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## How can we engage better with potential account users?

**2018 London Group Meeting**

**1 – 4 October 2018**

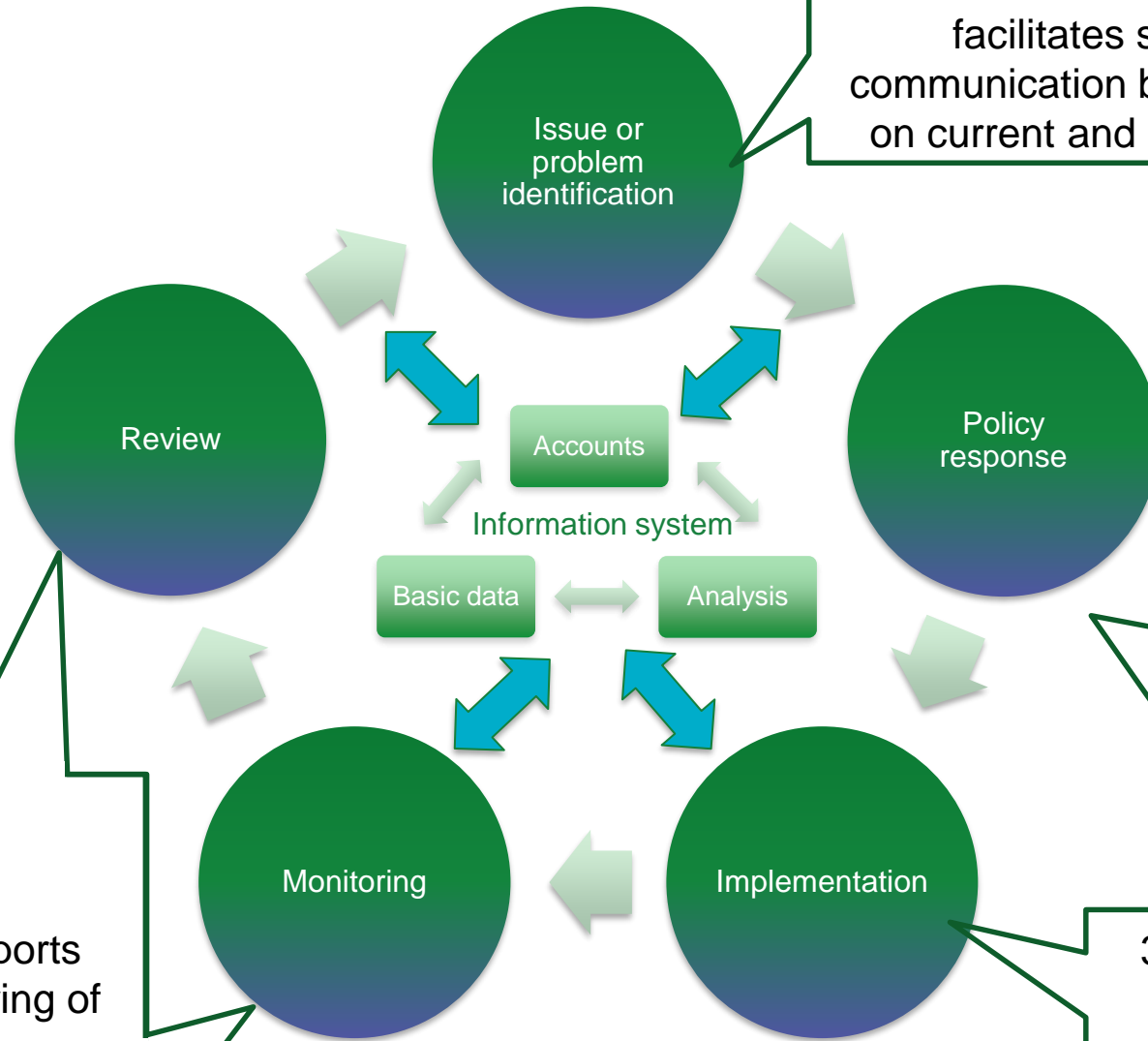
**Dublin Ireland**



Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services  
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# NCA in the policy cycle



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



	Information users		
Information uses	Expert	Public policy and administration	Political
<b>Instrumental</b>	Programme evaluation, predictive models	Target expenditure, monitor policy impacts	Policy decisions
<b>Conceptual</b>	Searching for new patterns in the dynamics of stock-changes and flows	Using environmental accounts with national accounts to support whole-of-government policy integration	Better understanding of the dependency of human wellbeing on natural capital and flows of ecosystem services
<b>Tactical</b>	Building the case for research	Ongoing analysis of the accounts and the significance of changes	Support and defend policies
<b>Symbolic</b>	Building the case for policy change	Environmental education	Make the case for major reforms
<b>Political</b>	Contributing to public policy debate	Advice and information to politicians to facilitate policy debate	Support election policies



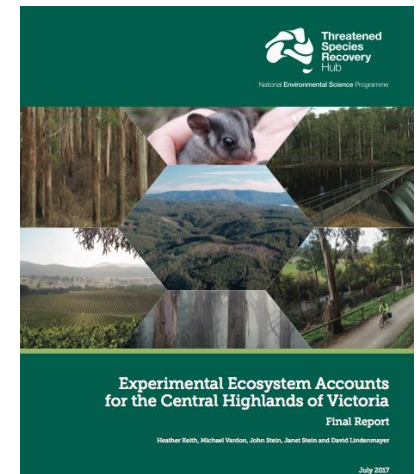
# Examples of account application

- Australian
- Guatemala
- Philippines
- Zambia



# Australia

- Increased use of the accounts by engaging with academics in the production of accounts as well as government departments and politicians in the application of accounts
- Accounts addressing topical issues and places gain traction: water scarcity, Great Barrier Reef Region, Central Highlands of Victoria
- Most of the work by government agencies, is in the instrumental and conceptual uses, while the work by academics and NGOs extends into tactical, symbolic and political uses



# Guatemala – accounts creating dialogue

- Forest accounts show gap between depreciation of forest resources vs investments in the public to curb deforestation => increased dialogue and ultimately increased funding for the forest institute
- Water accounts helped to foster dialogue across sectors and informs research. Detailed information helps municipalities prepare their long-term goals for water security
- Collaboration between government and academia helped overcome limited resources and low capacity
- Analysis, modelling and recommendations led to media coverage and public discussion



# Philippines – cross-sectoral, multiagency collaboration is key

- Land Cover/Land use accounts helped initiate a review of the inconsistencies of the implementation of land use policies of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA), and Department of Agrarian Reform
- Strong links to analytical units within govt increases uptake and use
- Engage with key agencies at the start and define relevant issues and agency priorities through early dialogues
- Capacity building must go beyond familiarization of the accounts for NCA to gain traction both with producers and users





# Philippines – local ecosystem accounts gains traction

- Ecosystem accounts used by environmental managers at the subnational level
- Multi-agency, multidisciplinary efforts to build accounts brought widespread awareness
- Laguna Lake ecosystem accounts used for eg creating scorecards, reviewing EIA law and issuance of Environmental Compliance Certificates





# Zambia - natural capital concept sparks high-level interest

- Importance of good information on natural capital easy to convey and to grasp
- Compiling information in a common framework creates a stronger message than comparing disparate data on the same issues
- Concrete links to Zambia's 7th National Development Plan, e.g. diversification of the economy by developing nature-based tourism



# Key lessons

- Establish high level steering committees including key government agencies
- Identifying potential uses and users early on
- Timeliness – short production cycle; identify key policy entry points
- Good engagement between the academic sector and the government
- Economic modelling constitutes important link between accounting data and government policy and management
- Share the experience – positive and negative



# 10 Living Principles to Make NCA Fit for Policy

## COMPREHENSIVE:

<b>Inclusive</b>	Acknowledging the diverse stakeholders concerned with decisions affecting natural capital, responding to their information demands, respecting different notions of value, and using appropriate means of engagement.
<b>Collaborative</b>	Linking the producers of NCAs, the users of NCAs for policy analysis and the policy makers using the NCAs results, and building their mutual understanding, trust, and ability to work together.
<b>Holistic</b>	Adopting a comprehensive, multi/interdisciplinary approach to the economic and environmental dimensions of natural capital and to their complex links with policy and practice.

## PURPOSEFUL:

<b>Decision-centred</b>	Providing relevant and timely information for indicator development and policy analysis to improve and implement decisions with implications for natural capital.
<b>Demand-led</b>	Providing information actually demanded or needed by decision makers at specific levels.

## TRUSTWORTHY:

<b>Transparent and open</b>	Enabling and encouraging public access and use of NCAs, with clear communication of the results and their interpretation including limitations of the data sources, methods, and/or coverage.
<b>Credible</b>	Compiling, assessing, and streamlining data from all available sources, and deploying objective and consistent science and methodologies.

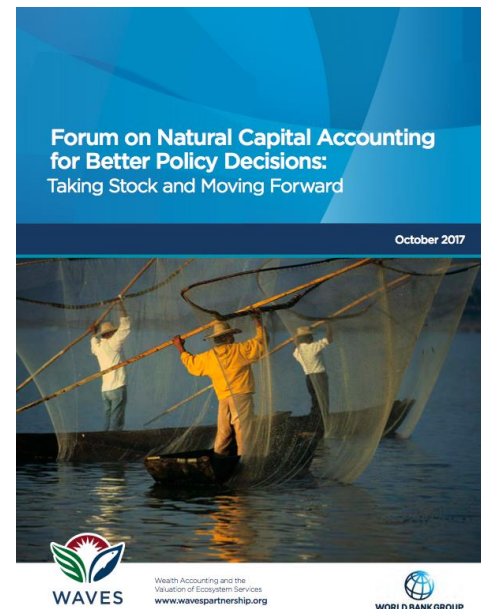
## MAINSTREAMED:

<b>Enduring</b>	With adequate, predictable resourcing over time; continuous application and availability; and building increasingly rich time series of data.
<b>Continuously improving</b>	Learning focused, networked across practitioners and users, testing new approaches, and evolving systems to better manage uncertainty, embrace innovation, and take advantage of emerging opportunities.
<b>Embedded</b>	NCA production and use becoming part of the machinery of government and business, building capacity, improving institutional integration for sustainable development, and incorporating NCAs use in procedures and decision-support mechanisms.



# NCA Policy Forum

- 2 held already (2016 and 2017)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> will be 26-27 November 2018, in Paris, France
- Co-hosted by World Bank WAVES, UNSD, NCC, Netherlands
- Examine application of NCA to climate change and biodiversity
- Government, business, international agencies, NGOs and academia





# Thank you!

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