

NATURAL CAPITAL PLATFORM

4th MEETING MINUTES

Time: 14h00 - 16h30 16th March 2017

Venue: Ha Noi, Viet Nam

PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS

1. Natural Capital Platform website's structure and contents (*presented by Mr. Ivo Litzenberg*)

- The website was updated and improved by GIZ and ISPONRE
- Delegates discussed how to build and improve the website. They suggested that the links between websites of NCP (<http://www.naturalcapital.vn/>) and EbA (<http://www.climatechange.vn/en/>) or the website on biodiversity of Biodiversity Conservation Agency should be considered. In addition, based on web's purposes, it is necessary to update the upcoming activities to attract stakeholders' participation. Publications Module need to be changed to Documents Module to which requires register to access, and searching functions are also should be included in the website. For Events Module, the designers should visit other websites to see how to show related events clearly (eg. GMS EOC/ADB's website).
- Delegates agreed that GIZ was responsible for designing and developing website's structure, and that ISPONRE was responsible for managing and updating website's information.
- The website should not stand alone because it is very difficult to survive. This website needs to be linked with social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter visited regularly in Viet Nam. As a result, a NCP community on social networks will be developed.

2. Planning for the collaborative effort on the development of the introductory training module on natural capital

- Participants recommended that training courses' contents included introduction of information and general knowledge about NC; tools that could be used to measure and evaluate NC; stock and flow of NC, NC accounts; improving current usage of NC and increasing investment in NC in Viet Nam, etc.

- It is essential to make a list of partners and stakeholders participating in NCP to support training courses.

- The workshop on The system of Economy – Environmental Accounting (SEEA) funded by HSF will be organized in April 2017. It can be considered as a part of the plan. SEEA is a complex system that includes a large number of international-recognized concepts, definitions, categories, principles, tables to compile compared statistics for environment and relationships between environmental factors and economies. Therefore, ISPONRE have to carefully consider the training programs before HSF approves.

3. Natural capital stakeholders analyses (*presented by Mr. Moritz Michel, HSF*)

- Mr. Moritz provided analyses of stakeholders in NC. The analyses are to clarify networks of individuals, organizations interesting in NC through identifying key people in the system and assessing their concern for NC as well as levels of impacts of NC on them.

- Delegates were encouraged to contribute their ideas about sectors and fields depending on NC, such as industry, agriculture, transport, tourism, infrastructure, etc.

4. Natural Capital Assessment in Mekong Delta (*presented by Mr. Mark Fenn, UNDP*)

- Mr. Mark chaired the discussion session, and the next workshop on natural capital was agreed to be organized on 11 May 2017.

- Currently, Mr. Mark is conducting a research on natural capital assessment in Mekong Delta as the direction of Assoc. Pro. Dr Nguyen The Chinh, Director General of ISPONRE at the meeting on NCP in November 2016. This activity has been included in the 2017 work plan of project on “Enhancing Capacity for Implementing Rio Conventions in Vietnam”. The assessment will focus on mangrove forests and wetland and aims to determine assets and services provided by NC and the best way to exploit these assets and services without any damage and negative impacts. Research’s results will be propagated among policymakers about value and benefits of natural capital reserves and also used to reach effective decision on land use and support Viet Nam in transforming and implementing policies on green growth.

The Rio Project is recruiting a Team of Consultants that will adapt a step by step approach for conducting the Natural Capital Assessment as developed the UNEP - World Conservation Monitoring Center in 2016. Discussion on the first two

steps of common goals and scope/scale for the assessment with the Natural Capital Coordination Working Group is taken in order to seek guidance. These two steps will also be discussed at a regional forum to be held in Can Tho in late April or early May in order to: gain consensus with regional actors and to identify information and data sources. This preparatory workshop will provide orientations for the consultant team conducting the assessment and serve to communicate what the study aims to achieve to diverse actors within the delta region.

CONCLUSION

- Generally, the meeting was success with the participation of key partners and stakeholders. This showed their more concern for natural capital. The meeting also attracted the representatives of many stakeholders on natural capital, and there were a large number of meaningful ideas about the operation and contents of NCP. Futhermore, the meeting was an opportunity to widely introduce the platform to stakeholders, thereby emphasizing the role of ISPONRE in the network. ISPONRE has attracted the main donors to meet together to develop close relationship between partners and reach joint purposes.
- At the meeting, delegates (including ISPONRE's researchers) shared, discussed and deeply exchanged about natural capital. Additional, the previous meeting's recommendations have been implemented and new interesting ideas were produced. The meeting was an meaningful activity in the context of tightly international support for Viet Nam.
- The NCP meetings have been organized regularly with rotational chairman mechanism, and this demonstrated the commitment of coordination group to the operation of the platform.