Working Group Proposal
NCA and the Private Sector

3 September 2020
The Capitals Coalition, representing the Economics for Nature consortium, wishes to explore interest from the Steering Committee for a working group on: “NCA and Private Sector Collaboration”.

This proposal is inspired by feedback from the community in July 2020, where approximately **40% of members** expressed an interest in “engaging with the private sector” in relation to natural capital accounting.

This is a topic that the **Capitals Coalition and partners** are working on at the global level, and would like to extend to Africa.
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A recent study* showed that generally, businesses:

• Recognize the strategic importance of natural capital information, but they find **data collection expensive**.

• Crave **scientifically robust** data!

• Collect data at site level. But need long-term, **landscape level data** to understand the whole system.

• Are interested in zero impact, planetary boundaries, net gain, etc. But need data on thresholds, tipping points, **baselines etc.**

• When operating nationally, would value **standardized data** across operating locations...

*Study delivered by NCAVES project of UNSD
NCA and Private Sector Collaboration

We believe there are significant opportunities for increased collaboration between the public and private sectors on natural capital, and that NCA provides the basis for this relationship.

• Explore data sharing opportunities (national, landscape and project level)

• Implement real case studies of public and private actors working together on natural capital (delivered as part of Coalition’s Combining Forces programme, and others)

• Engage relevant sectors with national accounts (e.g. host a meeting with Forestry businesses on forest accounts)

• Ultimately, secure private sector support for policies or interventions on natural capital.

• Bring multiple working groups together to discuss how NCA can be applied to decision-making across policy, finance and business.
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Draft objective and purpose:

To engage the African private sector in NCA efforts, build opportunities for collaboration, and support the inclusion of nature in both public and private decision making.

The Working Group will serve to consult stakeholders on these opportunities, identify case studies where they can be tested, and produce thought leadership papers for the wider NCA CoP on potential next steps.

This Working Group would be open to all Community of Practice members with an interest in exploring the link between NCA and the private sector.

Draft outputs (Year 1):

- A series of thought leadership papers to the wider CoP on tangible opportunities for private sector collaboration?
- Initiation of at least 2 case studies that demonstrate these opportunities in African countries?
- A business, policy and finance side event at the next NCA CoP face-to-face?
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Possible activities and format

**Thought leadership papers**
- In Year 1, produce thought papers for the wider CoP on tangible opportunities for private sector engagement

**Quarterly public webinars**
- Share cases from Africa where the public and private sectors have worked together on natural capital

**Hosting Roundtables**
- Between public and private actors, e.g. engage sectors with relevant accounts (could be in person or online)

**Input to new work**
- Identify new potential case studies for public / private collaboration
- ...and provide review and feedback to chosen ones (e.g. Combining Forces)

**Online discussion board**
- Networking
- Sharing news and materials

*Other suggestions?*
NCA and Private Sector Collaboration

Questions to move us forwards

- Is there enough appetite to host a dedicated working group on collaboration with the private sector?
- If the Capitals Coalition volunteered to lead this working group, would others wish to contribute?
- Which of the activities and opportunities do you think are most attractive?
- What challenges would this working group need to navigate?
- Is there scope to link between working groups on private sector, policy, and finance?

Next steps:

1. Compile a detailed concept note outlining the Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Participation
2. Initial review from any Steering Committee members who wish to be more closely involved
3. Send to rest of Steering Committee for review and sign-off
4. Schedule the first activities and open registration to CoP community
Extra slides
Combining Forces on Natural Capital

‘Combining Forces’ provides a focal point to bring together different strands of thinking on natural capital. It is an open, cross-cutting network of experts from all sectors, working together to ensure that the value of nature is included in decision making.

We intend to:
• continue to support each other’s work;
• clarify how approaches overlap and combine; and,
• produce materials to support the inclusion of natural capital in public and private decision making.
Combining Forces on Natural Capital

- **Build the community:** Further develop the ongoing integrated dialogue on natural capital

- **Narrative:** Further investigate, promote and enhance the case for natural capital approaches and combining forces

- **Harmonization:** Identify and detail what is needed to further harmonize approaches and develop standards.

- **Data:** Clarify data needs, map data availability, streamline data collection and enhance data accessibility.