



SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T17

Accounting for Ecosystem Services: Policy support for protected areas

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
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Abstract:

Accounting for ecosystem services provides a tool to perform physical measurement, mapping as well as monetary valuation. After the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounts – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EEA) was proposed in 2012, a wide application of accounting modules throughout the world has been developed for many applications. The session organizers have developed applications in the frame of the Regional Governance of Protected areas in West Africa project funded by the European Union for the benefit of ECOWAS and WAEMU States members and implemented by IUCN-PACO and its partner VITO. The focus on this session is to show how such applications can support the process to preserve or restore protected areas and hence contribute to the post-2020 biodiversity goals. The applications presented will have “accounting tables” and supporting geospatial “maps” as the key elements around which the measurement turns around. Biophysical assessments, and if applicable their relation through monetary valuation, are presented consistently within the accounting frame of SEEA-EEA. Special focus will be set to the “policy use”: examples of accounting should be in line with regional or countries’ policy priorities related to preserving natural capital.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The goal of this session is to present a number of applications of Experimental Ecosystem Accounts, both core accounts (i.e. extent, condition, services, assets) and thematic accounts (i.e. water, carbon, biodiversity), linked to nature conservation with focus on preserving



protected areas. The presentation of accounting modules should ideally provide insight on what can and cannot be done in terms of opportunities, risks and needs to preserve or restore protected areas and potentially contribute to the post-2020 biodiversity strategy and show the policy uses of these accounts.

Planned output / Deliverables:

No specific output is planned at this stage but options to prepare a common paper would be explored during the session.

Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

[Thematic working group: TWG 17 – ES Accounting & Greening the economy](#)