



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

NCAVES - Global initiative and national pilots

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Outline

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Introduction - Partnership initiative

- Implementing partners: United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations Environment Programme
- Sponsor: European Union
- Five partner countries: Brazil, China, India, Mexico, South Africa
- Project duration: 3 years from 2017-2019
- Global management structure:
 - > Steering Committee
 - > Project team
- Partner countries management structure:
 - > National steering committee
 - > Technical committee
 - > Project management unit
 - > Project team

Objectives and deliverables

1. Piloting ecosystem accounts (in each of the 5 partner countries) for selected areas (national and/or regional)
 - > National Plan
 - > Compilation of accounts – physical and monetary
 - > Policy application
 - > Indicators
2. Developing standards and practical guidelines, contribute to research agenda (spatial, condition, services, valuation)
3. Develop and indicator set (national and global) – SDG, Aichi targets, IPBES etc.
4. Align NCA and Business accounting (sustainability reporting) – GRI, IIRC
5. Communication and outreach – national and global platforms
6. Training and capacity development – modules, regional and national workshops, and in country support

Cross cutting - communication and stakeholder engagement

Activities in 2017

- Project launched in each partner country
- Discussions of the national work programme to advance Natural Capital Accounting initiated and work plan drafted
- Technical Recommendations of the SEEA EEA published
- Regional Training Workshop on the SEEA EEA in Asia-Pacific jointly organized with the National Bureau of Statistics of China
- 2nd Policy Forum on Natural Capital Accounting jointly organized with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the World Bank



Forthcoming events in 2018

- Follow up meetings in 5 partner countries
- Expert meeting on Ecosystem Valuation in the context of Natural Capital Accounting (24-26 April, Bonn)
- Forum of Experts in Ecosystem Accounting (18-20 June, New York, USA)
- Business accounting workshop (tbd)
- Side Event at the UN World Data Forum (tbd)
- Regional Training Workshop on the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in Latin America region (November, Rio de Janeiro)
- NCA Policy Forum, November, Germany (tbc)

Country pilots

- Brazil
 - > Institutions: Brazil Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)
 - Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, National Water Agency, Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
 - > Policy: Inform agricultural development
 - > Spatial scope: Rio Grande Basin (MATOPIBA region)
 - > Scope of work: Soil loss and water regulation
 - > Approach: Scenario based modeling with SWAT (spatially explicit)
 - > Status: contracting for work
- India
 - > Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
 - > Policy: Several (agriculture, urban development, conservation etc.)
 - > Spatial scope: TBD, but sub-national
 - > Scope of work: looking across several ESS across ecosystems – forests, coastal etc.
 - > Approach: Case study based, models TBD
 - > Status: contracting to refine SoW

- China
 - > Institutions: National Bureau of Statics (NBS) of China
 - Provincial Bureau of Statistics of Guangxi Autonomous Region and Guizhou province; other partners TBD
 - > Policy: improve existing work on natural resource balance sheets (existing mandate of NBS) within the general framework of ecological civilization AND pilot EEA
 - > Spatial scope: national and provincial
 - > Scope of work: Water, forests, and land accounts at the national level; Ecosystem accounts at the provincial level
 - > Approach: Strengthen methods and standardize accounting practices
 - > Status: Assessment mission to the pilot provinces and national expert workshop to be held in May 2018

- Mexico
 - > INEGI
 - > Policy: Build up on previous ANCA work in Aguascalientes state, additional state level studies, and country wide ecosystem services assessments
 - > Spatial scope: national and sub-national
 - > Scope of work: Carbon, food provisioning, and water supply at the state level, additionally, coastal protection and timber at the national level
 - > Approach: Strengthen existing methods, Hydrological modeling
 - > Status: Contracting - National officer working in the country

Challenges and opportunities (at the national level)

- Institutional collaboration across different ministries and stakeholders
- Spatial – large countries; Ecosystem services are local
- Biophysical and administrative boundaries
- Official statistics
 - > Modeling
 - > Institutionalization/ mainstreaming
- Methodological
 - > Standardization of valuation methods
 - Welfare and cost
 - > Selection of biophysical models
- Policy applications/ proof of concept
- Diversity of pilots contributing to a rich information base, especially as it feeds the global discussions on natural capital accounting – business, indicators, standards etc.



THANK YOU

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