



DEVELOPING ECOSYSTEM SERVICE BUNDLES

PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY

The purpose of this activity is to identify what benefits your system currently provides. A good entry point to the discussion about system benefits are bundles of ecosystem services. Looking at system benefits through this lens enables an integrated social-ecological perspective, which helps with keeping the Wayfinder process focused on the close connections between people and nature and sustainability issues. See also related discussion guide.

RESOURCES NEEDED

Required skills: medium level facilitation skills, knowledge of values and benefits held by stakeholder and the services that provide and support those values and benefits.

Time: 3-4 hours

Materials: recording materials, general technical information of ecosystem services and benefits

Useful links: <https://www.millenniumassessment.org/en/index.html>

HOW TO DO IT

STEP 1

Start this discussion by listing important provisioning, regulating and cultural services in your system. It is useful to both think about direct benefits (such as food production) and indirect ones (such as pollination). Make sure you include services from all three categories.

Phase 2: Creating a shared understanding of system identity

Module A: Aspirations and sustainability challenges

Work card 10: System benefits

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Available at wayfinder.earth

STEP 2

Once you have identified key provisioning, regulating, and cultural ecosystem services for your system, label each “petal” with an ecosystem service and indicate its relative amount produced by shading in the small, medium, or large size petal. You might need to add additional petals.

STEP 3

Once completed, use the diagram to reflect on trade-offs between different services, for instance relating to short- and long-term interests, or to different groups of stakeholders. Also reflect on if there is a potential for more synergistic relationship between different ecosystem services, e.g. under a different management.

TIPS

While the ecosystem services concept is useful to keep the process focused on social-ecological issues, it also has its limitations. Be mindful if there are landscape values important for people in your system, but does not easily fit into these services categories, and make sure these values are still reflected in the discussions on system benefits.

Provisioning services	Regulating services	Cultural services

