MIND THE GAP!!
Ecosystems and ecosystem services

Structure

Composition

Function
Healthy, functioning ecosystem

Collapsing ecosystem
Recognising the complexity in landscapes and potential trade-offs
Panellists thoughts and contributions
Emma & Twyla
Key messages

1. We do not operate in isolation
2. We are interdependent through our supply chains and chains of custody – from raw materials to manufacturing & production to our consumers
3. We are both dependent and have impact on our natural environment
4. Our use of natural capital needs optimisation
5. We need to understand the social and environmental contexts of our business to ensure we are not competing with nor generating conflict with the communities already living or dependent on that landscape
6. We need to acknowledge that our activities may attract influx of people and other activities into our areas of operation and influence and therefore need to both understand the processes involved and share responsibility for managing the consequences of impacts to the landscape that result from this influx
7. We need to therefore take a socio-ecological approach
   a) Understand the ecology
   b) Understand the society
   c) Understand the links
8. Be proactive in planning to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to ecosystems and to maintain the ecological function so we can keep the flow of services