



# Overview of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in Ghana

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# Outline

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- Implementation Arrangements
- Ghana/World Bank GPS Programme on NCA (2022-2025)
- UNEP-WCMC & FAO Partnerships
- Communication Strategy for NCA
- Conclusion



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# Background

- Agenda 21 called for the establishment of a program to develop national systems of integrated environmental and economic accounting in all countries.
- Rio+20 also reconfirmed that integrated social, economic, and environmental data and information is important to decision-making processes.
- The SEEA Central Framework (SEEA-CF) and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA-EA) provide the platform for countries to have a wide variety of use and applications.
- The Framework was adopted as an international statistical standard by the in 2012 to measure the environment and its relationship with the Economy.



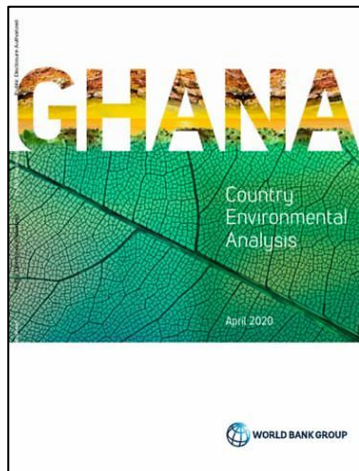
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# Background



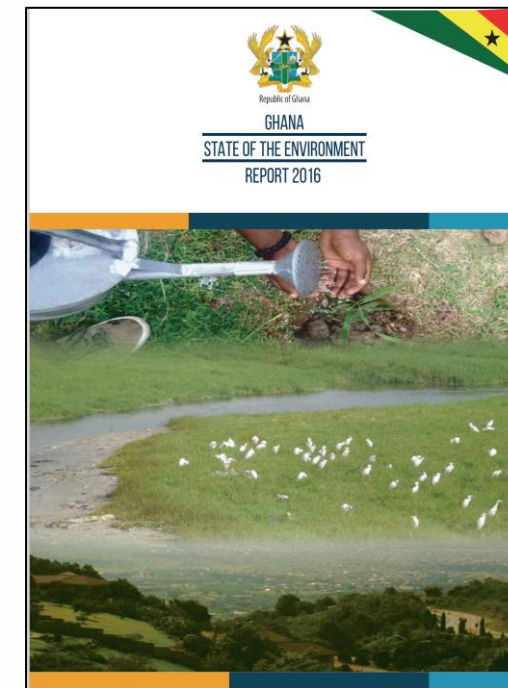
	Lower bound (US\$ billion)	Upper bound (US\$ billion)	Average (US\$ billion)	% of GDP
Air	1.32	3.65	2.49	4.2%
Water	0.74	2.85	1.80	3.0%
Mining*	0.39	0.97	0.68	1.2%
Agricultural land	0.14	0.95	0.54	0.9%
Forests	0.14	0.66	0.40	0.7%
Fisheries	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.4%
Inland floods	0.06	0.17	0.12	0.2%
Coastal zone	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.1%
<b>Cost to Ghanaian society</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>9.53</b>	<b>6.29</b>	<b>10.7%</b>
Climate change	1.53	3.10	2.31	3.9%
<b>Cost to Global community</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>3.10</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

\*\* Gold mining, e-waste, and other contaminated sites.

- Ghana's CoED is estimated at 10% of the 2006 in 2007 and 10.7% in 2020 and 2017 GDP, respectively.

Indicator	Current Status	Trend from 2004	Data Availability	Data Quality	
14. Biodiversity	Threatened species of Flora				
	Threatened species of Fauna - Fish				
	Amphibians				
	Reptiles				
	Birds				
	Mammals				
	Ecosystem provisioning services (bushmeat)				
	Aichi Goal B Target 5: rate of loss of all-natural habitats				
	Aichi Goal B Target 6: fish and invertebrate stocks				
	Aichi Goal C Target 11: conserve 17% of Land				
	Aichi Goal C Target 12: extinctions prevented				
	15. Protected Areas and Conservation	Primary forest cover			
		Total forest cover			
		Protected area coverage			
PA intactness-quality					
Institutional capacity					
Regulatory framework					
Law enforcement					
16. Invasive Species	Flora				
	Fauna				
	Lower Organisms				
17. Freshwater	Raw Water Source				
	Water Quantity				
	Water Quality				
	Water Abstraction				
	Water Use				
	Water Demand				
	Water Production				
	Water Supply Coverage				
18. Wetlands	Wetland extent and condition				
	Waterbird species abundance & diversity				
	Abundance and diversity of lagoon fisheries				

Key: Good or Improving (Green), Adequate or Little Change (Yellow), Bad or Deteriorating (Red), No Information (Grey)



- The State of Environment (SoE) Report 2016 exposed the data gaps in biodiversity information.





# Building Blocks for NCA in Ghana



**Strategic Approach  
to Account Production**

**Capacity Building**

**Linking  
NCA Outputs to  
Policy demands**

**National & Sub –  
national Relevance**

**National Ownership  
& Buy-in**

**Communication**



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# Earlier NCA Work in Ghana



- **NCA Discussion Paper**  
[http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Discussion%20Paper\\_Building%20a%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounting%20in%20Ghana.pdf](http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Discussion%20Paper_Building%20a%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounting%20in%20Ghana.pdf)
- **NCA Feasibility Study Report**  
<http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Feasibility%20Study%20on%20the%20Establishment%20of%20Building%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounts%20in%20Ghana.pdf>
- **NCA Implementation Strategy**  
<http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/NCA%20Report%204%20SEEA%20implementation.pdf>
- **Critical Analysis of NCA Report**  
[http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Critical%20Analysis%20on%20Building%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounts%20in%20Ghana%20%282%29\\_1.pdf](http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Critical%20Analysis%20on%20Building%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounts%20in%20Ghana%20%282%29_1.pdf)
- **Energy Account (2013)**  
<https://ecastats.uneca.org/acswEB/FocusAreas/eLearning.aspx>

- **Asset Accounts for Mineral Resources**  
[http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Asset%20Accounts%20for%20Mineral%20Resources\\_Pilot\\_Ghana.pdf](http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Asset%20Accounts%20for%20Mineral%20Resources_Pilot_Ghana.pdf)
- **Connect Ghana Project**  
<http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Feasibility%20Study%20on%20the%20Establishment%20of%20Building%20Natural%20Capital%20Accounts%20in%20Ghana.pdf>
- **Environment Statistics Compendium 2020**  
<http://www.epa.gov.gh/epa/sites/default/files/downloads/publications/Environment%20Statistics%20Compendium%202020.pdf>
- **Country Environmental Analysis 2020**  
<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/419871588578973802/pdf/Ghana-Country-Environmental-Analysis.pdf>

- The Discussion Paper was put together to **facilitate discussions and the engagement of various stakeholders** in the development of NCA in Ghana.
- The **Feasibility Study Report** documents **national priorities for environment and natural resource management and development with respect to policy**, identifies stakeholders (both users and producers), provides information on key national data sources for compiling NCA, and assesses constraints to the implementation of NCA.
- The **Implementation Strategy** provides **information on key stakeholder institutions and outlines a step-by-step approach** to guide the effective implementation of NCA.
- The **Critical Analysis** sets the stage for the **institutionalization of NCA management**, and the use of information provided to inform decision-making processes at various levels.





# Ghana/World Bank GPS Programme on NCA (2022-2025)



Land Account & Ecosystems  
Extent (LEEA)



Ecosystems Services Account  
(ESA)



Wealth & Adjusted  
Macroeconomic Indicators (WAMI)



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# Ghana/World Bank GPS Programme on NCA (2022-2025)



The aim of the programme is to:

Institutionalize NCA and support biodiversity management

Strengthen capacity for natural capital accounting

Mainstream natural capital into the policy

Inform investments under the Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining Project (GLRSSMP)

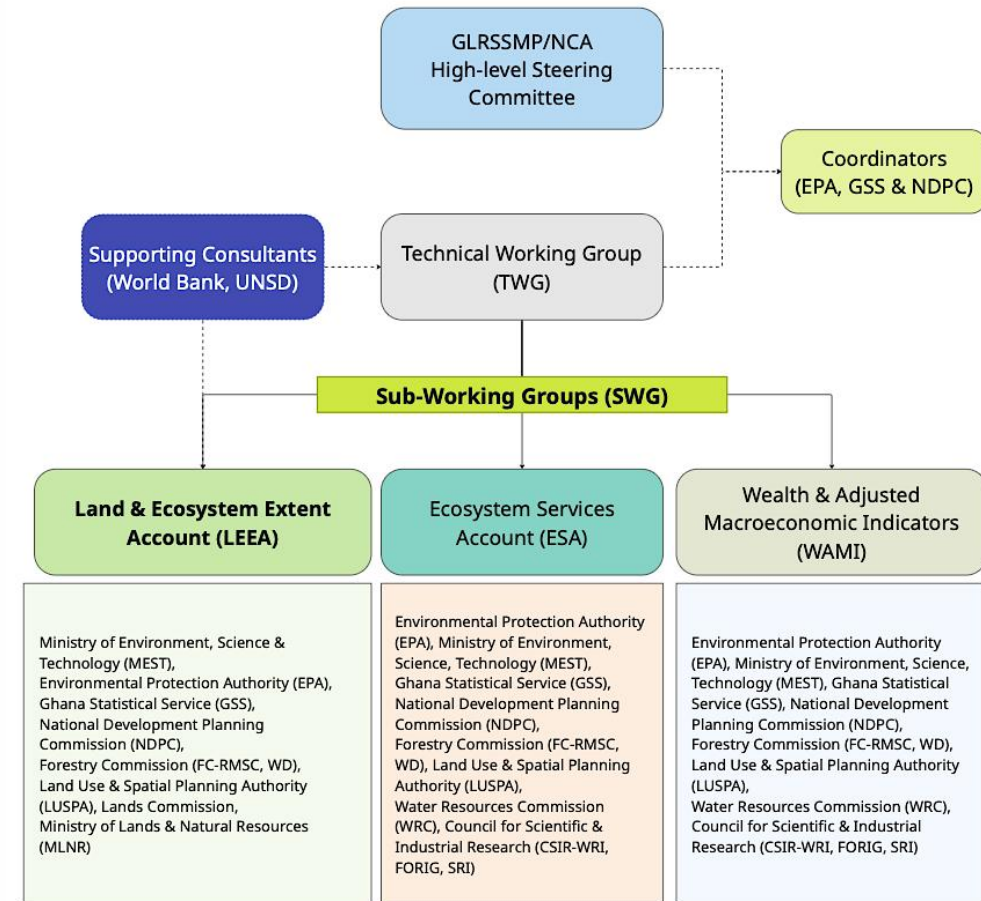


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# Implementation Arrangements for G-NCA Programme

- Builds on existing institutional arrangements & structures (GLRSSMP, GSS, COED, etc.)
- Ensure strong institutional collaboration and coordination
- Effective integration into policy and technical discussions
- Foster continuity of NCA activities across relevant institutions



## Ghana NCA Implementation Arrangements



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# Strengthen Capacity for NCA & Use in Ghana

The program has adopted a “learning-by-doing” approach



Participation in knowledge exchanges (GPS, Ethiopia, Statistics Netherlands, Rwanda, AfCoP on NCA, global forums, etc.)



Account-specific technical capacities has been built and strengthened directly across sixteen (16) institutions.



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# Strengthen Capacity for NCA & Use in Ghana

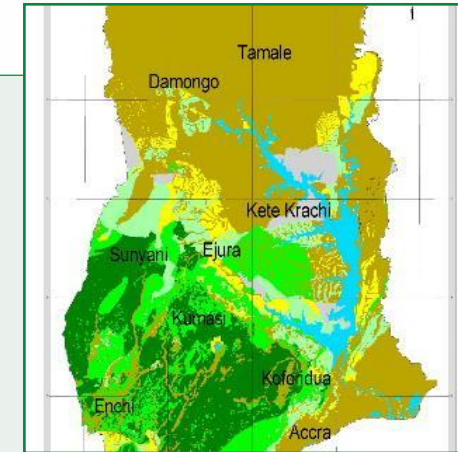


Bridge the gap that exist within the science/data-policy interface



**Stakeholders**

Sensitize, raise awareness and educate the policy makers, media, etc., on NCA

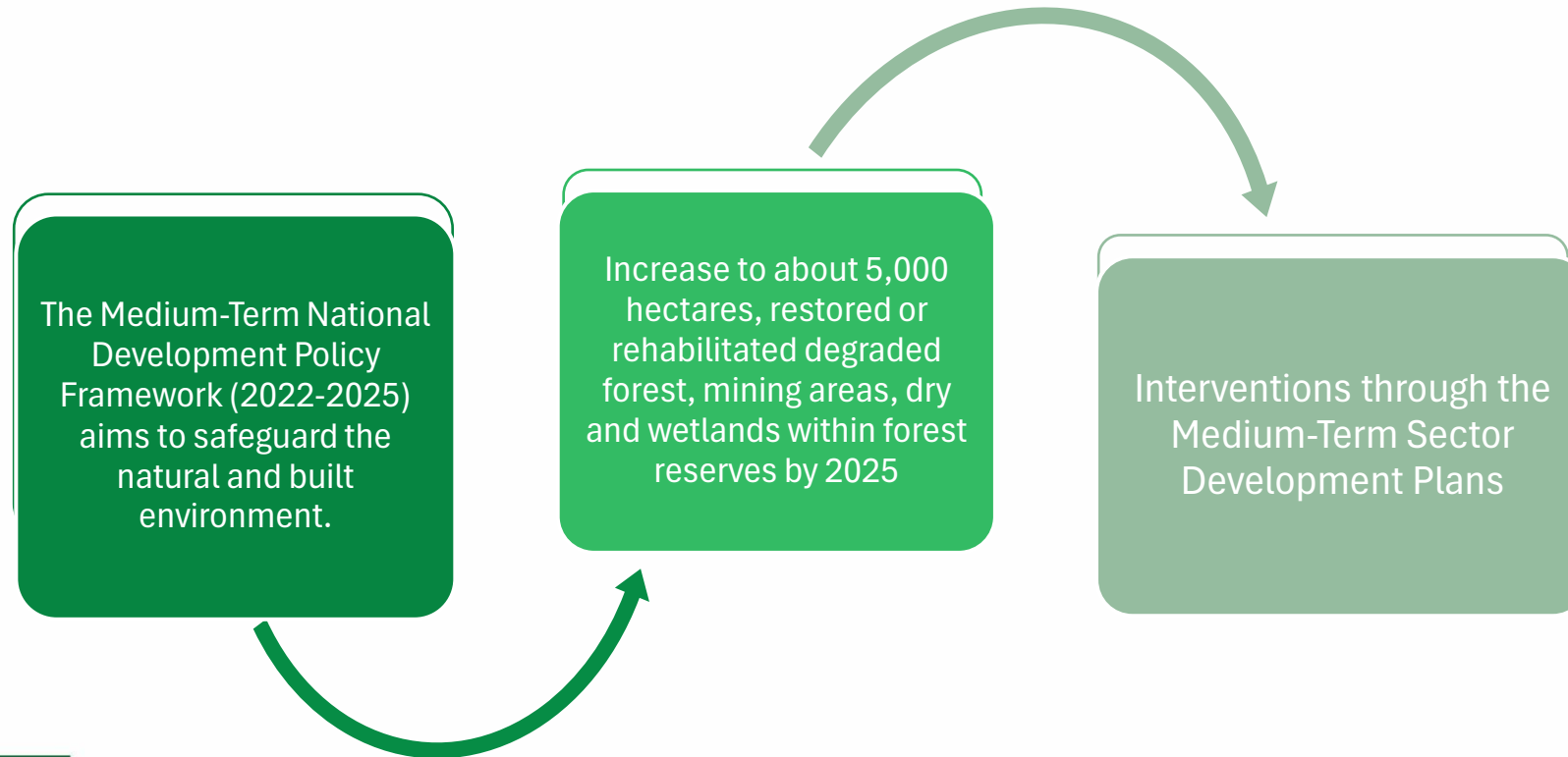


Facilitate a national dialogue on the opportunities that NCA presents



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# Mainstream Natural Capital into Development Planning



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# Inform Investments under the Ghana Landscape Restoration & Small-Scale Mining Project (GLRSSMP)

Develop land accounts that describe changes in land cover classes between 2015/2021

Monitoring and Evaluation of project impacts

Sub-national level NCA for GLRSSMP project areas



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# UNEP-WCMC, FAO & Statistics Denmark Partnership

- Strengthening capacity for NCA
- Demonstration Account – User-Needs Assessment/ Inception Workshop
- Develop a National Action Plan for Advancing NCA

UNEP - WCMC



- SEEA –Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (AFF) Air Emission Accounts
- Capacity/Training of relevant stakeholders
- Sensitization Forum on SEEA-AFF

FAO



- Capacity Building of relevant Stakeholders
- Environmental Goods & Services Sector (EGSS); Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts (EPEA)

Statistics Denmark



- Transformative Statistics Agenda –
- Environment and Climate Change Statistics Capacity Development Program

IMF/SECO

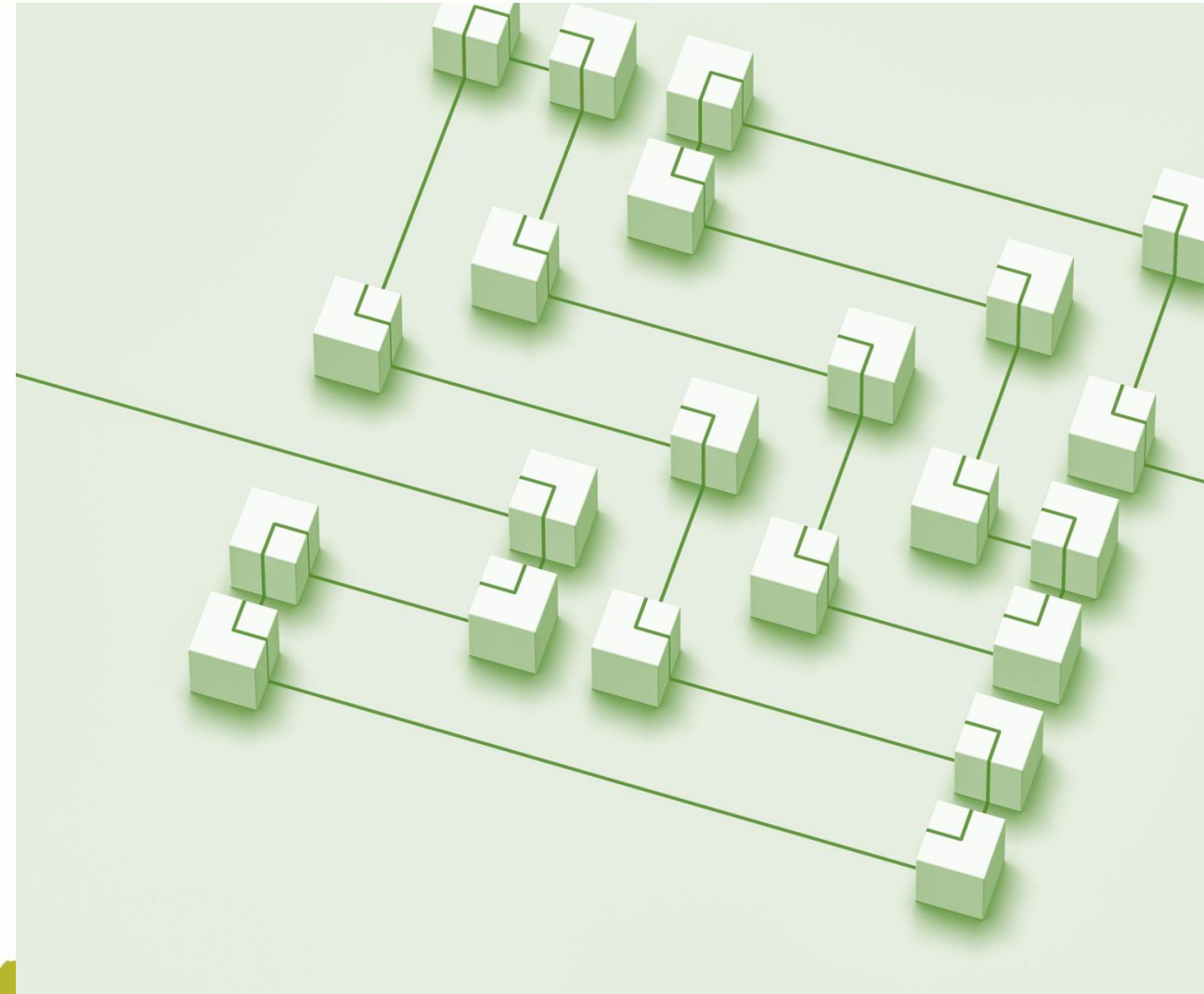


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# Communications Strategy (CS) for Natural Capital Accounting (NCA)



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# The Goal of the Communication Strategy (CS)

01

## Actions

Defines communication strategies for sharing NCA process and outcomes with stakeholders.

02

## Stakeholder Engagement

Ensures stakeholder engagement and awareness through targeted dissemination.

03

## Institutionalization

Aims to institutionalize Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) within national systems

04

## Integration

Supports effective biodiversity management in Ghana through NCA integration.



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# Objectives of the CS

01

## Engagement

Establish platforms for internal engagement among implementing agencies to foster buy-in and capacity building.

02

## Awareness

Raise awareness of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) using multimedia channels.

03

## Stakeholder Interest

Stimulate stakeholder interest to promote NCA integration into decision-making processes.



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# Successes & Challenges



## Successes

- Development of a National Plan for Natural Capital Accounting
- NCA Communication Strategy
- Strong partnerships and engagements (National, Sub-regional and International) – CSO, Media, NCA Champions
- 1<sup>st</sup> National Natural Capital Forum in 2023
- High-level buy-in and sensitization engagements
- Effective Institutional Arrangements
- Capacity Building and Support (mid-level managers of sixteen (16) line ministries, departments and agencies trained on diverse ecosystem accounting techniques)
- Using existing structures (Avoid duplication)
- Ability to inform policy (NDPC planning guidelines) and investments (GLRSSMP)

## Challenges

- Science-Policy interface (linking the results/findings to policy/management decisions)
- Data quality and gaps/limitations
- Managing expectations of diverse stakeholders
- Resource (technical, logistical, financial, etc.) constraints
- Time and availability of SWG/TWG members



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# Conclusion

- Ghana has so far implemented the United Nations (UN) SEEA-CF and SEEA-EA for integrating environment with economic considerations.
- The Ghana-GPS NCA Programme will continue to leverage on initial studies and existing structures to strengthen institutional capacity for natural capital accounting.
- Deepen the ongoing national dialogue and advocacy on NCA.
- Support the national objective of producing a **Green Gross Domestic Product/Environmentally Adjusted GDP** for relevant policy uses, among others.



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# Thank You for Your Attention!



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