

# ESVD – 2026 update webinar

Valuing nature, Informing investments

# Welcome



Vince van 't Hoff

ESVD – Senior Program Officer



BRANDER  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ECONOMICS



# Program

| Time  | Name              | Organisation                                 | Presentation                                                                      |
|-------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16:00 | Vince van 't Hoff | Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD) | Opening                                                                           |
| 16:05 | Luke Brander      | Brander Environmental Economics              | What's New in the ESVD?                                                           |
| 16:15 | All (ESVD team)   |                                              | Q&A                                                                               |
| 16:25 | Daniel Dionisio   | Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)      | ABC-MAP: Supporting Integration of Ecosystem Service Values into Agrifood Systems |
| 16:35 | Yoanna Kraus      | Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)      | ESVD applications through the Project Investment Cycle                            |
| 16:45 | All               |                                              | Q&A                                                                               |
| 16:55 | Vince van 't Hoff | Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD) | Closing & call for action                                                         |

# House rules

Encourage camera for discussion

Webinar is recorded

Questions & Comments in **Q&A chatbox and collected by us**

Twice a 10 minute Q&A where we will get back to your questions and remarks.

Encouraging active engagement, so raise your hand and unmute yourself for questions

# ESVD



gemeente Leek



provincie Drenthe



asn bank



Netherlands Enterprise Agency



EINDHOVEN

- Stemming from the TEEB database
- From 5,000 in 2021 to 13,000 value estimates currently
- Almost 11,000 user accounts
- **Goal: Making economic information on ecosystem services available for decision-making**

## The Team

Which Makes Nature Count



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Vince van 't Hoff

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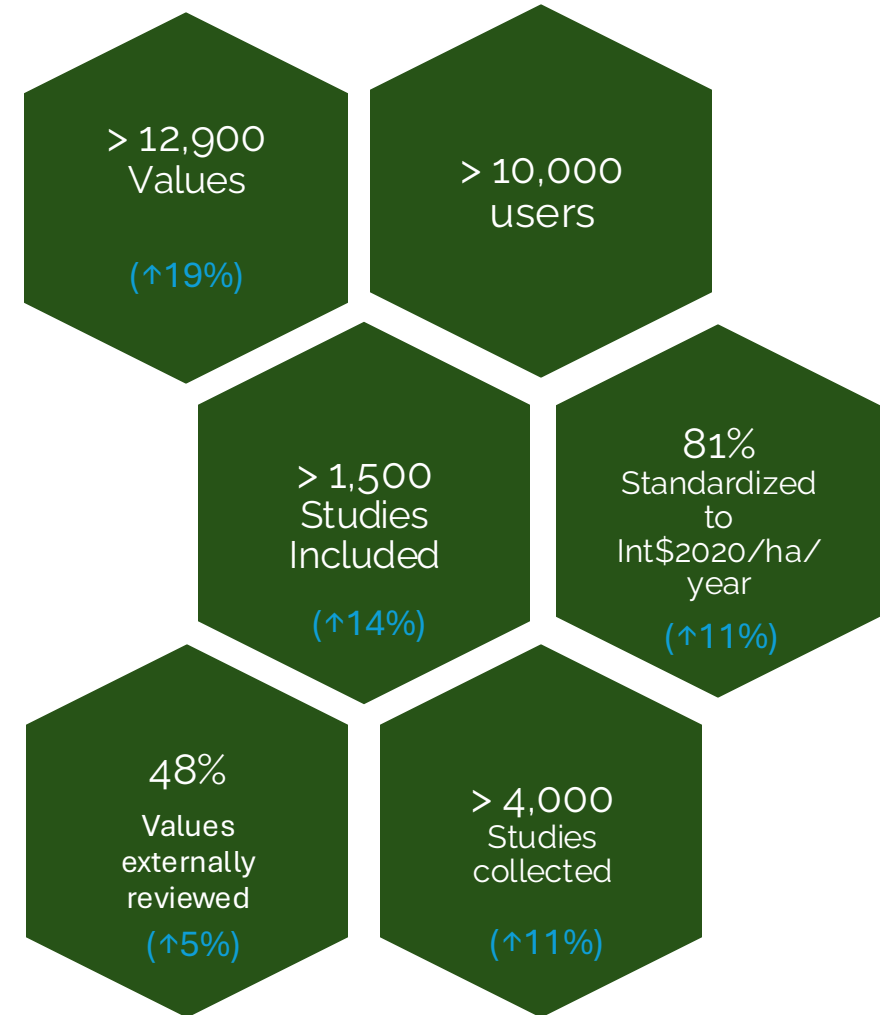
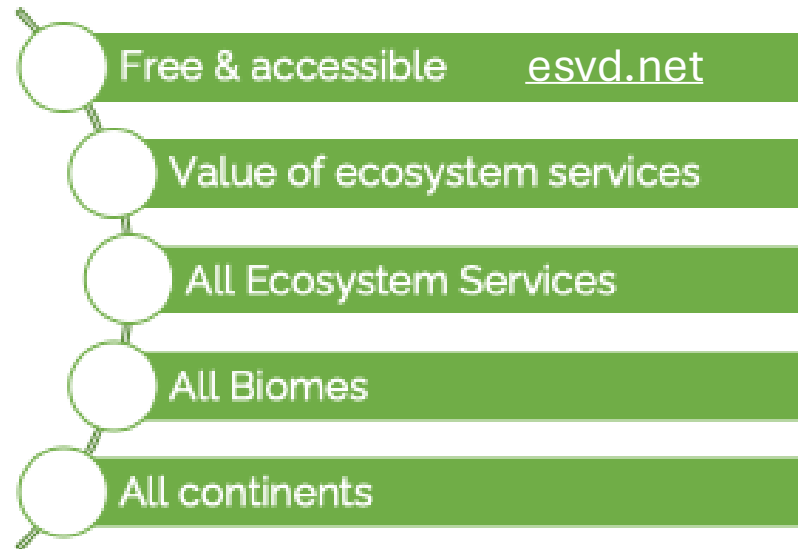
Philipp Schaefer

Innovation & Database Development  
philipp.schaefer@gmail.com

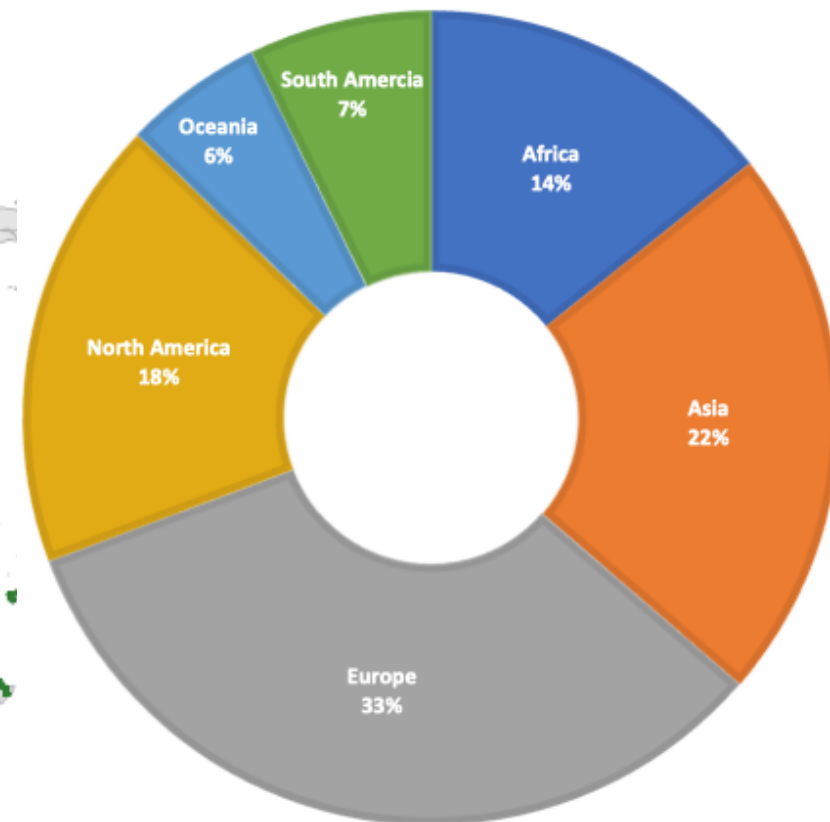
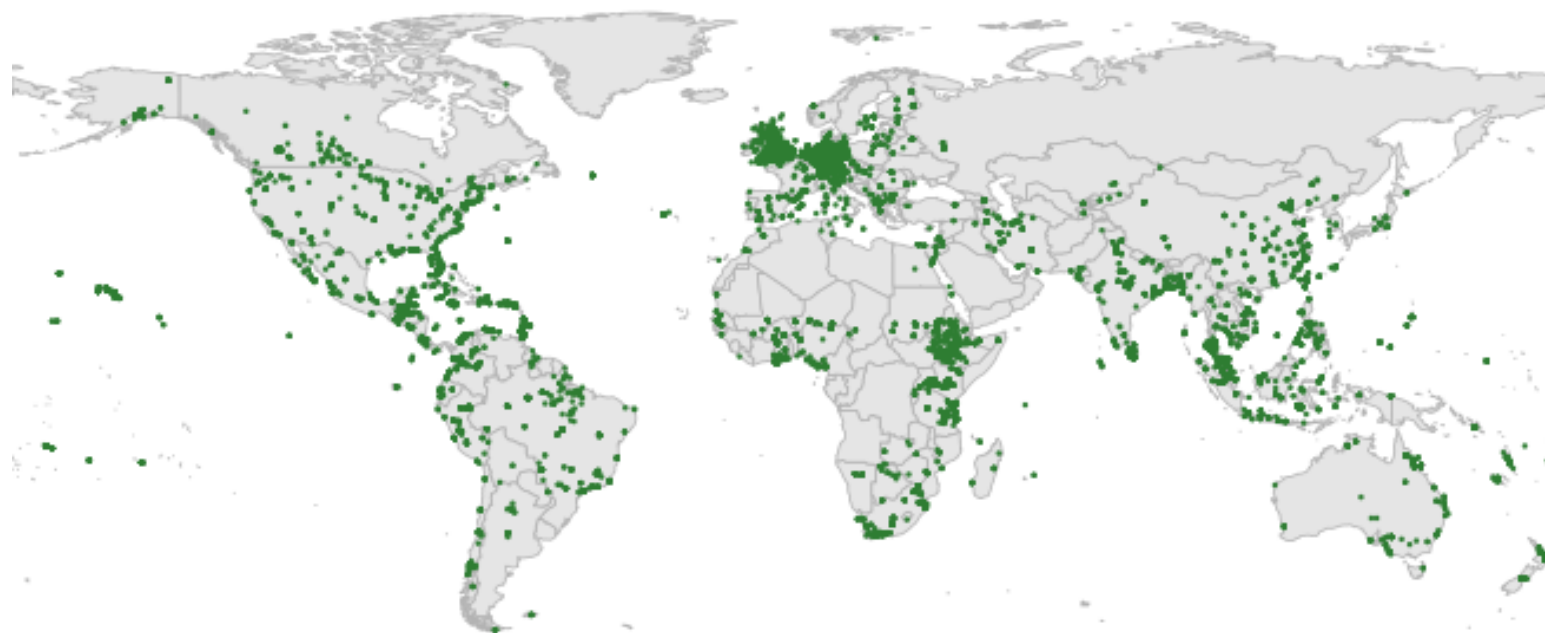
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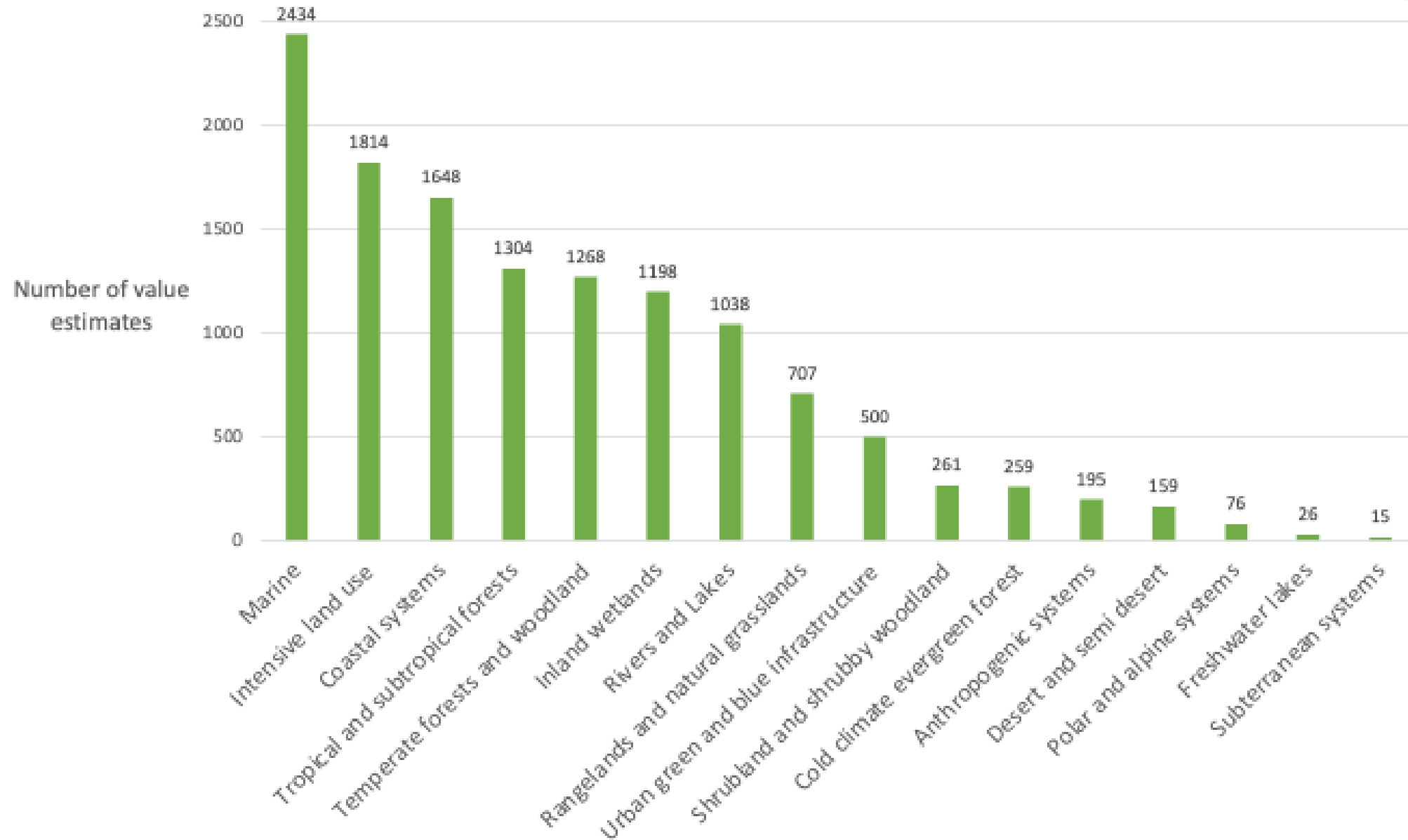
# Ecosystem Services Valuation Database



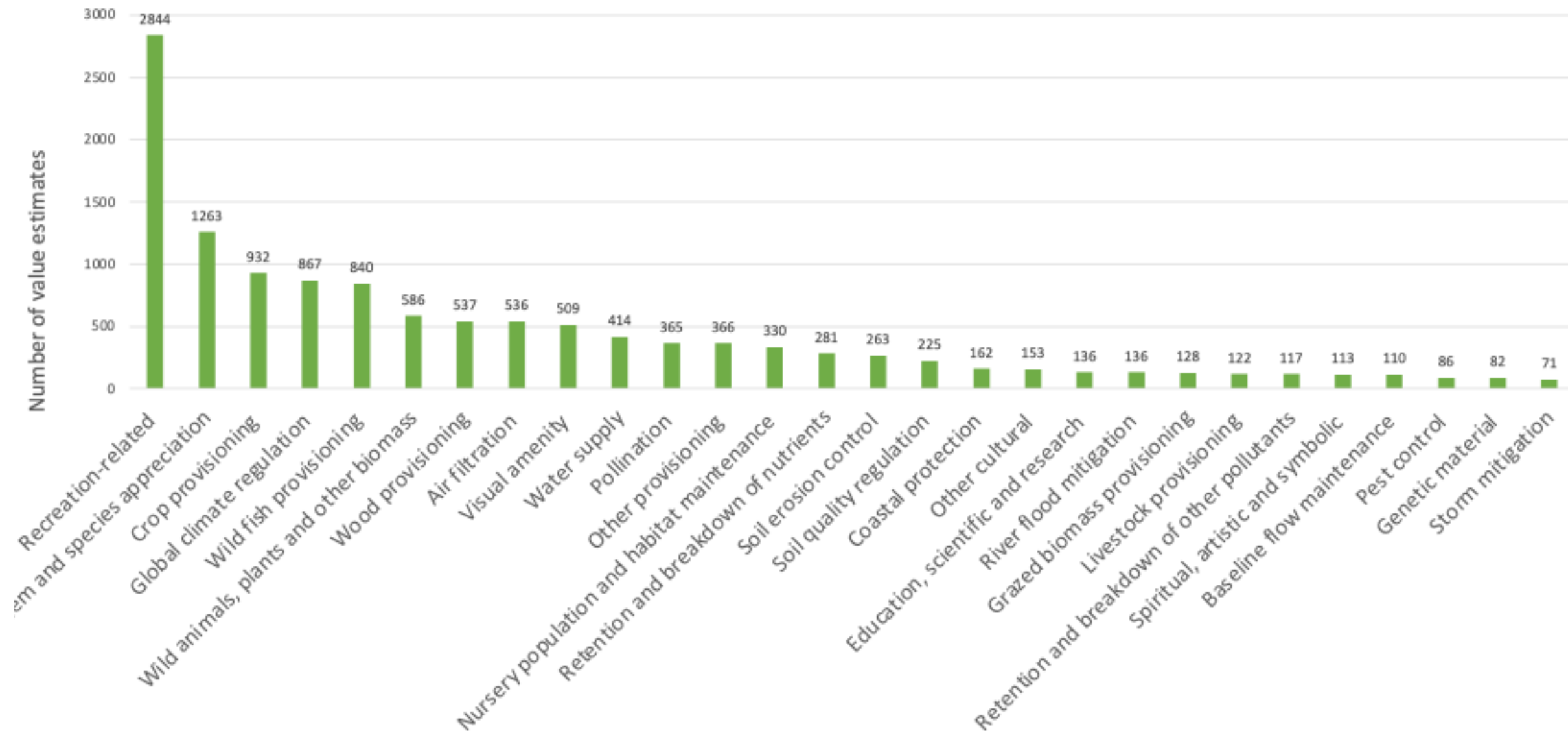
# Spatial distribution of study sites



# Biomes



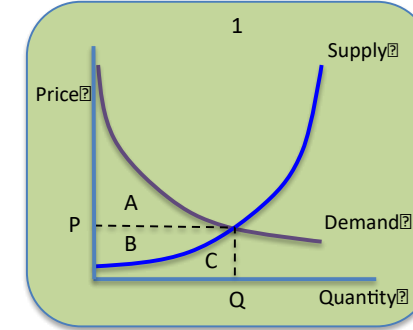
# Ecosystem Services (SEEA EA classification)





# New variables added to ESVD

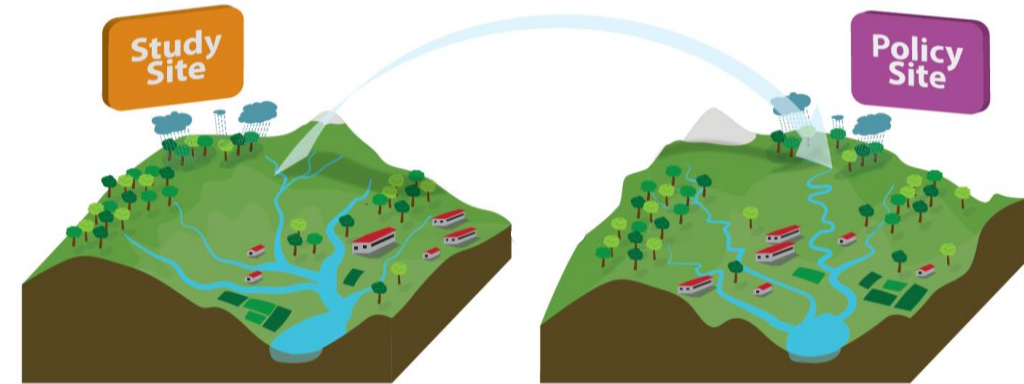
- Value concept (categorical variable)
  - Consumer surplus
  - Producer surplus
  - Exchange value → relevant for SEEA EA accounts
- Valued change (categorical variable)
  - Total flow of ES
  - Positive change in flow of ES
  - Negative change in flow of ES
- More variables coming soon...
  - Change process (e.g., conversion, degradation, restoration, ...)
  - Initial and post-change land use
  - Beneficiary location (e.g., local, sub-national, national, multi-national, global)



# Value transfer tool



- 'Primary' valuation studies are:
  - Time consuming and expensive
  - Data intensive and requires expertise
- The Value Transfer Tool uses meta-analytic value functions to estimate values for user defined sites
- Estimates Int\$/ha/year with 95% confidence interval
- New biomes included in the Value Transfer Tool:
  - Tropical forest
  - Agricultural land
  - Temperate forest
  - Grassland
  - Seagrass
  - Mangroves
  - Urban green-blue
  - Updates coming soon ...



ESVD Ecosystem Services Valuation Database

Home Database **Value Transfer Tool** Suggest a Study

Biome: Temperate forest

All fields are required

| Variable                     | Enter your data            | Short explanation                                             | Use default value                   |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ecosystem Service            | Nutrient retention         |                                                               |                                     |
| Forest Ecozone               | Temperate evergreen forest |                                                               |                                     |
| Value concept                | Exchange value             |                                                               |                                     |
| Value change                 | Total flow                 |                                                               |                                     |
| Area                         | 100                        | Area of temperate forest patch in hectares                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Elevation                    | 127                        | metres above sea level                                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Percentage of Protected Area | 8                          | %                                                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Road density                 | 674                        | m/km2 (10 km buffer)                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Land cover % forest          | 46                         | Percentage of land cover that is forest within a 50 km buffer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Population Density           | 153                        | persons per km2 within a 10km buffer of the ecosystem         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Income per capita            | 9650                       | International dollars per capita; 2020 price level            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**Calculate**

Ecosystem service value calculation result: 195 (Int\$/ha/year)

Confidence interval: 89 - 302 (Int\$/ha/year)



# Thank You!



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# ABC-Map: Supporting Integration of Ecosystem Service Values into Agrifood Systems

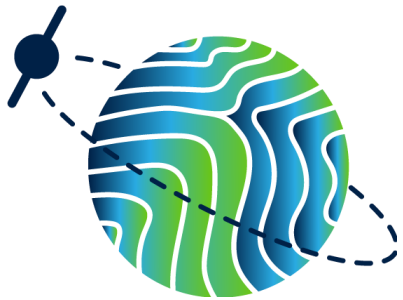
Imogen Brierley

Biodiversity and Climate Change Specialist

Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment, FAO

SEPTEMBER 2026

# What is ABC-Map?



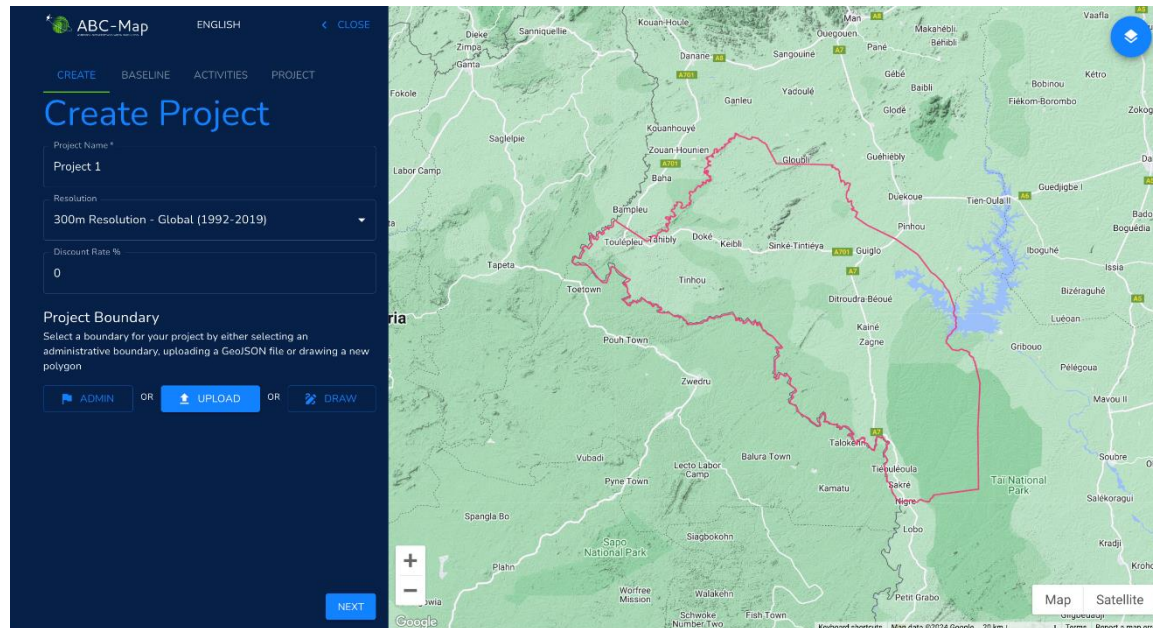
A **geospatial app**  
that provides holistic  
environmental assessments of  
projects in the AFOLU sector



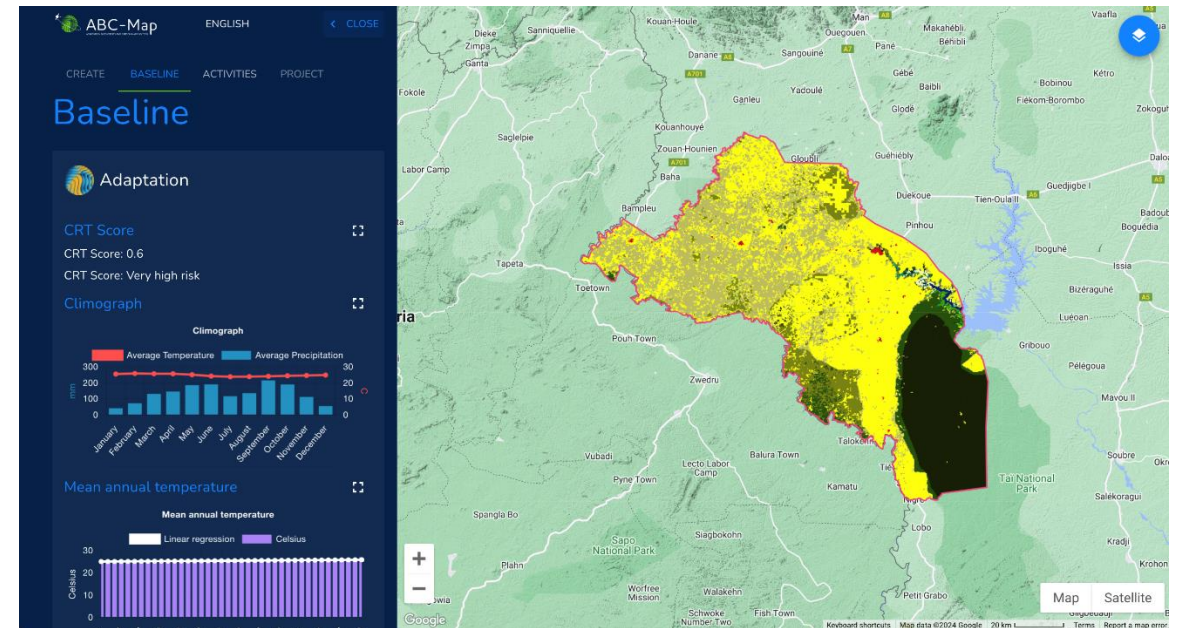
# How does it work?

## STEP 1

Draw your **project area**



Get **past trends** for adaptation, biodiversity and carbon



# How does it work?

## STEP 2

Specify project dates and activities

ABC-Map ENGLISH < CLOSE

CREATE BASELINE ACTIVITIES PROJECT

### Plotter

Start Year: 2022 End Year: 2030

#### Identification

Plot name: Plot 1

Choose an option to identify your project's plot:

OR

Choose from the following options to identify your project's activities for this plot:

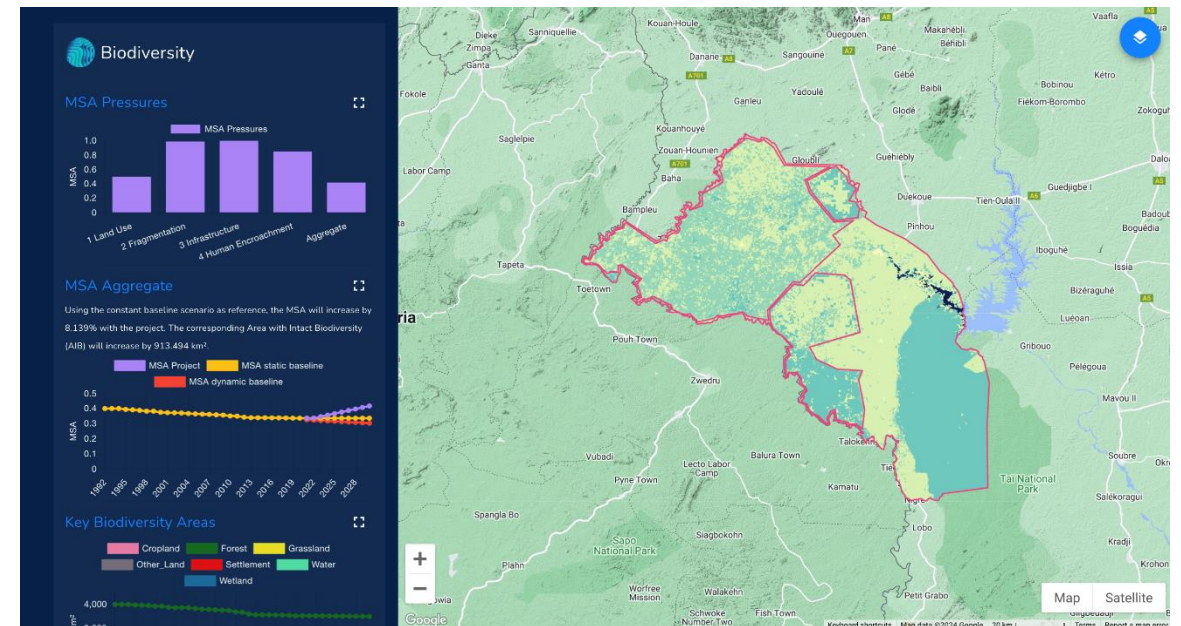
Choose from the following options: Cropland, perennial

Choose from the following options: Shaded perennial

Choose from the following options: no tillage

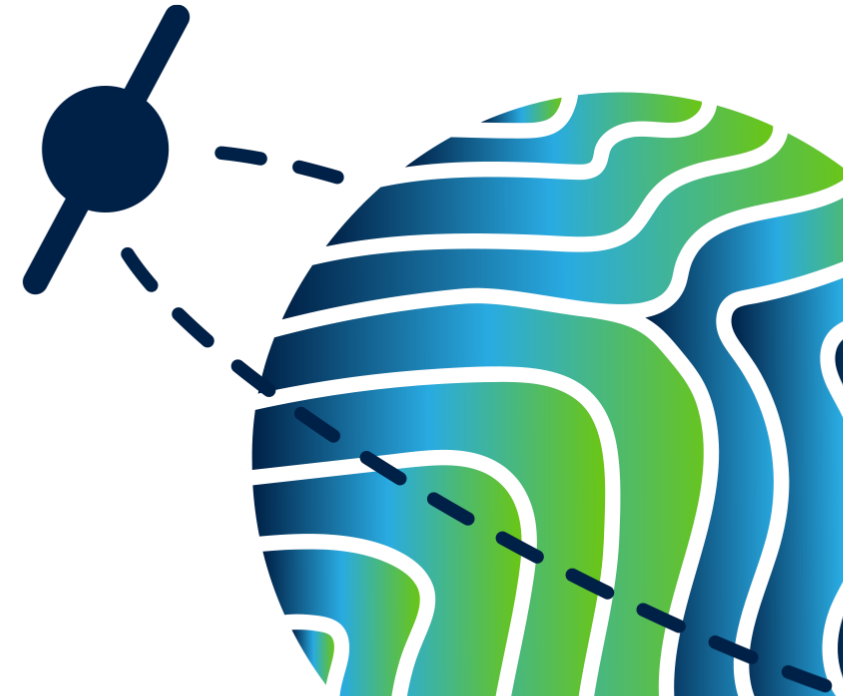
Choose from the following options: high input with manure

Get estimated impact of project on adaptation, biodiversity and carbon



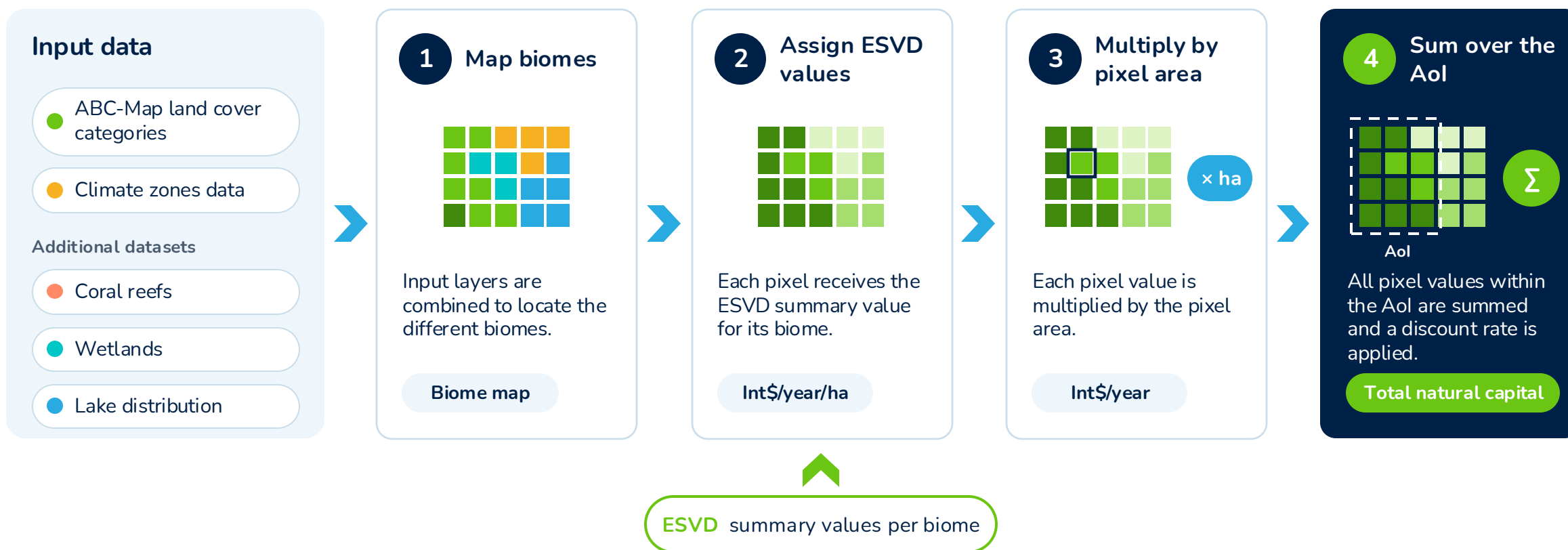
# How is it used?

- **Deeper understanding of the project or investment area**  
Shows past trends in land use, climate, biodiversity, and carbon
- **Ex-ante screening of opportunities**  
To evaluate potential impacts of planned actions on biodiversity and carbon
- **Climate risk identification**  
Including climate risk projections using IPCC scenarios, and projecting future crop and livestock suitability



# ESVD Data in ABC-Map

ABC-Map identifies biomes on the map and links them to the total ecosystem service value from the **ESVD**.



# Collaboration on ESVD Data for ABC-Map

- **Increasing representativeness of agrifood systems**

Between November 2021 and May 2022 we added around 1.300 new value records (of which 509 for agricultural systems) to ESVD, increasing the database by 20%.

- **Disaggregation of value records for intensive land use biome**

Intensive annual cropland, extensive annual cropland, irrigated annual cropland, perennial monoculture, perennial agroforestry, grasslands and pasture

- **Development and testing of value functions**

Including bio-physical and socio-economic parameters

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United Nations**

**FAO INVESTMENT CENTRE**

INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS FOR  
SUSTAINABLE FOOD AGRICULTURE



# ESVD from the FAO Investment Centre

**YOANNA KRAUS ELSIN**  
ECONOMIST, FAO INVESTMENT CENTRE

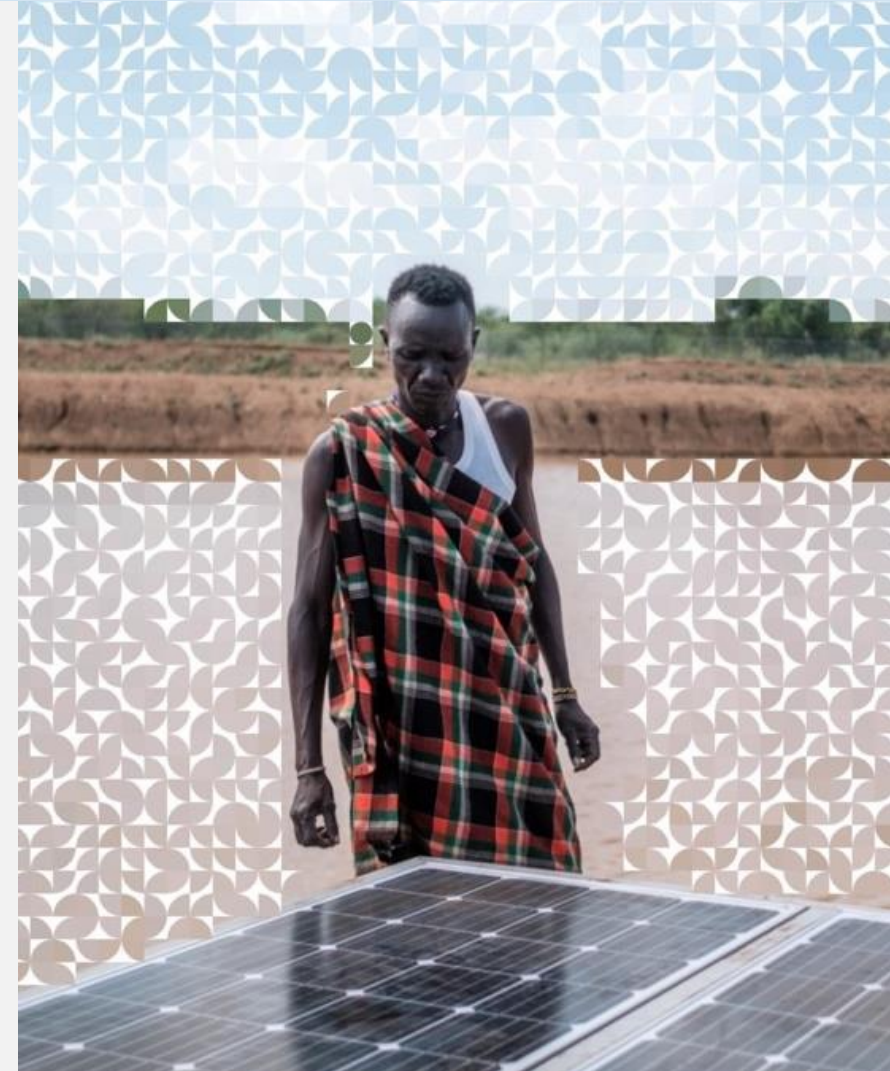
SEPTEMBER 2026

# FAO Investment Center

60+ years catalyzing investments that transform agrifood systems, improve livelihoods and accelerate sustainable development.

“A trusted platform connecting technical expertise with public, private and blended finance to design and deliver agrifood investments.”

- **Key financing partners:** World Bank, IFAD, Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, Caribbean Development Bank, EBRD, European Union and the Green Climate Fund, among 20+ cooperating institutions.
- **2,400+ projects** financed with partners in 157 countries
- **USD 257 billion** in public investment mobilized over 60 years (inflation-adjusted, as of 2024)



# Introduction to the Work with ESVD

## Enhancing ecosystem services assessment for investments in agriculture

**Two parallel efforts to bring better ecosystem-service evidence into project design and appraisal under the Knowledge for Investment (K4I) work stream:**

- 1. Strengthening ESVD:** ESVD is an independent, external global database — **CFI's contribution is expanding it with new variables and more values, with a particular focus on agriculture-related ecosystem services, so it better serves agrifood investment appraisal.**
  - **Value added:** faster, more consistent, better-documented evidence for public-investment decisions across the whole project cycle.
- 2. “Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools” (BE-SET) is:** a browser that maps and compares 200+ ecosystem-service assessment tools, prioritizing 21 for practical use.
  - **Value added:** quantifying environmental co-benefits and risks is an appraisal component; BE-SET helps remove the “which tool?” bottleneck that often stalls this analysis.

# Identifying tools for specific contexts

INTRO

MENU

USER GUIDE

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS

KEY CONCEPTS & BROWSER ELEMENTS

# BE-SET

## Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools (BE-SET)

Practical tools for valuing ecosystem services in agriculture project design



**The Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools (BE-SET) is a resource that supports the integration of ecosystem service considerations into project design and investment appraisal in the agriculture and natural resource sectors.**

It provides **descriptive and comparative information on relevant ecosystem service assessment tools**, which were identified through a structured evaluation process based on their relevance and practical applicability for investment practitioners.

The BE-SET focuses on key ecosystem services in the target sectors: *greenhouse gas (GHG) regulation, water, soil, and biodiversity*.

The analysis considered the tools' capacity to conduct the biophysical assessment of ecosystem service changes linked to changes in practices, as well as their economic valuation.

The tool analysis did not evaluate the scientific accuracy or predictive validity of tool outputs, nor did it validate results against field measurements. Instead, the browser provides comparative information on the general characteristics and functionalities of ecosystem service evaluation tools, including their analytical scope and practical applicability in project design and appraisal contexts.

Additional information on the conceptual foundations, methodology, and use of the platform is provided in the accompanying Concept Guide, Methodology and Assessment Framework, and User Guide.

The BE-SET was developed by the FAO Investment Centre (CFI) under the Knowledge for Investment (K4I) initiative between 2024 and 2025. A follow-up review was completed in 2026 to check the functionality of external links and identify any substantial changes to the assessed tools.

Please proceed to the menu to start:

MENU

# Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools

## Ways to explore

BE-SET

INTRO

MENU

USER GUIDE

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS

KEY CONCEPTS & BROWSER ELEMENTS

Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools (BE-SET)- BROWSE ALL TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS: This section provides access to the full inventory of ecosystem service tools identified during the research process. Users can browse or search tools by name and review general descriptions and

[Link to User Guide](#)

InVEST

1 SELECT YOUR TOOL OF INTEREST

INTRO

MENU

USER GUIDE

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS

KEY CONCEPTS & BROWSER ELEMENTS

Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools (BE-SET)- COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS: This section allows users to examine the subset of 21 prioritized tools in greater detail. This section supports comparison of tool characteristics, functionalities, analytical scope, and input requirements across the browser's General, Biophysical, and Economic attribute categories.

[Link to User Guide](#)

TOOL

PRACTICES ASSESSED BY THE

2 SELECT THE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE YOU WANT TO

INTRO

MENU

USER GUIDE

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS

KEY CONCEPTS & BROWSER ELEMENTS

Browser for Ecosystem Services Estimation Tools (BE-SET)- FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL: This section helps users identify tools most relevant to their project context and analytical needs. This section features a subset of 21 tools prioritized through the assessment process as most suitable for project design and appraisal applications.

[Link to User Guide](#)

[Link to Practices Definitions](#)

[Link to Case Study](#)

DISCLAIMER: While all 21 tools presented in this analysis underwent an exhaustive evaluation process using practical examples, the final 11 tools—marked with an asterisk (\*)—were selected for deeper analysis. These tools were applied to estimate ecosystem services (ES) based on a case study specifically designed to reflect the structure and objectives of a CFI project.

3 SELECT THE CHARACTERISTICS TO EXPLORE

INTRO

MENU

USER GUIDE

FIND THE RIGHT TOOL

COMPARE FEATURED TOOLS

BROWSE ALL TOOLS

KEY CONCEPTS & BROWSER ELEMENTS

AVAILABLE TOOLS:

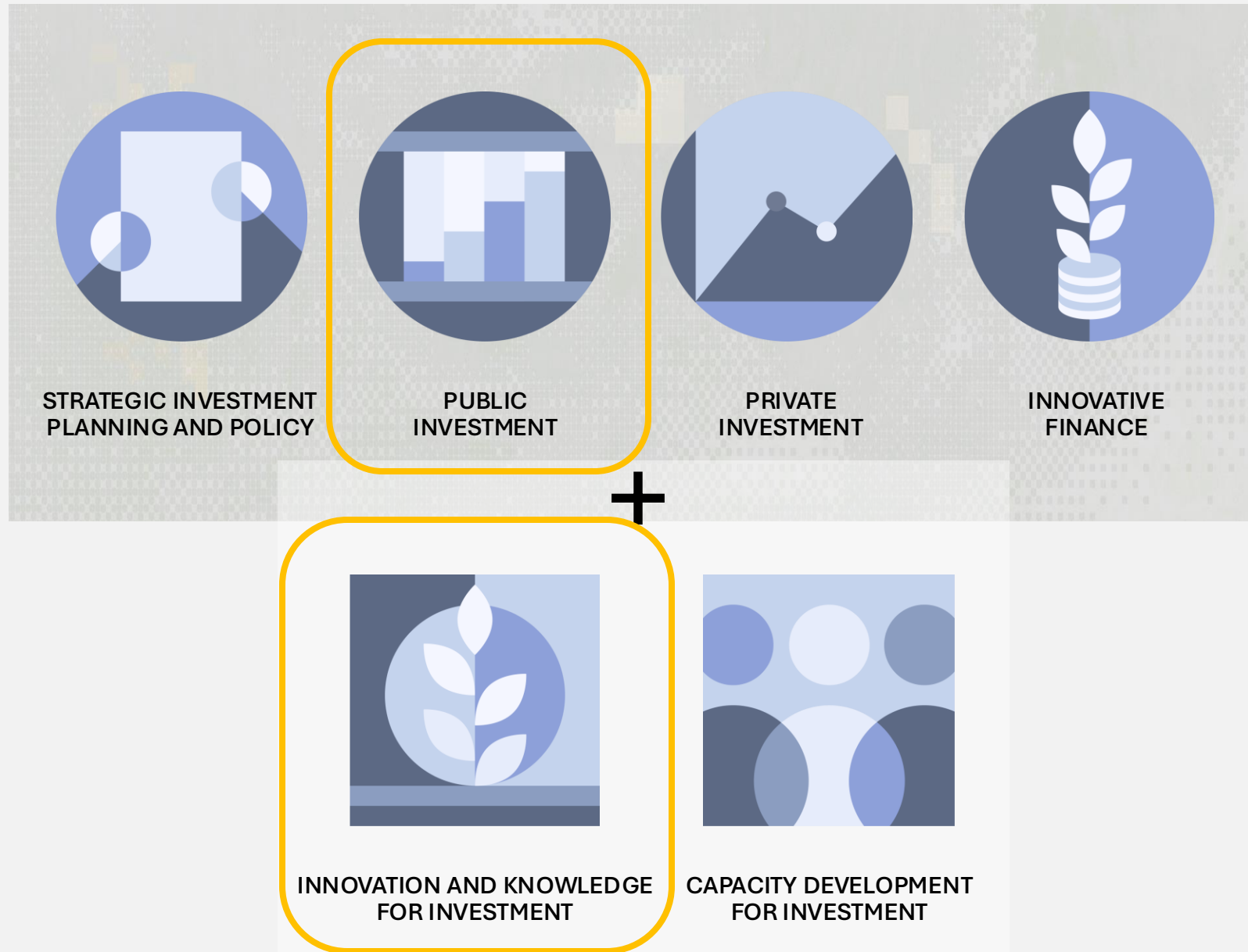
Tool

Web Link

| GENERAL QUESTIONS |                                                       |                                          |                                                 |                                                                               |                                                        |                                                        |                                                             |                                                                                 |                                                                   |                                     | ECONOMIC QUESTIONS                                         |                                                          |                                                                   |    |  | YES COUNT |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----|--|-----------|
| Is it free?       | Is it possible to operate it without (GIS) knowledge? | Does it provide an illustrative example? | Does it assess more than one ecosystem service? | Does the tool allow for the assessment of more than 5 agricultural practices? | Can it be run with minimal training? (3 weeks or less) | Do the tool developers provide a user support service? | Does it provide default data for the biophysical estimates? | Does it make estimations without needing a polygon of the area of intervention? | Does it provide results under different climate change scenarios? | Does it perform Monetary Valuation? | Is its monetary estimation related to the biophysical one? | Does it provide default data for the economic estimates? | Are its results easy to include in an EFA or a Results Framework? |    |  |           |
| YES               | NO                                                    | YES                                      | YES                                             | YES                                                                           | NO                                                     | YES                                                    | YES                                                         | NO                                                                              | YES                                                               | NO                                  | N/A                                                        | N/A                                                      | NO                                                                | 7  |  |           |
| YES               | NO                                                    | YES                                      | YES                                             | YES                                                                           | YES                                                    | YES                                                    | NO                                                          | NO                                                                              | NO                                                                | NO                                  | N/A                                                        | N/A                                                      | NO                                                                | 6  |  |           |
| YES               | NO                                                    | YES                                      | YES                                             | YES                                                                           | YES                                                    | YES                                                    | NO                                                          | NO                                                                              | NO                                                                | NO                                  | N/A                                                        | N/A                                                      | NO                                                                | 6  |  |           |
| NO                | YES                                                   | NO                                       | YES                                             | YES                                                                           | YES                                                    | YES                                                    | YES                                                         | YES                                                                             | YES                                                               | YES                                 | YES                                                        | YES                                                      | YES                                                               | 12 |  |           |
| YES               | NO                                                    | NO                                       | NO                                              | NO                                                                            | YES                                                    | YES                                                    | YES                                                         | YES                                                                             | NO                                                                | NO                                  | N/A                                                        | N/A                                                      | NO                                                                | 5  |  |           |
| NO DATA           |                                                       |                                          |                                                 |                                                                               |                                                        |                                                        |                                                             |                                                                                 |                                                                   |                                     |                                                            |                                                          |                                                                   |    |  | 0         |

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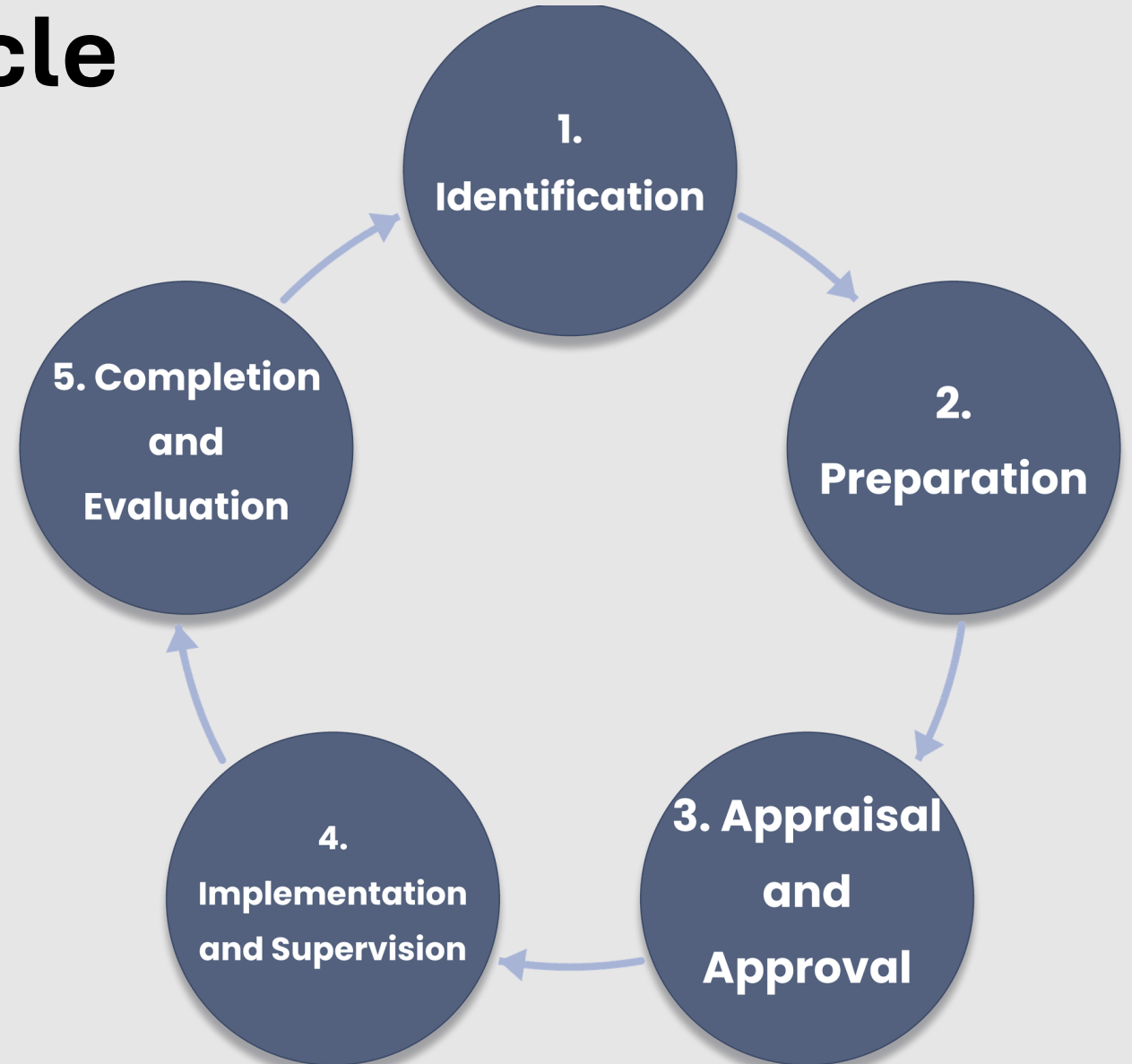
# How We Work With ESVD





# Investment Cycle

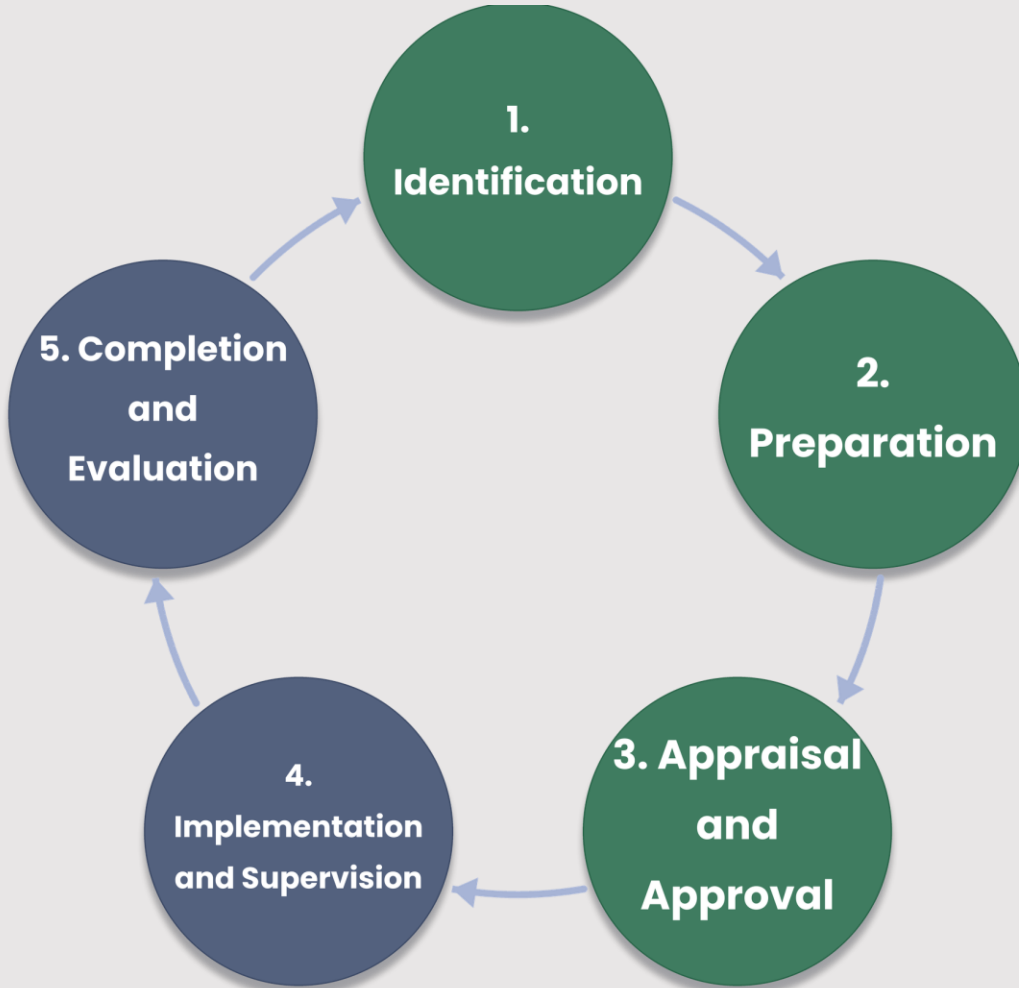
ESVD adds  
evidence at  
every stage



# ESDV in the Investment Cycle

## Identification, Preparation & Appraisal

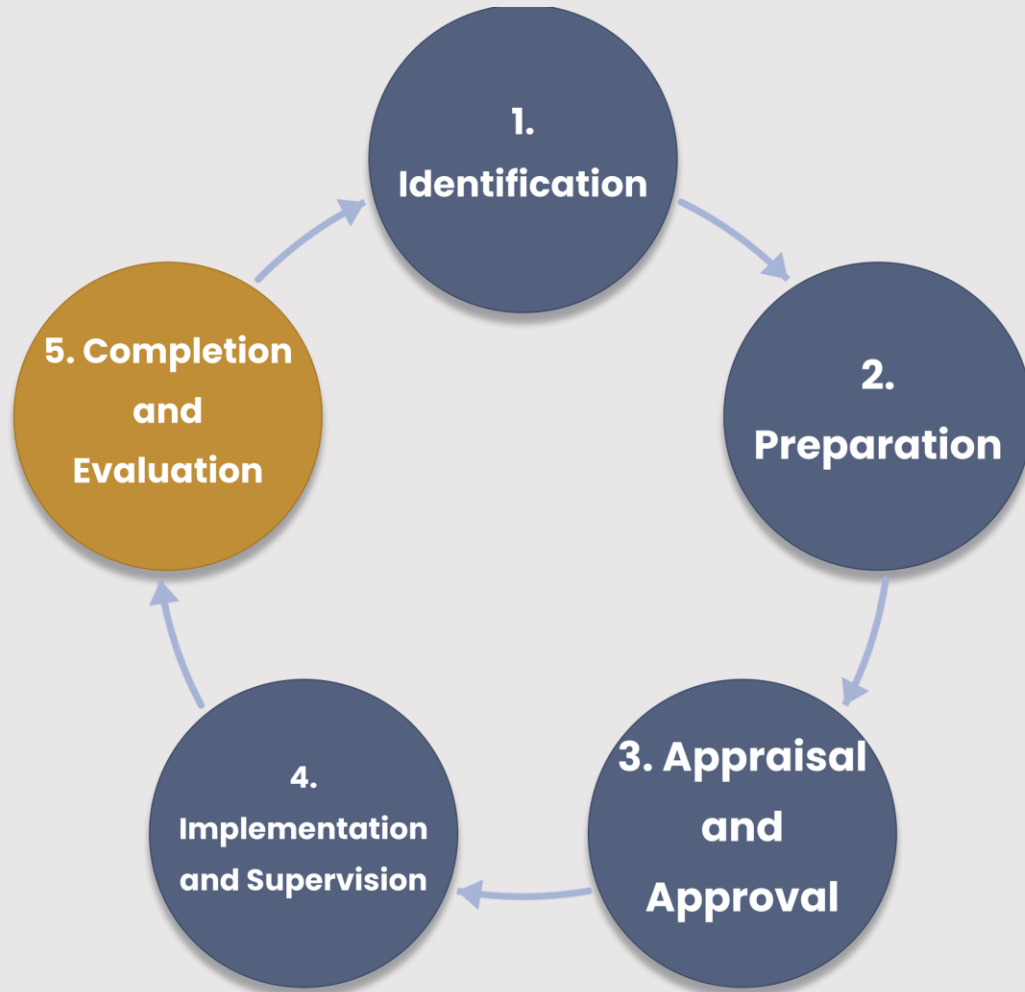
### EXAMPLES



- **Haiti — World Bank Territorial Productive Landscapes II:** ESVD used to assess the potential benefits of mangrove restoration, inform environmental planning through ABC-Map, and help identify priority areas or watersheds for intervention.
- **Dominican Republic — World Bank Yaque del Sur Water and Agri-food Development Program:** ESVD was used to estimate ecosystem-service benefits through benefit transfer (value transfer).
- **El Salvador — Climate Investment Funds/Green Climate Fund RECLIMA:** ESVD was applied for the Upscaling Climate Resilience Measures in the Dry Corridor Agroecosystems of El Salvador, supporting the valuation of ecosystem-service benefits in the project proposal submitted to the **Green Climate Fund**.
- **Bolivia — IFAD Agrosustentar:** ESVD served as the reference for setting and adjusting values for the ecosystem-service benefits the project's activities were expected to improve, applying and calibrating the Value Transfer method.
- **El Salvador — IFAD Progresar Rural:** the same Value Transfer approach was used to set and adjust ecosystem-service benefit values during project design.

# ESDV in the Investment Cycle

## Completion & Evaluation

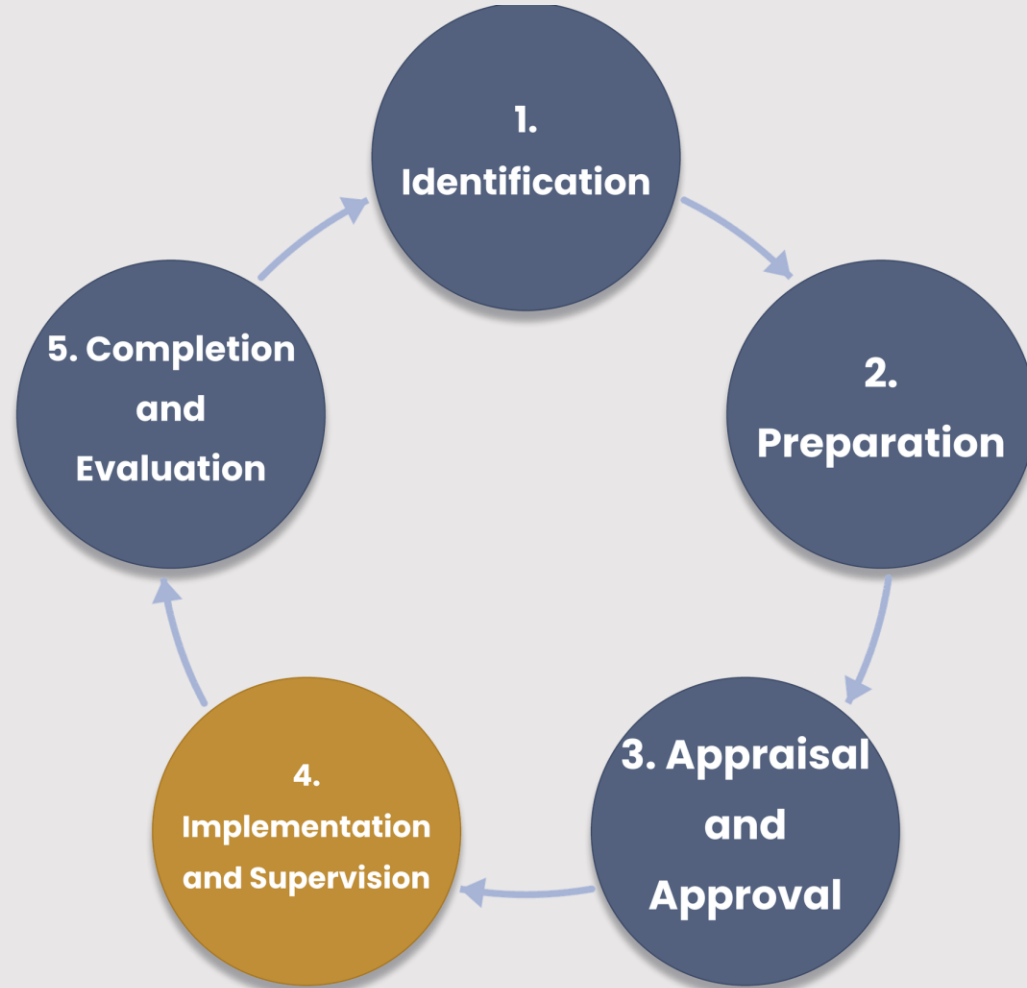


### EXAMPLE

**Paraguay – World Bank Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Project Economic.** Forest valuation, watershed protection, and erosion using value transfer. Combined with Ex-act for GHG estimation

# ESDV in the Investment Cycle

## Implementation & Supervision



- **How ESVD could be used:** to serve as a benchmark to track whether ecosystem-service values are maintained or improved during implementation, complementing biophysical M&E indicators.
- **Applied example:** during supervision of a landscape-restoration, teams revisit ESVD value ranges to flag any divergence between expected and observed ecosystem benefits if measured.
- **Benefit:** supervision teams gain an added lens to detect if implementation delivers benefits, beyond physical and financial progress indicators alone.



# Advantages for CFI use

- **Saves time and cost**
- **Free and open access**
- **Standardized and comparable**
- **Rigorous evidence base**
- **Trusted by leading institutions**
- **Applicable across the investment cycle**



# Challenges for CFI use

- **Value transfer has limits:** values transferred from other contexts may not fully capture local, site-specific conditions.
- **Uneven coverage:** some biomes and regions have fewer underlying studies than others.
- **Capacity building needed:** teams need training to correctly interpret and apply values within economic analysis.
- **Institutional uptake:** getting IFI appraisal committees to treat ecosystem values as standard analysis, not an optional annex.
- **Sustaining the database:** keeping data current (last full update: 2025) depends on continued partner funding and contributions.

# Thank you



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| 16:15 | All (ESVD team)   |                                              | Q&A                                                                               |
| 16:25 | Daniel Dionisio   | Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)      | ABC-MAP: Supporting Integration of Ecosystem Service Values into Agrifood Systems |
| 16:35 | Yoanna Kraus      | Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)      | ESVD applications through the Project Investment Cycle                            |
| 16:45 | All               |                                              | Q&A                                                                               |
| 16:55 | Vince van 't Hoff | Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD) | Closing & call for action                                                         |

# Closing & Call for Action

- Use of monetary valuation into decision-making
- It's about value, not about pricing
- Funding options
- Become a reviewer and ESP member
- WeValueNature webinar series ESVD ([wevaluenature.info](http://wevaluenature.info))
- COP17 meet-up
- Go to ABC-MAP and BE-SET
- 'What speaks to the soul, escapes our measurement' – Alexander von Humboldt

## **ESVD**

[Esvd.info](http://Esvd.info)

[Esvd.net](http://Esvd.net)

## **FSD**

[Fsd.nl](http://Fsd.nl)

## **ESP**

[es-partnership.org](http://es-partnership.org)

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# ESVD – 2026 update webinar

Valuing nature, Informing investments

# Thanks



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