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LMEC, BEUNC

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Presentation

- 1. GDSA introduction
- 2. LMEC GDSA observations
- 3. Natural Capital
- 4. Conclusion



LIBERIA —

GABON

GHANA



NAMIBIA

BOTSWANA







THE GDSA AT A GLANCE









Motivation

Africa is rich

Africa is growing



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Natural endowment at risk

Sustainability threatened



1. Incorporating the value of natural capital in public and private sector policies and decision-making

2. Pursuing sustainable development and sustainable production – incl. agriculture, fisheries, and extractive industries - while maintaining natural capital

3. Generating data, undertake monitoring and build capacity to support policy and decision-making.

COMMITMENTS





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Functions

- Serve members
- Supports
 Implementation
- Progress + Results
- Facilitates
 Partnerships
- Communication and learning



THE GDSA AT WORK

ENGAGE THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA ON SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMMING

The GDSA advises on a range of issues on sustainable development.

BUILDING THE MANDATE FOR WORK ON SUSTAINABILITY For example, the GDSA Secretariat facilitated the passage of the resolution on natural capital at the second United Nations Environment Assembly.

LESSONS SHARING BY CONNECTING PEOPLE ACROSS NATIONAL BOUNDARIES

The GDSA has organized cross-national workshops on natural capital accounting, natural capital mapping, payments for ecosystem services, and the SDGs.

ONLINE



PROMOTING LEARNING THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

The GDSA has sent government officials from the GDSA countries to Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, and Australia for learning exchanges.

SPREADING THE SUSTAINABILITY MESSAGE

The GDSA Facebook page has a monthly reach of over 50,000 people. The website is visited by 5,000+ people annually.

CONNECTING IMPLEMENTATION AND POLICY ACTORS

The GDSA is a unique platform as it spans the public and private sector.



KEY AWARENESS-RAISING OUTCOMES

THE GDSA IS KNOWN TO 40% OF CBD AND

THE GDSA IS KNOWN TO 40% OF CBD AND GEF FOCAL POINTS IN 42 NON-GDSA COUNTRIES WITHIN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



In a survey of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) Focal Points across sub-Saharan Africa. Based on 27 survey responses from 13 non-GDSA countries (all focal points in sub-Saharan Africa were contacted).

MOST CBD AND GEF FOCAL POINTS IN GDSA COUNTRIES FEEL THAT THE GDSA HAS PROMOTED "PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA"

Do you think that the GDSA has had a positive impact on sustainable development in Africa?



KEY PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING OUTCOMES





*Including AMCEN, ACP, UNEA-2, the World Bank-led WAVES partnership, Pan African Business and Biodiversity Forum, Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. **Mobilized funding includes all non-government funding for projects implemented in the GDSA where projects are publicly linked to the GDSA.

KEY IMPACTS IN NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

UNDER COMMITMENT ONE, SINCE 2012, GDSA COUNTRIES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING COMPARED TO 37 OTHER COUNTRIES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.

In 2012, GDSA and non-GDSA countries were equally likely to have ongoing natural capital accounting (NCA) initiatives. However, by 2017, GDSA countries were significantly more likely to have ongoing NCA initiatives than 37 other countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Importantly, 11 of the 12 GDSA countries explicitly reference the GDSA in their programming documents. In these references to the GDSA, the GDSA is often described as the impetus for implementation or as being important in providing the mandate to undertake this work.





*Indicates time periods in which a significantly higher percentage of GDSA countries had NCA initiatives than non-GDSA countries.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT



The Secretariat's activities are not limited to the African continent, the Secretariat undertakes outreach work and organizes workshops at relevant events across the world. This helps ensure that the message of the GDSA is reaching not only the member countries but other nations as well as a range of non-State funding and implementing partners. This map does not include presentations giving during regular in-country trips to GDSA member countries; this includes only activities aimed at an audience above-and-beyond the GDSA member countries.



LEGEND

Meeting/workshop/side event organized by the GDSA

Presentation given

Training/south-south exchange

GDSA COUNTRY MEMBER PROGRESS AT A GLANCE





*Including government and non-government lead projects and programs; primarily applied work, though includes some policies and legislation as reported by countries. **Financial information only supplied by member countries for approximately one-quarter of the initiatives that were listed in their country reports. Therefore, this number is likely an underestimate.

GDSA Structure

GDSA Governance Structure

of **SA Heads** State 5

2

GDSA Forum of Ministers

GDSA Secretariat

GDSA National Focal Points

The Mart

GDSA National Committees







- Inaugural GDSA Forum of Ministers meeting (Maun, Botswana October 2017) in combination with GDSA National Focal Points
 - Look back at first 5 years of GDSA
 - Reconfirm commitment to the GDSA Declaration
 - Consider and agree GDSA Governance Structure and joining guidelines
 - Discuss and endorse GDSA Strategy 2017-2022
 - Approve GDSA Secretariat work plan 2017-18 (Focal Points)

GDSA Forum



LMEC – GDSA Observations

- High level visionary guidance, operational level engagement (Ministers) and in-country coordination and action (FPs)
- Focus on policy supported by research, capacity building, southsouth exchanges and on-the-ground action for SD / eco-civilization
- Leadership with equal participation and equitable benefits (everybody wins) – regional cooperation
- Sustainable financing for practical outcomes: support attainment of SDGs and climate change NDCs





LMEC – GDSA Observations

- Ecosystem protection, management and restoration for the benefit of people's livelihoods
- Partnerships make the difference: communities, local and national NGOs, and international organisations
- Governments and private sector work together
- 'Presence' in the region country activities, Communities of Practice, country committees or offices





GDSA - NATURAL CAPITAL

- Increase capacity and support for implementing natural capital accounting + ecosystem mapping / accounting.
- Establish NCA partnerships for regional Community of Practice – COP (World Bank WAVES, GIZ, IUCN, UNEP) + MoUs
- Undertake pilot Ecosystem Accounting project / NC mapping - Liberia
- Develop and implement GDSA multicountry NCA project (GEF)
- NCA training (Australia) GDSA participants (Ghana, Liberia, Botswana)



THE QUESTION

People need nature to thrive...but where is the nature that people need?

- Where are the forests that mitigate climate change and harbor biodiversity?
- Where are the rivers and wetlands that provide fresh water for drinking and energy production?
- Where are the forests, savannas, and grasslands that provide non-timber forest products to support food security?





WHY MAP NATURAL CAPITAL?

Maps of **essential natural capital** are helpful to

- Appreciate extent and condition of natural capital (forests, mangroves, plantations, PAs, water sources etc.)
- Guide scarce resources to the places where they can be most effective
- Support spatial planning
- Inform efforts to achieve sustainable development targets
- Provide indicators to measure the status of ecosystems and biodiversity
- Provide a basis for more advanced Natural Capital Accounting efforts



Liberia – Natural Capital Mapping Forest cover and degradation and carbon stock

Forest cover and de gradation



150 km

Carbon stock

carbon stock tonnes C per ha

2



PROTECTED AREAS, FORESTS & MANGROVES

Forest &		
mangroves	Area (ha)	Percent
Designated	322,107	4%
Proposed	861,610	11%
Proposed &		
Designated	322,107	15%
Total forest		
&		
mangroves	8,088,170	100%

IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2016), The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line], Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net.



- 🔲 Designated
- Proposed

Landcover

- Forest > 80%
- Forest 30% 80%
- Forest < 30%
- Mangrove & swamps
- Grassland
- Shrub
- Settlements (urban & rural)
- Ecosystem Complex (Rock& Sand)
- Bare soil
- Clouds



FOREST CARBON STOCK*

- Liberia's forests have significant carbon stocks
- This map shows total (aboveground & belowground) forest biomass carbon stock
- Darker brown areas = more carbon
- High carbon stock areas could be targeted for long-term conservation of Liberia's forest carbon

Avitabile V et al. 2016. An integrated pan-tropical biomass map using multiple reference datasets. Global Change Biology 22:1406–1420.





FOREST CARBON STOCK, PROTECTED AREAS & CONCESSIONS



Concessions

Oil palm
Rubber
Rubber
Timber
Mining
Carbon stock
tonnes C per ha
333

Sinds

0



Conclusion

- LMEC = platform for policy dialogue, capacity building, research and action
- Strategy 2022-25 translates into action plan with joint activities in all 6 countries
- Focus on ecosystem goods and services and natural capital: "shared nature, shared future"
- GDSA cooperation with China, LMEC and GMS: technical expertise, capacity building, south-south exchanges etc.





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Thank you

