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Transforming policy and investment through mainstreaming rapid approaches for natural capital assessment and accounting

Mary Ruckelshaus Executive Director, The Natural Capital Project at Stanford University 28 March, 2025







WORLD BANK GROUP

Integrating the Values of Nature into Decisions







THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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Driven to Discover[™]





Mainstreaming natural capital-Our Approach

Pathways to impact through engagement processes (80-20 rule):

Start with policy and finance windows, connect technical results to designing new policies, instruments for specific decisions

- Technical: Co-develop Natural capital assessments and accounting
- Policy/finance: refine, design new, and measure outcomes
- Capacity: developing capacity for durable outcomes
- Convenings: sharing lessons, challenges, innovations





16 countries, 16 pathways to impact on policy, investment

Decision contexts including ministries of finance, economic development, central banks:

- Monitoring and reporting Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for results-based financing
- → Aligning policies across key sectors of the economy
- ➡ Compensating communities for stewardship
- → Natural capital accounting; gross ecosystem product accounts
- Enhancing river basin management planning
- → Integrating nature into large infrastructure loans and planning
- → Ecosystem restoration for coastal climate resilience and livelihoods





Mainstreaming Nature in Policy & Investment Decisions: **The People, Planet, Prosperity** (3Ps) **Project**

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