# Reads ()

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# Valuing and accounting impacts on natural capital



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#### Context

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**READS** is an innovative digital tool designed to improve corporate decision making by valuing impacts on Natural Capital.

**Natural capital** is the stock of natural resources (e.g., air, water, biodiversity) that **bring value to society**. Value can be expressed in **monetary terms**, but also in quantitative/ qualitative terms.

Natural capital assessments can provide actionable information about the total value/net impact of individual entities and of portfolios. Global Energy Leaders are beginning to measure and report their impacts using natural capital metrics. This approach allows to answer questions from partners, financial institutions, NGOs and governments.

Our approach has been peer-reviewed by the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Capitals Coalition, and the EU Business & Biodiversity Platform.

CAPITALS

COALITION

environment programme



READS is based on an internationally recognized natural capital valuation and accounting approach

#### Methodology

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READS conforms to the **Natural Capital Protocol** and its Biodiversity Guidance, as well as the **ISO 14008:2019** on monetary valuation of environmental impacts.

#### Natural Capital Protocol

The Protocol is a standardized framework for business to identify, measure, and value their direct and indirect impacts (positive and negative) and dependencies on natural capital.

It is designed to help generate trusted, credible, and actionable information that business managers need to make informed decisions.

#### Norma ISO 14008:2019

This document provides a framework that includes principles, requirements and guidance for the monetary valuation of environmental impacts.

Monetary valuation methods on this Standard can also be used to value real or potential impacts on natural capital, including cost-benefit analysis, risk and life cycle assessments.



The Reads team is actively involved in the Transparent and Align projects in order to **ensure** the **scientific and technical strength** of the solution.



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Methodology

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#### Collaborators

The following companies have participated with Repsol in the development of Reads by providing digital and/or environmental consulting services.



READS has been peer-reviewed by









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Methodology

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The valuation and accounting method follows a tiered approach...

... to value impacts on



Identify impacts on Ecosystem services & biodiversity, climate, water, and well-being



Quantify impacts, in hectares, cubic meters, tons and decibels



Value loss or gain of natural capital, stated in USD(\$) and custom-built metrics



Manage impacts by applying the mitigation hierarchy based on costbenefit methods



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Product

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#### Natural Capital Module

This is a Natural Capital valuation and accounting module.

It is used to produce environmental reports for internal use of the company, both at corporate level and for asset managers. Specific reports can be generated to communicate aggregated or focused results to stakeholders.

The results provide an understanding of an organization's impacts on natural capital in qualitative, quantitative, and monetary terms.

These reports generate relevant information on the environmental evolution of the impacts, allowing the consolidation of results at different levels (by year, by business activity, etc.)



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Product

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#### **Economic Module**

The economic module performs cost-benefit analysis (CBA) of environmental impact mitigation measures, calculating their effectiveness and financial return.

This module acts as a financial simulator that identifies what measures are most effective, allowing financial parameters to be changed such as discount rates for NPV calculation.

Additionally, this module includes a series of KPIs and metrics designed to relate the impact on natural capital to the Company's financial and production balance sheet, and to justify ALARP project alternatives.

It is intended for internal use as well as external dissemination.



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#### **Differential Value**

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#### Facilitate business decision-making



It incorporates sustainability into business strategy, facilitating decisionmaking based on the assessment and efficient management of the environmental impact of operations.

#### Transparency



It is a crucial support to boost transparency and accomplish stakeholder expectations on natural capital impacts.

#### Support environmental compliance



Reads supports processes of impact assessment and justification of taxonomy requirements, as well as accounting for efforts to achieve "Nature Positive".

#### Access to finance



It facilitates access to finance and allows investors and stakeholders to assess the company's approach and progress towards action plans to manage natural capital risks.

#### Endorsed by international organisations



It adheres to state-of-the-art sustainability protocols, having been reviewed and endorsed by independent organizations.

#### Security and usability



It is a cloud application, built according to the highest security standards. Access is via website, and it is an easily usable tool for the user.

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