

ESP The Ecosystem Services Partnership

Worldwide Network to enhance the Science and practical Application of Ecosystem services assessment

First Meeting of the ESP steering committee

San Jose, Costa Rica, 07 sept 2014

SC members present: Alessandro Gimona, Johannes Förster, Jonathan Kochmer, Louise Willemen, Stoyan Nedkov, Emmanuelle Cohen-Sacham, Joachim Maes, Sander Jacobs

SC members present excused: Joachim Spangenberg, Davide Geneletti, Marion Potschin, Isabelle Durance

EC members (present as observers): Neville Crossman, Simone Quatrini, Benjamin Burkhard, Simone Maynard, Fabrice De Clerck, Dolf De Groot, Linda Scholten (Exec. secretretary).

1) Approval of the new bylaws and approval the new ESP structure including the chairs and members of the Executive Committee (EC) and the Steering Committee (SC). (Presentation by Sander Jacobs of the revision process and the election procedures)

The new bylaws are officially adopted by the steering committee. The executive committee was unanimously endorsed and now officially consists of Dolf de Groot, Neville Crossman, Benjamin Burkhard, Simone Maynard, Simone Quatrini, Fabrice de clerck, Bob Costanza and Ida Kubiszewski.

The Steering Committee counts 30 members. The list of members is available on the ESP website. Joachim Maes and Sander Jacobs are co-chairing the steering committee.

2) Reports of the ESP Chair and Treasurer (as per by-laws) (Dolf de Groot, Neville Crossman)

The ESP has a positive balance; the financial situation, however, can be improved and a more diversified income would be better. Most income comes from the contributions of individual and institutional members. FSD (the foundation for sustainable development) is still funding part the secretary but this contribution is expected to decrease in the following years. The Development working group within the EC is exploring options to increase income.

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3) Update on the activities of the working groups by the cluster coordinators (Simone Maynard, Benjamin Burkhard, Dolf de Groot).

- *Update of the activities (12 Thematic working groups, 8 Biome expert groups and sectoral working groups under development, Regional Chapters and National networks)*

The working groups are generally doing well, but some dormant groups (especially in the biomes section) should be re-activated and if they stay non-active we should consider stopping the activities (on which the steering committee will give advice). Table 1 gives an overview of the activities. Keeping a group running takes time and efforts of the leads. Activation could happen in several ways, e.g. by asking the WG leads for a number of clear objectives with timing. The steering committee will receive new proposals for working groups for approval.

Simone Maynard is in the lead of the national networks and regional chapters of ESP. She has prepared a document describing the potential roles of the NNs and RCs and the actions that need to be undertaken to start their activities. The response is not high so SC members are certainly encouraged to see how they can contribute. The outline for the organisation of NNs and RCs is available in draft form.

Open question: giving the WG's more space on the ESP conference could be an option to increase their activity, but on the other hand spontaneous sessions (which might lead to new WG's) remain also very important to stimulate and discuss the development of new ideas.

- *Assignment of cluster coordinators for the thematic and biome groups (Candidates are welcome)*

Not discussed

4) Update on the activities of the ESP SERVICE Teams (Dolf de Groot and if available, service leaders)

This update had to be postponed to the member forum on Monday 8 September.

5) ESP cooperation with other organisations and initiatives

- ESP contribution to assessments (IPBES, MAES, regional and local assessments)

Mainly the potential links with IPBES were discussed. IPBES will carry out regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services by 2018. Different IPBES expert groups have been established. EC members Neville Crossman and Simone Maynard are members of the expert group on regional assessment. It can be expected that many ESP

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members will support or contribute to national and regional ecosystem assessments so it would make sense to establish a sort of strategic partnership with IPBES. ESP members can deliver data, maps, models, experiences, and knowhow to the assessments.

- Role of an advisory board (based on members of similar organisations e.g. ACES)

Joachim forwards the mail for AB suggestions to the SC members. If you have ideas for people who we could consult and who can take up an advisory function, please let us know.

Dolf de Groot also informed the steering committee on the memorandum of understanding with the national nature trust (South Korea) and the ESP to collaborate on the promotion of the use of ecosystem services for nature conservation.

6) Organisation of future conferences and ideas for ESP's development (Joachim Maes and Dolf de Groot)

Next year the ESP conference will probably take place in Africa. There is a discussion to organise from 2015 onwards only biannual global meetings. The view of the steering committee on this issue is requested. The chair will collect views of the member using a separate e-mail which explains the different opinions on this matter.

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Annex: Activity of the working groups

	Session	Lead(s)
1. ES Assessment Frameworks & Typologies	Yes	Dolf de Groot, Roy Haines-Young
Task Force ES Cascade	No	Marion Potschin, Felix Müller
2. Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services	Yes	Patricia Balvanera, Isabelle Durance, Piran White, Edmundo Barrios, Berta Martín-López
3. ES Indicators	Yes	Felix Müller, Matt Walpole, Belinda Reyers, David Vackar
4. Mapping ES	Yes	Benjamin Burkhard, Joachim Maes
5. Modeling ES	Yes	Rob Alkemade, Stoyan Nedkov, Peter Verburg
6. Valuation of ES	Yes	Luke Brander
6A. Cultural Services & Values	No	Kai Chan, Helen King
6B. Ecosystem Services and Public Health	No	Hans Keune, Conor Kretsch
6C. Economic and Monetary Valuation	No	Sebastian Villasante, Ursula Kirchholtes, Awang Noor
6D. Value Integration	Yes	Sander Jacobs
7. ES in trade-off analysis & project evaluation	Yes	Inge Liekens
8. ES and Disaster Risk Reduction	Yes	Fabrice Renaud, Blanka Louckova
9. Application of ES in Planning & Management	Yes	Christian Albert, James Aronson, Christine Fürst, Christina von Haaren
9A. Restoring Ecosystems and their Services	No	James Aronson, Sasha Alexander
10. Co-investment and reward mechanisms for ES	Yes	Beria Leimona, Harpinder Sandhu
10A. ES and Poverty Alleviation	No	Harpinder Sandhu
11. ES accounting & greening the economy	Yes	Adrian Newton, Ursula Kirchholtes
12. Governance and institutional aspects	Yes	Bernd Hansjürgens, Leon Braat, Anja Wittich
	Session in CR?	Lead(s)
1. Marine & coastal systems	No	Linwood Pendleton
1A. Open oceans	No	Salman Hussain, Linwood Pendleton
1B. Coral reefs	No	Pieter van Beukering, Luke Brander
1C. Coastal systems	No	Rosimeiry Portela, Andrea Ghermandi
1D. Coastal wetlands	No	Luke Brander, Andrea Ghermandi, Rosimeiry Portela, Piran White
2. Freshwater systems	Yes	Suzanne vd Meulen & Neville Crossman
2A. Inland wetlands	No	Luke Brander, Lorena Franco Vidal
2B. Rivers & lakes	No	Jonathan Kochmer, Alain de Vocht
3. Forests	No	Stefan Salvador, Sandra Luque
3A. Tropical forests	Yes	Mike Christie
3B. Temperate & boreal forests	No	Sandra Luque, Alistair McVittie
4. Drylands	No	Antonio J. Castro
4A. Wood- & Shrublands	No	Luis C. Rodriguez, Pradip Dey
4B. Grasslands	No	NN
5. Mediterranean-Climate Ecosystems	No	NN, (Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham)
6. Polar regions & high mountains	No	David Pitt, Mike Christie
7. Rural/cultivated systems	Yes	Fabrice DeClerck, Louise Willemen, Giovanni Zurlini, Christine Negra
8. Urban ecosystems	Yes	Thomas Elmqvist, Heikki Setälä, Steven Handel, Richard Pouyat

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Working group	Which have been the major achievements in your group the last year?	What still needs to be improved in the group?	What are your future plans in the group?
TWG 4 Mapping ES:	SI "Best practice in ES mapping" in <i>Ecosystem Services</i> on the way (~17 articles) 4 topic Workshops at ESP 7 ESP visualisation tool further developed and well received H2020 proposal submitted	improve involvement of growing number of TWG members (?)	sustainability of ESP visualisation tool (attract users; find long-term host after JRC funding expires in 2016) multi-authored paper and/or SI out of the 4 ESP TWG4 sessions
TWG 6B Ecosystem Services and Public Health	planned main activity was processing and communicating the results of survey, fell a bit back, hope to pick it up again soon	things have not progressed as much as wanted with the TWG many things are developing in the field, in which also TWG members are involved, both globally and at the EU and national levels pull things together at some stage in order to boost the interest for the topic also within ESP	
TWG 6D Value Integration	TWG established & put online (growing) member group is updated via ESP website all members collaboratively developed the vision & mission, consolidated version put online collaboration with OpenNESS project session in Costa Rica email list to circulate relevant papers	improve communication through contact person thoughts on social-network-based structure for the WG's (Linked-In or Researchgate) "we'll manage like this"	link up (further) with existing networks aim for policy-relevant translation of research work on integrated valuation Costa Rica is the onset of a SI aiming at developing a framework for integrated valuation research and (meta) review ideas are circulating
TWG 7 ES in trade-off analysis & project evaluation:	nothing happened the last year (time constraints)	stronger efforts in taking action	digital cardbox with all possible tools which for project evaluation and trade-off analysis

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			documentation of every tool (what it is, how it works, what you can do with it, advantages and disadvantages, example cases)
TWG 8 ES and Disaster Risk Reduction	TWG was consolidated with various colleagues joining after Bali TWG now has a good critical mass types of hazards to be analysed have been narrowed to floods and droughts (at least in a first instance) related session in Costa Rica	intra-group discussion keeping the momentum going - need to continue to improve on this	finalization of first paper, strict timeline will be discussed in Costa Rica
TWG 12 Governance and institutional aspects:	Workshop in Frankfurt/Main in March 2014 on "Governance of ES" with 50 experts from more than 15 countries papers for SI in Ecosystem Services on "Governance of ES" follow-up Workshop in Costa Rica	many ESP activities run parallel interactions between working groups have to be improved needs time and resources	strengthen social science and governance research within ESP process still beginning, will take some time and additional efforts
BEG 2 Freshwater systems	session in Costa Rica BEG has otherwise not been active after the last ESP Conference	BEG leaders need to put more effort in activating the group no initiatives have been taken by other members	exchange (in Costa Rica) with other working group leaders about their activities with the working group learn good practices and make a plan for BEG 2 for the next year invite delegates attending the BEG session to discuss during the conference aims and potentials of BEG activities
BEG 3A Tropical forests:	not much has happened in the BEG		future plans will be discussed in Costa Rica

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<p>BEG 4 Drylands:</p>	<p>new BEG lead just started, thus no achievements yet</p>	<p>"Everything needs to be improved"</p>	<p>start working on a systematic review/assessment on knowledge of ES across drylands contact some people and colleagues from global drylands biomes (e.g. Argentina, Spain, Australia, Africa, Mexico) collaboration with BEGs on wood-scrubland and grasslands</p>
<p>BEG 5 Mediterranean-Climate Ecosystems</p>	<p>little workshop in Bali: to start an ES assessment of Mediterranean, co-operation with the IUCN CEM's ES Thematic Group, few presentations and good discussion on how to progress most BEG members participated in the preparation of the ES handbook's Mediterranean Chapter no session in Costa Rica (not sufficient support, perhaps Costa Rica not the place that would attract relevant people to this type of ecosystem).</p>	<p>group is very small (only 5 members) need of more members and a new lead</p>	