LEEP Workshop on Accounting for Nature and Biodiversity

Hosted by the Land, Environment, Economics, and Policy (LEEP) Institute

With thanks for support from
the Dragon Capital Chair in Biodiversity Economics,
and the University of Exeter ESRC Translational Funding

Thursday, September 4, 2025

09.00 – 17.15

First Floor, XFi Building

Rennes Drive, EX4 4ST

Directions: https://w3w.co/forest.basket.gifts

Concept Note

In his address to the sixth UN Environment Assembly, UN Secretary-General António Guterres called for urgent, coordinated action to address climate change, nature loss, and pollution as interconnected crises. Yet while science and technology have advanced rapidly, decision-makers still lack the tools and information needed to fully account for the depreciation of natural capital

Earlier this year, an interdisciplinary group of economists, ecologists, and other natural and social scientists gathered at Resources for the Future in Washington, DC, to confront this challenge. The group agreed that there is a lack of standardized, trusted, and policy-relevant environmental-economic statistics. Without a harmonized taxonomy linking natural systems, economic activity, and human well-being, nature will only ever be incompletely integrated into decision-making. Current bottom-up approaches, from ESG metrics to biodiversity offsets, have generated a multitude of indicators with inconsistent objectives that erode trust and impede coordination.

This workshop brings together leading researchers and practitioners working toward improved environmental economic statistics to explore how best to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into the frameworks that guide economic policy. Research Frontier Sessions provide short research talks, while Policy Sessions pose current challenges, framed by experts, with ample time for debate and discussion.

Please contact Ethan Addicott with any questions or to pre-arrange parking:

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Draft Agenda

09.00–09.15 Coffee & Informal Welcome

09.15–09.30 Introduction & Framing

Ethan Addicott, LEEP

09.30–10.15 Policy Session 1- New Information in Environmental Accounts

Marc Conte, Fordham University

10.15–11.00 Research Frontier Session 1 - Integrated Modelling for Land Use Decisions

Brett Day and Thiago Morello, LEEP

11.15 – 11.30 Break

11.30 – 12.15 Policy Session 2 – Biodiversity Measures, Values, and Markets

Ben Groom and Ben Balmford, LEEP

12.15 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 14.00 Policy Session 3 – Natural Capital Accounts in the UK and US

Eli Fenichel, Yale and *Alec Jacobs, ONS*

14.00 – 14.45 Research Frontier Session 3 - Remote Sensing and Leakage

Daniele Rinaldo, LEEP and *Sabrina Eisenbarth, St. Gallen*

14.45 – 15.15 Policy Session 4 - Natural Capital and Cultural Ecosystem Services

VOCul Project Team, LEEP

15.15 – 15.30 Break

15.30 - 16.15 Research Frontier Session 4 – Limited Substitutability of Natural Capital

Marc Conte, Fordham and *Ethan Addicott, LEEP*

16.15 – 17.00 Policy Recommendation Drafting and Summation

Ethan Addicott, LEEP

17.00 –17.15 Closing Reflections