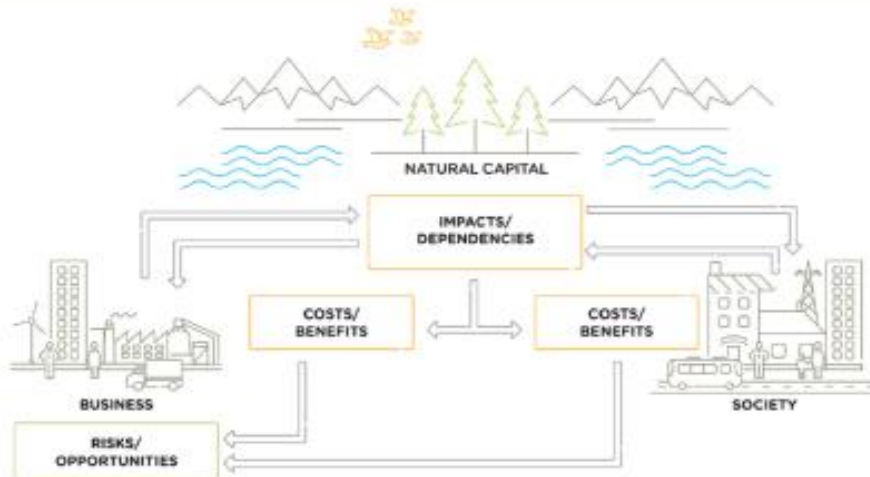




Scottish Forum on Natural Capital

Natural Capital Protocol At a glance briefing



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The Natural Capital Protocol

The Natural Capital Protocol aims to **support better business decisions** by including how we interact with nature, or more specifically natural capital, in decision making.

The Protocol is a framework designed to help generate **trusted, credible, and actionable information** for managers to **inform decisions**.

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

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 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**.

Why use the Protocol

The Protocol aims to help businesses create value by identifying risks and opportunities including:

- **Operational**
Reduced costs & risk of interruption of raw materials
Efficiency gains
- **Legal and regulatory**
Future legislation
Reduced compliance costs & risk of penalties
- **Financial**
Reduced financing costs & increase margins
Improved access to finance
- **Reputational and marketing**
New revenue streams & differentiating your products
Improve ability to attract and retain employees
- **Societal**
Assessing benefits & negative impacts to communities

Who is involved in the Protocol



NATURAL CAPITAL COALITION global collaboration of **over 200 organisations**

from business, public sector, NGOs and academia which produced the Protocol.

The piloting program involved **over 50 companies** including Coca-Cola, Hugo Boss, AkzoNobel, M&S, Cemex, Philips and The Crown Estate.



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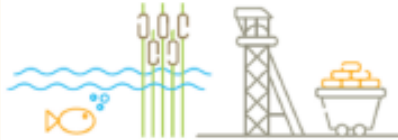
At a glance briefing

STOCKS Natural capital



Biodiversity

FLOWS Ecosystem and abiotic services



VALUE Benefits to business and to society



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Implementing the Protocol

The Protocol has been developed specifically for businesses. It is a technical document which is free to use and can be downloaded from the Coalition's website:

Naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol

Businesses can apply to join the 'Protocol Application Program' run by the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, set up to support the application of the Protocol: Naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol/protocol-application-program

Sector guides

The Coalition is developing Protocol sector guides. Clothing and Food & Drink guides have been released 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
- Work on additional sector guides is underway

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.**

Founding partners



Membership

The growing membership of the Scottish Forum includes **over 70 organisations** from the public, private and voluntary sectors that are committed to the vision of the Scottish Forum on Natural Capital.

Membership of the Scottish Forum is free.

To find out more, please contact:

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