



PBL Netherlands Environmental  
Assessment Agency

# Natural Capital in the Netherlands:

it's value assessed

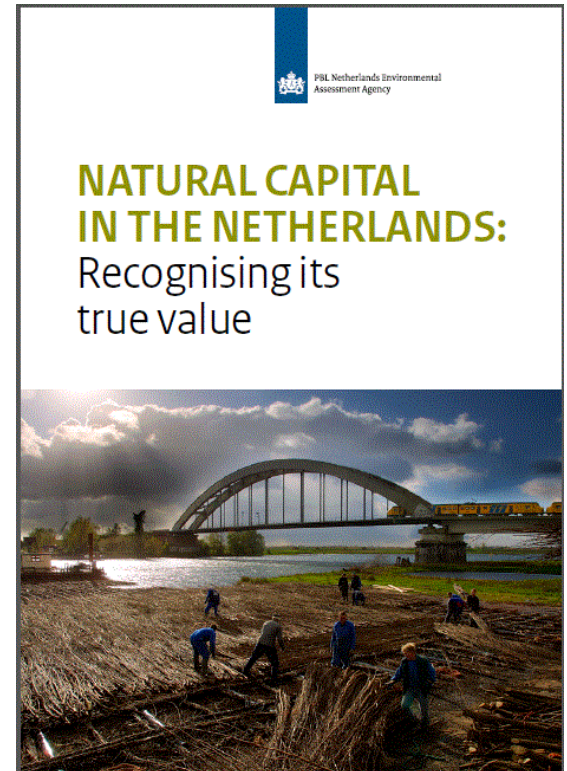
Arjan Ruijs | 20-4-2017





# Natural capital: from awareness raising to practice

*How to include the economic value of nature in strategic decisions from governments, firms and NGOs?*





# How are nature and the economy related?

## Nature restricts the economy

### Costs

Restrictive laws  
and regulations



## The economy restricts nature

### Impact

Pollution, emissions  
and overexploitation



# Nature supports the economy

## Benefits

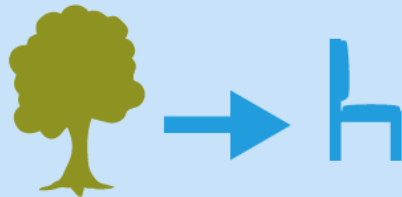
Nature creates value added

Property values  
Recreation



Nature produces

Wood      Biomass  
Fish      Crops



## Cost savings

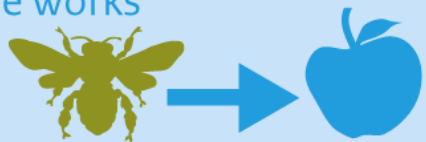
Nature prevents

Floods  
Climate Change



Nature works

Water purification  
Pollination



## Well-being

Nature contributes to health, knowledge and happiness



# The economy supports nature

## Benefits

(Financial) support for nature development



## Support

Higher social and economic appreciation leads to more support for conservation and protection



## Learning from practice

<b>Water safety:</b>	Deltaprogramme	Eems-Dollard, Varik-Heesselt
<b>Greening the economy:</b>	Common Agricultural Policy	Salland, Veenkoloniën
<b>Sustainable production:</b>	International Trade chains	Cocoa, Soya, Palm oil, Coffee
<b>Water quality:</b>	Drinking water	Brabant Water
<b>Nature:</b>	National parks	Weerribben-Wieden
<b>Biobased economy:</b>	Seaweed chain	Eemsdelta, Borssele
<b>Sustainable production:</b>	Food	Innovative food entrepreneurs



## Synthesis

How do nature and the economy enhance one another?

## Lessons from the past, other countries, other policy comains and (policy) instruments

- Natural climate buffers
- Hamster protection policies
- Subsidy Biodiversity and Business
- Learning from culture, education and health care
- Ecosystem services abroad
- The use of the TEEB for cities tool
- Country estates
- Farming for nature
- Green financing regulation
- Habitat banking



- Tools
- Opportunities
- Instruments

# Natural Capital Framework

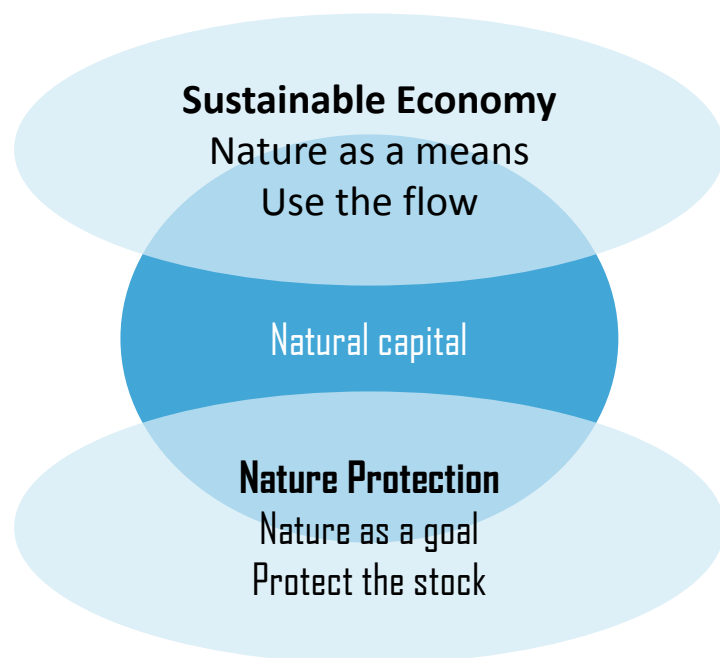


Source: PBL, based on TEEB

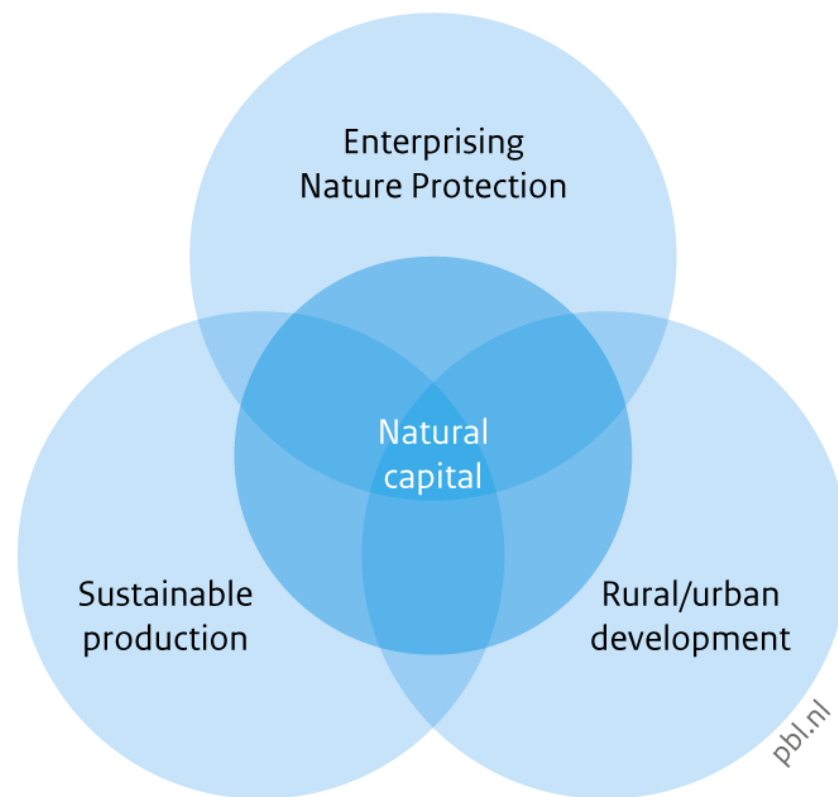




## Perspectives on natural capital



## Domains for dealing with natural capital





# 1. Sustainable production







# 1. Biobased economy: seaweed

## *Ecosystem services*

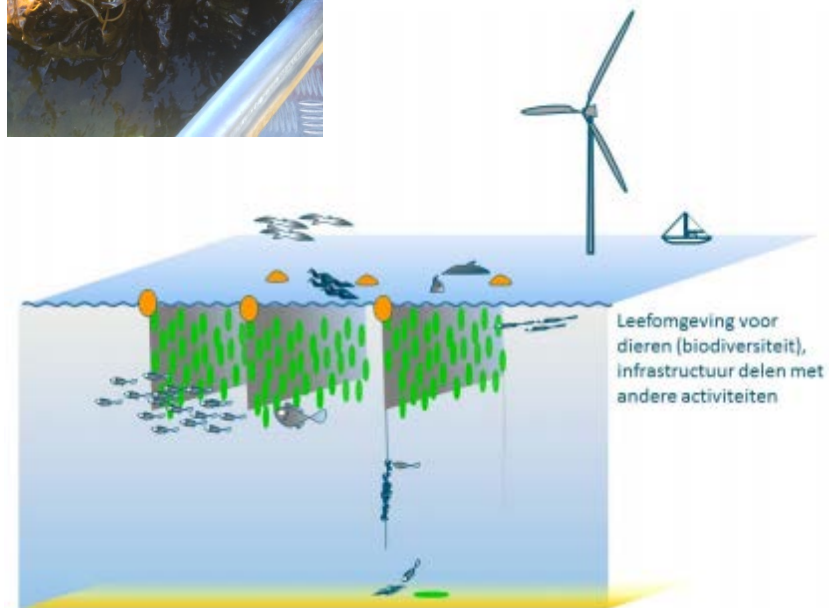
- Provisioning / regulating services

## *Motivation*

- Alternative for fossil fuels
- Niche markets
- Co-benefits

## *Barriers*

- Knowledge/uncertainties
- Cooperation with beneficiaries
- Innovative/niche market





# 1. Sustainable production

## ***Urgency / opportunity***

- Quality and availability of raw materials
- Image / CSR
- Niche markets

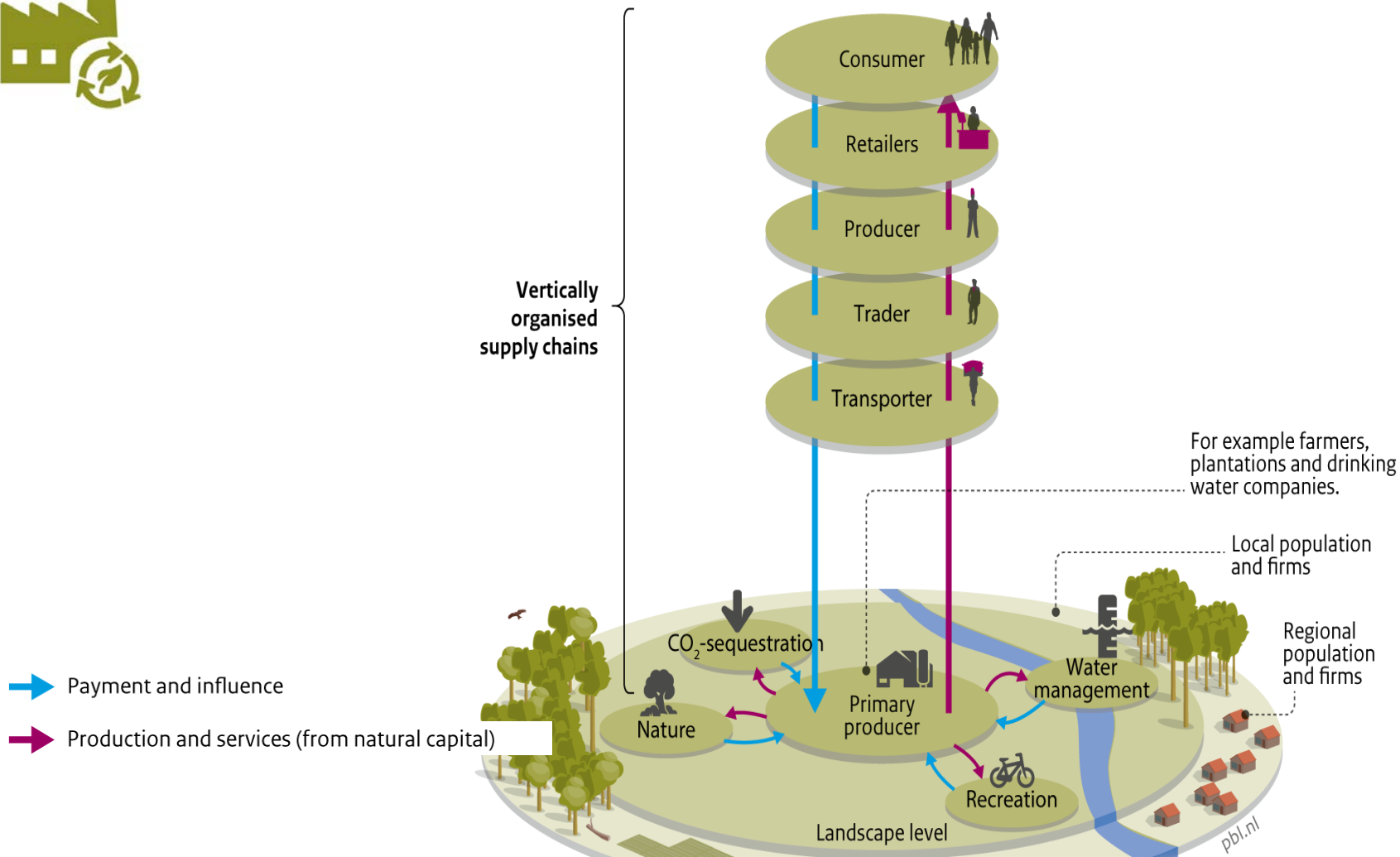
## ***Barriers***

- Innovation / transition takes time
- Knowledge gaps, esp. uncertainty
- Cooperation is difficult

## ***Options***

- Tools and platforms
- Experiment
- Facilitate and regulate







## 2. Rural/urban development





## 2. Water safety in the Eems-Dollard

### *Ecosystem services*

- Provisioning / regulating / cultural services

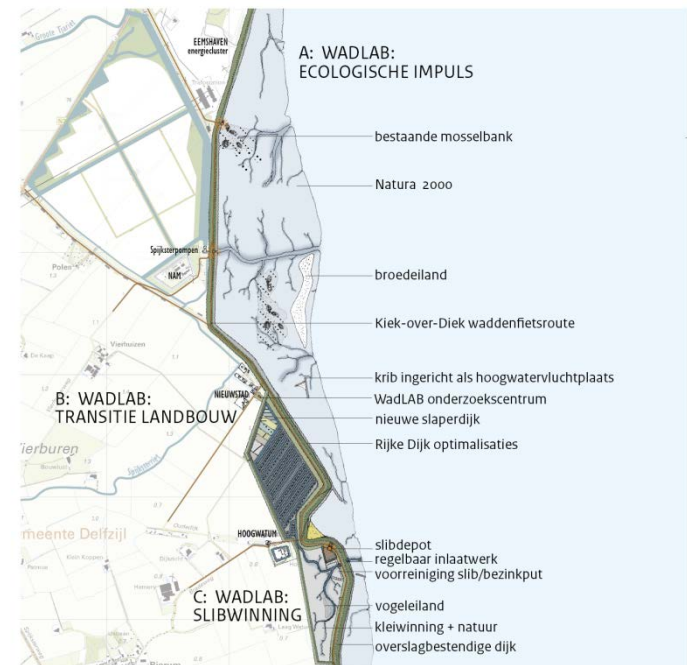
### *Motivation*

- Water safety
- Landscape quality

### *Barriers*

- Does not fit in procedures / guidelines
- Uncertainty
- Cooperation with beneficiaries
- Short term costs vs long term benefits

Inrichtingsschets voorkeursalternatief Eems-Dollard, 2014



Bron: Bosch Slabbers tuin- en landschapsarchitectuur





## 2. Rural/urban development

### ***Urgency / opportunity***

- Nature-based solutions
- New nature outside of protected areas
- Larger solution space

### ***Barriers***

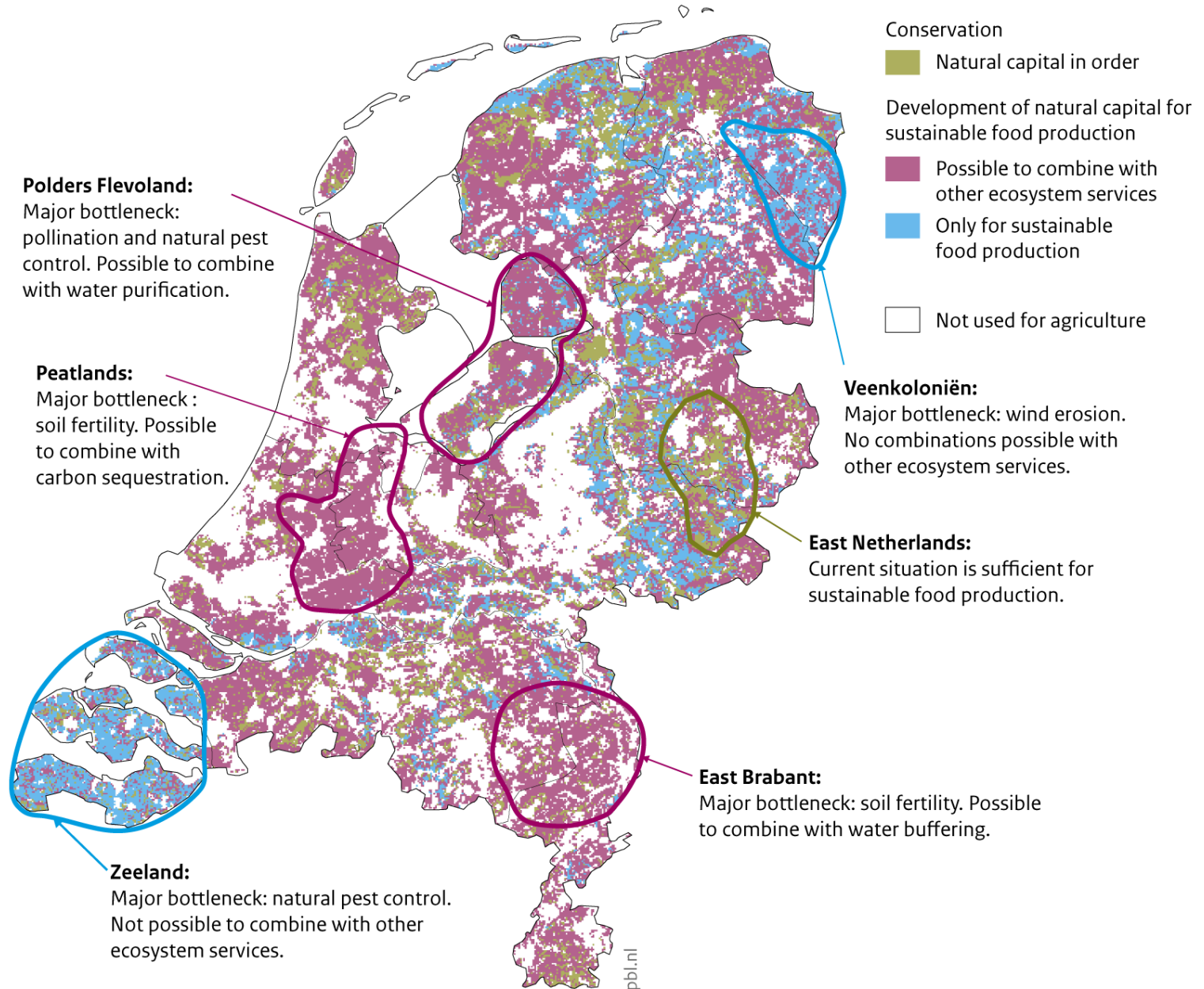
- Conflicting interests
- Does not fit in approaches /procedures
- Knowledge gaps

### ***Options***

- Include NBS in tools and procedures
- Experiment
- Public procurement



# Conservation and development of natural capital for sustainable food production, 2016





### 3. Enterprising nature management







## 3. National Park: Weerribben-Wieden

### *Ecosystem services*

- Provisioning / regulating / cultural services

### *Motivation*

- Subsidy cuts and reorganizations
- Public support / legitimacy
- Nature quality

### *Barriers*

- Missing sense of urgency / resistance
- Missing competencies
- Joint vision hard to reach





## 3. Enterprising nature management

### ***Urgency / opportunity***

- Legitimacy of nature policies
- Financial shortages
- Public support and nature quality

### ***Barriers***

- Urgency / opportunities differ per region
- Competencies
- Limited earning capacity

### ***Options***

- Shared vision
- How to organise new earning possibilities
- Experiment







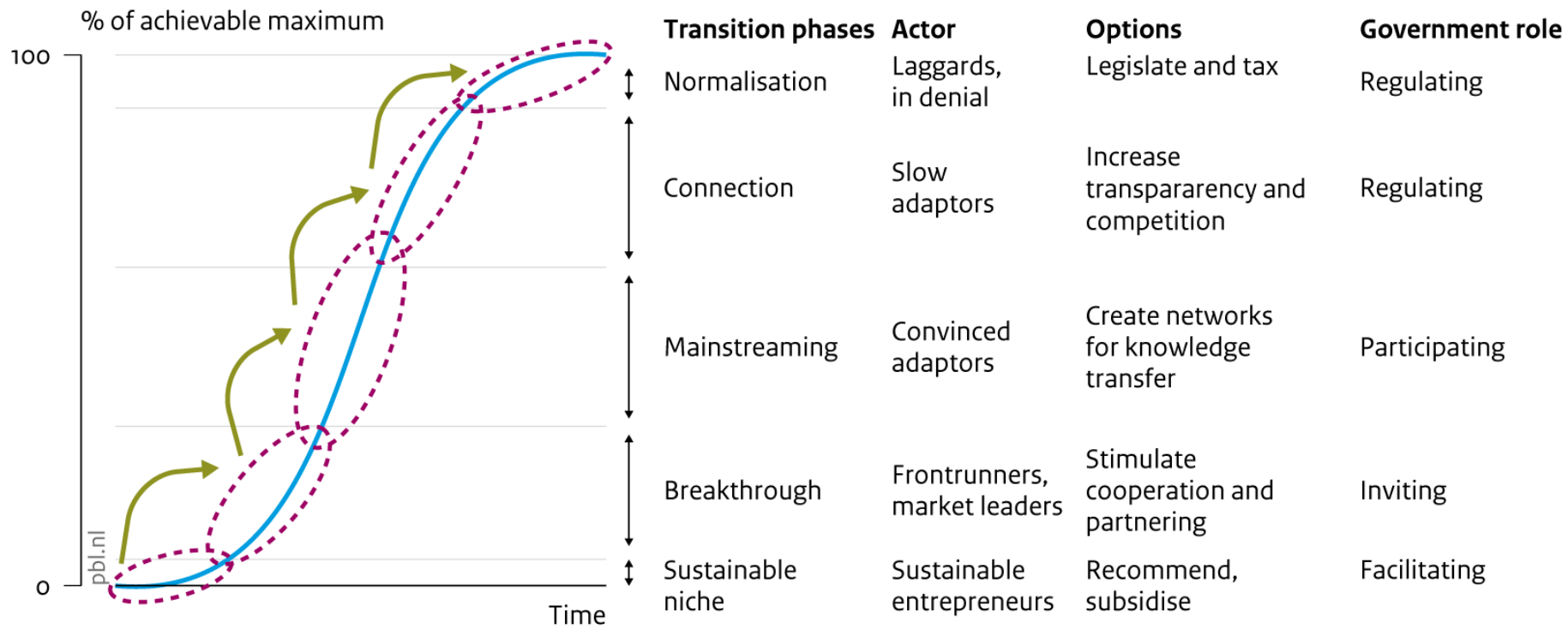
# Natural capital connects nature and economy



- A. Natural capital is innovative
- B. Integrate natural capital into other policy agendas
- C. Integrate the natural capital framework in procedures

# A. Natural capital is innovative!

## Transition to a sustainable use of natural capital



Source: PBL



## B. Integrate natural capital in other policy agendas!



- Create space for experimentation
- Innovative financing
- Create stimulating regulations

## C. Integrate the NC framework in procedures!

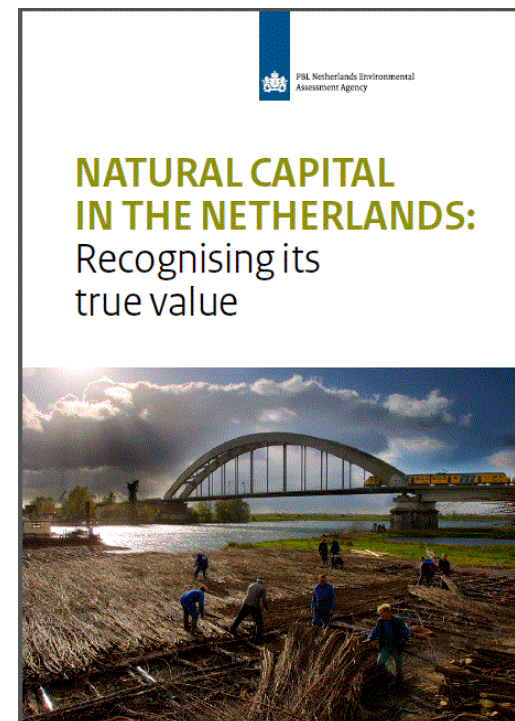


Add natural capital to existing procedures!

- In early stage: What opportunities does NC offer?
- In later stages? What is the added value of NC?



# Thank you



[http://themasites.pbl.nl/natuurlijk-kapitaal-nederland/  
natural-capital-netherlands](http://themasites.pbl.nl/natuurlijk-kapitaal-nederland/natural-capital-netherlands)



# Examples of ecosystem services

