



## Africa NCA CoP Newsletter



**Dear Africa Community of Practice (CoP) members,**

**Thank You for a Successful Year!**

As we approach the end of the year, we extend our sincere gratitude to all Africa NCA CoP Partner Institutions and members. Your dedication has been instrumental in driving the progress of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) across Africa.

This year, the CoP Secretariat team has been hard at work finalizing the NCA CoP Strategy and Roadmap for 2025–2030. After extensive stakeholder consultations and engagement, we are excited to communicate that the strategy is now in its final stages and will soon be available to all CoP members. Look out for further details, including a recording below of the recent webinar where the strategy was presented.

In addition, the CoP hosted highly engaging webinars in the last couple of months including one led by the Natural Capital Accounting Coordination Unit (NCA CU) for South Africa, which includes Statistics South Africa, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, and the South African National Biodiversity Institute. The session highlighted South Africa's approach to NCA, emphasizing the critical role of partnerships and collaboration. By sharing lessons learned and challenges faced, the webinar encouraged dialogue and knowledge exchange, inspiring other African countries to share their own NCA journeys. Please see below a recap of some of the webinars we have held.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we close out this year, we remain energized by the momentum built within the CoP and are eager to continue this journey in 2025. Our focus will be on implementing the newly finalized Strategy and Roadmap while expanding collaboration and knowledge-sharing opportunities across the region. Together, we will strive to advance NCA efforts, build capacity, and inspire impactful change.

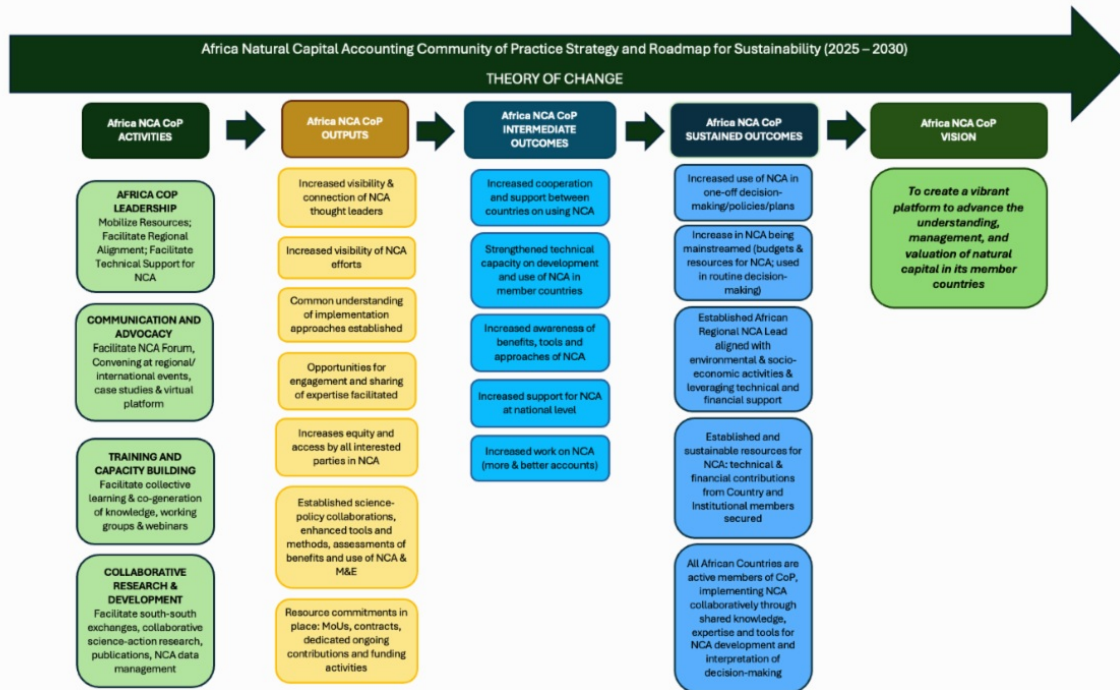
Thank you once again for your support and dedication. Here's to an exciting year ahead!

For any feedback or contributions please send an email to: [Imbonimpa@worldbank.org](mailto:Imbonimpa@worldbank.org) and [pkatanisa@worldbank.org](mailto:pkatanisa@worldbank.org). A line-up of events, webinars and trainings will be shared via the CoP communication platforms.

Best wishes,

The CoP Secretariat Team

# COP GOVERNANCE



The Africa NCA CoP Secretariat, with funding and technical support from the World Bank and in collaboration with key partners, has finalized the NCA CoP Strategy and Roadmap for 2025–2030. This comprehensive framework is designed to ensure the long-term sustainability and success of the Community of Practice by defining clear objectives and actionable steps to drive its growth and impact.

The Strategy is the result of a collaborative effort, emphasizing the critical role of African governments, partner institutions, and stakeholders in supporting the CoP. By leveraging the collective expertise and experiences of African countries and international partners, the CoP aims to strengthen Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) for the benefit of the region.

Over the past months, the Secretariat has engaged extensively with stakeholders to share highlights of the Strategy and Roadmap, build awareness of its potential benefits, and gather feedback for its refinement. These discussions have helped refine the framework to ensure it meets the needs of our members and delivers measurable outcomes. These consultations also sought to secure support for effective implementation and resource mobilization, ensuring the Strategy’s success.

Following its formal adoption by the Africa NCA CoP Steering Committee, the Strategy and Roadmap is now in its final stages of completion, and it will soon be shared widely with CoP stakeholders.

*Image: Africa NCA CoP Theory of Change*

## News from our Partners



The role of biodiversity-based tourism in South Africa



Applying the G-20 Principles for Sustainable Finance Alignment

A first of its kind, the release of South Africa's experimental estimates for biodiversity-based tourism paints a picture of this sector's contribution to economic activity, employment and tourism spend.

What is biodiversity-based tourism? If you visit a game park, hike at a nature reserve, snorkel along the coast, relax in a national botanical garden, or enjoy any of South Africa's biodiversity assets for recreation, you're engaging in biodiversity-based tourism. [Read more](#)



### African leaders want continent's natural assets worth trillions of dollars to be part of measuring GDP of countries

African heads of state and government are calling for the continent's vast natural capital to be considered when measuring the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of their countries.

In a communique adopted on Wednesday 13 November on the sidelines of the World Leaders' Summit of the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) in Baku, they emphasized the unique contribution to the world of Africa's forests such as carbon sequestration, pollution control, retention of water and soil fertility.

Kenya's President Ruto said at the heart of the leaders' conversation is the need to "ensure that Africa's ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration and pollution control are valued as global public goods. He said, "by appropriately valuing our green wealth, countries can unlock financial flows into investments to boost our economies and even improve our credit ratings." [Read more](#).

The event also featured the communication of [the Baku Declaration](#).

## with a Focus on Climate Change Mitigation

The first action in the G-20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap proposes six high-level principles for the development and global coordination of approaches to align investments with sustainability goals.

"Alignment approaches" are national and international frameworks for the financial sector that aim to monitor global sustainable finance flows and ensure that they are contributing to the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement. [Read more](#)



### Harnessing Biodiversity: Integrating Natural Capital Accounting for a Sustainable Future

Biodiversity is an essential resource for the livelihoods of millions. Sustainable management of biodiversity lays the groundwork for job creation, food security, climate resilience and inclusive growth.

But decades of development progress are being slowed or even reversed because of environmental degradation and nature loss. This decline poses a grave threat to our very existence. For instance, about 3.3 billion people depend on fish as a vital source of protein. Without urgent action, up to 25% of global fish catches could be lost by the end of the century, severely impacting food security and livelihoods.

To combat this crisis, it is imperative to fully understand and value biodiversity within national development policies. Governments need tools that recognize nature's contributions to economies and communities.

One such tool is Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), a system that measures the economic value of ecosystems through frameworks like the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA). [Read more](#)

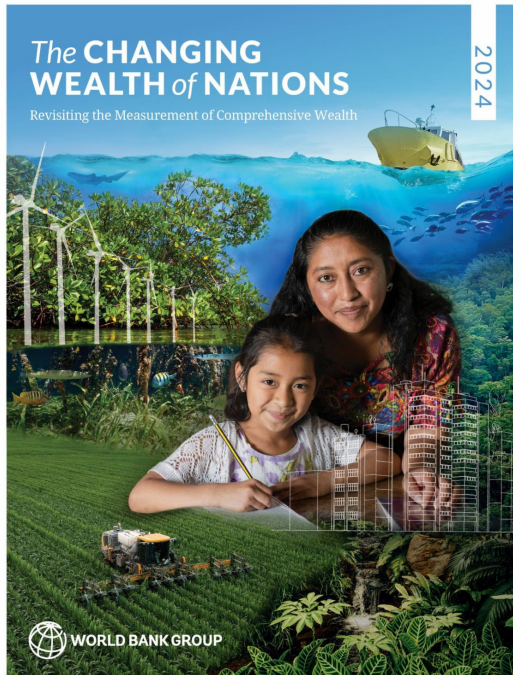
## UPCOMING EVENTS



Africa NCA webinar series: Zambia's NCA Journey

January 2025 (More details to be communicated soon)

## Publications



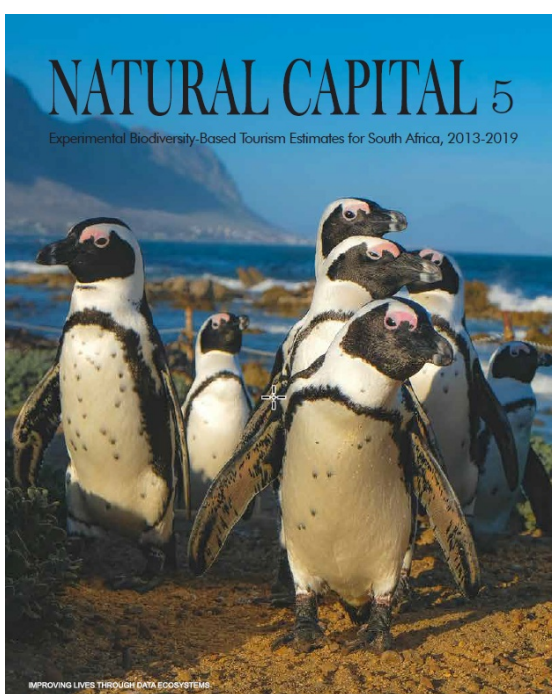
### The Changing Wealth of Nations 2024

The report's main concepts, provide an overview of the rationale for using wealth as a measure of economic progress, detailing the CWON methodology, and analyzing trends in the assets of the CWON wealth portfolio, which includes non-renewable natural capital, hydropower, forests and agricultural land, blue natural capital, and human capital. Click to download the full [report](#).



### “Measuring the Green Wealth of Nations: Natural Capital and Economic Productivity in Africa”

Africa NCA CoP Partner Institution, African Development Bank (AfDB) produced a report on “Measuring the Green Wealth of Nations: Natural Capital and Economic Productivity in Africa” This report underscores the importance of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in redefining GDP calculations to include the value of Africa’s natural resources, ecosystem services, and carbon sequestration. By integrating these elements, the report provides a framework to guide political efforts toward more sustainable economic growth across the continent. [Click to download the full report here.](#)

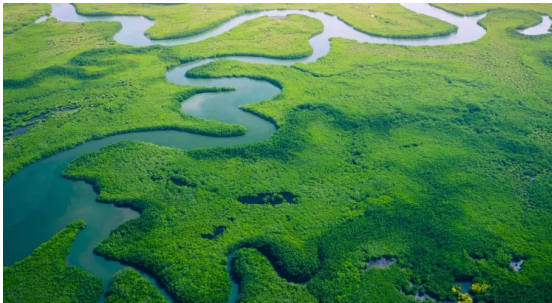


Stats SA for the Experimental Biodiversity-Based Tourism Estimates, 2013 to 2019 release.

The Experimental Biodiversity-Based Tourism Estimates for South Africa, 2013 to 2019, provides the first estimates of biodiversity-based tourism expenditure to the South African tourism sector and the South African economy, which is directly linked to the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) for South Africa (for 2013 to 2019).

It provides an overview of the role that biodiversity-based tourism plays in South Africa's tourism sector. Find out more [here](#)

## EVENT RECAP



### Capturing the Value of Nature in African Development Finance for Green Growth and Climate Resilience

The objectives of this webinar were geared towards unraveling the role of natural capital within Africa's financial sector, and in particular to:

1. Clarify why financing institutions should be concerned with natural capital; and
2. The tools and approaches that are at their disposal to internalize the natural capital in their decision-making.

[Post webinar recording.](#)



### Natural Capital Accounting in South Africa and pioneering the Experimental Biodiversity-Based Tourism Estimates for South Africa

The webinar provided an overview of NCA in South Africa, with a focus on the partnerships, collaboration, and coordination efforts that have contributed to its success.

[Post webinar recording.](#)

Africa Natural Capital Accounting Community of



The Strategy reflects a collaborative effort to ensure that the CoP continues to thrive and deliver value to its stakeholders. It highlights the importance of African governments, partner institutions, and other stakeholders in supporting and enabling the CoP to bring together expertise and experience from African countries and around the world in NCA for the benefit of Africa.

[Post webinar recording.](#)

## Join the NCA WhatsApp Group

To join the new NCA CoP WhatsApp group, follow these two easy steps:

1. Download WhatsApp on your device (Mobile phone or laptop) [here](#).
2. Click the [NCA CoP WhatsApp invitation link](#) to join the group.



Africa SEEA/NCA COP  
WhatsApp Group Invite

## Our Partners



gaborone declaration  
for sustainability  
in africa



CAPITALS  
COALITION



This newsletter is published by the NCA CoP Secretariat. We welcome your submissions of news, events and publications at [ncacommunityofpractice@gmail.com](mailto:ncacommunityofpractice@gmail.com)

Find out more: [Africa Natural Capital Accounting Community of Practice](#)



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