

Integrated Valuation of Environmental Services and Trade-offs *Two one-day introductions to the decision support tool 'InVEST'*

5th March 2013, London and 7th March 2013, Edinburgh. 10am to 4pm.

Convenors: Rob Fish (University of Exeter) and Marion Potschin (University of Nottingham)
Delivered by Emily McKenzie (Natural Capital Project, WWF) and Brad Eichelberger (Natural Capital Project, Stanford University) with support from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

InVEST is a free and open-source software designed to promote integrated approaches to natural resource management. It has been developed by the **Natural Capital Project (NatCap)**, a partnership of WWF, The Nature Conservancy, Stanford University and the University of Minnesota. InVEST can be used in the public, private and third sectors to answer questions such as:

- Where do ecosystem services originate and where are they 'consumed'?
- How does a proposed forestry management plan affect timber yields, habitat quality, water quality and recreation?
- What kinds of coastal management and fishery policies will yield the best returns for sustainable fisheries, shoreline protection and recreation?
- Which parts of a watershed provide the greatest carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and erosion control values?
- What benefits does marine spatial planning provide to society, in addition to food from fishing and aquaculture, and secure locations for renewable energy facilities?

<http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org>

These one-day workshops are designed for those involved in informing decisions about the management of specific areas of land and marine habitat. Each event will include:

- a general introduction and overview of the Natural Capital Project's approach and family of tools. We will give an overview of InVEST, the data it requires, the information it provides and how it can be deployed in decision-making;
- a practical demonstration of how InVEST quantifies, maps, and values ecosystem services using some practical case studies focused on specific decision contexts, including spatial planning and payments for ecosystem services; and,
- an opportunity to interact with the InVEST software and discuss with NatCap staff the potential to use these techniques in areas of concern for participating practitioners.

Emily and Brad of NatCap will be available between 4 and 5.30 pm each day for further informal discussions about InVEST and its applications.

If you would like to express interest in attending this special event, please contact Anita Sedgewick indicating your current work and how you will benefit from taking part, at

ekn@naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk (telephone 0333 240 6990).

There are some bursaries for travel for people who would not otherwise be able to join. All participants need to be network members.

The **Ecosystems Knowledge Network** is a free resource for anyone wanting to share knowledge or learn about the practical benefits of an ecosystems approach, a framework for managing the natural environment in a holistic and integrated way. It is sponsored by Defra.