



Government of the Netherlands



NATURAL
CAPITAL
COALITION



Natural Capital Policy Forum

Working together to improve decision-making: special insights on climate change and biodiversity

November 26-27, 2018, Paris

**Venue: Palais Brongniart Room: Notre-Dame des Victoires
Place de la Bourse, 75002 Paris**

Joint meeting of the 3rd Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Policy Decisions, the 2nd Government Dialogue on Natural Capital, and the Combining Forces initiative

Background:

Three important international initiatives each seek to create enabling environments for better decision-making, by mainstreaming considerations of natural capital. The Forum on Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) for Better Policy, the Government Dialogue on Natural Capital, and the Combining Forces Initiative have joined up to hold a combined meeting on 26 to 27 November 2018 in Paris during what is being called the Natural Capital Week 2018 (Paris, France).

The *Forum on Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) for Better Policy Decisions* is a yearly forum providing countries, international agencies and interested stakeholders a space to discuss the use of the natural capital accounting to support policies. The 2017 Forum highlighted the need for building collaboration with the private sector, which is making rapid progress in natural capital accounting and complementary approaches.

The *Government Dialogue on Natural Capital* provides a platform for governments to explore, understand and strengthen the role of governments and their interaction with the private sector in up-scaling and mainstreaming natural capital approaches.

The *Combining Forces Initiative* focuses on building synergies between public and private approaches to natural capital with a view of generating trusted and credible information to inform decisions.

The Natural Capital Policy Forum will focus its discussion on how natural capital accounting and complementary approaches that can help in informing decisions, providing special insights on climate change and biodiversity.

Objectives:

1. *Exploring how Natural capital approaches/accounting can improve decision-making on climate change and biodiversity.* This year we will focus on two specific global policy agendas, climate change and biodiversity, and explore how accounting and complementary approaches can systematically improve decisions in those areas, with recommendations for the Paris 2015 Climate Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) post-2020 processes
2. *Working together: government and business* – to explore what roles and relationships work, and to identify what is needed next, for creating an enabling environment for mainstreamed Natural Capital into decision making
3. *Developing a narrative around Natural Capital* – to debate and validate the narrative being coordinated by the Government Dialogue, and recommend an associated communication strategy, that will inspire accelerated integration of Natural capital thinking in policy, accounting and institutional frameworks.

Expected outcomes:

- *Identifying entry points to promote natural capital accounting and other natural capital thinking for improved decision making on biodiversity and climate change* (e.g. Post-202 Biodiversity Framework, Climate Change Paris Agreement and relevant processes)
- *Brief ‘monographs’* – two papers produced following the Forum, on the diverse *experience and needs for natural capital accounting and complementary approaches to improve policy* decisions in favour of good Biodiversity (#1) and Climate Change (#2) outcomes
- *Improving on communicating natural capital thinking* – validation and inputs for a natural capital narrative and communication strategy developed by the Government Dialogue
- *Natural Capital Approaches/accounting policy application in support of the SEEA* – advice on the purpose, content and process for producing a guidance document (UNSD, WB)

Provisional agenda

Day 1 – 26 November

9.00 – 10.30 Session 1. Setting the scene

- **Challenges in the climate change and biodiversity agendas** Keynote speech
- **Scope and objectives of the 2018 Natural Capital Policy Forum**

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00 – 12.45 Session 2. Challenges of improving decisions in climate change

- **The Climate Change policy challenges** Keynote speech by Saleemul Huq, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
- **How NCA can help address climate change mitigation and adaptation** Arjan Ruijs, PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
- **Country presentations**

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

13.45 – 15.15 Session 3. The Climate Change agenda: What natural capital thinking can achieve

- This session will go further into what can natural capital thinking provide to support mainstreaming for climate change mitigation and adaptation in public and private policy making. Panellists will share their experiences, followed by group discussions.

15.15 – 15.45 Coffee

15.45 -17.15 Session 4. Natural capital: why it matters to countries and how NC/A can support policy

- This session will present and discuss the narrative developed by the Government Dialogue illustrating the added value of natural capital thinking in both public and private sectors.

17.15-17.20 Wrap-up of Day 1

Day 2 – 27 November

09.00-10.30 Session 5. Challenges of improving decisions in biodiversity

- **The Biodiversity policy challenges** Keynote speech by Juha Siikamäki, Chief Economist, IUCN
- **How NCA can help address biodiversity use and conservation** Arjan Ruijs, PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
- **Country presentations**

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee

11.00-12.45 Session 6. Biodiversity: What natural capital thinking can achieve

- This session will go further into what can natural capital thinking provide to support mainstreaming for biodiversity use and conservation in public and private policy making. Panellists will share their experiences, followed by group discussions.

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

13.45 —15.15 Session 7. Mainstreaming NC/A – building an enabling environment for Natural capital accounting and complementary Natural capital approaches

- This session will discuss how to strengthen government-business collaboration with the objective to increase uptake by linking national ambitions and global commitments. Gaps and synergies in private and public sector NC approaches will be discussed, as well as how to improve alignment and collaboration moving forward.

15.15-15.45 Coffee

15.45 – 17.00 Session 8. Actions to inform policy agendas: Conclusions & next steps

- Summary of conclusions on entry points and actions to promote natural capital accounting and other natural capital processes for improved decision making on biodiversity and climate change
- Improving on communicating natural capital thinking – validation and inputs for a natural capital narrative and communication strategy developed by the Government Dialogue
- Towards guidelines on policy application of Natural Capital Accounting