

Natural Capital Accounting

National NCA Forum 2019

10-11 July 2019

Statistics South Africa Auditorium

PROGRAMME



Wednesday 10 July		
10:00	Registration and coffee	
	SESSION 1: Opening ceremony – South Africa at the forefront of a global movement	Chair: Wadzi Mandivenyi, DEA
11:00	Welcoming remarks by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistician General • SANBI Chief Executive Officer • Department of Environmental Affairs Deputy Director General • Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to South Africa • United Nations representative 	Mr Risenga Maluleke Dr Moshibudi Rampedi Mr Shonisani Munzhedzi Mr Raul De Luzenberger Mr Bram Edens
12:00	Lunch	
	SESSION 2: NCA to support national priorities	Chair: Ndileka Mohapi, DWS
13:00	Keynote: Natural Capital Accounting - what is it and how can it add value?	Mandy Driver, SANBI
13:30	Panel discussion: How does natural capital accounting support national development priorities? <i>Facilitated panel discussion guided by audience's questions on the keynote address</i>	Moderated by: Kristal Maze, SANParks Panellists: Edeshri Moodley, DPME Joe de Beer, Stats SA Shonisani Munzhedzi, DEA Cecilia Njenga, UN Environment
14:30	Coffee break	
15:00	<i>Panel discussion continues</i>	
16:00	South Africa's new national land and ecosystem asset accounts: a quick look	Rob Anderson, Stats SA
16:30	Close of day 1	
16:30	Coffee and networking	

Thursday 11 July

8:00	Registration and coffee	
	SESSION 3: Building natural capital accounts: experience, lessons and challenges	Chair: Henry Roman, DST
9:00	South Africa's national land and ecosystem asset accounts: your questions answered	Rob Anderson and Xaven Pillay, Stats SA; Thuli Mahlangu, SANBI
9:30	Keynote: Implementing NCA – experiences, lessons and challenges from other countries	Bram Edens, UNSD
10:00	Emerging opportunities for NCA and related initiatives in South Africa	
	1. Why do we need NCA when we have State of Environment Reporting?	Peter Lukey, DEA
	2. Accounting for ecosystem services and values in South Africa	Jane Turpie, Anchor Research & Monitoring
	3. Embedding natural capital in responsible investment practices	Libby Dreyer, DBSA
	4. The Biological Diversity Protocol: accounting framework for business to report on biodiversity impacts	Joel Houdet, EWT
11:00	Coffee break	
	SESSION 4: Advancing NCA in South Africa	
11:30	Advancing NCA in South Africa: facilitated discussions around key thematic areas	Facilitators:
	1. <i>Accounting for water, catchments & water-related ecosystems</i>	Jenifer Zungu, SANBI
	2. <i>Ocean accounting</i>	Prideel Majiedt, SANBI
	3. <i>Accounting for ecosystem services, including valuation</i>	Jane Turpie, Anchor Research & Monitoring
	4. <i>Towards a strategy for advancing natural capital accounting in South Africa</i>	Gerhardt Bouwer, Stats SA, & Mandy Driver, SANBI
13:00	Lunch	
	SESSION 5: Shaping a mandate for moving forward together	Chair: Mukondi Masithi, DPME
14:00	Towards a strategy for advancing NCA in South Africa:	
	• Recommendations from Assessment Report	Aimee Ginsburg
	• Feedback from key thematic areas	Facilitators from thematic areas
	• Steps for advancing NCA in South Africa and identification of champions to give guidance	
16:00	Closing remarks	Joe de Beer, Stats SA
	Vote of thanks	Bram Edens, UNSD
16:30	Coffee and networking	

SELECT THE GROUP YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN SESSION 4

Description of key thematic areas around which facilitated discussions will be held in Session 4 towards advancing NCA in South Africa:

Thematic area 1: Accounting for water, catchments and water-related ecosystems

Water security is a key development issue in South Africa, as highlighted in the National Water and Sanitation Master Plan. NCA can help to provide regular, reliable information to inform policy and management, including on the supply and use of water across the water value chain, as well as the health of the ecosystems and ecological infrastructure that underpin the provision of water. Several water-related NCA projects have already been undertaken in South Africa, including national water accounts (led by Stats SA), national river ecosystem accounts (a partnership between SANBI, CSIR, DWS and Stats SA), and catchment-level water resource accounts (led by UKZN CWRR). Accounts for Strategic Water Source Areas and for ecological infrastructure in two catchments (Greater uMngeni and Berg-Breede) are planned as part of the Ecological Infrastructure for Water Security (EI4WS) Project. The Water Research Commission (WRC) has played a key role in funding water-related NCA to date in South Africa.

This thematic group will introduce participants briefly to existing and planned water-related natural capital accounts, and then focus on opportunities and priorities for strengthening the production and use of water-related accounts going forward.

Facilitator: Jenifer Zungu, Project Leader of the EI4WS Project

Thematic area 2: Ocean accounting

South Africa is working to grow its ocean economy, in relation to both GDP and jobs created, through Operation Phakisa. NCA provides a potential tool for measuring progress towards these objectives as well as highlighting the role of healthy ecosystems in the ocean economy, thereby providing information to support evidence-based policy and decision making. NCA can also inform Marine Spatial Planning, currently underway in South Africa, and can support monitoring and reporting on South Africa's progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 14, "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development". South Africa has the information to support different aspects of ocean accounting, including accounting for extent and condition of marine ecosystems and estuarine ecosystems.

This thematic group will provide an overview of what is happening in relation to ocean accounting broadly, including the development of an international framework for ocean accounting, and then focus on opportunities and priorities for strengthening the production and use of ocean-related accounts going forward.

Facilitator: Prideel Majiedt, SANBI Marine Scientist

Thematic area 3: Accounting for ecosystem services, including valuation

The social, ecological and economic values of biodiversity assets and ecosystem services can be quantified in various ways, some of which involve monetary valuation. Economic valuation, specifically focused on monetary valuation, is intended to provide economic values for biodiversity and ecosystem services so that they can be more easily compared to other factors during decision-making and development of appropriate policy. As such, some aspects of biodiversity or ecosystem services will be more important to value than others. For instance those ecosystem services that must compete for attention with other activities that are strongly market-driven, such as provisioning services related to raw materials and food. Approaches for ecosystem valuation have been evolving for several decades, and while there are still shortcomings in methods and data requirements for valuation studies, a range of valuation tools exist. Numerous ecosystem service valuation studies have been done in South Africa, which provide a good basis to compile some accounts for ecosystem services in monetary terms.

This thematic group will provide more information about pilot accounts for ecosystem services, including valuation, that are being developed in KZN as part of the NCA&VES Project, before looking ahead at opportunities and priorities for ecosystem service accounts and valuation going forward.

Facilitator: Jane Turpie, Anchor Research & Monitoring

Thematic area 4: Towards a strategy for advancing NCA in South Africa

A strategy for advancing NCA in South Africa will be developed over the course of 2019 and early 2020 as part of the NCA&VES project. An Assessment Report was developed in 2018 through the NCA&VES project to inform the development of a strategy for advancing NCA in South Africa. One of the recommendations of the Assessment Report was that such a strategy should be led and published by Stats SA as the national statistical office, and part or all of it should be integrated into the environmental pillar of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), the development of which is underway.

The strategy is intended to support the building of statistical and institutional mechanisms that will strengthen statistical systems and statistical production processes and enable South Africa to produce natural capital accounts into the future, in order to support evidence-based policy and decision-making for sustainable development. South Africa has a range of policies and frameworks that relate to strengthening national statistics and improving information on sustainable development, and a range of organisations responsible for their implementation. The strategy for advancing NCA should link to these policies, frameworks and responsible institutions across the NCA value chain.

This thematic group will provide an overview of recommendations for a strategy for advancing NCA in South Africa that emerged from the Assessment Report, consider some of the challenges faced by Stats SA in producing natural capital accounts, and discuss how best to take forward the development of a strategy for NCA in South Africa.

Facilitators: Mandy Driver, SANBI, and Gerhardt Bouwer, Stats SA