The future of corporate natural capital accounting A personal perspective



@Will_Evison

7 November 2014

Steering committee, Natural Capital Initiative



Contents

- 1. The past of 'corporate natural capital accounting'
- 2. "The future is already here it's just not very evenly distributed." *William Gibson* (1993)
- 3. The future is quantitative, value-chain (web), spatial, dynamic, and valued

The past of 'corporate natural capital accounting'



Corporates are actually excellent at accounting for natural capital

As long as there's a market for it







But not so good if it's un-priced

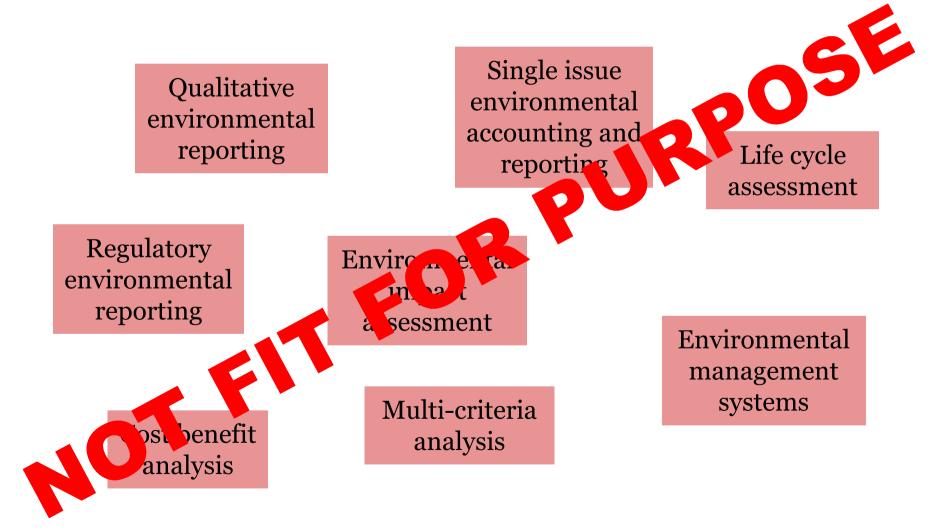






Many other forms of corporate accounting and reporting have (loosely) related to natural capital

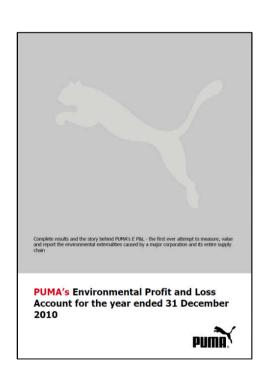
Several will be helpful - but none are suitable as they stand

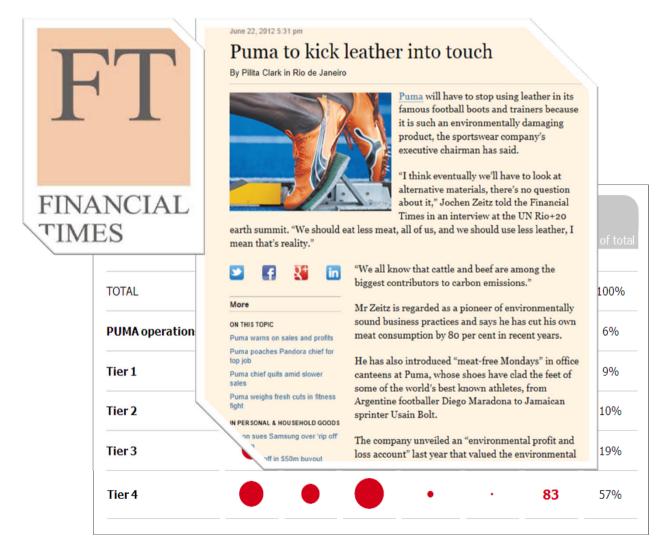


"The future is already here — it's just not very evenly distributed." William Gibson (1993)

"The future is already here — it's just not very evenly distributed." William Gibson (1993)

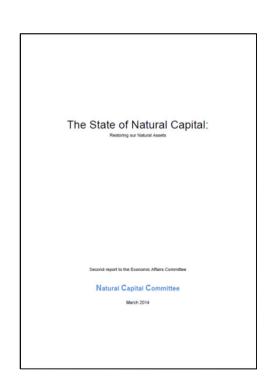
Exhibit A





"The future is already here — it's just not very evenly distributed." William Gibson (1993)

Exhibit B



Natural Capital Committee

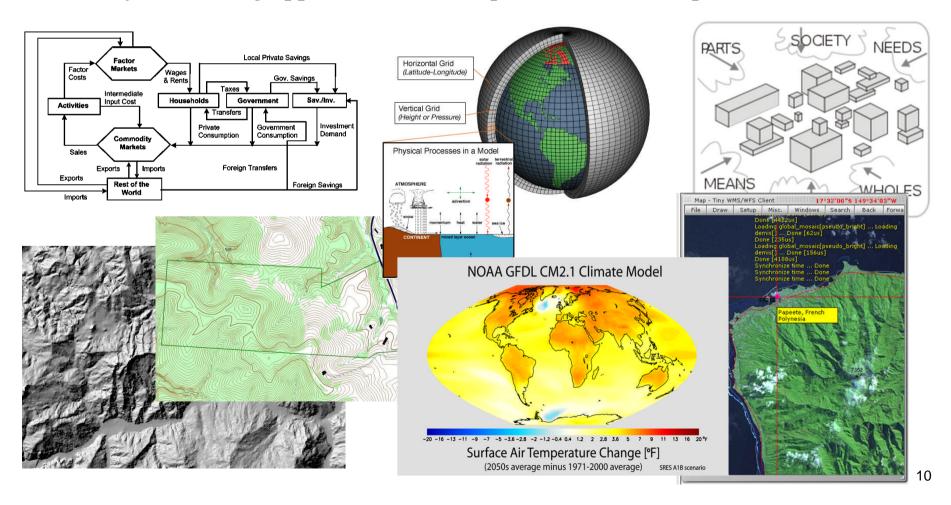


"The Committee will collaborate with businesses and major landowners to pilot corporate natural capital accounting."

"The future is already here — it's just not very evenly distributed." William Gibson (1993)

Exhibits C-Y

(spatial, dynamic and integrated assessment models, and genuine systems thinking but little of this is being applied to natural capital in business at present)



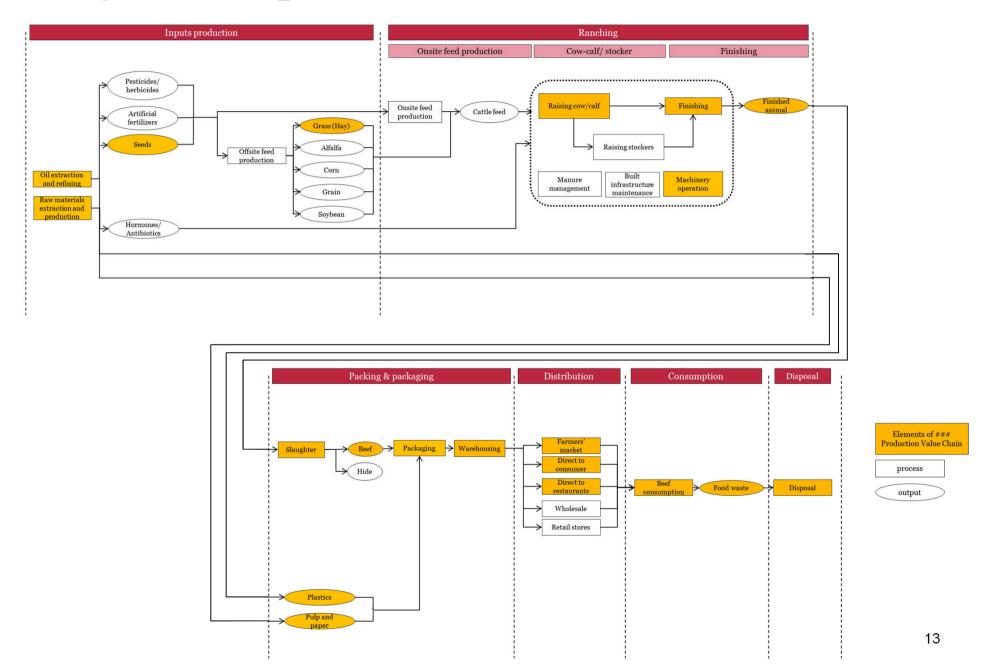
...distributing the future?

Exhibit Z



The future is quantitative, valuechain (web), spatial, dynamic, and valued

The future is quantitative



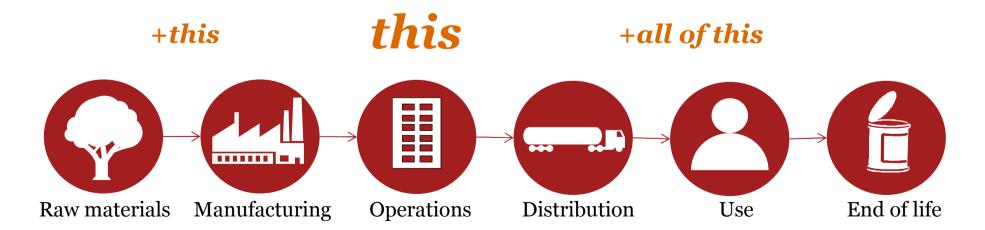
The future considers the value-chain

Less focus on this



More on this

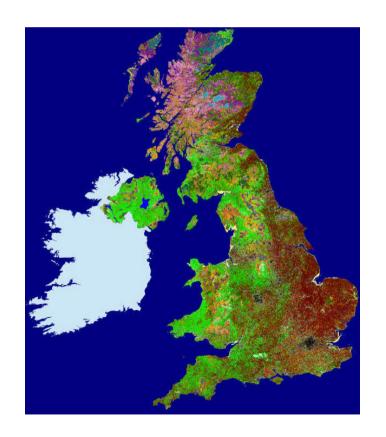




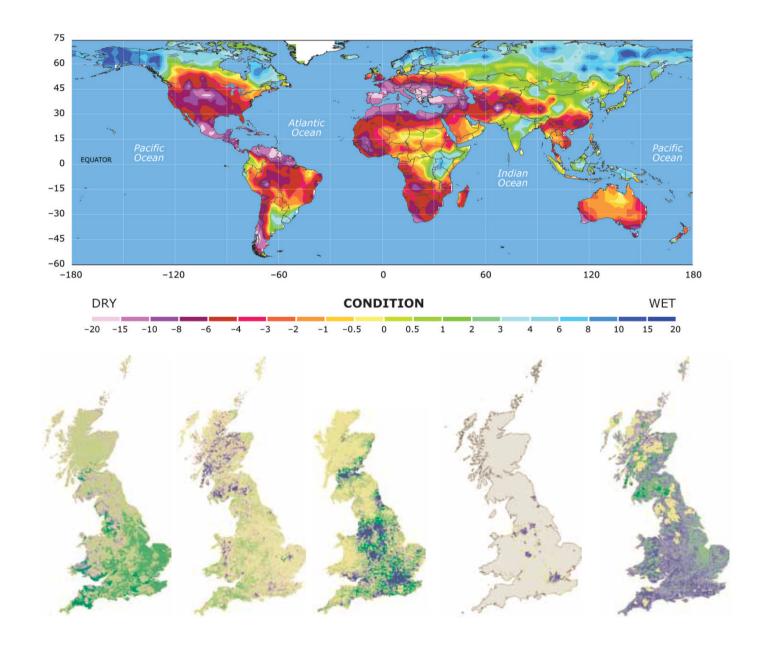
The future is spatial

Financial management systems can largely ignore 'place' But place is key for natural capital management





The future is dynamic



The future is valued

Valuation takes these....

and converts them into these:

PPM of Tonnes of Waste

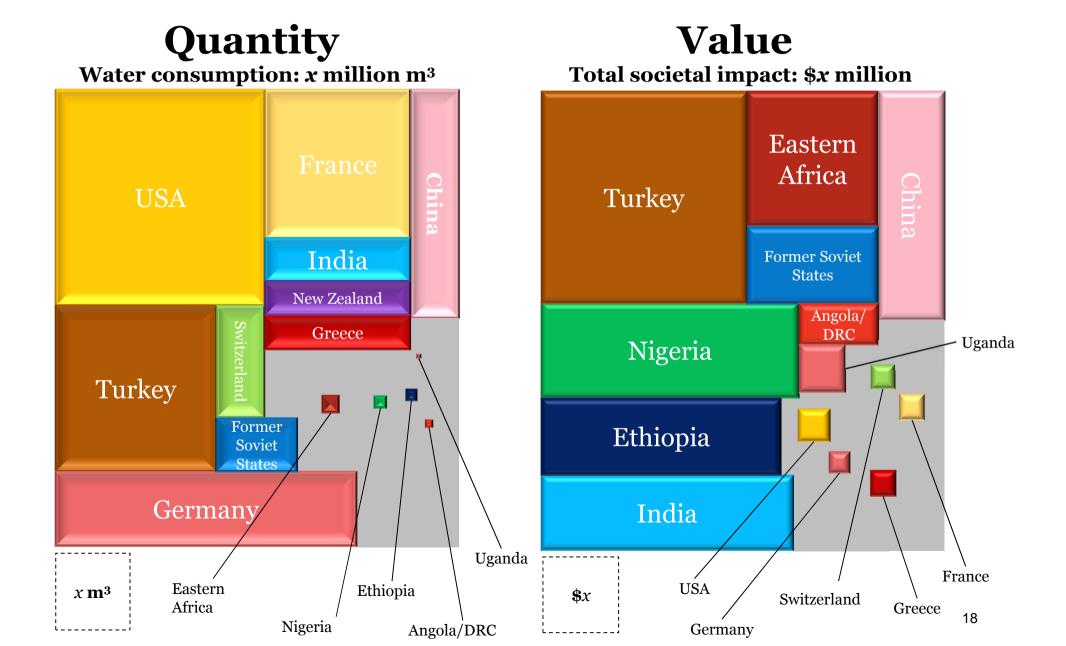
tCO₂e Kg of Pb

Liters of Water

Acres of tNO_x
Land



What's the point of valuation?



Thanks

This publication has been prepared for general guidance on matters of interest only, and does not constitute professional advice. You should not act upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. No representation or warranty (express or implied) is given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this publication, and, to the extent permitted by law, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, its members, employees and agents do not accept or assume any liability, responsibility or duty of care for any consequences of you or anyone else acting, or refraining to act, in reliance on the information contained in this publication or for any decision based on it.

© 2014 PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. All rights reserved. In this document, "PwC" refers to the UK member firm, and may sometimes refer to the PwC network. Each member firm is a separate legal entity. Please see www.pwc.com/structure for further details.