

World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists

Policy Session: Ecosystem services valuation and accounting for better policies

27th June 2018, 8:30 am
Handels: Room B23
Gothenburg, Sweden

The objectives of this session are:

- To introduce the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and the research agenda for the revision of the SEEA EEA;
- To showcase best practices in valuation of ecosystem services;
- To explore and solidify links with the research communities working on ecosystem service valuation and environmental accounting;
- Building bridges that will enhance the development of ecosystem accounts for informing policy.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi targets as well as the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020, a call for mapping and assessing the state of ecosystems and their services and integrating these values into accounting and reporting systems at EU and national levels by 2020.

The (SEEA) provides an internationally agreed statistical standard to describe the interrelationship between the economy and environment. A novel development is the framework for ecosystem accounting (the SEEA EEA), which takes an ecosystem perspective by describing the extent and condition of ecosystems, the services they supply, and how they benefit economic activities. The valuation of ecosystem services, ecosystem assets as well as their degradation features prominently on our research agenda. A key challenge lies in reconciling the requirements of an accounting system with its focus on exchange values with the welfare based environmental economics tradition of valuation of ecosystem services.

Agenda

Chair: **Juha Siikamäki**, Chief Economist, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

“Advancing the valuation research agenda for SEEA ecosystem accounting” by **Bram Edens**, Senior statistician, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), New York.

“Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development: a multi country experience on valuation for accounting” by **Matías Piaggio**, Senior research fellow Environment for Development - Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (EFD - CATIE), Costa Rica

Round Table: *Ecosystem services accounting in practice and policy applications*

Jane Turpie, Senior Research Fellow
Environment for Development – University of Cape Town, South Africa

Alessandra La Notte, Researcher European Commission - Joint Research Centre (EU – JRC)

Irene Alvarado, Environmental Statistics Area
Central Bank of de Costa Rica