



NETHERLANDS BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY INITIATIVES Activities in 2015

Leaders for Nature

The Leaders for Nature Forum on 17 April 2015 in Eindhoven saw over 150 participants from our member companies, the Dutch government, the IUCN NL members and special experts. Together we worked towards solutions for 10 'natural capital' challenges presented by our members:

- Watch-list for investments - ING
- Sourcing biodiversity impacts – Arcadis
- Translate sustainability ambitions – DSM
- Green Cities - IUCN EU Representative Office
- Nature & Health – IVN
- Exploring strategies to contribute to a sustainable cocoa value chain - Port of Amsterdam
- Innovative business case – Staatsbosbeheer
- Translating circular economy into Key Performance Indicators - VBDO
- Innovative lighting solutions – Philips
- Make Sustainable investments bankable – FMO

Click here for an overview of the overall outcomes of the aforementioned challenges. For more general information regarding Leaders for Nature visit www.leadersfornature.nl

Natural Captains

As part of our activities in the Platform on Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Economy we have launched a *Natural Captains initiative* with companies that want to work with natural capital in a more sustainable manner. We have developed a digital working environment called the NatCap, which includes a website with practical information, show casing tools, cases, challenges and a list of participants. Furthermore, a special smart phone app has been created for the involved companies.

Hereunder the cases we have been working on with companies:

- Moso – replacement of synthetic glue with a bio-based alternative;
- Desso – connecting the company's KPI's to biodiversity indicators;
- Pooling Partners – Using non-recyclable wood products as organic fertilizers;
- Foreco – Development of a façade concept for wood;
- Weerman - Inform their customers on the sustainability of cut flowers;

- Heijmans – Creating a uniform scale for the evaluation of natural value in public procurement and nature inclusive construction;
- Testa – Going green in salmon farming by replacing fish oil and fish meal by algae;
- Schut Papier – Valorisation of the fibre processing of elephant grass;
- Van Wijhe Verf – Valuing bio-based raw materials in paint.

For more information on Natural Captains, please visit: <http://naturalcaptains.nl/visie.php>

For more information regarding the Platform on Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Economy, please visit (Dutch only): <http://www.platformbee.nl>

DAWCA (Dutch Agro-Water Climate Alliance)

DAWCA brings together Dutch companies, NGOs, knowledge institutions and governments to develop business cases around climate change adaptation and mitigation. With new climate funds being mobilized, we help organisations to navigate the climate finance landscape, connect people and organisations with our partners in developing countries, and help develop new promising climate projects.

In 2014, DAWCA informed around 80 companies. In 2015, this number increased to about 150 companies. In addition, this year 10 trajectories have been launched with organizations that we assist in establishing the business case around their climate change-related project. In most cases we have not reached the stage of investing in project development yet, but it is foreseen that this stage will be reached in 2016. In the coming years we also hope to contribute to the structuring and/or assessment of climate finance instruments in order to leverage private sources.

Green Finance Academy

Banks and companies are increasingly showing their interest in financing green or development projects. To tap into this new source of investment, the newly launched Green Finance Academy trains project managers to design their green project based on business model thinking. The Green Finance Academy is an initiative of IUCN NL, Alterra Wageningen UR and Nyenrode Business University. The five day masterclass offered by the Academy consists of interactive sessions with experts in business development, marketing and private sector finance. Participants are challenged to transform current or new projects into bankable projects that generate financial returns for investors. Click here for more information.

Climate Finance Information Desk

DAWCA and the Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP) have launched the climate finance information desk. The information desk provides companies and organisations in the Netherlands information and support related to climate finance. 3

Campaign 'Fairtrade Coffee and Clean Air'

With DAWCA's support, the website of the climate campaign of Max Havelaar - FiKs - foundation was launched in the beginning of November. The campaign aims to increase climate-resilience of small-holder coffee farmers in Ethiopia. The farmers have been pressured by ever increasing temperatures. You, or your company, can support the campaign through converting your carbon footprint to climate finance. This finance is transferred directly to local farming organisations.

More information on DAWCA related activities can be found at:

www.iucn.nl/en/themes/greening_companies/dawca

Natural Capital Protocol

IUCN is leading one of two consortia of organisations that are developing the Natural Capital Protocol. A “version zero” of the Protocol as well as two Sector Guides for Apparel and Food and Beverage were launched for public consultation at the World Forum on Natural Capital in Edinburgh in November 2015. The purpose of the draft Natural Capital Protocol and Sector Guides is to help businesses systematically integrate their relationship with nature into their strategy and operations. The Protocol is intended to encourage those companies that may not have yet fully realized the benefits of valuing and measuring their impact and dependencies on ecosystems to get started, and ultimately empower all businesses to understand their natural capital risks and opportunities so that they can help reduce environmental decline and start rebuilding the precious natural capital upon which we all depend. The Protocol and Sector Guides have been developed through a collaborative process with more than 60 authors from the field of Natural Capital contributing to their development.

For more information regarding the NCP, please visit: <http://www.naturalcapitalcoalition.org/natural-capital-protocol.html>

Cop21: Paris Accord

At COP21, IUCN NL organized three events. On 3 December a forum discussion was organised in the Dutch Pavilion at COP21 with the REDD+ Business Initiative of Platform BEE, FMO, Desso, Essent and Eneco. On 4 December IUCN NL, Nyenrode Business University and Alterra presented the Green Finance Academy in the Dutch Pavilion. A day later we organised a high-level breakfast session ahead of Global Landscapes Forum with Althelia Climate Fund to discuss steps that should be taken to make greater collaboration possible between governments, private sector organisations and CSOs to reduce global tropical deforestation. Attendance represented 25 organisations including Unilever, Olam, Marks&Spencer, Puma, Tropical Forest Alliance, Green Climate Fund, EIB, World Bank, UN Orchid, FMO, Desso, EU Commission, CORP2020, GGI, Governments of Ghana, The Netherlands, UK and the USA.

Transparency on Natural & Social Capital

IUCN NL and its partners True Price and CSR Netherlands are working together within the Green Deal Framework with the Dutch Government on transparency of value chains. The Green Deal is entitled: *Working Together on Transparency of Natural and Social Capital*. A coalition of thirteen large Dutch companies – including 7 Leaders for Nature members - is taking steps to make their impact on natural and social capital visible, with the help of civil society organizations. The Netherlands Institute of Chartered Accountants (NBA) and the Dutch Association of Investors for Sustainable Investment (VBDO) have also signed the Green Deal. The objective of this initiative is for companies to map the societal impact of their operations and production chains and report on their results, through annual reports or by other means. As part of the Green Deal, companies will map their environmental and social impact, and possibly report about them. This creates a more complete picture of the company's performance.

This transparency is a major step towards a green and sustainable economy that values the well-being of people. Moreover, the deal contributes to the implementation of the Natural Capital agenda that the Dutch government has prioritized. The participants have agreed that they will execute an action plan that centers around developing and sharing knowledge on transparency of natural and social capital. There are three working groups: (1) Value chain transparency – led by IUCN NL, (2) Monetization – lead by True Price, and (3) Integrated reporting – led by CSR Netherlands.

For a more in-depth update regarding transparency of value chains, please click [here](#).