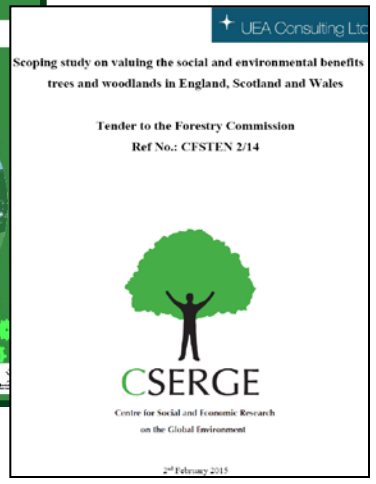
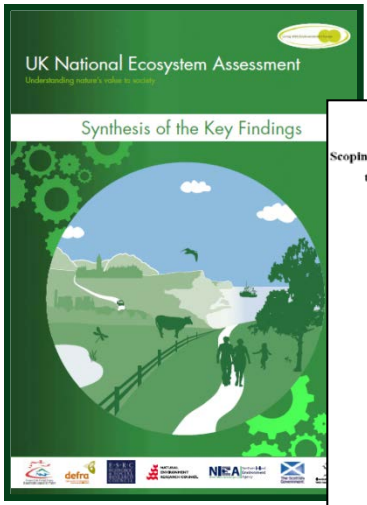


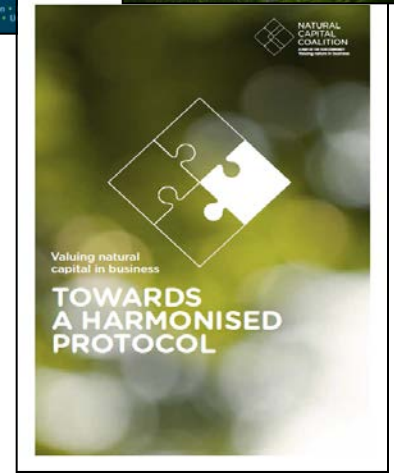
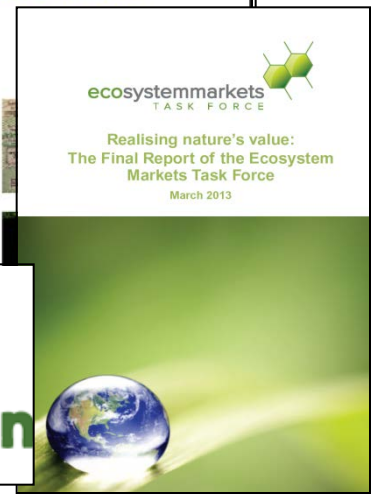
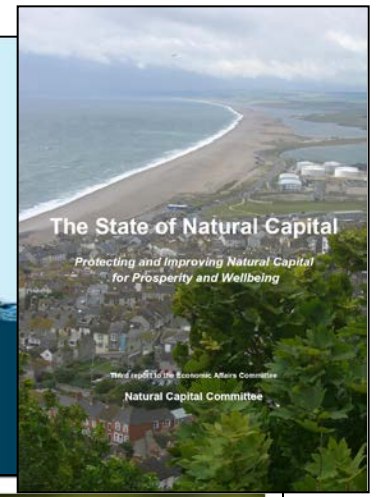
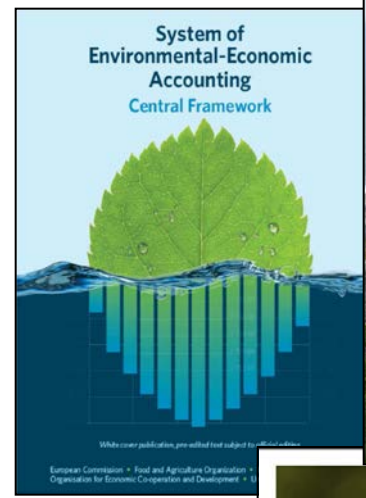
# Valuation of forest ecosystem services and development of accounts – The UK Experience

Sheila Ward, Forestry Commission, UK

## valuation



## natural capital accounting



## markets

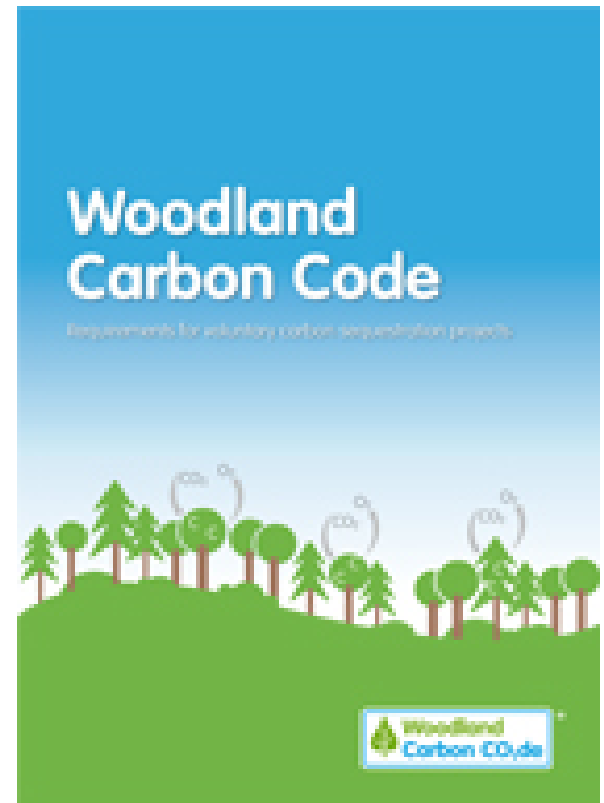


The study starts in April 2015 and runs until September 2015, and is led by Prof Ian Bateman, UEA & member of the NCC

The study will propose a practical set of options for adding to and enhancing the existing evidence base on the social and environmental benefits of trees and woodlands, so that the data needs of different analytical techniques (e.g. policy appraisal, natural capital accounting) can be met.

- Specific objectives are to:
- Identify the uses to which forest ecosystem service values may be applied in order to understand future data requirements;
- Assess the technical validity of current value estimates, and identify gaps, spatial techniques and models available to support the estimation and analysis of social and environmental values from forests;
- Assess whether and how values can be estimated to satisfy the purposes identified in (i) above; and,
- Propose options for carrying out data collection, research and analysis to update and/or enhance the evidence base.

- Ensure high standards in UK forest carbon market
- Clarity and transparency to bolster market confidence
- Rigorous scientific basis
- increase private investment in woodland creation
- Includes:
  - Woodland creation
  - Carbon sequestration and emissions within a woodland



- UK level experimental accounts released June 2013:
  - Measuring UK woodland area and timber resources
  - Monetary valuation of UK timber resources
  - Measuring UK woodland ecosystem assets and ecosystem services
- Work on methodology for spatially disaggregated accounts
  - Report to be released shortly

- Clarity of purpose
  - To assess sustainability?
  - To estimate effects of changes in policy?
- Definitions
  - How are these interpreted and applied?
- Appropriate data sources
  - Need reliable estimates of change
  - Level of spatial disaggregation

- <http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Home/tabid/38/Default.aspx> - UK National Ecosystem Assessment
- <https://www.naturalcapitalcommittee.org/> - Natural Capital Committee
- <https://www.gov.uk/ecosystems-services> - Guidance for policy and decision makers on using an ecosystems approach and valuing ecosystem services.
- <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/carboncode> - Woodland Carbon Code
- <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory> - National Forest Inventory
- <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics> - Forestry Commission Statistics
- <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestresearch> - Research on ecosystem services, etc
- <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/natural-capital/index.html> - UK natural capital accounts