Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

# **Ecosystems accounting session**

Rocky Harris Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom

London Group, Oslo, 28-30 September 2016

### Background



- Setup of SEEA CF and EEA research agenda process and status
- EEA and UNCEEA research agenda discussion in New York in June 2016
- Overlaps with the CF research agenda
- Timing of revision of SEEA EEA
- Available guidance as of now (EEA, tech recs, other)

## **Remit for LG**



- First run through issues: revisit next year after Technical Committee has moved agenda forwards
- Focus on identifying and clarifying conceptual and methodological issues at this stage
- Recognise that implementation and data issues are also relevant but not the main focus;
- Not a platform for presenting country experiences or results (sorry to all those prospective presenters)
- However, more individual country experiences will help to throw light on the issues

#### Linking assets and services



#### The sequence of accounts



#### **Ecosystem accounting research agenda**

Research agenda item	UNCEEA priority	In LG EEA session	
Delineation of spatial units	Yes	Yes	
Indicators of condition, aggregation issues	Yes	Yes	
Carbon accounting, thematic accounts, biodiversity accounts	No	Yes	
Accounting for soil in physical terms	No	No	
Links between condition and services	Yes	No	
Classification of services, measurement boundaries (and disservices)	Yes	Yes	
Valuation of services, measurement of degradation (and treatment of restoration costs)	Yes	Yes	
Valuation of assets, link to land values	Yes	No	
GDP adjustments	No	No	
Recording ecosystems as an institution, overlaps with SNA values	No	No	

# Ecosystem accounting issues – batting order



Research agenda item	Presenter	
1. Delineation of spatial units	Per Arild	
2. Indicators of condition, aggregation issues	Michael Vardon	
3. Carbon accounting, thematic accounts	Brendan Freeman	
4. Biodiversity accounts	Steven King	
5. Classification of services	Jan-Erik Petersen; Mark Eigenraam	
6. Valuation of services	Lars Hein, JP Castaneda; Emily Connors; Mark Lound	
7. Measurement of ecosystem capacity and degradation	Lars Hein	