



Presentation from
**2015 World Water
Week in Stockholm**

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Taking Water into Account: the Natural Capital Perspective

Sofia Ahlroth, Glenn-Marie Lange and
Juan-Pablo Castaneda

Stockholm Water Week, August 2015



Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services
www.wavespartnership.org



**“What we measure affects what we do;
and if our measurements are flawed,
decisions may be distorted.”**

Stiglitz, Sen and Fitoussi (2009)



WAVES

Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services

is a global partnership that aims to mainstream Natural Capital Accounting in development planning and national economic accounts in support of sustainable development



WAVES Core Implementing Countries

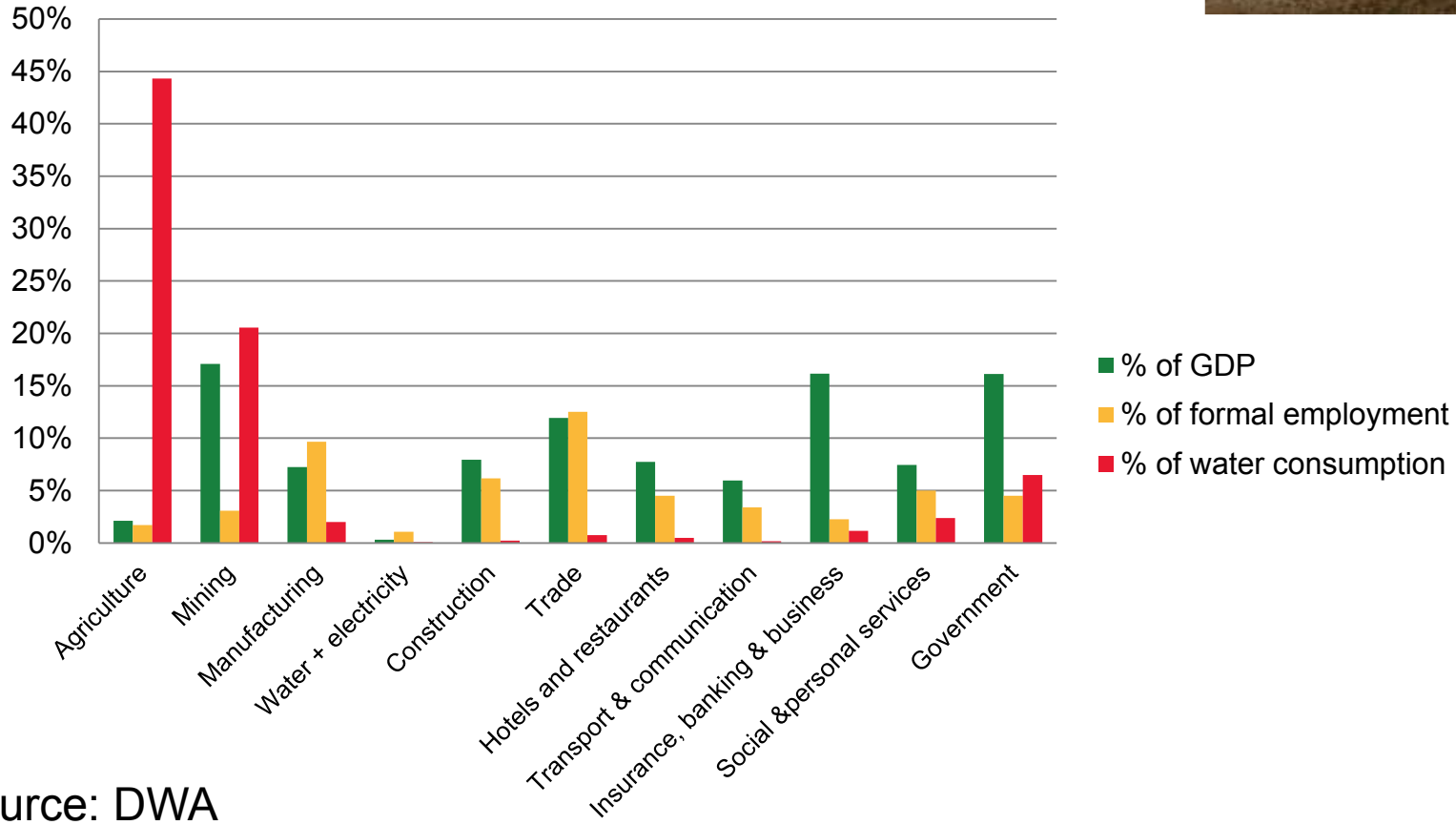


BOTSWANA

Are scarce water resources allocated efficiently?



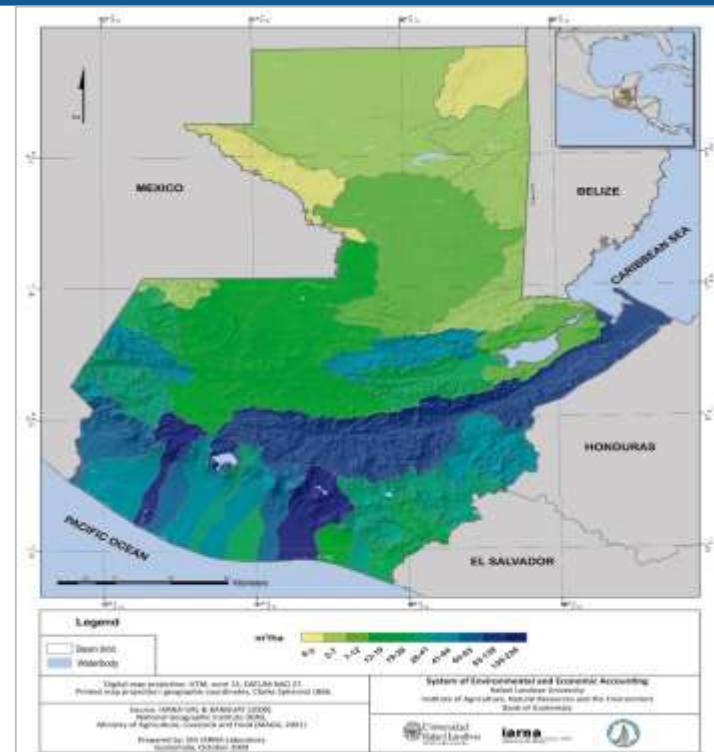
% share in GDP, employment & water use, 2011



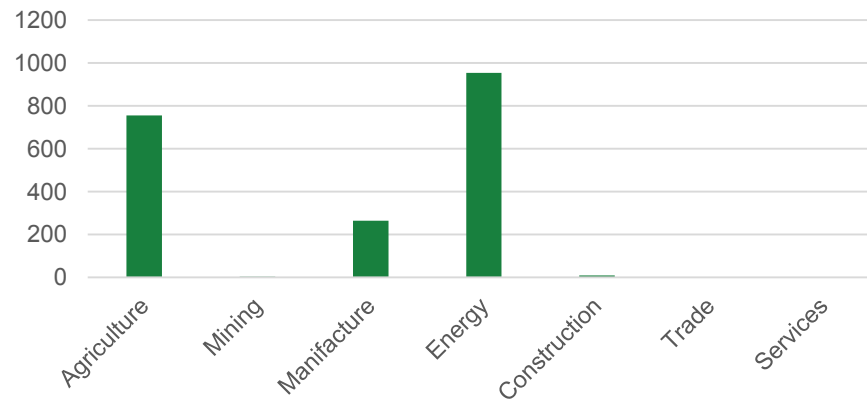
Source: DWA

Guatemala – how do we manage geographically and seasonally uneven water distribution?

- How can we guarantee **water availability** for agriculture, industry, and residential use?



Water intensity (m³/million Q)





Summary

Water use is growing in agriculture and competing demands give rise to a risk that not all needs will be able to be met in the future. A shift is required to ensure water demand management that both avoids water shortages and keeps water available for all users. The national water accounts provide data on stocks, flows and use that can inform the necessary strategic policymaking.

Background

The brief is based on work undertaken by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) and Centre for Applied Research (CAR) under the World Bank's Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) programme. The full report is available from the DWA and WAVES programme.

Figure 1. Share of water consumption, GDP and employment by sector in 2012

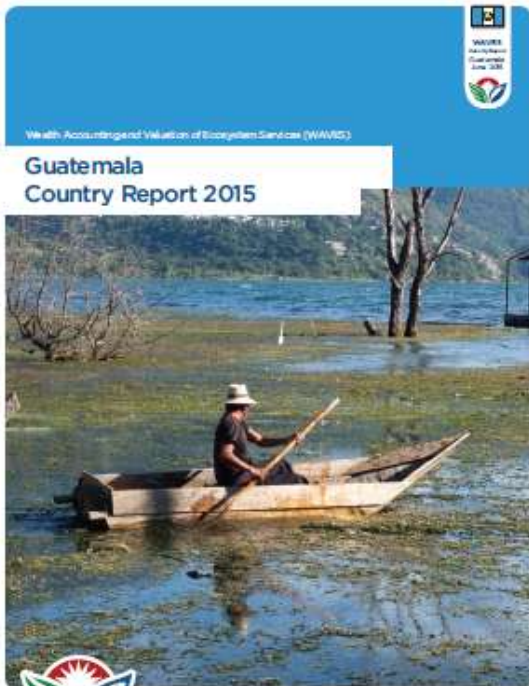
Sustainable, equitable and productive use of water through water accounting

The GVA for 2050, stocks or potential across BI

Water user populations are not just water short

- The policy supply – now use by demand
- There is a need to address

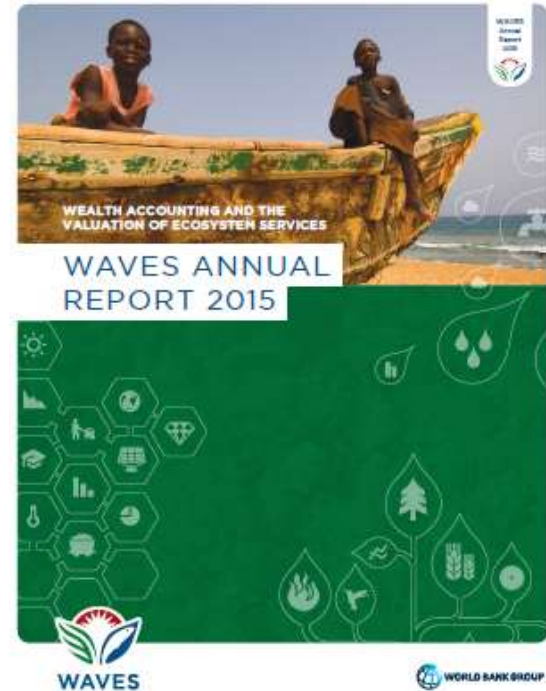
There is an opportunity to develop an account that



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Thank you!



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