Costa Rica:
Influence of natural resources accounting on public policy and decision-making
¿What are the policy issues which NCA aimed to resolve?

1. There is a gap between Statistics and Economics in relation to the Accounting of Nature Resources for the generation of Public Policies consistent with the improvement of the national budget.

2. Data and its interrelations are key to:
   - Obtain indicators and create a joint work schedule
   - Come up with a common language able to communicate hard evidence to political decision-making

3. Therefore, it is fundamental that all actors know the importance of the consideration of services and the use of resources in a sustainable manner through a successful political communication, developing processes of institutionalization and advocacy.
¿Who are the people and agencies that influence policies and decision-making?
What processes have been used to engage the analytical, policy and decision-making communities?

• Generating **synergy and relationship of key actors** to establish commitments and levels of incidence with respect to the CNR.

• **Consolidation** the team of institutions that conform WAVES-CR Steering Committee.

• Develop by sectors and key actors **operational** mechanisms (forums, bilateral and high level meetings, among others) for political advocacy and **institutionalization** (budget inclusion for example) of the NRC at the decision-making level.

• Carry out **communication, outreach and press** strategies to raise awareness of the importance of the NRC and to involve all actors and social sectors in this way to strengthen the country's green economy.
Example of scheme for the establishment of a Communication Strategy

ACCOUNTING OF NATURAL RESOURCES, COSTA RICA

- MINAE: permanent leadership of the accounts
- BCCR responsible of doing the accounts
- INEC, AYA, IMN and others provide technical support through the generation of statistics and data of interest

Facebook, Twitter, Videos, parallel pages (Ministry of Finance-MIDEPLAN and others)

Press offices for the establishment of communication and information plans

Work teams by topic

Banner in page MINAE and Link to other sites of interest of the users

Documents and presentations Training and meetings of high level.
¿What are the opportunities for accounting?

1. Measuring the National Environmental Statistics System: current and future situation

2. Incorporation with other systems: SDGs, climate change, Aichi Goals, OEDC and others

3. Better questioning about policy making: will not give all the answers, but the questions will certainly have a better approach.
3. Both in the public sector (centralized and decentralized), academic, private sector and civil society to be a truly joint work

2. Will work in the coming years to promote the CRN as a cross-cutting tool to make economic contributions visible

1. Costa Rica, by strengthening its political and institutional bases as well as technical support with WAVES-PLUS
Finally, this will allow to

Develop and Manage a National Policy for Costa Rica's Natural Resources Accounting

Establish and execute a National Strategy for Costa Rica's Natural Resources Accounting

Strengthen the National Budget and the Central Bank’s National Environmental Accounts Unit in a parallel manner

Creation of a National Environmental Economics Unit.
Synthesis

• The goal is simple: making better decisions. Better decisions that have a better impact on the well-being of populations. Better decisions that merit to know our resources, our wealth, our weaknesses and risks.

• Achieving what is known as sustainable development implies this effort to value the environment to increase capabilities, reduce uncertainties, minimize weaknesses and maximize benefits.
¡Thanks!

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