Sofia Ahlroth and Michael Vardon

Natural capital accounting for policy – a global view of achievements, challenges and prospects

WAVES Annual Partnership
5-7 June 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Decision-making

22 – 23 November 2016, The Hague, Netherlands

- 2 days
- 45 participants
- 15 countries
- Back-to-back with “Natural Capital – Let’s do Business”
- We have accounts, now what?
- Why NCA?

ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS FROM THE WAVES FIRST 5 CORE IMPLEMENTING COUNTRIES
Michael Vardon, Glenn Marie Lange and Stig Johansson
August 2016

The first WAVES policy forum took place in The Hague, Netherlands in November 2016, attended by participants from 15 countries.

“What will it take for policymakers to use natural capital accounts (NCA) to inform development policy and planning that is sustainable?”
What do decision-makers think about?

- What is the problem?
- What can I do about it?
- Who wins?
- Who loses?
- How much will it cost?

Botswana President Ian Khama said “We will put natural capital at the heart of government decision-making”.

The Hon. Barry Gardiner, Member of Parliament, United Kingdom, Formerly an Assistant Minister of Environment
Decisions and policy options

What are the decisions and decision-making process that can use information?

What are the policy options available?

- Carrots
- Sticks
- Sermons
- Do-it-yourself (state owned enterprises)
Charting a course for ship of state with NCA

Where are we?
Where do we want to be?
What’s the best way there?

Are we on course?

Accounts as new generation instruments of navigation to:
- Measure position
- Help chart course to destination
- Measure progress

Slide from Peter Burnett, ANU
1. NCA provides objective information on issues and facilitates stakeholder communication by providing data on current and potential issues.

2. NCA supports the detailed design and assessment of policy options.

3. NCA can help deliver existing policies more efficiently.

4&5 NCA supports regular monitoring of policy goals.
NCA and policy: stocktake, lessons and achievements
## Stocktake of contributions

### Content
- 26 Chapters
- 46 Authors from a wide range of professions and agencies

### Spanning
- Account producers and users
- High and low income countries
- All stages of the policy cycle
- Thematic and cross-sector issues

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The Netherlands

• Well documented
• Long history of statistics and accounting
• Accounts used for monitoring as well as policy development and implementation
• Energy, water, green economy and SDGs
• Institutional roles and set-up
Water

Pricing and management
Australia
Botswana
Colombia
Costa Rica
The Netherlands
The Philippines

Colombia – what would happen if charges rise?

Change in production

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Green growth, SDGs and NCA

Indicators and info-graphics

Guatemala

The Netherlands

- The Netherlands
- Guatemala
- Sweden
- UK
Energy and climate change

**Energy**

- Costa Rica
- Guatemala
- The Netherlands
- Guatemala (fire wood)

**Climate change**

- Indonesia and INDCs
- Colombia and impacts of El Niño

Costa Rica: Energy use by sector

Indonesia: GHG emissions and emission projections
Forests, poverty and peace dividend

Guatemala scenario modeling

The Peace Dividend in Colombia

Colombia
Costa Rica
Guatemala
Rwanda
Opportunities

Links with business

Biodiversity conservation
10 living principles for making NCA fit for policy

- Inclusive
- Collaborative
- Holistic

- Enduring
- Continuously improving
- Embedded

- Decision-centred
- Demand-led

- Transparent and open
- Credible

- Comprehensive
- Purposeful
- Mainstreamed
- Trustworthy
Thank you!