Appendix A

Color Maps and Figures

Figure 9.2. Estimated Total Inorganic Nitrogen Deposition, Wet and Dry, in 1860, Early 1990s, and Projected for 2050 (milligrams of nitrogen per square meter per year) (Galloway et al. 2004)
Figure 13.1. The Global Climate Models for the Twenty-first Century. The global climate in this century will depend on natural changes and the response of the climate system to human activities. Climate models project the response of many variables—such as increases in global surface temperature and sea level—to various scenarios of greenhouse gases and other human-related emissions. Graph A shows the carbon dioxide emissions of the six illustrative SRES scenarios; B shows the projected carbon dioxide concentrations; C shows anthropogenic sulfur dioxide emissions. Emissions of other greenhouse gases and aerosols were included in the model but are not shown in the figures. D and E show the temperature and sea level responses, respectively.
Figure 13.2. Reasons for Concern about Projected Climate Change Impacts. The risks of adverse impacts from climate change increase with the magnitude of climate change. The left part of the figure displays the observed temperature increase relative to 1990 and the range of projected temperature increase after 1990 as estimated by Working Group I of the IPCC for scenarios from the Special Report on Emissions Scenarios. The middle panel displays conceptualizations of five reasons for concern regarding climate change risks evolving through 2100. White indicates neutral or small negative or positive impacts or risks, yellow indicates negative impacts for some systems or low risks, and red means negative impacts or risks that are more widespread and/or greater in magnitude. The assessment of impacts or risks takes into account only the magnitude of change and not the rate of change. Global mean annual temperature change is used in the figure as a proxy for the magnitude of climate change, but projected impacts will be the function of, among other factors, the magnitude and rate of global and regional changes in mean climate, climate variability and extreme climate phenomena, social and economic conditions, and adaptations. The right panel shows estimates of global mean temperature change by 2100 relative to 1990 for scenarios that would lead to stabilization of the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, as well as the full set of SRES projections, which are shown in the left panel. As shown in Table 13.1, the equilibrium changes in temperature associated with each of these stabilization levels is significantly higher than the projected increase by 2100, for example, stabilization at 750 ppm is projected to result in an increase of 2.8–7.0°C, compared to an increase of 1.9–3.4°C by 2100. Reasons for Concern: A. Risks to Unique and Threatened Systems: Extinction of species, loss of unique habitats and coastal wetlands, and bleaching and death of coral; B. Risks from Extreme Climate Events: Health, property, and environmental impacts from increased frequency and intensity of some climate extremes; C. Distribution of Impacts: Cereal crop yield changes that vary from increases to decreases across regions but that are estimated to decrease in most tropical and sub-tropical regions; decrease in water availability in some water-stressed countries, increase in others; greater risks to health in developing countries than in industrial countries; net market sector losses estimated for many developing countries; mixed effects estimated for industrial countries up to a few degrees warming and negative effects for greater warming; D. Aggregate Impacts: Estimates of globally aggregated net market sector impacts are positive and negative up to few degrees warming and negative for greater warming. More people adversely affected than beneficially affected even for warming of less than a few degrees; E. Risks from Future Large-Scale Discontinuities: Significant slowing of thermohaline circulation possible by 2100; melting and collapse of ice sheets adding substantially to sea level rise (very low probability before 2100; likelihood higher on multi-century time scale).
Figure 13.5. Projections of GDP Losses and Marginal Costs in Industrial Countries in 2010. The reductions in projected GDP are for 2010 relative to the models’ reference case GDP. These estimates are based on results from nine modeling teams that participated in the Energy Modeling Forum study. The models examined two scenarios. In the first, each region makes the prescribed reduction with only domestic trading in carbon emissions. In the second, Annex B trading (i.e., includes countries with economies in transition) is permitted, and thereby marginal costs are equal across regions.
Figure 13.6. Projected Costs of Stabilizing Carbon Dioxide Concentrations. The mitigation costs (1990 US dollars, present value discounted at 5% per year for the period 1990–2100) of stabilizing carbon dioxide concentrations at 450 to 750 ppmv are calculated using three global models, based on different model-dependent baselines. Avoided impacts of climate change are not included. In each instance, costs were calculated based on two emissions pathways for achieving the prescribed target (S and WRE). The bars show cumulative carbon emissions between the years 1990 and 2100. Cumulative future emissions until the carbon budget ceiling is reached are reported above the bars in Gt C.
Appendix B

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Appendix C
Abbreviations and Acronyms

AI  aridity index
AKRSP  Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
AMF  arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi
ASB  alternatives to slash-and-burn
ASOMPH  Asian Symposium on Medicinal Plants, Spices and Other Natural Products
AVHRR  advanced very high resolution radiometer
BCA  benefit-cost analysis
BGP  Biogeochemical Province
BII  Biodiversity Intactness Index
BMI  body mass index
BNF  biological nitrogen fixation
BOOT  build-own-operate-transfer
BRT  Bus Rapid Transit (Brazil)
BSE  bovine spongiform encephalopathy
Br  Bacillus thuringiensis
C&I  criteria and indicators
CAFO  concentrated animal feeding operations
CAP  Common Agricultural Policy (of the European Union)
CAREC  Central Asia Regional Environment Centre
CBA  cost-benefit analysis
CBD  Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO  community-based organization
CCAMLR  Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CCN  cloud condensation nuclei
CCS  CO₂ capture and storage
CDM  Clean Development Mechanism
CEA  cost-effectiveness analysis
CENICAFe  Centro Nacional de Investigaciones de Café (Colombia)
CFCs  chlorofluorocarbons
CGIAR  Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIFOR  Center for International Forestry Research
CITES  Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS  Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)
CONICET  Consejo de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (Argentina)
COP  Conference of the Parties (of treaties)
CPF  Collaborative Partnership on Forests
CSIR  Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)
CV  contingent valuation
CVM  contingent valuation method
DAF  decision analytical framework
DALY  disability-adjusted life year
DDT  dichloro diphenyl trichloroethane
DES  dietary energy supply
DHF  dengue hemorrhagic fever
DHS  demographic and health surveys
DMS  dimethyl sulfide
DPSEEA  driving forces-pressure-state-exposure-effect-action
DPSIR  driver-pressure-state-impact-response
DSF  dust storm frequency
DU  Dobson Units
EEA  European Environment Agency
EEZ  exclusive economic zone
EGS  ecosystem global scenario
EHI  environmental health indicator
EIA  environmental impact assessment
EID  emerging infectious disease
EKC  Environmental Kuznets Curve
EMF  ectomycorrhizal fungi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E/MSY</td>
<td>extinctions per million species per year</td>
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<td>ENSO</td>
<td>El Niño/Southern Oscillation</td>
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<td>EPA</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency (United States)</td>
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<td>EPI</td>
<td>environmental policy integration</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>EU ETS</td>
<td>European Union Emissions Trading System</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization (United Nations)</td>
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<td>FAPRI</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLEGTC</td>
<td>Forest Law Enforcement, Governance, and Trade</td>
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<td>FRA</td>
<td>Forest Resources Assessment</td>
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<td>FSC</td>
<td>Forest Stewardship Council</td>
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<td>GATS</td>
<td>General Agreement on Trade and Services</td>
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<td>GATT</td>
<td>General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade</td>
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<td>GCM</td>
<td>general circulation model</td>
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<td>GDI</td>
<td>Gender-related Development Index</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>gross domestic product</td>
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<td>GEF</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<td>GEO</td>
<td>Global Environment Outlook</td>
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<td>GHG</td>
<td>greenhouse gases</td>
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<td>GIS</td>
<td>geographic information system</td>
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<td>GIWA</td>
<td>Global International Waters Assessment</td>
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<td>GLASOD</td>
<td>Global Assessment of Soil Degradation</td>
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<td>GLC</td>
<td>Global Land Cover</td>
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<td>GLOF</td>
<td>Glacier Lake Outburst Flood</td>
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<td>GM</td>
<td>genetic modification</td>
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<td>GMO</td>
<td>genetically modified organism</td>
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<td>GNI</td>
<td>gross national income</td>
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<td>GNP</td>
<td>gross national product</td>
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<td>GPS</td>
<td>Global Positioning System</td>
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<td>GRoWI</td>
<td>Global Review of Wetland Resources and Priorities for Wetland Inventory</td>
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<td>GSG</td>
<td>Global Scenarios Group</td>
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<td>GSPC</td>
<td>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation</td>
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<td>GtC-eq</td>
<td>gigatons of carbon equivalent</td>
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<td>GWP</td>
<td>global warming potential</td>
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<td>HDI</td>
<td>Human Development Index</td>
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<td>HIA</td>
<td>health impact assessment</td>
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<td>HIPC</td>
<td>heavily indebted poor countries</td>
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<td>HPI</td>
<td>Human Poverty Index</td>
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<td>HPS</td>
<td>hantavirus pulmonary syndrome</td>
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<td>HWB</td>
<td>human well-being</td>
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<td>IAA</td>
<td>integrated agriculture-aquaculture</td>
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<td>IAM</td>
<td>integrated assessment model</td>
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<td>IBI</td>
<td>Index of Biotic Integrity</td>
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<td>ICBG</td>
<td>International Biotic Diversity Groups</td>
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<td>ICDP</td>
<td>integrated conservation and development project</td>
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<td>ICJ</td>
<td>International Court of Justice</td>
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<td>ICRAF</td>
<td>International Center for Research in Agroforestry</td>
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<td>ICRW</td>
<td>International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling</td>
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<td>ICSU</td>
<td>International Council for Science</td>
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<td>ICZM</td>
<td>integrated coastal zone management</td>
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<td>IDRC</td>
<td>International Development Research Centre (Canada)</td>
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<td>IEA</td>
<td>International Energy Agency</td>
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<td>IEG</td>
<td>international environmental governance</td>
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<td>IEK</td>
<td>indigenous ecological knowledge</td>
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<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>International Food Policy Research Institute</td>
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<td>IGBP</td>
<td>International Geosphere-Biosphere Program</td>
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<td>IIASA</td>
<td>International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis</td>
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<td>IK</td>
<td>indigenous knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
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<td>IMF</td>
<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
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<td>IMPACT</td>
<td>International Model for Policy Analysis of Agricultural Commodities and Trade</td>
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<td>IMR</td>
<td>infant mortality rate</td>
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<td>INESI</td>
<td>International Network of Sustainability Initiatives (hypothetical, in Scenarios)</td>
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<td>INTA</td>
<td>Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (Argentina)</td>
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<td>IPAT</td>
<td>impact of population, affluence, technology</td>
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<td>IPCC</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</td>
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<td>IPM</td>
<td>integrated pest management</td>
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<td>IPR</td>
<td>intellectual property rights</td>
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<td>IRBM</td>
<td>integrated river basin management</td>
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<td>ISEH</td>
<td>International Society for Ecosystem Health</td>
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<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Organization for Standardization</td>
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<td>ITTPGR</td>
<td>International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</td>
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<td>ITQs</td>
<td>individual transferable quotas</td>
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<td>ITTO</td>
<td>International Tropical Timber Organization</td>
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<td>IUCN</td>
<td>World Conservation Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUU</td>
<td>illegal, unregulated, and unreported (fishing)</td>
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<td>IVM</td>
<td>integrated vector management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<td>IWMI</td>
<td>International Water Management Institute</td>
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<td>IWRM</td>
<td>integrated water resources management</td>
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<td>JDSD</td>
<td>Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>JI</td>
<td>joint implementation</td>
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<td>JMP</td>
<td>Joint Monitoring Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
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<td>LAI</td>
<td>leaf area index</td>
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<td>LARD</td>
<td>livelihood approaches to rural development</td>
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<td>LDC</td>
<td>least developed country</td>
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<td>LEK</td>
<td>local ecological knowledge</td>
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<td>LME</td>
<td>large marine ecosystems</td>
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<td>LPI</td>
<td>Living Planet Index</td>
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<td>LSMS</td>
<td>Living Standards Measurement Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>LULUCF</td>
<td>land use, land use change, and forestry</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Millennium Ecosystem Assessment</td>
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<td>MAI</td>
<td>mean annual increments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBI</td>
<td>market-based instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCA</td>
<td>multicriteria analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDG</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEA</td>
<td>multilateral environmental agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MER</td>
<td>market exchange rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHC</td>
<td>major histocompatibility complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS</td>
<td>multiple indicator cluster surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPA</td>
<td>marine protected area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSVPA</td>
<td>multispecies virtual population analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAP</td>
<td>National Action Program (of desertification convention)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBP</td>
<td>net biome productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCD</td>
<td>noncommunicable disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCS</td>
<td>National Conservation Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCSD</td>
<td>national council for sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDVI</td>
<td>normalized difference vegetation index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>effective size of a population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEAP</td>
<td>national environmental action plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEP</td>
<td>new ecological paradigm; also net ecosystem productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEPAD</td>
<td>New Partnership for Africa’s Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFAP</td>
<td>National Forestry Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>national forest programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>nongovernmental organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMHC</td>
<td>non-methane hydrocarbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPP</td>
<td>net primary productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSSD</td>
<td>national strategies for sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUE</td>
<td>nitrogen use efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWFP</td>
<td>non-wood forest product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODA</td>
<td>official development assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSB</td>
<td>oriented strand board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OWL</td>
<td>other wooded land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>protected area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAH</td>
<td>polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCBs</td>
<td>polychlorinated biphenyls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEM</td>
<td>protein energy malnutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PES</td>
<td>payment for environmental (or ecosystem) services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFT</td>
<td>plant functional type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPs</td>
<td>persistent organic pollutants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPA</td>
<td>participatory poverty assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>parts per billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPI</td>
<td>potential Pareto improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>parts per million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppmv</td>
<td>parts per million by volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPP</td>
<td>purchasing power parity; also public-private partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppt</td>
<td>parts per thousand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PQLI</td>
<td>Physical Quality of Life Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRA</td>
<td>participatory rural appraisal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRSP</td>
<td>Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSE</td>
<td>producer support estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVA</td>
<td>population viability analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RANWA</td>
<td>Research and Action in Natural Wealth Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBO</td>
<td>river basin organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIDES</td>
<td>Recursos e Investigación para el Desarrollo Sustentable (Chile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIL</td>
<td>reduced impact logging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RLI</td>
<td>Red List Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RO</td>
<td>reverse osmosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>RRA</td>
<td>rapid rural appraisal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUE</td>
<td>rain use efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADCC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Coordination Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SaMA</td>
<td>Southern African Millennium Ecosystem Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP</td>
<td>structural adjustment program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAR</td>
<td>species-area relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARS</td>
<td>severe acute respiratory syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBSTTA</td>
<td>Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (of CBD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEA</td>
<td>strategic environmental assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEME</td>
<td>simple empirical models for eutrophication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SES</td>
<td>social-ecological system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFM</td>
<td>sustainable forest management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDS</td>
<td>small island developing states</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMS</td>
<td>safe minimum standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOM</td>
<td>soil organic matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRES</td>
<td>Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (of the IPCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSC</td>
<td>Species Survival Commission (of IUCN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAP</td>
<td>sector-wide approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAC</td>
<td>total allowable catch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBT</td>
<td>tributyltin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC</td>
<td>travel cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCM</td>
<td>travel cost method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDR</td>
<td>tradable development rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDS</td>
<td>total dissolved solids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEIA</td>
<td>transboundary environmental impact assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEK</td>
<td>traditional ecological knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEM</td>
<td>terrestrial ecosystem model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TESEO</td>
<td>Treaty Enforcement Services Using Earth Observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEV</td>
<td>total economic value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFAP</td>
<td>Tropical Forests Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFP</td>
<td>total factor productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFR</td>
<td>total fertility rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tg</td>
<td>teragram (10^{12} grams)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TK</td>
<td>traditional knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMDL</td>
<td>total maximum daily load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOF</td>
<td>trees outside of forests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIPS</td>
<td>Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSU</td>
<td>Technical Support Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TW</td>
<td>terawatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMD</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCCD</td>
<td>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCED</td>
<td>United Nations Conference on Environment and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNECE</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNRO</td>
<td>United Nations Regional Organization (hypothetical body, in Scenarios)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSO</td>
<td>UNDP’s Office to Combat Desertification and Drought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>U.S. Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOC</td>
<td>volatile organic compound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VW</td>
<td>virtual water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBCSD</td>
<td>World Business Council for Sustainable Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCD</td>
<td>World Commission on Dams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCED</td>
<td>World Commission on Environment and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCMC</td>
<td>World Conservation Monitoring Centre (of UNEP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>WIPO</td>
<td>World Intellectual Property Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WISP</td>
<td>weighted index of social progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMO</td>
<td>World Meteorological Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPI</td>
<td>Water Poverty Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRF</td>
<td>white rot fungi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSSD</td>
<td>World Summit on Sustainable Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wta</td>
<td>withdrawals-to-availability ratio (of water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTA</td>
<td>willingness to accept compensation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTP</td>
<td>willingness to pay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWAP</td>
<td>World Water Assessment Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWF</td>
<td>World Wide Fund for Nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWV</td>
<td>World Water Vision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D

Glossary

Abatement cost: See Marginal abatement cost.
Abundance: The total number of individuals of a taxon or taxa in an area, population, or community. Relative abundance refers to the total number of individuals of one taxon compared with the total number of individuals of all other taxa in an area, volume, or community.
Active adaptive management: See Adaptive management.
Adaptation: Adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment. Various types of adaptation can be distinguished, including anticipatory and reactive adaptation, private and public adaptation, and autonomous and planned adaptation.
Adaptive capacity: The general ability of institutions, systems, and individuals to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences.
Adaptive management: A systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of previously employed policies and practices. In active adaptive management, management is treated as a deliberate experiment for purposes of learning.
Afforestation: Planting of forests on land that has historically not contained forests. (Compare Reforestation.)
Agrobiodiversity: The diversity of plants, insects, and soil biota found in cultivated systems.
Agroforestry systems: Mixed systems of crops and trees providing wood, non-wood forest products, food, fuel, fodder, and shelter.
Albedo: A measure of the degree to which a surface or object reflects solar radiation.
Alien species: Species introduced outside its normal distribution.
Alien invasive species: See Invasive alien species.
Aquaculture: Breeding and rearing of fish, shellfish, or plants in ponds, enclosures, or other forms of confinement in fresh or marine waters for the direct harvest of the product.
Benefits transfer approach: Economic valuation approach in which estimates obtained (by whatever method) in one context are used to estimate values in a different context.
Binding constraints: Political, social, economic, institutional, or ecological factors that rule out a particular response.
Biodiversity (a contraction of biological diversity): The variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part. Biodiversity includes diversity within species, between species, and between ecosystems.
Biodiversity regulation: The regulation of ecosystem processes and services by the different components of biodiversity.
Biogeographic realm: A large spatial region, within which ecosystems share a broadly similar biota. Eight terrestrial biogeographic realms are typically recognized, corresponding roughly to continents (e.g., Afrotopical realm).
Biological diversity: See Biodiversity.
Biomass: The mass of tissues in living organisms in a population, ecosystem, or spatial unit.
Biome: The largest unit of ecological classification that is convenient to recognize below the entire globe. Terrestrial biomes are typically based on dominant vegetation structure (e.g., forest, grassland). Ecosystems within a biome function in a broadly similar way, although they may have very different species composition. For example, all forests share certain properties regarding nutrient cycling, disturbance, and biomass that are different from the properties of grasslands. Marine biomes are typically based on biogeochemical properties. The WWF biome classification is used in the MA.
Bioprospecting: The exploration of biodiversity for genetic and biochemical resources of social or commercial value.
Biotechnology: Any technological application that uses biological systems, living organisms, or derivatives thereof to make or modify products or processes for specific use.
Biotic homogenization: Process by which the differences between biotic communities in different areas are on average reduced.
Blueprint approaches: Approaches that are designed to be applicable in a wider set of circumstances and that are not context-specific or sensitive to local conditions.
Boundary organizations: Public or private organizations that synthesize and translate scientific research and explore its policy implications to help bridge the gap between science and decision-making.
Bridging organizations: Organizations that facilitate, and offer an arena for, stakeholder collaboration, trust-building, and conflict resolution.
Capability: The combinations of doings and beings from which people can choose to lead the kind of life they value. Basic capability is the capability to meet a basic need.
Capacity building: A process of strengthening or developing human resources, institutions, organizations, or networks. Also referred to as capacity development or capacity enhancement.
Capital value (of an ecosystem): The present value of the stream of ecosystem services that an ecosystem will generate under a particular management or institutional regime.
Capture fisheries: See Fishery.
Carbon sequestration: The process of increasing the carbon content of a reservoir other than the atmosphere.
Cascading interaction: See Trophic cascade.
Catch: The number or weight of all fish caught by fishing operations, whether the fish are landed or not.
Coastal system: Systems containing terrestrial areas dominated by ocean influences of tides and marine aerosols, plus nearshore marine areas. The inland extent of coastal ecosystems is the line where land-based influences dominate, up to a maximum of 100 kilometers from the coastline or 100-meter elevation (whichever is closer to the sea), and the outward extent is the 50-meter-depth contour. See also System.
Collaborative (or joint) forest management: Community-based management of forests, where resource tenure by local communities is secured.
Common pool resource: A valued natural or human-made resource or facility in which one person’s use subtracts from another’s use and where it is often necessary but difficult to exclude potential users from the resource. (Compare Common property resource.)
Common property management system: The institutions (i.e., sets of rules) that define and regulate the use rights for common pool resources. Not the same as an open access system.
Common property resource: A good or service shared by a well-defined community. (Compare Common pool resource.)
Community (ecological): An assemblage of species occurring in the same space or time, often linked by biotic interactions such as competition or predation.

Community (human, local): A collection of human beings who have something in common. A local community is a fairly small group of people who share a common place of residence and a set of institutions based on this fact, but the word ‘community’ is also used to refer to larger collections of people who have something else in common (e.g., national community, donor community).

Condition of an ecosystem: The capacity of an ecosystem to yield services, relative to its potential capacity.

Condition of an ecosystem service: The capacity of an ecosystem service to yield benefits to people, relative to its potential capacity.

Constituents of well-being: The experiential aspects of well-being, such as health, happiness, and freedom to be and do, and, more broadly, basic liberties.

Consumptive use: The reduction in the quantity or quality of a good available for other users due to consumption.

Contingent valuation: Economic valuation technique based on a survey of how much respondents would be willing to pay for specified benefits.

Core dataset: Data sets designated to have wide potential application throughout the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment process. They include land use, land cover, climate, and population data sets.

Cost-benefit analysis: A technique designed to determine the feasibility of a project or plan by quantifying its costs and benefits.

Cost-effectiveness analysis: Analysis to identify the least cost option that meets a particular goal.

Critically endangered species: Species that face an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. See also Threatened species.

Cross-scale feedback: A process in which effects of some action are transmitted from a smaller spatial extent to a larger one, or vice versa. For example, a global policy may constrain the flexibility of a local region to use certain response options to environmental change, or a local agricultural pest outbreak may affect regional food supply.

Cultivar (a contraction of cultivated variety): A variety of a plant developed from a natural species and maintained under cultivation.

Cultivated system: Areas of landscape or seascape actively managed for the production of food, feed, fiber, or biofuels.

Cultural landscape: See Landscape.

Cultural services: The nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems through spiritual enrichment, cognitive development, reflection, recreation, and aesthetic experience, including, e.g., knowledge systems, social relations, and aesthetic values.

Decision analytical framework: A coherent set of concepts and procedures aimed at synthesizing available information to help policymakers assess consequences of various decision options. DAFs organize the relevant information in a suitable framework, apply decision criteria (both based on some paradigms or theories), and thus identify options that are better than others under the assumptions characterizing the analytical framework and the application at hand.

Decision-maker: A person whose decisions, and the actions that follow from them, can influence a condition, process, or issue under consideration.

Decomposition: The ecological process carried out primarily by microbes that leads to a transformation of dead organic matter into inorganic matter.

Deforestation: Conversion of forest to non-forest.

Degradation of an ecosystem service: For provisioning services, decreased production of the service through changes in area over which the service is provided, or decreased production per unit area. For regulating and supporting services, a reduction in the benefits obtained from the service, either through a change in the service or through human pressures on the service exceeding its limits. For cultural services, a change in the ecosystem features that decreases the cultural benefits provided by the ecosystem.

Degradation of ecosystems: A persistent reduction in the capacity to provide ecosystem services.

Desertification: land degradation in drylands resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities.

Determinants of well-being: Inputs into the production of well-being, such as food, clothing, potable water, and access to knowledge and information.

Direct use value (of ecosystems): The benefits derived from the services provided by an ecosystem that are used directly by an economic agent. These include consumptive uses (e.g., harvesting goods) and nonconsumptive uses (e.g., enjoyment of scenic beauty). Agents are often physically present in an ecosystem to receive direct use value. (Compare Indirect use value.)

Disability-adjusted life years: The sum of years of life lost due to premature death and illness, taking into account the age of death compared with natural life expectancy and the number of years of life lived with a disability. The measure of number of years lived with the disability considers the duration of the disease, weighted by a measure of the severity of the disease.

Diversity: The variety and relative abundance of different entities in a sample.

Driver: Any natural or human-induced factor that directly or indirectly causes a change in an ecosystem.

Driver, direct: A driver that unequivocally influences ecosystem processes and can therefore be identified and measured to differing degrees of accuracy. (Compare Driver, indirect.)

Driver, endogenous: A driver whose magnitude can be influenced by the decision-maker. Whether a driver is exogenous or endogenous depends on the organizational scale. Some drivers (e.g., prices) are exogenous to a decision-maker at one level (a farmer) but endogenous at other levels (the nation-state). (Compare Driver, exogenous.)

Driver, exogenous: A driver that cannot be altered by the decision-maker. (Compare Driver, endogenous.)

Driver, indirect: A driver that operates by altering the level or rate of change of one or more direct drivers. (Compare Driver, direct.)

Drylands: See Dryland system.

Dryland system: Areas characterized by lack of water, which constrains the two major interlinked services of the system: primary production and nutrient cycling. Four dryland subtypes are widely recognized: dry sub-humid, semiarid, arid, and hyperarid, showing an increasing level of aridity or moisture deficit. See also System.

Ecological character: See Ecosystem properties.

Ecological degradation: See Degradation of ecosystems.

Ecological footprint: An index of the area of productive land and aquatic ecosystems required to produce the resources used and to assimilate the wastes produced by a defined population at a specified material standard of living, wherever on Earth that land may be located.

Ecological security: A condition of ecological safety that ensures access to a sustainable flow of provisioning, regulating, and cultural services needed by local communities to meet their basic capabilities.

Ecological surprises: unexpected—and often disproportionately large—consequence of changes in the abiotic (e.g., climate, disturbance) or biotic (e.g., invasions, pathogens) environment.

Ecosystem: A dynamic complex of plant, animal, and microorganism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Ecosystem approach: A strategy for the integrated management of land, water, and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use. An ecosystem approach is based on the application of appropriate scientific methods focused on levels of biological organization, which encompass the essential structure, processes, functions, and interactions among organisms and their environment. It recognizes that humans, with their cultural diversity, are an integral component of many ecosystems.

Ecosystem assessment: A social process through which the findings of science concerning the causes of ecosystem change, their consequences for human well-being, and management and policy options are brought to bear on the needs of decision-makers.

Ecosystem boundary: The spatial delimitation of an ecosystem, typically based on discontinuities in the distribution of organisms, the biophysical environment (soil types, drainage basins, depth in a
Ecosystem resilience: Any variation in the state, outputs, or structure of an ecosystem.

Ecosystem function: See Ecosystem process.

Ecosystem interactions: Exchanges of materials, energy, and information within and among ecosystems.

Ecosystem management: An approach to maintaining or restoring the composition, structure, function, and delivery of services of natural and modified ecosystems for the goal of achieving sustainability. It is based on an adaptive, collaboratively developed vision of desired future conditions that integrates ecological, socioeconomic, and institutional perspectives, applied within a geographic framework, and defined primarily by natural ecological boundaries.

Ecosystem process: An intrinsic ecosystem characteristic whereby an ecosystem maintains its integrity. Ecosystem processes include decomposition, production, nutrient cycling, and fluxes of nutrients and energy.

Ecosystem properties: The size, biodiversity, stability, degree of organization, internal exchanges of materials, energy, and information among different pools, and other properties that characterize an ecosystem. Includes ecosystem functions and processes.

Ecosystem resilience: See Resilience.

Ecosystem resistance: See Resistance.

Ecosystem robustness: See Ecosystem stability.

Ecosystem services: The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include provisioning services such as food and water; regulating services such as flood and disease control; cultural services such as spiritual, recreational, and cultural benefits; and supporting services such as nutrient cycling that maintain the conditions for life on Earth. The concept “ecosystem goods and services” is synonymous with ecosystem services.

Ecosystem stability (or ecosystem robustness): A description of the dynamic properties of an ecosystem. An ecosystem is considered stable or robust if it returns to its original state after a perturbation, exhibits low temporal variability, or does not change dramatically in the face of a perturbation.

Elasticity: A measure of responsiveness of one variable to a change in another, usually defined in terms of percentage change. For example, own-price elasticity of demand is the percentage change in the quantity demanded of a good for a 1% change in the price of that good. Other common elasticity measures include supply and income elasticity.

Emergent disease: Diseases that have recently increased in incidence, impact, or geographic range; that are caused by pathogens that have recently evolved; that are newly discovered; or that have recently changed their clinical presentation.

Emergent property: A phenomenon that is not evident in the constituent parts of a system but that appears when they interact in the system as a whole.

Enabling conditions: Critical preconditions for success of responses, including political, institutional, social, economic, and ecological factors.

Endangered species: Species that face a very high risk of extinction in the wild. See also Threatened species.

Endemic (in ecology): A species or higher taxonomic unit found only within a specific area.

Endemic (in health): The constant presence of a disease or infectious agent within a given geographic area or population group; may also refer to the usual prevalence of a given disease within such area or group.

Endemism: The fraction of species that is endemic relative to the total number of species found in a specific area.

Epistemology: The theory of knowledge, or a “way of knowing.”

Equity: Fairness of rights, distribution, and access. Depending on context, this can refer to resources, services, or power.

Eutrophication: The increase in additions of nutrients to freshwater or marine systems, which leads to increases in plant growth and often to undesirable changes in ecosystem structure and function.

Evapotranspiration: See Transpiration.

Existence value: The value that individuals place on knowing that a resource exists, even if they never use that resource (also sometimes known as conservation value or passive use value).

Exotic species: See Alien species.

Externality: A consequence of an action that affects someone other than the agent undertaking that action and for which the agent is neither compensated nor penalized through the markets.Externalties can be positive or negative.

Feedback: See Negative feedback, Positive feedback, and Cross-scale feedback.

Fishery: A particular kind of fishing activity, e.g., a trawl fishery, or a particular species targeted, e.g., a cod fishery or salmon fishery.

Fish stock: See Stock.

Fixed nitrogen: See Reactive nitrogen.

Flyway: Areas of the world used by migratory birds in moving between breeding and wintering grounds.

Forest systems: Systems in which trees are the predominant life forms. Statistics reported in this assessment are based on areas that are dominated by trees (perennial woody plants taller than five meters at maturity), where the tree crown cover exceeds 10%, and where the area is more than 0.5 hectares. “Open forests” have a canopy cover between 10% and 40%, and “closed forests” a canopy cover of more than 40%. “Fragmented forests” refer to mosaics of forest patches and non-forest land. See also System.

Freedom: The range of options a person has in deciding the kind of life to lead.

Functional diversity: The value, range, and relative abundance of traits present in the organisms in an ecological community.

Functional redundancy (= functional compensation): A characteristic of ecosystems in which more than one species in the system can carry out a particular process. Redundancy may be total or partial—that is, a species may not be able to completely replace the other species or it may compensate only some of the processes in which the other species are involved.

Functional types (= functional groups = guilds): Groups of organisms that respond to the environment or affect ecosystem processes in a similar way. Examples of plant functional types include nitrogen-fixer versus non-fixer, stress-tolerant versus ruder versus competitor, resprouter versus seeder, deciduous versus evergreen. Examples of animal functional types include granivorous versus fleshly-fruit eater, nocturnal versus diurnal predator, browser versus grazer.

Geographic information system: A computerized system organizing data sets through a geographical referencing of all data included in its collections.

Globalization: The increasing integration of economies and societies around the world, particularly through trade and financial flows, and the transfer of culture and technology.

Global scale: The geographical realm encompassing all of Earth.

Governance: The process of regulating human behavior in accordance with shared objectives. The term includes both governmental and nongovernmental mechanisms.

Health, human: A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The health of a whole community or population is reflected in measurements of disease incidence and prevalence, age-specific death rates, and life expectancy.

High seas: The area outside of national jurisdiction, i.e., beyond each nation’s Exclusive Economic Zone or other territorial waters.

Human well-being: See Well-being.

Income poverty: See Poverty.

Indicator: Information based on measured data used to represent a particular attribute, characteristic, or property of a system.

Indigenous knowledge (or local knowledge): The knowledge that is unique to a given culture or society.

Indirect interaction: Those interactions among species in which a species, through direct interaction with another species or modification of resources, alters the abundance of a third species with which it is not directly interacting. Indirect interactions can be trophic or nontrophic in nature.
Indirect use value: The benefits derived from the goods and services provided by an ecosystem that are used indirectly by an economic agent. For example, an agent at some distance from an ecosystem may derive benefits from drinking water that has been purified as it passed through the ecosystem. (Compare Direct use value.)

Infant mortality rate: Number of deaths of infants aged 0–12 months divided by the number of live births.

Inland water systems: Permanent water bodies other than salt-water systems on the coast, seas and oceans. Includes rivers, lakes, reservoirs, wetlands and inland saline lakes and marshes. See also System.

Institutions: The rules that guide how people within societies live, work, and interact with each other. Formal institutions are written or codified rules. Examples of formal institutions would be the constitution, the judiciary laws, the organized market, and property rights. Informal institutions are rules governed by social and behavioral norms of the society, family, or community. Also referred to as organizations.

Integrated coastal zone management: Approaches that integrate economic, social, and ecological perspectives for the management of coastal resources and areas.

Integrated conservation and development projects: Initiatives that aim to link biodiversity conservation and development.

Integrated pest management: Any practices that attempt to capitalize on natural processes that reduce pest abundance. Sometimes used to refer to monitoring programs where farmers apply pesticides to improve economic efficiency (reducing application rates and improving profitability).

Integrated responses: Responses that address degradation of ecosystem services across a number of systems simultaneously or that also explicitly include objectives to enhance human well-being.

Integrated river basin management: Integration of water planning and management with environmental, social, and economic development concerns, with an explicit objective of improving human welfare.

Interventions: See Responses.

Intrinsic value: The value of someone or something in and for itself, irrespective of its utility for people.

Invasibility: Intrinsic susceptibility of an ecosystem to be invaded by an alien species.

Invasive alien species: An alien species whose establishment and spread modifies ecosystems, habitats, or species.

Irreversibility: The quality of being impossible or difficult to return to, or to restore to, a former condition. See also Option value, Precautionary principle, Resilience, and Threshold.

Island systems: Lands isolated by surrounding water, with a high proportion of coast to hinterland. The degree of isolation from the mainland in both natural and social aspects is accounted by the isola effect. See also System.

Isola effect: Environmental issues that are unique to island systems. This uniqueness takes into account the physical seclusion of islands as isolated pieces of land exposed to marine or climatic disturbances with a more limited access to space, products, and services when compared with most continental areas, but also includes subjective issues such as the perceptions and attitudes of islanders themselves.

Keystone species: A species whose impact on the community is disproportionately large relative to its abundance. Effects can be produced by consumption (trophic interactions), competition, mutualism, dispersal, pollination, disease, or habitat modification (nontrophic interactions).

Land cover: The physical coverage of land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to, but not synonymous with, land use.

Landscape: An area of land that contains a mosaic of ecosystems, including human-dominated ecosystems. The term cultural landscape is often used when referring to landscapes containing significant human populations or in which there has been significant human influence on the land.

Landscape unit: A portion of relatively homogenous land cover within the local-to-regional landscape.

Land use: The human use of a piece of land for a certain purpose (such as irrigated agriculture or recreation). Influenced by, but not synonymous with, land cover.

Length of growing period: The total number of days in a year during which rainfall exceeds one half of potential evapotranspiration. For boreal and temperate zone, growing season is usually defined as a number of days with the average daily temperature that exceeds a definite threshold, such as 10° Celsius.

Local knowledge: See Indigenous knowledge.

Mainstreaming: Incorporating a specific concern, e.g., sustainable use of ecosystems, into policies and actions.

Malnutrition: A state of bad nourishment. Malnutrition refers both to undernutrition and overnutrition, as well as to conditions arising from dietary imbalances leading to diet-related noncommunicable diseases.

Marginal abatement cost: The cost of abating an incremental unit of, for instance, a pollutant.

Marine system: Marine waters from the low-water mark to the high seas that support marine capture fisheries, as well as deepwater (>500 meters) habitats. Four sub-divisions (marine biomes) are recognized: the coastal boundary zone; trade-winds; westerlies; and polar.

Market-based instruments: Mechanisms that create a market for ecosystem services in order to improving the efficiency in the way the service is used. The term is used for mechanisms that create new markets, but also for responses such as taxes, subsidies, or regulations that affect existing markets.

Market failure: The inability of a market to capture the correct values of ecosystem services.

Mitigation: An anthropogenic intervention to reduce negative or unsustainable uses of ecosystems or to enhance sustainable practices.

Mountain system: High-altitude (greater than 2,500 meters) areas and steep mid-altitude (1,000 meters at the equator, decreasing to sea level where alpine life zones meet polar life zones at high latitudes) areas, excluding large plateaus.

Negative feedback: Feedback that has a net effect of dampening perturbation.

Net primary productivity: See Production, biological.

Non-linearity: A relationship or process in which a small change in the value of a driver (i.e., an independent variable) produces an disproportionate change in the outcome (i.e., the dependent variable). Relationships where there is a sudden discontinuity or change in rate are sometimes referred to as abrupt and often form the basis of thresholds. In loose terms, they may lead to unexpected outcomes or “surprises.”

Nutrient cycling: The processes by which elements are extracted from their mineral, aquatic, or atmospheric sources or recycled from their organic forms, converting them to the ionic form in which biotic uptake occurs and ultimately returning them to the atmosphere, water, or soil.

Nutrients: The approximately 20 chemical elements known to be essential for the growth of living organisms, including nitrogen, sulfur, phosphorus, and carbon.

Open access resource: A good or service over which no property rights are recognized.

Opportunity cost: The benefits forgone by undertaking one activity instead of another.

Option value: The value of preserving the option to use services in the future either by oneself (option value) or by others or heirs (bequest value). Quasi-option value represents the value of avoiding irreversible decisions until new information reveals whether certain ecosystem services have values society is not currently aware of.

Organic farming: Crop and livestock production systems that do not make use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides. May also include restrictions on the use of transgenic crops (genetically modified organisms).

Pastoralism, pastoral system: The use of domestic animals as a primary means for obtaining resources from habitats.

Perturbation: An imposed movement of a system away from its current state.
Polar system: Treeless lands at high latitudes. Includes Arctic and Antarctic areas, where the polar system merges with the northern boreal forest and the Southern Ocean respectively. See also System.

Policy failure: A situation in which government policies create inefficiencies in the use of goods and services.

Policy-maker: A person with power to influence or determine policies and practices at an international, national, regional, or local level.

Pollination: A process in the sexual phase of reproduction in some plants caused by the transportation of pollen. In the context of ecosystem services, pollination generally refers to animal-assisted pollination, such as that done by bees, rather than wind pollination.

Population, biological: A group of individuals of the same species, occupying a defined area, and usually isolated to some degree from other similar groups. Populations can be relatively reproductively isolated and adapted to local environments.

Population, human: A collection of living people in a given area. (Compare Community (human, local.).)

Positive feedback: Feedback that has a net effect of amplifying perturbation.

Poverty: The pronounced deprivation of well-being. Income poverty refers to a particular formulation expressed solely in terms of per capita or household income.

Precautionary principle: The management concept stating that in cases “where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing of cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation,” as defined in the Rio Declaration.

Prediction (or forecast): The result of an attempt to produce a most likely description or estimate of the actual evolution of a variable or system in the future. See also Projection and Scenario.

Primary production: See Production, biological.

Private costs and benefits: Costs and benefits directly felt by individual economic agents or groups as seen from their perspective. (Externalities imposed on others are ignored.) Costs and benefits are valued at the prices actually paid or received by the group, even if these prices are highly distorted. Sometimes termed “financial” costs and benefits. (Compare Social costs and benefits.)

Probability distribution: A distribution that shows all the values that a random variable can take and the likelihood that each will occur.

Production, biological: Rate of biomass produced by an ecosystem, generally expressed as biomass produced per unit of time per unit of surface or volume. Net primary productivity is defined as the energy fixed by plants minus their respiration.

Production, economic: Output of a system.

Productivity, biological: See Production, biological.

Productivity, economic: Capacity of a system to produce high levels of output or responsiveness of the output of a system to inputs.

Projection (or forecast): A potential future evolution of a quantity or set of quantities, often computed with the aid of a model. Projections are distinguished from “predictions” in order to emphasize that projections involve assumptions concerning, for example, future socioeconomic and technological developments that may or may not be realized; they are therefore subject to substantial uncertainty.

Property rights: The right to specific uses, perhaps including exclusion, that states establish to implement national laws.

Provisioning services: The products obtained from ecosystems, including, for example, genetic resources, food and fiber, and fresh water.

Public good: A good or service in which the benefit received by any one party does not diminish the availability of the benefits to others, and where access to the good cannot be restricted.

Reactive nitrogen (or fixed nitrogen): The forms of nitrogen that are generally available to organisms, such as ammonia, nitrate, and organic nitrogen. Nitrogen gas (or dinitrogen), which is the major component of the atmosphere, is inert to most organisms.

Realm: Used to describe the three major types of ecosystems on earth: terrestrial, freshwater, and marine. Differs fundamentally from biogeographic realm.

Reforestation: Planting of forests on lands that have previously contained forest but have since been converted to some other use. (Compare Afforestation.)

Regime shift: A rapid reorganization of an ecosystem from one relatively stable state to another.

Regulating services: The benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem processes, including, for example, the regulation of climate, water, and some human diseases.

Relative abundance: See Abundance.

Reporting unit: The spatial or temporal unit at which assessment or analysis findings are reported. In an assessment, these units are chosen to maximize policy relevance or relevance to the public and thus may differ from those upon which the analyses were conducted (e.g., analyses conducted on mapped ecosystems can be reported on administrative units). See also System.

Resilience: The level of disturbance that an ecosystem can undergo without crossing a threshold to a situation with different structure or outputs. Resilience depends on ecological dynamics as well as the organizational and institutional capacity to understand, manage, and respond to these dynamics.

Resistance: The capacity of an ecosystem to withstand the impacts of drivers without displacement from its present state.

Responses: Human actions, including policies, strategies, and interventions, to address specific issues, needs, opportunities, or problems. In the context of ecosystem management, responses may be of legal, technical, institutional, economic, and behavioral nature and may operate at various spatial and time scales.

Riparian: Something related to, living on, or located at the banks of a watercourse, usually a river or stream.

Safe minimum standard: A decision analytical framework in which the benefits of ecosystem services are assumed to be calculable and should be preserved unless the costs of doing so rise to an intolerable level, thus shifting the burden of proof to those who would convert them.

Salinization: The buildup of salts in soils.

Scale: The measurable dimensions of phenomena or observations. Expresses in physical units, such as meters, years, population size, or quantities moved or exchanged. In observation, scale determines the relative fineness and coarseness of different detail and the selectivity among patterns these data may form.

Scenario: A plausible and often simplified description of how the future may develop, based on a coherent and internally consistent set of assumptions about key driving forces (e.g., rate of technology change, prices) and relationships. Scenarios are neither predictions nor projections and sometimes may be based on a “narrative storyline.” Scenarios may include projections but are often based on additional information from other sources.

Security: Access to resources, safety, and the ability to live in a predictable and controllable environment.

Service: See Ecosystem services.

Social costs and benefits: Costs and benefits as seen from the perspective of society as a whole. These differ from private costs and benefits in being more inclusive (all costs and benefits borne by some member of society are taken into account) and in being valued at social opportunity cost rather than market prices, where these differ. Sometimes termed “economic” costs and benefits. (Compare Private costs and benefits.)

Social incentives: Measures that lower transaction costs by facilitating trust-building and learning as well as rewarding collaboration and conflict resolution. Social incentives are often provided by bridging organizations.

Socioecological system: An ecosystem, the management of this ecosystem by actors and organizations, and the rules, social norms, and conventions underlying this management. (Compare System.)

Soft law: Non-legally binding instruments, such as guidelines, standards, criteria, codes of practice, resolutions, and principles or declarations, that states establish to implement national laws.

Soil fertility: The potential of the soil to supply nutrient elements in the quantity, form, and proportion required to support optimum plant growth. See also Nutrients.
Sustainability: The formation of new species.
Species: An interbreeding group of organisms that is reproductively isolated from all other organisms, although there are many partial exceptions to this rule in particular taxa. Operationally, the term species is a generally agreed fundamental taxonomic unit, based on morphological or genetic similarity, that once described and accepted is associated with a unique scientific name.
Species diversity: Biodiversity at the species level, often combining aspects of species richness, their relative abundance, and their dissimilarity.
Species richness: The number of species within a given sample, community, or area.
Statistical variation: Variability in data due to error in measurement, error in sampling, or variation in the measured quantity itself.
Stock (in fisheries): The population or biomass of a fishery resource. Such stocks are usually identified by their location. They can be, but are not always, genetically discrete from other stocks.
Stoichiometry, ecological: The relatively constant proportions of the different nutrients in plant or animal biomass that set constraints on production. Nutrients only available in lower proportions are likely to limit growth.
Storyline: A narrative description of a scenario, which highlights its main features and the relationships between the scenario’s driving forces and its main features.
Strategies: See Responses.
Streamflow: The quantity of water flowing in a watercourse.
Subsidiarity, principle of: The notion of devolving decision-making authority to the lowest appropriate level.
Subsidy: Transfer of resources to an entity, which either reduces the operating costs or increases the revenues of such entity for the purpose of achieving some objective.
Subsistence: An activity in which the output is mostly for the use of the individual person doing it, or their family, and which is a significant component of their livelihood.
Subspecies: A population that is distinct from, and partially reproductively isolated from, other populations of a species but that has not yet diverged sufficiently that interbreeding is impossible.
Supporting services: Ecosystem services that are necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services. Some examples include biomass production, production of atmospheric oxygen, soil formation and retention, nutrient cycling, water cycling, and provisioning of habitat.
Sustainability: A characteristic or state whereby the needs of the present and local population can be met without compromising the ability of future generations or populations in other locations to meet their needs.
Sustainable use (of an ecosystem): Human use of an ecosystem so that it may yield a continuous benefit to present generations while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.
Symbiosis: Close and usually obligatory relationship between two organisms of different species, not necessarily to their mutual benefit.
Synergy: When the combined effect of several forces operating is greater than the sum of the separate effects of the forces.
System: In the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, reporting units that are ecosystem-based but at a level of aggregation far higher than that usually applied to ecosystems. Thus the system includes many component ecosystems, some of which may not strongly interact with each other, that may be spatially separate, or that may be of a different type to the ecosystems that constitute the majority, or matrix, of the system overall. The system includes the social and economic systems that have an impact on and are affected by the ecosystems included within it. For example, the Condition and Trend Working Group refers to “forest systems,” “cultivated systems,” “mountain systems,” and so on. Systems thus defined are not mutually exclusive, and are permitted to overlap spatially or conceptually. For instance, the “cultivated system” may include areas of “dryland system” and vice versa.
Taxon (pl. taxa): The named classification unit to which individuals or sets of species are assigned. Higher taxa are those above the species level. For example, the common mouse, *Mus musculus*, belongs to the Genus *Mus*, the Family Muridae, and the Class Mammalia.
Taxonomy: A system of nested categories (taxa) reflecting evolutionary relationships or morphological similarity.
Tenure: See Property rights, although also sometimes used more specifically in reference to the temporal dimensions and security of property rights.
Threatened species: Species that face a high (vulnerable species), very high (endangered species), or extremely high (critically endangered species) risk of extinction in the wild.
Threshold: A point or level at which new properties emerge in an ecological, economic, or other system, invalidating predictions based on mathematical relationships that apply at lower levels. For example, species diversity of a landscape may decline steadily with increasing habitat degradation to a certain point, then fall sharply after a critical threshold of degradation is reached. Human behavior, especially at group levels, sometimes exhibits threshold effects. Thresholds at which irreversible changes occur are especially of concern to decision-makers. (Compare Non-linearity.)
Time series data: A set of data that expresses a particular variable measured over time.
Total economic value framework: A widely used framework to disaggregate the components of utilitarian value, including direct use value, indirect use value, option value, quasi-option value, and existence value.
Total factor productivity: A measure of the aggregate increase in efficiency of use of inputs. TFP is the ratio of the quantity of output divided by an index of the amount of inputs used. A common input index uses as weights the share of the input in the total cost of production.
Total fertility rate: The number of children a woman would give birth to if through her lifetime she experienced the set of age-specific fertility rates currently observed. Since age-specific rates generally change over time, TFR does not in general give the actual number of births a woman alive today can be expected to have. Rather, it is a synthetic index meant to measure age-specific birth rates in a given year.
Trade-off: Management choices that intentionally or otherwise change the type, magnitude, and relative mix of services provided by ecosystems.
Traditional ecological knowledge: The cumulative body of knowledge, practices, and beliefs evolved by adaptive processes and handed down through generations. TEK may or may not be indigenous or local, but it is distinguished by the way in which it is acquired and used, through the social process of learning and sharing knowledge. (Compare Indigenous knowledge.)
Traditional knowledge: See Traditional ecological knowledge.
Traditional use: Exploitation of natural resources by indigenous users or by nonindigenous residents using traditional methods. Local use refers to exploitation by local residents.
Transpiration: The process by which water is drawn through plants and returned to the air as water vapor. Evapotranspiration is combined loss of water to the atmosphere via the processes of evaporation and transpiration.
Travel cost methods: Economic valuation techniques that use observed costs to travel to a destination to derive demand functions for that destination.
Trend: A pattern of change over time, over and above short-term fluctuations.
Trophic cascade: A chain reaction of top-down interactions across multiple trophic levels. These occur when changes in the presence or absence (or shifts in abundance) of a top predator alter the production at several lower trophic levels. Such positive indirect effects of top predators on lower trophic levels are mediated by the consumption of mid-level consumers (generally herbivores).
Trophic level: The average level of an organism within a food web, with plants having a trophic level of 1, herbivores 2, first-order carnivores 3, and so on.
Umbrella species: Species that have either large habitat needs or other requirements whose conservation results in many other species being conserved at the ecosystem or landscape level.
**Uncertainty:** An expression of the degree to which a future condition (e.g., of an ecosystem) is unknown. Uncertainty can result from lack of information or from disagreement about what is known or even knowable. It may have many types of sources, from quantifiable errors in the data to ambiguously defined terminology or uncertain projections of human behavior. Uncertainty can therefore be represented by quantitative measures (e.g., a range of values calculated by various models) or by qualitative statements (e.g., reflecting the judgment of a team of experts).

**Urbanization:** An increase in the proportion of the population living in urban areas.

**Urban systems:** Built environments with a high human population density. Operationally defined as human settlements with a minimum population density commonly in the range of 400 to 1,000 persons per square kilometer, minimum size of typically between 1,000 and 5,000 people, and maximum agricultural employment usually in the vicinity of 50–75%. See also System.

**Utility:** In economics, the measure of the degree of satisfaction or happiness of a person.

**Valuation:** The process of expressing a value for a particular good or service in a certain context (e.g., of decision-making) usually in terms of something that can be counted, often money, but also through methods and measures from other disciplines (sociology, ecology, and so on). See also Value.

**Value:** The contribution of an action or object to user-specified goals, objectives, or conditions. (Compare Valuation.)

**Value systems:** Norms and precepts that guide human judgment and action.

**Voluntary measures:** Measures that are adopted by firms or other actors in the absence of government mandates.

**Vulnerability:** Exposure to contingencies and stress, and the difficulty in coping with them. Three major dimensions of vulnerability are involved: exposure to stresses, perturbations, and shocks; the sensitivity of people, places, ecosystems, and species to the stress or perturbation, including their capacity to anticipate and cope with the stress; and the resilience of the exposed people, places, ecosystems, and species in terms of their capacity to absorb shocks and perturbations while maintaining function.

**Vulnerable species:** Species that face a high risk of extinction in the wild. See also Threatened species.

**Water scarcity:** A water supply that limits food production, human health, and economic development. Severe scarcity is taken to be equivalent to 1,000 cubic meters per year per person or greater than 40% use relative to supply.

**Watershed** (also catchment basin): The land area that drains into a particular watercourse or body of water. Sometimes used to describe the dividing line of high ground between two catchment basins.

**Water stress:** See Water scarcity.

**Well-being:** A context- and situation-dependent state, comprising basic material for a good life, freedom and choice, health and bodily well-being, good social relations, security, peace of mind, and spiritual experience.

**Wetlands:** Areas of marsh, fen, peatland, or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters. May incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six meters at low tide laying within the wetlands.

**Wise use** (of an ecosystem): Sustainable utilization for the benefit of humankind in a way compatible with the maintenance of the natural properties of the ecosystem
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aahus Convention</th>
<th>433</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable trade-offs</td>
<td>xv, 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>530, 538–539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting of biological carbon</td>
<td>392–393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>530, 538–539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable trade-offs</td>
<td>xv, 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid rain</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaption</td>
<td>to climate change, 21, 378, 383–385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human health and, 476, 477</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive management</td>
<td>5–6, 89, 320–321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative bureaucracy</td>
<td>521, 521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy groups</td>
<td>See NGOs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afforestation</td>
<td>See also Forests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>climate change and</td>
<td>390, 391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flood and storm control and, 343–344, 344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impacts of</td>
<td>17, 543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>See also specific countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agricultural conditions and trends, 298</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>precision agriculture, 191</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>responses to insufficient nutrients, 301, 306</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aquaculture, 203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>devolvement of authority and biodiversity, 153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forestry sector reviews, 266</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forests, local management of, 269</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS, 565–566</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>integrated coastal management efforts, 330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Victoria and non-native species, 204</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho Highlands Water Project, 221</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pastoral ecosystems, 206–207</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public participation in decision-making, 45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>river basin initiatives, 231</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sahel region, 61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tourism and conservation incentives, 133</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vector-borne diseases, 360, 361, 365, 366, 469</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waste management, 319</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water sector and private investment, 248</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), 360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda 21</td>
<td>See United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda setting for decision-making, 530</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement on the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights</td>
<td>See Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>See also Food provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biodiversity and, 147–150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>climate change and, 383, 390</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crops, 179</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biodiversity and, 148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crop breeding strategies, 190–191</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yields and technology, 9, 557–558</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>developing countries and pastoral ecosystems, 206–207</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eco-agriculture to conserve “wild biodiversity,” 149–150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ecological problems confronting, 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ex situ conservation, 148–149, 191</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fertilizer use</td>
<td>See Nutrient management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>genetically modified organisms, 192–194, 504</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grazing systems, 180, 207</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human health and, 328</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in situ conservation, 147–148, 190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of crop wild relatives, 149</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>international agriculture research, 191</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>livestock, 15, 178, 179–180</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>animal wastes and runoff, 302–303</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>competition with wildlife, 207</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deforestation and, 207</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>greenhouse gas emissions and, 207–208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human well-being and, 497–498</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>industrial or intensive livestock production systems, 205</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>management, 205–208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mixed crop systems</td>
<td>See this heading: mixed farming systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manure, use of, 205–206</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mixed farming systems, 180, 205–206</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water and, 197</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mono-cropping, 472</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nutrients and</td>
<td>See Nutrient management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>organic farming, 193–194, 509, 544</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pest management, 195</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>precision agriculture, 191, 508</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research, 191</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subsides, 497</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>urban agriculture, 326, 504</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waste management and, 326–327</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waste use in, 329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water pollution and, 195–196, 543</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water resources and, 176, 194–196, 196, 219</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agrobiodiversity, 177, 192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agroforestry, 280, 378, 390, 411, 412, 544</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>See HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon area, 46, 135, 410, 410, 415, 445</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal diseases</td>
<td>See Zoonotic diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal wastes and water pollution, 300, 302–303</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annan, Kofi</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antarctic Treaty</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See also Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture, 201–205, 202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Africa, 203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eutrophication and, 329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>future regulation of, 202–203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>technological progress, 203–205</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic weeds</td>
<td>323–324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aral Sea</td>
<td>198–199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN Free Trade Area</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>See also specific countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collectivization, discontinuance’s effect on agriculture, 206</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education and gender equity, 560</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flooding and storms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forecasting and warning, 346</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>human health and, 474</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forestry master plans, 266</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himalyan tourism, 416</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu Kush Himalaya region, 232, 233</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>home gardens and biodiversity, 148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>infectious diseases, 359, 361, 363, 364, 368, 368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outbreaks after disasters, 338</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrigation with wastewater, 324</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mekong River Commission, 230, 231</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>migratory birds, bilateral agreements on, 158</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore River, 323</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Development Bank, 55, 266</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment agriculture, 193</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biodiversity conservation and recovery agriculture, 151</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>devolution of government authority, 153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education and communication, 161</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forestry, 151</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>landscape approach, 145</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marine reserves, 151–152</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multilateral environmental agreements, 158–159</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private sector involvement, 147</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>regional planning, 145</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wild species, 140–141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of decision-makers’ responses, 71–93</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domains used in, 74–75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ecological context of, 74–75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>economic context of, 74–75, 80–85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>environmental impact assessments</td>
<td>See Environmental impact assessments (EIAs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment (continued)
framework used in assessing responses, 87–89
of implementation, 78
importance of, 4
institutional context of, 74–75, 77–80
of integrated responses, 429–430, 430
knowledge, use in, 10
political context of, 74–77
procedure, stages of, 74, 74–75
Response Assessment Matrix, 87, 87
risk assessment, 35, 106–107
social factors and, 85–86
tools used in MA, 34–35, 86–89
waste management responses, 325–330
Australia
Bonaire Marine Park, 128
education and awareness raising, 416
emission reduction targets, 379
forests and rights of indigenous people, 268
Murray-Darling Basin, 224, 224, 229, 234, 236, 238–239, 241, 454, 456
salinity levels, 8, 240
strategy for zero solid waste management, 320, 324, 325
water exchanges, 236, 238–239
Autonomy, 77, 79
Awareness raising. See Education and awareness raising
Australia
Bonaire Marine Park, 128
education and awareness raising, 416
emission reduction targets, 379
forests and rights of indigenous people, 268
Murray-Darling Basin, 224, 224, 229, 234, 236, 238–239, 241, 454, 456
salinity levels, 8, 240
strategy for zero solid waste management, 320, 324, 325
water exchanges, 236, 238–239
Autonomy, 77, 79
Awareness raising. See Education and awareness raising
B
Baltic Sea, 300, 323
Bangladesh. See also Asia
flooding and storms in, 235, 338–339, 345
flood control projects, 342, 342–343, 345
land use planning and, 347
shrimp farming in, 202
Basel Convention, 42, 44, 63, 319, 324, 331, 491
Basic material for a good life. See Human well-being
Beef ban due to mad cow disease, 107–108
Behavioral responses. See Social and behavioral responses
Beneficial use doctrine for water, 235–236
Bilateral agreements, 63
Binding constraints, xv, 74, 77, 86
Biodiversity, 119–172
agriculture and, 147–150
assessments of conservation effectiveness. See Assessment
charcoal market and biodiversity conservation, 495, 496
climatic change and, 139, 377, 378, 383–384
community-based responses, importance of, 136–137
decision-making for, 164
economic incentives and, 495–496
ecosystem biophysical information and, 534–535
ecosystem services and, 29
education and awareness raising, 140, 159–161
conditions for success, 160–161
constraints on, 160
equity concerns and, 537–538
extinction due to climate change, 378, 383
fisheries and, 150–151
flooding and, 342
food provision and loss of biodiversity, 176–177, 179
forestry and, 150
government support for, 152–153
hotspots and, 114
human actions, effect on, 164
human health and, 471–472
human well-being and, 163, 495–496
incentives for protection of, 164. See also Economic responses
integration of human and conservation activity, 164–165
invasive species. See Invasive species
landscape approach to, 143–145
lessons learned, 161–163
local, national, regional, and global values for, 123
local people benefiting from, 131–137. See also Indigenous peoples
management of wild species, 137–141
marine reserves and, 150–151
Millennium Development Goals and, 124
monitoring and evaluation of policies, 539
multilateral environmental agreements and, 153–159. See also Multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
national strategies on, 3
private sector involvement in conservation, 145–147, 146
protected areas as response to loss of, 125–131, 138. See also Protected areas
regional planning and, 141–145, 494
reintroduction. See Reintroduction of species to native habitats
research priorities for, 163–165
responses’ approach to, 162–163, 536, 537
social impacts of loss of, 164
trade-offs and, 162–163
uncertainties and, 541
values and relationship to ecosystem services, 123, 163–164
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
waste management and, 331
World Summit on Sustainable Development and, 124, 145
World Trade Organization and, 125
Biological invasions. See Invasive species
Bioprospecting. See also Latin America
national strategy for biodiversity conservation, 155
water privatization, 226
Bonn Guidelines on Access and Benefit Sharing, 136, 137
Botanic gardens, 149
Brazil. See also Amazon area; Latin America
biological nitrogen fertilizer use, 301, 327
Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve, 53
integrated crop management program, 61
integration of agrarian and environmental policies, 445
nutrition and cultural perceptions, 412
Socio-environmental Institute, 407
Brown bears, reintroduction of, 408
Buddhist ecology, 409
C
Calibration uncertainty, 98, 108, 110
Campylobacteriosis, 477–478
Canada
Aquaculture Action Plan, 202
cod industry, 199
flooding and storms, 342, 348
forecasting and warning, 346
forests and rights of indigenous people, 268
large-scale watershed ecosystems, development of, 541
Model Forest Program, 89
national park management, assessment of, 127
wetlands, 342
Cap-and-trade systems. See design of, 499
emissions under Kyoto Protocol, 395
freshwater systems and, 233, 234
Capacity-building. See for policy-making, 581–582
waste management and, 324
Captive breeding programs, 140
Carbon dioxide, 377, 381, 381, 387, 590
Carbon management, 202, 389, 389, 588–589
accounting of biological carbon, 392–393
Carbon sequestration, 159, 207, 283, 450, 450
Caribbean
hurricane damage, 567
infectious disease control, 367
integrated coastal zone management, 455
protected areas, 128
Cartagena Protocol, 42, 43, 44
CBD. See Convention on Biological Diversity
CCD. See Convention to Combat Desertification
Certification, 414
accessibility to local communities and small producers, 19, 502
forests and, 150, 274–276, 275, 414, 449, 498
freshwater systems and, 242
Chagas disease, 362, 364
Charcoal, 281, 388, 498, 506, 516, 581
market and biodiversity conservation, 495, 496
Chemical control of vector-borne diseases, 362–363, 369
Chemical inputs in food provision, 179
Chesapeake Bay, 230, 300, 304, 505
Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve, 53
Children
education, Millennium Development Goals, 558–559
HIV/AIDS and, 565–566
Ciguatera (fish poisoning), 479, 479–480

Civil society awareness and ecosystem management, 479, 480

China. See also Asia

agricultural improvements in, 298

education and gender equity, 560

emission reduction targets, 379

family planning policy, 51

flood and storm control, 339, 340

forests, 262, 269

irrigation with wastewater, 324

Mekong River, 230

nitrate pollution, 300

flood and storms, 342

family planning policy, 51

rangeland systems and, 390

observed and projected changes, 377

response scale needed, 379–383

response scale needed, 379–383

sinks and, 389–393, 390

technological change and, 9, 395–396

vulnerability and risk considerations, 540

Coastal water systems

flood and storm control, 339, 340

nitrogen pollution and, 300, 305

red tides and, 330

Coastal zone management

integrated responses, 452–454

U.S. program, 306

Cod industry, 199

Cognitive responses, 54–56. See also Knowledge

Collaboration. See Coordination

Command-and-control interventions

economic responses, 47–48

compared to tradable permit systems, 49

“Command and control” regulations, 44

Common Agricultural Policy (EU), 4, 100, 185

Common Agricultural Policy (EU), 4, 100, 185

Communication. See also Education and awareness

raising

environmental conventions” need to improve, 9

importance of, 160–161

Communities. See Local communities

Community-managed floodplains, 410

Community-managed forests, 136, 136

Composting, 320

Concentrated animal feeding operations. See Feedlots and animal wastes

Conceptual framework of ecosystem assessment

25–36, 30

assessments tools, 34–35

cross-scale interactions and, 33

drivers of change and, 32–33

ecosystems and their services, 29, 30

human well-being as focus of, 29

reporting categories used in, 31

responses assessment report and, xv

statement of problem, 26–28

strategies and interventions, 35–36

values associated with ecosystems, 33–34, 34

Conservation

business opportunities associated with, 544

cultural services and, 406

economic incentives for, 495–499

integrated responses, 450–452, 494

Conservation concessions, 272

Conservation easements, 134

Conservation Fund, 271

Constitutional law, 44–45

Consumer action

“fair trade” and, 414–415

forests and, 16, 271–274

Consumer preferences, expression of, 8, 544

food provision and, 177–178

sustainable food consumption knowledge system, 188–189

Contextual uncertainty, 98

Contingent valuation and uncertainty, 111–112

Convention on Access to Information, Public

Participation in Decision-Making, and

Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, 433

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

captive management programs under, 140

decentralization of governance and, 152

design of, 491, 492

dispute resolution under, 44

ecosystem approach endorsed by, 29, 436–438, 437–438

effectiveness of, 3, 155

environmental impact assessments (EIAs) under, 44

equity concerns and, 538

forests and, 264, 266

Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development, 133

human health and, 377–378, 474

importance of, 155

mariculture and, 151

poverty reduction and, 520

preservation of traditional knowledge, 52, 55, 136, 152, 410–411, 502

protected areas and, 126, 129

purpose of, 132, 155, 379

regional planning recommendations, 141–142

2010 Target, 3

Convention on Civil Liability for Damage Resulting from Activities Dangerous to the Environment, 44

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 231

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 42, 60, 63, 138, 154, 158

Convention on Migratory Species, 26, 138, 158

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 43

Convention on the Law of the Nonnavigational Uses of International Watercourses, 42

Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 42, 43

environmental impact assessments (EIAs) under, 44

Convention on Wetlands. See Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), 3, 26, 42, 52, 55, 60

forests and, 264, 267

links with UNFCCC and CBD, 379

poverty reduction and, 520

Coordination

across decision-making levels, 3, 429

across international agreements, 492

across sectors and scales. See Cross-sectoral responses

among international institutions, 2–3, 367–369

at national and sub-national levels, 3

Coral reefs, 158, 330, 377, 383

Corruption, 521, 521

Cost-effectiveness, 83–84, 482

Costa Rica. See also Latin America

balancing ecotourism and environmental protection, 545

conservation policy of, 406, 406

El Programa de Pago De Servicios Ambientales (PSA), 8, 129, 134, 155, 144
Costa Rica (continued)

watershed payment initiatives in, 242–243

Cost–benefit analysis, 105–106, 106, 110

Crops. See Agriculture

Cross-scale interactions, 33, 542
decision-making process and, 542

Cross-sectoral responses, 2–3, 5
human health and, 482–483
promotion of, 522–523

Cryopreservation for plant species, 149

Cultural services, 18–20, 401–422
cross-scale interactions and, 542
defined, 29
dichotomy of nature vs. culture, 404–405, 499–500
drivers of change and, 405
ecosystem biophysical information and, 535
equity concerns and, 538
history of conservation and, 406
human health and, 475
international agreements and, 410–413
landscapes, cultural perceptions of, 19, 405–406
local identities and, 500–501
responses related to, 407–409, 536
types of, 405, 410–415
sacred groves and areas, 19, 27, 409, 409, 500
Tibetan and Buddhist ecology, 409
tourism and, 415–417, 419
traditional and local knowledge. See Knowledge vulnerability and risk considerations, 540

Cultural tourism, 20, 417, 419, 544

Customary law, 42

Cyclones. See Flood and storm control

D

Dams and reservoirs, 14, 248, 249, 339, 434, 505
Danube Basin, 232, 343
DIDT, 323, 369, 566
Debt swaps, 50

Decentralized government control of forests, 261, 268–270

Decision-making process, xv–xvi, xvi, 5–6, 529–546
agenda setting for, 530
biodiversity and, 164
cross-scale interactions and, 542
deliberative tools for, 5, 89, 89
drivers of change and, 32
ecosystem biophysical information and, 534–535
effective implementation of, 530, 535–536
efficiency and, 535–536
equity concerns and implications, 537–538
evaluation as part of, 530–531
in health sector, 480
information-gathering tools for, 5, 89, 90
integrated responses and, 459, 460
key ingredients of, 531–542, 532
knowledge, use in, 10
methods and frameworks for, 6, 110
monitoring and, 530–531
planning tools for, 5, 89, 90
policy formulation for, 530

public participation in. See Participation and transparency; Public participation in decision-making
scenario building and, 5
sociopolitical information available for, 533–534
strategies and interventions in, 35–36
uncertainties and, 5. See also Uncertainties and vulnerabilities and. See Vulnerability analysis

Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge, 55

Deforestation
cclimate change and, 389, 391
effect of, 262, 538
government policy and, 45–46
livestock and, 207

Demographic drivers, 57. See also Population

Dendro power,

Dengue, 361, 367, 368, 369

Desalination, 251, 251–252

Deschutes River Conservancy (Oregon), 237

Developing countries
“fair trade” and, 414–415, 415
pastoral ecosystems and, 206–207
waste management and, 321, 323, 327

Direct drivers. See also National responses
Drivers of change
Discounting, 82–83, 105

Diseases. See Infectious diseases
Displacement of population, 85

Dispute resolution, 43–44, 154, 492

Distributional issues
of international responses, 492
of national and local responses, 494–495

Doha Trade Round, 440

Domestic legal responses. See also National responses
constitutional law, 44–45
enforcement system, 46, 494
environmental regulations, 44
non-environmental legislation, 45–46

Downstream Response to Imposed Flow Transformations (DRIFT), 221, 223

Drinking water. See also Freshwater systems
effect of access to, 543
fundamental right to (MDG), 43, 218, 568, 570, 570–572

Drivers of change, 32–33. See also specific types of drivers
cultural services and, 405
decision-making process and, 32
defined, 33
direct drivers, 33, 57, 60
endogenous drivers, 32
exogenous drivers, 32
flood and storm control and, 340
for food provision, 175–177
for forest products, 261–262
for freshwater systems
direct drivers, 216–217, 217
indirect drivers, 217–218
indirect, 32, 57–59, 60
interactions of, 32–33, 518–519
relationship to response options, 57–60, 58–59
for waste management, 317–319
within MA conceptual framework, 32

Dust formation, 207
Dust storms, 340

E

Earth Summit, 323, 359, 431, 566

East Coast fever, 360

Eco-agriculture to conserve “wild biodiversity,” 149–150

Ecolab, 50

Ecology
agriculture and ecological problems, 27
assessment in ecological context, 74–75
climate change and ecological systems, 377–378
infectious diseases, ecological conditions and vector-borne disease, 357
Tibetan and Buddhist ecology, 409

Economic drivers, 57–58
freshwater systems and, 217

Economic incentives, 7–8, 48–49, 544
access to markets and, 137
assessment of, 137
for biodiversity conservation, 495–496
local peoples and, 132–136
combining incentive schemes, 134–136
direct pay systems, 134
for freshwater systems, 232–248, 496–497
indirect systems, 132–133
integrated conservation and development projects and, 452
for nutrient management, 305
for watershed management, 241–244, 242

Economic responses, 47–51, 56
assessment of, 74–75, 80–85
command-and-control interventions, 47–48
compared to tradable permit systems, 49
cost-effectiveness of, 83–84
financial and monetary measures, 50
human well-being and, 495–499
incentive-based interventions. See Economic incentives
international trade policy, 50
property rights, 84–85, 134
synthesis in response strategies, 112–113
value. See Value associated with ecosystem services
voluntarism-based instruments, 49–50
waste management and, 320–321

Economic valuation. See Value associated with ecosystem services

Ecosystem approach as framework for integrated responses, 436–438, 437–439

Ecosystem biophysical information and decision-making, 534–535

Ecosystem services
biodiversity and, 29
cclimate change and, 383–384
in conceptual framework, 29–32
cultural. See Cultural services
defined, 27
direct provision of, 47
flood and storm control and, 339
freshwater systems providing, 216, 218–219

...
linkages among ecosystems
flood and storm control and, 349
with human well-being, 28, 470–471, 471–472, 478–479, 483, 483
response options for, 6–10
effect of, 507–514, 512, 512
restoration of and technology, 9
trade-offs of. See Trade-offs and synergies
values associated with. See Value associated with ecosystem services
vector-borne diseases, effect of responses to, 362
Ecosystems, 29
boundaries for, 29
degradation of, 27
Ecotourism, 20, 27, 133, 417, 417, 495, 545. See also
Tourism
Education and awareness raising, 9, 41, 46, 49–50, 51, 546
biodiversity, 140, 159–161
business opportunities for, 544
cost of, 53
cultural diversity and, 534
effectiveness of, 544
flood and storm control, 17, 346–347, 350
food provision and, 185–190
human well-being and environmental education, 503
linkage of global and local institutions, 407
Millennium Development Goals, universal primary education, 558–559, 539
vector-borne diseases, 364–365
waste management and, 21, 322, 331
EIAs. See Environmental impact assessments
“Embedded Autonomy,” 79
Emission permits, tradable, 48
Empowerment
devolvement of authority and, 153
of indigenous and local communities, 9, 52, 57
of women, 9, 560–562
Enabling conditions
adaptive management and, 520
for designing effective responses, 7
integrated responses and, 457–458
national responses and, 447–448
Endangered species. See Biodiversity; Convention on
International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); U.S. Endangered Species Act
Energy. See also Fuelwood
dendro power, 282, 506, 537, 544
improvement efficiencies, 388–389
Millennium Development Goals and, 580–581
nuclear power, 387
reduction of fossil fuel emissions, 387
renewable energy technologies, 387–388
technologies and policies to mitigate climate change, 9, 386–389
transition to less carbon-intensive energy sector, 389, 389
Environmental flow regimes, implementation of,
222–223
Environmental impact assessments (EIAs), 44, 45
biodiversity issues and, 143
transboundary environmental impact assessments (TEIAs), 230–231, 539
Equity between social groups, 85, 85, 537–538
and decision-making process, 537–538
Espoo Convention, 231
Ethics, environmental, 52
EU bubble, 379
Europe
brown bears, reintroduction of, 408
Danube Basin, 232, 343
environmental education, 51
flood control strategies, 342, 343, 344, 344
nutrient management, 299–300, 302, 305, 307–308
open access fisheries, 200, 201
Rhine Basin, 457
Rho¨ n Biosphere Reserve in Germany, 416, 536
waste management, 323
wetlands restoration, 343
European Court of Justice, 107–108
European Union (EU)
clean air laws, 107
Common Agricultural Policy. See Common Agricultural Policy (EU)
emission reduction targets, 379
emissions trading system, 395
environmental policy integration, 442, 443
forests and, 265
Habits Directive, 100
Nitrate Directive, 305
ombudsman system, 46
protected areas, 470–471,
protected areas and, 127
trade challenges by, 439
Water Framework Directive, 229, 230, 305
Eutrophication, 329
Evaluation as part of decision-making process, 350–351, 538–539
Ex situ conservation
agriculture and biodiversity, 148–149, 191
wild species and biodiversity, 140
Explicit controls, 47
Export restrictions. See Trade policies
Extinction. See Biodiversity
"Fair trade,” 19, 414–415, 415
Family planning, 51
FAO. See Food and Agriculture Organization
FBI report on youth crime, 53
Feedlots and animal wastes, 302–303, 307–308
Fertilizer, application of. See Nutrient management
Field gene banks, 148
Financial incentives. See Economic incentives
Fire as forest management tool, 283
Fire management, 282–283
Fish and fisheries, 43
biodiversity and, 150–151
capture fisheries, 199–201
cod industry, 199
education to allow restoration, 9
flooding and its beneficial impacts, 339
as food source, 176, 180, 196–205
future demand for, 27
future governance, 201
human well-being and, 497
Lake Victoria and introduction of non-native species, 204
management of open-access fisheries, 200, 200
marine reserves. See Marine reserves
poverty and, 497
protected areas for, 128
technological advances and, 509
time and area closures, 201
Fish poisoning (ciguatera), 479–480
Fixed quota systems, 47–48
Flood and storm control, 17–18, 335–352
adverse impacts, 337–338, 338
beneficial impacts, 338–339
climatic change and, 338, 349, 349–350
coastal floods, 339, 340
conflict between short- and long-term objectives for, 349
cross-scale interactions and, 542
cyclones, 339–340, 345–346
drivers of change and, 340
ecosystem biophysical information and, 535
ecosystem services and, 339
equity concerns and, 538
financial services and insurance for, 17, 347
flush floods, 339
forecasting and warning, 346–347
human health and, 338, 474
infectious diseases and, 338
institutional issues for, 349
land use planning and, 18, 347–348, 348
lessons learned, 348–350
linkages among ecosystems and, 349
natural environment and, 17, 342–346
physical structures and, 17, 341–342, 342
pre-flood preparedness systems, 341
protection mechanisms for, 340
rainfall floods, 339
responses
analysis and assessment of, 341–348
selection of, 340–341
risk assessment and, 346
riverine flooding, 339, 340
substitutability of ecosystems, 348–349
sustainable development and, 341–348
technological responses, 504–505
types of events, 339–340
uncertainties and, 542
upland reafforestation/afforestation, 344
upland reforestation/afforestation and, 343–344
urbanization and, 340
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
wetlands and flood moderation, 342–343
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
aquaculture policy, 202, 203
Food and Agriculture Organization (continued)
fertilizer, documentation of use, 557
fishing policy, 199–200
Globally Important Ingenious Agricultural Heritage Systems, 411
plant genetic resources, 149
Food provision, 173–212, 185–188. See also Agriculture
agrobiodiversity and, 177, 192
aquaculture, 201–205, 202
biodiversity loss and, 176–177, 179
chemical inputs and, 179
climate change and, 177
consumption and, 177–178, 188–189
crops. See Agriculture
drivers of change and, 175–177
ecosystem biophysical information and, 535
ecosystem impacts, 180–181
fish. See Fish and fisheries
forestry and, 262
Green Revolution and, 503, 504
human health and, 472–473
human well-being and, 497–498
increase in food supplies per person, 298
integrating ecological and socioeconomic responses, 189–190
knowledge and education and, 185–190
land for, 178
livestock. See Agriculture
natural resources and, 176–177
nutrition and, 412, 472–473
population and, 176
production and, 178–180, 185–188, 193–194
responses associated with, 181–208
gender issues, 181, 184
globalization and trade policies, 181–185, 182–183
sugar markets, 186–187
sustainable food consumption knowledge system, 188–189
sustainable food production knowledge system, 193–194
technological responses and, 190–194, 504
trade-offs and, 536
uncertainties and, 541
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
water resources and, 176, 194–196
Food security, 43, 176, 177, 412, 504. See also Food provision
Forced displacement of population, 85
Forecasting of floods and storms, 346–347
Forest Stewardship Council, 273
Forests. See also Deforestation; Tropical forests
accountability, monitoring, and enforcement, 539
biodiversity and, 150
certification and, 150, 274–276, 275, 414, 496, 498
changing patterns of wood consumption and, 261–262
climate change and, 389–391, 391, 393
community-managed forests, 136, 156, 534
country-community forestry partnerships, 47, 270–271, 273–273
consumer action and, 16, 271–274
decentralized government control of, 261
development, 45, 264
devolution and local management, 268–270
drivers of change in ecosystems that provide forest products, 261–262
ecosystem biophysical information and, 535
environment processes and, 264
extra-sectoral policy processes and, 263–268
fire as forest management tool, 283
human well-being and, 498, 513
indigenous peoples’ management of, 15, 268
integrated management responses, 448–450
land management institutions and investments in, 279–283
lessons learned, 280–281
management and land rights, 268–271
national governance initiatives and forest programs, 15, 266–268, 267, 534
non-wood forest products. See Non-wood forest products
plantation forestry, 16, 276, 280–281, 543
policy challenges for certification, 275
campaign-community forestry partnerships, 271
carbon, 274
devolution and local management, 270
fuelwood, 282
governance, 280
indigenous peoples’ management, 268
international development assistance, 264–265
national forest programs, 267–268
non-wood forest products, 278–279
trade liberalization, 265–266
tree plantation management, 281
poverty reduction and, 267
privatization of, 261
protected areas, 127
reduced impact logging and, 279
responses assessment of, 285–290, 537
selection of, 262–263, 284, 536
small-scale private and public–private ownership and management, 15, 270, 536, 542
sustainability of, 42, 150, 267, 448–450
trade-offs between ecosystem services and human well-being, 450
third-party voluntary forest certification, 16, 274–276, 273
trade and, 264, 265–266
transnational companies and, 265
uncertainties and, 542
U.S. national and state forests, views on use of, 417
voluntary initiatives, 265, 274–276, 273
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
Fossil fuel emissions, 386–387, 387. See also Nitrous oxide emissions
Framework Convention on Biological Diversity, 41, 42
Framework Convention on Climate Change, 21, 41, 42, 63, 376, 378–379
burden sharing/equity considerations, 382–383
Clean Development Mechanism, 7
design of, 491
forests and, 264, 267
justification for setting targets to limit rate of climate change, 380
poverty reduction and, 520
Free-riders, 81
Freedom and choice. See Human well-being
Freshwater systems, 13, 213–255. See also Water resources
beneficial use doctrine for, 235–236
cap-and-trade systems for, 233, 234
certification and labeling, 242
dependencies and trends of, 216–217, 222
dams and reservoirs. See Dams and reservoirs
development and, 252–252
direct drivers in, 216–217, 217
Downstream Response to Imposed Flow
Transformations (DRIFT), 221, 223
economic incentives for, 232–248
partnerships and, 244–248
water management, 241–244, 242
ecosystem services provided by, 216, 218–219
ecosystem water requirements, determination of, 221–225
effectiveness of market approaches, 236–241
environmental flow regimes, implementation of, 222–223
equity concerns and, 538
financing sources, 245
future challenges for, 218
governance and, 220, 220–232
human health and, 473
human well-being and, 216–220, 496–497
indirect drivers in, 217–218
infrastructure financing and, 244
instream water acquisition programs, 236, 237, 238
markets for provision of fresh water, 14, 235–236
methodologies for defining ecosystem water requirements, 222–223
monitoring and evaluation of policies, 539
pollution. See Water pollution
poverty and, 218
property rights and, 235–236
public participation in decision-making regarding, 15, 227–229
public-private partnerships and, 244–245, 246–247
regulatory responses and, 14, 231–232
responses, selection for assessment, 219–220, 220, 536
responsibilities for provision of, 225–227
reverse osmosis, 251, 252
river basin organizations and, 229–231
socioeconomic impacts, 241–242
technologies and, 248–252, 543
third-party impacts of water transfers, 239–241, 241
tradable development rights (TDRs) and, 242
transfer payments and, 242
uncertainties and, 541
values used in responses, 537
Infectious diseases, Infant mortality reduction, Millennium Development
Indonesia
Indirect drivers. See Drivers of change
Indigenous peoples
biodiversity benefits for, 55, 131–137
economic incentives, 132–136
forest management by, 15, 268
language diversity and, 411
organizing as NGOs, 411
taking advantage of global institutions and
conventions to receive attention, 407
traditional knowledge of. See Knowledge
Indirect anthropogenic effects and climate change,
391–392
Indirect drivers. See Drivers of change
India
flooding and storms in, 345
forecasting and warning, 346
forests, local management of, 269
gender issues in, 514–515
National Policy and Action Plan on Biodiversity, 60
Plant Variety Protection and Farmers’ Rights Act, 137
regional development and privatization in, 514
sacred groves in, 27, 409
traditional medicine and plant cultivation in, 413
Inland water systems, 43
Israel
Institutions
International agreements, 11430$ INDX 10-21-05 14:09:05 PS
International Commission for the Protection of the
Rhine, 230, 518
International Convention for the Control and
Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and
Sediments, 43
International Convention for the Regulation of
Whaling, 138
International Coral Reef Initiative, 158
International Court of Justice’s environmental
decisions, 42
International environmental governance (IEG),
431–434
International Institute for Sustainable Development,
144
International Labour Organization, 55
International legal responses. See International
agreements, specific conventions and agreements
International Monetary Fund (IMF), 41, 516
International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, 148
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for
Food and Agriculture, 43, 136, 149
International Tropical Timber Agreement, 43, 491
International Tropical Timber Organization, 264
International Union for Conservation of Nature and
Natural Resources. See IUCN
Interventions
criteria for choosing, 47
human health, methods for selecting, 481–482
MA assessment of, 35–36
Invasive species
biodiversity and, 138–139
international agreements and, 43
national responses and, 494

Page 614
Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Policy Responses

India (continued)
tick-borne diseases, 477, 512
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
waste management and, 325
water-related diseases, 473, 474, 477–478
Information access, 49–50, 160, 433
flood and storm control, 17, 346–347, 350
Inland water systems, 43. See also Freshwater systems
pollution. See Water pollution
response options for, 219–220, 220
Insecticides and elimination of infectious diseases,
362–363, 365, 369
Institutional coherence, 519
Institutional framework
as basis of intervention, 40–56
international level, 77–79
Institutional responses, 77–79
climate change, 396–398, 397
coordination, 2–3
coordination among, 2–3, 78–79
decision-making process and, 7, 545–546
infectious diseases, 369
reform, importance of, 522
waste management, 321–322
Integrate water acquisition programs, 236, 237, 238
Insurance
environmental accountability and, 539
for flood and storm control, 17, 347
Integrated management, 7, 89, 101–102
coastal management, 144
pest (IPM), 195, 504
river basins, 144
vector (IVM), 18, 359–360, 360–361, 366, 369
wastes, 324
water resources, 518
Integrated responses, 20, 425–465. See also Integrated
management
assessment of, 429–430, 430
coastal zone management, 452–454
climate change, 397
decision-making process and, 459, 460, 535
defined, 428
ecosystem approach as framework for, 436–438,
437–439
enabling conditions and constraints, 457–458
international level, 440
forest management, 448–450
horizontal and vertical integration, 429
international responses, 430–440. See also
Multilateral environmental agreements
(MEAs); specific agreement or convention
international trade and environmental governance,
438–440
legal responses, 457
limits to integration, 458
linkages between social and natural systems,
428–429
national responses, 20, 440–448, 441. See also
National responses
river basin management, 454–457
sub-national and multiscale, 20, 448–458
trade-offs in, 458–459
vulnerability and risk considerations, 540
Intellecutal property rights, 42, 411, 419, 502
Interactions among drivers and ecosystems, 33,
518–519
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),
55, 63, 105, 112, 349, 378
greenhouse gas emissions, 376–377, 379
indirect anthropogenic effects, 392
Special Report on Emission Scenarios (SRES),
381–382
International agreements, 3, 41–43, 63. See also Trade
policies; specific agreement or convention
compliance, 78, 78
cultural services and, 410–413
customary law, 42
design of, 491–492
domestic context and, 493
as drivers of change, 57
effectiveness of, 521–522
enforcement system, 43–44
human well-being and, 490–493
negotiation of, 492–493
outside environmental sector, 42–43
policy coherence and, 493
“soft law,” 42
treaties, 41–42
International Commission for the Protection of the
Rhine, 230, 518
International Convention for the Control and
Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and
Sediments, 43
International Convention for the Regulation of
Whaling, 138
International Coral Reef Initiative, 158
International Court of Justice’s environmental
decisions, 42
International environmental governance (IEG),
431–434
International Institute for Sustainable Development,
144
International Labour Organization, 55
International legal responses. See International
agreements, specific conventions and agreements
International Monetary Fund (IMF), 41, 516
International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, 148
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for
Food and Agriculture, 43, 136, 149
International Tropical Timber Agreement, 43, 491
International Tropical Timber Organization, 264
International Union for Conservation of Nature and
Natural Resources. See IUCN
Interventions
criteria for choosing, 47
human health, methods for selecting, 481–482
MA assessment of, 35–36
Invasive species
biodiversity and, 138–139
international agreements and, 43
national responses and, 494

India (continued)
flooding and storms in, 345
forecasting and warning, 346
forests, local management of, 269
gender issues in, 514–515
National Policy and Action Plan on Biodiversity, 60
Plant Variety Protection and Farmers’ Rights Act, 137
regional development and privatization in, 514
sacred groves in, 27, 409
traditional medicine and plant cultivation in, 413
Indigenous peoples
biodiversity benefits for, 55, 131–137
economic incentives, 132–136
forest management by, 15, 268
language diversity and, 411
organizing as NGOs, 411
taking advantage of global institutions and
conventions to receive attention, 407
traditional knowledge of. See Knowledge
Indirect anthropogenic effects and climate change,
391–392
Indirect drivers. See Drivers of change
India
biodiversity and decentralization of responsibility in,
153
forests in, 262
Komodo National Park, 128
property rights in, 226
Infant mortality reduction, Millennium Development
Goals, 562–563, 563
Infectious diseases, 18, 353–372. See also specific disease
biological control/natural predators, 18, 361–362
burden of, 469–470, 470
chemical control, 18, 362–363, 369
clean environment and climate change, 18
current status of, 356
dam construction and, 505
development policies, importance of, 359
ecological conditions and vector-borne disease, 357
ecosystem services and, 362, 472
environmental data, linkage to, 481
floods and storms causing, 338
future projections of, 356
genetic modification of vector species, 18, 365–367
globally trends as indirect drivers, 357–359
health awareness and education, 18, 364–365
human settlement patterns and, 18, 363–364
indirect and direct influences on transmission, 358
institutional responses, 369
integrated vector management, 18, 359–360,
360–361, 366, 369
inter-sectoral cooperation among health,
environment, and development institutions,
367–369
Millennium Development Goals, 564–566, 565
poverty and, 356
responses, analysis and assessment of, 369–370, 536
social and behavioral responses to, 363–365, 364,
369
technological advances in overcoming, 365–367

Page 614
Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Policy Responses
land use, land use change, and forestry, 389, 391
legal responses, 319
sinks, use of, 390, 392

Lake Victoria and introduction of non-native species, 204

Lakes. See Inland water systems
Land use and cover changes. See also Agriculture; Deforestation; Urban growth and urbanization
climate change and, 21, 389–391, 391, 393
cultivation and, 207, 558
as drivers of change, 57
flooding and, 344, 344
indices to track, 99
Land use planning and flood and storm control, 18, 347–348, 348
Landfills. See Waste management
Landscape approach to biodiversity, 143–145
Lands, cultural perceptions of, 19, 405–406, 499–502
Language diversity, 411
Latin America. See also specific countries
carbon sequestration in Andes, 159
Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve, 53
constitutional provisions on environment, 45
forests, local management of, 269
home gardens and biodiversity, 148
hurricane damage, 567
infectious diseases, 357, 359, 362, 364, 368
outbreaks after disasters, 338
river basin initiatives, 231
tourism and conservation incentives, 133
water rights, 226
watershed management, economic incentives for, 242–243
Least developed countries, Millennium Development
Goals, 575–577
Legal responses, 41–47, 56
climate change and, 378–379
“command and control” regulations, 44
domestic constitutional law, 44–45
domestic enforcement system, 46
domestic environmental regulations, 44
domestic non-environmental legislation, 44–46
environmental impact assessments (EIAs), role of, 45
guidelines, standards, codes of practices, etc., 42
human well-being and, 490–495
instrument design, 491–492
international level, 490–493
national and local instruments, 493–494
integrated responses, 457
international customary law, 42
international enforcement system, 43–44
level and effectiveness of, 522
“soft law,” 42
treaties, 41–42
uncertainties and, 99–100
waste management and, 319, 323
wild species, management of, 138

Legitimacy, 78, 101
Leibnizianis, 357, 361, 363
Lesotho Highlands Water Project, 221, 224
Liability, civil and criminal, 46
Linking Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (World Bank), 514
Livestock. See Agriculture
Living landscapes, 142
Loans, 50
Local communities
benefiting from biodiversity, 131–137. See also Indigenous peoples
culture of. See Cultural services
empowerment of, 52, 57
governance, 79–80
ICDPs, 132–133
knowledge of. See Knowledge responses available to, 61, 62, 64, 67
risk perception of, 482
Local institutions and ecosystem change, 41
Local knowledge. See Knowledge
Logging. See Timber
Long Range Transboundary Air Pollutants regime, 492
Louisiana coast and wetlands project, 343
Lyne disease, 358, 477

M
MA. See Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
Macroeconomic policies, 4, 523
Madagascar and biodiversity, 61
Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection, 44
Malawi, 356, 357, 359, 361, 362, 364, 366, 368–369, 469, 564–566, 565
Mali. See also Africa
NGO and traditional approach to environmental management, 414
Mangroves, 344–345, 345, 505
Manure, agricultural use of, 205–206, 306. See also Nutrient management
Marine protected areas (MPAs), 128, 150–151
Marine reserves
biodiversity and, 150–151
ecosystems and wastes, 330
food provision and, 180–181, 205
Market-based valuations and uncertainties, 110, 522
Markets for provision of fresh water, 235–236, 544
Marrakesh Accords, 390
Material needs and human well-being, 29, 512–513
Maternal health, Millennium Development Goals, 563–564, 564
MDGs. See Millennium Development Goals
MEAs. See Multilateral environmental agreements
Medicine, traditional, 52, 52, 413, 561–562
Mekong River Commission, 230, 231
Melanesia, land and environmental ethics in, 52
Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, 128
Microcredits, 50
Migratory birds, 158
Millennium Development Goals, 2–3, 549–583
backbone to, 323, 531–554
biodiversity and, 124
People, Land Management, and Ecosystem Conservation program, 413
Permanent Court of Arbitration Optional Rules for Arbitration of Disputes Relating to Natural Resources and/or the Environment, 44
Persistent Organic Pollutants Protocol, 43
Pest management, 195, 504, 535
Pesticides, 323, 327, 557, 566
Phosphorus fertilizer. See Nutrient management
Physical structures as means for flood and storm control, 17, 341–342, 342
Pigovian taxes, 84
Plantation forestry, 16, 276, 280–281, 543
Plants. See also Agriculture
traditional medicine and, 52, 413
Plastic waste, 319–320
Pollution. See Waste management
Potential Pareto Improvement, 80
Post-materialism hypothesis, 86
Population
food provision and, 176
government policies on, 51, 57
Post-materialist hypothesis, 86
Potential Pareto Improvement, 80
Poverty
adaptive management and, 520–521
concepts and measures of, 512
ecosystem degradation and, 27, 86
forests and, 267
freshwater systems and, 218
gender issues and, 514–515, 516
human health and, 469, 484
human well-being and, 43
hunger and, 472
infectious diseases and, 356
Millennium Development Goals and, 554–556, 555
participatory poverty assessments (PPAs), 516
poverty reduction strategies (PRSPs), 4–5, 267, 516
reduction responses, 29–32, 514–516, 523
ecological development and, 506
trade-offs with ecosystem services, 219
tropical forests and, 515
waste management and, 331
water management and, 497
Poverty and Famines (Sen), 504
Precautionary principle, 107–108, 110
Precision agriculture, 191, 193, 508
Predators
loss of, 140
vector-borne diseases and, 361–362
Prediction uncertainty, 98, 110
Preferences, expression of, 8, 82
Pregnancy and maternal health, Millennium Development Goals, 563–564, 564
Private sector responses, 60–61, 62, 494
biodiversity conservation and, 145–147, 146
new business opportunities for, 544–545
partnerships. See Partnerships
public policy consideration of, 545
reputation of businesses and, 543
Privatization, 152, 226, 513, 523
of forest resources, 261
Prohibition, 47
Projection uncertainty, 98, 110
Property rights, 7, 19, 84–85, 100, 521. See also Intellectual property rights
conservation of biodiversity and, 134
forests management and, 268–271
freshwater systems and, 225–227, 235–236
Protected areas, 100
adequacy of, 125–126
assessment of, 131
basis of assessment of, 126–127
design of, 129
diverse views on use of, 417, 417, 500
global network of, 126
linking to landscape, 143–145
local participation and effectiveness, 3
management of, 127–129
marine protected areas, 128, 150–151
regional and global planning for, 129–130
as response to biodiversity loss, 125–131, 494
for species conservation, 138
Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. See Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection
Providing services, 29. See also specific type of service
Public health implications
vector-borne disease and, 357
waste management and, 331
Public participation in decision-making, 32, 45, 227–229, 522
for freshwater systems, 13, 227–229
integrated responses and, 457–458
R
Radical uncertainty, 99
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, 3, 26
amendment of, 42
financial support for, 158, 492
integrated river basin management and, 456
monitoring and reporting, 44, 158
restoration under, 250
Rangeland systems and climate change, 390
Recreation, 415–417. See also Tourism
human health and, 475
human well-being and, 502–503
Recreational areas, 512
Recycling, 323, 325–326, 329
Red tides, 330
Reduced impact logging, 279
Reforestation. See also Forests
climate change and, 390, 391
flood and storm control, 343–344, 344
impacts of, 17
Regional planning and biodiversity, 141–145, 494
Regulating services, 29
Regulatory responses
climate change and, 397
freshwater systems and, 231–232
human well-being and, 494
Reintroduction of species to native habitats, 138, 408, 494
Religion. See Cultural and religious drivers; Cultural services
Renewable energy technologies, 387–388
Reporting mechanism in international agreements, 154, 492. See also specific agreement or convention
Reputation of businesses, 543
Research and development
biodiversity priorities, 163–165
insufficient investment in, 6
international agriculture research, 191
Millennium Development Goals, 582–583
Reservoirs. See Dams and reservoirs
Resilience, institutional, 77
Response Assessment Matrix, 87, 87
Responses
characteristics of successful responses, 2–5
choice of, 5–6, 527–548
coordination across sectors and scales, 2–3
definition of, 73
effectiveness of assessed responses, 10–21
enabling conditions for. See Enabling conditions
typology of, 37–70. See also Typology of responses
Responses Working Group’s assessment methodology, xv
Restoration of ecosystem services, 9
wetlands, 14, 250–251, 343
Reverse osmosis, 251, 252
Rhine Basin, 437
Rhôn Biosphere Reserve in Germany, 416, 416, 536
Rio Declaration, 42, 52, 107, 359, 432, 482, 566, 569–570. See also Earth Summit
Risk assessment, 35, 106–107, 110, 346, 539–541
Risk perception and human health, 482
RiskMap as vulnerability analysis tool, 109
River basin management
human health and, 478–479
integrated responses, 454–457
monitoring and evaluation of policies, 539
organizations, 11, 229–231
Rivers. See Inland water systems
Runoff. See Nutrient management
Rural peoples, 534. See also Agriculture; Indigenous peoples
S
Sacred groves and areas, 19, 409, 409, 500
Safe drinking water. See Drinking water
“Safe stopping rules,” 107–108
St. Luciu charcoal market and biodiversity conservation, 495, 496
Samoa and protected areas, 128
Sand dunes, 345
Sand storms, 340
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Agreement, 42
SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), 359, 480, 566
Scale of responses, 62–65
bilateral agreements, 63
challenges and issues, 64, 65
global/universal, 63
local, 64
Trade-offs and synergies, 4
acceptable trade-offs, xv, 74, 86
biodiversity role in, 542–545
identification of, 87
integrated responses, 458–459
Millennium Development Goals
child mortality, 563
environmental sustainability, 567, 567–568
gender equality, 560–562
infectious diseases, 565
maternal health, 564, 564
poverty reduction, 556
primary education, 559, 559
time trade-offs, 580
trade policies, 575, 576
poverty and, 219
qualitative assessment of, 88, 88
quantitative assessment of, 88, 88
sustainable forest management, 450
Trade policies, 4, 42–43, 50
“fair trade,” 19, 414–415, 415
food provision and, 181–185, 182–185
forests and, 264, 265–266
integrated responses and environmental governance, 438–440
liberalization, 113, 265–266, 523, 575
Millennium Development Goals, 575, 576
Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), 42, 136
Traditional knowledge. See Knowledge
Traditional medicine, 52, 52, 413
Transboundary environmental impact assessments (TEIs), 230–231, 539
Transfer payments and freshwater systems, 242
Transnational companies and forests, 265
Transnational linkages, benefits and negatives, 407
Transparency. See Accountability; Participation and transparency
Transport services, Millennium Development Goals, 580–581
Travel cost methods, 111
Treaties, 41–42. See also Multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
Trees. See Forests, Timber
TRIPS. See Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
Tropical cyclones. See Flood and storm control
Tropical forests. See also Forests, Timber
Tropical forests. See also Amazon area; International Tropical Timber Agreement
carbon and, 208
downstream hydrological function and, 242
poverty and, 515
Rainforest Harvest, 414–415
Tropical Forests Action Plan, 266
Trypanosomiasis. See Chagas disease
Tuberculosis, 566
Typology of responses, 37–70
actors’ responses, 60–62, 62, 531
social responses, 54–56. See also Knowledge difficulty in differentiating, 39–40
drivers of change and, 57–60, 58–59. See also Drivers of change
economic responses, 47–51, 56. See also Economic responses
government responses, 60
human health and, 475–476
institutional framework as basis of intervention, 40–56
legal responses, 41–47, 56. See also Legal responses
nature of intervention and, 40–56
private sector responses, 60–61
scale of operation of decision-maker and, 62–65. See also Scale of responses
social and behavioral responses, 51–53, 56. See also Social and behavioral responses
sources of, 40
synthesis of, 65–67
technological responses, 53–54, 56. See also Technological responses
UNCLOS. See Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNEP Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making, and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, 433
UNEP. See United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO
Bioprospectors Reserve, 408
Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in a Global Society, 412
World Heritage Program, 411, 412, 499
UNFCCC. See Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF on primary education, 560
Unintended consequences, 60, 74, 102
United Kingdom
agriculture policy, 100, 194
flooding, 338
invasive species, 139
Local Agenda 21 National Campaign, 432
private sector and biodiversity action, 146
water public-private partnerships, 246
United Nations. See also Millennium Development Goals; specific conventions
Agenda 21, 43, 323, 359, 431, 432, 433, 439, 454, 458, 482, 514
Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 43
Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), 55, 325, 441, 458
Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 55
forest policy of, 263, 267, 458
Forum on Forests, 263
People, Land Management, and Ecosystem Conservation program, 413
sustainable approach of flood and storm control of, 341
World Water Assessment Program, 221
United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), 41, 323, 432
Urban agriculture, 326, 504
Urban Biosphere Group, 408
Urban growth and urbanization
agriculture and, 326
flood and storm control and, 340
infectious diseases and, 363–364
Millennium Development Goals, improving to lives of slum dwellers, 573–574, 573–575
nitrogen pollution and, 304, 308
tourism and, 417
waste management and, 325–326, 326
U.S. air pollution
Clean Air Act, 79, 299, 303
emission reduction targets, 379
U.S. Endangered Species Act, 60, 239
U.S. Interagency Ecosystem Management Task Force, 439
U.S. National Hurricane Center, 346–347
U.S. nutrient management, 299–300, 301, 304–305, 306
U.S. water management
Federal Energy Technology Center, 325
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 323
Solid Waste Disposal Act, 323
Toxic Release Inventory, 322

Value associated with ecosystem services, 33–34, 620

Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Policy Responses
Waste management
Volunteer responses

Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, 42

Virtues. See Infectious diseases

Vollion, 103

Volunteer responses
economic, 49–50
forests and, 265, 274–276, 275
freshwater systems and voluntary contractual arrangements, 242
nutrient management, 305–306
private sector responses, 61–62

Vulnerability analysis, 108–109, 539–541
definition of vulnerability, 108
response options and, 476, 477
uncertainties and, 108–109, 110

W

WAINIMATE and traditional medicine, 52, 561–562
Waste management, 20–21, 313–334
agricultural ecosystems and, 326–327
agricultural uses of, 329
animal. See Animal wastes and water pollution
biodiversity conservation and, 331
coastal ecosystems and, 330
conversion to organo-mineral fertilizer, 320
damaging impact of responses, 324
drivers of change and, 317–319
ecosystem and, 317, 318
education and knowledge to change practices and attitudes, 21, 322, 331
eutrophication, 329
financial and economic responses, 320–321
freshwater ecosystems and, 328–329
grey water treatment and use, 324, 504
hazardous wastes, 327–328
historical considerations, 322–323, 324
human and wastewater, 300, 304
human well-being and, 317, 318, 325, 326, 329, 473, 505, 513
institutional responses, 321–322
integrated and sustainable waste management, 322
integrated design of responses, 324
legal responses, 319, 323
marine ecosystems and, 330
minimization, 325–326
organic waste in landfills, 120
political interest in responses, 323
positive impact of responses, 323–324
poverty reduction and, 331
public health implications of, 331
remote ecosystems and, 328
responses
assessment of, 325–330
selection of, 319–322
sociocultural responses, 322
technological responses and, 20, 319–320, 324–325, 329, 505
typology of, 316, 316–317
urban agriculture, 326
urban and terrestrial ecosystems and, 325–326, 326
Water banks, 236, 238, 240, 241, 496
Water-borne diseases, 473, 474, 477–478
Water exchanges, 236, 240
Water hyacinth, 323
Water pollution, 198, 572
agriculture and, 195–196, 301–302, 302, 543
animal wastes and, 300, 302–303
Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, 227, 228
human wastewater and, 300, 304
nutrient runoff and, 298, 299

Water resources
climate change and, 378
coastal. See Coastal water systems
dams and reservoirs. See Dams and reservoirs floods. See Flood and storm control
groundwater. See Groundwater systems
human well-being and, 216–220, 478–479, 496–497, 505
inland. See Inland water systems
integrated management, 518
irrigation. See Irrigation
marine. See Marine reserves
mixed farming systems and, 197
permits (U.S.), 521
pollution. See Water pollution
pricing in irrigated agriculture, 194–195, 196
watersheds. See Watershed management

Watershed management, 14, 101. See also River basin management
economic incentives and, 241–244, 242
nutrient management and, 304–305
Wealth-poverty gap. See Poverty
Weather patterns. See Climate change
Well-being. See Human well-being

Wetlands
Convention on. See Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
flood moderation and, 342–343
mitigation banking, 234
nutrient sinks in, 304, 308
restoration and mitigation, 14, 250–251, 343
technological advances and, 509
water management and, 323, 329–330
WHO. See World Health Organization
Wild species, management of, 137–141
Wildstock in competition with livestock, 207

WIPO. See World Intellectual Property Organization

Women
empowerment of, 15, 52, 560–562

food provision and, 181, 184
Millennium Development Goals
gender equality, 560–562, 561
maternal health, 563–564, 564
poverty and, 514–515, 516
traditional medicine and, 52

Wood fuel. See Fuelwood

Woodlands. See Forests

World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, 140

World Bank
BioCarbon Fund, 390
consumer actions targeting for effect on world forests, 273
environmental issues and, 2, 41
on flooding and its beneficial impacts, 339
forestry sector reviews required by, 266
indigenous people, ensuring benefits for, 55
local involvement in projects, 61
national environmental action plans and, 266
poverty reduction strategies (PRSPs) of, 4–5, 267, 516
protected areas and, 127

World Commission on Dams, 249, 433, 434

World Food Summit, 181

World Health Organization (WHO)
“burden of disease” assessments, 480, 566
definition of health from, 470
environment and health awareness, 368
Malaria Eradication Campaign, 362
vector-borne disease, 356

World Heritage Convention, 52, 158, 491

World Heritage Program (UNESCO), 411, 412, 499

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 411, 502

World Parks Congress, 127, 129

World Summit on Sustainable Development, 124, 145, 201, 205, 323, 359, 431, 433, 482, 492, 493

World Tourism Organization, 133

World Trade Organization (WTO), 41, 42, 265, 575

Agreement on Agriculture, 185
biodiversity and, 125
World Trade Organization (continued)
  dispute resolution, 43–44, 439
  Doha Trade Round, 440
  rule violations under, 439
World Wide Fund for Nature, 343
World Wildlife Fund (WWF), 61, 127, 133, 274
World Zoo Conservation Strategy, 140
WSSD. See World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO. See World Trade Organization
WWF. See World Wildlife Fund
Y
  Youth, empowerment of, 52–53
Z
  Zimbabwe. See also Africa
    sacred areas and land reform in, 409
    tourism in, 418
  Zoning, 47
  Zoo populations, 140
  Zoonotic diseases, 361, 512
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