Expert Group Meeting
"Modelling Approaches and Tools for Testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting"
18-20 November 2013

Annotated Agenda

<div align="center" style="background-color:blue;color:white">**Monday, 18 November 2013**</div>

8:30-9:00   Registration of participants

Session I   Opening, National and International Ecosystem-Related Initiatives (9:30AM – 3:00PM)

Opening Statement, welcome remarks, and introductions (9:00AM - 9:15AM)

Ivo Havinga, Chief of Economic Statistics Branch, UNSD

Review of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Framework (9:15AM-9:45AM)

An overview of the SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (EEA) will be provided to participants. The presentation will illustrate the structure and concepts included in the SEEA-EEA, focusing on issues of classification, characteristics of ecosystem condition, and ecosystem services. In addition, example tables will be shared to better inform participants of what is needed as output from the selected models and approaches. The presentation will conclude with a review of the criteria to be used to guide selection of models for the pilot research and testing of the SEEA-EEA

Alessandra Alfieri, Chief, Environmental-Economic Accounts Section

National ecosystem policy priorities and models developed (9:45AM-12:00 PM)

Country representatives will deliver a brief presentation regarding national environmental initiatives and policy questions and priorities in the areas of biodiversity, carbon accounting, and water ecosystems. Countries will also discuss any specific models or tools related to these policy areas that have been developed at a national level, spatial analysis conducted of these measures of ecosystem condition and ecosystem services, data available to support future analysis, and/or perceived data challenges.

Countries (15 mins each)
Australia
Brazil
Canada
Indonesia
Mexico

BREAK (10:45-11:00)

Countries (15 mins each)

Norway
Samoa
South Africa (TBC)
Uganda

Discussion/Questions

Lunch break 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

International initiatives related to the measurement of ecosystem condition and ecosystem services (1:00PM-2:30PM)

Representatives of international organizations will provide a brief overview of international initiatives related to the measurement of ecosystem services. The discussion will explore the potential for overlap with the SEEA-EEA in potential project and research activities.

IPBES – Richard Mount
The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity - UNEP-TEEB
ProEcoServ – UNEP
Biodiversity Finance Initiative and GEF Activities – UNDP
WAVES – World Bank
CBD – Didier Babin
EEA – Jock Martin

Discussion/Questions

BREAK (2:30PM-2:45PM)

Session II Models and Platforms for Use in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Testing (2:45PM – 5:00PM)

During this session, each expert in the different modeling approaches and tools will provide a technical review of the models available in the areas of biodiversity, carbon accounting, and water ecosystems (both quality and quantity considerations). The presentation will include the completed matrix table (from the concept note Annex) for the model/tool presented and review it from the perspective of the criteria included in the concept note Annex. If applicable, the presentation will also discuss if and how the model/tool can be used to develop a global baseline for the selected ecosystem characteristics or ecosystem services (not all models may be useful for developing such a baseline).

Comparison Across Models - US Geological Survey, Ken Bagstad
InVEST - Natural Capital Project

Discussion/Questions

Session II (Continued) Models and Platforms for Use in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Testing   (9:00AM – 5:00PM)

Continuing Review of Models for Use in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Testing (9:00 AM – 10:30 AM)

MIMES – Roel Boumans
GLOBIO/CLUE – Stefan van der Esch, PBL
Nature Index – Grégoire Certain, NINA

Discussion/Questions

BREAK (10:30AM – 10:45AM)

Spatial Considerations and the SEEA (10:45 AM – 12:00 PM)

The SEEA-EEA relies on a spatial units approach to aggregate data from the basic spatial unit (BSU) up to the ecosystems accounting unit (EAU). These presenters will provide an understanding of work being the done in the use of remote sensing data and development of GIS applications that can support the SEEA-EEA pilot research and testing.

GGIM and the SEEA – Greg Scott, UNSD
IDRISI – Florencia Sangermano, Clark Labs
ESP Mapping and Visualization Tool – Louise Willemen, EcoAgriculture

Discussion/Questions

Lunch break 12:00PM – 1:00PM

Continuing Review of Models for Use in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Testing (1:00 PM – 5:00 PM)

LUCI/Polyscape – Beth Jackson
ARIES – Brian Voigt, University of Vermont

Discussion/Questions

Session II (Continued) Models and Platforms for Use in SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Testing   (8:30AM – 10:00AM)

Experiences Applying Ecosystem Services Models

Presentations in this portion of Session III will describe experiences in applying models to assess characteristics of ecosystem condition and ecosystem services in the area of biodiversity, carbon, and water ecosystems. Where possible, these presentations will compare models used in the assessment of ecosystem condition and ecosystem services, noting ant challenges and lessons learned.

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Bridget Emmett
Conservation International, Miroslav Honzak
Australia, Richard Mount

Session III Toolkits and Frameworks for Analyzing Ecosystem Services (10:00AM – 11:30 AM)

This session will provide an overview of toolkits/frameworks that have been developed and applied for the assessment of ecosystem services. EnSym is decision support software developed in Australia to provide information on environmental impacts from proposed actions. TESSA is a toolkit that may be used for a rapid site assessment of ecosystem services. The CLEWS framework can be used to investigate climate change and land, energy, and water linkages in an integrated assessment approach. The role of the SEEA-EEA in relation to these approaches will be discussed.

FEGS-CS – Dixon Landers, US Environmental Protection Agency
EnSym – Mark Eigenraam, DEPI
TESSA – Eugenie Regan, WCMC

Discussion/Questions

Session IV Next Steps for Testing and Planning for Pilot Projects (11:30AM – 12:30PM)

The meeting will conclude with a discussion of the next steps for planning and implementation of the SEEA EEA pilot projects, including projected timelines and tasks to be completed.

Closing