

## RESAS Strategic Research Programme 2016-2021

## Theme 1 : Natural Assets

## WP 1.4 : Integrated and Sustainable Management of Natural Assets

One of 12 work packages within the Scottish Government's Strategic Research Programme (SRP) (2016-2021).

The SRP consists of three themes: **Natural Assets, Productive and Sustainable Land Management and Rural Economies**, and **Food, Health & Wellbeing**. Within the Natural Assets Theme, there are three other work packages on **Soil, Water** and **Biodiversity**.

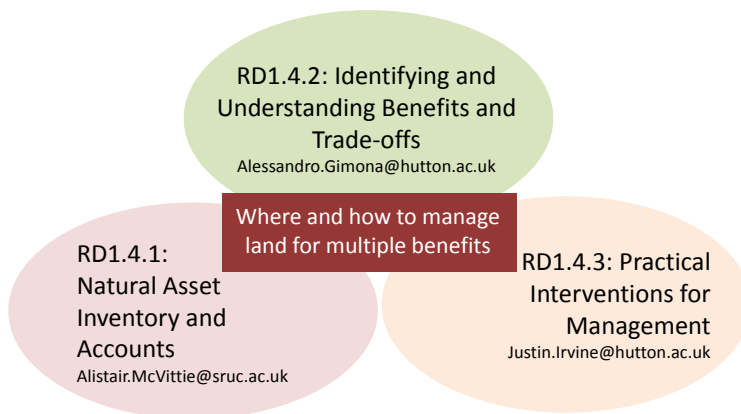
Our vision for 2021 is to help Scotland to achieve its Rural Affairs, Food and Environment (RAFE) outcomes, and through these, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We will have illustrated how managing natural assets can achieve sustainable land use which is resilient to future pressures and contributes to inclusive sustainable growth.



We aim to make a positive impact in the following areas, working with the following stakeholders:

- Common Agricultural Strategy; Scottish Rural Development Programme
- Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (ecosystem health indicators, natural capital asset index)
- Climate Change - Report on Policies and Practices
- Land Use Strategy
- Scottish Government, UK Government, European Commission
- CAMERAS partners - SEPA, SNH, FCS, NPAs; local authorities
- Non-Governmental/membership Organisations including NFUS, SLE, Scottish Environment LINK
- Land-based businesses; communities of interest and of place



# **RESAS Strategic Research Programme 2016-2021**

## **Theme 1 : Natural Assets**

### **WP 1.4 : Integrated and Sustainable Management of Natural Assets**

#### **Overall WP1.4 Research Objectives:**

- to use a dynamic natural assets register (NAR) and natural capital accounts (NCA) to illustrate how assets contribute to Scotland's green growth aspiration;
- identify and quantify trade-offs and impacts on multiple assets and ecosystem services (ESS) to illustrate where we are living beyond planetary limits;
- support integrated decision-making and adaptive management to protect multiple natural assets and maximise benefits in socially acceptable ways; and
- illustrate how existing and novel measures can deliver integrated delivery of benefits.

#### **1.4.1 Research Objectives**

Objective O1.4.1a Development of a Natural Asset Register

Objective O1.4.1b Assessing ecosystem service delivery and interactions

Objective O1.4.1c Natural capital accounts

#### **1.4.2 Research Objectives**

Objective 1.4.2a: Identification of gaps in the current delivery of multiple benefits

Objective 1.4.2b Identification of opportunities to increase multiple benefits through new and existing delivery mechanisms.

Objective 1.4.2c Option appraisals to demonstrate resilience of natural assets under different trajectories

#### **1.4.3 Research Objectives**

Objective 1.4.3a: Set up and use an Adaptive Management (AM) framework to facilitate the evaluation and coordination of measures to deliver multiple benefits

Objective 1.4.3b: To assess the potential for Ecological Focus Areas, Agri-Environmental Climate Measures and Environmental Cooperation Action Funds to deliver multiple benefits at a landscape scale

Objective 1.4.3c: To develop approaches that reconcile woodland expansion with other land use priorities

Objective 1.4.3d: To use AM to integrate SRDP interventions with Natural Flood Management (NFM) and General Binding Rules (GBR) for the delivery of multiple benefits (phased start from 2018)

#### **Knowledge Exchange**

- Regular dialogue with stakeholders through project specific meetings and joint working
- 3-4 meetings per year sharing science with Scottish Government and CAMERAs partners
- 2 meetings per year with all relevant stakeholders
- Disseminating Scottish science at national and international conferences and via publications
- Contributing to the Programme's Centre for Knowledge Exchange and Innovation