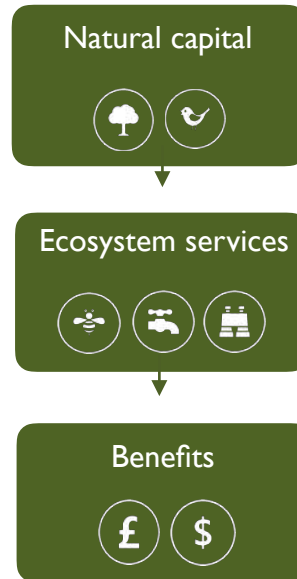


Natural Capital Approaches for Business

Businesses depend on natural capital and face challenges as a result of its degradation. Assessing the natural capital assets on which businesses are dependent, and valuing those assets, is key to understanding business risks and opportunities.

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What is natural



Businesses, like our economies and societies, rely on natural capital. Natural capital is the stock of natural assets (e.g. soil, water, biodiversity) that produces ecosystem services (e.g. food production, pollination, climate regulation) that provide benefits of value to humans.

Why should business value its natural assets?

Assessing and valuing natural capital assets can reveal:

- The extent and nature of the natural capital assets that businesses and their supply chains depend on
- How businesses impact on their natural capital assets and those of others.

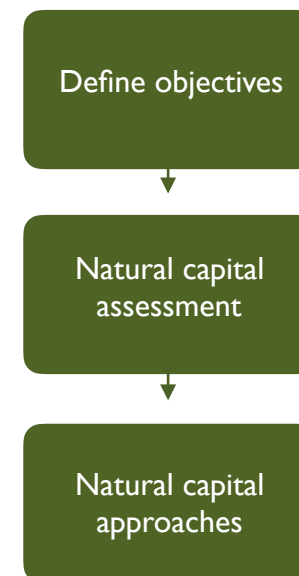
What are the business benefits?

Assessing and valuing natural capital allows more informed decision-making for:

- Planning business / investment strategies, identifying risks and opportunities
- Managing land holdings and those supply chains
- Meeting compliance and regulatory targets,
- Environmental sustainability and social impact.

This could make your business more resilient, gain competitive advantage, enhance brand reputation and generate new revenues.

Applying natural capital approaches



The first step is to define what you would like to achieve, why and for what audience. The type and level of assessment can then be established. This allows the best natural capital approaches to be used to deliver better informed decision-making.

How Natural Capital Solutions can help

- **Guidance** on how to arrive at an appropriate set of objectives for taking a natural capital approach forward in your organisation
- **Technical expertise and analysis** in natural capital assessments, selecting the best approaches for the context (whether qualitative, quantitative or spatial assessments), able to highlight trade-offs and synergies in ecosystem services and value
- **Tailored natural capital approaches** to meet specific contexts and outputs. Examples of approaches we offer are *natural capital accounting, modelling future scenarios* of ES provision and value under business, policy / regulatory change, *landscape opportunity mapping* that identifies opportunities for investing in enhancing and restoring natural capital assets or creating new assets, *natural capital investment plans, payments for ecosystem services schemes* and *biodiversity off-setting*.
- **Training** in the natural capital concept and approach, following the Natural Capital Protocol standardised framework

Natural Capital Solutions is a consultancy that delivers technical expertise and training in natural capital to organisations across sectors.

We offer a bespoke service, tailoring natural capital approaches to meet the specific requirements the client. The methods and tools we use are based on the best ecological science, environmental economics and established practice.

Director: Alison Holt BSc MSc PhD is an interdisciplinary scientist with expertise in biodiversity and ecosystem services. For over 10 years she has worked as an academic and a consultant developing frameworks for applying the ecosystem services concept in agricultural, coastal, freshwater and urban systems. She has worked on modelling and mapping ecosystem services and biodiversity, applying valuation techniques and alternative ways of capturing the cultural values associated with natural capital.

Director: Jim Rouquette BSc MSc PhD is an experienced research ecologist and environmental scientist who has worked for many years within academia and as a consultant. His work operationalises the ecosystem services approach. He has developed the use of natural capital and ecosystem services assessments for integrated land and water management. He has particular expertise in modelling, mapping and valuing natural capital and ecosystem services.



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