials provided by the ecosystems that human activities will consume)
- Regulatory Services (encompass ecosystem functions as regulators of natural environmental conditions)

IBGE

Presidência

Thank you !!!

Obrigada!!!

miriam.barbuda@ibge.gov.br