

2018 ESP Asia Conference

Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services

In Policy and Practice in Asia.

9 - 12 October, 2018. Dehradun, India

Book of Abstract

- I. SESSION DESCRIPTION
- II. SESSION SCHEDULE
- III. ABSTRACTS

I. SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T14a

Title of session:

“Endorsing Nature and Community based Solutions for healthy and resilient natural and modified ecosystems in S. Asia”

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:	Ms.	Shalini Dhyani	S. Asia Chair IUCN CEM/ Scientist CSIR National Environmental Engineering Research Institute/ Lead Author IPBES Asia Pacific Regional Assessment	shalini3006@gmail.com
Co-host:	Dr.	MADHAV KARKI	Deputy Chair IUCN CEM/ Expert Member IPBES	karki.madhav@gmail.com

Abstract:

South Asia region is home to a number of Protected Areas, Trans boundary Sacred & Biodiversity Landscapes and seascapes, Biosphere Reserves, Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), Wetlands in many shared landscapes and ecosystems in Mountains, Coastal, Marine, Forests, Agriculture and Urban areas. S. Asia is also home to many indigenous and traditional communities living in these diverse ecosystems and have been protecting them since millennia. In last few decades enhanced anthropogenic interferences and climate led vulnerabilities have led to modifications of ecosystems resulting in impaired ecosystem services. A large number of human population of S. Asia is presently residing in cities whereas, a large part of natural ecosystem is also getting converted to agriculture, industrial or any other purpose to fulfill the demands of growing population. Modified ecosystems



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have extraordinarily large ecological, carbon and water ‘footprints’ with complex, powerful, and often unforeseen effects on natural ecosystems. Ecosystem services concept has been widely accepted for nature and biodiversity conservation of natural landscapes and getting prominence in human dominated landscape. As per approved IUCN Agenda (2017–2020) South Asia has been considered as a region that requires greatest conservation need among IUCN’s eight Statutory Regions. Similar concerns were also raised in IPBES regional assessment report released for Asia Pacific (2015–2018) in March, 2018 in Colombia. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 11, 14 and 15 are especially finding it’s relevance in S. Asian context. Nature-based Solutions (NbS) as defined by IUCN has the potential to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems, by and community collaborative approaches that address societal challenges in S. Asia (e.g. climate change, food and water security or natural disasters) effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing nature’s benefits to people and improve health of ecosystems. Approaches, case studies and success stories shared from various ecosystems of S. Asia in the session aim to influence and endorse improving the knowledge base on complex issues related to ecosystem conservation and healthy ecosystems by understanding the importance and judicious application of NbS. Session aims to generate and contribute advanced and emerging knowledge with reference to increasing the resilience of ecosystems using NbS and Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge (ILK) based available with indigenous communities. Session is more keen to seek answers regarding what are key requirements in implementing NbS; What has not helped in implementing NbS to understand the weak areas, and how to scale up the NbS approach from local to landscape to ecosystem level. The session will also focus on seeking contributions of NbS and ILK in improving ecosystem services with a special focus on regulating and cultural ecosystem services from case studies from different ecosystems of S. Asia and how they can address localizing relevant SDG goals 11, 14 and 15.

Goals and objectives of the session:

1. Introducing an integrated and interactive nature–human interactions And it’s strengths and weaknesses;
2. Understanding the Issues and limitations of NbS and Community based Solutions (CbS);
3. Exploring the opportunities and challenges of Community empowered NbS for resilient socio–ecological ecosystems.

Planned output / Deliverables:

Pre Workshop: A Background Document

Post Workshop Output: Workshop Report + 03 Blog Articles + Newsletter inputs for IUCN



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and ESP+ Website update on IUCN and IPBES + Social Media (Twitter, FB) + 01 Policy Brief

Related to ESP Working Group/Natioanl Network:

TWG 14 - Application of ES in Planning & Management



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II. SESSION PROGRAM

Date of session: Thursday, 11 October 2018

Time of session: 9:00 – 11:00

Time	First name	Surname	Organization	Title of presentation
9:00-9:15	Shalini	Dhyani	S. Asia Chair IUCN CEM/Lead Author IPBES/Scientist CSIR NEERI	Introduction
9:15-9:30	Aditya	Petwal	IUCN	Deploying Nature & Community Based Solutions for Enhancing Ecosystem Services and Agrarian Livelihoods
9:30-9:45	MADHAV	KARKI	Deputy Chair IUCN CEM/ Expert Member IPBES	
9:45-10:15	Shalini	Dhyani	S. Asia Chair IUCN CEM/Lead Author IPBES/Scientist CSIR NEERI	Discussion



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III. ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are clustered based on the last name of the authors. First authors are presenting authors unless indicated otherwise.

1. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14a – “Endorsing Nature and Community based Solutions for healthy and resilient natural and modified ecosystems in S. Asia”

Deploying Nature & Community Based Solutions for Enhancing Ecosystem Services and Agrarian Livelihoods

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Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) reports that some 70 % of families are dependent on natural resources for 90% of their needs. An unsustainable management of ecosystems may lead to accelerated depletion of natural resources and vulnerability of communities. IUCN and ITC – Limited believe that nature conservation and human progress are linked and can go hand in hand. IUCN in different parts of world has demonstrated that Nature Based Solutions (NBS) can contribute to restore landscapes, replenishing river flows and reconnect fragmented ecosystems.

IUCN and ITC – Limited have partnered in Munger (Bihar) in three unique landscapes— Riverine Agriscape, Forest and Lake Agriscape and Ahar–Pyne Agriscape to identify the linkage between ecosystem services and agricultural output and develop revival of ecosystem services. This programme is referred to as ‘Sustainable Agriscapes for Future Programme’. In each of these representative landscapes, collaborative research found agriculture and livelihoods are negatively impacting the surrounding ecosystems and associated ecosystem services. As part of the Agriscapes programme, different nature and community based solutions have been defined and field piloted to address identified issues. This paper will discuss ecosystem service issues identified under different agriscapes and



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results of the solutions piloted.

Keywords: Nature & Community Based Solutions ; Ecosystem Services; Landscape Restoration; Sustainable Rural Development; Wetland Agriculture