



ADBI Webinar Series on the Economics of Climate Change

Episode 4: Economic Tools and Solutions to Stop Natural Capital Degradation

22 March 2024

Natural capital refers to the components of the natural environment, such as soils, air, water, geology, and all living organisms. It provides valuable goods and services to society and is a key component of economic growth.

However, natural capital is experiencing severe decline, and the world's stock of natural capital is being used faster than it takes to regenerate. Increasing pressure on natural capital is driven by a range of factors, including agriculture expansion and deforestation, urbanization, infrastructure development, pollution, and poaching, among many others.

These factors are compounded by the impacts of climate change, making it even more critical to stop natural capital degradation and preserve ecosystem services. It is also essential to respond to climate change as ecosystems regulate the global climate and provide resilience against climate-related adverse events by sequestering and storing greenhouse gases and removing pollutants from the atmosphere. They also regulate water flow and serve as buffers against natural disasters resulting from climate change.

What are the actions policy makers can take to reverse this trend, restore natural capital and support 'nature positive' investments? What are the economic tools, market-based instruments and solutions available to stop natural capital degradation?

Agenda	
10:00 – 10:05	Opening and welcoming remarks Seungju Baek, Deputy Dean, ADBI
10:05 – 10:15	How to effectively and equitably conserve at least 30% of the Earth by 2030 (Global Biodiversity Framework) Laura Whitford, Director, Conservation Partnerships, Asia Pacific, The Nature Conservancy
10:15 – 10:25	What is the value of Nature? Vic Adamowicz, Vice Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Science, University of Alberta
10:25 – 10:35	How ADB is helping countries preserving natural capital and implementing nature-based solutions? Yoko Watanabe, Director of Environment, ADB
10:35 – 10:55	Panel discussion Moderator: Agnes Surry, Deputy Head of Capacity Building and Training, ADBI
10:55- 11:00	Main takeaways Agnes Surry, ADBI