

A future task in good hands



# Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Natural Capital

Building bridges between policy and science:  
Ecology, Economics and Accounting

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International Conference on Natural Capital, Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity  
Moscow | 19-20 November 2019



Foto: Lennart Kümper-Schlake



Foto: Andreas Huth



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# Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) – Who we are –



is the German Government's scientific authority with responsibility for national and international nature conservation.

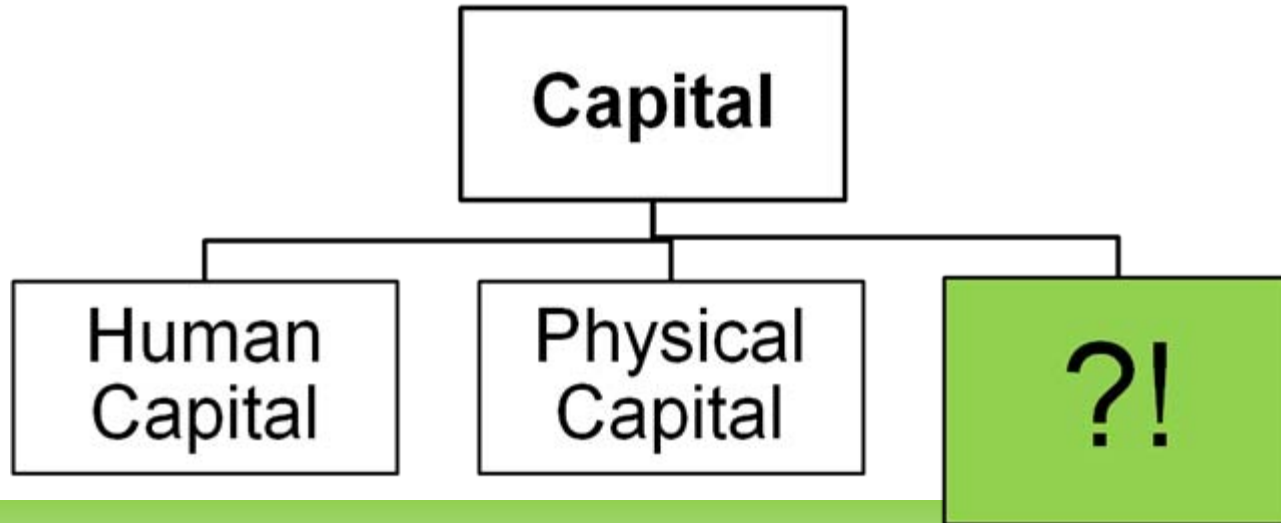
- **Advice:** providing the German Government (i.e. Ministry for the Environment) with the scientific basis for decisions and advice on all aspects of national and international nature conservation
- **Funding:** supporting the implementation of large-scale conservation, research and pilot projects as well as projects under the Federal Programme for Biodiversity and by NGOs
- **Enforcement:** national enforcement agency for CITES and marine conservation in the economic exclusive zone and involved in the approval of GMOs
- **Information and education:** comprehensive information and publicity work, International Nature Conservation Academy

# Outline of the Presentation

- 1. Nature and Economy - basic ideas and mandate**
- 2. TEEB DE – TEEB in Germany**
- 3. Natural Capital Accounting – BfN's involvement**



# Nature and Economy – Back to the Roots!



Source: v. d. Decken



Source: Ekinci



# International Obligations and Initiatives regarding Natural Capital Accounting



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

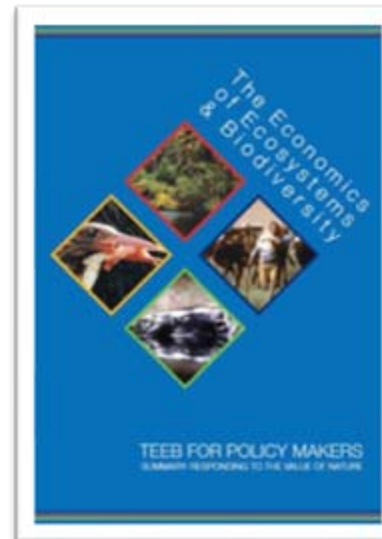


By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

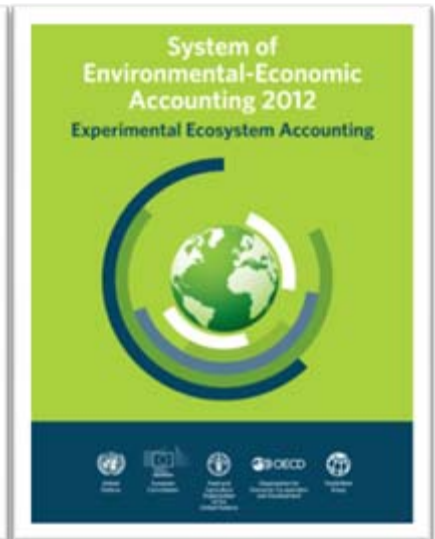


**Action 5** Improve knowledge of ecosystems and their services in the EU

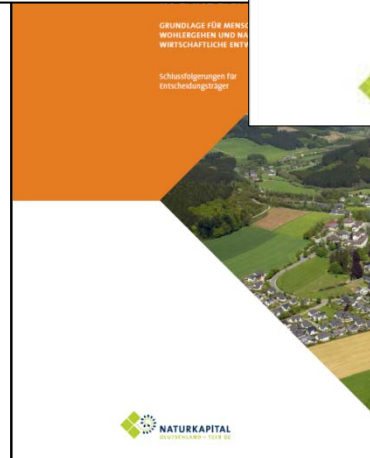
- 5) Member States, with the assistance of the Commission, will map and assess the state of ecosystems and their services in their national territory by 2014, assess the economic value of such services, and promote the integration of these values into accounting and reporting systems at EU and national level by 2020.



**TEEB International and TEEB Germany**



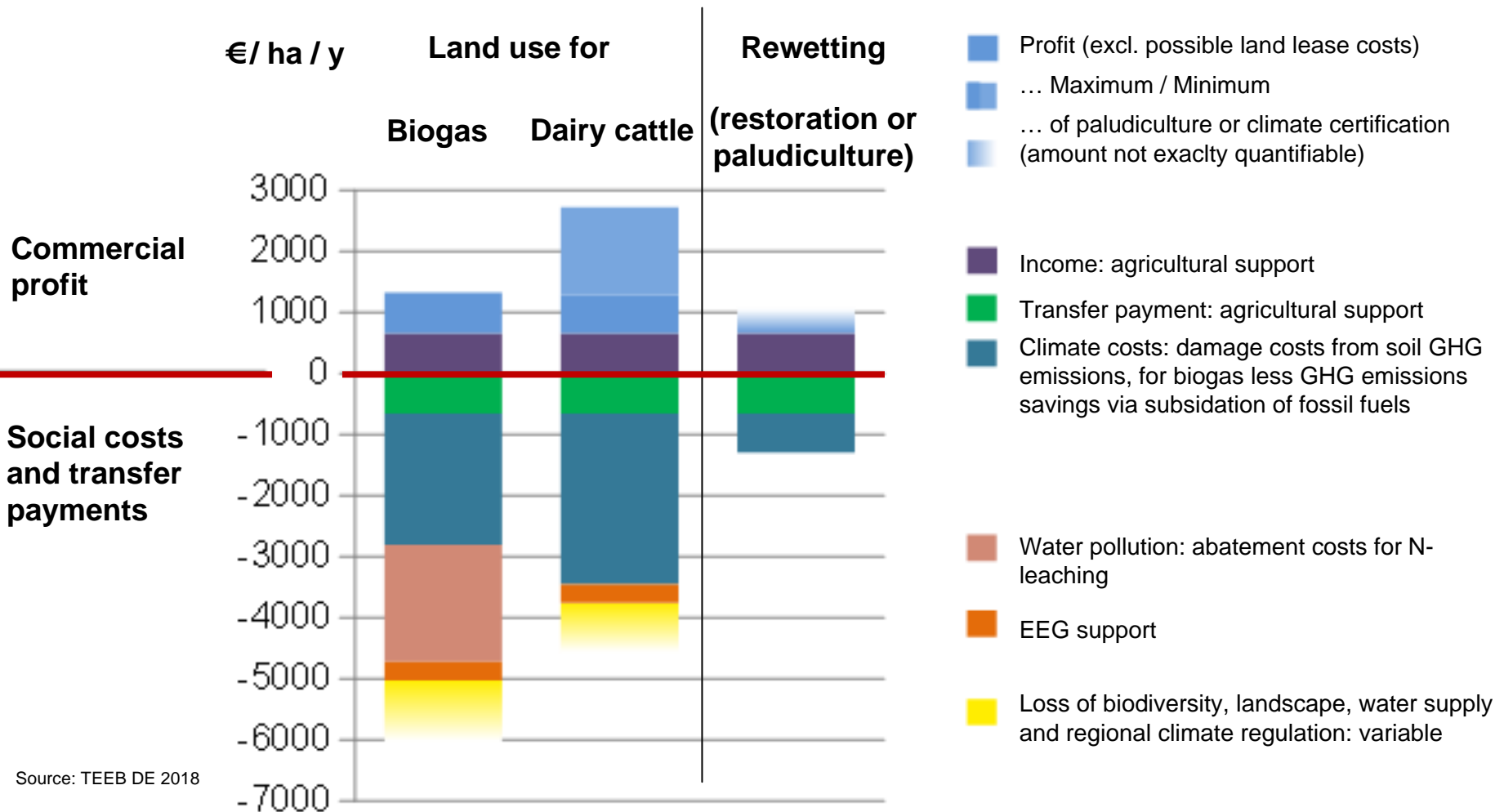
**System of Environmental Economic Accounting - Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA)**



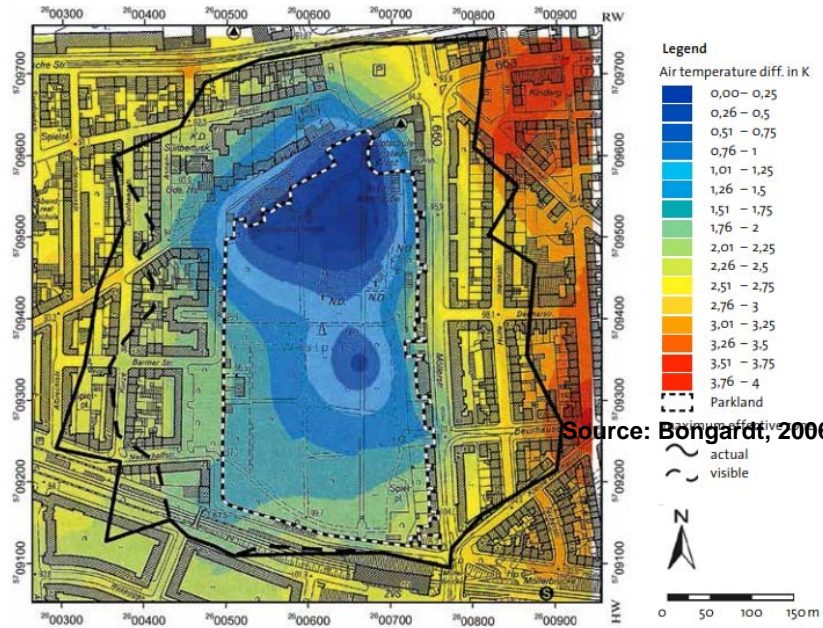
**Summaries available  
in english !!**

# TEEB DE Example 1: How to use Peatlands?

## Alternatives to the use of drained organic soils



# TEEB DE Example 2 - Urban Green

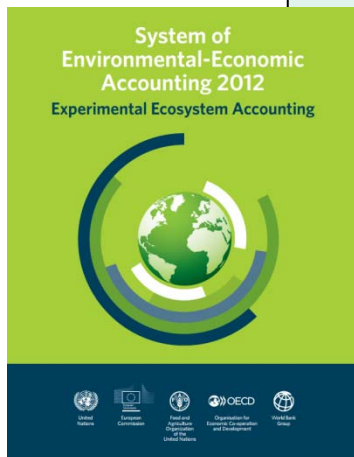


- Life satisfaction gained from 1 hectare of additional green space = an additional individual income of **276 Euro / year**
- ▼
- Average number of inhabitants in a radius of 1,000 meters ~ approx. **1 million Euro / year**



# Ecosystem Accounting

- ❖ **Environmental economic accounts describe the interaction between the economy and environment, such as raw materials, water and land.**
- ❖ **Ecosystems and their services are neither considered in the national accounting system nor in the satellite systems in a systematic way.**
- ❖ **The Federal Agency of Nature Conservation promotes the integration of ecosystems and their services into the environmental economic system.**
- ❖ **System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (EEA)**

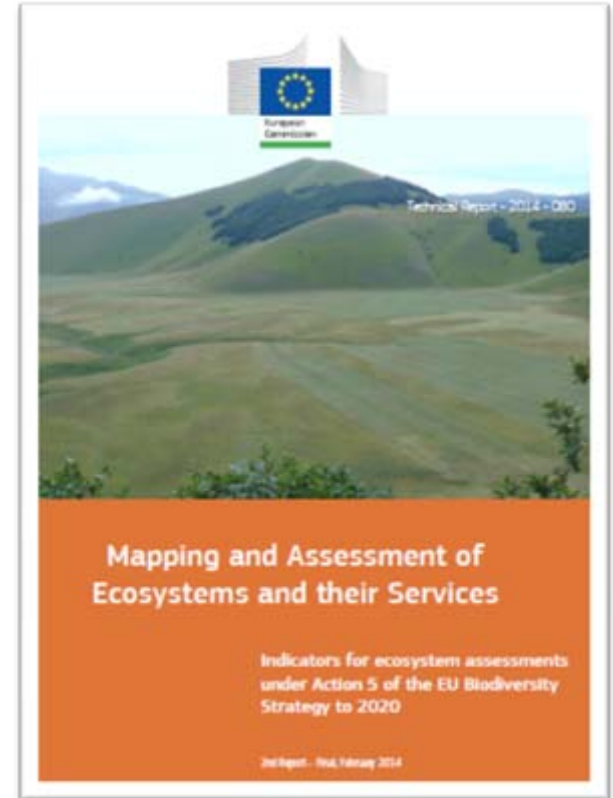


# EU and National Initiatives regarding Natural Capital Accounting

- **Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES)**
  
- **BfN R&D project on ecosystem accounting (ongoing)**



Leibniz Institute of  
Ecological Urban and  
Regional Development

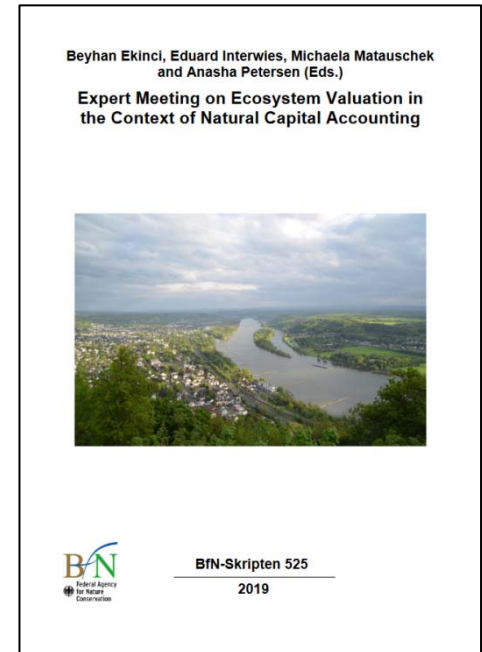


# Further NCA relevant Activities



## Expert Meeting on Ecosystem Valuation in the context of Natural Capital Accounting (Bonn, Germany – April 2018)

- Organized in collaboration with
  - UNSD (United Nations Statistics Division)
  - UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
- Success in building bridges between policy, welfare economics and accountants
- Further activities in Russia, China and Europe



# Conclusions and Outlook

## Overall conclusion

- The integration of ecosystems and their services into land-use planning decisions (TEEB) and national/regional accounting systems (NCA) provides added value;
- The economic perspective must not lead to economic take-over of nature conservation policy, but strengthen legal regulation and foster financial incentives.

## Our meeting ...

- aims to foster a **mutual understanding** of Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Natural Capital;
- aims to reflect ongoing implementation work and scientific research **across different disciplines**;
- aims at **supporting the TEEB-Russia process**, an important pillar of the German-Russian environmental cooperation.



**Thank you very much  
for your kind attention!**

**Dr. Christiane Schell et al.**

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