



Wealth
Accounting
and Valuation
of Ecosystem
Services

WAVES -Costa Rica

WAVES Global Partnership Meeting
9 – 11 April, 2013

Lidia González

National Statistics Agency (INEC)

Roberto Guzmán

Ministry of the Environment and Energy (MINAE)



An Overview of Costa Rica

Population

- 4.3 million people and 51.000 km²
- High literacy (98%) and electrification rates (97% of households).

Environment

- Forest cover: 53% of its national territory
- Electricity generation: 90% from renewable sources.
- 92.5% of households with access to safe drinking water.



Activities developed last Year



- Participation of the Costa Rican delegation in the 50:50 Campaign at RIO+20 (June 2012): Support from President Laura Chinchilla to natural capital accounting initiatives
- Institutionalization of the National Environment Information System (SINIA)
- Selection of Natural Asset Accounts to be constructed:
 - Water and Forest Account
- Definition of the institutional (inter-agency) structure to update water statistics (IRWS) and develop water accounting
- Updated national forest inventory (2012-2013) by the National Forest Fund Agency (FONAFIFO)

Lessons learned



- There is a need to develop a strong partnership with the National Statistics Agency to lead **standardized technical approach**
- **System of National Accounts:** incorporation of natural capital and ecosystems value to National Accounts requires leadership and strong inter-agency coordination
- It has to be raised a financial and political support from the government authorities to consolidate the National Environment Information System (SINIA) for a long term strategy on Environmental Asset Accounts.

Next Steps



- Strengthening of inter-agency working group on Forest Statistics
- Capacity building activities on Water and Forest Accounts, and SĒEA 2012
- Consolidation of work plan and project management: steering committee, consultants
- Inventory and statistical quality control of water and forests statistics



Thank you for your Attention

Muchas Gracias

