

MASTS small grant report

Dr Jasper Kenter - SAMS

There is increasing interest in developing integrated approaches to valuing ecosystem services that combine monetary and non-monetary approaches. This is in recognition that values are fundamentally pluralistic, and different dimensions of values are not always commensurable in a single metric, whether money-based or otherwise. As such, frameworks used for ecosystem assessment, such as those associated with TEEB and CICES, and the UK Valuing Nature Network and NEA, have highlighted the need to consider 'social', 'shared', 'shared social' or 'cultural' values, set of values that are not individualistic but intersubjective, formed 'between people', from small communities and communities of practice (e.g. recreational users of the environment) to societies as a whole. This small grant supported a workshop on 16-17 March, 2015, at SAMS, to develop further thinking on issues surrounding shared values and deliberative valuation of ecosystem services, with an emphasis on application to marine contexts. The main aim of the workshop was to develop thinking with regards to a future ESRC grant application.

MASTS supported the workshop with £1000, a further £2000 was available through SAMS project contributions. In particular the MASTS funds enabled inviting Dr Chris Raymond, Univ of South Australia, who is an expert in non-monetary valuation of ecosystem services. Other attendants included:

- Dr Jasper Kenter and Prof Paul Tett (SAMS)
- Dr Verity Watson (Univ of Aberdeen)
- Dr Kate Irvine (James Hutton Institute)
- Dr Ros Bryce (UHI)
- Nigel Cooper (Church of England/Anglia Ruskin University)
- Prof Neil Ravenscroft and Dr Joanne Orchard-Webb (Univ of Brighton)
- Prof Mike Christie and Ewa Sewicka (Aberystwyth Univ)
- Dr Neal Hockley (Bangor Univ)
- Dr Liz O'Brien (Forest Research)

Sue Ranger (Marine Conservation Society), Emily Brady (Edinburgh Univ), Ioan Fazey (Dundee Univ), and Mark Reed (BCU) were invited an unable to attend but were asked to provide feedback on a concept note written by the organiser that provided a starting point for discussion in the workshop. The format of the workshop also included short talks by each of the participants followed by extensive discussion.

The workshop discussion focused on the following key areas:

- Value changes as a result from deliberation: what kinds of values change, how do values change, what processes and factors influence value change
- Aims of deliberation: e.g. democratisation of values, questions of value legitimacy, dealing with complexity and uncertainty in relation to evidence
- Aggregation of values: what aggregation procedures can be used, how are these perceived and chosen.
- Decision-making processes: in what contexts are the above questions most pertinent/relevant, where can deliberative processes most usefully applied.
- Cross-comparison between different fields, e.g. marine-terrestrial but also environment-health-social policy etc.

These key issues will be developed into a 'future directions paper', which we aim to submit to *Ecosystem Services* in Oct 2015, and which will then form the basis of an ESRC grant application.