

**Experiences and reflections on using
ecosystem service classification system
for the compilation of ecosystem
accounting**

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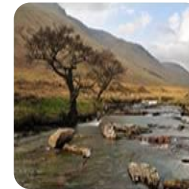
Toward a Standard International
Classification on Ecosystem Services

This is National Accounting

- Aichi target 2
- Includes monetary valuation
- Link to SNA



- Accounts for broad habitats
 - Woodlands
 - Farmland
 - Freshwater
 - Marine
 - Coastal
- Plus aggregate accounts



Extent accounts



- Land cover is not the same as ecosystem
- Land use is not the same as land cover



Condition accounts

- Use key indicators to throw light on sustainability
- Unlikely to be additive across habitat accounts
- Link to services is hard to determine and degradation is hard to define

Degraded peat



Invasive species
(floating pennywort)



Waste and
contamination



Services accounts – in scope

- Crops and grass; timber; fish; water
- Hydropower; solar?
- Carbon sequestration
- Air filtration
- Flood protection ...
- Recreation; tourism?
- Education; amenity?



Services accounts - out



- Carbon storage



- Livestock



- Navigation?



- Water quality

Some key lessons learned

- Valuation and links to SNA are vital for policy buy-in
- Strength lies in rigorous and comprehensive framework
- Made good progress on valuation but still challenging
- Intention is for accounts to be used in local decision-making as well as at a strategic level but needs care
 - Downscaling reduces reliability and models need ground-truthing
 - Welfare values rather than exchange values may be more relevant for local decision making?

Website links (to be revised)

- UK environmental accounts including woodland, freshwater, land cover
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/ukenvironmentalaccounts/2015-07-09>
- UK farmland ecosystem accounts
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/uknaturalcapital/ecosystemaccountsforfarmlandexperimentalstatistics>
- Natural Capital archived pages (with links to revised Roadmap and Principles paper, scoping studies for marine ecosystems and peatland, aggregate partial valuations)
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/natural-capital/index.html>
- Natural capital accounts for protected areas
<http://sciencesearch.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Menu=Menu&Module=More&Location=None&Completed=0&ProjectID=19271>
- Separate distribution of quarterly newsletter – please let me know