

Guidelines for activities by ESP National Networks

(Version 18/12/2015 – please feel free to send suggestions for changes to Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham: minacs@gmail.com)

Below is a list of activities which can be used as inspiration for the activities that can be initiated and coordinated by ESP National Network (NN) (co)-chairs and support teams.

Research and publications

- **Develop an ES researchers and practitioners contact database for the nation.** Maintain a contact database so people can connect to each other and get the technical expertise they need. RCs are to provide a link on their webpages and draw attention to the database(s) held on the NN websites. Requires ongoing updates. Database information could include (but is not limited to): name, organisation, sector, research area, contact details, publications.
- **Draw attention to publications specific to the nation.** Provide information on new materials, reports, publications as they become available. Advertise 'latest publications' for the month and share PDF copies with those interested. Requires ongoing updates and emails. Particularly important for regions where people may not have access to PDFs through libraries or journal subscriptions.
- **Contribute articles and news to the ESP newsletters.** Allows for local and national information to be shared globally. Send articles directly to ESP administration.
- **Instigate or be involved in national ecosystem service assessments.** NN members can play an active role in assessments. Regional experts could be paired with local experts to build local capacity. In absence of NN, then RCs could be involved in assessments.

Meetings & Events

- **Conduct Skype meetings with members of the NN.** Quarterly meetings are suggested.
- **Organisation of National ESP Conferences and support RC-chairs with organisation of Regional ESP Conferences**
- **Put ES case studies on website for others to use.** Examples of best practice can help members better understand ES. Provide examples of how ES research and application in practice can occur. Needs to be kept current. A template could be developed for projects to use and submit to NNs for uploading.
- **Tailor make and deliver the common presentation explaining the ESP and NNs to your nation.** Adapt specifically for your nation the consistent presentation of what ESP is and what NNs do. Promote the ESP at conferences, national meetings, wherever else is appropriate. Useful for communication and in recruiting members.

Membership & collaboration

- **Collaborate on RC surveys to create an overview of the needs, ideas of researchers and other stakeholders.** Work with RCs to develop and distribute surveys to better understand the needs of members (e.g. policy needs and research ideas and the demand/supply/gaps relation between them).

- **Actively approach researchers and practitioners to become ESP members.** Promote the ESP at conferences, national meetings, wherever else is appropriate.
- **Identify ways to increase the ESP membership.** Promote the ESP at conferences, regional meetings, wherever else is appropriate.
- **Jointly design and conduct research projects or applications in practice with RCs.** Nations that have conducted ES assessments or have examples of application in practice could share their knowledge. NNs may help find partners. Good to link university projects to practitioners or groups working in the region on ES related projects.

National & International policy

- **Provide input into international activities (e.g. IPBES).** Feed information bottom up to RCs to deliver regional responses to ESP, for input into international ES policies and programs (supporting the bottom up character of ESP). Report progress on national assessments. Identify support needed at national level. Develop forms if required.
- **Become involved in national policy evaluation or opportunities to promote policy.** This requires convincing policy makers of the value and use of ES concepts. NNs can use ESP affiliation in proposals. Could be a way to get funding. (In absence of NN, then RC could perform this action).

Communication & outreach

- **Approach media and communicate ES issues and opportunities.**
- **Use the ESP logo/details/position in email signatures.** Use in everyday correspondence.
- **Maintain relevant webpages on the ESP website.**