



Ecosystem Science for Policy & Practice



WP3 Knowledge - Example Methods -

User board meeting
Lisbon, 6-7 Nov 2014



A metric for biogeochemical climate regulation

Part of Task 3.1
Anita Bayer, Almut Arneth



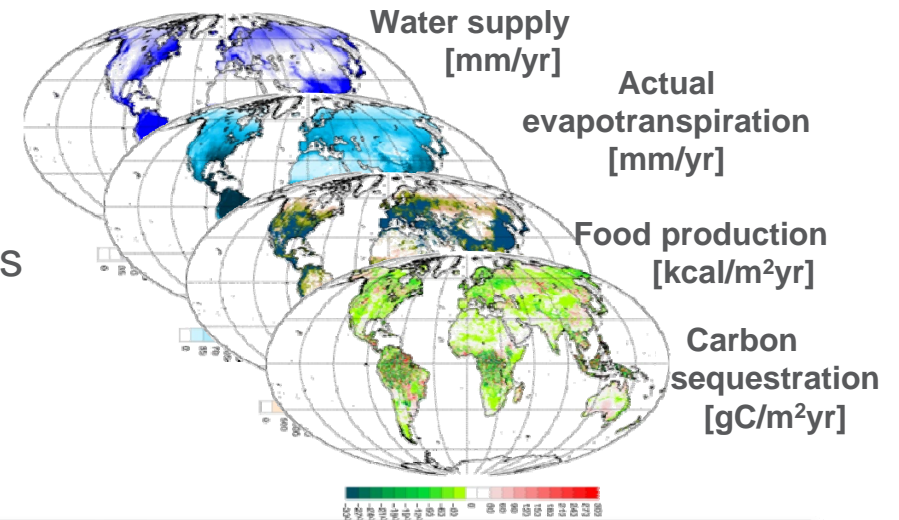
Task 1
Ecosystem function
and quantification

DGVMs for ES assessments

Dynamic global vegetation models

simulate the development of land vegetation using mathematical representations of major ecosystem and plant processes

- Analysis of different biogeochemical cycles and their feedbacks (C, H₂O, N)
- Global scale
- Time perspective: historical to future



Climate regulation using DGVM:

- ➔ How do various ecosystems contribute to the climate?
- ➔ How does this change over time? under future conditions?
- ➔ Express these contributions in terms that are meaningful to policy makers?

A metric for biogeochemical climate regulation

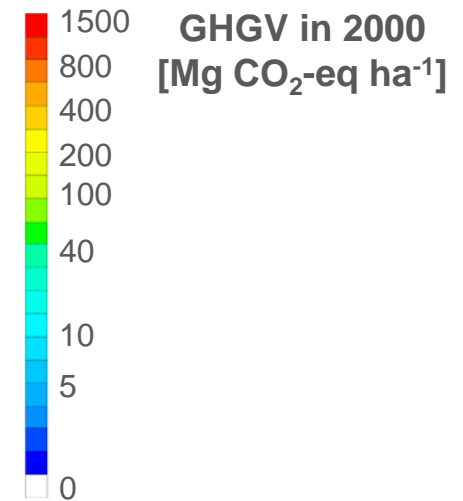
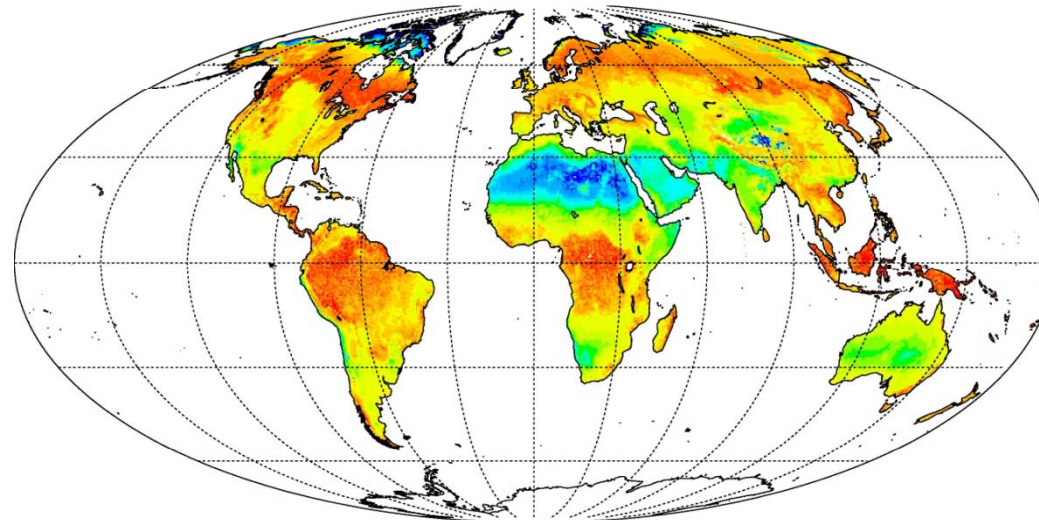
➔ **Greenhouse Gas Value of ecosystems** (Anderson-Teixeira and DeLucia, 2011):

Quantifies the value of maintaining an ecosystem over a multiple-year time frame, by accounting for the total radiative forcing of GHGs that would occur upon clearing

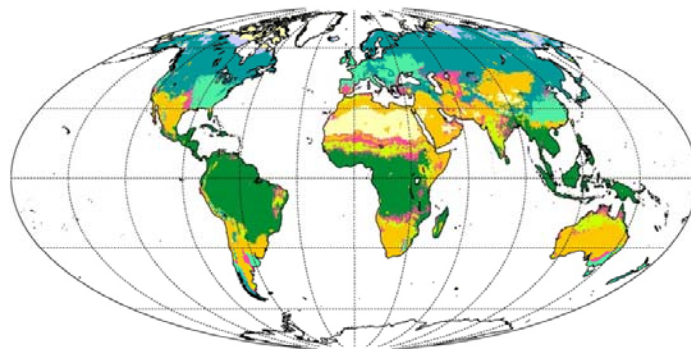
- Considers Storage, Flux and effect of nat. disturbances of multiple GHG
- Accounts for long-term effect of GHGs of an ecosystem
- Units: **[Mg CO₂-equivalents/ha]**
directly transferable to monetary values

➔ **Contribution of CO₂ to climate for historical and future time periods**

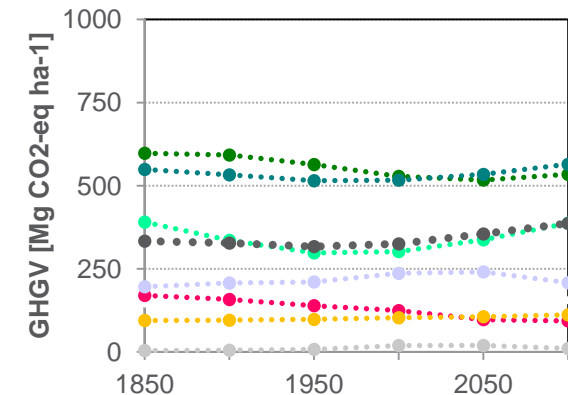
GHGV of current ecosystems



Biomes in 2000



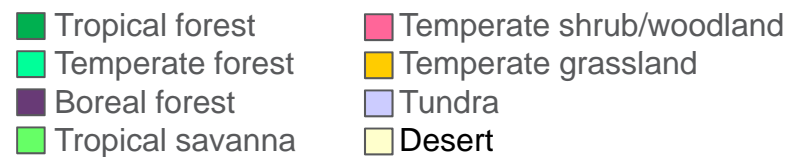
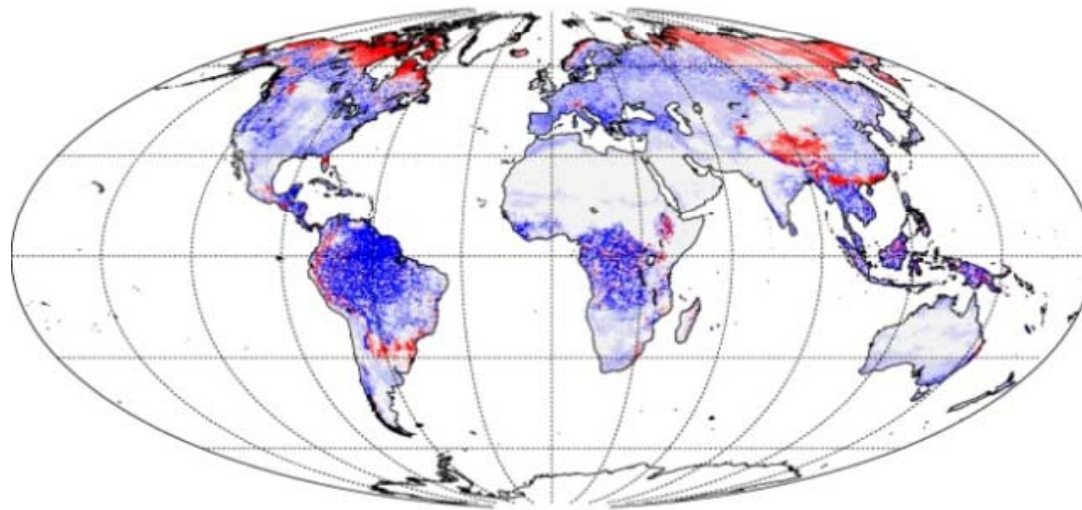
- Global average ■
- Tropical forest ■
- Temperate forest ■
- Boreal forest ■
- Tropical savanna ■
- Temperate shrub/woodland ■
- Temperate grassland ■
- Tundra ■
- Desert ■



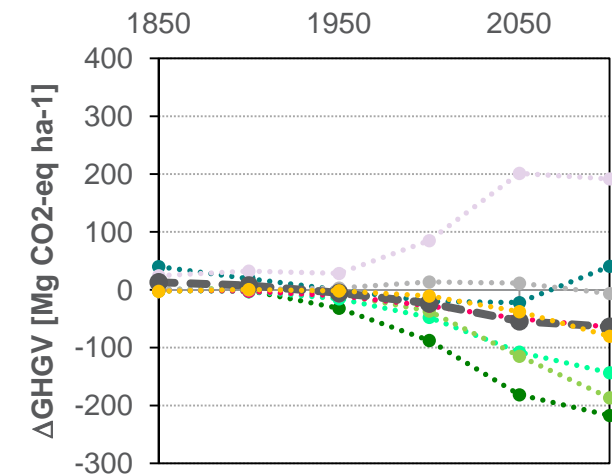
Process attribution

➔ The isolated effects of climate, atmospheric CO₂ and land use changes on GHGV

Effect of climate 2000-2100



Effect of climate



A metric for biogeochemical climate regulation

- Dynamic Global Vegetation Models for ES assessments
- Greenhouse Gas Value of Ecosystems is used as indicator for biogeochemical climate regulation ES
 - includes C flux, storage + natural disturbance
 - long term perspective
 - [Mg CO₂-eq / ha] can be directly translated into monetary values
- Analysis:
 - GHGV for specific biomes
 - Temporal variation of GHGV
 - Which process determines change in GHGV: climate, atm.CO₂, land use?
- Future perspectives:
 - Other GHGs (CH₄, N₂O) & biogeophysical effects of climate regulation

Social-cultural valuation in the Fingal/Dublin Exemplar

Part of Task 3.2

Craig Bullock, Deirdre Joyce, Marcus Collier



Task 2
Socio-cultural
valuation

Overview SCV in Fingal Exemplar

Objectives

- Explore fundamental socio-cultural values: Identification and mapping
- Devise means to input values into planning process

Key elements

- Semi-structured interviews with stakeholders on ES and the planning process
- Two series of workshops with stakeholders and public

Methods/Tools/instruments:

- Document process of value identification
- Development of socio-cultural indicators
- Mapping of physical and ecological indicators
- Participatory multi-criteria analysis



Identification and mapping of SCV in a series of workshops

Three sets of workshops (separately with stakeholders and public):

1st workshop: Introduction to ES (social learning),
mapping and rating of (mainly) cultural ES
Aim: Identify type and location of socio-cultural values
>> Oct 2014, with ca. 20 Stakeholders from community organisations

2nd workshop: Follow-on workshop to report back
Aim: identify and discuss socio-cultural indicators
and trade-offs for coastal management

3rd/4th workshops: Participatory multi-criteria analysis in relation to local issue
Discuss criteria that affect social-cultural ES
Social and management options (social needs, environment, economic)

More workshops are to be arranged with general public

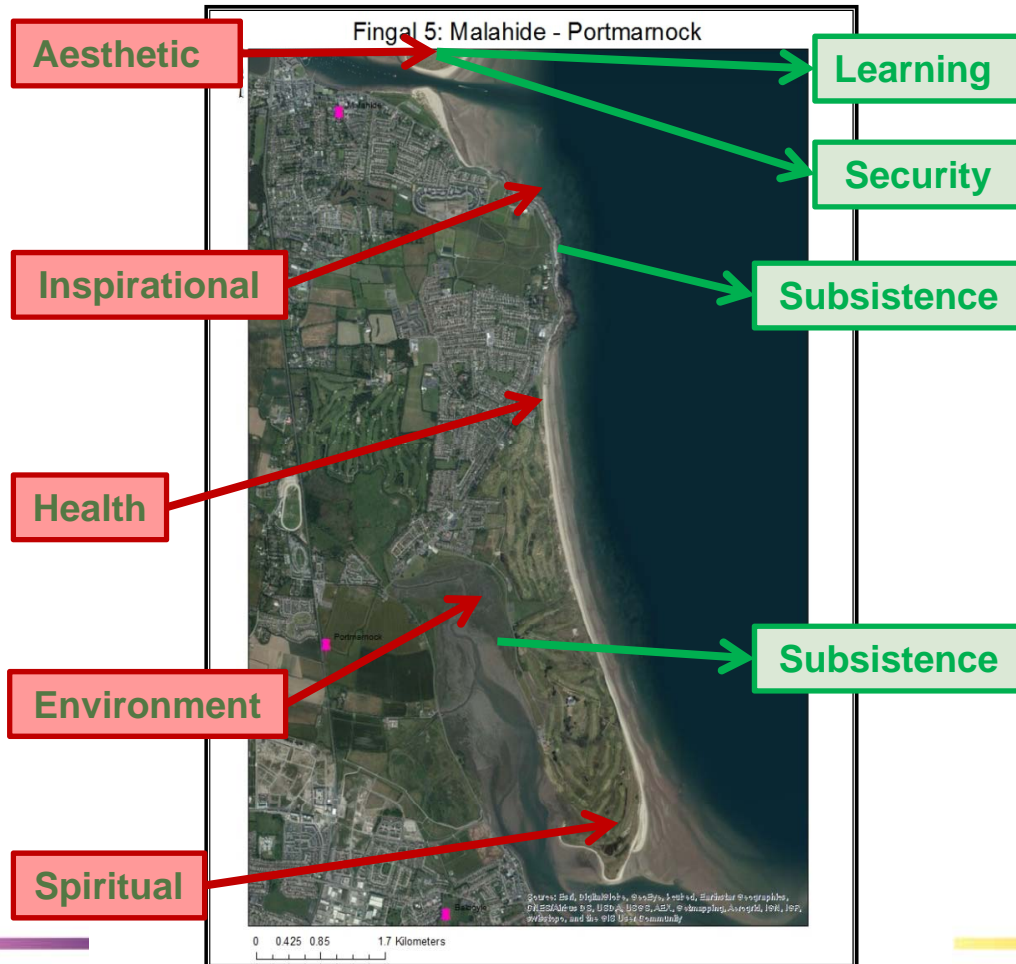
Workshop 1: Rating indicators of well-being

Example: Rating of **tangible and less tangible indicators of values**
Participants rate as many of these as they wish to identify



Map marking CODE	Less Tangible	Type of value and why	RANKING – PLACE STICKERS IN THIS SECTION (only the items that are of importance to you)
AE	Aesthetic	I value the coast for its <u>scenery, sights, smells and sounds</u>	
ENV	Environment	I value knowing that the coast is <u>clean</u> and <u>that its ecology is in a healthy state</u>	
F	Future	I value what the <u>coast has to offer to my grandchildren/future generations</u> - to be able to experience what I've experienced	
HEA	Health	I value the coast as a place where I or others can feel <u>healthy, physically or psychologically.</u>	
HEI	Heritage	I value the coast as a place which has <u>natural and human/way of life history</u> that matters to me	
INT	Intrinsic	I value the coast just because <u>it exists, no matter what I or others use it for</u>	
LR	Learning	I value the coast as it provides a <u>place to learn/teach</u>	
INP	Inspirational	I value the coast because it provides <u>inspiration for art, photography, writing and other cultural expression</u>	
SEC	Security	I value the dunes, mudflats and salt marshes for <u>the protection they provide from storms and flooding</u>	
SOP	Sense of Place	I have the coast as it provides me with a <u>sense of place and of identity for the community</u>	

Workshop 1: Mapping of SCV at site level



Objective of the mapping method (after McLain and Cervan, 2013) is threefold:

- Shared and individual social learning about ES concepts
- Articulation of cultural ES values
- Researchers can identify hotspots of value at particular locations (multiple values and conflicts between values, if any)

⇒ different groups or individuals have different values for different locations

Social-cultural valuation in the Fingal/Dublin Exemplar

- The Fingal Exemplar is used as a practical example for identifying and mapping social-cultural ES and to explore means to input values into planning process
- Key elements are interviews and a series of workshops with stakeholders and interested public

1st: Identification, rating and mapping of social-cultural ES

2nd: Indicators for social-cultural values

3rd+4th: Multicriteria-Analysis:
discussion and rating of criteria that affect social-cultural values

Incorporating spatial heterogeneity in value transfer functions

Part of Task 3.3
Mark Koetse and colleagues



Task 3
Market and non-
market valuation

What is a value function?

A function that relates the monetary value of an ecosystem service (ES) to various variables, such as:

- ES characteristics (distance to, size, type,)
- Study characteristics (method, model specification, ...)
- Study area characteristics (region, time period, income, population density, ...)

Value functions are generally obtained from a meta-analysis on the relevant ES

What is value transfer?

Using the value function to predict the value of an ES in a region where no economic valuation study has been done

- **Why interesting?**

Value transfer saves on time and costs compared to doing separate economic valuation studies, especially when many areas need to be valued (e.g., for a national assessment of recreation values)

- **Central problem**

Transfer (prediction) errors from existing value transfer functions are large

➡ **Can value transfer errors substantially be reduced by incorporating spatially specific information?**

Research outline

Method: Meta-analysis

- Makes use of available empirical evidence, in this case ES values e.g. databases of forest, water, ... values
- Values and study characteristics are coded in a database
- Outcomes are made comparable
- Econometric analysis used to explain the variation in outcomes e.g. relation of variation with spatially specific variables such as income, population density, ...

Study types

- Contingent valuation studies on (use and non-use) values
- Travel cost studies on recreation values

Which regions and countries?

Global meta-analysis: Studies from all over the world, generally assessing the value of a single forest or water area

Current activities

Ongoing:

- Testing the performance of the 'new' value functions
- Application of value functions in selected OPERA's exemplars:
Scotland, European & Global

Available at IVM-VU website:

- General information on ES value studies, Descriptive statistics of data base
Maps with available studies and outcomes per region
- Value functions published on website
General, up-to-date value functions
Region- and/or ES-specific value functions on request

Perennity of knowledge:

- Database will be updated every two years: new data from empirical studies,
wider coverage
Improvement of value functions (more data and information)



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Incorporating spatial heterogeneity in value transfer functions

- A value function relates the monetary value of an ES to various variables (size, type, region, time, ...)
- Value transfer: use the value function to predict the value of an ES in a region where no economic valuation study has been done
Saves on time and costs, i.e. for large areas
- Research question: Can value transfer errors be substantially reduced by incorporating spatially specific information in the value function?
- Ongoing:
Testing the performance of the 'new' value functions
Application of value functions in selected OPERAs exemplars
Value functions + metadata available at IVM website