



ESP Update No.2014/02

February 27, 2014

1. 7th ESP Conference in Costa Rica: 8 – 12 September 2014

- Preparations are going well and in addition to our 'traditional' Thematic (12) and Biome Workshops (6) we received several very interesting proposals for sessions on [ESP Services & Tools](#). For instance on ES in Earth Observation, Data Bases, Case studies, Education & Training, and ES-assessment Toolkits. In addition, 5 EU projects will present their results on working with local communities and there will be sessions on regional ES networks and the role of indigenous communities. In total we now received 36 proposals asking for around 50 slots.
- The deadline for session proposals is **March 1st** so if you still plan to submit a proposal, please do so by completing the [ESP2014 Session Submission Form](#) you'll find on the website. After March 1st, the Program Committee will review the proposals and decide on acceptance. Once the final session program is known, conference participants can submit Abstracts for Oral Presentations or Posters. More information will be placed on the website soon.
- Negotiations with the **Venue** are almost completed. The Conference will be held in the [Barceló San José Palacio](#) in San Jose, Costa Rica.
- Please regularly check the [conference site](#) for the latest updates and continue to announce the conference in your network(s). The flyer is available from the [conference site](#) via Downloads.

2. ESP Governance

The elections of the Steering Committee have been completed; a list of elected members will be placed on the ESP website soon. Currently the members of the SC are in the process of electing a Chair and a co-Chair, and developing a work plan. An important activity will be the preparations for the SC meeting in Costa Rica. More news will follow soon.

3. News from Working Groups, Regional Chapters, and National Networks

- Alexander Hellquist (co-lead of the [ESP Service team on Education & Training](#)) plans to organise a session on Education and Training in Costa Rica with the aim to develop guidelines for ES assessments on this topic. To this end he wants to develop a repository of existing online material from ES-related courses. If you know of good ES-related course material, please send it to Alexander Hellquist. [You'll find his contact information on the website.](#)
- [TWG12 Workshop and special issue on Governance of Ecosystem Services](#). The workshop and the special issue contribute to the work of the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) [Thematic Working Group 12 on 'Governance and Institutional Aspects'](#), and will focus on the changes, challenges and opportunities the concept of Ecosystem Services has brought about in environmental governance.

4. IPBES call for Experts

As we announced in the previous Update, IPBES is setting up several Task Forces and Expert Groups for which they are now inviting nominations. **Deadline is 28 February**. Further information and a form to submit nominations can be downloaded from www.ipbes.net.

5. Other news and ESP-related events

See the growing list of [News-items](#), [Vacancies](#), [Calls for cooperation](#) and [Upcoming events](#) on the ESP-website for new and previous messages, and interesting links.

As always, we look forward to hear from you!

The ESP Support Team



Events

'Governance of Ecosystem Services'
- Workshop and Special Issue
March 10-11 2014
Frankfurt am Main, Germany
[Click here for more information](#)

International Spring University on
Ecosystem Services Modeling
Bilbao, Spain
March 31 – April 11 2014
[Click here for more information](#)

7th Annual International ESP
Conference 2014
Costa Rica
September 8-12 2014
[Click here for more information](#)

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