

NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

IN INDIA

About Natural Capital Accounting

Natural capital accounting (NCA) is a way of understanding our world and the choices we make as a society. It links natural capital to a country's system of national accounts. Using best available information and robust, globally endorsed methodologies, it can help public and private sector actors to understand more about the interactions between the economy, society and the environment. Natural capital accounting can also be applied to monitor progress against achieving the goals of the National Development Plan and the global Sustainable Development Goals.

Learn More

Natural capital accounting enables us to:

- **Know more:** Measure how ecosystems contribute to the economy and society
- **Understand more:** Empower people to plan and make better development decisions
- **Do more:** Invest in ecological infrastructure and natural resources to achieve national development goals



United Nations



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting



SOME ONLINE NCA RESOURCES

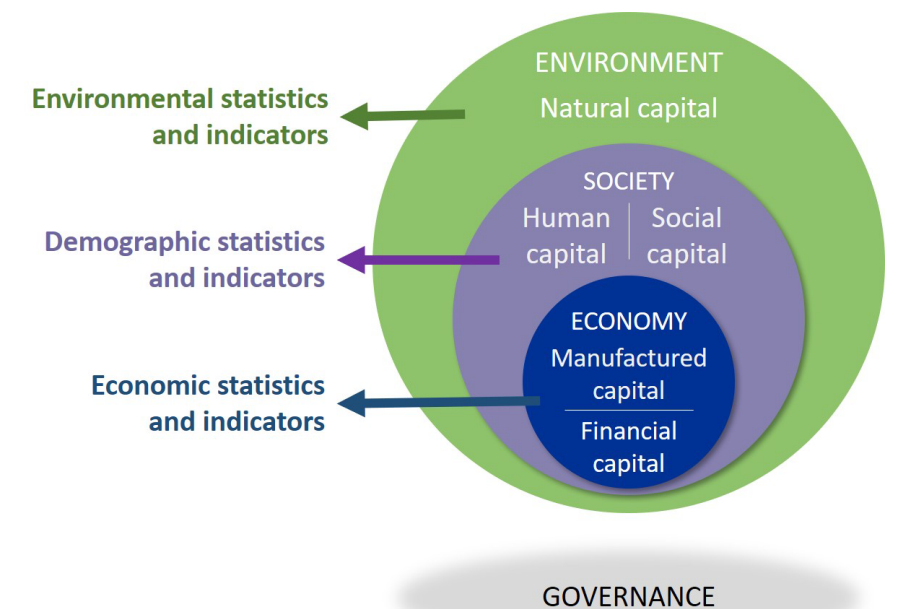
A glossary of terms: seea.un.org/eea-glossary

Frequently Asked Questions: seea.un.org/NCA-FAQ

e-Learning courses: elearning-cms.unstats.un.org

NCA in India

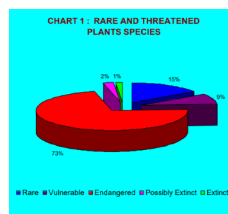
A timeline



Natural Capital Accounting shows the economy's dependency on well-functioning natural ecosystems

1997

FIRST STATISTICS



India begins compiling environmental statistics since 1997 when the Central Statistics Office (CSO) released the first issue of the Compendium of Environment Statistics.

Since its inception, 16 issues of the publication have been released, presenting data relating to the environment of the country.

2011

TEEB INDIA

The government of India launches the TEEB-India Initiative to highlight the economic consequences of the loss of biodiversity and the associated decline in ecosystem services in India. The Initiative focussed on three ecosystems, namely forests, inland wetlands and coastal and marine ecosystems. A series of 12 studies were conducted under this initiative.



2013

NCA FRAMEWORK

A high-level Expert Group - chaired by Prof. Sir Partha Dasgupta, UK is constituted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) to develop a framework for green national accounts of India.

Green National Accounts in India
A Framework

A Report by an Expert Group Convened
by the National Statistical Organization
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Government of India

The resulting report, "Green National Accounts in India - A Framework", lays out a roadmap with short-term, medium-term and long-term activities for implementing the green accounting framework.

2018

LANDMARK ACCOUNTS



The CSO releases India's first official environmental economic accounts containing asset accounts in physical terms of forest, land, minerals and water.

The accounts revealed a nuanced picture of the state of India's natural capital, with several regions showing a net-positive increases in assets like forest cover and carbon stock.

2019

ECOSYSTEM ACCOUNTS

India joins four other countries in the European Union-funded Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCA&VES) project.

Work is underway to develop a range of national-level ecosystem accounts.

