![System of Environmental Economic Accounting]

Session 5:
Presentation on the Guidance on Biophysical Modelling for Ecosystem Accounting

United Nations Statistics Division

Global NCA Policy Forum, 18-19 November 2019

Kampala, Uganda

Ecosystem accounting manuals under development

- Developed under the NCAVES project
    - > Workstream on developing methods and guidance

- Deliverables on:
    - > Guidelines for biophysical modeling
    - > Guidelines for valuation
    - > Guidelines on scenario analysis

- Value proposition / niche:
    - > Lots of manuals exist, but few (if any) cater to principles + needs of accounting
    - > Provide easy entry points (e.g. "how to go about measuring / valuing ES x, y")
    - > Be consistent with and support implementation of revised SEEA EEA

- Editorial boards have been established, if you would like to participate, reach out to seea@un.org

SEEA

Process

- Editorial board:
    - > Chair: Rosimeiry Portela/Daniel Juhn (Conservation International)
    - > Editor: Stephanie Tomscha (Victoria University Wellington)
    - > Members: Glenn Marie Lange (World Bank), Justin Johnson (University of Minnesota), Ken Bagstad (USGS), Francois Soulard (Stats Canada), Michael Bordt(UNESCAP), Bethanna Jackson (VUW), Lars Hein (WUR), Bram Edens (UNSD - Project management / secretariat)
- Consultation process
    - > Under the remit of SEEA EEA Technical Committee
- Audience: statisticians / policy makers with interest to compile accounts
- Time frame: first full draft Dec. 2019; Final draft April 2020
- If you would like to contribute/ be involved, reach out to seea@un.org

Scope

1) How can we **use** biophysical modeling to produce extent, condition, and ecosystem service accounts?

2) How do we ensure reporting produced from biophysical modeling is **accurate**?

3) What is the **future** of biophysical modeling of ecosystem services?

4) How can organizations **get started** with biophysical modeling for compiling accounts?

SEEA

Tiered approach

Tier 3

Ecosystem services modelled with regional data or direct surveys, better validation, and best available tools

Tier 2

Ecosystem services modelled from national datasets customized for national contexts, some validation

Tier 1

Ecosystem services modelled from global datasets with no or little user input data

- Recognizing that **countries differ** in terms of data availability, technical capacity and resources

- Higher tiers will also **increase in spatial resolution**

SEEA

Guideline outline

- Introduction

- Overview of modeling

  > Approaches and techniques

  > Platforms and tools (e.g. InVEST, ARIES etc.)

  > Cartography essentials

- Modeling for extent accounts

- Modeling for condition accounts

- Modeling ecosystem services (for selection of 10-15 main ES)

  > Tiers + country examples

- Accuracy / uncertainty

- How to get started

- Applications

- Overview of available global data sources (-> living document)

SEEA

THANK YOU

seea@un.org / https://seea.un.org/