



ESP Update No.2013/11

October 24 2013

Dear ESP members and friends,

Another month has passed since the previous Update. Some important recent developments are summarised below, but best also regularly visit our website for News-items and changes.

1. Working Groups

After 'Bali' we received many suggestions for additional Working Groups, Task Forces or changes in existing Groups. A very important addition is a new type of WG called [Sectoral Working Groups \(SWG\)](#) to facilitate communication with, and engagement of the main users and beneficiaries of



Ecosystem Services. The first two groups have been created (on Agro-ecosystems and on Tourism) and soon more will follow (notably on the Conservation 'sector').

These SWG's can be accessed via the [ESP Working Groups page](#) (left menu) or 'ESP Activities and Networks' on the home page. We will add the SWG-button on the home page asap.

Other changes and examples of activities:

- The lead-team of [TWG2 \(Biodiversity and ES\)](#) has been expanded and they are planning a special workshop early 2014, co-funded by the UK-BESS program, in preparation of the 7th ESP Conference in Costa Rica. For more information please contact the TWG2 organisation.
- [TWG9 \(Application of ES in Planning & Management\)](#) is planning a [Special Issue on the use of ES-Indicators in Landscape Ecology](#). The deadline for the Submission of extended abstracts is December 15, 2013.
- Within [TWG6 \(Valuation\)](#) several people are working on a proposal for a COST-action. They are exploring possibilities to further integrate the many value-notions and approaches.
- The [BEG2 \(Freshwater systems\)](#) is planning to organise a training course for water managers and river basin commissions

These are just a few examples both to share this information with you, and to inspire other WGs to organise workshops, write special issues, engage in proposals, develop courses or other activities.

If you want to know more about the above activities, best get in touch with WG leads.

2. 7th ESP conference in Costa Rica: September 8-12 2014

Save the date and spread the word!

Preparations for the 7th ESP conference are picking up speed and after much careful thought the decision was taken to have it in the 2nd week of September to accommodate as many stakeholder groups as possible.

If you plan to attend, make sure to save this date. Please also inform people in your networks about this conference. We will soon make an official first Announcement with further details which you can then distribute more widely.

The Conference Organising Committee (COC) consists of the Local Organisers (Fundación Neotrópica) and representatives from regional organisations and networks: Embrapa (Brazil), the Humboldt Institute (Colombia), LANES (Chili), VESPLAN (Argentina) and IUCN Meso-America. Furthermore 3 EU-funded projects on Community Based Ecosystem Management will participate: CiVi.net, COBRA and Eco-Adapt. More information will follow soon.

NOTE to all Working Group leads: best start thinking about possible session-topics because the main part of the program will be built around the ESP Working Groups, like in Bali.

3. Follow-up Bali Conference

Speaking of 'Bali': we are regularly placing further information on the Conference website www.esconference.org, but we are quite behind because of the heavy workload faced by the ESP secretariat in Wageningen. We will inform all participants and ESP members on new developments.

At the end of October we will send a Conference Evaluation form to those who were present and I would like to remind the Session organisers to make sure to publish the results in one of the ESP-affiliated Journals or in another form and inform the ESP secretariat on developments (support@es-partnership.org).

4. Elections of the Steering Committee

The deadline for nomination is tomorrow (Friday 25 October, midnight CET); we already received many nominations and will soon inform all paying members about the next steps.

5. Regional Chapters, National Networks and other collaboration

- In the course of the preparations for the 7th conference, the Latin America Regional Chapters are taking shape with the Humboldt Institute (Colombia) and EMBRAPA (Brazil) willing to take the lead on the [South American Regional Chapter](#).
- We are also in the process of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding between ESP and [Future Earth](#) and to obtain Stakeholder status within [IPBES](#).
- I also noticed that it increasingly happens that invitations for speaking at conferences or participation in funding-proposals are shared among the ESP members and people increasingly find each other in many different ways. This is very encouraging and exactly what the partnership is about. Please feel free to contact the ESP secretariat to support you finding other members or posting [a news item](#) or [call for cooperation](#).

6. Upcoming ESP related events

- The inaugural event of the [World Forum on Natural Capital](#) will take place in Edinburgh from 21-22 November 2013. ESP members can save an extra 10% off the cost by quoting "ESP10" at the checkout. For more information and registration please see: www.naturalcapitalforum.com
- An international workshop on Agro(ecosystem) Services will be held 17-18 February 2014 at the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF), Müncheberg, Germany. Deadline for abstract submission is 15 November. See: <http://www.es-partnership.org/esp/81747/8/0/50>.

As always, we look forward to hear from you and to see many of you at the next International Conference in September and intermediate events and workshops!

Dolf de Groot
on behalf of the ESP Executive Committee



Events

[World Forum on Natural Capital](#)
Edinburgh, Scotland
21-22 November 2013
10% discount for ESP members

[Find more information here](#)

7th Annual International ESP
Conference 2014
Costa Rica,
September 8-12 2014

More information will follow soon

ESP Working Groups

● Biome Expert Groups



● Thematic Working Groups



● National ESP Networks



Support & Secretariat

Questions about membership?
[Contact the ESP Secretariat](#)

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