Landscape Projects and opportunities for using NCA: Insights based on an overview of the World Bank portfolio

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4th Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Policy
Measuring and Valuing Natural Capital to Improve Landscape Management and Governance
Kampala, Uganda, November 18-19, 2019
Landscape projects

- No widely accepted formal definition
- Landscape projects usually consider:
  - Multiple land uses
  - Interactions between them
  - Effects outside the area (e.g., hydrological, biodiversity, carbon)
  - Often include non-land use activities (roads, tenure reform, etc)
Support to landscape projects have been growing

Donors and multilateral development banks

Based on data in OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) database
Projects with “Landscape” in their title, but omitting projects with modifiers to ‘landscape’ such as ‘political’, ‘industrial’, ‘cultural’
Landscape projects have been growing

World Bank/IDA
Number of projects

Projects tagged with “Landscape management” theme in Operations Portal
Non-landscape approach projects omitted
Projects with multiple financing sources consolidated
Landscape projects have been growing

World Bank/IDA
Total commitments (USD million)

Projects tagged with “Landscape management” theme in Operations Portal
Non-landscape approach projects omitted
Projects with multiple financing sources consolidated
Landscape project conceptual framework
Theory of change

Current situation

- Erosion, biological & chemical pollution
- Siltation & pollution
- Structural damages
- Floods in urban areas
- Conflicts between water uses

PROJECT COMPONENTS & ACTIVITIES

Component 1: Sustainable Productive management of Agroecosystems (Agroforestry-Sustainable livestock-support to irrigated agriculture-productive alliance)

Component 2: Enhancement of Resilience and Management of Hydraulic Infrastructures (dam rehabilitation and management, improvement of irrigation infrastructures performances)

Component 3: Improvement of Water Supply and Sanitation Services in rural and small urban areas

Component 4: Capacity Building for Natural Resources Management and Governance (promotion and support to IWRM and Governance, Decision support Information systems, etc.)

Expected situation after project interventions

- Reforestation, agroforestry, Sustainable livestock
- Dam rehabilitated and better managed
- Improved access to Sanitation
- Reduction of floods
- Reduction of conflicts

Dominican Republic Resilient Agriculture and Integrated Water Resources Management (P163260)
Landscape projects often target ES improvements — usually as a means to an end.
Landscape projects often target ES improvements

Number of projects

- Unspecified 'ES'
- Recreational services
- Cultural services
- Scenic beauty
- Carbon sequestration
- Biodiversity
- Coastal protection
- Other agric products
- Livestock products
- Food crops
- Other forest products
- Timber
- Hydrological ES

Only includes ES that are explicitly mentioned.
Expected beneficiaries of landscape projects

Number of projects

- Other ES service users
- People at risk of flooding
- Downstream water service users
- Land users

Only includes groups that are explicitly mentioned
Potential NCA contributions to landscape projects

- NCA could:
  - Quantify data in transparent and consistent way
  - Provide framework for saying to whom benefits accrue

- This would help:
  - Make the case for landscape projects
  - Design landscape projects
  - Organize M&E to monitor project results

- For this to work, need:
  - NCA to be conducted and results presented in relatively disaggregated way (spatially and by type of ecosystem)
  - Tools and data used for NCA to be available, as projects will often need more detailed analyses and/or examination of specific alternative scenarios
Potential NCA contributions to landscape projects

- Policy dialog/problem identification
- Diagnosis
- Prioritization
- Identifying winner and losers
- Design of incentive mechanisms
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Monitoring of outcomes

NCA data available before project decision is made

Projects currently rely on data that is:
- Unsystematic
- Qualitative/anecdotal
- Obtained elsewhere ("benefits transfer")
- Incommensurate

NCA data more comprehensive than project would otherwise have

NCA data available after project ends
What do landscape projects need from WAVES/NCA?

Sub-national differences

- National-level averages not very useful
- Need sub-national data

**Value of forests in Laos**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Sekong Province</th>
<th>Attapeu, Champasak, and Xekong Provinces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USD/ha/yr</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:**
- Average from Brody and Strukova, 2018.
- Provincial values from Emerton, 2013.

**Important for**

- Problem identification
- Diagnosis
- Targeting
What do landscape projects need from WAVES/NCA?

Access to tools and data
- Understand interactions between landscape elements
- Evaluate alternative scenarios
How can landscape projects contribute to NCA?

- Monitor to confirm how land uses affect ES
- Targeted research to improve models
  - Eg Erosion monitoring plots to measure USLE ‘C’ factors