

# **Ecosystem accounting in 2005: wetlands, dry grassland (and rivers); objectives and organisation of work**

**Contribution from the European Topic  
Centre on Biological Diversity**



Corresponds to **Task 3.2.1** of the ETC/BD  
Implementation Plan 2005

**5 ETC/BD partners** involved:

**MNHN**: general coordinator

**WI**: expertise in wetlands

**ILE** and **AOPK**: expertise in grasslands

**ECNC** and **AOPK**: expertise in ecological  
corridors



From the ETC/BD point of view, **ecosystem/habitat/connectivity approach** addressed at various levels:

1. CBD global and EU **headline indicators**: State and trends in selected habitats/ecosystems
2. Assessment of **NATURA 2000** performance
3. '**Ecosystem approach**' under CBD
4. **Pan-European Ecological network**
5. Others (**Bonn, Ramsar** conventions etc...)



We need to assess ecosystems both in  
**quantitative** and **qualitative**  
points of view

- Need to fill the present existing gap between the **exhaustive assessment of the surface** of the ecosystems and the **in-depth assessment of selected** (designated) natural areas



To assist the EEA in **refining a strategy** for 'Environmental accounting of land use and ecosystems'

A combination of :

- **strategic thinking** on what to be done for environmental accounting given the availability of data
- **concrete mapping products**



Improve **spatial characterisation of CLC** objects by cross checking with different sources of data for wetlands, grasslands and rivers



## Make use of already available databases:

- Ramsar database
- Sites for waterbird monitoring (?)
- NATURA 2000 database

## Assess availability and access to other sources

- Important Bird Areas
- Important Plant Areas
- National inventories
- Synbiosis



Agree on a **typology of habitat-types** to be selected:

- on-going for **wetlands**
- to be done for **grasslands**: built upon previous meeting held with JRC on May 2002 in Copenhagen

For **rivers**: comment on the **data model** prepared by EEA

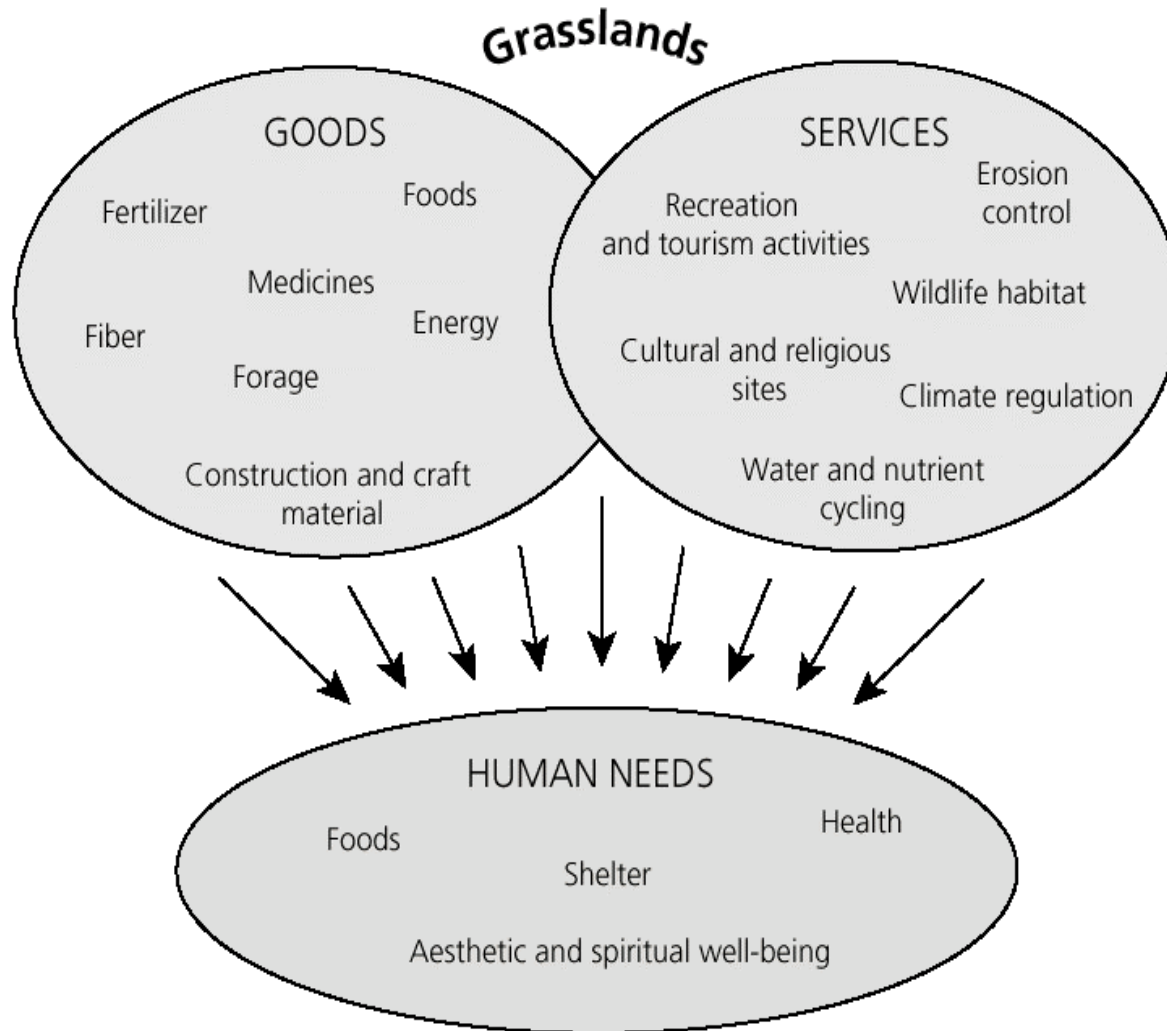




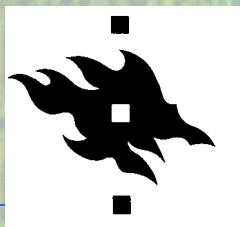
Assist in the development of the  
'ecosystem distress syndrome'  
accounting framework



# Identify the different **services** provided by ecosystems



# Agroecosystems: assessing the importance of semi-natural areas as biodiversity sources



•**Reija Hietala-Koivu**

Oiva Hakala / Project of Monitoring visual landscapes in Finland.

HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO  
Soveltavan biologian laitos

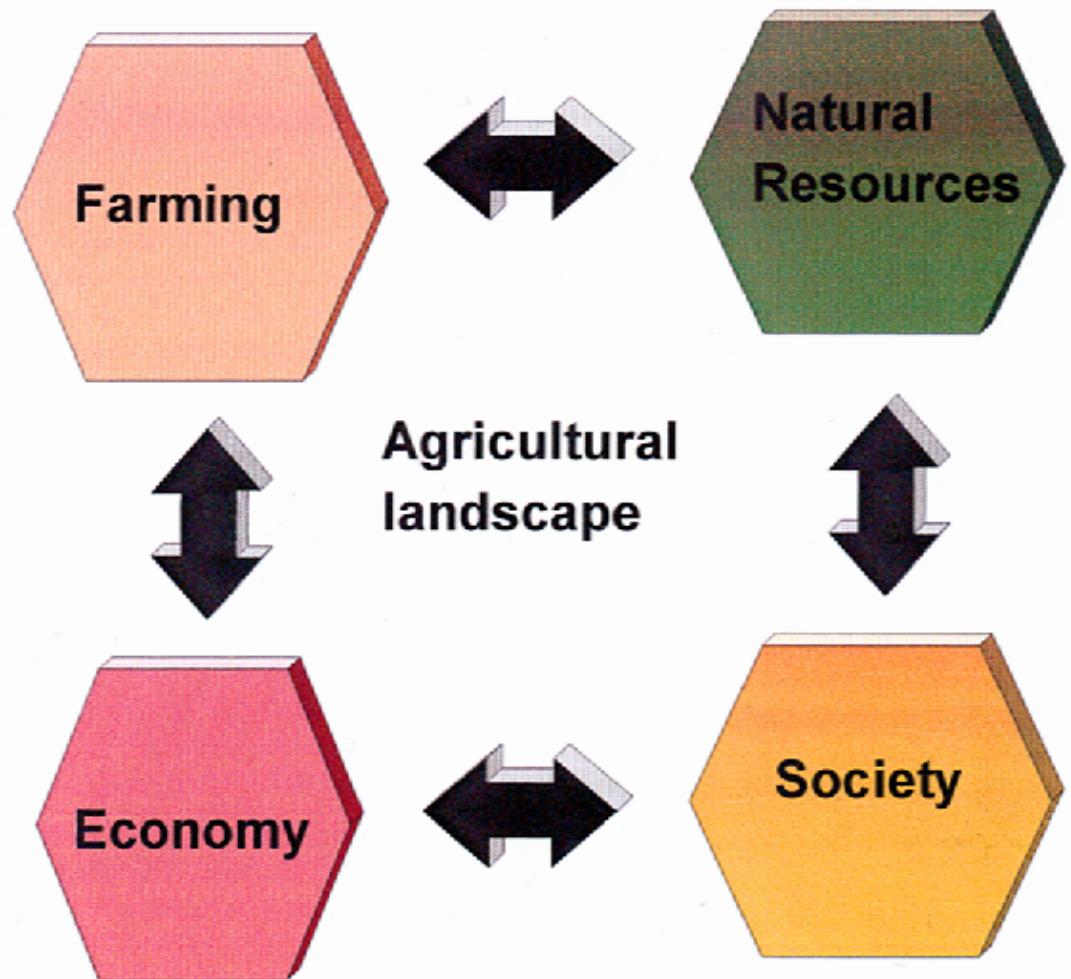
HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET  
Institutionen för tillämpad biologi

UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI  
Department of Applied Biology



Agricultural landscape is visually an indirect product of agricultural practices, nature, human values, appreciation and the profitability of farming.

## Factors of the agricultural landscape:



# Identify main **potential pressures** on ecosystems in different biogeographic contexts

- The **MIRABEL framework** developed by CEH on behalf of ETC/NPB to be revisited
- Currently being reused under the **BIOPRESS** project



'Impact tables' for  
each biogeographic/ ecological region  
which are then converted into maps with  
distribution of habitats

	Estuaries	Mires	Forests	Mesic grassland	Heath
intensification					XX
Abandonment				X	
Afforestation					
Eutrophication	X				XX
Fragmentation					



# For the ETC/BD in 2005

- Ensure **synergy with on-going biodiversity related spatial projects** (Biopress, AlterNet, BioHab...)
- Identify most relevant teams to work with
- Participate in the **annual ETC/TE EIONET workshop**

