

Linking SEEA with the GGKP initiative on natural capital reporting indicators framework

Dr Alison Fairbrass (University College of London)

John J. Maughan (Green Growth Knowledge Platform)

2019 Forum of Experts on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting 26 – 27 June 2019 Glen Cove, New York, USA

GGKP Natural Capital Expert Working Group

Goal: Better integrate nature and biodiversity into national green growth planning.

Activities:

1. Push the knowledge frontier;
2. Mainstream natural capital in green growth;
3. Strengthen on-the-ground implementation.



2019 Research: groundwork on natural capital data, metrics and policy.

2020 Research: expansion to use cases for finance, infrastructure and biodiversity.

2021 Research: focus on knowledge applications for green growth.

Problem we are addressing

- Overall proliferation of natural capital information, yet lack of implementation in green growth policy
- GGKP identified key knowledge gaps preventing implementation, including lack of consistent metrics
- Based on a broad indicators review, identified need for a coherent natural capital indicators framework
- Coherency must be in line with international standards, including the SEEA
- Framework aims to be applied by organizations providing green growth advice to governments

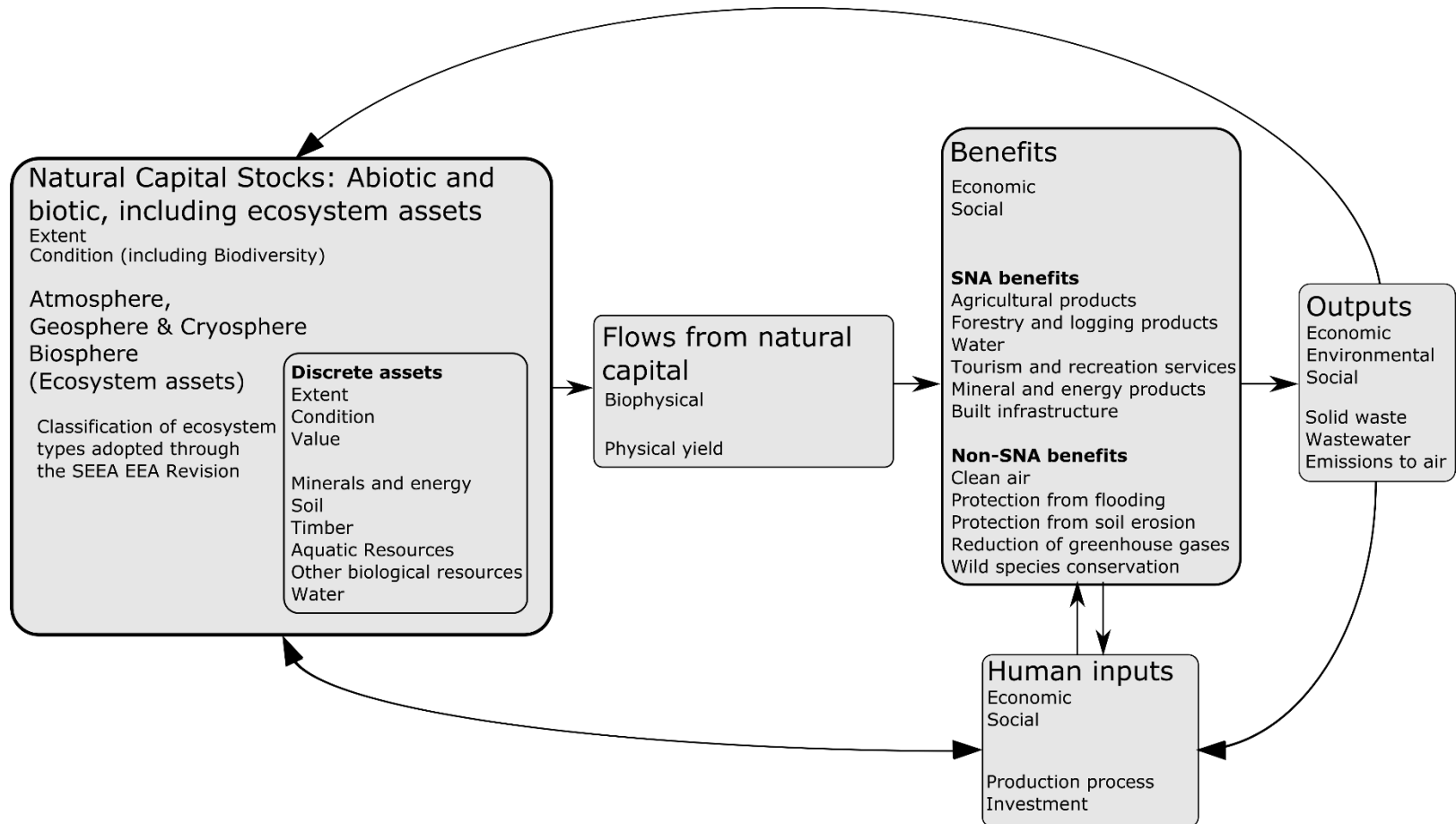
Indicator review: objectives

1. Provide a well-rounded picture of what indicators are in use by whom
2. Assess gaps in the integration of natural capital indicators by leading green growth advisory orgs
3. Ultimately to use the results to integrate natural capital indicators into green growth frameworks for in-country application

Indicator review: method

- Conducted review of leading metrics producers for natural capital and green growth
- Used standard literature review methods, including online keyword searches and electronic databases
- Compiled a bucket list of over 500 relevant indicators
- In effort to organize these indicators coherently, applied a single conceptual framework based on SEEA

A conceptual framework for natural capital



Preliminary findings

- Existing indicator frameworks are limited in scope, typically focusing on assets only
- Lack of application of flow indicators
- Indicator gaps include:
 - biodiversity as an indicator of asset condition;
 - regulation and maintenance services generally;
 - extent, condition and associated flows for marine assets generally
- A completed SEEA EEA revision process to better assess and coherently organize indicators

Next steps: indicators selection for tailored applications

- This was search mission: July workshop to focus on indicator selection for green growth applications
- Consultative peer review for this work in 2019
- Broaden usefulness and reduce burden on reporting by linking to other indicator initiatives
- Expand next year to address gaps in finance, infrastructure and biodiversity use cases

For more information please
contact:

Alison Fairbrass, UCL (Alison.fairbrass.10@ucl.ac.uk)
and Ben Milligan (b.milligan@unsw.edu.au) on
behalf of the UCL team

John Maughan, GGKP (jmaughan@ggkp.org) on
behalf of the GGKP team