NBI Database User Guide

The nature-based infrastructure (NBI) database is a collection of results from SAVi assessments and other integrated cost-benefit analyses. It presents the costs of building and maintaining NBI and the benefits created. It includes the value of infrastructure services provided along with positive and negative externalities. The database also has information about the costs and benefits of conventional, grey infrastructure that can provide similar services.

Entries in the database include the following fields:

- **Value type**: This field categorizes each entry as either an added benefit, avoided cost, or direct cost. Added benefits represent value directly generated by infrastructure investments and are often cash flows. Avoided costs are indirect benefits and represent costs that would be incurred in the absence of the infrastructure investment. Direct costs include construction, operations, and maintenance costs.

- **Category**: This field organizes each entry into broad categories. It includes sectoral and biophysical groupings.

- **Subcategory**: This field further refines the categories into more specific groups. It provides descriptive information about the cost or benefit.

- **Unit**: This field specifies the unit for the value provided. Most costs and benefits are presented as both an absolute value and an intensity value. The absolute value is equal to the value given in the SAVi integrated cost-benefit analysis. The intensity value is normalized by a factor such as area or quantity..

- **Climate Scenario**: This field indicates the climate scenario for which the indicator was calculated. Most SAVi assessments use the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios. However, in some cases, other climate scenarios may be used. For a small handful of assessments, climate change was not explicitly considered.

- **Policy Scenario**: This field describes the policy scenario for which the indicator was calculated. SAVi assessments typically include a comparison of several policy scenarios, such as a business-as-usual scenario with no intervention, an NBI scenario, and a grey infrastructure scenario.

- **Value**: This field contains the value of the cost or benefit.

- **Country**: This field lists the country in which the project was assessed. • Sector: This field categorizes the assessments by type of infrastructure. SAVi NBI assessments are classified into five sectors: coasts, forests, rivers, urban, and wetlands.

- **Project Code**: This field contains a descriptive unique identifier for each SAVi assessment.

- **SAVi Assessment**: This field indicates whether the value was taken from a SAVi assessment or an external study.

- **Assessment URL**: This field provides a link to the full study from which the value was taken.

The database can be sorted by any of the above fields. Data can also be filtered by category, subcategory, country, and sector and can be exported as a .csv file.

The NBI database is periodically updated with new NBI assessments.

Using the Database

The database provides information about the performance and costs of NBI. It can be used to easily find results from integrated cost-benefit analyses and compare values across studies. It also allows users to compare the costs and benefits of NBI with those grey infrastructure.