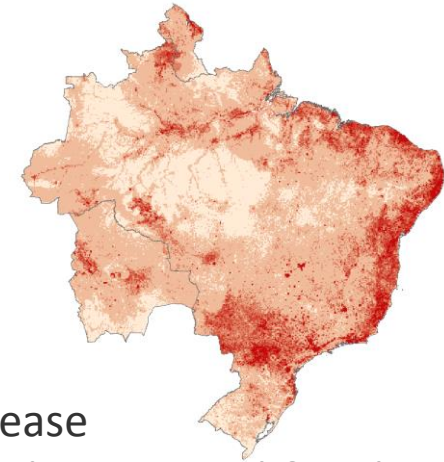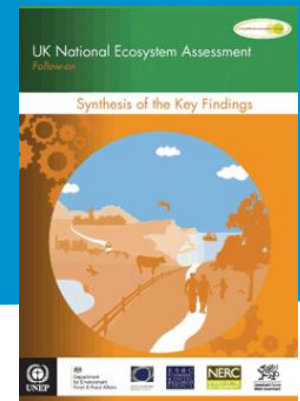# VALUING NATURE

Integrating environmental, social and health data in Wales to support policy
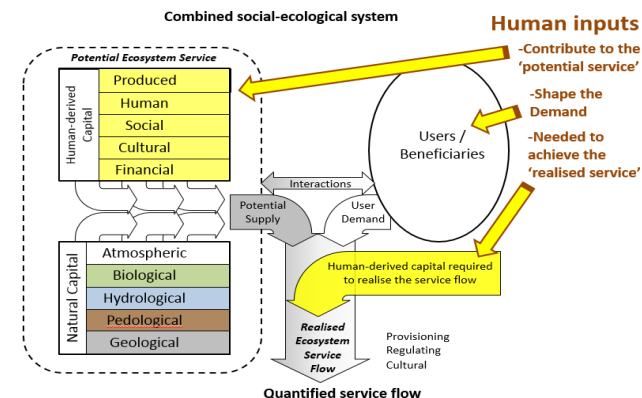
Laurence Jones

CEH Bangor

Background and interests

- I led Coastal Margins chapter of the NEA

- Worked on ecosystem service mapping and modelling in UK and Latin America

- Interested in understanding how ecosystem services are produced & how we can quantify them …

- … and how they can be 'operationalised'

- Welsh Government placement – large scale & policy focus

Disease regulation, Brazil & Bolivia

Welsh Government, innovative policies
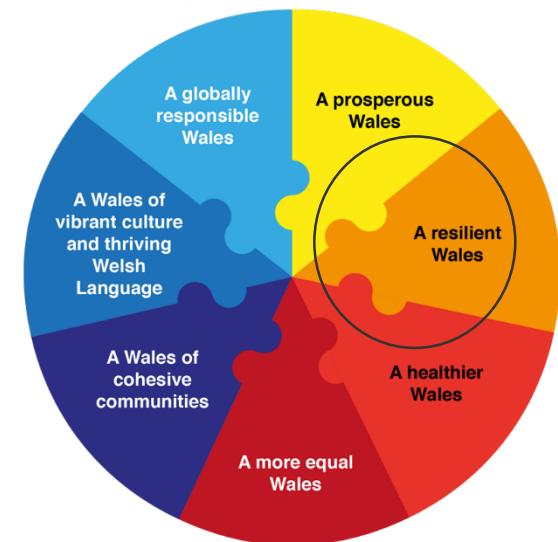
Environment (Wales) Bill

- Putting in place a modern statutory process to <u>plan and manage our natural resources in a joined up and sustainable way</u>

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act

- Placing seven well-being goals into law, and <u>requiring public bodies to apply sustainable development principles</u>
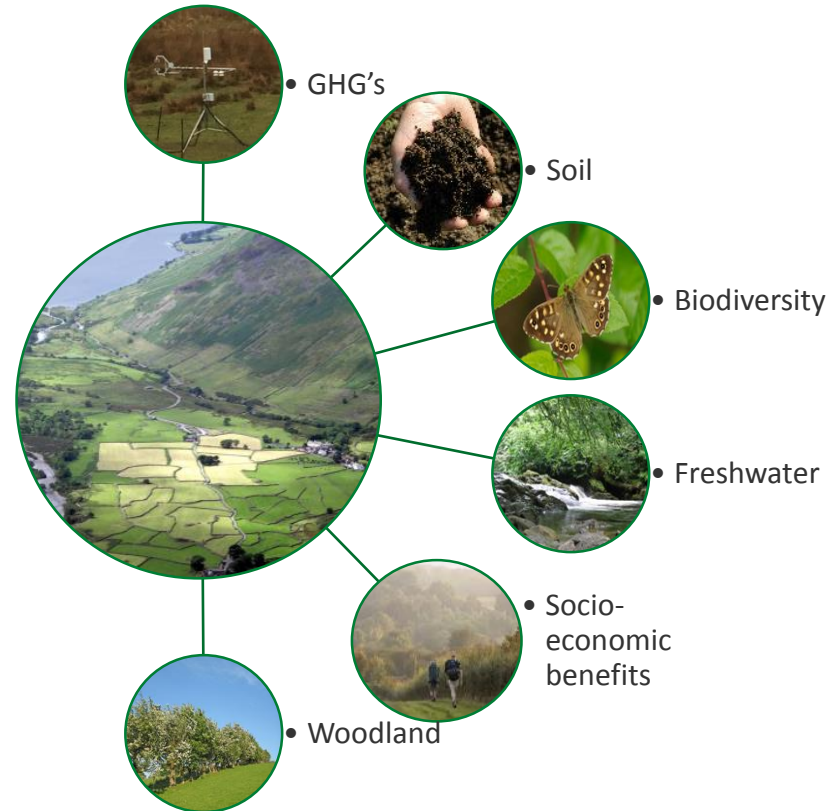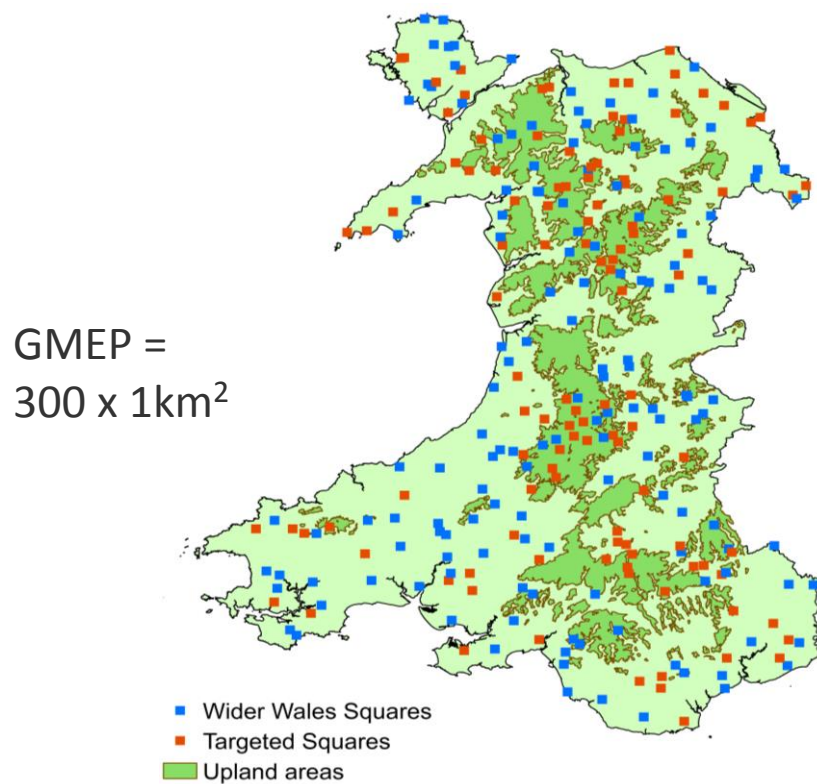
A resilient Wales

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support **social, economic and ecological resilience** and the capacity to adapt to change (e.g. climate change).

GMEP – Glastir Monitoring and Environment Programme

National trends and impact of agri-environment reporting against 6 high level aims for the Rural Development Programme

GMEP =
300 x 1km²

- Wider Wales Squares
- Targeted Squares
- Upland areas

- GHG's
- Soil
- Biodiversity
- Freshwater
- Socio-economic benefits
- Woodland

Welsh Government datasets

- Welsh Health Survey
- index of multiple deprivation
- Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey
- Wales Rural Observatory
- urban green space assessments
- ...

- Many of these data have already been integrated within the 'Good for People' GIS-portal toolkit

VNP community & outputs

Aspirations
- Creative thinking & new insights into how big data can help with ES challenges: environment & health, cultural services

Outputs
- Report on the potential role of the natural environment in the delivery of the Future Generations Act

Outcomes
- Government bodies thinking about their data in new ways
- Much closer links between science & government