

Implementing SEEA

Regional Perspectives on Natural Capital Accounting
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Objectives of this session

Identify key strategic questions relating to the planning for the implementation of accounts

Provide an overview of the phases in implementing environmental accounting

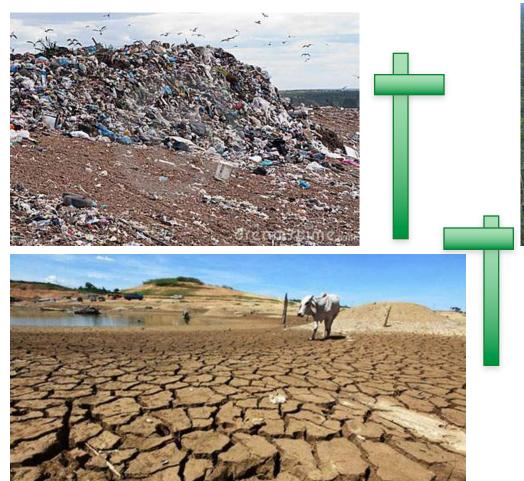
Identify material to assist with implementation

Lessons learned from implementation of accounting around the world



Relevance

What are the accounts that could address these issues?









Key strategic questions for implementation

What issues of interest?

What are the accounts that could inform these issues?

What data are available?

Which accounts are most feasible to produce?

What is the relative priority of each account?

What are the resources available?

What enabling factors are needed?



Communication!

The four phases Implementation

Strategic planning Building mechanisms for implementatio n

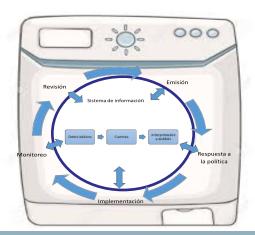
Producing accounts

Strengthening information systems



Strategic planning

- Identify the people and agencies that could produce or use ecosystem accounts
 - Who are interested?
 - Who are the most influential?
 - What are the barriers and opportunities?
- Understand the institutional arrangements
 - Who has responsibility or legal authority?
 - What are the decision-making bodies?
- Review what has been done before





Building mechanisms for implementation

Producing accounts

Strengthening information systems







Contents of the review

Policy priorities Climate change	eholders Central planning	Data sources Satellite data	Knowledge Past work	Constraints and opportunities Resources available	Priority accounts and actions Matching	Guide to environmental accounting in Australia
Green growth Deforestation etc.	Finance nvironment department Statistical office Academics NGOs etc.	Business surveys Field measurement etc.	accounting and ecosystem services Related activity (e.g. land cover mapping) International experience	Budget processes Specific issues or decisions (e.g. water price)	policy priority to specific accounts A plan for action Establish management body	Strategic planning Building mechanisms for implementation
						Producing accounts Strengthening information systems



Building mechanisms for implementation

- Need body to drive forward the development and use of accounts
 - Can be existing or new

Lead and coordinate process

Engage with stakeholders and technical experts and financial partners



Ensure there are resources for plan

Do you already have a committee?

Monitor





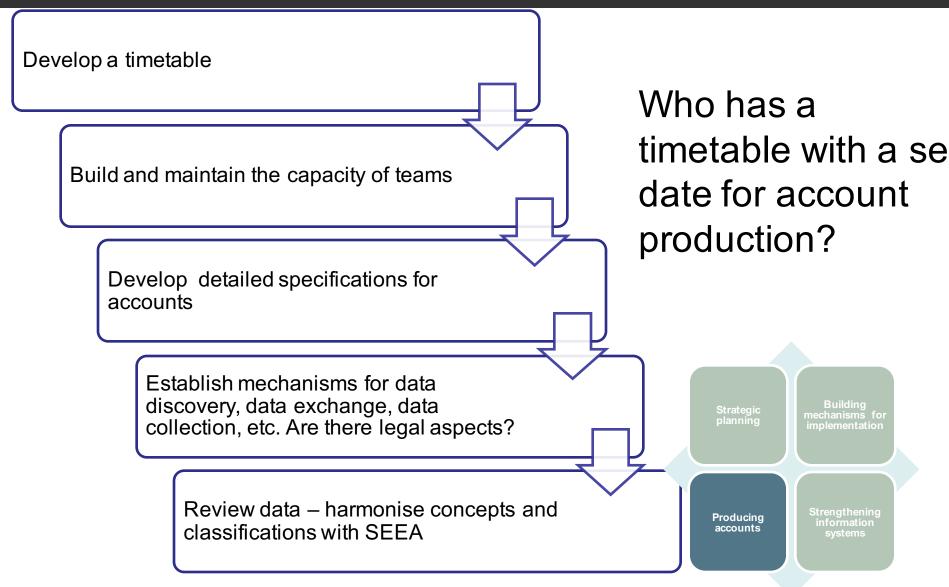
Develop implementation plan

progress and assist with overcoming obstacles





Producing accounts





Producing accounts

Main resource requirements

- Institution/Staff
- Training and resource materials
- Management overheads (e.g. recruitment)
- Communication with stakeholders
- Information technology
- Travel
- Office space and equipment
- Design of outputs
 - publications, web-based products, etc. and their dissemination

Develop the detail of accounts

- Reference period(s) (e.g. 2012, 2013, 2014)
- Reference area(s) (e.g. national, provincial, specific areas)
- Level(s) of spatial resolution
- Frequency of production (e.g. annual, 3-yearly)
- Form of outputs
 - Paper based, web-based
 - Tables, maps, commentary and analysis

Data quality assessment framework

- Relevance
- Accuracy
- Timeliness
- Coherence
- Interpretability
- Accessibility

Timetable!





Strengthening information systems: on-going production



Water Account Australia



Better primary data



On-going mechanisms for strategic planning



Accounts get better over time!

Australia, 1996–97 to 2011–12

— Gross Value Added GHG Direct emissions - Population - Water Consumption - Waste - 250

- 1996–97 1999–00 2002–03 2005–06 2008–09 2011–12

Note: Index: 1997 = 100

SELECTED SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES.

Water consumption

1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96 2000-01 2004-05 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12

+

On-going resourcing for production and use



Strategic planning Building nechanisms for implementation

Producing accounts

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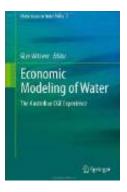


On-going compilation and data sources



- Data sharing agreements
- Date sources change
- Processes improve
- Mistakes are identified and fixed
- Information in added
- Accounts get used







Materials for implementation

What materials do you know about?



Reference for concepts and general structure of tables for ecosystem accounting



Designing pilot accounts – deciding what account and basic methods



SEEA Implementation Guide for Central Framework – sequence of implementation



General Statistics Business Processing Model (GSBPM



Diagnostic tool for ecosystem accounting





Key lessons from SEEA implementation

- Need on-going links to the analytical and policy communities
- Need sustained high-level institutional support
- Need strong partnerships
- Need a focus on production, a data quality assessment framework and clearance processes
- Experimental accounts are useful, accounts get better overtime (and usefulness is increased when repeated)
- Communication is essential



Communication is essential

- Accounting is generally poorly understood
- Recognise different audiences
 - Different users of accounts
 - General versus specific users of accounts
 - Scientists, economists, accountants, statisticians (especially understanding there world views and motivations for either wanting to produce or use accounts)
- Communication needs to go beyond traditional tabular data presentations and extend into analysis (at least in the early phases of implementation)



Community of Practice

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success"

Henry Ford



Group assessment tasks

- In small groups (4-5 people) identify an issue or process that could be benefit from environmental accounting.
- Discuss the case for how accounting can inform the issue (e.g. which accounts would be useful) and propose a process and timetable for the development of the accounts
- Two products are to be produced (next slide)



Group assessment "products"

- A one page briefing note
 - Key dot points
 - What accounts are and why they are useful
 - A specific example of how they could help
 - A general timetable
- 2-minute "elevator speech"