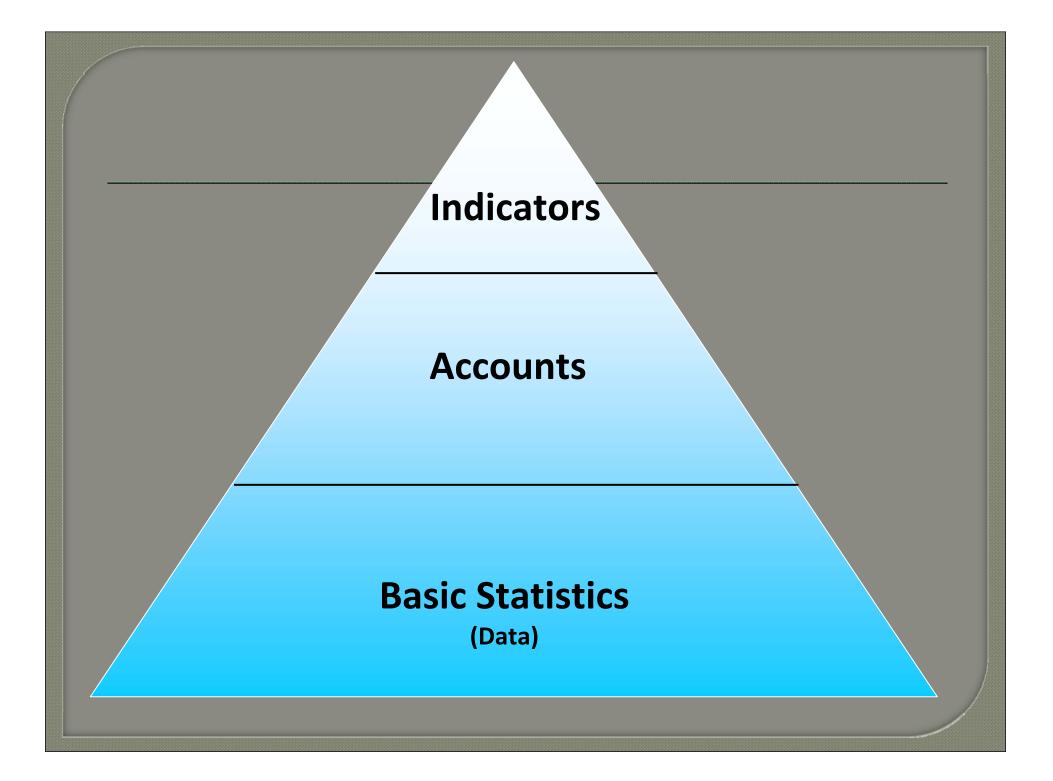
Applying GIS and remote sensing to measure disaster risk: Example of Ecosystem Accounts

> Daniel Clarke Statistician, United Nations-ESCAP February, 2013

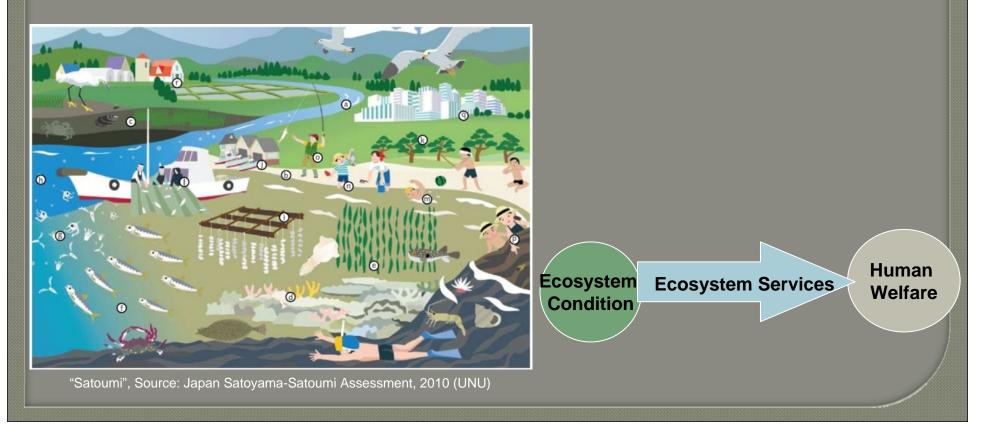


### What is national accounting?

- Systematic approach to compilation of basic data for the production of reliable and coherent indicators Integration of data from multiple sources Verifying information and filling gaps by balancing tables
- System of National Accounts (SNA) is the UN standard for producing economic statistics such as GDP, GNI, value added, etc.
- System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) is the UN standard for integrating economic and environment statistics to produce indicators such as: resource efficiency and decoupling indicators, resource depletion, and production, income and employment in environmental goods and services.

## Ecosystem services

Welfare benefits derived from ecosystem functioning
 In Japan: Satoyama and Satoumi are the concepts for mosaic ecosystem types providing bundles of services



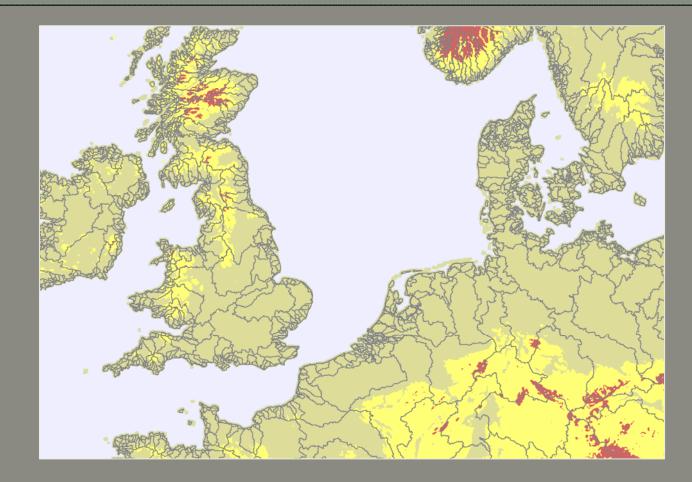
#### Examples of ecosystem services

Provisioning of water, uncultivated resources (fish, timber, etc.)
Bioremediation, pollination
Recreation, research
Natural protections from disasters (air, water, and mass flow regulation)

### **Ecosystem Condition/Capacity**

- There are certain measures of processes or characteristics of ecosystems that are can be good indicators of capacity for a bundle of ecosystem services, for example:
  - The carbon cycle: net changes in the amount of carbon sequestered and the amount of biomass left in the system for the other life forms and for the system's own regeneration
  - <u>Biodiversity</u>: across species, across specializations, and across habitats, which can sometimes be approximated from information on certain species or other characteristics of the systems
  - <u>The hydrological cycle and water quality</u>: the availability of freshwater, the timing and duration of that availability, and the presence of pollutants or eutrophication in water bodies
  - <u>The distribution of land cover</u>: changes in land cover happen gradually but drastically alter the bundle of ecosystem services.

# Map of river basins





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# Dominant land cover

