

A1: Setting the Scene: Biodiversity to Human Welfare

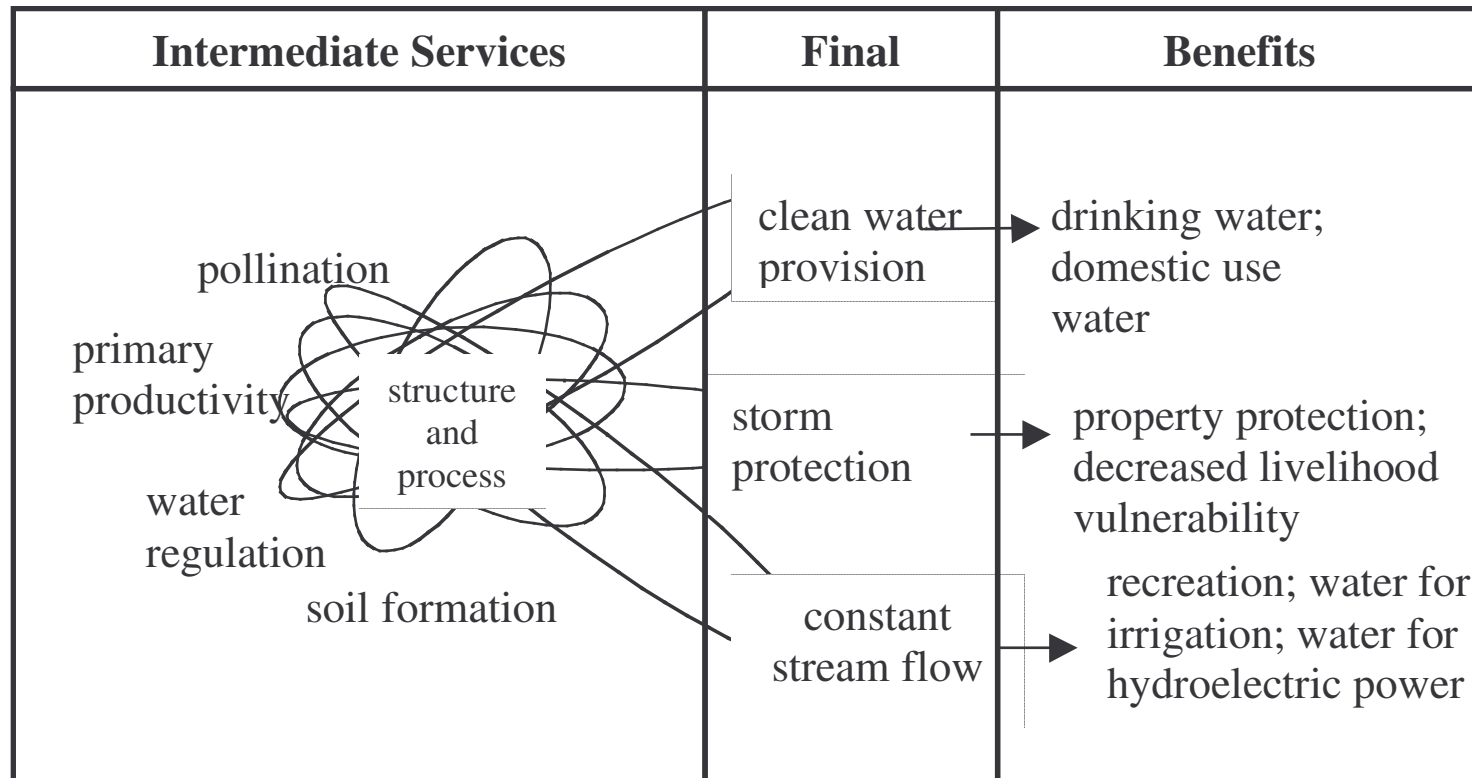
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COP9 and 10: Using the MEA

- MEA provides excellent platform to take forward interdisciplinary dialogue on links between biodiversity change, ecosystem services and human welfare

- MEA could be adapted + reorientated to focus on requirements of economic valuation.
 - Need classification system distinguishing “intermediate/core” services from “final” or “beneficial” services, benefits (human welfare)
 - Can adapt MEA with little loss of functionality and mitigate problem of double counting

Classification for Valuation



- MEA approach should encompass concept of production function with inputs and outputs
- Focus should be on information requirements of this approach:
 - Front end – what are implications of biodiversity loss for ecosystem services
 - Need to systematically review existing science base and think more about bio loss as loss of diversity and/or amounts

- Scale was thought to be crucial issue
 - Local contexts – indigenous knowledge, symbolic and cultural values
 - Global scale – tipping points

- Non linearity and threshold effects – what is current state of knowledge, how to take forward precautionary approach
- End of production function - need to:
 - be aware of limitations of economic valuation
 - consider intrinsic value
 - Recognise total ecosystem value > total marginal economic value