



Project Name:	<u>F</u> raming <u>E</u> cosystem <u>S</u> ervices and <u>H</u> uman Well-being (FRESH)
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Funded by:	UK Research Councils (NERC and ESRC)
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Duration:	September 2007 – August 2009
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Overview:

CEM, in the School of Geography at the University of Nottingham is coordinating this NERC/ESRC funded transdisciplinary seminar programme, aimed at broadening and deepening discussion about the idea of 'ecosystem services' as this relates to issues of human being and the sustainable management of landscape. The Seminar Series, which is consisting of six events, is running between September 2007 and August 2009 and aims to bring together a range of interested parties including scientists, social scientists, policymakers and NGOs, both from the UK based and internationally. The events will take place in different UK locations and will involve a mixture of discussion and formal presentation, building towards a more formal set of published findings in academic and policy-relevant journals.

The programme intends to be wide-ranging and thought-provoking, exploring the possibilities and limits of using an 'ecosystem services' approach for developing more integrated approaches to environmental and economic accounting. In particular by developing a transdisciplinary network capable of making a critical examination of key research and application issues we seek to:

- consider the way in which ecological processes generate ecosystem services and associated economic and social benefits at different spatial and temporal scales;
- examine the limits of economic valuation and the role that wider social and environmental values have in decision making and in facilitating stakeholder engagement;
- explore how concepts of ecosystem health and ecosystem integrity can be used to represent the capacity of natural resource systems to sustain outputs of key goods and services;
- assess how the importance of ecosystem goods and services can be embedded in current approaches to policy development and appraisal at different scales and what new kinds of methodological tools are needed to support these contexts to decision making; and
- understand how insights into the production of ecosystem goods and services and their associated values at landscape scales can be used to manage multi-functional resource systems.

Links:	www.nottingham.ac.uk/fresh
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