

Biodiversity and land use in the Natural Capital Protocol

March 15th 2016

Samuel Vionnet Sustainability Expert sv@valuingnature.ch +41 (0)76 372 90 27



A first insight

The Natural Capital Protocol does not address yet the issue of biodiversity.





What is the Natural Capital Protocol?



PRINCIPLES: Relevance, Rigor, Replicability, Consistency

Stage

Step

Questions this will answe

What is the Natural Capital Protocol (NCP)?

- The Protocol and Sector Guides (Food & Beverages and Apparels) aim to provide a standardized framework for business to measure and value their direct and indirect impacts and dependencies on natural capital.
- Released date: July 13th 2016
- Consultation period (December February 2016) just ended
- Deep dive pilots from a range of companies (Nestlé, Hugo Boss, Natura, Coca-Cola, etc)





What is meant by Natural Capital?

We define Natural Capital as the stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people.





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Different perspectives (routes) in the NCP







How biodiversity is addressed in Natural Capital Accounting?



The concept of ecosystem services





The concept of ecosystem services

The ES services framework accounts for the cause effect chain from the existence of an ecosystem to the benefit for the society*.





List of ecosystem services (MA, 2005)

Provisioning services



Raw materials













Pollination



Erosion prevention and maintenance of soil fertility



Local climate and air quality



Carbon sequestration and storage



Moderation of extreme events



Waste water treatment



Biological control



List of ecosystem services (MA, 2005)

Cultural services



Recreation and mental and physical health



Tourism



Aesthetic appreciation and inspiration



Spiritual experience and sense of place

Habitat and supporting services



Maintenance of genetic diversity



Habitats for species



Classification of ecosystem services (CICES 2013)

Section	Division	Group
Provisioning	Nutrition	Biomass
		Water
	Materials	Biomass, Fibre
		Water
	Energy	Biomass-based energy sources
		Mechanical energy
Regulation & Maintenance	Mediation of waste, toxics and other nuisances	Mediation by biota
		Mediation by ecosystems
	Mediation of flows	Mass flows
		Liquid flows
		Gaseous / air flows
	Maintenance of physical, chemical, biological conditions	Lifecycle maintenance, habitat and gene pool protection
		Pest and disease control
		Soil formation and composition
		Water conditions
		Atmospheric composition and climate regulation
Cultural	Physical and intellectual interactions with ecosystems and land-/seascapes [environmental settings]	Physical and experiential interactions
		Intellectual and representational interactions
	Spiritual, symbolic and other interactions with ecosystems and land-/seascapes [environmental settings]	Spiritual and/or emblematic
		Other cultural outputs



Classification of economic valuation techniques*



* Dupras et Réveret (2015) Nature et économie – Un regard sur les écosystèmes du Québec. Presses de 15 l'université du Québec



Land use valuation framework

(modified from Cao et al. 2015)





Valuation techniques for Cao et al. 2015

A mix of avoided damage costs, replacement costs and production functions valuation techniques.



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unit approach	Data source	Interpretation
Erosion resistence t/(ha.yr) Cost of erosion potential (ERP) tigation measures	WOCAT	Natural resistance loss
Mechan. Water Puri- fication Pot. (MWPP) cm/day 1 ^{ry} treatment	WaTER	Non-filtered water
Phys-Chem Water cmol/kg _{soil} Purification Pot. (PCWP) 2 ^d & 3 rd treatment	WaTER	Non-filtered water
Fresh Water Renewal Potential (FWRP)mm/year Water to supply	UNESCO	Water non provided
Carbon Sequestration Potential (CSP)tCO2/(ha.yr)Social cost of carbon	Diverse	CO ₂ emitted
Biotic ProductiontC/(ha.yr)Productivity lossPotential (BPP)	FAO	Production loss



Overview of insights

- Biodiversity is not addressed directly in the NCP (apart from some exceptions such as specific provisioning services)
- The NCP relies on existing methods and approaches to measure and value biodiversity, including LCA methods (e.g. Cao et al. 2015)
- The "utility" perspective followed by the NCP does not fully overlap with LCA overall approach and the conservation of nature/biodiversity. Said differently, optimizing ecosystem services might reduce biodiversity in some cases.
- The NCP does not aim to value nature, it values the flows of service(s).





Examples of applications



Biodiversity dependencies – The case of soybean in Santa Cruz, Bolivia

The value of nature conservation and biodiversity, in this case local and regional forests, are supporting soybean farmers in Santa Cruz region for more than 30 millions USD/year.





Nestle Corporate Natural Capital Accounting





Mansonto mono-culture vs. Cerrado (agro-forestry)

Fig. 2: The total environmental value calculated in the Monsanto case study



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES + DIRECT AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS = ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE (>0) (<0)



Identification of best practices (cattle farming in Brazil)





Thank you!

Questions?



Samuel Vionnet

Sustainability expert and founder

sv@valuingnature.ch

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