



# The Ecosystem Services Partnership

Worldwide Network to enhance the Science and practical Application of Ecosystem services assessment

## ESP Steering Committee

### Activity Report

Since January 2014 the ESP has a Steering Committee of 30 members. The list of members can be consulted at the ESP website. The purpose of the Steering Committee is to advise the Executive Committee, provide oversight of the operation and governance of the ESP, and make broader decisions affecting the general membership of the ESP, including changes in membership fees and membership classes.

The Steering Committee meets annually at ESP conferences while for internal communication a Google Group has been set up. Most members, but not all, have an active role in the Steering Committee while several members are engaged in other ESP activities, notably the Issue Committees.

#### Activities

- Developing, discussing and adopting the ESP bylaws in the run-up to Costa Rica
- First Steering Committee meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica. The minutes of the meeting are available on the ESP website (on the page of the Steering Committee).
- Organisation of the election of Leimona Beria as new member of the Executive Committee.
- Facilitation of the first regional (European) ESP conference in collaboration with 3 research projects. The co-chairs of the Steering Committee started the preparations of the first European ecosystem services conference jointly organised by ESP, OpenNESS, ECOPLAN and OPERAs. On 28/08/2015 the Conference Organising Committee (COC) met for the first time. For ESP COC members are Hans Keune, Joachim Maes and Dolf de Groot. The conference is scheduled from 19 to 23 September 2016.

#### Advising role to the Executive Committee

- The Steering Committee has provided two positions papers advising the Executive Committee on the format of future ESP conferences and on the funding strategy.
- It has supported the Executive Committee in the choice of Stellenbosch and in finding partner organisations.
- On request of the Executive Committee the Steering Committee has endorsed collaboration with IPBES (the IPBES match making facility and BES-Net), discussed a new logo for ESP and endorsed two national networks, in Cyprus and in Poland.

#### Contribution of members to the Issue Committees

- Several Steering Committee members are engaged in the different Issue Committees which were established over the course of last year.
  - Johannes Förster (as co-Chair), Hans Keune, and Astrid van Teeffelen joined the International Relations Committee.
  - Anne Boehnke-Henrichs, Wieteke Willemen and Joachim Spangenberg participate to the Conference Design Committee.
  - Wieteke Willemen (as co-chair), Joachim Spangenberg, and Anne Boehnke-Henrichs participate to the Membership Engagement Committee.
  - Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham as Co-Chair of the Regional Chapters and National Networks.

[www.es-partnership.org](http://www.es-partnership.org)

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