



Scottish Forum on Natural Capital

Food & Drink and natural capital At a glance briefing



Food & drink & Scotland

Whisky; salmon; oatcakes; shortbread; haggis. Scotland's food & drink is iconic, it **employs 120,000 people**, is **worth over £14bn** to the economy and has been identified as a key growth sector for Scotland.

This success depends on clean waters, fertile soils and healthy oceans. **It depends on Scotland's natural capital.**

Scotland's natural capital

Natural Capital can be defined as: **"the stocks of natural assets which include geology, soil, air, water and all living things"**.

From tourism to the whisky industry, **all sectors of Scotland's economy and society**, directly or indirectly, rely on its natural capital.

The benefits which we derive from nature, which can be valued, are estimated to provide between **£21.5-£23bn per year to Scotland's economy**.

There is an **urgent need** for business to gain a better understanding of their reliance and impacts on the world's **rapidly diminishing natural capital** and **Scotland has as an opportunity to lead by example**.

Natural Capital Protocol



**NATURAL
CAPITAL
COALITION**

The Natural Capital Protocol aims to help businesses **create value by identifying risks and**

opportunities. The Protocol is applicable to **any business sector**, operating **anywhere**, at any organizational level from individual products to whole businesses.

Food & beverage sector guide

A sector guide has been produced in recognition of the **specific natural capital impacts and dependencies of the food & drink sector**. The sector guide is designed to:

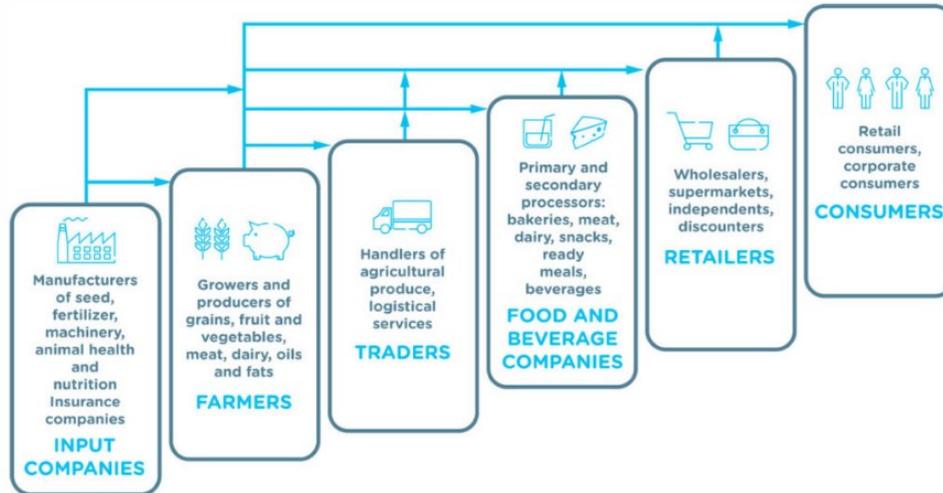
- Provide context on why natural capital is relevant to your business and **how your business benefits** from it
- Develop the **business case** for natural capital assessments
- Identify relevant natural capital impacts and dependencies **relevant to your business**
- Use **practical examples** to demonstrate **sector-specific business applications** of the Protocol

The sector guide is **relevant for businesses involved in producing, processing and selling food & drink** but excludes the hospitality sector.



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Food and beverage value chain © Trucost

Who is involved in the Protocol

The Protocol is a product of the Natural Capital Coalition, a **global collaboration of over 200 organisations** from business, public sector, NGOs and academia.

The piloting program involved **over 50 companies** including Coca-Cola, Nestle, M&S and The Crown Estate.

Implementing the Protocol

The Protocol has been developed specifically for businesses. It is a technical document which is free to use:

[Naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol](http://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol)

The food & beverage sector guide is a supplement to the Protocol:

<http://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol/sector-guides/food-and-beverage>

Businesses can apply to join the 'Protocol Application Program' set up to support the application of the Protocol & sector guides:
[Naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol/protocol-application-program](http://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol/protocol-application-program)

Scottish Forum overview

Launched in 2013 at the inaugural World Forum on Natural Capital, the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital is a ground-breaking initiative **bringing together public, private and voluntary sector organisations to protect and rebuild Scotland's natural capital.**

Scottish Forum Founding partners:



Scottish Wildlife Trust



ICAS



Membership

The membership of the Scottish Forum includes **over 70 organisations** from the public, private and voluntary sectors that are committed to protecting and enhancing Scotland's natural capital.

Membership of the Scottish Forum is free.

To find out more, please contact:

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