

## Newsletter Topics

3/2017

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### Your Christmas donations are right on time

Please remember that your Christmas donations should reach us before the end of this year if you require a donation receipt for 2017.

We also gladly accept any donations after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018; however, receipts for these donations will then be issued for 2018.

We wish you (and your families) a joyful holiday season and a merry Christmas!



*We can't prevent natural disasters from happening but we can reduce their destructiveness. Undamaged mangrove forests protect coastal areas and the climate.*

## Preface

Dear readers of the GNF newsletter,

At the beginning of November, the UN climate change conference was held in Bonn, Germany. Indigenous tribes from all over the world highlighted the necessity to achieve the goals that were determined by the Paris climate agreement last year. The communities that are the most affected by climate change and consequences such as destructive natural disasters, stressed that minimising climate change and the associated negative impacts in the long run is only possible if actions are taken immediately. Even small steps can help counteract climate change.

This is where our projects come in. Together with the local population we determine the necessary measures to ensure sustainable development for the people and the natural environment. In

this issue of the newsletter we present two projects in Tanzania, as well as projects in India and Sri Lanka as examples of our work and approaches.

For over 12 years, the GNF has successfully been promoting mangrove restoration in Asia. These efforts started in 2005 at partner lakes in Sri Lanka, when the devastating consequences of the Tsunami needed to be dealt with. Since then we have worked together with our partners to establish tree nurseries and home gardens, as well as restore several ha of project areas with indigenous species of mangrove seedlings. These successful efforts are now implemented in other areas of India and Sri Lanka.

In Tanzania we are working to secure food sources and food independency,

while also focussing on the sustainable cultivation of cocoa and rice and the conservation of habitats that ensure the wildlife stock. It isn't always easy to reconcile basic human needs with the natural environment.

We also raise awareness and promote the appreciation of natural resources on a national level in Germany. Our "Business, biodiversity and natural capital – ambitions, risks and opportunities" conference at the beginning of October attracted a lot of interest and resulted in positive feedback.

We hope you have an interesting read and a joyful holiday season.

Best regards,  
The newsletter editorial staff



Approaches to natural capital valuation presented by various businesses, including Hugo Boss, SEKISUI and Eosta.

## Nature has its price

### Businesses are starting to take the value of natural resources into consideration

How much does it cost to produce one t-shirt? Traditionally, the production costs would be added to the costs of the raw material and transport. However, many businesses are now starting to realise that more aspects need to be taken into consideration when calculating the real cost of the production, as the natural environment is not just a supplier of raw materials but provides several important services on a daily basis. Examples of these services include the provision of fertile soil, climate regulation and cleansing air and water. So who bears the cost for impacts to the soil by pesticides and fertiliser or water pollution due to the production process? And how can businesses ensure continued use of ecosystem services in the long term?

#### The monetary valuation of nature

More and more businesses are starting to recognise the value of the natural environment for the respective economic activities and are implementing efforts to identify risks and chances associated with the dependence on natural resources. By conducting a natural capital valuation, i.e. assessing the monetary value of the dependence and the impacts on the natural environment, businesses can incorporate these important aspects into internal decision making processes. This method is not only a point of interest for production companies; insurance firms and banks are also starting to recognise

the importance of natural capital for appraising businesses. Currently, the methods and possibilities for application are being discussed on an international level.

#### International conference on natural capital valuation

Around 150 international business representatives and experts from over 20 different countries came together on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the practical implementation and propagation of natural capital valuation in businesses. The Global Nature Fund and the European Commission brought together pioneers and novices with scientists, government representatives and nature conservation organizations. The event was held at the Nestlé Competence Centre in Frankfurt and titled "Business, biodiversity and natural capital – ambitions, risks and opportunities".

The conference on 5<sup>th</sup> October, which was organised by the GNF, focussed on considering natural capital in decision making processes in businesses. Presentations from business representatives (Hugo Boss, SEKISUI, Eosta, Allianz), government (BMUB) and civil society (GNF, Wildlands) in the morning, demonstrated the use of such a valuation for society but also for the business itself. Through work groups put together in the afternoon, the participants were granted the possibility to gain an insight into the

diverse applications of natural capital valuation in various sectors (foodstuff, finances or the building industry).

Some businesses in the textile industry are already assessing and evaluating the environmental impacts of various cotton wool cultivation techniques in order to make production more sustainable and minimise the risks arising from the procurement of raw materials in the long term.

#### Network Natural Capital for Businesses

The conference was supported by Arcadis, an international advisory company for water and environment, and served as a conclusion of the 2 year "Network Natural Capital for Businesses" project which was carried out from 2015 until 2017.

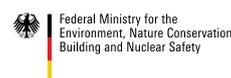
The project was funded by the Federal Environmental Agency and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety with the goal to create a network which would enable economic, scientific, political and NGO representatives to exchange news on developments in natural capital valuation in order to further spread awareness for the topic within Germany.

Four publications on the subjects, issued by the GNF in exchange with various experts, illustrate the benefits and application possibilities of natural capital valuation with specific emphasis on businesses (see page 4). (AP, JG)



150 participants from more than 20 different countries partook in the conferences in Frankfurt.

[www.business-biodiversity.eu/en/natural-capital-conference](http://www.business-biodiversity.eu/en/natural-capital-conference)



## Human and wildlife populations need our help

### New prospects through the Green Growth initiative.

Farmers in the South Tanzanian Kilombero province struggle to support their families due to harvest shortages caused by overexploitation of natural resources over the past decades, crop failures, climate impacts and poor land management. The Kilombero wildlife reserve which covers an area of 1,345 km<sup>2</sup> is already significantly affected by a five-fold increase in deforestation and conversion of natural areas into agricultural acres. Unregulated grazing also continues to increase and so do the resulting conflicts with wildlife and unfortunately, poaching. The tourism sector however, is heavily reliant on wildlife such as lions and elephants.



The lions need space, ...



It is possible by reconciling village and wildlife.

#### Conversion to Green Growth

Enhancing local agricultural activities and protecting the environment are the two most important aspects of our "Green Growth" themed work with the partner organisation AWF (African Wildlife Foundation). By conducting a targeted programme involving 2000 small farmers from 13 villages we are making an important step towards shifting rice and cocoa cultivation to more sustain-

able agriculture. In order to protect and preserve important habitats for lions, elephants and other endangered wildlife species we promote and are involved in the conservation and restoration of the Kilombero nature reserve (KNR) and the Ruipa wildlife corridor. (MU)

[www.globalnature.org/en/green-growth-tanzania](http://www.globalnature.org/en/green-growth-tanzania)



...the population needs alternative sources of income.

#### A better future for man and nature!

We need another 160,000 Euro to help us with our 3-year project. With these funds we can implement following steps:

- Conversion to more sustainable agriculture and development of sustainable agricultural practices ➔ 85,000 €
- Reforestation, buffer zones und training in the Kilombero nature reserve ➔ 35,000 €
- Assessment, dissemination and application of results ➔ 40,000 €

Please help the people and the wildlife in Tanzania with a donation or by becoming a GNF sponsor!

## Mangroves to counteract global climate change!

### Climate change affects us all; however, the poorest of the poor are hit the hardest.

Reaching the goal of limiting global climate change to 2 °C is becoming more and more difficult. Initiatives which are committed to achieving the agreed objectives and contribute to counteracting climate change effects are more important than ever. Climate change often affects the people that had no part in causing it. The effects are already clearly discernible to them, e.g. in the rising sea level, as well as the increase in frequency and intensity of tropical storms which batter the coasts.

#### Mangrove forests are all-rounders

In India and Sri Lanka, the mangrove forests are a natural buffer against tropical storms and prevent seawater from flooding agricultural fields and spoiling them with the high salinity. Additionally, mangroves are an incredibly important carbon sink. The forests are rich in biodiversity. They provide nursing grounds for fish and crab species and are an important source of nutrition for many bird and mammal species.

#### Protecting mangroves means protecting species

The Sundarbans, our project focus region, are a hunting territory for the Bengal tiger. Undamaged mangrove forests contain a wide range of suitable prey. If the forests are decimated beyond a certain degree, the large predators will inevitably turn towards the cattle herds for prey, which will result in human-wildlife conflicts. Together with our local project partners, we will carry out a 3 year project to restore and provide long-term protection for the mangrove forests in India and Sri Lanka.

By raising over 200,000 seedlings in tree nurseries, more than 150 ha of mangrove forest will be restored in 4 regions. Additionally we will create alternative sources of income for 1,400 people by providing education in growing vegetables, ecotourism and traditional arts and crafts. The use of energy efficient stoves also reduces the need for wood of 80 families and thus helps protect the mangrove forests in the region. (MU)



A look in the right direction – towards a green future!

#### What we can do with a donation from you:

- Provide an energy efficient stove for one family ➔ 25 €
- Plant 260 mangrove seedlings ➔ 60 €
- Environmental education for 50 participants per event ➔ 100 €
- Technology to process coconut fibre for traditional arts and crafts for 20 families ➔ 1,000 €

Please support us in our efforts to advance the fights against climate change and protect the mangrove forests – with a one-off donation or in the long term as a GNF sponsor!

[www.globalnature.org/en/donations](http://www.globalnature.org/en/donations)

## News Publications

### Private Sector and Natural Capital Recognizing Value – Exploring Opportunities

- Brochure (September 2017): The Business Case for Natural Capital Assessment
- Pilot Study (August 2017): Natural Capital Assessment for Trenchless Pipe Laying
- Pilot Study (December 2017): Natural Capital Assessment for Tourism on the German Island of Juist

Download of the publications at: [www.globalnature.org/en/publications/natural-capital-assessment](http://www.globalnature.org/en/publications/natural-capital-assessment)



#### Many thanks!

The successful year of 2017 is coming to an end. 2018 will also be special for the GNF as we can look forward to our anniversary and look back on 20 years of foundation history.

**We would like to thank you for your support and loyalty!**

## Instead of presents Support environmental projects

At special occasions such as weddings, anniversaries or birthdays, guests are often willing to give a donation towards GNF projects. Christmas may also be a good time for a donation, e.g. from the whole family. Instead of presents, why not collect money and do a good deed together?

Just get in touch and we will further discuss possibilities in person. We are grateful for any donation made on these special occasions!

The GNF donation service: *Manuela Uhde, +49 7732 9995 85, [uhde@globalnature.org](mailto:uhde@globalnature.org)*

## Lions for Sale Your commitment to lions is a great help

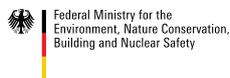
As part of our “Lions for Sale” campaign we have received 300 petition cards. We will pass these on to our project partner WCT, and they in turn will hand them over to the South African government. At this point we would like to thank all those who were involved in this activity.

Please also remember that Facebook and other social media platforms provide an opportunity to voice your opinion on the unfair treatment and sale of lions.

We have already achieved significant advances through the campaign. The number of lions held in captivity for tourism purposes has already decreased by 50 % in South Africa.



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