

# Africa NCA Community of Practice



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**Chair of the Africa NCA COP Steering Committee**

**South Africa - National Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) Forum 7-8 August 2024**



**Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**  
**Statistics South Africa**



South African National Biodiversity Institute



WATER  
RESEARCH  
COMMISSION



System of  
Environmental  
Economic  
Accounting



# Outline



1. About the Africa NCA CoP
2. Expected outcomes
3. Key Achievements
4. Challenges and lesson learned
5. Sustainability strategy – Moving forward



# Objective and Purpose – Africa NCA CoP Natural Capital Accounting Community of Practice Africa

Objective: To build momentum and mainstream NCA into statistical production and policy in all African countries by supporting best practices through capacity building and knowledge sharing.

## Pillar 1

### Networking and dialogue

Annual forums

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Newsletters

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Linking NCA CoP  
with other groups

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## Pillar 2

### Joint communication and advocacy

Mobilizing resources

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Case studies on NCA in  
Africa

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Advocating for NCA  
and use in regional  
policy

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## Pillar 3

### Peer to peer exchange, coaching and mentoring

South-south exchanges

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Joint  
training/workshops

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Linkage between  
national committee,  
and workshop

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## Pillar 4

### Collective learning and co- generation of knowledge

Themed working  
groups

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Peer review

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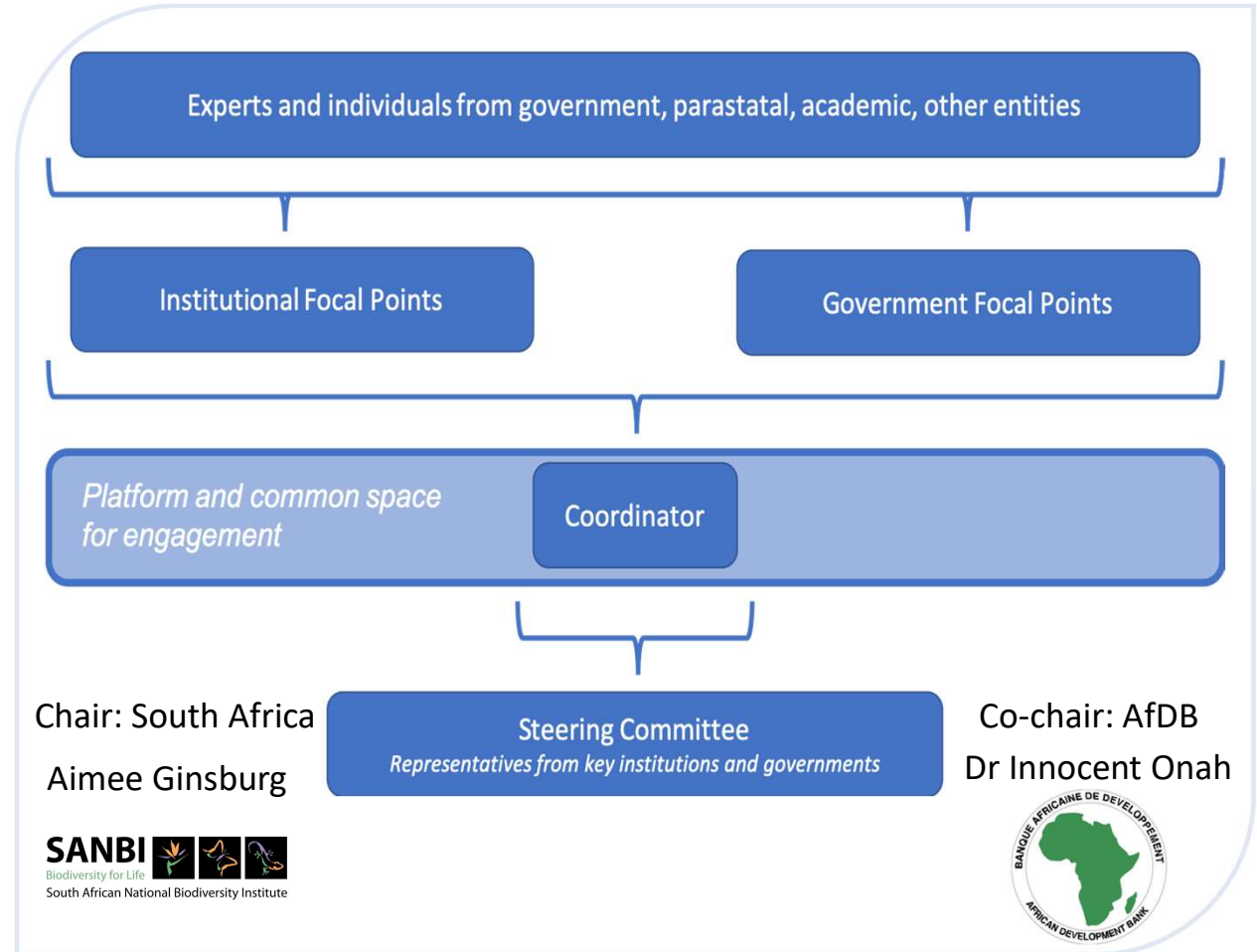
Building up knowledge  
platform

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# Structure & Governance



- **General membership:** anyone with an interest can sign up online
- **Focal points:** Nominees from countries, businesses and institutions
- **Steering Committee:** A set of key institutions and governments meeting quarterly to discuss the NCA COP
- **M&E framework** has been set up with baseline data collected through sign-up forms





Membership continues to grow, as of July 2023, more than **500** individuals have signed up from **18** African countries. Officially **20** governments focal points have been nominated.

**14** organizations are supporting the CoP





# Achievements



## Membership

The CoP membership continues to grow and currently stands at 48 African Countries and more than 500 individual members



## Webinars

The Africa NCA CoP secretariat facilitated and organized approximately every month with a total of 17 webinars so far.



## Trainings

More than 7 capacity building training events have been conducted. Even if the response rate was low, a capacity need assessment has been conducted.



## Knowledge Exchange

Through establishing Technical Working Groups (TWG). 4 TWG have been identified through discussions with partner institutes.

More than 8 online exchange events of countries experiences have been organized



Ms. Ngao Mubanga, Leader at the Africa NCA CoP was awarded a Young Leaders Prize for her leadership of Africa NCA CoP

Many resource-rich countries, face the challenge of translating its natural wealth into sustainable development outcomes for its people.

*“What you measure affects what you do. If you don’t measure the right thing, you don’t do the right thing” Ms. Ngao stated as she accepted her award during the global natural Capital Symposium take took place in USA in June 2024.*

Africa NCA CoP has catalyzed adoption of natural capital accounting to help design and evaluate policies and investments. To date, 20 African countries have created pilot accounts or fully-formed natural capital accounting systems.



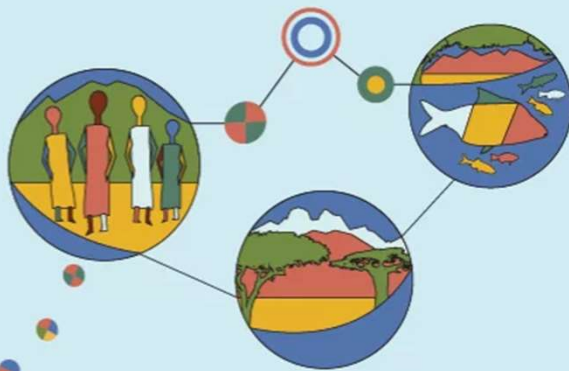


# Some recent events



7th Global Policy Forum on  
**NATURAL  
CAPITAL**

**MARCH 5 – 6, 2024**  
Kigali, Rwanda



Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework

**DATA, ACCOUNTING & ANALYSIS  
FOR BIODIVERSITY POLICIES**

Natural Capital Accounting  
Community of Practice Africa

**NAIROBI  
KENYA**

**2023 POLICY  
FORUM**

**SEP 6 - 7  
2023**

Using natural capital analysis and accounting to inform policies  
for development, climate change, and nature protection

## **Nairobi Declaration Statement and Call to Action**

- CALL ON African countries, governments, AU, AfDB, other regional bodies, technical experts, business and finance sector, donors, and decision-makers to collaborate and support the Africa NCA CoP and in unlocking Africa's natural capital for sustainable development and climate resilience, and operationalize NCA in line with the SEEA.



# Challenges Faced



## 01 COVID 19

Partner institutions could have committed more (in particular on south-south, e.g. UNSD exchanges between statistics organizations which could have generated additional opportunities). Networking has been hampered. With the pandemic, there has been no face-to-face activity during the first 2 years.

## 03 Communication

All materials/trainings are prepared in English. Difficult to reach out to non-English speaking participants.

## 02 Membership for both PIs and governments

Limited outreach strategy on how to mobilize membership from countries and partner institutions. Issue of ownership by Member countries.

## 04 Limited Resources

Currently WB, through GPS is providing the financial resources for the CoP activities +HR. Mobilization of funding from partners could have been more effective for more outcomes to be achieved,.

# Lessons Learned

## 01

### **Structure of implementation**

More engagement of the steering committee, Focal points in the execution of the CoP activities. They are well positioned within their countries to support initiatives for mainstreaming of NCA. In addition, engagement of Partner institutions more especially those that joined recently.

## 02

### **Use of Virtual Platforms**

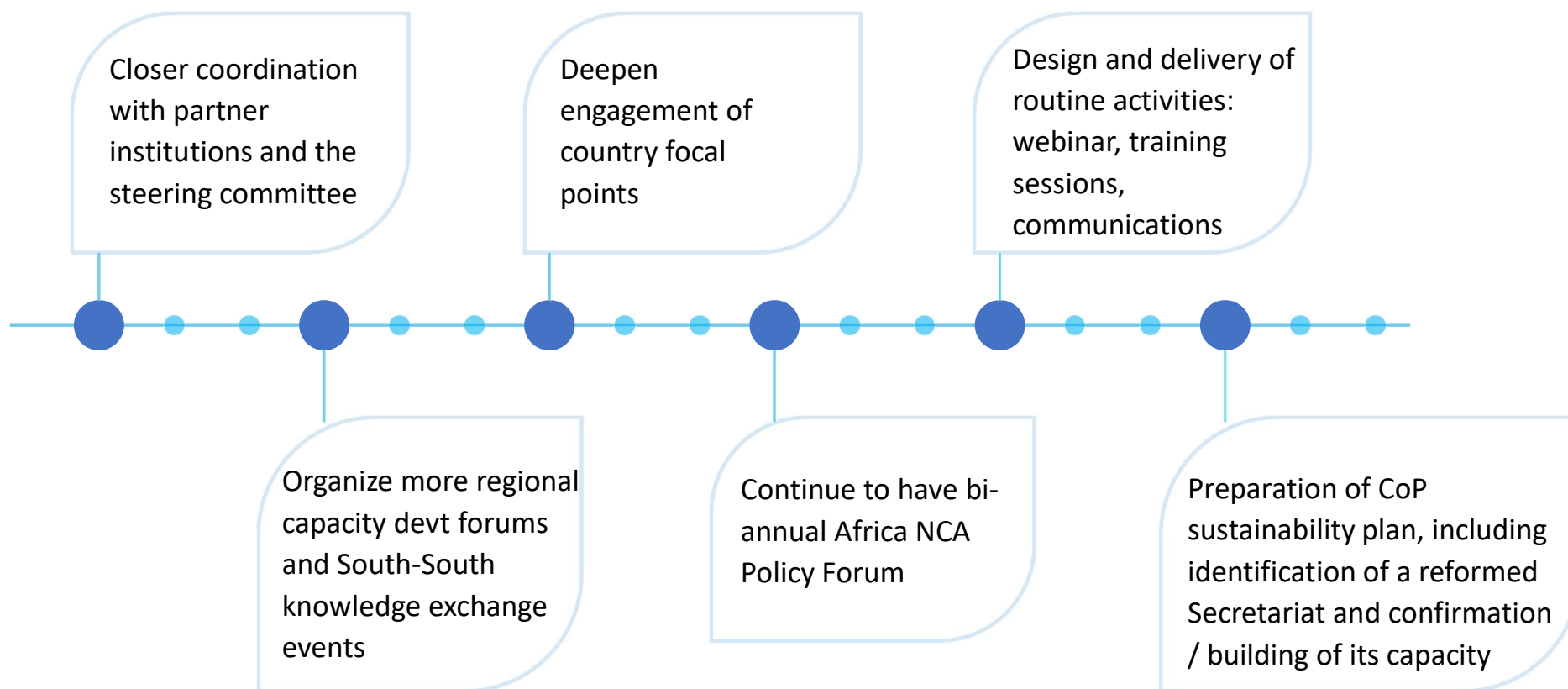
With the impact of COVID 19, the Africa CoP community has not had an opportunity to have physical meetings, momentum has been maintained through use of virtual platforms, which has recorded some success as is noted in the results framework.

## 03

### **Role and commitment of partner organizations:**

the achievement of the broader Africa NCA CoP objectives depends on the joint effort of all the partners.

# Moving Forward





# Strategy and Roadmap



- Updated Theory of Change to achieve the vision of the Africa NCA CoP
- Outlines operational activities, outputs, and outcomes to ensure its sustainability and long-term success
- Three operational and budget scenarios:
  - Low, medium and high road scenario
  - Increasing country focal points, trainings and webinars, coordination of working groups, number of countries supporting to produce NC accounts.
- The Africa NCA CoP secretariat will be hosted by the African Development Bank from 2025.

# Questions to the Forum Participants



Are you aware of countries and/or organizations that may be interested in joining or supporting the CoP?



Would you like to join?

Please visit

<https://ecastats.uneca.org/ncacop/>



# Thank you!

Prepared by the Africa NCA CoP Secretariat team in collaboration with Aimee Ginsburg.

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