



Project Name:	Scoping the potential benefits of undertaking a MA for England
Funded by:	Defra: D eptment for F ood, the Environment, and R ural A ffairs (UK)
Research Team:	Roy Haines-Young & Marion Potschin
Duration:	12 th November 2007 – 15 th March 2008

Project Overview:

The study will review the current evidence base for assessing ecosystem services associated with the terrestrial and marine environment, and identify the current monitoring and research gaps. It will explore the policy needs for such an assessment and the extent to which these needs are currently being fulfilled by existing initiatives. As a result the work will enable a critical review to be made of the case for and against undertaking an MA for England. The study will conclude by reviewing the options open to Defra, and make recommendations on how such work can best be taken forward.

Work package 1: Review of the evidence needs

Objective: To review the case for an 'MA for England', given current evidence needs in relation to the delivery of healthy ecosystems and the sustainable supply of ecosystem services, and the extent to which these are met by existing research and monitoring programmes.

Work package 2: Framework for an England MA

Objective: Develop a framework for how an MA type assessment could be undertaken in England and make best use of current monitoring and assessment process in the UK.

Work package 3: Options for undertaking an MA for England

Objective: To identify feasible options for undertaking an MA for England, with an assessment of associated costs and benefits, and to make recommendations on how to take the planning and inception process forward.

The role of CEM:

This project will be led and managed by CEM. While giving input in all work packages, CEM will also be responsible to lead WP1 and WP3.

Links: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/natres/nr0118.htm>