



Natural Capital Accounting: Better Decisions for Sustainable Development

DATE: 20 June, 2012, 1pm-2:30 pm

VENUE: Rio Centro, Room T-4

Global leaders from the public and private sector will launch their commitment to further develop and implement natural capital accounting, as a step towards a more sustainable world.

Background: Many governments, civil society, and the private sector are looking toward a future where incorporating natural capital into national accounts can support better decisions for inclusive development. It is in the interest of developed and developing countries to move beyond traditional GDP and start incorporating their natural capital into their national accounts to make better economic decisions. With the recent adoption of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA), there is now wide acceptance of the need to put natural capital accounting into action. As a result, there is renewed momentum with finance ministries and ministries of environment who want to show the contribution of natural capital to national income. The natural capital accounting approach can also contribute to measuring progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), once established.

At the same time, forward-thinking business and finance leaders are making far-reaching commitments to account for and value natural capital in their business activities, recognizing it as smart business strategy that is essential for sustainable growth. Corporations are increasingly recognizing the importance of natural capital in their operations and supply chains and 37 financial institutions have signed the Natural Capital Declaration, confirming their commitment to move towards integrating natural capital considerations into their lending and investment decisions.

Rio+20 offers an important opportunity for the world to step up its previously stated commitments to further develop and implement natural capital accounting. The high-level event is organized by the Government of the United Kingdom, in close collaboration with the World Bank and the Natural Capital Declaration (NCD).

1:00pm Opening remarks: H.E. Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

H.E. Dr. Izabella Mônica Vieira Teixeira, Minister of Environment, the Federative Republic of Brazil (TBC)

Keynote Address:

H.E. Dilma Rousseff, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil (TBC)

Keynote Speakers' Opening Remarks:

H.E. Laura Chinchilla Miranda, President of Costa Rica

H.E. Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway

H.E. Ali Bongo Ondimba, President of Gabon

H.E. Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Prime Minister of Denmark

Key Messages and Summary: Ms. Rachel Kyte, Vice President of Sustainable Development, World Bank
Remarks by invited Government Ministers.

A Private Sector Perspective, moderated by Dr. Andrew Mitchell, NCD and Founder, Global Canopy Programme, including:

Mr. Paul Polman, CEO of Unilever

Rosemary Bissett, Head of Sustainability, Governance and Risk, National Australia Bank

Mr. Antoine Gosset-Grainville, CEO of Caisse des Dépôts

Mr. Jochen Zeitz, CEO, Sport & Lifestyle Division and CSO of PPR and Chairman of PUMA

Respondents: Remarks by leaders from the private sector and civil society.



THE WORLD BANK



**Natural
Capital
Declaration**