



ESP Update no.2014/08

October 30, 2014

No. of recipients: approximately 2000

Dear ESP members and Friends,

First of all, apologies for the long silence, at least in terms of these Updates. We have been very busy the past few months with the ESP7 conference, both in terms of preparation and the aftermath. The most important developments are briefly summarised below.

As of this Issue we will return to the monthly production of these short Newsletters. Of course we do keep the News-items and other parts of the [ESP website](http://www.es-partnership.org) updated as much as possible.

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

More than 350 participants from 56 countries and all continents attended the conference. They participated in over 50 workshops, plenaries, and special sessions. There was much media-attention and several follow-up actions were started. We are eager to find out what you thought of the ESP conference and we will send out a survey to all conference participants soon. Currently we are busy uploading all the conference presentations and pictures. In the meantime have a regular look at www.esconference.org.

2. ESP governance

The newly elected [Steering Committee](#) (SC) met for the first time on Sunday September 7, in San Jose, just before the start of the conference, chaired by Joachim Maes and Sander Jacobs. One of the follow-up actions is the creation of sub-committees, focussing on specific governance issues, such as the funding-strategy, international relations (eg. link with IPBES), frequency and design of the conferences, and membership engagement. More news on the SC-activities will follow soon.

3. Working Groups and Regional Chapters

Most working groups held sessions and meetings in San Jose and Simone Maynard organised a meeting with the leads of Regional Chapters and National Networks who were present. Results will soon be communicated through the ESP-website and other means such as publications and special issues. Also several new Working Groups were created, especially in the category of [Stakeholder-oriented Working Groups](#), e.g. on the usefulness (or not ...) of the Ecosystem Services concept to Indigenous Communities and to Nature Conservation. If you want to join a Working Group, please contact the lead- and/or support person of the Working Group of your choice (or Working Groups: you can join more than one) through the ESP website.

4. Member-meeting and member-survey

During the ESP conference an ESP Member forum was held, which was very well attended. An overview was given of the [bylaws](#) and the changes to the [ESP governance structure](#) now that the new Steering committee is in place. The Regional Chapter and National Network leads have been working on a mission statement with RC&NN cluster coordinator Simone Maynard. The Biome Expert, Thematic and Stakeholder-oriented Working Groups now also have appointed cluster coordinators, respectively Neville Crossman, Benjamin Burkhard and Dolf de Groot. Cluster coordinators will facilitate communication between the Working Groups and the Executive and Steering Committee.

The results of the latest ESP survey were also presented. Some fun facts: on average the ESP'er has been working on ES for 6.4 years, is 39 years old and most likely lives in Europe. A more detailed overview of the survey results will be posted online soon.

5. Other ESP matters

- [Claim the sky](#): an initiative by Bob Costanza that has been receiving [wider publicity](#)
- [ECOSER](#): the special subscription fee for ESP-members for the Journal Ecosystem Services for 2015 will be 32€ (44US\$).
- [New version of TESSA launched at ESP7](#): The new improved, interactive Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment (TESSA) was launched at the 7th Annual Ecosystem Services Partnership Conference in Costa Rica and is now available online. The updated version makes TESSA even more accessible to anyone involved in assessing and valuing key ecosystem services.

See also 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 hearing from you!



Events

Webinar: Developing Geospatial Data and Meta-Analysis for Ecosystem Services Benefit Transfer
November 5 2014

[Click here for more information](#)

ACES 2014 conference

December 8-11 2014

Washington, D.C., USA

Reduced registration fees till

November 10

[Click here for more information](#)

Ecosystem service Sessions at

AGU2014

December 15-17 2014

San Francisco, USA

[Click here for more information](#)

ESP Working Groups

Thematic Working Groups



Biome Expert Groups



Sectoral Working Groups



National ESP Networks



Support & Secretariat

Questions about the Conference?

[Contact the ESP Conference](#)

Questions about membership?

[Contact the ESP Secretariat](#)

Questions about the working groups

or the ESP website? [Contact the ESP](#)

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Questions about research or organizational issues?

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