

7th Global Policy Forum on Natural Capital

Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework:

Leveraging Natural Capital Data, Accounting and Analysis to Inform Policies

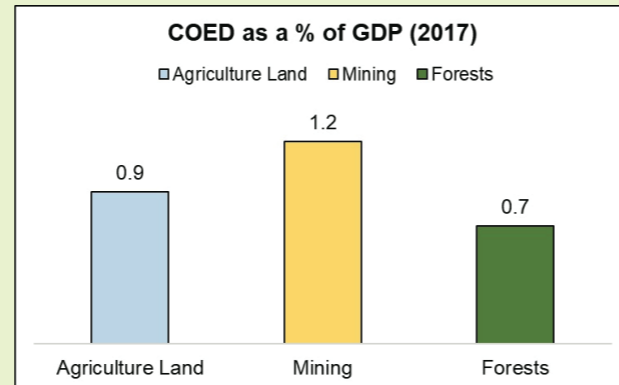
March 5-6, 2024, Kigali, Rwanda

“Natural Capital Accounting (G-NCA) for Sustainability Programme in Ghana”
Dr. Bernice S. Ofosu-Baadu (GSS)

A. Introduction

Policy Challenge: The approach to the management and governance of natural capital in Ghana needs change to avoid long term national effect. The cost of environmental degradation (CoED) due to the unsustainable use of land for agriculture, forests, and mining stood at 2.8 percent of GDP (Figure 1) in 2017'

- Ghana's Adjusted Net Savings (ANS) has been positive since 2006. However, gap to Gross Savings has widened since 2009.
- Natural capital per capita increased from US\$6,000 in 1995 to US\$9,000 in 2004/2014 and dropped again to US\$6,000 in 2018.



B. Objectives of the GNCA for Sustainability Programme

- Institutionalize NCA and support biodiversity management.
- Strengthen capacity for natural capital accounting and its use for policy, development, and investment planning.
- Mainstream natural capital into the development policy, planning and budgeting processes.
- Contribute to informing investments under the Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining Project (GLRSSMP).

C. GPS Strategic Support and Impact

The GPS' support to the Ghana NCA programme seeks to:

- Inform the determination of national targets for the new Global Biodiversity Framework
- Inform current efforts to pilot the Spatial Development Framework development and a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme under the GLRSSMP project
- Provide useful insights for land planning and restoration activities at sub-basin and district level
- Encourage the revision of national development planning guidelines under the National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework
- Ultimately reflect NCA and biodiversity concerns in the national budgeting processes.

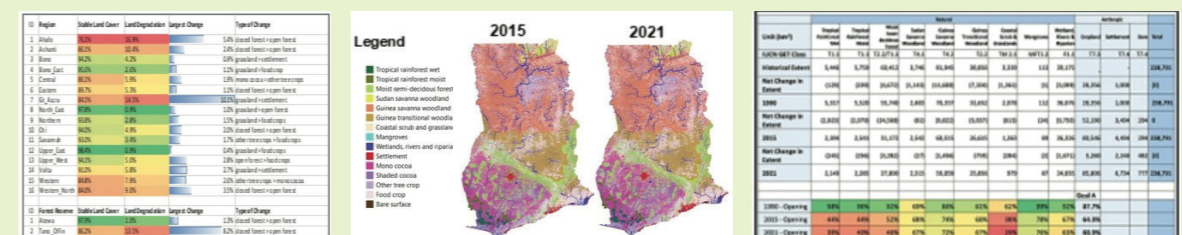
D. Activities

Development of Natural Capital Accounts:

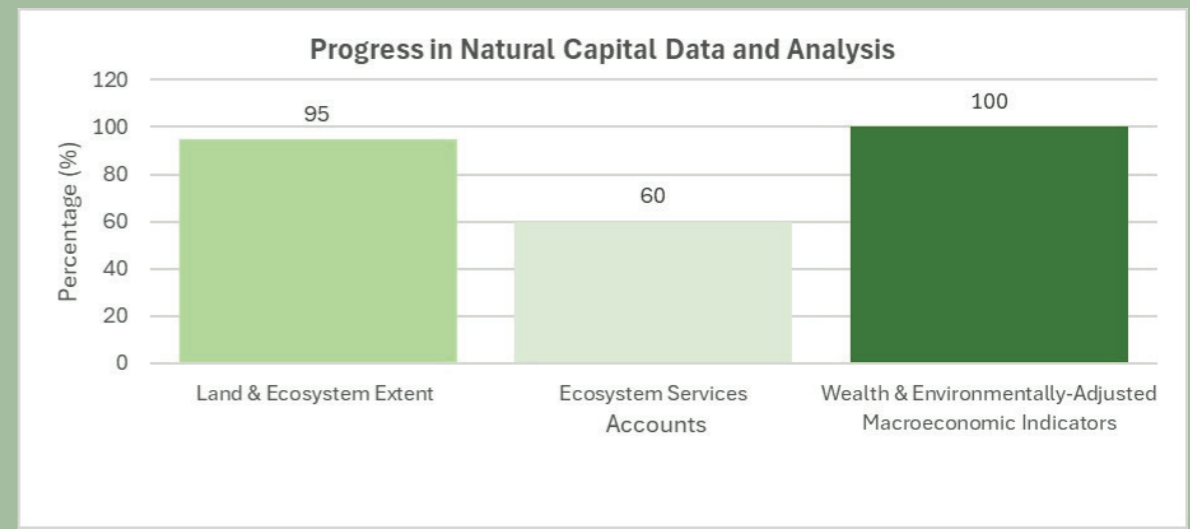
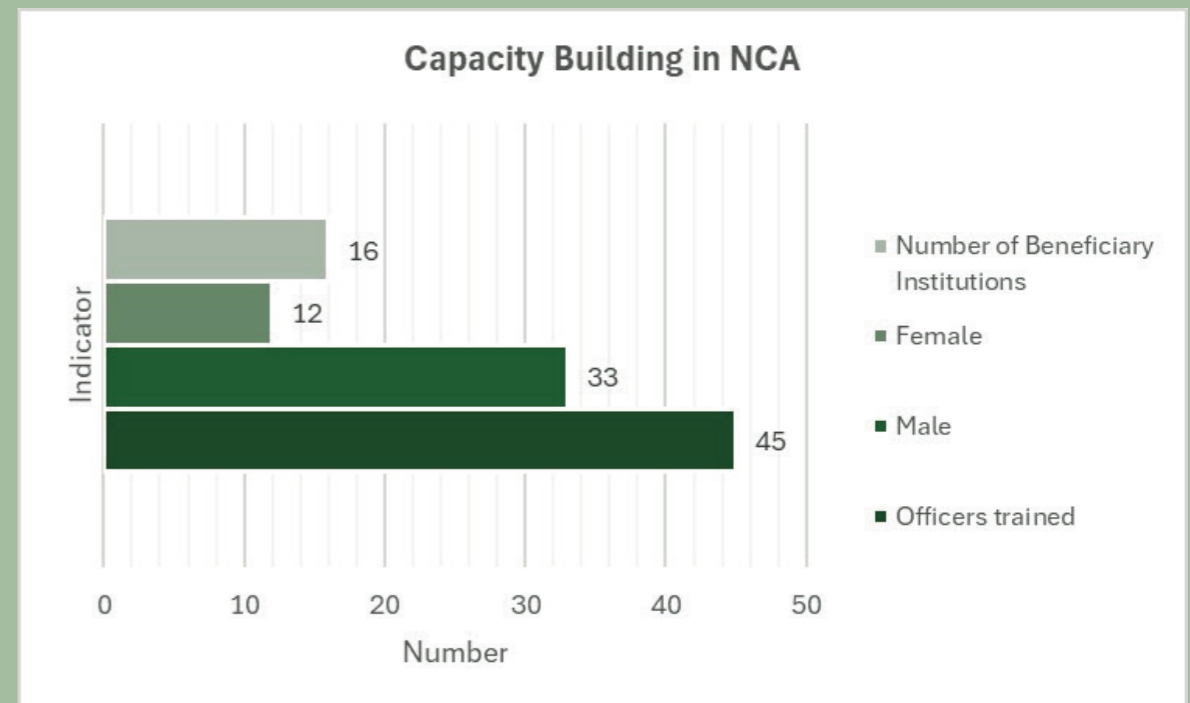
- Land and ecosystem extent.
- Ecosystem services.
- Wealth and adjusted macroeconomic indicators.
- “Learn-by-doing” approach by Technical and Sub-working Groups across line ministries, departments, and agencies.

E. Highlights of Preliminary Results & Findings - Land & Ecosystems Accounting (2015/2021)

- Between 2015 and 2021, 91.2 % of Ghana's land cover was stable, implying that 8.8 % changed into another land cover type, a very significant conversion rate.
- 5.4% of the total land area of Ghana has been degraded, with 1.1% undergoing land improvement.
- Deforestation amounted to 2.1% of the total area of Ghana.
- Only 29% of the original extent remains in coastal scrub and grassland.
- Tropical rainforest ecosystem types have undergone reductions in extent of about 40% remains.
- By extrapolating the average annual trend in reductions of natural ecosystems that occurred over the last 30 years, tropical rainforests (wet and moist) will disappear in about 20 years if nothing is done. This calls for further conservation measures.
- The total remaining natural extent across all ecosystems was 87.7 % in 1990 but has dropped to 64.3% in 2015 and 60.9% in 2021.



F. GPS indicators



Supporting/Partner Organizations

