



Institutionalization of natural capital and ecosystem accounts: The experience of Costa Rica

WAVES 8th Annual Partnership
Meeting

Paris, November 28-29, 2018



Development of environmental accounting in Costa Rica



1

Support of the World Bank

Steering
Committee

2



inec
COSTA RICA

mideplan



mh

Ministerio de
Hacienda
COSTA RICA

BC
CR BANCO
CENTRAL DE
COSTA RICA

BC
CR BANCO
CENTRAL DE
COSTA RICA

3

Development and publication of first
environmental accounts

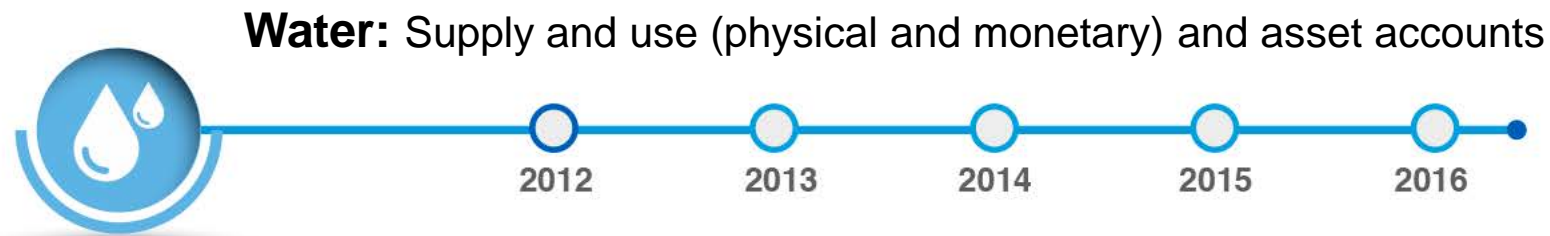
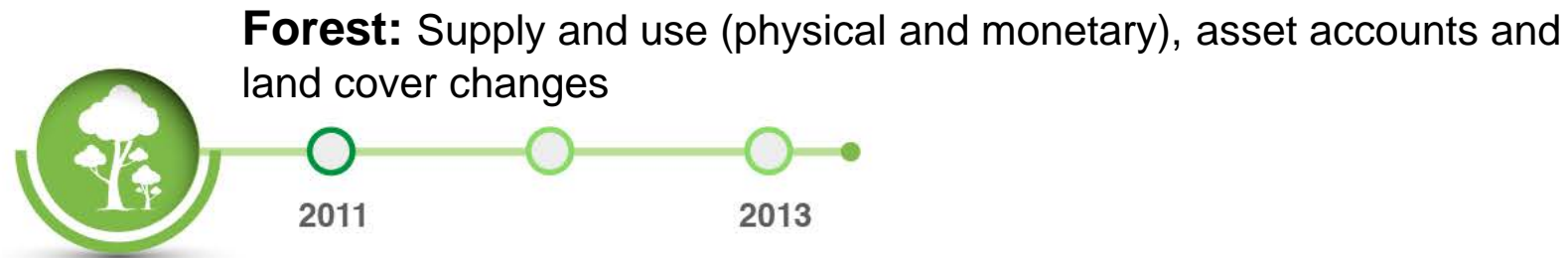


4

Creation of Environmental Statistics Unit
(ESU)

Costa Rica: environmental accounts

Published:



Under development:



Entry points and barriers

Before

- Early stages of WAVES: support from Government officials not as strong.
- Difficulties in “breaking the ice” with informants and entities.
- Regular meetings of the ad-hoc Steering Committee.

Nowadays

- Continuous support from ministries that conformed the workgroup.
- Better understanding of benefits of NCA by informants and entities.
- Formalization of the National Council of Environmental Accounts by Executive Decree.

Costa Rica crea Consejo Nacional de Cuentas Ambientales

Por **Andrea Mora** - 1 Marzo, 2018 - En Nacionales  0



San José, 1 mar (Elpaís.cr).- El Ministerio de Hacienda unificará a los Ministerios de Ambiente y Energía (MINAE), de Planificación Nacional y Política Económica (MIDEPLAN) y de Hacienda (MH), así como al Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos (INEC) y al Banco Central de Costa Rica (BCCR) en el Consejo Nacional de Cuentas Ambientales (CNCA) que apoyará al MINAE para recomendar, definir y aprobar los lineamientos y enfoques para la implementación de las cuentas ambientales.

- OPINIÓN -



La angustia existencial

ALFONSO J. PALACIOS ECHEVERRÍA 21
NOVIEMBRE, 2018



Calculitos y calculazos

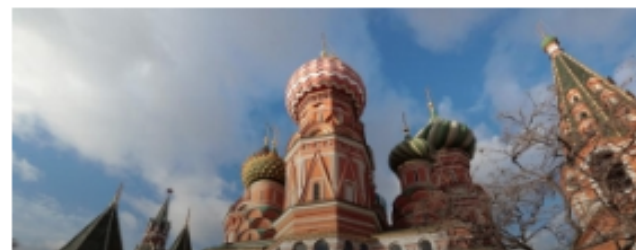
WALTER ANTILLON MONTEALEGRE 21
NOVIEMBRE, 2018



Entry points and barriers anan sangre..
¡Y se ocultaron!

ÁLVARO MADRIGAL 21 NOVIEMBRE, 2018

CULTURA



Entry points and barriers

Before

- Limited resources for the project (one person in payroll).
- Main focus on data collection for compilation of the accounts.

Nowadays


- Four people in payroll working for the ESU.
- Main focus on continuous improvement of data quality, sources of information and scope of analysis.
- Support from international entities to develop new accounts
 - MFA assisted by CBS-NL
- Expansion of the functions of the ESU to climate issues.

Contribution of environmental accounts



Information can be disaggregated by economic activity.

-Compatible with I-O analysis.



First hybrid indicators (physical+ monetary value/
environmental+ economic information).



Monitoring system of environmental data in the country.

-Trends and outliers.



Systematic, organized information to respond to international requests (OECD, DENU-PNUMA and SDGs).

Opportunities and threats



- Inclusion of environmental accounts in the National Development Plan.
- Improvement of dissemination of information related to NCA.
- Application of environmental accounts for decision-making.
 - IEEM platform (IADB-BCCR)



- Lack of resources to work on new accounts.
 - GIS knowledge required for ecosystem accounting
- Challenge to institutionalize the use of environmental accounts in certain governmental agencies.
- Lack of enforcement to improve data quality used as input for environmental accounting.

Opportunities and threats



- Joint collaborations with academia (peer-review papers) and enterprises on the use of NCA for decision making.
- South-south cooperation.



- Link of NCA with world trending issues (climate change, Aichi Targets) remains unclear for policy makers.
- Strengthening of the National Statistics Office (INEC).



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