Aligning Policy Instruments for Soil, Water and Biodiversity

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Why?

• How best to manage our natural assets for multiple benefits
• How to manage more effectively and more efficiently
• Land Use Strategy promoting ecosystem approach
• Stakeholder feedback regarding policy ‘conflicts’
• Post-EU opportunity for tweaking designs
Results

• Are existing policy instruments delivering multiple benefits?
  • Some explicitly designed for multiple benefits, others achieving this through creative implementation
  • Within environmental domain; and across to socio-economic; intermediate and final benefits
  • Could do more for soil health, air quality, habitats and biodiversity

• Are there opportunities for better alignment? Does this mean coordination or integration?
  • Many layers of alignment – within instruments, working within or across organisations, and linking up diverse stakeholders.
  • Already effort, often invisible, to avoid duplication
  • Some opportunities (cross-compliance to achieve more for soil and climate change)

• Closer coordination preferred to formal integration

• Many implementation challenges but also opportunities
Thank you

More information on project can be found at: http://www.hutton.ac.uk/research/projects/analysing-how-policy-instruments-shape-soil-water-and-biodiversity

Draft report will be updated based on feedback from participants and today’s workshop and posted on website by end April.

Happy to circulate and discuss further! Kirsty.Blackstock@hutton.ac.uk

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