

SEEA and SDG 15.3.1

Metadata sheets

- Concepts and definitions remain as per the current SDG 15.3..1 metadata sheet
- Confirmed that a spatially explicit approach was required and that input data should be organised at at least 250m resolution grid or finer
- We worked sub-indicator by sub-indicator:
 1. Land cover change flows
 2. Land Productivity Dynamics (Default Annual Net Primary Productivity)
 3. Above and below ground carbon

Nationalize the interpretation of sub-indicators (is it degraded or not)

- Land cover change flows
 - Derived via the SEEA land cover account
 - Supported by translation tables for the UNCCD indicator and IPCC land cover classes
 - Nationally determined matrix of what is a land cover flow that represents degradation (this may need to be redefined at various subnational scales)

Nationalize the interpretation of sub-indicators (is it degraded or not)

- Land Productivity Dynamics
 - Derived via the SEEA ecosystem condition account
 - Default data is Annual Net Primary productivity
 - National applications require a consensus on where trends in ANPP represent a degradation. For example increases in ANPP in wetland may indicate degradation through eutrophication
 - Derived via ecosystem condition account – aspirational
 - For agro-ecosystems and forestry yields would be useful to communicate on productivity dynamics

Nationalize the interpretation of sub-indicators (is it degraded or not)

- Below ground carbon
 - Derived via the SEEA ecosystem condition account
 - Tier 1 (default global SoC data and land cover data),
 - Tier 2 (enhanced with active management data from spatial land use accounts),
 - Tier 3 (supported with *in-situ* monitoring – e.g. LUCAS).
 - Above ground biomass carbon – Carbon Account.
 - Mind the difference with LULUCF Inventory rules

Calculation on whether an area is degraded

- Follow one out all out!
- National level interpretation
- Data a grid cell – allows multiple aggregations for different accounting areas

Potential policy applications

- How to attribute land degradation (and its cost) to economic units via the SEEA CF.
 - Steer policies towards internalizing these costs and design appropriate policy instruments (e.g., subsidies, taxes, restoration costs approaches to support LDN).
 - Communicate on the relative land degradation footprint of different economic units, activities, product within and between countries.