



NCA Project: Integrating Natural Capital into Sustainable Development Decision-Making in Uganda

**Minutes of High-level Stakeholder Meeting on the Use of NCA
(Tuesday 18th May 2021 at Silver Springs Hotel, Bugolobi)**



Programme of Activities

Time	Session	Responsible Party
8:00-8:30	Arrival and Registration	NEMA/PO-NCA
8:30-8:45	Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Self-Introduction ✓ Opening Prayer ✓ Programme Review 	NEMA/NPC- Mr Francis Ogwal
8:45-9:00	Welcome Remarks	NEMA/ED- Dr Tom O. Okurut
9:00 – 9:10	Opening of the Meeting	MWE/PS- Mr. Alfred O. Okidi
9:10-9:20	Overview of project achievements	NEMA/ NPC- Mr Francis Ogwal
09:20-9:45	Briefing 1: Uganda perspective – Significance of Natural Capital to development, Top policy priorities, How NCA can serve sustainable development	NPA- Mr Ronald Kaggwa
09:45-10:00	Briefing 2: International perspective: Introduction to System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting framework (SEEA EA) and its adoption as an international statistical standard and its role in informing sustainable use of natural capital.	IDEEA Group- Carl Obst (SEEA EA Editor)
10:00-10:15	Briefing 3: Progress in building Uganda’s NCA system: National Plan for Advancing Environmental-Economic Accounting (NP AEEA); Related projects and progress; Contribution of the Darwin project	UBoS/ Director Macroeconomics statistics – Ms Aliziki Kaudha
10:15-10:45	Coffee break	
10:45-11:00	Briefing 4: NCA improving economic planning, including case study presentation on macroeconomic indicators and NCA Linkages	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Dr Sam Mugume
11:00-12:30	Getting inside the three new accounts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the accounts 15-minute introduction presentation to each of the accounts • 5-minute response to each by a discussant from the associated sector (e.g., MTWA; MAIFF, NaFIRRI, etc.) 10-minute Q and A	NCA Consultants
12:30-13:00	Launch of the Accounts	UBOS, PS (MWE, MAAIF, MTWA, MLHUD), NEMA, NPA, UNEP-WCMC, IDEEA Group
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-15:00	Panel session: Application of NCA	Panellists including NPA, Ministry of Finance, UBOS, IDEEA, UNEP-WCMC Chair: NEMA/ED- Dr Tom O. Okurut
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:00	Taking this forward - Roadmaps to embedding NCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on the roadmaps developed for the accounts • An interactive session to review the roadmaps, add in key dates and responsibilities etc. 	UBOS/NPA/NEMA
16:00	Close	

ITEM(S)	ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBILITY
<p>Min 1/NCA/May/2021: Introductions</p> <p>The moderator, Mr Francis Ogwal, who is also the National Project Coordinator for this Darwin Initiative funded Project titled <i>Integrating Natural Capital into Sustainable Development</i>;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) welcomed guests (virtual and those physically present) to the high-level stakeholder meeting on the use of information from Natural Capital Accounting in decision making. b) invited the Project Officer, Mr Tom Geme, to offer a word of prayer c) invited the guests to introduce themselves including the institutions they represent d) thereafter reviewed the day's programme noting that it was the relatively comprehensive and all-encompassing programme e) Invited the Executive Director of the National Planning Authority to officially welcome the guests 		
<p>Min 2/NCA/May/2021: Welcome Remarks</p> <p>These were made by Mr Charles Olemu, the Deputy Executive Director at the National Planning Authority. In his remarks he:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked the project team, local and international, for the work well done b) acknowledged the role of development partners, in this case, the UK Government's Darwin Initiative for the financial support required to execute the project activities c) reminded the participants of the role and commitment of the National Planning Authority and the Government of Uganda to conserve the country's natural resources d) highlighted the critical role the Natural Capital Accounting Approach could play in informing the sustainable development narrative. e) encouraged all those present to become champions of this approach in their respective institutions and beyond and reaffirmed the commitment of the 		<p>Note to All</p>

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<p>National Planning Authority in steering Uganda towards sustainability.</p> <p>With these remarks, Mr Charles Olemu invited the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Environment to Officially Open the meeting</p>		
<p>Min 3/NCA/May/2021: Opening Remarks</p> <p>The meeting was officially opened by Mr Collins Oloya, the Director of Environmental Affairs, on behalf of Mr Alfred Okot Okidi the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Environment. In his speech Mr Oloya:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked all those present and their respective institutions for their interest in the subject of natural capital accounting b) emphasised the Government of Uganda's commitment to improving the livelihoods of all citizens whilst also protecting the natural resources on which current and future livelihoods depend c) reiterated the great interest the Ministry of Water and Environment has to advance the approach citing the Ministry's (and its departments' and/or agencies') involvement from way back and now with a renewed effort following the launch of the National Plan for Advancing Environmental-Economic Accounting (NP-AEEA) in Uganda by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS) in 2018 d) emphasised the rationale of institutionalisation of the NCA approach maintaining that it generates information that would lead to sound decision-making including highlighting critical aspects of nature conservation and/use that require urgent attention e) thanked the UK Government's Darwin Initiative for funding this project f) thanked the core project team (NEMA, UBOS, NPA, UNEP-WCMC, IIED and the IDEEA Group) for their efforts and urged them to have the work published so it is available for all interested parties to access 		<p>Note to All</p>

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<p>g) ended his submission by calling for further stakeholder involvement and collaboration noting that we are living in extraordinary times that call for extraordinary measures if future generations (and ourselves) are to enjoy better lives</p> <p>With these remarks, he announced that this high-level stakeholder meeting on Natural Capital Accounting had been officially opened.</p> <p>Read the full speech here.</p>		
<p>Min 4/NCA/May/2021: Overview of the NCA Project</p> <p>The overview and achievements of the project were presented by Mr Francis S. Ogwal, the National Project Coordinator. In his presentation he;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) foremost expressed gratitude towards all the stakeholders that have been involved in the implementation of the project and to the Darwin Initiative for funding the Project Activities b) thanked leadership at GoU agencies (NEMA, UBOS and NPA) for providing a great environment for implementing the project and also for their interest in the subject of Natural Capital Accounting c) gave the background of the project indicating that the project started in July 2018 and had been scheduled to end in March 2021, however, a No-Cost Extension had been provided till 30th June 2021 d) reminded members of the project goal that is to support the delivery of the Ugandan National Development plan, Green Growth Development Strategy and NBSAP e) gave an overview of the project objectives, outputs and also mentioned activities/achievements in the execution of the project <p>This PowerPoint Presentation can be accessed here.</p>		<p>Note to All</p>
<p>Min 05/NCA/May/2021: Briefing 1: Ugandan Perspectives on NCA</p>		

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<p>This briefing was given by Mr Ronald Kaggwa, Manager Production, Trade and Tourism Planning at the National Planning Authority.</p> <p>The presentation touched on the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Uganda’s Development Perspectives including the Uganda Vision 2040 and the strategic direction of National Development Plan III b) the development challenges such as natural resource degradation, increased severity and occurrence of floods and droughts and how the NCA approach could help address these and more challenges c) linking NCA to Uganda’s development perspectives d) NCA as a policy, Planning and Resource Management Tool <p>This PowerPoint Presentation can be accessed here.</p> <p>Reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Members thought the presentation was thorough and insightful b) Members noted that the NCA approach presents many more opportunities than could ordinarily be expected c) Members requested that the presentation by Mr Kaggwa be shared for future reference 	<p>Sharing the presentation with all participants</p>	<p>Project Team</p>
<p>Min 06/NCA/May/2021: Briefing 2: International Perspectives on NCA – Introduction to the UN-SEEA</p> <p>In a pre-recorded session, Mr Carl Obst, from the IDEEA Group presented to the meeting the International Perspectives of the NCA. His presentation touched on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The history of natural capital accounting b) The United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting c) Core ecosystem accounting framework d) How NCA help us to move beyond GDP by integrating values of nature in Systems of National Accounts and thereby yielding a Green-GDP 		<p>Note to All</p>

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<p>This PowerPoint Presentation can be accessed here.</p>		
<p>Min 07/NCA/May/2021: Briefing 3: Progress in Building Uganda's NCA System</p> <p>This presentation was made by Mr Sam Echoku, a Principal Statistician at the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS). The presentation was made on behalf of Ms Aliziki Kaudha Lubega, the Director of Macro Economic Statistics at the Bureau.</p> <p>His presentation on the progress in building Uganda's Natural Capital Accounting System touched on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The strategy for implementing the National Plan for Advancing Environmental-Economic Accounting in Uganda. This plan was launched in 2018 by the Bureau and is being implemented with several stakeholders b) Highlighted the accounts that have prioritised by the NP-AEEA c) The Investment Logic Framework and the roles of the different stakeholders in advancing the NCA approach d) The role of the UK Government's Darwin Initiative in supporting Uganda's initiatives on Natural Capital Accounting <p>This PowerPoint Presentation can be accessed here.</p>		<p>Note to All</p>
<p>Min 08/NCA/May/2021: Briefing 4: NCA Improving economic Planning</p> <p>This presentation session was omitted at this high-level stakeholder meeting because the nominee from the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) reported in ill and thus unavailable.</p> <p>Essentially, however, this session ought to have covered the critical links between the NCA approach and Uganda's</p>		

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<p>planning system. This would also include the readiness of the MoFPED to embrace the paradigm shift to holistic and sustainable planning systems in Uganda including the use of the Green-GDP.</p>		
<p>Min 09/NCA/May/2021: Getting into the Project's Natural Capital Accounts</p> <p>In this agenda item, the National Project Consultants Mr Moses Masiga, Mr Eugene Muramira and Mr Fred Muwanika presented to the stakeholders the findings from the land and soil improvement accounts, fisheries resource accounts and the biodiversity and tourism accounts' development process respectively.</p> <p>Their presentations focused on the key findings in the accounts compilation process, existing/emerging gaps, policy insights and then possible extensions.</p> <p>These presentations can be accessed here: Land and Soil Improvement Accounts, Fisheries Resource Accounts and Biodiversity and Tourism Accounts.</p>		<p>Note to All</p>
<p>Min 10/NCA/May/2021: Plenary Discussion and Next Steps</p> <p>In this session of the meeting, participants reacted to the presentations made focusing on the application of NCA in Uganda. The discussants were from academia/research, NGOs/CSOs and GoU Ministries, Departments and Agencies.</p> <p>The issues emanating from the discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A sound acclamation of the potential of the NCA approach to delivering sustainable development in Uganda among other benefits b) A call for relevant institutions to adopt the use of the NCA approach and most important apportion appropriate resources for this endeavour with little or no reliance on finances from development partners c) A call for stakeholder collaboration in advancing not only the NCA approach but on several other 	<p>Adopt/ Institutionalise the NCA Approach</p> <p>Collaborate with other stakeholders to advance the NCA approach</p>	<p>Relevant Stakeholders</p> <p>Stakeholders</p>

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<p>initiatives aimed at promoting livelihoods and nature conservation including the creation of inter-organisation data/information-sharing frameworks</p> <p>d) A commitment from data holders such as the National Forestry Authority, Wildlife Conservation Society, among others to provide requisite data for the compilation of the accounts</p> <p>e) A resounding recognition of the role of the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development if biodiversity conservation initiatives are to be successful</p> <p>f) The need to look at the R&D components in the execution of institutional mandates, for example, undertaking critical research to understand the environment-socioeconomic development nexus</p> <p>The meeting also urged the Project Team to:</p> <p>a) Publish the project reports and other relevant material so that such information is available to the wider audience</p> <p>b) Engage other stakeholders such as the Local Government Forum, Parliamentary Committee on Environment among others for even further traction on the subject of natural capital accounting</p> <p>c) Participants also encouraged the project team to finalise the said roadmaps for NCA institutionalisation and share them with stakeholders</p>	<p>Develop data-sharing mechanisms</p> <p>Avail adequate funds to R&D departments and equip them with requisite capacity to perform their roles</p> <p>Publish all relevant project material</p> <p>Organise meetings/workshops with relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Finalise the roadmaps for NCA institutionalisation</p>	<p>Relevant Stakeholders</p> <p>Institutions</p> <p>Project Teams</p> <p>Project Teams</p> <p>Project Teams</p>
<p>Min 11/NCA/May/2021: Launch of the Accounts</p> <p>Following the plenary discussion and feedback on project activities from stakeholders, the moderator, Mr Francis Ogwal invited the Executive Director (ED) – NFA, Executive Director (ED) – NPA and Executive Director (ED) – NEMA to launch the Biodiversity and Tourism Accounts, Fisheries Resources Accounts and Land and Soil Improvement Accounts respectively.</p> <p>It was announced that the reports and other project documents will be published online via the website:</p>		

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https://www.unep-wcmc.org/featured-projects/nca-in-uganda		
<p>Min 12/NCA/April/2021: Closing Remarks and Adjournment</p> <p>The moderator, on behalf of the entire project team,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked the guests for their participation, insights and commitment to advancing the natural capital accounting approach. b) requested the participants to be champions of the Natural Capital Accounting Approach in their respective institutions and networks c) promised that the presentations made at the workshop will be shared with all participants for future reference. <p>With these remarks, he adjourned the meeting</p>		<p>Note to All</p>

Pictorial



Top left: Mr Ronald Kaggwa (NPA) making a presentation at the meeting

Top right: Mr Tom O. Okello (ED-NFA) speaking at the meeting

Bottom left: Dr Grace Nangendo (WCS) speaking at the meeting

Bottom right: Prof. Joseph Obua (Makerere University) and Mr Eugene Muramira (National Consultant) at the meeting

Please find more pictures [here](#)

List of Participants

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NCA Project: Integrating Natural Capital into Sustainable Development Decision Making in Uganda

Workshop/Meeting Theme: HIGH-LEVEL STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON NCA

VENUE: SILVER SPRINGS HOTEL, BUGOLOBI

Date: 18th/05/2021

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Workshop/Meeting Theme: HIGH-LEVEL STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON NCA

VENUE: SILVER SPRINGS HOTEL, BUGOLOBI

Date: 15th/05/2021

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