

Valuing Nature Programme

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*Valuing Natural Capital in Low Carbon Energy Pathways Programme
Ideas Brokerage Workshop
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Valuing Nature Programme

- NERC led c. £6.6m, 5 year research programme
- Follows on from the capacity building phase of the VNN
- Co-funding at present from ESRC, AHRC, BBSRC and Defra
- Aligns with the priorities of the Natural Capital Committee, providing evidence to inform natural capital accounting.



Programme Aim

- The Valuing Nature programme aims to :
“better understand and represent the complexities of the natural environment in valuation analyses and to consider and question the wider societal and cultural value of ecosystems services.”



Discipline Hopping Fellowships

- Aimed at supporting early-career researchers who wish to develop their research expertise in a different discipline.
- Will address the aim of the programme by improving our understanding and questioning of:
 - the complexities of the natural environment in valuation analyses;
 - the wider societal and cultural value of ecosystems services;
 - the links between ecosystem stocks and tipping points;
 - how the values of ecosystem services change as tipping points are reached and exceeded; and
 - critical levels of natural capital that avoid abrupt and damaging ecosystem change.
- We expect to fund three fellowships

Health and the environment

Valuing Nature programme's second goal is:

- to improve understanding of the role biodiversity and ecosystem processes play in human health
- The programme will look at the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services in:
 - i. Natural hazards and extreme events
 - ii. Exposure of people to vector borne disease and marine toxins
 - iii. Health improvements associated with urban green spaces
- Developed in consultation with DH and PHE
- Delivered through interdisciplinary research projects



Programme Coordination Team (PCT)

- Coordinate programme activities
- Further develop the Network
- Support interdisciplinary engagement and collaboration
- Engagement with policy, practice, business and other relevant initiatives



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Next steps...

- PCT announced – shortly
- PCT starts – October 2014 (subject to acceptance)
- Fellowships call deadline – 14th August 2014
- Fellowships panel – December 2014
- VN health call announced – Jan/Feb 2015

Thank you!