

## **Guidelines for activities by ESP Regional Chapters**

*(Version 18/12/2015 – please feel free to send suggestions for changes to Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham: [minacs@gmail.com](mailto: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 Regional Chapters (RC) (co)-chairs and support teams

### **Research and publications**

- **Draw attention to publications specific to the region.** Advertise the 'latest publications' for that 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.
- **Jointly design and conduct research projects or applications in practice with NNs.** Regions and nations that have conducted ES assessments or have examples of application in practice could share their knowledge. RCs may help find partners. Good to link university projects to practitioners or groups working in the region on ES related projects.
- **Collaborate - join research or policy initiatives as a network/ community of practice.** This will keep RCs up to date with current developments. Needs to be flexible to be fit within member needs and time.
- **Organize student exchanges, offering scholarships, internships, courses and trainings; organize guest lectures or courses.** Link this to regional universities and other national universities. This will make it more affordable and have a wider impact Also look at opportunities to add on trainings to conferences.

### **Meetings & Events**

- **Conduct Skype meetings with NN Chairs within the region.** Quarterly meetings are suggested.
- **Coordinate regional conferences in the consecutive year to the main ESP conference.** Every 2nd year. Regional conferences ensure diversity and networking. Conferences to be held in different locations to draw new practitioners/people. May need to fundraise to support local participants from developing countries. Timing for these to begin will depend on overarching ESP conferences. Depending on the size and politics of the region or in the absence of a RC these could be held by NNs.
- **Tailor make and deliver the common presentation explaining the ESP and RCs to your region.** Adapt specifically for your region the consistent presentation of what ESP is and what RCs do. Promote the ESP at conferences, national meetings, wherever else is appropriate. Useful for communication and in recruiting members.

### **Membership & collaboration**

- **Develop regional surveys to create an overview of the needs, ideas of researchers and other stakeholders.** Work with NNs 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).
- **Collect and collate NN member and expert databases to develop a regional database.** Maintain a contact database so that Chairs can connect people to each other, or help others get the technical

expertise they need. Could potentially be modelled on the IUCN Commissions – provides a network of experts to draw upon. This requires regular updating.

- **Actively approach researchers and practitioners to become ESP members.** Promote the ESP at conferences, regional meetings, wherever else is appropriate.

- **Identify ways to increase the ESP membership.** Promote the ESP at conferences, regional meetings, wherever else is appropriate.

- **Experienced RC and NN share their knowledge with other ones who are not so experienced yet.**

When it comes to strengthening cooperation, the transfer of knowledge is important. Important RCs and NNs look across borders and establish regional cooperation, especially in protected areas which cross national borders.

### **International policy**

- **Provide a link to international ES policies and programs e.g. IPBES input** (supporting the bottom up character of ESP). Feed information bottom up into international activities. Although RCs are to deliver the information up, the information needs to be delivered to the RCs by the NNs. Report progress on national assessments, and in a regional context. Identify support needed at national or regional level. Develop forms if required.

### **Communication & outreach**

- **Use the ESP logo/details/position in email signatures.** Use in everyday correspondence.

- **Approach media and communicate ES issues and opportunities.**

- **Maintain relevant webpages on the ESP website.**