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| **Review comments on the draft monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework** | | | | | |
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| ***General Comments*** | | | | | |
| This is an example of a general comment | | | | | |
| **Why Natural Capital in Inclusive Wealth Framework is helpful to monitor Biodiversity..**  **Madhu Verma, Chief Economist , World Resources Institute**  Traditionally, world over, economic growth (even now) is measured by the GDP metrics. However, this only considers the component of produced capital. Measures such as the HDI, Gross Happiness Index and the work by the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission did incorporate other aspects of human wellbeing. But there is a need to incorporate more importantly the value of natural capital. It is a well-established fact that biodiverse rich ecosystems provide multiple benefits that are captured within the Millennium Ecosystems framework (2005). Further The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (2010) , a global initiative focused on “making nature’s values visible and to mainstream the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision-making at all levels. Anthropogenic activities and the Loss and damage arising from climate change would reduce the quantum of natural capital available to countries resulting in ecosystem service decline that would also affect the human capital component. To mainstream this challenge, measurement of the total capital of a country i.e. produced capital, human capital and natural capital is required. For example, the Inclusive Wealth Framework developed by the UNEP could complement in improving the measurement of biodiversity and its value since it takes all three forms of capital into account in a time series format at global and national levels, thus enabling us to inquire the rate of degradation of natural capital.  The Inclusive Wealth Index (IWI) considers forest capital in estimation of nation’s wealth. Under this regime, the forest capital is calculated as the present value of the future net benefits expected over the life of a forest resource. The indicators of evaluating forest accounts include total economic contribution of the forest and the benefits from sustainable management which takes into account non market forest goods and services, value of forest services to non-forestry sector, value of forest goods and services used by local communities. Some other policy aspects of IWR and particularly the forest account component of IWR are distribution of forest benefits among different groups in society, whether economic growth sustainable or is it based on the depletion of forests, trade-offs among competing users of forests, the impacts of non-forestry policies on forest use. The associated policy linkages with the forest account component attempt to promote forest and biodiversity conservation through development of economic instruments and engage multiple stakeholders in the process. The approach aligns well with Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)’s framework ‘Nature’s Contributions to People’ which integrates social, environmental and economic factors to incorporate pluralistic valuation into estimating inclusive wealth. The United Nation also has declared 2021-2030 as the decade on ecosystem restoration, thus attributing inclusive wealth in the policy mix will encourage a step towards biodiversity conservation and landscape restoration at a considerable scale. Therefore, the time has come to look for solutions that aim to achieve economic growth keeping nature as a core value. | | | | | |
| ***Specific Comments- None*** | | | | | |
| **Table** | **Page** | **Column letter** | **Row number** | | **Comment** |
| 1 | 4 | A | 23 | | This is an example of a specific comment on Table 1, Page 4, columns A and line 23 |
| 2 | 12 | C | 38 | | This is an example of a specific comment on Table 2, Page 12, columns C and line 38 |
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|  |  |  |  | | Additional rows can be added to this table by selecting “Table” followed by “insert” and “rows below” |