



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 3: Spatial units for Ecosystem Accounting

Chapter 4: Accounting for Ecosystem Extent

Chapter 5: Accounting for Ecosystem Condition

Comments Form

Deadline for responses: 30 April 2020

Send responses to: seea@un.org

Name:	Environment Statistics Unit
Organization & country:	Statistics Botswana, Botswana

The comment form has been designed to facilitate the analysis of comments. There are nine 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

Question 1: Do you have any comments on the definition and description of ecosystem assets and ecosystem accounting areas and the associated measurement boundaries and treatments?

The methodology is supported. It is understood that boundaries will be according to international boundaries but remain flexible for specific studies measurements and studies concerned.

Question 2. Do you have any comments on the use of the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology as the SEEA Ecosystem Type Reference Classification?

We support the use of the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology as the SEEA Ecosystem Type Reference Classification, as it is **good practice**. The land cover types used to come up with the 14 classes of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, Central Framework (SEEA-CF) Land Cover Classification were derived from the building blocks of the Land Cover Classification System (LCCS) developed by FAO. This is the LCSS which is used as one of the guidelines in developing the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology. Hence the reason why SEEA Ecosystem Type Reference Classification can be used at all scales, permitting cross-referencing of local and regional maps with continental and global maps without loss of information.

With that said, have the experts considered using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Land Cover Groupings as additional to the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology? We are aware of the fact that IPCC is not a classification, but it provides high level groupings combining both land use and land cover beneficial for monitoring of greenhouse gas (GHG) Emissions.

Question 3. Do you have any comments on the recording of changes in ecosystem extent and ecosystem condition, including the recording of ecosystem conversions, as described in chapters 4 and 5?

The methodology is supported as best available practice.

Question 4. Do you have any comments on the three-stage approach to accounting for ecosystem condition, including the aggregation of condition variables and indicators?

No comments

Question 5. Do you have any comments on the description and application of the concept of reference condition and the use of both natural and anthropogenic reference conditions in accounting for ecosystem condition?

The methodology is understood and supported. It is flexible in approach allowing for countries and projects to choose best method for reference condition for the specific area under study.

Question 6. Do you have any comments on Ecosystem Condition Typology for organising characteristics, data and indicators about ecosystem condition?

No comments

Question 7. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 3?

No further comments

Question 8. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 4?

No further comments

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

No further comments