Schema del contributo

Distinzione derivante dalle due principali classificazioni di “serviziecosistemici” e “servizi ambientali” proposte rispettivamente da TEEB (TEEB, 2010) e OECD (OECD, 2005 - a).

Il secondo approccio OECD (OECD, 2005 – b) definisce invece i beni e servizi ambientali come le tipologie di prodotti e servizi realizzati dall’intervento umano che hanno funzione o caratteristiche di sostenibilità ambientale, mentre nei primi due casi si parla di servizi ambientali che gli ecosistemisono in grado di generare, a prescindere dall’intervento umano.

Cosa sono i servizi ecosistemici

(daTEEB) – 2010

ANNEX 2: WHAT ARE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Provisioning Services are ecosystem services that describe the material outputs from ecosystems. They include food, water and other resources.

- Food: Ecosystems provide the conditions for growing food – in wild habitats and in managed agro-ecosystems.
- Raw materials: Ecosystems provide a great diversity of materials for construction and fuel.
- Fresh water: Ecosystems provide surface and groundwater.
- Medicinal resources: Many plants are used as traditional medicines and as input for the pharmaceutical industry.

Regulating Services are the services that ecosystems provide by acting as regulators eg regulating the quality of air and soil or by providing flood and disease control.

- Local climate and air quality regulation: Trees provide shade and remove pollutants from the atmosphere. Forests influence rainfall.
- Carbon sequestration and storage: As trees and plants grow, they remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and effectively lock it away in their tissues.
- Moderation of extreme events: Ecosystems and living organisms create buffers against natural hazards such as floods, storms, and landslides.
- Waste-water treatment: Micro-organisms in soil and in wetlands decompose human and animal waste, as well as many pollutants.
- Erosion prevention and maintenance of soil fertility: Soil erosion is a key factor in the process of land degradation and desertification.
- Pollination: Some 87 out of the 115 leading global food crops depend upon animal pollination including important cash crops such as cocoa and coffee.
- Biological control: Ecosystems are important for regulating pests and vector borne diseases.

Habitat or Supporting Services underpin almost all other services. Ecosystems provide living spaces for plants or animals; they also maintain a diversity of different breeds of plants and animals.

- Habitats for species: Habitats provide everything that an individual plant or animal needs to survive. Migratory species need habitats along their migrating routes.
- Maintenance of genetic diversity: Genetic diversity distinguishes different breeds or races, providing the basis for locally well-adapted cultivars and a gene pool for further developing commercial crops and livestock.

Cultural Services include the non-material benefits people obtain from contact with ecosystems. They include aesthetic, spiritual and psychological benefits.

- Recreation and mental and physical health: The role of natural landscapes and urban green space for maintaining mental and physical health is increasingly being recognized.
- Tourism: Nature tourism provides considerable economic benefits and is a vital source of income for many countries.
- Aesthetic appreciation and inspiration for culture, art and design: Language, knowledge and appreciation of the natural environment have been intimately related throughout human history.
- Spiritual experience and sense of place: Nature is a common element of all major religions; natural landscapes also form local identity and sense of belonging.

Icons designed by Jan Sasse for TEEB. They are available for download at www.teebweb.org

Definizione OECD di environmentalservices– 2005 - a:
http://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=843:

Definition:
Environmental services refer to qualitative functions of natural non—produced assets of land, water and air (including related ecosystem) and their biota.
There are three basic types of environmental services:

a) disposal services which reflect the functions of the natural environment as an absorptive sink for residuals,
b) productive services which reflect the economic functions of providing natural resource inputs and space for production and consumption, and
c) consumer or consumption services which provide for physiological as well as recreational and related needs of human beings.

OECD CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND SERVICES– 2005 - b

Da http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/63/15/35415839.pdf- Opening Markets for Environmental Goods and Services
OECD CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND SERVICES

The pollution management group includes goods that help control air pollution; manage wastewater and solid waste; clean up soil, surface water and groundwater; reduce noise and vibrations; and facilitate environmental monitoring, analysis and assessment.

Cleaner technologies and products are goods that are intrinsically cleaner or more resource-efficient than available alternatives. For example, a solar photovoltaic power plant is fundamentally cleaner than a coal-fired one.

Goods under the category of resource management are used to control indoor pollution, supply water, or to help manage farms, forests or fisheries sustainably. This group also includes goods used to conserve energy (such as double-paned windows), and goods that help prevent or reduce the environmental impacts of natural disasters, such as fire-fighting equipment.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) defines **environmentally preferable products** as “products that cause significantly less environmental harm at some stage of their life cycle than alternative products that serve the same purpose”. Examples include improved solid-fuel cooking stoves and reusable shopping bags made of canvas or jute rather than plastic or paper.