SELINA
SCIENCE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED AND SUSTAINABLE DECISIONS ABOUT NATURAL CAPITAL

DP 15

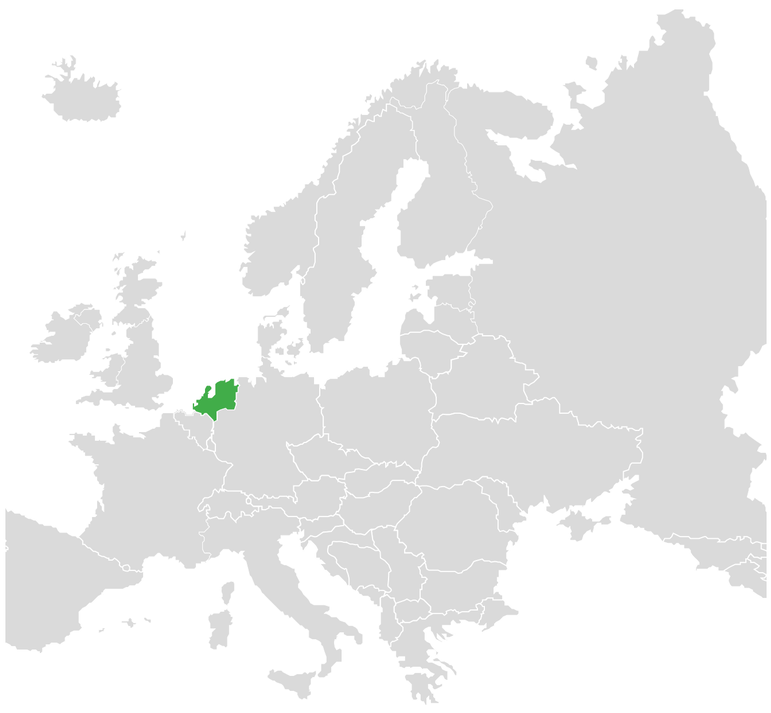
MEASURING AND VALUING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES WITHIN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- **Forests**
- Agroecosystems
- **Heath and grasslands**
- **Urban**
- **Wetlands**
- **Rivers and lakes**
- Marine ecosystems
- Coastal landscapes

Grant Thornton heijmans



To translate changes in ecosystems and nature-inclusive design measures into quantified ecosystem service outcomes and, where possible, monetary values.



Expected outcome

A practical Excel-based valuation tool that enables Heijmans to assess ecosystem services' provision across different project scenarios. The tool is subdivided into two separate modules tailored to infrastructure and real estate projects. Based on ecosystem changes the tool estimates annual and cumulative ecosystem-service values, including carbon sequestration and selected social and real-estate benefits.

Anticipated benefits

The tool enables scenario comparison, nature-inclusive project design and the development of a business case for it. It can inform the company's biodiversity strategy, provide a competitive advantage in procurement and tendering processes, and strengthen reporting, investor and client communications, and stakeholder engagement by demonstrating the value of ecosystem services and their associated socio-economic benefits.

Stakeholders

- Public sector
- Research and education
- NGOs and civil society
- Private sector and industry

Application of assessment results for decision-making

- Assess risks and opportunities
- Estimate total value and/or net impact
- Compare project alternatives
- Support communication and reporting
- Assess impacts on stakeholders

Funded by the European Union

SELINA receives funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101060415. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the EU nor the EC can be held responsible for them.