



Welcome!

Designing a Research and Practice Network for Natural
Capital and Environment Accounting in the Pacific

Workshop 6

Ecosystem Oceania Ecosystem Services Forum

Brisbane, 27 March 2017

Brief introduction to the Global Development Network

GDN is a public international organization that promotes better policies and better lives through **high-quality policy-oriented social science research conducted in developing and transition countries**. GDN is headquartered in **New Delhi**.

Vision: a world in which evidence and scholarly knowledge inform and inspire development and policy decisions

Believes:

- * Locally conducted social science research leads to a better understanding of development challenges and guides policy decisions and their implementation.
- * Useful and actionable knowledge cannot be exclusively imported. Local social science research is needed to transform knowledge into solutions.



Why is GDN interested in natural capital accounting in the region?

- * Natural capital accounts are becoming **available** in the region
- * Availability is the **first step** towards use and policy impact
- * Research is part of the **link between production and use**
- * Research can turn statistical data into policy relevant information
- * NCA use is a **joint endeavor** that must bring together policy makers and civil servants, staff from statistical offices and governmental agencies, and researchers.

Putting development research to better use is a central part of GDN's mandate

We see an enormous opportunity for partnerships in the Pacific to lead policy discussions and generate interest in the use of NCA and further inform global debates.

What Ideas Do We Promote on NCA?

- * NCA use is not a theoretical exercise, it's a **collaborative effort**
- * **Production** and **use** of the accounts
 - * Not two parallel tracks
 - * But two deeply intertwined activities (**network**)
- * Turning data on natural resources into policy relevant information:
 - * Generate **actionable data** at production time
 - * Develop capacities to **analyze the data** in specific contexts
 - * **Use the data** to inform actual policy making
- * Experimenting with ways to link production and use of NCA in the Pacific

Why a Network?

A network will:

- * Create opportunities to work together on NCA
- * Connect the experience of the region to that of other regions
- * Aggregate the knowledge available on NCA in the region - and turn it into policy relevant information
- * Increase policy impact and leverage research capacities around these new accounts
- * Build public interest within the region to sustain efforts around NCA

Building a Multifaceted Network

Bringing together **people, institutions, ideas, interests and skills** around **natural capital and environmental accounts** in the **Pacific region**

- * WAVES, UNESCAP and different NSOs are already active in the region
 - * Focus on production of natural capital accounts
- * GDN contributes an online collaboration space
 - * Focus on the **use** of natural capital accounts through **research**
- * Future collaborations and projects that you will design

Agenda of the day

Session 1 | Introduction

Session 2 | Overview of current accounting efforts and tools

Session 3 | Linking the production and the use of accounts – Experiences from the region

Session 4 | Linking the production and the use of accounts – Experiences from Australia

Session 5 | Actors and factors needed for linking account production to use in policy at the national level

Session 6 | Reporting on Session 5

Session 7 | Experiences of partnerships and collaborations: WAVES and UNESCAP

Session 8 | Designing a research and practice network

Session 5 | Actors and factors needed for linking account production to use in policy at the national level

- * What actors are involved in:

- * The production of the accounts,
- * The use of the accounts

- * Do they collaborate and if yes how? (Is there a leading organization? ? What is the division of labour?)

- * Who else should be involved? What would help to engage them?

Discuss with reference to one country in the region, based on the experience of all participants in their respective country.

Session 8 | Designing a research and practice network

The work starts from

- * Your own visions and goals
- * The people you want to work with
- * Specific goals that can be shared

A place that believes that research is more than publications

- * And that knows that the best research draws on collaborative work with a direct impact on policy and practice

A place that provides people with overlapping concerns what they need

- * Visibility
- * Resources
- * Support
- * A means that helps to reach out to other people they want to work with

Session 8 | Designing a research and practice network

• What are the low hanging fruits?

- ✿ Given that 5 countries in the Pacific are developing SEEA Statistics, what research efforts could be instrumental to support their use for policy purposes? Write down two concrete ideas, including your priority topics.
- ✿ Who should be involved to make sure these efforts link production and use? What activities should be prioritized?

A Few Intro Thoughts on Promoting NCA Use

- * Promoting NCA use should focus on concrete goals that impact actual policy debates and policy making, or their implementation in the region
- * NCA use is a joint endeavor that must bring together:
 - * Policy makers and civil servants from the region who use NCA to define or manage policies, including government agencies and research centers
 - * Staff from statistical offices in the region who produce NCA
 - * Researchers in institutions in the region who develop specific angles and methods to connect NCA with actual policies or outcomes
- * International academics and experts from WAVES, UNESCAP and other IOs and INGOs play an invaluable role in supporting them
 - * Best/failed practices, experiences and research knowledge
 - * Funding, project support and integration into programs

What are we committed to support?

When we think of projects that make use of NCA:

- * Capacity building projects that aim to improve a specific area of governance by integrating NCA data, defining relevant indicators and integrating them into the policy making or management process
- * Applied research projects to analyze NCA data to make it relevant to policy makers and local communities;
- * NCA data collection projects that explore new sources and contribute to the discussion about setting NCA standards that are relevant to the region
- * What else?

Inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary projects owned by the users

The network can play a crucial role to facilitate such projects:

- * Promotes goal-oriented collaboration
- * Empowers actors and policy makers from the region
- * Embed the support of the international community

Today's discussions will help identify concrete goals that can drive the network and drive collaboration

After the Workshop - The Platform

Have a look for:

- * Presentations, participants list etc.
- * Statements and documents that participants provided

Be involved to:

- * Be part of the network with GDN, WAVES, UNESCAP
- * Collaborate with other people to build concrete projects
 - * In a supportive environment that actually focuses on concrete outcomes
- * Invite people you want to collaborate with to concretize your intention

And expect to:

- * Be asked to join into the conversation and think about your contribution to the network

GDN will work with Ideas Belong to run the platform and make it an innovative space to collaborate. *Ideas Belong helps build space where researchers, practitioners and decision-makers co-create communities to solve our world's challenges through technical, social and cultural innovation and evidence-based policy making*