



JNCC Report No. 494

**Additional UK submission to the IPBES Catalogue of Assessments on
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**

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UNEP-WCMC would like to thank the Project Coordinators, who reviewed and provided additional information on selected assessments, for their valuable input. UNEP-WCMC also wishes to thank the individuals for their time, who, through a survey, provided useful feedback on and suggestions for how to improve the IPBES Catalogue of Assessments on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Summary

A 'Catalogue of Assessments on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services' has been created to support the work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). One goal of the Catalogue is to learn lessons from both existing and on-going biodiversity and ecosystem assessment processes which can inform the future development of IPBES. The IPBES Interim Secretariat has asked Members of the Platform to add relevant assessments to the Catalogue to ensure it is comprehensive and up-to-date. In addition, the IPBES Interim Secretariat has invited feedback on the Catalogue in terms of its usability and practical application. Comments will guide its on-going development and identify ways in which it could be enhanced to further meet users' needs.

In response to this, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) commissioned the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to ensure that a representative sample of relevant assessments, projects and studies from the UK and the UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) and Crown Dependencies are included in the Catalogue. Plus, to critically review the Catalogue's form, function and practical application and provide feedback to JNCC who will then determine which advice is passed to the IPBES Interim Secretariat. This report presents the approach, findings and conclusions of this project.

The approach involved a targeted online search to identify relevant UK, UKOT and Crown Dependencies' assessments for inclusion in the Catalogue. A critical review of the form, usability and practical application of the Catalogue was based on two bespoke surveys. An online survey on the usability of the Catalogue and the usefulness of the content was distributed to known UK IPBES stakeholders and international assessment practitioners considered to be potential current or future users of the Catalogue. A survey on inputting and editing content in the Catalogue focussed on capturing experiences of new users from UNEP-WCMC who added a set of new assessments identified in the first part of this project.

The 59 national to global assessments and 12 sub-national assessments identified by the online search underwent a prioritisation process by UNEP-WCMC and JNCC, using a set of predetermined criteria. A short list of 14 assessments to be added to the Catalogue was selected, which as a set provides a broad overview of the assessment work undertaken in the UK and in the UKOTs. Examples of ecosystem, biodiversity and 'other ecological' (e.g. state of the environment) assessments were included, which as a set assess marine, terrestrial, and freshwater ecosystems. Several assessments consider the application of their findings from operationalising the ecosystems approach to adaptation to climate change. Information on the selected assessments was compiled according to the structure of the Catalogue's assessment profile and reviewed by each assessment's Project Coordinator prior to publication in the Catalogue.

The project highlighted the wide range of assessment work relating to ecosystem services and biodiversity that is being undertaken at the UK and country levels. However, it is evident that the same intensity of assessment work has not been undertaken in the UKOTs and Crown Dependencies. Regardless, the Catalogue could prove a useful resource for the UK, UKOTs and Crown Dependencies for helping to plan future assessment work. It is hoped that the additional assessments which have been added to the Catalogue as a result of this project will be of interest to, as well as of use to, a global audience of assessment practitioners in addition to showcasing the breadth of the UK/UKOTs assessment portfolio.

The critical review of the Catalogue by new and current users, in terms of its form, function and practical application, has resulted in some valuable suggestions on how to improve the Catalogue further to better meet users' needs. Several respondents commented that the Catalogue's existence was of great value, as was its role as a single repository of a huge

amount of dispersed information on assessments internationally. Therefore, further work to complete assessment profiles and add assessments in under-represented regions to strengthen the resource as a whole would be valuable.

The form and functionality of the Catalogue generally received positive feedback, with several respondents commenting that the simplicity of its layout and ability to search on different topics were the Catalogue's best features. However, a number of adjustments to the basic and advanced search fields and download feature would be beneficial. In addition, more sophisticated mapping functionality would be advantageous, particularly in regards to marine and sub-national assessments.

The content of the Catalogue was considered to be highly relevant to the work of the respondents, who are mainly in primary research, with a wide range of examples of how they would use the information indicated. However, improvements could be made to capture information from biodiversity assessments more effectively by increasing the amount of detail that can be added to the biodiversity-related sub-sections of the Catalogue (e.g. species groups and systems assessed) and enhancing search functionality in these areas.

In regards to other feedback relating to practical application of the Catalogue's information, two overarching themes can be identified. The first is a request for more information and guidance on the Catalogue both for potential users of the content and users wishing to add new assessments. Examples include what information is in the Catalogue, what assessments should be in the Catalogue, who may be interested in the information in the Catalogue and how to navigate to unpublished assessments. The second theme is to increase the level of detail of some of the technical information in the Catalogue. Suggestions include adding extra comment boxes to explain a multi choice answer or the addition of completely new sub-sections to capture more detail on certain topics (e.g. indicators, key messages, policy-driven vs. research-driven assessments), which can then be reflected in the search functionality.

These comments will be considered by JNCC who will determine which advice is passed on to the IPBES Interim Secretariat, to inform the on-going development of the Catalogue.

Abbreviations/Acronyms

Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
GIS	Geographical Information System
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
UK NEA	UK National Ecosystem Assessment
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OTs	Overseas Territories
SGA	Sub-Global Assessment

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Background and Rationale	1
1.2	Aims and objectives of the project.....	1
2	Approach and Methodology	2
2.1	Objective 1: Identification of relevant assessment, projects and studies.....	2
2.2	Objective 2: Prioritising and adding relevant assessments, projects and studies to the Catalogue	3
2.3	Objective 3: Critical review of the Catalogue	4
3	Outputs and Results	6
3.1	Objective 1: Identification of relevant assessment, projects and studies.....	6
3.2	Objective 2: Prioritising and adding relevant assessments, projects and studies to the Catalogue	8
3.3	Objective 3: Critical review of the Catalogue	9
4	Critical review of the Catalogue	21
4.1	Improving the usability of the Catalogue	21
4.2	Improving the practical application of the Catalogue	23
4.3	Identification of programming bugs	24
5	Conclusions	25
6	References	26
7	Appendices	27
	Appendix 1: Results of the online search for relevant assessments to be considered for inclusion in Catalogue.	27
	Appendix 2: Description of the sections and sub-sections of information on assessments in the Catalogue	48
	Appendix 3: Assessment profiles from the additional UK submission to the Catalogue ...	52
	Appendix 4: Survey questions to address Objective 3	103
8	Supplementary Electronic Material	110

1 Introduction

1.1 Background and Rationale

A 'Catalogue of Assessments on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services'¹ (hereafter referred to as 'the Catalogue') has been created to support the work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)². One goal of the Catalogue is to learn lessons from both existing and on-going biodiversity and ecosystem assessment processes which can inform the future development of IPBES. The IPBES Interim Secretariat has asked Members of the Platform to add relevant assessments to the Catalogue to ensure it is comprehensive and up-to-date.

In addition, the IPBES Interim Secretariat has invited feedback on the Catalogue in terms of its usability and practical application. Comments will guide its on-going development and identify ways in which it could be enhanced to further meet users' needs.

1.2 Aims and objectives of the project

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) is supporting the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) in achieving a pragmatic evidence-based approach to IPBES. Therefore JNCC, in response to the request from the IPBES Interim Secretariat, has commissioned this project which seeks to ensure that a representative sample³ of relevant assessments, projects and studies from the UK and the UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) and Crown Dependencies are included in the Catalogue. In addition this project will provide feedback on the Catalogue's form, function and practical application to JNCC, who will then determine which advice is passed to the IPBES Interim Secretariat, to inform the on-going development of the Catalogue.

This project has three objectives:

1. To create a list of assessments, projects and studies undertaken in the UK and UKOTs (and Crown Dependencies) which are relevant to IPBES.
2. In consultation with JNCC, to identify those assessments, projects and studies considered suitable for inclusion in the IPBES Catalogue of Assessments and to add these to the Catalogue.
3. To critically review the IPBES Catalogue of Assessments in terms of its form, function and practical application.

This report presents the approach, findings and conclusions of this project.

¹ <http://ipbes.unepwcmc-004.vm.brightbox.net/>

² <http://www.ipbes.net/>

³ Authors of other assessments, projects and studies from the UK, UK OTs and Crown Dependencies not currently included in the catalogue are welcome to submit information on their work at <http://ipbes.unepwcmc-004.vm.brightbox.net/>

2 Approach and Methodology

The approach taken and methodology used for each of the three objectives is described below.

2.1 Objective 1: Identification of relevant assessment, projects and studies

A targeted online search of the following sites was undertaken to identify relevant UK, UKOT and Crown Dependencies' assessments for inclusion in the Catalogue. Websites targeted included:

- JNCC⁴;
- UK Government and Devolved Administrations⁵;
- Government Agencies⁶;
- Project database of the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum⁷;
- Project database of the Darwin Initiative⁸;
- ISI Web of Knowledge⁹ and Google search engines.

Search terms included:

- ("*biodiversity assessments*" OR *biodiversity assessment*" AND "UK Overseas Territories" AND "Crown Dependencies" OR "UK" OR "Wales" OR "Scotland" OR "England" OR "Northern Ireland");
- ("*ecosystem assessments*" OR "*ecosystem assessment*" AND "UK Overseas Territories" AND "Crown Dependencies" OR "UK" OR "Wales" OR "Scotland" OR "England" OR "Northern Ireland");
- ("*ecological assessments*" OR "*ecological assessment*" AND "UK Overseas Territories" AND "Crown Dependencies" OR "UK" OR "Wales" OR "Scotland" OR "England" OR "Northern Ireland"); and
- ("*environment assessments*" OR "*environment assessment*" AND "UK Overseas Territories" AND "Crown Dependencies" OR "UK" OR "Wales" OR "Scotland" OR "England" OR "Northern Ireland").

2.1.1 Collation of information on relevant assessments

Information on relevant assessments was captured in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet (Supplementary Electronic Material; sheet 'Assessment list') in 79 data fields broadly covering:

- useful information to determine an assessment's relevance to IPBES and JNCC; and
- other information required to populate sections and sub-sections of the Catalogue.

This Supplementary Electronic Material is available to download from the JNCC website. A full description of each data field and the codes used to complete each field is provided in the Supplementary Electronic Material (sheet 'Key'). A summary of the information in the two main groupings is provided below.

⁴ E.g. <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4079>

⁵ E.g. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/> and <http://wales.gov.uk/?skip=1&lang=en>

⁶ E.g. www.snh.gov.uk/ and <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>

⁷ <http://www.ukotcf.org/>

⁸ <http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/>

⁹ http://apps.webofknowledge.com/UA_GeneralSearch_input.do?product=UA&search_mode=GeneralSearch&SID=Z1i8A@dmPMAcAhe5pO8&preferencesSaved=

2.1.2 Useful information to determine relevance to IPBES and JNCC

Columns A to AI in the Excel spreadsheet identify key criteria to determine the relevance of an assessment to both the Catalogue (e.g. assessment type) and to JNCC (e.g. country/countries covered). These headings were guided by the criteria suggested in the project specification and include the following:

- Geographical scale (national, regional, global);
- Assessment type (ecosystems, biodiversity);
- Country/countries covered (UK, UKOTs);
- Objective(s);
- Mandate;
- Conceptual Framework and/or Methodology;
- Date finished (post 1999¹⁰);
- Ecosystems assessed (terrestrial, freshwater, marine);
- Multidisciplinary needs (natural science, social science, economics);
- Thematic scope (various); and
- Knowledge source (academic, government, non-governmental organisation [NGO]).

2.1.3 Sections and sub-sections of the Catalogue

The UK National Ecosystem Assessment's¹¹ profile in the Catalogue¹² was used to identify the 12 main sections of the Catalogue (Section 2.2.2) and associated sub-sections. These are presented in Columns CJ to CA of the Excel spreadsheet. A description of these sections is provided in the Supplementary Electronic Material (sheet 'IPBES CoA sections').

2.2 Objective 2: Prioritising and adding relevant assessments, projects and studies to the Catalogue

Objective 2 was undertaken in two parts: a) the prioritisation of the assessments identified in Objective 1; and b) compilation of information on selected assessments to add to the Catalogue.

2.2.1 Prioritising the results of the search

Following the online search for relevant assessments, they were reviewed in consultation with JNCC¹³, in order to prioritise which ones should be added to the Catalogue. It was necessary to prioritise assessments as the number that could be considered relevant for inclusion in the Catalogue was greater than anticipated and the resources available to complete Objective 2 would cover an upper limit of approximately 10 assessments.

The 59 national, regional and global assessments and 12 sub-national assessments were discussed in turn using the summary table displayed in Appendix 1. Consideration was made to the scope of an assessment, both geographical and ecological, as well as the completion date. It was agreed that assessments that reported at the UK level would have priority to those which reported at the country level. Priority would also be given to more recently published assessments as would assessments which were repeated or linked in some way¹⁴. Highly specialised, narrow assessments, such as those classified as 'Species groups / species-specific assessments' (a sub-class of 'Other ecological assessments'), were considered low priority as applicability of the findings would be limited.

¹⁰ It was agreed with JNCC that the search would focus on assessments published after 1999 as these would be most relevant to the Catalogue.

¹¹ <http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/>

¹² <http://ipbes.unepwcmc-004.vm.brightbox.net/assessments/1>

¹³ The results of the search were presented as an Interim Report

¹⁴ For example, the 'Northern Ireland State of the Seas' report was produced in response to 'Charting Progress 2'.

It was agreed that as a set, the selected assessments should give a broad overview of the assessment work the UK and UKOTs have undertaken in the field of ecosystem services and biodiversity. Further it was agreed that chosen assessments would be considered to be of potential interest to a broad audience including assessment practitioners, in terms of the methodology or approaches used and/or the applicability of the findings.

2.2.2 Compiling information on assessments to add to the Catalogue

The selected assessments were divided amongst three members of staff at WCMC. The initial step involved a detailed read through of publically available material on each assessment. Relevant information was used to populate a Word-based template (Appendix 2) which replicated the Catalogue's assessment profile page. The template grouped information into 12 main sections:

- *Title;*
- *Geographical coverage;*
- *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope;*
- *Timing of the assessment;*
- *Assessment outputs;*
- *Tools and processes;*
- *Data;*
- *Policy impact;*
- *Capacity building;*
- *Knowledge generation;*
- *Additional information; and*
- *Contact (visible only to the Catalogue's Administrators).*

Information for populating the template was primarily obtained from the websites of respective assessments, and from assessment reports and publications.

The second step involved contacting the assessments' Project Coordinators, via e-mail, phone or in person, to check and review the proposed content of the assessment profile for accuracy, and where possible, to fill in any gaps in information.

2.2.3 Adding assessments to the Catalogue

After updating, refining and supplementing information on each assessment, these were added to the Catalogue by the three members of staff at WCMC following the IPBES guidelines. The WCMC staff were required to register on the Catalogue to become 'Editors', which allowed them to create new assessment profiles and at a later date return to edit the content. This process involved copying all the information from completed assessment templates into the Catalogue and uploading documents were necessary.

2.3 Objective 3: Critical review of the Catalogue

Objective 3 was addressed by critically reviewing the form, usability and practical application of the Catalogue in order to assess both the input and output functionality of the Catalogue. Feedback was collated using two bespoke surveys, which are described in Sections 2.3.2 and 2.3.3.

2.3.1 Survey design

The surveys used a mixture of question styles including multiple choice, comment boxes and rating scales to obtain feedback on both the positive aspects of the Catalogue and where improvements could be made. Questions were carefully constructed to limit misinterpretation while also collating background information on the individual which could

be used to further interpret responses. In both surveys, respondents were asked to indicate which internet browser they were using to view the Catalogue to help track programming bugs that might be identified by respondents. The surveys resulted in quantitative and qualitative data which could be critically assessed.

2.3.2 Survey 1: Usability of the Catalogue and usefulness of the content

Survey 1 included questions on 'User interface', 'Functionality', and 'Relevance of the content' in the Catalogue. It was created using SurveyMonkey¹⁵. A copy is presented in Appendix 4.

Selected recipients of Survey 1 were either a) known UK IPBES stakeholders or b) assessment practitioners considered to be potential current or future users of the Catalogue. The survey was sent to around 700 UK IPBES stakeholders that had been previously identified by JNCC from central government, local government, devolved administration, UKOT and Crown Dependencies' governments, statutory nature conservation agencies, NGOs, universities, research institutions, Royal Botanic Gardens, environmental consultancies, utility companies and other relevant private sector organisations. It was also agreed that feedback could be obtained from individuals outside the scope of UK and UKOTs work. Therefore around 40 members of Sub-Global Assessment (SGA) Network were invited to complete the online survey as well as individuals from relevant global environmental organisations.

2.3.3 Survey 2: Inputting and editing content

Survey 2 focussed on capturing experiences of users 'Adding new content' to the Catalogue but also included questions on the 'User interface'. The questions asked respondents to rate their experience and also included comment boxes to capture additional feedback. All three members of staff at WCMC who had populated the Catalogue with the 14 assessments identified in Objective 2 completed Survey 2. They had no prior experience of using the Catalogue and so it was considered they could provide an objective assessment on the form and function of inputting assessments to the Catalogue. The survey was created in a Microsoft Word format. A copy of Survey 2 is presented in Appendix 4.

¹⁵ www.surveymonkey.com

3 Outputs and Results

The outputs and results from each stage of the project are outlined below.

3.1 Objective 1: Identification of relevant assessment, projects and studies

The online search returned 59 assessments, which broadly meet the selection criteria described in Section 2.1.1. The results of the search are captured in the Supplementary Electronic Material which was submitted along with the Interim Report. This report summarised the findings of the search and suggested points to consider in the prioritisation process to determine which assessments should be included in the Catalogue. A synopsis of the report is outlined below.

3.1.1 National-scale assessments

Assessments that reported at the national¹⁶ scale (a key criterion) totalled 54. To explore their relevance for inclusion in the Catalogue further, assessments were divided by type¹⁷ (Appendix 1; Table A1.1; part A):

1. Ecosystem assessments (as defined by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2003)¹⁸);
2. Biodiversity assessments; and
3. Other ecological assessments.

The rationale for dividing the assessments into different types is explained in Section 3.2.1. The majority of the assessments returned were natural science-based assessments from government and academic knowledge sources. Themes represented in the search results included climate change, forestry, human health and landscapes.

3.1.2 Regional-scale assessments

The online search identified five regional or sub-regional assessments, which were predominantly classified as ecosystem assessments. The results are displayed in Appendix 1 (Table A1.1; part A).

3.1.3 Global-scale assessments

The Catalogue already contains a comprehensive set of global-scale assessments covering various aspects of biodiversity and ecosystem assessments plus a range of themes from climate change to agriculture. There was one search result, 'Important Plant Areas around the world' produced by Plantlife¹⁹ which is global in scale and includes case studies from two of the UKOTs, but is not yet in the Catalogue (Appendix 1; Table A1.1; part A).

3.1.4 Sub-national assessments

An additional 12 sub-national scale assessments which met key criteria such as assessment type were identified during the search and are included in Appendix 1 (Table A1.1; part B). Sub-national scale assessments are outside IPBES's mandate so were not the focus of the search, however the rationale for including these assessments in the Interim Report was that at the broadest sense there could be lessons to be learned from the process or methods

¹⁶ Assessments were classified as national if they were either at the UK-scale or the country-scale e.g. England

¹⁷ Note, some assessments could be classified as more than one type

¹⁸ The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment defined an ecosystem assessment as "A social process through which the findings of science concerning the causes of ecosystem change, their consequences for human well-being, and management and policy options are brought to bear on the needs of decision-makers."

¹⁹ http://www.plantlife.org.uk/publications/important_plant_areas_around_the_world/

used at this scale. These assessments may also complement sub-national scale assessments from the SGA Network²⁰, which are currently in the Catalogue.

3.1.5 Suggestions for how to prioritise assessments

The Catalogue was initially developed to inform a 'Critical review of the assessment landscape for biodiversity and ecosystem services' (IPBES/1/INF/8, 2013) which was presented at the IPBES Plenary in January 2013²¹. The future of the Catalogue and other IPBES activities are currently under discussion. Consequently, a stronger direction of the scope of the Catalogue will be presented by the Interim IPBES Secretariat at a future date. To assist JNCC in prioritising which assessments from the UK and UKOTs (and Crown Dependencies) should be included in the Catalogue at this point, a few brief points based on information available are summarised below:

- The Catalogue is currently populated by predominately ecosystem assessments compared to biodiversity assessments. This predominance is an artefact of the origins of IPBES, with the nature of the Catalogue's sections and sub-sections being more relevant to the former assessment type rather than the latter.
- IPBES acknowledges that "biodiversity from terrestrial, marine, coastal, and inland water ecosystems provides the basis for ecosystems and the services they provide that underpin human well-being"²². Therefore assessments of biodiversity that make the link with human well-being could be more relevant than those that do not.
- It is not clear from information on the Catalogue about the inclusion of state-on-the-environment-type and baseline survey-type assessments (in this project, classed as 'other ecological assessments'). These could be considered relevant as they provide a source of useful information for practitioners on monitoring, data and analysis and indicator development, in addition to providing baseline data on many environmental measures at a national level. Some of the 'other ecological assessments' do make reference to ecosystem services.
- Assessments that focus on a small number of species groups or species-specific studies (also classified as 'other ecological assessments') are not currently considered a priority for inclusion in the Catalogue.

Taking this information into account and UNEP-WCMC's close working relationship with the Interim IPBES Secretariat, it was recommended that the following points were considered by JNCC in the prioritisation process:

- Lessons are more likely to be drawn from national-level assessments or initiatives that are repeated compared to one-off assessments.
- Chose a selection of assessments that demonstrate the breadth of the assessment work within the UK.

To assist in the prioritisation process the full list of assessments in Appendix 1 includes a simple grading (low, medium or high) for each assessment of the level of information publically available on the Catalogue's sections/sub-sections.

²⁰ <http://www.ecosystemassessments.net/>

²¹ <http://www.ipbes.net/plenary/ipbes-1.html>

²² <http://www.ipbes.net/about-ipbes.html>

3.2 Objective 2: Prioritising and adding relevant assessments, projects and studies to the Catalogue

3.2.1 Results of the prioritisation process

The outcome of the prioritisation process was a short list of 14 assessments to be added to the Catalogue (Table 1). Seven had been classified as ecosystem assessments, two as biodiversity assessments and five as 'other ecological assessments'. In terms of geographical scope five assessments reported at the UK level, five at just the country level, three were OTs and one assessment was at the regional level. As a set those selected give a broad overview of the assessment work undertaken in the UK and in the UKOTs. The set includes assessments of marine, terrestrial, and freshwater ecosystems and a range of ecosystem services delivered by these ecosystems²³; specific habitats assessed include uplands, urban areas, and coral reefs; assessments include a mixture of natural science and economic analyses, and thematic areas such as forestry and climate change are represented; in addition several assessments consider the application of their findings from operationalising the ecosystems approach to adaptation to climate change.

Note, although considered outside the mandate of IPBES, it was agreed that three sub-national scale assessments would be included as they were considered to be of potential interest to a range of practitioners due to the nature of these assessments – a region in England, a pair of coastline case studies and an urban case study.

Table 1. A summary of the 14 assessments selected for inclusion in the Catalogue.

	Title of assessment	Geographical scale	Country / Region	Assessment type - primary	Assessment type - secondary	Record ID
1	Economic Valuation of Uplands Ecosystem Services	National	England	Ecosystem assessment	-	043
2	Environmental Valuation: Tools and Capacity-Building for Integration in Policy	National	Bermuda	Ecosystem assessment	-	109
3	Building a Foundation for Anguilla's Wetland Future	National	Anguilla	Ecosystem assessment	-	101
4	UK Biodiversity Indicators 2012	National	UK	Biodiversity assessment	-	033
5	Mapping St Helena's Marine Biodiversity to Create a Marine Management Plan	National	St Helena	Biodiversity assessment	-	131
6	Charting Progress 2: The State of the UK Seas	National	UK, England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	002
7	Northern Ireland State of the Seas Report	National	Northern Ireland	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	035

²³ Examples of ecosystem services assessed cover the four categories of services – provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural – defined by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

	Title of assessment	Geographical scale	Country / Region	Assessment type - primary	Assessment type - secondary	Record ID
8	Towards an Assessment of the State of UK Peatlands	National	UK	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	011
9	UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2012	National	UK	Other ecological assessments	Other	005
10	Combating Climate Change: a Role for UK Forests	National	UK	Other ecological assessments	Other	004
11	A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services ²⁴)	Regional	Europe	Ecosystem assessment	-	205
12	Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England	Sub-national	England	Ecosystem assessment	-	028
13	Using Science to Create a Better Place - Ecosystem Service Case Studies.	Set of sites	England	Ecosystem assessment	-	006
14	The Mayes Brook Restoration in Mayesbrook Park, East London: an Ecosystem Services Assessment	Single site	England	Ecosystem assessment	-	009

3.2.2 Compiling information on assessments to add to the Catalogue

A Microsoft Word template of the Catalogue's assessment profile page was populated as far as possible using relevant online material for each assessment. These profiles were sent to the associated Project Coordinator for review and further input. Responses were received from all 14 Project Coordinators.

3.2.3 Adding assessments to the Catalogue

The 14 assessment profiles have been added to the Catalogue and a copy of each assessment profile is included in **Appendix 3**.

3.3 Objective 3: Critical review of the Catalogue

3.3.1 Survey 1: Usability of the Catalogue and usefulness of the content

Thirty-three responses to Survey 1 on the usability of the Catalogue and usefulness of the content have been received. The majority of the respondents were researchers (73%), with government the next most numerous sector (18%). One individual from business, one from a NGO and one from an intergovernmental organisation also responded. Almost 80% of respondents worked on biodiversity or ecosystem services, with 55% of respondents working in both areas. Fifty-two percent of all respondents worked in ecosystem

²⁴ The PRESS initiative is the Partnership for European Environmental Research's (PEER) Research on EcoSystem Services.

assessment. For over half the respondents this survey request was the first they had heard that the Catalogue existed. However a quarter of respondents had been made aware of the Catalogue through an IPBES communication, such as an email or via the IPBES website. The remaining respondents had heard about the Catalogue via colleagues, a search engine, the Ecosystem Services Partnership, the SGA Network or through links with the UK NEA. Twenty-three percent of respondents visit the site occasionally (weekly, monthly, or less than once a month) but for the majority of this group of individuals it was their first visit.

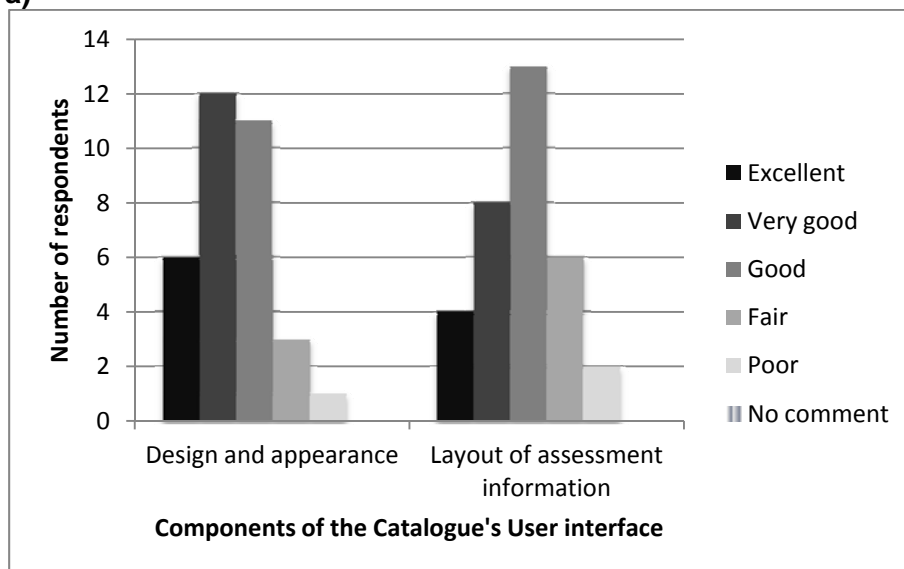
On the whole feedback on the Catalogue was positive with all respondents (n=27) agreeing that 'the Catalogue was useful to their work'. Several respondents commented that the Catalogue's existence was of great value, as was its role as a single repository of a huge amount of dispersed information on assessments internationally. However, respondents also noted that certain assessment profiles were not as complete as others and recommended that more work was needed to strengthen the resource as a whole. In addition, there appeared to be significant gaps in the coverage of assessments in some regions e.g. Mediterranean.

An overview of the feedback received on the Catalogue's User interface, Functionality and Relevance of content is described below²⁵.

i) User interface

Respondents were asked to rate their opinion of four components which contribute to the Catalogue's 'User interface'. Overall respondents gave positive feedback on the Catalogue's User interface as 81% of ratings (n=126)²⁶ ranged from 'good' to 'excellent' (Figure 1). 'Design and appearance' received the highest proportion (88%, n=33) of 'good' to 'excellent' scores and 'Quality of the instructions to assist the user' the lowest proportion (68%, n=28). In addition to the positive comments received all four components of the User interface received comments on how they could be improved further. These comments are outlined below.

a)



²⁵ Detailed responses can be provided on request.

²⁶ Excludes 'no comment' category.

b)

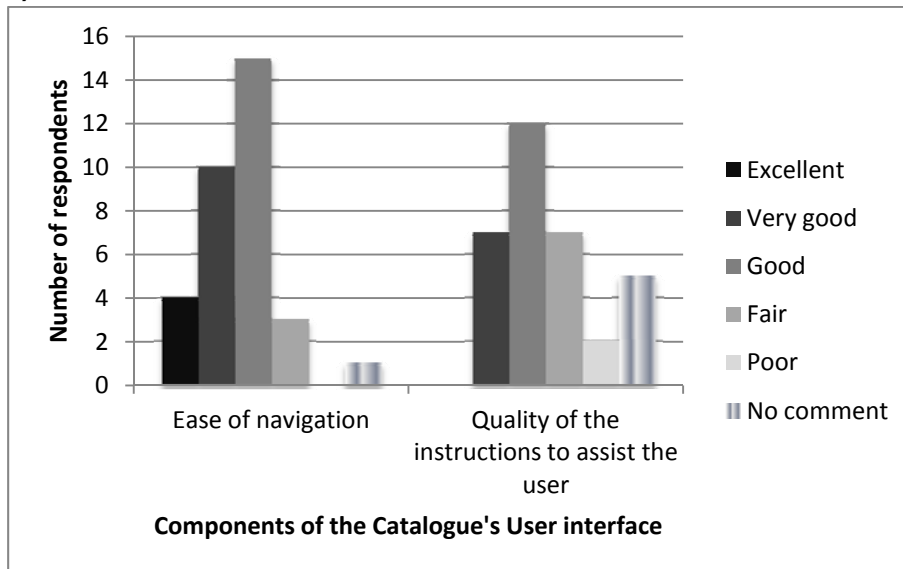


Figure 1. a,b. Ratings given to components of the Catalogue's User interface.

One suggestion to improve the 'Design and Appearance' would be to have just the map on the Home page, with basic information on countries with assessments such as the number of assessments and the status of those assessments (complete, ongoing etc.). Another respondent commented that some of the section/sub-section titles were too long.

'Layout of assessment information' could be improved by reducing the amount of scrolling that is required to scan an assessment. One suggestion received for how to implement this on an assessment profile page would be to show the section and sub-section titles but hide the content. The content could appear by clicking on a section/sub-section title. Sections/sub-sections that contain no information could be a different colour and have inactive titles if they are clicked on.

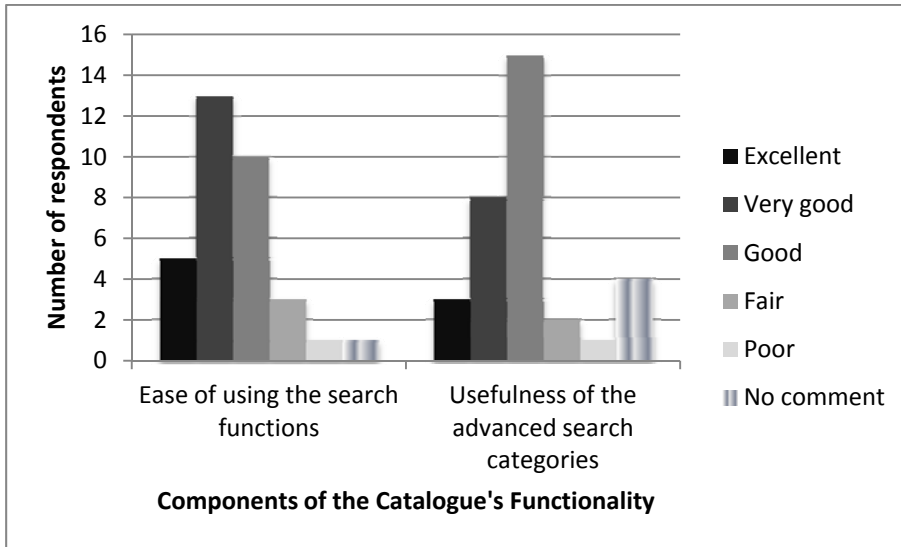
Comments relating to 'Ease of navigation' of the map will be discussed under section ii) on Functionality.

Despite scoring the lowest proportion of 'good' to 'excellent' ratings', 'Quality of the instructions to assist the user' received only one comment, which was that at present the instructions were sufficient but may need to be revisited in the future if the Catalogue is developed further with more complicated features.

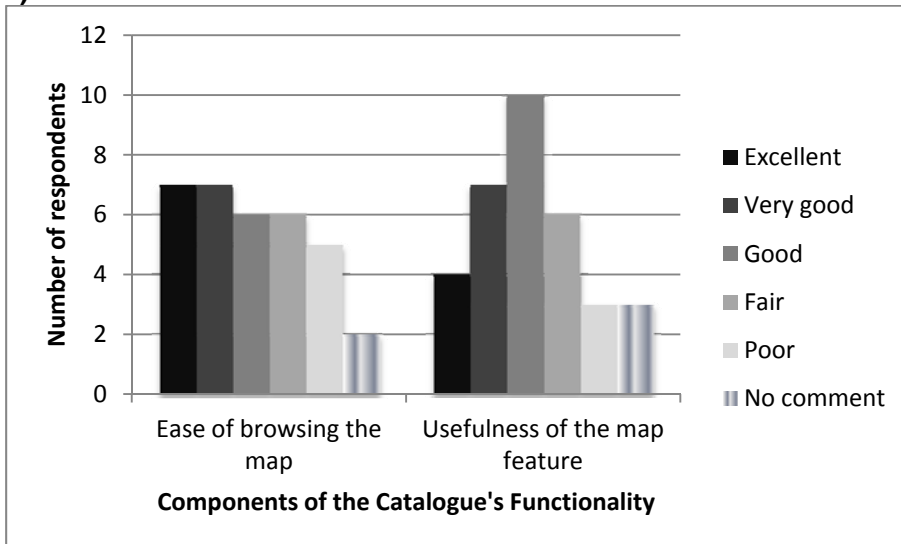
ii) Functionality

Respondents were asked to rate their opinion of six components of the Catalogue's Functionality. Feedback received on the Functionality of the Catalogue varied between the components (**Figure 2**). 'Usefulness of the advanced search categories' received the highest proportion (90%, n=29) of 'good' to 'excellent' ratings, followed by 'Ease of using the search functions' (88%, n=32). The two components which received the lowest proportion of 'good' to 'excellent' ratings were 'Usefulness of the 'download to Excel' function' (60%, n=25) and 'Ease of browsing the map' (65%, n=31).

a)



b)



c)

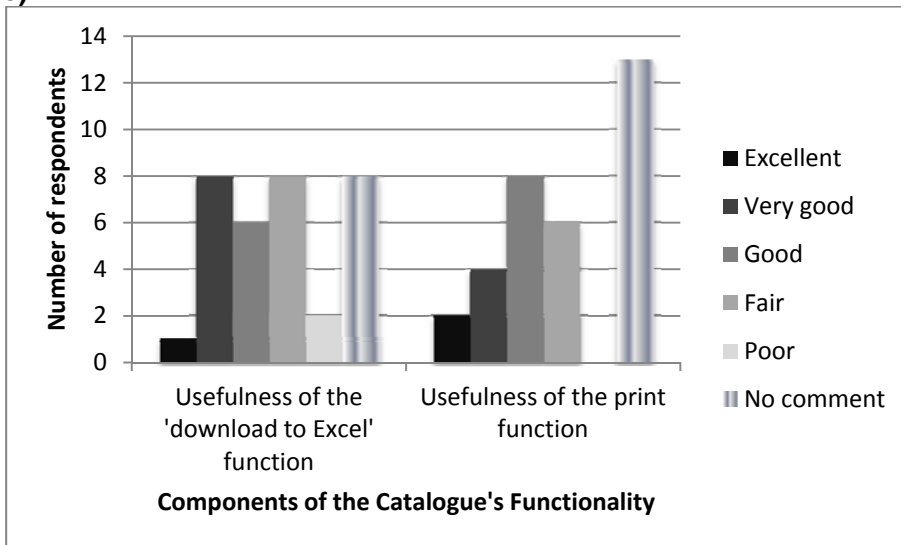


Figure 2. a,b,c. Ratings given to components of the Catalogue's Functionality.

The **search functionality**, consisting of the basic and advanced search features, received some positive feedback but also a number of suggestions of where improvements could be made.

Several comments relate to increasing the clarity of the searching process. For example, it was suggested that the search term typed into the basic search field should also be displayed as the first field of the advanced search to make users aware that if filters are selected under the advanced search the results will be based on both search fields, not just the advanced search fields. Similar to how Google search works, suggestions of the available keywords should be displayed when a user types in the basic search field and also display suggestions for similarly written terms. Due to the high resolution of the Home page (i.e. the map takes up most of the screen) the number of hits (i.e. assessments) should be displayed on the upper part of the screen when using the basic search because the zero hit message "Sorry, no assessments match the search" can be easily overlooked if a user does not scroll down the page. Another respondent commented that as a first time user it was not obvious what sorts of information you can search under and suggested that a help box explaining what criteria are searchable would be useful.

The sophistication of the search function as a whole could be improved. For example, searching for 'Georgia' pulls up a Canadian assessment which includes 'Strait of Georgia' in one of the references but is of no relevance to Georgia the country. It was also suggested that the addition of 'country or region' as a drop down menu in the advanced search feature would be beneficial. The presence of an advanced search option within an assessment profile would also be useful in order to drill down into the detail further.

The **mapping function** was considered to be useful but comments indicate that this feature would benefit from further development both to streamline the process of browsing assessments using the map and to address some of the challenges of mapping different assessment scales and systems. Suggestions for clarifying the process of moving between the browse the map and text search functions included combining or placing next to the 'Return to text search' button the 'Clear country selection' button. The addition of a 'Back to overview of search results' button could also be useful to easily return to the full suite of assessments. It was suggested that after a text search the map limits should zoom out so that all markers are displayed. The position and function of the zoom button could be reconsidered as several respondents were not aware that the map had a zoom button.

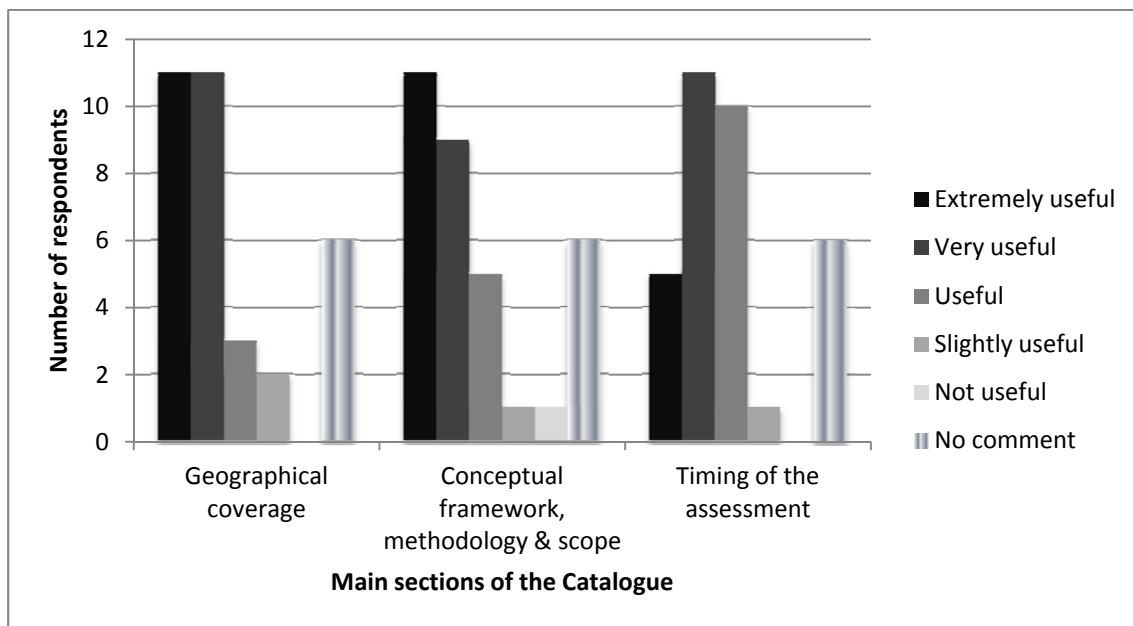
Suggestions for the development of new mapping functionality were also made. For example, assessment results could be filtered by indicating an area of interest by 'drawing' around an area on the map. More sophisticated marking of marine assessments, i.e. in the actual marine area rather than in the country that is preparing the assessment would be helpful. A better indication of the approximate area assessed within an assessment (e.g. using coloured fields once the mouse is pointing at one of the markers) would assist users to determine if the area accessed is of interest. Greater precision in the location of markers indicating sub-national assessments (e.g. which assess regions within countries) would be beneficial, instead of using the country's capital.

Feedback was received on the usefulness of being able to **export the information** from the Catalogue into a spreadsheet. The 'download to Excel' function could be further improved if the file was downloaded to the hard drive rather than opening in a new browser window and by creating a file that is easier to sort and interrogate. One respondent queried the usefulness of the information being displayed in Excel and suggested that a text file might be more suitable. Ninety-three percent of respondents (n=29) agreed that it be useful to be able to download a sub-set of assessments which met chosen search criteria. At present the download function only allows the full suite of assessments in the Catalogue or individual assessments to be downloaded to Excel.

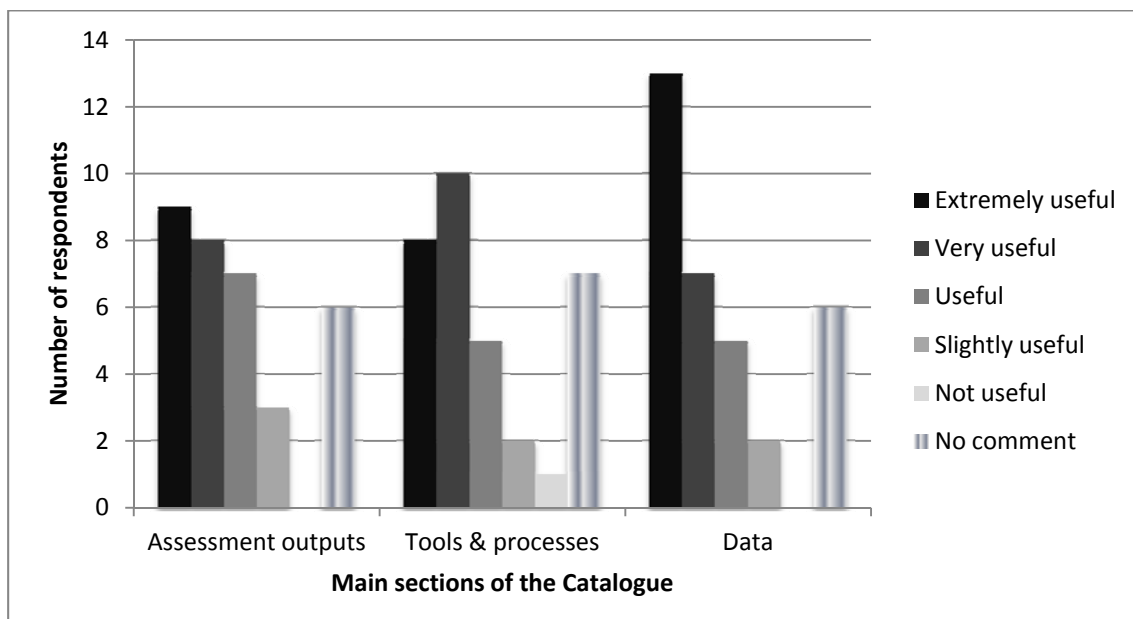
iii) Relevance of the content

Respondents were also asked to rate how relevant the nine main sections of the Catalogue were to their work. Respondents considered the content of the Catalogue to be relevant to their work, with all nine key sections of an assessment's profile receiving at least 88% of the ratings as 'useful' to 'extremely useful' (**Figure 3**). *Knowledge generation* (100%; n=27), *Timing of the assessment* (96%; n=27) and *Capacity building* (96%; n=27) received the highest proportion of 'useful' to 'extremely useful' ratings. *Tools and processes*, *Assessment outputs* and *Policy impact* were considered to be slightly less useful by this group of respondents with the proportion of 'useful' to 'extremely useful' scores at 88% (n=26), 89% (n=27) and 89% (n=27) respectively. The section that received the highest number of 'extremely useful' scores was *Data*, closely followed by *Geographical coverage* and *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope*. These sections are consistent with the nature of most of the respondents work in primary research.

a)



b)



c)

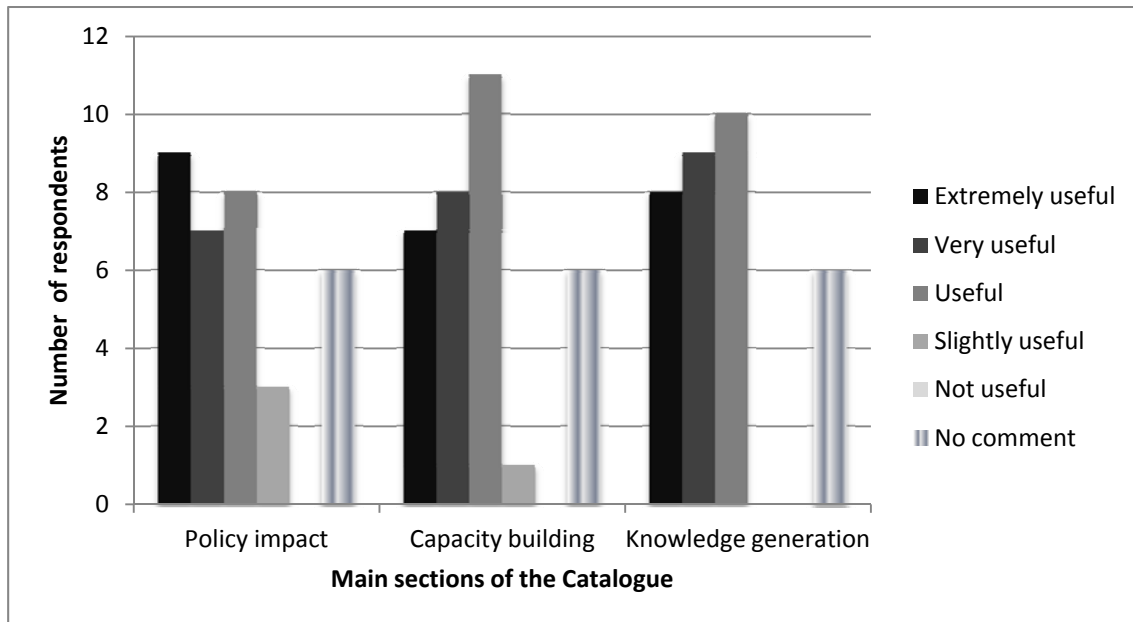


Figure 3. a,b,c. Ratings given to the relevance of the content of the nine main sections of the Catalogue.

Respondents were asked how they would use or are using the Catalogue in their work. Responses included:

- to use the information to design expeditions and research projects;
- to get contextual background information for scientific papers and for writing reports;
- for management of land and capacity building activities;
- to inform and guide ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation decision-making processes;
- for rapid risk assessment of alien invasive species;
- to keep up-to-date with the assessment landscape;
- to get an idea of the role of biodiversity from an ecological perspective;
- to get a broad overview of work in a country/region/ecosystem/vegetation type and to determine the scope of the study before looking at specific websites or reports for more details;
- to ensure the methods they are using are common to other studies to enable comparisons;
- to get context in other countries and determine what was/is the process to make their work relevant to policy makers (e.g. it is a science 'push' or a policy 'pull');
- to identify gaps to address in future research e.g. locations that lack assessments or lack 'recent' assessments;
- to identify communication issues with stakeholders and society; and
- to find relevant tools used to provide frameworks/guidelines to perform other assessments.

Respondents were asked **whether the main sections of the Catalogue sufficiently capture information** on a) ecosystem assessments and b) biodiversity assessments. Seventy-eight percent of the respondents (n=27) agreed that the main sections are sufficient for ecosystem assessments. However, the main sections of the Catalogue are considered

to be less adequate for biodiversity assessments as only 64% of respondents answered positively (n=28).

Some of the suggestions made for additional information that would be useful to capture were repeated for both types of assessments. For example, more information on metadata, more of a synthesis of the findings/results and greater detail on the indicators used.

Additional information from ecosystem assessments which would be useful if included are: a) more detail on the methodologies used; b) an additional sub-section to capture the major focus of the assessment (e.g. biophysical, socio-economics, valuation etc.); and c) how to handle provisioning of mineral resources. One respondent suggested that inclusion of a summary table would help to show straight away gaps and which services are generally well covered. The summary table could be presented as a matrix with geographical scale as rows and services assessed as columns, with a cross at each intersection. However, one problem to overcome is that some assessments are classified as multiple scale assessments which could misrepresent the true coverage of assessments across the scales.

Respondents suggested that information on biodiversity does need to be made more salient. This could be done through some specific species-focussed sub-sections which would then be reflected in the search functionality of the Catalogue. For example, in order to get an overview of sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Species group accessed* this should not be all free text but have a drop-down menu of certain categories of biota and be included in the advance search. An improved search facility for species names or groups of species (e.g. Mammals or *Orchidiaceae*) embedded within an assessment would be useful. Inclusion of data on species / population trends and habitat extent / status and greater detail on how the role of biodiversity has been considered in ecosystems assessments were also suggested.

Additional feedback received on how the Catalogue could be made more relevant to users included more comprehensive information on the sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Systems assessed*, which could then be drilled down (e.g. to identify assessments which have covered deep-sea habitats not just those which have looked at marine systems). This could be captured by adding a free text field. Another suggestion was the ability to quickly differentiate which assessments are 'policy-driven' or 'research-driven' via the advanced search feature. One respondent commented that adding a 'local' category between 'Sub-National' and 'Set of sites' in the sub-section *Geographical coverage: Geographical scale of the assessment* would include efforts done by local authorities (e.g. municipalities) in the whole of their administrative local unit. Determining a way to highlight areas that are under-represented to get an idea of what needs to be done in those areas and the ability to visualize or export a map of the area for each assessment were also suggested.

A few respondents noted the absence of a key contact for each of the assessments. Information on an individual, their institution and their contact details are stored in the database but is not made public. Respondents suggested that it would be useful to have a contact point from the institution(s) involved in the preparation of each assessment that would be willing to provide more information if approached. In addition, information on who commissioned the report would also be helpful.

Several respondents gave suggestions **for how information on the About the Catalogue page²⁷ could be enhanced further**. These included: a) adding more detail on the mandate and objective of the Catalogue or adding a short, attractive purpose statement to help users who get there cold; b) to make it clearer that relevant assessments not currently listed can be added by the Project Coordinator, to encourage more data to be added; c) adding

²⁷ <http://ipbes.unepwcmc-004.vm.brightbox.net/about>

information on what is searchable, the general scope of information and its limitations, and generalities on information gathered; and d) adding some personal information (e.g. quotes from individuals who have added assessments or are using the information) to show that the Catalogue can be useful for people working on the ground. One respondent commented that the main sections of the Catalogue are informative and correspond well with the mandate of the IPBES. However, the respondent also struggled to understand how practitioners of ecosystem assessments could use the Catalogue and for what purpose. Therefore guidance on how the outputs could be used and an indication of who may be interested in the information would be helpful for users of the Catalogue. The respondent from business suggested that information on the relevance of the assessments to different business sectors would be useful. A further suggestion was to refer to other similar initiatives such as Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE)²⁸.

One of the respondents had experience of **adding an assessment** to the Catalogue and commented that there was no simple way, on the assessment editing page, to select a large number of countries when entering a global or near global assessment.

3.3.2 Survey 2: Inputting and editing content

Three WCMC staff completed Survey 2 after they had added the new assessments to the Catalogue. The responses on the User interface and ease of Adding new content were compiled and are described below²⁹.

i) User interface

Respondents were asked to rate their opinion of three components which contribute to the Catalogue's User interface (Table 2). On the whole, feedback on the User interface was positive, with 'Design and appearance' receiving the highest ratings (from 'very good' to 'excellent'), and 'Ease of navigation' was considered to be 'good' or 'excellent'. However feedback on the 'Layout of assessment information' was more varied, ranging from 'fair' through to 'excellent'.

Table 2. Total number of votes in each category rating the components of the Catalogue's User interface.

Components of the Catalogue's User interface	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
Design and appearance	2	1				
Ease of navigation	1		2			
Layout of assessment information	1	1		1		

ii) Adding new content

Respondents were also asked to rate their experience of adding new assessments to the Catalogue. This experience was divided into 12 components (Table 3). Feedback was generally positive although some components were rated as 'fair' and one as 'poor' (see further detail below).

Feedback on the **initial steps of adding a new assessment** was varied. Two respondents gave 'Ease of finding information on how to add a new assessment' the highest ratings (from

²⁸ <http://biodiversity.europa.eu/>

²⁹ Detailed responses can be provided on request.

'very good' to 'excellent') however the third respondent rated this as 'fair' and commented that it may be easier if there was a 'new assessment' button on the Home page rather than hidden under a drop down menu tab at the top of the page. One argument is that the title of the menu tab in question – 'Login to add/edit data' – does imply it is related to adding new assessments. The respondents rated 'Ease of the registration process' as 'good' or 'very good', while ratings from 'good' to 'excellent' were received in relation to 'Ease of adding a new assessment profile' (Table 3).

On the whole feedback on **adding and formatting content and uploading files** was very positive. Ratings of the 'Clarity of each sub-section title in terms of understanding how to answer each section' ranged from 'good' to 'excellent'. One suggestion was to add an additional response option of 'not relevant' to some sub-sections of the Catalogue to avoid the appearance of the default message ('No information added') so that it doesn't look like information is missing. Another suggestion was that the option 'Economic valuation' under sub-section *Tools and processes: Tools and approaches used in the assessment* should be named as 'Economic (monetary) valuation'. However this could have implications for other assessments in the Catalogue so careful consideration is called for before any action is taken to alter this feature.

The highest ratings (from 'very good' to 'excellent') were given to 'Ease of adding text to a field' and 'Ease of understanding the possible responses to the multiple choice questions'. The latter component received a number of comments on responding to questions. For example, one respondent suggested that the addition of comment boxes to sub-sections which have a yes/no/unknown response³⁰ to allow further explanation could be helpful. Another respondent observed that currently the sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment* allows the editor to select only one response option from a short list. It was suggested that being able to select multiple options would be useful; this is particularly relevant in assessments that consider more than one conceptual framework³¹. A further comment asked for guidance on how to record wild species diversity or biodiversity as an ecosystem service under the sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Ecosystem services/functions assessed* as currently neither is listed as possible responses in the list of ecosystem services. All three respondents rated their experience of uploading files ('Ease of adding or removing an answer, document or reference') as 'very good'.

Two programming bugs relating to adding content were identified. The default list of countries under the sub-section *Geographical coverage: Country or countries covered* does not appear in alphabetical order. A related point for consideration was that although the United Kingdom appears in the list of countries the four nations that make up the United Kingdom are not listed, hence all new assessments have had to be added as United Kingdom assessments. Where necessary specific countries have been noted in the additional information sub-section of *Geographical coverage*.

The 'Usefulness of the overview table'³², in the editing page received the highest ratings (from 'very good' to 'excellent'). However one respondent observed that the overview table does not seem to function consistently in terms of which sections are green, which does

³⁰ This suggestion relates to the following sub-sections: *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Drivers of change in systems and services, Impacts of change in services on human well-being, Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed, Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment, Tools and processes: Assessment reports peer reviewed, and Policy impact: Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment*.

³¹ For example, 'A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe - The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services)'.

³² The overview table in the editing page of the Catalogue lists the 12 main sections of the assessment profile (see Section 3.2.2) and colours a section green if it is complete i.e. the section contains content.

confuse the editor. It is recommended that the programming of the overview table feature is reviewed.

Feedback on the 'Clarity of the formatting instructions)' was also divided with two respondents rating the instructions as 'excellent' while one respondent rated it as 'poor', commenting that it took a substantial amount of time to format the bullet points correctly. A related component, 'Usefulness of error messages', received no rating or comments, which may be because respondents did not see an error message during the process of adding assessments.

The **final steps of adding a new assessment** received very positive feedback with nearly all 'Excellent' ratings for 'Clarity of how to save a new assessment profile' and 'Clarity of how to publish a new assessment profile'. The former component did receive one 'poor' rating and the associated comment explained that as an editor (i.e. registered user) there was no guidance on how to return to an assessment that had been added to the Catalogue but not published. It was necessary to log in, in order to see the full list of assessments (i.e. published and unpublished) displayed in the main table of the Catalogue. In addition there was no warning that the search and advanced search functions do not pick up unpublished assessments, whether logged in or not. Therefore editors may try and resubmit an assessment thinking it has not been saved which would result in duplicate copies. Another respondent commented that there had been a delay of several minutes after clicking save and suggested that a holding screen should be added to indicate to the editor that information is being uploaded.

Three additional programming bugs have been observed when viewing assessments. For example, if text is added to a field but a document is not uploaded '/files/original/missing.png' appears on the assessment page. In other cases if text is added but a document is not uploaded the 'No information added' message still appears on the assessment page. One respondent experienced duplicate entries when viewing an assessment after a reference was added.

Table 3. Total number of votes in each category rating the components of adding a new assessment to the Catalogue.

Components of adding a new assessment to the Catalogue	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
Initial steps of adding a new assessment						
Ease of finding information on how to add a new assessment	1	1		1		
Ease of the registration process		2	1			
Ease of adding a new assessment profile	1	1	1			
Adding and formatting content and uploading files						
Clarity of each sub-section title in terms of understanding how to answer each section	1	1	1			
Ease of adding text to a field	1	2				
Ease of understanding the possible responses to the multiple choice questions		2	1			
Ease of adding or removing an answer, document or reference		3				
Usefulness of the overview table	1	2				
Clarity of the formatting instructions	2			1		
Usefulness of error messages						3
Final steps of adding a new assessment						
Clarity of how to save a new assessment profile	2				1	
Clarity of how to publish a new assessment profile	3					

4 Critical review of the Catalogue

To assist JNCC in determining which advice is passed on to the IPBES Interim Secretariat, the feedback received on the form, function and practical application of the Catalogue is summarised below. This feedback is divided into three groups: a) suggestions for improving the usability of the Catalogue; b) suggestions for improving the practical application of the Catalogue; and c) identification of programming bugs.

4.1 Improving the usability of the Catalogue

4.1.1 Form

- Consider reducing the amount of scrolling that is required to scan an assessment. One option suggested would be to show the section and sub-section titles but hide the content on an assessment profile page. The content could appear by clicking on a section/sub-section title. Sections/sub-sections that contain no information could be in a different colour and have inactive titles if clicked on.
- Consider having just the map on the Home page, with basic information on countries with assessments e.g. number of and status of assessments (complete, on-going).
- Reconsider the length of some of the section/sub-section titles.
- If the Catalogue is developed further with more complicated features it may be necessary to revisit the instructions for users.

4.1.2 Function: for general users

i) Improving searching of assessments

- Consider implementing various changes to the basic and advanced search fields:
 - The search term inserted into the basic search field should also be displayed as the first field of the advanced search to make users aware that if filters are selected under the advanced search the results will be based on both search fields, not just the advance search fields.
 - Similar to how Google search works, suggestions of the available keywords should be displayed when a user types in the basic search field and also display suggestions for similarly written terms.
 - Due to the high resolution of the Home page (i.e. the map takes up almost the screen) the number of hits (i.e. assessments) should be displayed on the upper part of the screen when using the basic search because the zero hit message "Sorry, no assessments match the search" can be easily overlooked if the user does not scroll down the page.
 - Consider adding information on what sorts of information can be searched, possibly using a help box to assist a first time user.
- Consider increasing the sophistication of the search function (e.g. searching for 'Georgia' pulls up a Canadian assessment which includes 'Strait of Georgia' in one of the references but is of no relevance to Georgia the country).

ii) Improving browsing of assessments using the map

- Consider clarifying the process for moving between the browse the map and text search functions by:
 - Combining or placing next to the 'Return to text search' button the 'Clear country selection' button.
 - Simplify the steps to return to the full suite of assessments by adding a 'Back to overview of search results' button.

- Review the functionality and location of the zoom button on the map to make it easier to find and use and after a text search ensure the map limits always zoom out so that all markers are displayed.
- Consider further development of the map functionality, for example:
 - Greater sophistication of how markers of marine assessments are displayed, ideally in the marine area instead of in the country which prepared the assessment.
 - Indication of the approximate area assessed within an assessment (e.g. using coloured fields once the mouse is pointing at one of the markers) would help users determine if the area accessed is of interest.
 - More precise location of markers where assessments are in regions within countries instead of using the country's capital.
 - Assessment results could be filtered by indicating an area of interest by 'drawing' around an area on the map.

iii) Improving how assessment information is exported

- Review the 'download to Excel' function to create a file that is easier to sort and interrogate e.g. consider if a text file may be of greater use to some users based on the data that is in the Catalogue.
- Consider increasing the functionality by being able to download a sub-set of assessments which meet chosen search criteria (in addition to all assessments or one assessment).
- Consider programming the Excel file to download to the hard drive instead of opening in a new browser.

4.1.3 Function: for editors³³

i) Providing guidance for editors

- On how to return to an assessment that has been added to the Catalogue but not published.
- Include a warning that the search and advanced search functions do not pick up unpublished assessments, whether logged in or not, so this feature should not be used to filter the full list of assessments.
- On how to record wild species diversity or biodiversity as an ecosystem service under the sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Ecosystem services/functions assessed*. At present it is not clear as neither is listed as possible responses in the list of ecosystem services.

ii) Improving editing of an assessment

- Consider increasing the visibility of how to add a new assessment. For example, create a 'new assessment' button on the Home page rather than its current location which is hidden under a drop down menu tab at the top of the page.
- Consider adding comment boxes to sub-sections which have a yes/no/unknown response to allow further explanation.
- Enable the option to select more than one response option under the sub-section *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment*.
- Enable an option to select a large number of countries when entering a global or near global assessment.
- Consider adding a 'holding screen' after an editor has clicked save to indicate that the assessment information is being uploaded if the page does not save and refresh instantly.

³³ Registered users of the Catalogue

4.2 Improving the practical application of the Catalogue

- Encourage assessment coordinators to complete any missing information in assessments already in the Catalogue.
- Some sub-sections of the Catalogue may benefit from the addition of a 'not relevant' response option to avoid the appearance of the default message ('No information added') which implies that the information is missing.
- Under sub-section *Tools and processes: Tools and approaches used in the assessment* consider renaming the response option 'Economic valuation' as 'Economic (monetary) valuation'. However, it is recommended that advice is sought from an economist before taking further action in case there are implications for other assessments in the Catalogue.

4.2.1 Additional content: about the Catalogue

- Clarify that Project Coordinators of relevant assessments that are absent from the Catalogue are welcome to add these.
- Consider adding:
 - more detail on the mandate and objective of the Catalogue or adding a short, attractive purpose statement to help users who get there cold;
 - information on what is searchable, the general scope of information and its limitations, and generalities on information gathered;
 - guidance on the scope of assessments that should be included in the Catalogue;
 - some personal information (e.g. quotes from individuals who have added assessments or are using the information) to show that the Catalogue can be useful for people working on the ground;
 - guidance on how the outputs may be used and an indication of who may be interested in the information in the Catalogue;
 - information on the relevance of the assessments to different business sectors
 - a reference to other similar initiatives such as Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE)³⁴;
- Addition of a 'Frequently Asked Questions' section to the Catalogue could be one approach to address some of the comments in Section 4.2.1.

4.2.2 Additional content: more detailed information

- Consider making the contact point from the institution(s) involved in the preparation of each assessment report publically available and check if they would be willing to provide more information if approached.
- Consider including information on who commissioned the report.
- Consider adding an advanced search option within an assessment profile to drill down into the detail further.
- Consider adding a 'country or region' filter to the advanced search.
- Consider adding a tick box field to capture which assessments are 'policy-driven' or 'research-driven'. Plus, add a filter or tick box in the advanced search feature.
- Consider adding a 'local' category between 'Sub-National' and 'Set of sites' under *Geographical coverage: Geographical scale of the assessment* to include efforts done by local authorities (e.g. municipalities) in the whole of their administrative local unit.
- Consider adding a sub-section to capture the major focus of the assessment (e.g. biophysical, socio-economics, valuation etc.)
- Consider adding guidance of how to handle provisioning of mineral resources.

³⁴ <http://biodiversity.europa.eu/>

- Consider adding additional sub-sections (possibly free text) to enable more information on:
 - synthesis of the findings or key messages;
 - methodology used;
 - metadata;
 - indicators used; and
 - how the role of biodiversity has been considered in ecosystems assessments.
- Review how information within biodiversity assessments could be better captured in the Catalogue, for example:
 - Improve the search functionality for species names or groups of species (e.g. Mammals or *Orchidiaceae*) embedded within an assessment.
 - Add another level of complexity within *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: System(s) assessed* to record habitat information (e.g. deep-sea habitats) which could be searchable.
 - Redesign the free text field under *Conceptual framework, methodology and scope: Species group accessed* to have a drop-down menu of certain categories of biota. Include this as a filter in the advance search.
 - Add sub-sections to allow data on species/population trends and habitat extent/status to be entered.
- Consider adding a summary table to help show gaps and which services are generally well covered. The summary table could be presented as a matrix with geographical scale as rows and services assessed as columns, with a cross at each intersection.
- Consider developing a way to highlight areas that are under-represented to get an idea of what needs to be done in those areas and to visualize or export a map of the area for each assessment.

4.3 Identification of programming bugs

4.3.1 Editing an assessment

- Duplicate entries appeared when a reference was added (Chrome internet browser).
- The overview table does not seem to function consistently in terms of which sections are green, which does confuse the editor. It is recommended that the programming of the overview table feature is reviewed.
- Under the sub-section *Geographical coverage: Country or countries covered* the drop down list of countries does not appear in alphabetical order (Chrome and Internet Explorer browsers).
- Under the sub-section *Geographical coverage: Country or countries covered* the United Kingdom appears in the default list of countries but the four nations that make up the United Kingdom are not listed, hence all new assessments have had to be added as United Kingdom assessments.

4.3.2 Viewing an assessment

- If text is added to certain fields in the editing page but a file is not uploaded (e.g. a journal paper reference is added but the actual journal paper is not) erroneous text appears on the assessment page (/files/original/missing.png). In other fields if text is added but a file is not uploaded the 'No information added' message still appears on the assessment page.
- Zoom button on the map does not appear complete (Internet Explorer and Firefox).
- A search for 'New Zealand' results in one assessment, if a user clicks on browse map, the search displays all markers and not just one marker (Firefox).

5 Conclusions

This project highlighted the wide range of assessment work relating to ecosystem services and biodiversity that is being undertaken at the UK and country levels. However, it is evident that the same intensity of assessment work has not been undertaken in the UKOTs and Crown Dependencies. Regardless, the Catalogue could prove a useful resource for the UK, UKOTs and Crown Dependencies for helping to plan future assessment work. It is hoped that the additional assessments which have been added to the Catalogue as a result of this project will be of interest to, as well as of use to, a global audience of assessment practitioners in addition to showcasing the breadth of the UK/UKOTs assessment portfolio.

The critical review of the Catalogue by new and current users, in terms of its form, function and practical application, has resulted in some valuable suggestions on how to improve the Catalogue further to better meet users' needs. Several respondents commented that the Catalogue's existence was of great value, as was its role as a single repository of a huge amount of dispersed information on assessments internationally. Therefore, further work to complete assessment profiles and add assessments in under-represented regions to strengthen the resource as a whole would be valuable.

The form and functionality of the Catalogue generally received positive feedback, with several respondents commenting that the simplicity of its layout and ability to search on different topics were the Catalogue's best feature. However, a number of adjustments to the basic and advanced search fields and download feature would be beneficial. In addition, more sophisticated mapping functionality would be advantageous, particularly in regards to marine and sub-national assessments.

The content of the Catalogue was considered to be highly relevant to the work of the respondents, who are mainly in primary research, with a wide range of examples of how they would use the information indicated. However, improvements could be made to capture information from biodiversity assessments more effectively by increasing the amount of detail that can be added to the biodiversity-related sub-sections (e.g. species groups and systems assessed) and enhancing search functionality in these areas.

In regards to other feedback relating to practical application of the Catalogue's information, two overarching themes can be identified. The first is a request for more information and guidance on the Catalogue both for potential users of the content and users wishing to add new assessments. Examples include what information is in the Catalogue, what assessments should be in the Catalogue, who may be interested in the information in the Catalogue and how to navigate to unpublished assessments. The second theme is to increase the level of detail of some of the technical information in the Catalogue. Suggestions include adding extra comment boxes to explain a multi choice answer or the addition of completely new sub-sections to capture more detail on certain topics (e.g. indicators, key messages, policy-driven vs. research-driven assessments), which can then be reflected in the search functionality.

These comments will be considered by JNCC who will determine which advice is passed on to the IPBES Interim Secretariat, to inform the on-going development of the Catalogue.

6 References

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7 Appendices

Appendix 1: Results of the online search for relevant assessments to be considered for inclusion in Catalogue.

Table A1.1 Summary of the 71 relevant assessments identified during the online search, divided into Part A) national to global assessments and Part B) sub-national assessments. Gray shaded assessments represent the 14 shortlisted assessments that have been entered into the Catalogue.

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
Part A: National to Global assessments									
043	National	Ecosystem assessment		Economic valuation of uplands ecosystem services	The scope of this research is to examine the use of economic valuation techniques for valuing the ecosystem service changes due to upland management interventions and policies at a wide range of scales. The research aims to develop a methodology and to test its applicability to a number of management changes at a range of scales. The results will lead to recommendations about where and how to apply economic valuation techniques for uplands ecosystem services, and point to where further research is most needed.	2009	England	Terrestrial	High
109	National	Ecosystem assessment		Environmental Valuation: Tools and Capacity-Building for Integration in Policy, Bermuda	The study aims to address the lack of environmental consideration in current policy and decision-making for the marine environment, by providing a means of recognizing the value of the range of ecosystem services provided by Bermuda's coral reefs.	2010	Bermuda	Marine	Medium
101	National	Ecosystem assessment		Building a Foundation for Anguilla's Wetland Future	The purpose of this project is to build an information and capacity base for Anguilla's Globally Important wetlands by: the publication of a wetland inventory; the development of a National Wetland	2012	Anguilla	Freshwater	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					Conservation Plan; the revision of Important Bird Area designations and submission of sites for Ramsar designation; the enhancement of local capacity (knowledge resources, skill development and institutional strengthening).				
033	National	Biodiversity assessment		UK Biodiversity Indicators 2012	The UK biodiversity indicators were comprehensively reviewed during 2011 and 2012 to ensure they continue to be based on the most robust and reliable available data; and remain relevant to the new international goals and targets. This document sets out the current set of indicators, which now totals 24 (expanded from 18). The UK biodiversity indicators will form a major part of the UK's 5th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2014 but will be supplemented with other information relating to UK biodiversity and implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020.	2012	UK	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	High
025	National	Biodiversity assessment		A Strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services Biodiversity 2020 Indicators: 2012 Assessment	In 2011, the Government published Biodiversity 2020: a strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services. It included plans to develop and publish a compact set of indicators to assess progress with delivery of the strategy. The 2011 indicator set has subsequently been reviewed, ensuring that it continues to be based on the most robust and reliable available data; and remains relevant to the new Strategy and to the new international framework of Aichi targets agreed under the CBD. This document presents the current, slightly reduced, set of 24 Biodiversity 2020 indicators.	2012	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	High

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
039	National	Biodiversity assessment		Assessment of Biodiversity Indicators in Wales Utilising Remote Sensing Data	This PhD project aims at establishing whether broad changes in landscape type and condition observed by comparing remote sensing data over a time-species indicate a loss or gain in the distribution and abundance of flora and fauna species, particularly those that are scarce, rare and/or endangered. A key component will be to develop and validate spatial models that predict the distribution of species based on environmental variables and remote sensing data and derived measures (e.g. vegetation indices) as input. This will involve, in part, establishing links between key biophysical properties of vegetation, as measured using ground-based instruments (e.g., spectral signatures obtained through field spectroradiometer measurements or structural measures generated using terrestrial laser scanners) and airborne/spaceborne remote sensing data. This study will focus on key Welsh ecosystems which support rare or endangered species but are also subject to change.	Unknown	Wales	Unknown	Low
120	National	Biodiversity assessment		Biodiversity inventory and conservation in the Falkland Islands and South Georgia	This project is a scoping visit to liaise with relevant authorities and other stakeholders in the natural resources management community in the Falkland Islands, further consolidation of links with project partner organisations, local fact-finding to inform project planning and preparation of Darwin Initiative Stage 1 proposal.	2009	Falkland Islands and South Georgia	Unknown	Low
031	National	Biodiversity assessment		Scotland's Wildlife: An assessment of biodiversity in 2010	This report provides an assessment of progress with biodiversity conservation in Scotland by 2010. The purpose of the report is three-fold: i) to provide a factual account for the evaluation of the European 2010 target to halt biodiversity loss; ii) to contribute evidence for formulating post-2010 targets; and iii) to extend knowledge of Scotland's biodiversity and how it is changing. The report draws a line under the	2010	Scotland	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					2010 target and serves as a benchmark for 2020.				
128	National	Biodiversity assessment		Mapping benthic biodiversity of the South Georgia continental shelf and slope	This project attempts to collate, check and database geo-referenced species data of marine macro and megafauna around the island of South Georgia (Southern Ocean). Biodiversity is measured in terms of 'species richness' which refers to the total number of species (of macro and megafauna) present. 'Endemic' species are referred to in the context of only occurring at South Georgia unless otherwise specified. The continental shelf is typically 0- 500m water depth and the continental slope ~500-3000m depth.	2012	South Georgia and South Sandwich	Marine	Medium
131	National	Biodiversity assessment		Mapping St Helena's marine biodiversity to create a Marine Management Plan	1. To collate existing marine biological data and maps existing information on dolphins whales. 2. To collate information regarding commercial use resources e.g. fishing and aggregation extraction. Data Management system will be created using marine recorder. 3. To collect marine benthic data including, marine fauna, flora and habitats. 4. To generate geographical information system (GIS) maps of the distribution and extent of both St Helena shallow marine resource and commercial usage of these resources. 5. To produce a list of species and habitats of high conservation importance e.g. endemics and those naturally rare. GIS maps to be produced to demonstrate extent and distribution of above. 6. To draft a monitoring and management plans (using above outputs as a basis) including the identification of current and potential future threats. 7. To	2014	St Helena	Marine	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					identify potential marine protected areas				
027	National	Biodiversity assessment		Biodiversity in Britain's planted forests	This report presents the results from the Forestry Commissions' Biodiversity Assessment Project. The objectives of the Biodiversity Assessment Project were to: i) obtain base-line information on the types/levels of biodiversity in planted forests; ii) evaluate the contribution of planted forests to the conservation of native flora and fauna through comparisons with semi-natural woodlands; and iii) identify potential biodiversity indicators by relating the diversity of range of measured taxa to soil, climate, vegetation and stand structure variables.	2003	England, Wales, Scotland	Terrestrial	Medium
038	National	Biodiversity assessment		Biodiversity Indicators for Wales	This report details the work that has been carried out to develop a set of biodiversity indicators for Wales, with specific focus on species-level biodiversity, together with recommendations.	2009	Wales	Terrestrial	Medium
002	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	Charting Progress 2: The State of the UK Seas	Charting Progress and Charting Progress 2 are assessments of the state of the UK seas. They are based on evidence collected by scientists from marine agencies, research institutes, universities, environmental organisations and industries around the UK. Charting Progress 2 provides an assessment of the productivity of UK seas; identifies the extent to which human uses and natural pressures are affecting the quality of UK seas; addresses the specific species, habitats and economic issues of the eight UK marine regions; helps show whether current environmental protection measures are working, and aims to provide policy makers, planners and the public with a clear evaluation of progress towards the UK Government and the Devolved Administration's vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas.	2010	UK, England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland	Marine	High

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
034	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of the Environment Report for Northern Ireland	This is the first assessment of the state of Northern Ireland's environment. It aims to set out baseline data to provide a future measure of the changing state of the country's environment.	2008	Northern Ireland	Terrestrial, Freshwater	High
036	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	Scotland's Seas: Towards understanding their state	A key first step to taking forward the recommendations from the Advisory Group on Marine and Coastal Strategy and the Environment and Rural Development Committee, as well as establishing a baseline against which future marine and coastal policy can be measured. It is a step towards achieving the Scottish Government's vision for seas that are "clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse" and that are "managed to meet the long term needs of nature and people".	2008	Scotland	Marine	High
035	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	Northern Ireland State of the Seas Report	The report follows on from a UK-wide report published in 2010 entitled 'Charting Progress 2 – The State of UK Seas'. The Northern Ireland State of the Seas report complements Charting Progress 2 and highlights the issues specific to Northern Ireland. This report will enable us to identify where our knowledge is good and where further work is needed to comply with the new Marine Strategy Framework Directive requirements.	2011	Northern Ireland	Marine	High
021	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of Environment Air Report	This report assesses the state of Scotland's air environment and the emissions made to it.	1999	Scotland	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Low
122	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	Assessment of changes to habitat quantity and quality of candidate Areas of Special Scientific Interest on Isle of Man in last 13-18 years.	Unknown	2012	Isle of Man		Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
018	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of the Environment of England and Wales: Fresh Waters	This report provides a detailed assessment of the state of the freshwater environment in England and Wales. It brings together and examines information on the various stresses placed upon it and the consequent state of it as looked at from different points of view. The report considers how well the freshwater environment is being managed to meet the needs of contemporary society, and outlines how well the water is being protected to meet the needs of future generations. It concludes with an overall opinion on the state of the freshwater environment, and identifies a set of priority issues that require further management action to bring about improvements.	1998	England, Wales	Freshwater	Low
040	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	The State of Scotland's Environment and Natural Heritage	In September 2001, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency held a conference to examine the present state, trends and future prospects for increasing sustainable solutions to environmental problems. This is an account of the discussions and findings.	2002	Scotland	Unknown	Low
011	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	Towards an Assessment of the State of UK Peatlands	This report therefore aims to describe the state of UK peatlands, using available information on peatland extent and location, vegetation and land cover, land use and management, and environmental pressures. It also reports, where possible, on the attributes of the peat material itself. Information on all these aspects of peatlands can be drawn from a wide range of sources, which have been gathered using different approaches and for many different purposes. In addition, the work aims to provide the context to other topics currently under consideration by the International Union for Conservation of Nature UK Peatlands Inquiry, by discussing and	2011	UK	Terrestrial	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					comparing interpretation of the concept of peatland and peatland classification schemes across the UK, and describing the extent, management, cover and condition of our peatlands.				
022	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of the Environment Wales	The State of the Environment report presents data on the indicators that monitor progress against the Welsh Government's Environment Strategy.	2012	Wales	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Medium
019	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of Ground Water in England and Wales	This report, the first on the state of groundwater, outlines the uses of groundwater as a water resource and looks at the risks to this resource from pollution and over exploitation.	2007	England, Wales	Freshwater	Medium
020	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of Scotland's Environment	This report presents information about Scotland's environment ten years after Scottish Environmental Protection Agency first reported on the state of the environment. It aims to raise awareness, to inform people of the key environmental issues and to encourage greater debate on how to progress towards a sustainable Scotland.	2006	Scotland	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Medium
010	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	State of the Natural Environment	This report presents the first comprehensive, integrated assessment of the state of England's biodiversity, geodiversity and landscapes. This report is the first in-depth compilation of the evidence on the state of, threats to, and actions taken to secure England's natural environment. It brings together the available evidence base in order to inform the integrated delivery of measures to secure our natural environment both now and for the future. The purposes of the Report are therefore: 1) to describe the current state of the natural environment, as a baseline for comparisons in the future; 2) to make this information widely available;	2008	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					and 3) to inform policy, decision makers and future research priorities.				
037	National	Other ecological assessments	State of environment	The state of the marine environment of England and Wales	This report informs the Environment Agency's Marine Strategy.	2005	England, Wales	Marine	Medium
001	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Countryside Survey	The Countryside Survey has two aims: i) to provide information to evaluate changes in the UK ; and ii) to provide the evidence base used to support the development of the countryside policy that will influence management decisions both now and in the future.	2008	UK, England, Wales, Scotland	Terrestrial, Freshwater	High
113	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Identifying important and vulnerable marine areas for conservation in British Antarctic Territory	This project aims to provide technical support and stakeholder input for the identification of important and vulnerable marine areas in waters off British Antarctic Territory. This will be a key contribution to work being undertaken by British Antarctic Survey to design networks of marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean. The establishment of marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean is a priority issue for the Antarctic Treaty System, as well as an important UK commitment under other international agreements.	2011	British Antarctic Territory	Marine	Low
106	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Marine baseline survey (including photographic sample collection)	To measure, photograph, collect and catalogue the wide diversity of marine life found on the rocky reefs fringing the island.		Ascension Islands	Marine	Low
030	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Important Plant Areas in the UK	To identify the Important Plant Areas in the UK	2007	UK	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
114	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Environmental monitoring for improved conservation management, British Indian Ocean Territory	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To measure reef recovery and mortality given effects of climate change; 2. To establish the location and extent of shoreline erosion given changing reef health and sea level rise; 3. To determine high-frequency deep and surface water temperature records to help explain item 4. Coral coring for trends and magnitude of climate change effects; 5. To carry out repeat counts of target food species given apparently ongoing poaching. 	2010	British Indian Ocean Territory	Marine	Medium
108	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Baseline marine ecosystem surveys to facilitate environmental management in Bermuda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To comprehensively assess the fore-reef habitat 2. To carry out new surveys of spatially bounded managed marine areas 3. To provide educational opportunities for Bermudian and international students. 	2011	Bermuda	Marine	Medium
134	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Monitoring seabird populations	Ongoing monitoring of Northern Rockhopper Penguins and other threatened seabirds of the Tristan group of islands in order to ensure an informed approach to their management.	2008	Tristan da Cunha	Marine	Medium
132	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	A monitoring scheme and awareness programme for seabirds and turtles at St Helena	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish information of the breeding season of the seabirds around the island, along with the population status. 2. To establish a sightings scheme for all marine life around the island, focusing mainly on the turtles. 	2006	St Helena	Marine	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
102	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Anguilla Coastal Resource Assessment, Monitoring and Management Project (ACRAMAM)	1. To remap the coastal resources; the coral reef, seagrass and underwater terrain of the nearshore waters using high-resolution satellite imagery and extensive field survey. 2. To provide training for resource assessment and monitoring protocols, and for information management. 3. To develop field monitoring guidelines for nearshore coastal resource management were developed as well as information handling protocols for inter-departmental cooperation, and 4. To install a GIS called Anguilla Coastal Resource Information System, which can organise and analyse the data collected in the field or elsewhere and assist government stakeholders make timely and more accurate decisions.	2007	Anguilla	Marine	Medium
110	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Baseline vegetation survey in the Antarctic Peninsula using hyperspectral imaging	To collect contemporaneous ground, airborne and satellite observations on vegetation type and the underlying rock.	2011	British Antarctic Territory	Terrestrial	Medium
133	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Geo-referenced baseline vegetation survey of Tristan to allow future monitoring of environmental change	A vegetation survey aimed at mapping the distribution and abundance of native and introduced plants as well as identifying important plant areas for conservation and inform priorities for conservation management. The survey covered the whole island (96 km ²) from sea level to the peak at 2060m.	2012	Tristan da Cunha	Terrestrial	Medium
129	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Identifying important and vulnerable marine areas for conservation at South Georgia	To identify important and vulnerable marine habitats at South Georgia that require conservation in order to better preserve the unique characteristics of this fragile ecosystem.	2011	South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands	Marine	Medium
017	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Northern Ireland Countryside Survey	Northern Ireland Countryside Survey (NICS) is an ongoing, sample-based, surveillance programme across Northern Ireland. It assesses the distribution and condition of land habitat types and provides reliable estimates of how land cover changes over time.	2007	Northern Ireland	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					1. Conduct basic and applied research on the structure, distribution and dynamics of habitats at the landscape-scale, through a structured sampling approach to countryside survey. In particular, it will record and report on 2. stock, condition and change of natural resources in the countryside including information on land cover and broad habitats. 3. Investigate relationships between the ecological structure and species composition of habitats, the environment and land use variables. 4. Assess change by comparison with previous surveys and improve our understanding of the processes of change in natural resources. 5. Assess policy relevance. 6. To structure data collection, collation and analysis to facilitate integration of NICS data with other data sources for further co-analysis. 7. To provide data analysis tools, access to the results, to allow a range of policy and science needs to be met. 8. To increase the knowledge and understanding of NICS and thus provide increased sustainability for NICS in the longer term.				
135	National	Other ecological assessments	Baseline survey	Terrestrial Habitat mapping	To consolidate and develop biodiversity information in a format whereby it can be fed into decision making to help ensure the sustainable management of the natural resources of the country. Detailed maps of habitat, vegetation, threatened species distribution, developed areas, protected areas and areas under pressure will be prepared and will be fed into the national GIS which is one of the tools used for decision making when environmental impact assessments are reviewed and lands/lots are allocated for development (both terrestrial and marine ecosystems).	2010	Turks and Caicos Islands	Terrestrial	Medium
012	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-	Important Fungus Areas. A provisional assessment of the	A provisional assessment of the best sites for fungi in the United Kingdom	2001	UK	Terrestrial	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
			specific assessment	best sites for fungi on the United Kingdom					
118	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Algal biodiversity of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia - project extension	To produce a comprehensive species list for the diversity of seaweed of the Falkland Islands and valuable baseline data for future monitoring and assessment.	2013	Falkland Islands, South Georgia	Marine	Low
123	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	An Assessment of the Status and Exploitation of Marine Turtles in Montserrat	To carry out the baseline survey and monitoring of marine turtles in Montserrat	2011	Montserrat	Marine	Low
126	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Algal biodiversity of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia	To produce a comprehensive species list for the diversity of seaweed of the Falkland Islands and valuable baseline data for future monitoring and assessment.	2010	South Georgia and South Sandwich	Marine	Low
115	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Red-footed booby monitoring, Little Cayman	To estimate numbers of breeding birds in Little Cayman's Red-footed Booby colony.	2011	Cayman Islands	Marine	Low
116	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Southern sea lion programme	To establish the baseline data on the critical foraging habitats and key dietary species of southern sea lions. This knowledge will provide an opportunity for the Falkland Islands Government, industry and non governmental agencies to more effectively manage current and future commercial activities which may adversely impact marine predators breeding in the Falklands	2011	Falkland Islands	Marine	Low
112	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Baselines for climate change: an Emperor penguin census in British Antarctic Territory	To determine a baseline population estimate for emperor penguins (<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>) breeding in British Antarctic Territory to enable subsequent researchers to measure the impacts of climate change on this species	2010	British Antarctic Territory	Marine	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
015	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Important Stonewort Areas. An assessment of the best areas for stoneworts in the United Kingdom (summary)	This report provides an assessment of the best places in the UK for stoneworts. It offers a comprehensive list of important sites for these fascinating algae, and prioritises those most in need of in-situ conservation action.	2004	UK	Freshwater	Low
034a	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Important Arable Plant Areas: identifying priority sites for arable plant conservation in the United Kingdom	This publication provides a brief analysis of existing data and has identified 105 sites of national and European importance. Its aim is to increase awareness about the arable landscape and to encourage field workers to identify new sites of potential value, as a first step towards securing a long term future for this threatened element of the British flora.	2005	UK	Terrestrial	Medium
104	National	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Lesser Antillean Iguana Conservation Assessment (AUSPB)	To determine the conservation status and species conservation strategy for <i>Iguana delicatissima</i> , a globally threatened species. Specifically, the assessment objectives were to: 1. Estimate the current distribution and population size of the Lesser Antillean Iguana and develop the local capacity for long-term population monitoring. 2. Study aspects of the ecology of <i>Iguana delicatissima</i> . 3. Assess the current threats endangering <i>Iguana delicatissima</i> and jointly develop a Species Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. 3. Develop a public awareness and conservation education strategy and action plan which reflects recommendations of the Species Conservation Strategy and Action Plan which will work to reduce the identified threats. 4. Identify areas where the Anguilla National Trust requires assistance to implement both the species conservation and environmental education strategies and action plans, and prepare an organisational development plan to achieve these objectives.	1998	Anguilla	Terrestrial	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
111	Sub-regional	Other ecological assessments	Species groups / Species-specific assessment	Automating seabird counts from standardised photos contributed by volunteers	This project aims to: collect oblique photos of penguin colonies and ground-truth with counts; develop the visual recognition algorithm and calibrate an automated penguin count system against manual counts; analyse tour operator, Falkland Islands and South Georgia records of cruise ship landings to determine sites visited regularly throughout the breeding season that would be candidates for inclusion in a monitoring network; generate cruise ship support for a pilot study and subsequent monitoring programme; identify four key sites to place tripods or suitable trig/GPS points for the 2010-11 visitor season on the Falkland Islands, South Georgia or the Antarctic peninsula and design a monitoring programme for the Scotia Arc and peninsula using a network of fixed camera mounts at suitable tourist landing sites.	2011	British Antarctic Territory, Falkland Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands	Marine	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
005	National	Other ecological assessments	Other	UK Climate change risk assessment	The Climate Change Risk Assessment presents the latest evidence on the risks and opportunities of climate change for the UK to 2100. For the first time, it provides a national overview of potential risks based primarily on the UK Climate Projections, which were published by Defra in 2009. Its findings, particularly related to those risks that require early action, will inform the development of adaptation plans by the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations. This report provides an overview of the risk assessment, including a synthesis of the key findings. It presents the best information available on the vulnerability of the UK to climate change, identifies notable risks and opportunities and gaps in our current understanding of climate risks. The assessment was undertaken across 11 'sectors' and drew evidence from literature reviews, expert elicitation and more detailed quantitative analysis, where the data allowed. It incorporated feedback from stakeholders in these sectors, to identify potential impacts and to select risks for more detailed analysis. Example sectors include Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Agriculture, Flood and Coastal Erosion, Forestry, Marine and Fisheries, Water and Health.	2012	UK, England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	High
023	National	Other ecological assessments	Other	England's changing landscapes: A review of landscape change in England from 1940 to 2010 (NECR109)	To review landscape changes in England from 1940 to 2010.	2013	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
004	National	Other ecological assessments	Other	Combating climate change: a role for UK forests	The assessment aims to provide a better understanding of how UK forestry can adapt to and improve its contribution to mitigation of climate change. The study is considered to be the first national assessment of its kind in the world and is already attracting interest from other countries keen to form their own climate change plans and policies. The objectives of the assessment were to: Review and synthesise existing knowledge on the impacts of climate change on UK trees, woodlands and forests; Provide a baseline of the current potential of different mitigation and adaptation actions; Identify gaps and weaknesses to help determine research priorities for the next five years.	2009	UK	Terrestrial	Medium
202	Regional	Biodiversity assessment		The 2010 assessment of implementing the EU Biodiversity Action Plan	The present report considers the status and trends of pan-European biodiversity, and the implications of these trends for biodiversity management policy and practice. It considers the key biodiversity policy instruments currently applied in Europe, the threats to biodiversity and their management implications across major habitat types. The implications for biodiversity of cross-cutting issues such as tourism and urban planning are also considered, along with the challenges that remain for conserving and sustainably using of Europe's biodiversity. The report makes use of the Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators and other relevant national and regional information sources. It does not consider the biodiversity of EU overseas territories and outermost regions.	2010	Europe	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
203	Regional	Ecosystem assessment		An Assessment of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity in Europe	An assessment of the importance of ecosystem services in a European context, highlighting those that have particular importance for Europe and what is known about the contribution biodiversity makes to each of them. We then consider pressures on European ecosystem services and the measures that might be taken to manage them.		Europe	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Low
205	Regional	Ecosystem assessment		A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services)	The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services) is collaboration between PEER research institutes addressing some of the knowledge gaps which stand in the way of performing a spatially-explicit, biophysical, monetary and policy assessment of ecosystem services in Europe. The starting point is the need to upgrade the knowledge basis of land-use information and mapping to reflect the existing knowledge about ecosystem services and their social and economic values, to better inform policy design and decision making processes.		Europe		Low
201	Regional	Other ecological assessments	Other	EnRisk (Environmental Risk Assessment for European Agriculture)	To carry out environmental risk assessments for European agriculture for five themes: soil erosion; eutrophication; pesticide use; biodiversity loss; and landscape change.	2004	Europe	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Low
045	Global	Baseline survey		Important Plant Areas (IPAs) around the world	This report highlights successes and case studies in implementing the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Target 5 of the CBD Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. The report showcases the range of organisations and individuals who are taking the lead in identifying and conserving the world's most important sites for plants. The IPA projects in this report highlight the range of methodological tools available and also some key factors in IPA identification and conservation – the fundamental role of local experts, a participatory approach, and raising awareness and engagement among	2010	UK, Turks and Caicos Islands, Falkland Islands	Terrestrial	Low

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
					local communities.				
Part B: Sub-national assessments									
042	Sub-national	Ecosystem assessment		Ecosystem Services Assessment at Steart Peninsula, Somerset, UK	This study draws from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment's ecosystem services categories to undertake a full ecosystem assessment to determine as accurately as possible the economic and intrinsic value of the Steart Coastal Management Project. Its aims are to: 1) assess the environmental benefits/costs from habitat creation at Steart to provide evidence for advocacy of such projects; 2) learn for the future by identifying ecosystem assessment best practices, further research needed and lessons learnt; 3) support and inform decision making for future management of coastal habitats; 4) contribute to the limited ecosystem assessment case studies of large-scale managed realignment sites in the UK, this study being the first one to be done at a predevelopment stage.	2012	England	Terrestrial, Marine	Low
028	Sub-national	Ecosystem assessment		Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England	Sustainability East and partners initiated a set of studies designed to look in detail at the potential of the ecosystems approach as an integrating policy framework. Taken together, the studies provide: i) a detailed place based assessment of key ecosystem services in the East of England across a range of spatial, geographical, social and ecological contexts; ii) an assessment of how an Ecosystem Services Approach relates to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal processes; and iii) an investigation of how an ecosystem services approach can support local decision making.	2011	England	Terrestrial	High

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
026	Sub-national	Biodiversity assessment		Eastbourne Borough Council Biodiversity Assessment Report	This report provides an audit of the biodiversity and geological interests within Eastbourne Borough, as existing nature conservation assets such as designated sites, as well as the framework of landward, coastal and marine habitats and species that occur.	2008	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	Low
100	Sub-national	Other ecological assessment	Baseline survey	An ecological assessment of Little Scrub Island	1. To utilize various techniques to assess avi-fauna on Little Scrub; 2. To assess the population and conservation status of Little Scrub's endemic lizard; 3. To conduct the first invertebrate survey on Little Scrub; 4. To determine the type of flora that exists on Little Scrub; and 5. To assess Little Scrub for the presence of rodents.	2010	Anguilla	Terrestrial	Medium
006	Set of sites	Ecosystem assessment		Using Science to Create a Better Place - Ecosystem Service Case Studies.	This report outlines the background, methods, findings and recommendations from a study into the application of ecosystem services in two case studies: the Tamar catchment and the Alkborough Flats managed realignment site. The purpose of these studies was to test the applicability and value of the ecosystems approach – management based on ecosystem services – for the Environment Agency.	2009	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine	High
107	Set of sites	Biodiversity assessment		Assessing and conserving critical pollinator communities in Bermuda	This project was a scoping study to assess potential field sites and practicalities of research; identify most urgent research needs; discuss project in depth with all partners; refine proposal for full Darwin project accordingly.	2009	Bermuda	Terrestrial	Low
105	Set of sites	Other ecological assessment	Species group / species-specific assessment	A revised population size estimate for the Ascension Island green turtle	1. To provide a status update of marine turtles of Ascension Island; 2. To update a Management Plan for Marine Turtles of Ascension Island; and 3. To build capacity built with Ascension Island Government Ascension Island community	2012	Ascension Islands	Marine	Medium

Record ID	Geographical scale	Assessment type – primary	Assessment type - Secondary	Title of assessment	Objective(s)	End Date	Country or countries covered	Ecosystems assessed	Level of information for the Catalogue available
009	Single site	Ecosystem assessment		The Mayes Brook Restoration in Mayesbrook Park, East London: an Ecosystem Services Assessment	This report evaluates the projected outcomes of a programme of work to restore the Mayes Brook and its associated floodplain in Mayesbrook Park, East London, in terms of the benefits this will bring to ecosystem services in the area. The aim of this report is to explore the key benefits of restoring the river reaches, areas of floodplain and associated parkland, by assessing the many natural benefits that they may provide for the local community.	2011	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Medium
024	Single site	Ecosystem assessment		Ecosystem services assessment of buffer zone installation on the upper Bristol Avon, Wiltshire	This study sought to assess marginal changes arising from the installation of the buffer zone along this highly vulnerable field edge on the basis of its impact on ecosystem services. This report outlines the background, methods, findings and learning following an assessment of the changes in ecosystem services stemming from the installation of a buffer zone on 330 metres of one bank of the upper Bristol Avon catchment, North Wiltshire.	2010	England	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Medium
124	Single site	Ecosystem assessment		Economic valuation of the Centre Hills, Montserrat	To increase our understanding of the economic importance of further conservation of the area. Three types of economic analysis were conducted within the study	2008	Montserrat	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Medium
007	Single site	Ecosystem assessment		Ecosystem services assessment of sea trout restoration work on the River Glaven, North Norfolk	The North Norfolk Sea Trout project addresses habitat restoration and improvement of access for migratory trout across a number of rivers in North Norfolk. The purpose of this study was to assess marginal changes arising from 'current and ongoing' restoration activities as well as future options for bypassing a major obstruction to migration on the river.	2010	England	Freshwater	High
199	Single site	Biodiversity assessment		A biodiversity assessment of the Centre Hills, Montserrat.	To conduct a comprehensive assessment of the major plant, vertebrate and invertebrate animal taxa and the ecosystems of which they are a part.	2008	Montserrat	Terrestrial, Freshwater	Low

Appendix 2: Description of the sections and sub-sections of information on assessments in the Catalogue

Table A2.1 Example of the assessment profile template for the IPBES Catalogue of Assessments, listing the sections and sub-sections of information contained in the Catalogue.

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response option blank = text field bullet points = tick box [more than one can be selected in most cases]	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment		
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)		
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global • Regional • Sub-regional • National • Sub-national • Set of sites • Single site 	
	Country or countries covered		
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name		
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives		
	Mandate for the assessment		
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millennium Ecosystem Assessment • Global Environment Outlook • The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity • Other (describe in no more than 5 sentences) 	
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted		
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal • Island • Inland water • Forest and woodlands • Cultivated / agricultural land • Grassland • Mountain • Drylands • Polar • Urban • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	Species groups assessed		

	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Timber/fibres • Genetic resources • Medicinal resources • Ornamental resources • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Waste treatment • Erosion prevention • Pollination • Pest and disease control • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Soil formation and fertility • Primary production • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	Scope of assessment includes:		
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started		
	Year assessment finished		
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish		
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One off • Repeated 	
Assessment outputs	Website (s)		
	Report (s)		
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)		
	Journal publications		
	Training materials		
	Other documents/outputs		

Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modelling • Geospatial analysis • Indicators • Scenarios • Economic valuation • Social (non-monetary) valuation • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component		
	Key stakeholder groups engaged		
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 10 • 10-100 • 101-1000 • More than 1000 	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information only • Resource experts (e.g. Foresters) • Traditional knowledge / local knowledge • Citizen science 	
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,		
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment		
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions		
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes 	
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews		
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment		
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and sharing experiences • Access to funding • Sharing of data / repatriation of data • Workshops • Developing / promoting and providing access to support tools • Establishing common standards, methods and protocols, Communication and awareness raising • Other (describe in a few words) 	
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders		
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment		
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders		

Additional information		Include any additional information that is relevant for the audience	
Information below will <u>not</u> be visible to general users of the Catalogue only Administrators of the website			
Contact	Name		
	Title		
	Email address		
	Telephone number		
	Organisation		
	Organisation address		

Appendix 3: Assessment profiles from the additional UK submission to the Catalogue³⁵

Table A3.1 Assessment profile: Economic Valuation of Uplands Ecosystem Services.

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Economic Valuation of Uplands Ecosystem Services
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	NECR029
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	England
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	<p>England's uplands – 6 case studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleaklow • Ingleborough National Natural Reserve • X-Dale • Wild Ennerdale • The Sustainable Catchment Management Programme (SCaMP) • North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The scope of this research was to examine the use of economic valuation techniques for valuing the ecosystem service changes due to upland management interventions and policies at a wide range of scales. The research aimed to develop a methodology and to test its applicability to a number of management changes at a range of scales. The results led to recommendations about where and how to apply economic valuation techniques for uplands ecosystem services, and point to where further research is most needed.
	Mandate for the assessment	This work was commissioned as part of Natural England's Upland Futures Project, which is developing a long term vision for the upland environment in 2060.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	For this research an approach and methodology were developed and tested for valuing the impacts (costs/ benefits) that a series of changes to land use and management might have on the delivery of ecosystem services and benefits.
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	The conceptual framework is described in the report that can be downloaded from: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/48003
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grassland • Forest and woodlands • Cultivated / agricultural land • Other: Moorland, Blanket bog
	Species groups assessed	

³⁵ Full contact details have been entered into the Catalogue's database but are not made publicly available, therefore just a contact's name and organisation has been included in this record of the assessment profiles.

	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Timber/fibres • Other: renewable energy provision
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation of water quality • Regulation of water flows • Moderation of extreme events
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place
	Scope of assessment includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes 	
4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes 	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	
	Year assessment finished	2009
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/48003
	Report (s)	The report can be downloaded from: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/48003
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenarios • Economic valuation
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	

	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific information only
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	Supporting documentation is listed in the report that can be downloaded from: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/48003
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing common standards, methods and protocols
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	To a greater or lesser extent, there are uncertainties – physical, ecological and/or economic - in all the ecosystem services examined. In particular, more work is needed looking at underlying soils and how this influences services. To some extent this work exists, but interpretations of habitats in this report do not reflect the full range of information available.
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	(Natural England)

Table A3.2 Assessment profile: Environmental Valuation: Tools and Capacity-Building for Integration in Policy, Bermuda

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Environmental Valuation: Tools and Capacity-Building for Integration in Policy, Bermuda
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	OTEP BDA402
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	Bermuda
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	This project seeks to address the lack of environmental consideration in current policy and decision-making, by providing a means of recognizing the value of the range of ecosystem services provided by Bermuda's environment. The close collaboration of a dedicated Bermuda-based project manager and economic experts of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) will ensure appropriate application of existing economic tools and approaches and enable the training of local personnel for long-term sustainability. The purpose of this valuation is to inform stakeholders and policy makers on the benefits and costs of conserving ecosystems based on reliable and objective information.
	Mandate for the assessment	The project was funded by The Foreign Commonwealth Office / Department for International Development Overseas Territories Environment Programme, 2007 project number BDA402. The project has been developed in the context of most of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) which have already been extended to Bermuda, as well as some MEAs that are listed as high priorities for extension such as the UKOT Environment Charter, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Economic valuation is also recognised to be an important tool for implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Convention on Migratory Species.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	Total Economic Valuation
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Executive%20report.pdf http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4393 http://www.conservation.bm/publications/projects-reports/ http://www.ivm.vu.nl/en/projects/Archive/bermuda-coral-reef/index.asp
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal
	Species groups assessed	Fisheries (commercial fisheries including finfish and lobster species' recreational finfisheries)
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	Food
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	Coastal protection (Moderation of extreme events)
3. Supporting Services/Functions		

	4. Cultural services	Tourism Recreation & Cultural Amenity Research & education value
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	No
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2007
	Year assessment finished	2009
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Executive%20report.pdf http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4393 http://www.conservation.bm/publications/projects-reports/ http://www.ivm.vu.nl/en/projects/Archive/bermuda-coral-reef/index.asp
	Report (s)	Executive Summary Report: Total economic value (TEV) of Bermuda's coral reefs - Valuation of ecosystem services http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Executive%20report.pdf http://www.conservation.bm http://www.jncc.gov.uk Coral Reef Economic Valuation Brief: A policy brief highlighting the key findings of the TEV report (presented to Cabinet of Bermuda Government in September 2010, and approved for decision) http://www.conservation.bm/publications/projects-reports/ http://www.jncc.gov.uk Coral Reef Total economic value (TEV): The full report on the Total Economic Valuation of Bermuda's Coral Reefs. http://www.conservation.bm/publications/projects-reports/

	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	CD-Rom- digital copy of policy brief, full report and choice model cards Hard copies of policy brief and full report available through Department of Conservation Services Bermuda Articles in the Royal Gazette (Bermuda newspaper)
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	Chapter in newly published “Coral Reefs of the United Kingdom Overseas Territories” Series: Coral Reefs of the World, Vol. 4, editor Charles Sheppard, 2013 XVI 323p.
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic valuation • Social (non-monetary) valuation • Choice modelling
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All relevant government departments of the Government of Bermuda: Department of Planning, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation Services, Department of Parks and Sustainable Development Unit • Users such as Boat operators, fishermen and farmers • Bermuda National Trust • Bermuda Zoological Society • Bermuda Audubon Society • Save Open Spaces Association • Bermuda Botanical Society • Environmental Coalition Organization • Bermuda Cave Diving Association • Sustainable Development Round Table, a civil society acting as an oversight committee for Bermuda Government
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	10-100 (excluding tourists and residents interviewed; includes 10 people doing the work, and approximately 30 people consulted for developing questionnaire; 30 interviewers for tourists and residents) 101-1000 (if include tourists and residents interviewed)
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	Scientific information Resource experts Local knowledge
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	Government of Bermuda Reports (Fisheries, Statistics, Tourism, Environment) Coastal Erosion Reports, Environmental Economics valuation methodologies/toolkit (see References p. 109-113 in final report)
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	Not all raw data easily accessible, but most can be made available by the researchers on request
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	Cabinet Paper on Coral Reef Protection – calling for legislation regarding establishment of damage compensation fees for vessel grounding – pending approval by Cabinet

	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	No
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	Lessons learnt from the study: 1) Having an oversight Steering Committee composed of head of government departments, NGOs and respected members of the community is critical to the credibility of the results and their acceptance, and to follow-up actions- even if these occur a few years after completion, 2) Dissemination of the results and raising awareness of the economic value seems to be best achieved through a DVD (documentary); this was not done in this case, but is still being considered, given the impact seen when used as a communication tool in other case studies, 3) In the Bermuda project, a Total Economic Valuation was opted for which proved useful; however, simultaneously applying the study to a real CBA-type of setting would have been most effective in demonstrating its usefulness and immediately addressing a burning issue. On the other hand, it may not have been politically correct at the time, 4) Increased stakeholder engagement in various stages of research may have led to increased societal impact of the study.
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of local environmental economists • Lack of understanding of environmental economics concept
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and sharing experiences • Workshops • Provide access to support tools • Sharing of data • Establish communication and awareness raising
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	Through workshops mainly
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of information on wave impact on Bermuda's coastal zones (lack of data on wave height on platform during storms and hurricanes) • Better understanding of coastal erosion parameters required for mitigation measures (both natural and human induced erosion processes) • Better assessment of flood zones • Good coral cover data for surface of reefs, but lack of information for sides of reefs • Lack of database on recreational fisheries
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	Through policy brief and presentations
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr. Samia Sarkis (Bermuda Department of Conservation Services)
Note		Project description available on the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum project database: Environmental Valuation: Tools and Capacity-Building for Integration in Policy, Bermuda (OTEP BDA402) (Projects record detail, item ref: 202) http://www.ukotcf.org/infoDB/infoSourcesDetail2.cfm?refID=202&searchStem=&hiliteSearch=%3Cb%3E%3Cfont%20color='green'%3E%3C/b%3E%3C/font%3E

Table A3.3 Assessment profile: Building a Foundation for Anguilla's Wetland Future

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Building a Foundation for Anguilla's Wetland Future
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	OTEP ANG 801
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	Anguilla
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	To build an information and capacity base for Anguilla's Globally Important wetlands by: the publication of a wetland inventory; the development of a National Wetland Conservation Plan; the revision of Important Bird Area (IBA) designations and submission of sites for Ramsar designation; the enhancement of local capacity (knowledge resources, skill development and institutional strengthening)
	Mandate for the assessment	Anguilla is a party to the Ramsar Convention through the UK Government; however, to date no Ramsar Sites have been designated. A wetland inventory undertaken in 1990 requires updating with recent monitoring and data and current threats and Pienkowski (2005) recommended that five wetlands be designated. The project is also pertinent to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species, Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region: Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW Protocol) and the principals of the St. George's Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The project is funded by FCO/DFID Overseas Territories Environment Programme, 2011, project no ANG 801.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	BirdLife International's Important Bird Area Monitoring Guidelines (http://www.birdlife.org/regional/americas/apm_documents/Background%20paper%2011.2_IBA%20Monitoring%20Framework.pdf) WorldBird Important Bird Area Database (www.globalconservation.info)
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	http://www.ukotcf.org/infodb/infosourcesdetail2.cfm?refid=298
	System(s) assessed	Inland water
	Species groups assessed	Birds
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	Regulation of water flows Regulation of water quality
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	Habitat maintenance

	4. Cultural services	Recreation and tourism
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	No
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	No
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	No
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2011
	Year assessment finished	2013
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	While the project has come to end, parts of it will continue, namely, monitoring of wetlands based on BirdLife International's IBA monitoring guidelines and continual updating of Anguilla's national wetlands inventory. Wetlands will also continue to be monitored for qualification as IBAs.
	Periodicity of assessment	Biannual
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.ukotcf.org/infodb/infosourcesdetail2.cfm?refid=298
	Report (s)	State of Anguilla's Wetland Birds Report 2007-2011 Anguilla Wetlands Mapping Project Report
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	National Inventory of Anguilla's Wetlands (will be updated regularly) Important Bird Area summaries for 13 of Anguilla's wetlands/offshore cays (posted on BirdLife International's website) Anguilla National Trust Bird Monitoring database (updated monthly)
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geospatial analysis • Indicators
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	Stakeholder workshops
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Anguilla (including, inter alia, Department of Environment Department of Physical Planning, Department of Land and Surveys, Department of Disaster Management,) • Statutory Bodies (Anguilla National Trust, Anguilla Tourist Board) • Landowners
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	Less than 10

	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	Scientific Information Resource experts Local knowledge Citizen science
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	BirdLife International IBA Monitoring Guidelines (http://www.birdlife.org/regional/americas/apm_documents/Background%20paper%2011.2_IBA%20Monitoring%20Framework.pdf) WorldBird Important Bird Area Database (www.globalconservation.info)
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes (by BirdLife International)
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	Open data sources (published literature) supported by internal (Anguilla National Trust) data collection programme (raw data is not public) BirdLife International Data Zone
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	The ANT hopes that the assessments will influence the re-drafting of the Anguilla's Wetlands Policy by the Government of Anguilla. Seven additional Important Bird Areas have been recommended to be added to Anguilla's IBA list. Three sites could qualify Ramsar Sites, based on Ramsar criteria. The ANT will recommend that the Government of Anguilla submit these sites to the Ramsar Secretariat for consideration.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	No
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	Yes
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and sharing experiences • Workshops • Establishing common standards, methods, and protocols • Communication and awareness raising
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	No
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	Yes
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing during workshops • One-on-one conversations with public and private stakeholders
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Farah Mukhida (Anguilla National Trust)

Table A3.4 Assessment profile: UK Biodiversity Indicators 2012

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	UK Biodiversity Indicators 2012
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National But links to European and global indicators too
	Country or countries covered	The United Kingdom – England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland,
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The UK biodiversity indicators were comprehensively reviewed during 2011 and 2012 to ensure they continue to be based on the most robust and reliable available data; and remain relevant to the new international goals and targets. The UK Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket 2012 (BIYP 2012) sets out the current set of indicators, which now totals 24 (expanded from 18).
	Mandate for the assessment	The UK is a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and is committed to the new biodiversity goals and targets ‘the Aichi targets’ agreed in 2010 and set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020. The UK is also committed to developing and using a set of indicators to report on progress towards meeting these international goals and targets. There are related commitments on biodiversity made by the European Union, and the UK indicators may also be used to assess progress with these.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other - Each indicator is composed of one or more measures which will show trends over time.
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	The methodology is described on http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4230 and in the UK Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket 2012 publication downloadable from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/BIYP_2012.pdf
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Coastal Forest and woodlands Cultivated / agricultural land Grassland Inland water

	Species groups assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birds • Insects • Mammals • Plant • Freshwater • Marine • Terrestrial • Invasive
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Genetic resources
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation of water quality • Air quality
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism – volunteering indicator (A2)
	Scope of assessment includes: 1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • But do look at impact of humans on biodiversity
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	No
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	Indicators first published in 2007
	Year assessment finished	2012
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	Repeated annually
	Periodicity of assessment	Repeated
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4229
	Report (s)	The UK Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket 2012; measuring progress towards halting biodiversity loss can be downloaded from http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4229
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	The 5 th Biodiversity Indicators Forum's agenda, presentations and draft meeting report are available on http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5783
	Journal publications	The website includes links to reports and journal articles which underpin the methods for individual indicators
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators • Economic valuation (E2 on expenditure for biodiversity)

	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	The UK biodiversity indicators have been developed in a co-operative fashion, with input from government, statutory agencies, non-governmental organisations, and academic institutes. A series of biodiversity indicator forum meetings have been held to debate issues and capture ideas from a variety of stakeholders.
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	Government, statutory agencies, non-governmental organisations, academic institutes
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	10-100
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific information only Citizen science (e.g. Birds/butterflies/bats/spring index)
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/files/Statistical-release-UK-Biodiversity-Indicators-FINAL.pdf / http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5781 Information on statistical approach used in individual indicators fiches. See also page 4230 on the JNCC website for the assessment methodology. http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4230
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/files/Statistical-release-UK-Biodiversity-Indicators-FINAL.pdf . Data in each indicator is downloadable from the webpages for each indicator
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UK biodiversity indicators will form a major part of the UK's 5th National Report to the CBD in 2014 but will be supplemented with other information relating to UK biodiversity and implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020. The indicators may be subject to further review, particularly as the reporting requirements of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive are clarified.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	No
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	Project team keep indicators under review on year to year basis
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network and sharing experiences Sharing of data / repatriation of data Workshops Establishing common standards, methods and protocols, Communication and awareness raising
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	Discussion through Indicators Steering Group
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	A gap analysis was conducted during the 5 th Biodiversity Indicators Forum, http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5781
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5th Biodiversity Indicators Forum The UK Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket 2012 publication
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	James Williams (Joint Nature Conservation Committee)

Table A3.5 Assessment profile: Mapping St Helena's Marine Biodiversity to Create a Marine Management Plan

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Mapping St Helena's marine biodiversity to create a Marine Management Plan
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	St Helena
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To collate existing marine biological data including maps and literature for all marine species including dolphins and whales. • To collate information regarding commercial use resources e.g. fishing and aggregation extraction. Data Management system will be created using marine recorder. • To collect marine benthic data including, marine fauna, flora and habitats. • To generate GIS maps of the distribution and extent of both St Helena shallow marine resource and commercial usage of these resources. • To produce a list of species and habitats of high conservation importance e.g. endemics and those naturally rare. GIS Maps to be produced to demonstrate extent and distribution of above. • To draft monitoring and management plans (using above outputs as a basis) including the identification of current and potential future threats. • To identify potential marine protected areas. • To produce and inshore marine life identification guide. • Presentations, workshops and leaflets and media coverage. Raised awareness in schools.
	Mandate for the assessment	The project was funded by the Darwin initiative of DEFRA and implemented by the Environmental Management Directorate, an arm of St Helena's Government and Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). This project will build capacity for local personnel to implement marine monitoring and management strategies resulting in the protection and sustainable use of their marine resources in the long-term and to raise local and international awareness of St. Helena's unique marine life.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	http://www.ukotcf.org/infoDB/infoSourcesDetail2.cfm?refID=338
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal

	Species groups assessed	Marine invertebrates, fish, marine mammals
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sand extraction
	2. Regulating	
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation and tourism Wild species diversity
	Scope of assessment includes: 1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	No
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2012
	Year assessment finished	
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	2014
	Periodicity of assessment	One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.ukotcf.org/infoDB/infoSourcesDetail2.cfm?refID=338
	Report (s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darwin project reports (end year one) and final project report (due at end of project)
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations given to the public including Marine Awareness Week involving all school children on island. Radio interviews and regular newspaper articles on marine issues and project updates. Marine life guidebook to be produced for end of project.
	Journal publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific journal articles to be produced including new records (and possibly new species) identified. Paper to be produced on marine habitats around St Helena.
	Training materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification guides to marine life to be produced. Training guides for equipment, methodologies, software, GIS given to local St Helena staff

	Other documents/outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Management Plan and Policy Papers
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder engagement forums • GIS mapping of habitats, species and marine uses • Spatial analysis of species abundance and habitats • Policy papers and Marine Management Plan produced
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	Meetings with individual stakeholder groups plus Marine Management Plan workshop to be held (at end of project).
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dive tourism and dolphin watching tour operators • Fisheries association • Government departments (Environment and Fisheries) • Sand extraction company
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	10-100
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information • Resource experts (taxonomists, fishermen, divers) • Traditional knowledge / local knowledge
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine survey methodology used globally and specifically in the Falklands Islands and Ascension Island marine surveys. • International taxonomists and experts involved in the project for species identification and advice on analysis and management policies implemented elsewhere.
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes (Papers will be published in scientific journals which will be peer reviewed. Policy papers and Marine Management Plan will be reviewed by stakeholders and Government/Councillors)
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	Data will be published in scientific journals and hence publicly available. Other information held by St Helena Government and reports published on their website.
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	Policy Papers and a Marine Management Plan will be produced at the end of the project and will have large impact on any decisions made regarding use and protection of the St Helena marine environment
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	Yes (Policies will be reviewed by Councillors)
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network – assisting with Ascension Island marine and fisheries surveys to build capacity and share skills – training gained by local St Helena staff. • Match funding gained from other bodies to fund further training of marine staff • Regular newspaper articles and presentations given regarding the work of the project

	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings will be held with the different stakeholders throughout the duration of the project. • Stakeholders have been involved in assisting with the marine surveys. • Stakeholders participated in the Environment Management Division Stakeholder forum.
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Judith Brown (St. Helena Government)

Table A3.6 Assessment profile: Charting Progress 2: The State of the UK Seas

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Charting Progress 2: The State of the UK Seas
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	Charting Progress 2
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	UK
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	The Charting Progress 2 assessment sub-divides the entire UK sea area into eight regions. There is greater emphasis today on the ecosystem-based approach both in domestic and international legislation. Thus, rather than basing the division on administrative boundaries, CP2 chose the regions, based on the 11 bio-geographic regions identified as part of the Review of Marine Nature Conservation (RMNC) 2004, principally using physical and biological features such as tidal fronts and seabed flora and fauna.
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an assessment of the productivity of UK seas • Identify the extent to which human uses and natural pressures are affecting the quality of UK seas • Address the specific species, habitats and economic issues of the eight UK marine regions • Helps show whether current environmental protection measures are working, and aims to provide policy makers, planners and the public with a clear evaluation of progress towards the UK Government and the Devolved Administration's vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas.
	Mandate for the assessment	In 2002, the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations set out a vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas. As an initial step towards this vision, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Devolved Administrations published Charting Progress in 2005, which was the first integrated assessment of the state of the UK seas. Charting Progress made a number of recommendations for action to improve our understanding of the marine environment and the way we manage and collect information about it. The UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment Strategy (UKMMAS) community, which has prepared Charting Progress 2, was established in response to Charting Progress to provide a more structured and co-ordinated approach to the assessment and monitoring of our seas. Charting Progress 2 provides the foundation for the initial assessment required by the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive in 2012. This Directive requires the UK to ensure they are taking measures to achieve 'Good Environmental Status' for their seas by 2020. It focuses efforts towards a common goal and enables the international collaboration that is vital to achieving the vision the UK shares for the sustainable use of UK seas.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	To make this assessment we have used standards, criteria or indicators that describe a particular desired status or quality associated with the marine vision (where these are available) and then checked how the evidence measures up.

	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	The UK Initial Assessment under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive has used an ecosystem services approach to report on the costs of degradation of not reaching good environmental status in UK seas by 2020. This can be accessed in the following document: http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2012/12/20/pb13860-msfd-strategy-part-one/
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal • Other: Marine benthic habitats
	Species groups assessed	Microbes, Plankton, Fish, Seals, Turtles, Cetaceans, Marine birds
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Genetic resources • Medicinal resources • Fertiliser
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Waste treatment • Erosion prevention
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Primary production
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	No
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2005
	Year assessment finished	2009
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	Repeated

Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/
	Report (s)	http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/resources Full Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/report/CP2-OverviewReport-screen.pdf Overview Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/Charting-Progress-2-Overview.pdf Government Commentary http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/Government-Commentary-on-Charting-Progress-2.pdf The Clean and Safe Seas Feeder Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/clean-and-safe-seas-feeder-report The Ocean Processes Feeder Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/ocean-processes-feeder-report The Healthy and Biologically Diverse Seas Feeder Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/healthy-and-biologically-diverse-seas-feeder-report The Productive Seas Feeder Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/productive-seas-feeder-report
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	Charting Progress 2 Launch Presentation http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2-launch-presentation
	Journal publications	None
	Training materials	None
	Other documents/outputs	Summary Maps Healthy and Biologically Diverse Seas – Habitats Healthy and Biologically Diverse Seas – Species Clean and Safe seas Productive Seas http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/summary-maps
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geospatial analysis • Indicators • Economic valuation • Social (non-monetary) valuation • Modelling
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	The UKMMAS is comprised of a number of organisations and government bodies, each of which contributed to the report process through various communication processes. A stakeholder workshop was held to present and discuss the findings of the Feeder Reports with industry representatives and environmental non-governmental organisations and to consider any additional information.

	Key stakeholder groups engaged	Agri-Food Biosciences Institute (AFBI); Associated British Ports (ABPMer); British Geological Survey (BGS); British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC); Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquatic Science (CEFAS); Countryside Council for Wales (CCW); Environment Agency (EA); Environment Heritage Service (EHS); Natural England (NE); Fisheries Research Services (FRS); Food Standards Agency (FSA); Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology (IACMST); Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC); Marine Biological Association of the UK (MBA); Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA); Met Office; National Centre for Ocean Forecasting (NCOF); Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA); Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH); Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU); Sir Alistair Hardy Foundation of Ocean Science (SAHFOS); United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO); Representatives of industry; and Representatives of marine research institutions.
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 101-1000
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information only • Resource experts • Citizen science
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	<p>Charting Progress (2005) Overview & Report http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress2005 Marine Environment Quality http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/1.%20Marine%20Environment%20Quality.pdf Marine Processes and Climate http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/2.%20Marine%20Processes%20and%20Climate.pdf Marine Habitats and Species http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/3.%20Marine%20Habitats%20and%20Species.pdf Marine Fish and Fisheries http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/4.%20Marine%20Fish%20and%20Fisheries.pdf Integrated Regional Assessment http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/CP%20Integrated%20Regional%20Assessment.pdf Independent Peer Review http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/charting-progress-2005/chartprogress-peerreview.pdf</p>
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	For access to the major datasets, please go to the Marine Environmental Data and Information Network (MEDIN) . Access to specific data not included at MEDIN can be made on request.

Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	<p>Charting Progress 2 formed the basis for work to develop the characteristics of good UK environmental status and related targets and indicators under the EU Marine Strategy Directive.</p> <p>The UK Government and Devolved Administrations have published a Government Commentary on Charting Progress 2 in which they highlight the important messages coming from the report and outline their approach to them. See http://chartingprogress.defra.gov.uk/Government-Commentary-on-Charting-Progress-2.pdf</p> <p>One of the major policy initiatives to address the recommendation calling for a more coordinated and systematic approach to marine monitoring, assessment and data collection was the setting up in 2006 of the UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment Strategy (UKMMAS), co-chaired by Defra and the Scottish Government. Charting Progress 2 has been produced by the UKMMAS community and represents a more joined-up way of working, one which shares resources and maximises efficiency in the collection and management of marine data.</p>
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	No
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	Capacity building needs and gaps in knowledge are identified in detail at the end of each chapter. Please see the Main Report for specific needs.
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and sharing experiences • Sharing of data / repatriation of data • Developing / promoting and providing access to support tools • Establishing common standards, methods and protocols, Communication and awareness raising • Workshops
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	UKMMAS and its working groups will work under the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee which recently published a 15- year UK Marine Science Strategy for delivering world class marine science to inform decisions on food and energy security, managing the Seas sustainably and dealing with climate change. This should bring marine research and monitoring more closely together, and should further enhance the relationship between the research community and policy makers that we developed during the combined efforts that have led to this report. This should in turn enable a more objective process for the prioritising and funding of research needed to fill the gaps in knowledge.

Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	Capacity building needs and gaps in knowledge are identified in detail at the end of each chapter. Please see the Main Report for specific needs.
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	UKMMAS and its working groups will work under the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee which recently published a 15- year UK Marine Science Strategy for delivering world class marine science to inform decisions on food and energy security, managing the Seas sustainably and dealing with climate change. This should bring marine research and monitoring more closely together, and should further enhance the relationship between the research community and policy makers that we developed during the combined efforts that have led to this report. This should in turn enable a more objective process for the prioritising and funding of research needed to fill the gaps in knowledge.
Additional information		For further information on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive please go to http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/msfd/
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Richard Emmerson (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)

Table A3.7: Assessment profile: Northern Ireland State of the Seas Report

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Northern Ireland State of the Seas Report
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	Northern Ireland
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The report follows on from a UK-wide report published in 2010 entitled 'Charting Progress 2 – The State of UK Seas'. The Northern Ireland State of the Seas report complements Charting Progress 2 and highlights the issues specific to Northern Ireland. This report will enable us to identify where our knowledge is good and where further work is needed to comply with the new Marine Strategy Framework Directive requirements.
	Mandate for the assessment	This is the first time a comprehensive report on the state of the seas around Northern Ireland had been published. It acknowledges that it is a key time in management of Northern Ireland's marine environment with the introduction of 3 new pieces of legislation: EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive, 2008; UK Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009; and, the proposed Northern Ireland Marine Bill, which will be introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2011.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal
	Species groups assessed	
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Genetic resources

	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Waste treatment • Erosion prevention
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Primary production
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development
	Scope of assessment includes:	Yes
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	No
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	
	Year assessment finished	2010
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One off
Assessment	Website (s)	

outputs	Report (s)	<p>Ministers Foreword and Executive Summary http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/0.1_contents_ministers_forewords_and_executive_summary.pdf Full Report http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/water-home/state_of_the_seas_ni_report.htm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction (PDF 1.40Mb) 2. Marine Biodiversity (PDF 2.64Mb) 3. Invasive Alien Species (PDF 1.04Mb) 4. Fisheries and Aquaculture (PDF 1.74Mb) 5. Foodwebs (PDF 3.37Mb) 6. Eutrophication (PDF 1.31Mb) 7. Seabed Integrity (PDF 1.10Mb) 8. Hydrographical Conditions (PDF 1Mb) 9. Contaminants (PDF 1.57Mb) 10. Contaminants in Biota (PDF 1.26Mb) 11. Litter (PDF 1.05Mb) 12. Energy and Underwater Noise (PDF 543Kb) 13. Maritime Archaeology (PDF 1.54Mb) 14. Bathing Waters (PDF 1.27Mb) 15. Ports and Harbours (PDF 548Kb) 16. Discussions and Conclusions (PDF 1.37Mb) 17. Appendices (PDF 1.83Mb)
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geospatial analysis • Indicators
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information only • Resource experts (e.g. Foresters)
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	

Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	Many of the datasets identified in the report are crucial for the assessment of long term changes that may occur due to climate change. It is clear that a spatial planning process is required in order to manage our marine environment both holistically and sustainably. This will be introduced in 2014 under the Northern Ireland Marine Bill. The production of this report is a major milestone both in terms of initiating implementation of the new legislation and in strengthening relationships between Agencies and Departments. All Northern Ireland Departments and Agencies with marine responsibilities will continue to build on this co-operation in the monitoring and management of our marine environment.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	Where other organisations can demonstrate the quality of their scientific data, partnership approaches to monitoring will be further explored. The Seasearch Programme has shown that with appropriate training and supervision, amateur divers and volunteers can be used to build the evidence base.
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and sharing experiences • Establishing common standards, methods and protocols, Communication and awareness raising
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	There is no specific chapter reporting on climate change. Where adequate quality can be demonstrated, data from non-government sources should be used in future assessments.
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	(Marine Division of the Department of the Environment, Northern Ireland)

Table A3.8: Assessment profile: Towards an Assessment of the State of UK Peatlands

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Towards an Assessment of the State of UK Peatlands
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National
	Country or countries covered	UK – England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	Peat and peaty soils of the United Kingdom
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To describe the extent and state of UK peatlands, using available information on peatland extent and location, vegetation and land cover, land use and management, and environmental pressures. To discuss and compare different interpretations of the concept of peatland and peatland classification schemes across the UK, and compile available information describing their extent, management, cover and condition, thus providing the context to other topics under consideration by the IUCN UK Peatlands Inquiry To identify key gaps in current knowledge necessary to provide a fit-for-purpose assessment of peatlands across the UK.
	Mandate for the assessment	<p>Much is known about the classification, ecology and palaeoecology of UK peatlands, but recently there has been an increasing emphasis on understanding peatland function, particularly with respect to wider environmental processes considered under the general heading of ‘ecosystem services’.</p> <p>An understanding of the state of UK peatlands will help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support compliance with international monitoring and reporting obligations; Understand how activities, under current and past policy drivers, have affected the peatland resource, for better or worse; Relate this to information on ecosystem services to understand the scale and impact of such changes on peatland functions and support cost/benefits assessment of peatlands; Use this information to identify priorities for restoration and/or management change; and Inform policy, delivery and research activities which will address these priorities.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Other - This report assesses the state of the UK peatlands, based on available information on the extent, location and condition of peat soil and peatlands, vegetation, land cover, land use, management and a range of environmental influences.
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	The conceptual framework is described in the report that can be downloaded from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/jncc445_web.pdf
	System(s) assessed	Other (describe in a few words): peatlands, upland moors, bogs, fens or expanses of agriculturally cultivated peat, carbon rich soils.
	Species groups assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bryophyta, Vascular plants

	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Timber/fibres • Other: fuel, renewable energy, wild species diversity
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion prevention • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Pollination • Pest and disease control
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Soil formation and fertility • Primary production • Other: Biodiversity
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place • Other: social cohesion, education, aesthetic
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2010
	Year assessment finished	2011
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5861 / http://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/commission/StateOfThePeatlands
	Report (s)	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/jncc445_web.pdf
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	Posters
	Journal publications	No
	Training materials	No

	Other documents/outputs	No
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators • Geospatial analysis
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	Interdisciplinary expert panels from UK conservations agency with support from UK main research providers Cross linkage with UK NEA reporting
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural England, Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute ,Countryside Council for Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	10-100
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	Scientific information only
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment	References to relevant sources of information are indicated in the report that can be downloaded from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5861
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	References to relevant sources of data and information used in the assessment are indicated in the report that can be downloaded from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5861
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	<p>The report provides the first comprehensive assessment on how we define, delineate and describe peatlands in the UK, and considers critically the sources of available information. It also provides comparable synopses of the state of peatlands in the four UK countries. The report informed the IUCN UK Peatlands Inquiry and national policy for the sustainable management of carbon rich soils. National evaluation has been used in State of Soil reporting.</p> <p>Report used for scoping of Feasibility project for Populating the Land Use Component of the LULUCF GHG Inventory (2012). In February 2013, UK Government Environment Ministers issued a statement of intent to conserve peatlands in the UK and British Overseas Territories. In a letter to the IUCN UK Peatland Programme (5th February 2013), the four country Ministers set out a framework for action aimed at protecting and enhancing the natural capital of peatlands recognising their importance for biodiversity, water and climate change.</p>
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	No

	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is clear that despite broad agreement on what constitutes a peatland, there is little convergence on methods used to describe and quantify peatlands across national boundaries and specialist topics. • The information coverage and intensity of data recorded on peatlands significantly varies across the UK. • Site specific studies and one-off surveys have indicated changes in the extent and quality of peatlands. By contrast, the changes in the wider extent and quality of peatlands have mainly been inferred from limited studies rather than extensive survey or statistically valid sampling. • Information recorded on peatlands in the past was for specific purposes. Better coordinated and consistent information gathering fit to allow new understanding on the function of peatlands is needed. • Policy objectives are needed that will ensure delivery of priority ecosystem services as it may not always be possible to maintain all ecosystem services in all peatlands, given costs, varying priorities of land owners, managers and members of the public, and the fact that some ecosystem services are mutually exclusive in the same location.
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for more robust assessment of the condition of peatland outwith designated areas identified
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of data • Established common standard for description of extent of peat soil and peatland habitats
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping of national actions for monitoring soil and peatland
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	In part driven by the climate change mitigation agenda, extensive work is being undertaken at the UK level to overcome classification differences and monitor soils to improve our estimate of the soil carbon stock. Revision of estimates of the depth and location of peat soils will be a valuable contribution to any future review of the extent and status of peatlands. The report clearly shows that valuable evidence on the extent and the state of peatland can be inferred for each country. However, there are limitations and barriers to combining the information across countries. There is even more limited information available to enable interpretation of how peatlands respond to change.
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	Through a report that can be downloaded from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5861
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Patricia Bruneau / Sally Johnson (Scottish Natural Heritage)

Table A3.9: Assessment profile: UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2012

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2012
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	CCRA
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	UK – England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The overall aim of the CCRA was to inform UK adaptation policy, by assessing the main risks (threats and opportunities) posed by the current climate and future climate change for the UK to the year 2100.
	Mandate for the assessment	An independent analysis funded by UK Government and Devolved Governments and the first of a series of assessments required by The UK Climate Change Act 2008.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	Other - UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) Risk and Uncertainty Framework (UKCIP, 2003) formed the over-arching conceptual framework, but the method was developed as part of the project. Evidence for over 700 potential impacts of climate change in a UK context were reviewed. Detailed analysis was undertaken for over 100 of these impacts across 11 key sectors, on the basis of their likelihood, the scale of their potential consequences and the urgency with which action may be needed to address them.
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	The conceptual framework and detailed method are described in the Methodology Report that can be downloaded from: http://ccra.hrwallingford.com/CCRARports/downloads/CCRA%20Method%2016%20July%202012.pdf
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Coastal • Island • Inland water • Forest and woodlands • Cultivated / agricultural land • Grassland • Mountain • Urban • Other: Moorlands
	Species groups assessed	Terrestrial, marine, freshwater

	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Timber/fibres • Ornamental resources • Other: Wild species diversity
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Erosion prevention • Pollination • Pest and disease control • Other: Soil quality
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Soil formation and fertility • Primary production
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place
	Scope of assessment includes:	Yes
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2009
	Year assessment finished	2012
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated every 5 years
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://ccra.hrwallingford.com/CCRAReports/reportviewer.html?sector=intro&link=LinkTarget_1 http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climate/government/risk-assessment/

Table A3.10: Assessment profile: Combating Climate Change: a Role for UK Forests

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Combating Climate Change: A Role for UK Forests
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	National
	Country or countries covered	UK
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	<p>The aim of this report is to provide an expert up-to-date assessment of the current and potential contribution of trees and forests across the UK, both in the private and government sectors, to addressing climate change.</p> <p>Specific objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and synthesise existing knowledge on the impacts of climate change on UK trees, woodlands and forests; • provide a baseline of the current potential of different mitigation and adaptation actions; • identify gaps and weaknesses to help determine research priorities for the next five years.
	Mandate for the assessment	<p>The independent assessment was commissioned by the Forestry Commission to examine the potential of the UK's trees and woodlands to mitigate and adapt to our changing climate. It forms part of the response to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 4th Assessment Report published in 2007. The IPCC report provided authoritative evidence of how planting and managing woodland, avoiding deforestation, and replacing fossil fuels and carbon-intensive products with wood can make a major contribution to mitigating the effects of climate change. It also examined the impacts of climate change on forests, and the importance of adaptation to make forest ecosystems more resilient. However, the IPCC report was global in scope and it highlighted a need to bring together information at the national level – to assess what climate change means for forests and woodlands in the UK, and to identify the gaps in our knowledge.</p>
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<p>Other. The report drew on scientific concepts relating to wide-ranging science and social science disciplines. Topics included energy and greenhouse gas exchange in the atmosphere, the impacts of climate change on forests, the contribution of forests to absorbing and storing CO₂ in woodlands and wood products, and the role of forests in adapting to climate change. A broader analysis, based on sustainable development, socio-economic and institutional perspectives was also included.</p>
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest and woodlands
	Species groups assessed	

	Ecosystem services/functions assessed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber/fibres • Ornamental resources • Woodfuel
	1. Provisioning	
	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate regulation • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Erosion prevention • Air quality • Pest and disease control
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Soil formation and fertility
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place
	Scope of assessment includes:	Yes
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes	
4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	No	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2008
	Year assessment finished	2009
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7y4gn9
	Report (s)	Synthesis Report: http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/SynthesisUKAssessmentfinal.pdf/\$file/SynthesisUKAssessmentfinal.pdf Full report - http://www.tsoshop.co.uk/bookstore.asp?FO=1159966&Action=Book&ProductID=9780114973513&From=SearchResults
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7y4gn9
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	

	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modelling • Scenarios • Economic valuation • Social (non-monetary) valuation
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	The UK's shared framework for sustainable development http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb10589-securing-the-future-050307.pdf Public attitudes to forestry in the UK are assessed in biennial surveys commissioned by the Forestry Commission.
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	This was a scientific assessment of evidence about forestry and climate change. A wide range of experts and stakeholders in Government, private and non-governmental organisations was invited to the launch event, and the report was widely distributed.
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	10-100
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information only • Resource experts (e.g. Foresters)
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	The UK's shared framework for sustainable development http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb10589-securing-the-future-050307.pdf
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	Data presented in report came from a number of sources including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forest carbon models developed by Forest Research. Further information is available on the Forest Research website - http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestresearch • Forestry Statistics 2008, published by the Forestry Commission - http://www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	The science reviewed here and the general implications for policy advice which arise from it are presented at a critical time in the development of UK policies on woodland creation and of other actions designed to achieve adaptation and mitigation through UK forestry. Our assessment has yielded the overarching and strongly held conviction that, confronted by climate change, substantial responses are required of the forestry sector. This evaluation of the science shows that the UK forestry sector can contribute significantly both to the abatement of emissions and to ensuring, through effective adaptation, that the multiple benefits of sustainable forest management continue to be provided.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	Yes – two international reviewers : Professor William Hyde (US writer and academic on forestry economics) and Denis Loustau (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France)
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	

Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	This Assessment provides the evidence base for a much greater involvement of UK forests and forest products in the fight against climate change. However, provision of the evidence to substantiate the potential contribution of forestry is only the first step towards its realisation. There remain large areas of uncertainty. We have identified research priorities at the end of the chapters in this report that are targeted in particular at these uncertainties, but as important will be the processes of communication of the findings to those in decision-making positions in both the public and private sectors. Awareness at this level will enable the development of policies putting trees, woodlands and forestry at the heart of the UK's response to climate change.
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing common standards, methods and protocols • Gathering and sharing of scientific knowledge and analysis • Communication and awareness raising • Network and sharing experiences
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	The report should stimulate greater engagement by individuals, businesses and government in consideration of the future role of trees and forests in the UK landscape. Undoubtedly, some of the measures shown in this study to have significant mitigation potential may not in the first instance receive universal approval. Progress towards broadly acceptable strategies for reducing the impacts of climate change will depend upon cooperative working between organisations, interest groups and individuals, and an understanding of the need to identify widely acceptable solutions.
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	Current revisions to the UKFS and the introduction of a supporting guideline on climate change will help focus attention on whether the systems in place prove adequate for the new policy and management challenges presented by climate change. But forest planning faces difficult decisions on how to address the many objectives of forestry. Managers will require ongoing input from the research community as to how woodlands can best deliver against the many demands placed on them. It is the intention of this report to evaluate existing knowledge and to identify gaps in understanding, so that the climate change elements of this management challenge can be met in the future.
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	Wide circulation of the report after publication High profile launch, involving Government minister, with wide range of attendees Regional stakeholder events and seminars followed the launch of the report
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Pat Snowdon (Forestry Commission)

Table A3.11: Assessment profile: A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services)

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe - The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services)
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	Regional = Europe Sub-Regional, National, Sub-National
	Country or countries covered	Europe , UK, Finland, Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Cities a.o. Amsterdam
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The PRESS initiative (PEER Research on EcoSystem Services) is a collaboration between PEER research institutes addressing some of the knowledge gaps which stand in the way of performing a spatially-explicit, biophysical, monetary and policy assessment of ecosystem services in Europe. The starting point is the need to upgrade the knowledge basis of land-use information and mapping to reflect the existing knowledge about ecosystem services and their social and economic values, to better inform policy design and decision making processes.
	Mandate for the assessment	PEER is a partnership of seven of the largest European environmental centres founded in 2001 with the aim of combining forces to follow a joint strategy in environmental sciences and to enhance research on ecological sustainability. This co-operation was confirmed by a Framework Agreement signed on 25 June 2002 in Roskilde, and renewed in 2007 and 2012. Who is the funder?
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment) • TEEB
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	http://www.peer.eu/projects/press-project/
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal • Inland water • Forest and woodlands • Cultivated / agricultural land • Grassland • Urban
	Species groups assessed	
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	Timber

	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation of water quality Pollination
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation and tourism
	Scope of assessment includes: 1. Drivers of change in systems and services	
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2010
	Year assessment finished	2012
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.peer.eu/projects/press-project/
	Report (s)	<p>A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: Methods, case studies and policy analysis - Phase 1 - PEER Report 3, http://www.peer.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/PEER_report_3_phase_1.pdf</p> <p>A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: Methods, case studies and policy analysis - Phase 2 - PEER Report 4: http://www.peer.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/PEER_report_4_phase_2.pdf http://www.peer.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/PEER_report_4_phase_2_fullversion.pdf</p>
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	<p>Brochures http://www.peer.eu/publications/brochures/</p>
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling Geospatial analysis Indicators Scenarios Economic (monetary) valuation Social (non-monetary) valuation

	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Reviewed by colleagues in PEER institutes and DG ENV experts
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	Is now part of the EC Common Implementation Framework (CIF) of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2011-2020, especially Target 2 – Action 5.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	Ongoing
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	See synopsis of 2 nd Press report
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	Mapping Ecosystem Services is not being taught (extensively) in EU academic institutions. Most experts have started in Land Use modelling, Geography, etc. Team work makes results possible.
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Leon Braat (Alterra)

Table A3.12: Assessment profile: Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	VESiEE
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-national • Set of Sites • Single site
	Country or countries covered	England
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	Range of demonstration pilots and feasibility studies sites include: Forest of Marston Vale Blackwater Estuary City of Norwich Great Yarmouth and Whole of East of England
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	The specific objectives of the project were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To undertake a minimum of six case studies which demonstrate the value of some of the most important ecosystem services in the East of England; 2. To analyse the results of the case studies to provide robust evidence that can be used to influence national and regional policies and provide a baseline for future work; 3. To analyse the case studies to provide a better understanding of the value of some of the region's most important ecosystem services; 4. Within individual case studies, specific agendas should also be addressed, under the following 5 headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coast - Show how the Ecosystem Services Approach can be embedded in the Shoreline Management Plan process; - Green Infrastructure - Identify the full range of ecosystem services that Green Infrastructure can provide in the particular situation and how it can be taken into consideration in regional and local planning and funding decisions; - Water - Identify potential ecosystem services related to positive catchment management; - Landscape Connectivity - Identify the ecosystem services provided by large scale landscape character and habitat restoration; - Soil and Land Use - Identify the functions and services of healthy soil management

Mandate for the assessment	As recognised in the Regional Economic Strategy for the East of England 2008–2031, the East of England has ‘some of the UK’s finest natural habitats’. At the same time the region has “one of the fastest growing regional economies in the UK”. The value of the natural environment in the East of England is ‘an integral part of the region’s current and future sustainable development’ (Regional Environment Strategy 2003) providing a range of benefits to its residents and visitors from food to clean water from traditional landscapes to protection from flooding. The fast rate of development could however potentially adversely affect the ability of the natural environment in the region to provide these essential and beneficial functions. This is the first study of this type in the UK to seek to apply an “Ecosystem Services Valuation” at a sub-regional and local scale and to assess how the approach and results can be used to input into planning and other decision making.
Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millennium Ecosystem Assessment • Ecosystem Services Valuations • Other UK Defra ES approach
URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	Full report – Section 5
System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal • Inland water • Forest and woodlands • Cultivated / agricultural land • Grassland • Urban • Heathland and Moor • Freshwater wetlands • Riverine • Wetlands • Salt marsh • Sand dunes • Intertidal habitats • Brownfield sites
Species groups assessed	
Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Water • Genetic resources • Ornamental resources • Medicinal resources

	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Regulation of water quality • Waste treatment • Erosion prevention • Pollination
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling • Soil formation and fertility • Primary production
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism • Spiritual, inspiration and cognitive development • Sense of place
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	Yes
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	Yes
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	Yes
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	2009
	Year assessment finished	2011
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.sustainabilityeast.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=60&Itemid=57
	Report (s)	Glaves, P., Egan, D., Harrison, K. and Robinson, R. (2009) Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England, East of England Environment Forum, East of England Regional Assembly and Government Office East England Glaves, P., Egan, D., Smith, S., Heaphy, D. Rowcroft, P. and Fessey, M. (2010) Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England, Phase Two: Regional Pilot Technical Report, Sustainability East.
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	PowerPoint's and video available at http://www.ieem.net/2013-spring-conference
	Journal publications	In press
	Training materials	See appendix of Phase 2 Regional Pilot for toolkit

	Other documents/outputs	VESiEE Phase 1 Pilots – Case Studies VESiEE Phase 1 Pilots - Appendices VESiEE Phase 2 – Regional Pilot - Technical Report Ecosystem Services Approach and Local Planning Ecosystem services arable pilot
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic valuation • Ecosystem Services Valuation • Case study approach • Scenarios • Social (non-monetary) valuation • Spatial and Local Planning Toolkit • Consultation and engagement toolkit • Option review toolkit
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	Primary Research - Consultation with key stakeholders, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone interviews • Workshop event • Face to face meetings • Email correspondence • Consultation and engagement events
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers; Broads Authority; BTCV; Campaign for the Protection of Rural England; Civic Trust Societies, East of England; East of England Biodiversity Forum; East of England Regional Assembly; English Heritage; Friends of the Earth; Government Office, East of England; Groundwork East of England; National Trust; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; Sustainable Transport East of England Region; The Wildlife Trusts; Woodland Trust
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	More than 1000
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific information only • Resource experts (e.g. Foresters) • Traditional knowledge / local knowledge
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	Final Report – Ecosystem Services Valuation: Appendix 5 Case Study Approach: Figure 6.1
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	Yes
	Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	An ecosystem service approach has a relevance to a broad range of issues and policies as set out in The East of England Plan (the Regional Spatial Strategy and Regional Economic Strategy). These include within the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England the following: Core Spatial Strategy (including SS8 urban fringe and SS9 the coast), Economic Development, Regional Housing Provision, Regional Transport Strategy, Water and Environment.
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	Yes – review by the key stakeholders and consultants involved in the spatial strategy and strategic environmental assessment

	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	For ecosystem services to be adopted as a tool there is a need to show how ES can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input into existing approaches/processes, e.g. spatial planning, • Add value (additionality) to these processes, and • Where relevant replace existing approaches.
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	Further non-technical guidance using real working examples and simple clear language is needed to improve understanding and fully engage people with the concept of Ecosystem Services and the valuation of these services. Buy- in and engagement of key stakeholders beyond the biodiversity sector requires case will need to be based on demonstration of the relevance of ecosystem services to their sector and examples of how such an approach can add value.
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing common standards, methods and protocols, Communication and awareness raising • Network and sharing experiences • Workshops and engagement events
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted presentation of information needs to be developed – explaining how an Ecosystem Services Approach can help meet targets and obligations etc. • Language and practical examples used need to be relevant to each sector. • Training of key individuals (potential champions) is required; the successful approach adopted in some regions in Green Infrastructure training could be adapted. • Tools for engagement, buy in and conflict resolution are required, training of workers using an Ecosystem Services Approach is needed as off the shelf participation tools alone will not be sufficient to deal with the complex set of values involved and conflicts which can arise.
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	Issues identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps in the current typology • Scale and focus of studies • Data, evidence and values • Potential barriers to the use of the Ecosystem Services Approach
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	A series of recommendations have been developed to address the issues identified
Additional information		The Valuing Ecosystem Services in the East of England feasibility studies and demonstration pilots form part of a wider range of pilot studies (20) undertaken in Britain and mainland Europe relating ecosystem services to a range of practical planning and decision making situations including: green space planning, environmental impact assessment, community engagement, tackling poverty and multiple deprivation, valuation of protected areas etc.
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Peter Glaves (Ecology and Economy Group, Northumbria University)

Table A3.13: Assessment profile: Using Science to Create a Better Place – Ecosystem Service Case Studies

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	Using Science to Create a Better Place – Ecosystem Service Case Studies
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set of sites
	Country or countries covered	England
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	This report outlines the background, methods, findings and recommendations from a study into the application of ecosystem services in two case studies: the Tamar catchment and the Alkborough Flats managed realignment site. The purpose of these studies was to test the applicability and value of the ecosystems approach – management based on ecosystem services – for the Environment Agency. Both case studies were on historical schemes, acknowledging that further benefit could be derived from the ecosystems approach applied proactively to schemes in the planning or inception stage in order more effectively to engage appropriate stakeholders, frame problems, explore alternative solutions and agree priorities.
	Mandate for the assessment	In 2007, Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) championed uptake of ecosystem services as a basis for more sustainable and inclusive policy formulation in England. Funded by the Environment Agency’s Science Programme, the two case studies in this report, one undertaken at catchment scale and the other at site scale, provide learning for the Environment Agency about the applicability of an ecosystems approach to its policies and other activities.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millennium Ecosystem Assessment • Economic valuation
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inland water
	Species groups assessed	
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh water • Food (e.g. crops, fruit, fish, etc.) • Fish stocks • Fibre and fuel (e.g. timber, wool, etc.) • Genetic resources (used for crop/stock breeding and biotechnology)

	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality regulation • Climate regulation • Water regulation • Natural hazard regulation (i.e. storm protection) • Disease regulation • Erosion regulation
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary production • Soil formation • Nutrient cycling • Water recycling • Provision of habitat
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage • Recreation and tourism • Navigation
	Scope of assessment includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
	3. Options for responding/interventions to the trends observed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	
	Year assessment finished	2009
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://a0768b4a8a31e106d8b0-50dc802554eb38a24458b98ff72d550b.r19.cf3.rackcdn.com/scho0409bpvm-e-e.pdf
	Report (s)	Everard, M (2009) Using science to create a better place: Ecosystem services case studies. Better regulation science programme, Environment Agency. Bristol.
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	

Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	
	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Mark Everard (Environment Agency)

Table A3.14: Assessment profile: The Mayes Brook Restoration in Mayesbrook Park, East London: an Ecosystem Services Assessment.

Section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Sub-section of the Catalogue of Assessments	Response
Title	Full name of the assessment	The Mayes Brook Restoration in Mayesbrook Park, East London: an Ecosystem Services Assessment
	Short name of the assessment (if applicable)	
Geographical coverage	Geographical scale of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single site
	Country or countries covered	England
	Any other necessary information or explanation for identifying the location of the assessment, including site or region name	
Conceptual framework, methodology and scope	Assessment objectives	To evaluate the projected outcomes of a programme of work to restore the Mayes Brook and its associated floodplain in Mayesbrook Park, East London, in terms of the benefits this will bring to ecosystem services in the area. The aim of the report is to explore the key benefits of restoring the river reaches, areas of floodplain and associated parkland, by assessing the many natural benefits that they may provide for the local community.
	Mandate for the assessment	The Mayes Brook restoration was initiated by a partnership of the Thames Rivers Restoration Trust (TRRT), the London Borough of Barking Dagenham (LBBD) and Environment Agency. The latter commissioned the River Restoration Centre (RRC) to look for the best urban centre to use as an exemplar of urban river restoration (RRC, 2007). Additional partners guiding the project include Natural England (NE), the Greater London Authority (GLA), Design for London (DfL), London Wildlife Trust (LWT) and World Wildlife Fund UK. The project to restore the brook fulfils the local and national Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) goals to protect and enhance reedbeds and wetland habitats.
	Conceptual framework and/or methodology used for the assessment	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment typology, plus economic valuation
	URL or copy of conceptual framework developed or adapted	http://www.theriverstrust.org/projects/water/Mayes%20brook%20restoration.pdf
	System(s) assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inland water • Grassland • Urban
	Species groups assessed	
	Ecosystem services/functions assessed: 1. Provisioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Timber/fibres

	2. Regulating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Climate regulation • Moderation of extreme events • Regulation of water flows • Erosion prevention
	3. Supporting Services/Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat maintenance • Nutrient cycling
	4. Cultural services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism
	Scope of assessment includes:	
	1. Drivers of change in systems and services	
	2. Impacts of change in services on human well-being	
	3. Options for responding / interventions to the trends observed	Yes
	4. Explicit consideration of the role of biodiversity in the systems and services covered by the assessment	
Timing of the assessment	Year assessment started	
	Year assessment finished	2011
	If ongoing, year assessment is anticipated to finish	
	Periodicity of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One off
Assessment outputs	Website (s)	http://www.theriverstrust.org/projects/water/Mayes%20brook%20restoration.pdf
	Report (s)	Everard, M., Shuker, L. and Gurnell, A (2011) The Mayes Brook restoration in Mayesbrook Park, East London: an ecosystem services assessment. Environment Agency. UK.
	Communication materials (e.g. brochure, presentations, posters, audio-visual media)	
	Journal publications	
	Training materials	
	Other documents/outputs	
Tools and processes	Tools and approaches used in the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic valuation • Social (non-monetary) valuation
	Process used for stakeholder engagement in the assessment process and which component	
	Key stakeholder groups engaged	
	The number of people directly involved in the assessment process	
	Incorporation of scientific and other types of knowledge	

	Supporting documentation for specific approaches, methodology or criteria developed and/or used to integrate knowledge systems into the assessment,	
	Assessment reports peer reviewed	
Data	Accessibility of data used in assessment	
Policy impact	Impacts the assessment has had on policy and/or decision making, as evidenced through policy references and actions	
	Independent or other review on policy impact of the assessment	
	Lessons learnt for future assessments from these reviews	
Capacity building	Capacity building needs identified during the assessment	
	Actions taken by the assessment to build capacity	
	How have gaps in capacity been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Knowledge generation	Gaps in knowledge identified from the assessment	
	How gaps in knowledge have been communicated to the different stakeholders	
Additional information		
Contact	Name (Organisation)	Dr Mark Everard (Environment Agency)

Appendix 4: Survey questions to address Objective 3

A4.1 Survey 1: Usability of the Catalogue and usefulness of the content

Section 1: Respondent's information

1. Contact details

Name:

Company:

Email Address:

Phone number:

2. Which sector best describes your profession?

- Government
- NGO
- Researcher
- Business
- Intergovernmental Organisation or Agency
- Other (please specify)

3. In your profession, which of the following themes are part of your work? Choose all that apply.

- Biodiversity
- Ecosystem services
- Ecosystem assessment
- Other (please specify)

4. In your profession, which activities are you involved in? Choose all that apply.

- Primary research
- Analysis
- Reporting
- Monitoring
- Mainstreaming results
- Policy or decision making
- Setting research agendas
- Other (please specify)

5. How did you become aware of the Catalogue?

- This survey request
- IPBES communications (e.g. email or their website)
- Search engine
- Via a colleague
- Other (please specify)

6. How often do you visit the Catalogue?

- This is my first visit
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less than once a month

Section 2: User interface

7. Which internet browser did you use to view the Catalogue?

- Internet Explorer
- Chrome
- Firefox
- Other (please specify)

8. How would you rate the Catalogue in terms of the following?

Components of the Catalogue's User interface	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
Design and appearance						
Ease of navigation						
Layout of assessment information						
Quality of the instructions to assist the user						

9. Do you have any comments on the Catalogue's user interface?

Section 3: Functionality

10. How would you rate the Catalogue in terms of the following?

Components of the Catalogue's Functionality	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
Ease of using the search functions						
Usefulness of the Advanced search categories						
Ease of browsing the map						
Usefulness of the map feature						
Usefulness of the 'download to Excel' function						
The print function						

11. Do you have any comments on the Catalogue's functionality?

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12. At present the download function allows either the full suite of assessments in the Catalogue or individual assessments to be downloaded to an Excel spreadsheet. Would it be useful to be able to download a subset of assessments which meet chosen search criteria?

- Yes
- No

Section 4: Relevance of content

13. In general, is the information contained in the Catalogue relevant to your work?

- Yes
- No

14. Information on assessments in the Catalogue is divided into 9 main sections. Please rate the usefulness of each section to your work.

Main section heading	Extremely useful	Very useful	Useful	Slightly useful	Not useful
Geographical coverage (scale; countries covered)					
Conceptual framework, methodology & scope (objectives; mandate; systems, species groups and ecosystem services assessed; drivers; impacts on human well-being; responses; role of biodiversity)					
Timing of the assessment (start and finish year; periodicity)					
Assessment outputs (website; communications;					

training materials)					
Tools and processes (tools & approaches used; stakeholder engagement; knowledge included)					
Data (accessibility)					
Policy impact (& lessons learnt)					
Capacity building (needs; actions taken)					
Knowledge generation (gaps identified; gaps communicated)					

15. Please describe how you do, or would, use this information?

Q16. Do you feel that the 9 main sections of the Catalogue sufficiently capture information on ecosystem assessments?

- Yes
- No

17. What additional information from ecosystem assessments would you find useful to include in the Catalogue?

18. Do you feel that the 9 main sections of the Catalogue sufficiently capture information on biodiversity assessments?

- Yes
- No

19. What additional information from biodiversity assessments would you find useful to include in the Catalogue?

20. Is there any information missing from the 'About the Catalogue' page that would be useful to include?

21. What do you think is the best feature of the Catalogue?

22. If you could change one thing about the Catalogue, what would it be?

23. Any other comments?

A4.2 Survey 2: Inputting and editing content

Section 1: User interface

Q1. Which internet browser did you use to view the Catalogue?

- Internet Explorer
- Chrome
- Firefox
- Other, please describe

Q2. How would you rate the Catalogue's pages in terms of the following?

Components of the Catalogue's User interface	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
a. Design and appearance						
b. Ease of navigation						
c. Layout of assessment information						

Q3. Do you have any comments on the Catalogue's user interface?

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Section 2: Adding new content

Q4. How would you rate the Catalogue in terms of the following?

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	No comment
Initial steps of adding a new assessment						
a. Ease of finding information on how to add a new assessment						
b. Ease of the registration process						
c. Ease of adding a new assessment profile						
Adding and formatting content and uploading files						
d. Clarity of each sub-section title in terms of understanding how to answer each section						
e. Ease of adding text to a field						
f. Ease of understanding the possible responses to the multiple choice questions						

g. Ease of adding or removing an answer, document or reference						
h. Usefulness of the overview table						
i. Clarity of the formatting instructions						
j. Usefulness of error messages						
Final steps of adding a new assessment						
k. Clarity of how to save a new assessment profile						
l. Clarity of how to publish a new assessment profile						

Q5. Do you have any comments on any of the above?

Q4a.

Q4b.

Q4c.

Q4d.

Q4e.

Q4f.

Q4g.

Q4h.

Q4i.

Q4j.

Q4k.

Q4l.

Q6. Do you feel that more instructions are needed to assist the user on any page of the Catalogue?

- No
- Yes, please describe

Q7. Additional comments on your experience of adding assessments or how to improve the usability of the Catalogue.

8 Supplementary Electronic Material

The database which supports the report is available as supplementary electronic material for download from the [JNCC website](#).