



Project Name:	Implementation of ecosystem accounting
Funded by:	EEA – European Environment Agency
Research Team:	Roy Haines-Young, Marion Potschin, Pushpam Kumar (University of Liverpool)
Duration:	1 st January 2008 – 31 st December 2011

Project Overview:

If the challenges relating to biodiversity, ecosystem services and climate change are to be fully met, further methodological development of environmental accounting approaches are required. This project will ensure that the EEA is able to make assessments of the state and trends of ecosystem services at both European and global scales; account for the contributions made to the mainstream economic sectors and support the development of policy within the EU. It will expand the coverage of existing land cover and ecosystem services accounts, and strengthen their role in systems of integrated environmental and economic accounting. Specifically the project will increase the scope of existing land cover and ecosystems accounts to:

- Include more explicit measures of the condition and trends of biodiversity associated with terrestrial and marine ecosystems;
- Consider the hydrological functions and related ecosystem services associated with different types of land use;
- Identify the ways in which land is coupled to wider socio-economic processes;
- Develop the methodological framework so that ecosystem accounts can be integrated with conventional economic accounts;
- Develop the geographical scope of current accounting approaches to enable accounts to be developed at different scales; and
- Develop new indicators of environmental and economic performance.

The role of CEM:

CEM has a longstanding relationship with the EEA and was involved in the development of the methodologies for land cover accounting within Europe in the early 1990s. More recently CEM and the EEA have collaborated to publish a set of accounts for land cover change at European scales for the period 1990-2000. This continued collaboration will serve to facilitate a broadening of the coverage of existing land cover and ecosystem services accounts.

