

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: T18

Title of session:

WII-INSEE Panel Discussion on Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in India

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:	Mr.	Karachepone Ninan	Indian Society of Ecological Economics (INSEE)	ninankn@hotmail.com
Co-host:		V B Mathur	Wildlife Institute of India	vbm@wii.gov.in

Abstract:

Keeping in view the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is important to fine tune and strengthen development and conservation policies of India focusing on rural population and natural ecosystems by incorporating approaches that help capture the values of ecosystem services. The road map for SDG implementation recognised by the UN emphasises the role of well-informed stakeholder engagement for promoting inclusive sustainable development. Communication and engagement of ecosystem service values at different scales of policy decisions and implementation of development and conservation programmes are crucial in achieving the SDGs. In this context, we propose to organise a panel discussion to review how effectively conservation and development policies of India focusing on natural forest ecosystems and rural populations have been in communicating and engaging values of ecosystem services for human welling.



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Goals and objectives of the session:

The goal of the panel discussion is to identify challenges and opportunities for communicating and engaging ecosystem service values in conservation and development policies of India. The specific objectives are:

1. To review how ecosystem services valuation has been linked with policy making and operationalised and put into practice.
2. To assess the lessons learnt so far in linking ecosystem services valuation with policy,
3. To assess the strengths and weaknesses in operationalising this concept, and
4. To suggest measures to strengthen the interface between valuation of ecosystem services and policy

Planned output / Deliverables:

A short report about the outcome of the panel discussion assessing the lessons learnt so far and strengths and weaknesses in linking ecosystem services valuation with conservation and development policy in India.

Related to ESP Working Group/Natioanl Network:

TWG 18 – Governance & Institutional aspects



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II. SESSION PROGRAM

Date of session: Thursday, 11 October 2018

Time of session: 11:00 - 12:30

Time	First name	Surname	Organization	Title of presentation
11:00-11:10	Karachepone	Ninan	Indian Society for Ecological Economics, Delhi	Introduction and Introducing the Panellists
11:10-11:25	Vinod	Mathur	Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Ecosystem Services and Policy Engagement: Challenges and Constraints
11:25-11:40	Madhu	Verma	Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal	Tiger Reserve Valuation: Communicating and Engaging in Policy and Practice
11:40-11:55	Jyothis	Satyapalan	National Institute for Rural Development, Hyderabad	Marine Ecosystem Valuation and Policy Engagement
11:55-12:10	Karachepone	Ninan	Centre for Economics, Environment and Society, Bengaluru	Valuation of Biodiversity and Forest Ecosystem Services: Communicating and Engaging in Policy and Practice
12:10-12:30			Open house Q & A/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: T18 – WII-INSEE Panel Discussion on: Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in India S](#)

Ecosystem Services: Capacity constraints and policy uptake issues

First author(s): Vinod B Mathur

Affiliation: Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

The role of ecosystem services provided by protected areas (PAs) is increasingly being recognized. However, the technical capacity to conduct assessments of ecosystems services and benefits is presently inadequate. Focused evaluation studies by experts have been carried out in a few ecosystems, tiger reserves and PAs in India but the coverage of such studies across the country is constrained due to the limited capacity available to further upscale such evaluation studies. Even where ecosystem services have been quantitatively assessed in monetary terms, the policy uptake of such studies in decision-making has been weak. A comprehensive outlook is needed to deal with challenges and opportunities related to ecosystem services assessment and policy uptake.



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2. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T18 – WII-INSEE Panel Discussion on: [Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in India](#)

Tiger Reserve Valuation: Communicating and Engaging in Policy and Practice

First author(s): Madhu Verma

Affiliation: Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal

Importance of tiger reserves as conservation tools is widely acknowledged. From these inviolate areas a range of important ecosystem services emanate which support ecological balance as well as human well-being. While the underlying objective of establishing tiger reserves is to ensure continuity of natural evolutionary processes, these wilderness areas are pivotal to achievement of many of the proposed sustainable development goals and transformation to a green economy. To internalise these tangible and intangible values into the economic system, valuation of ecosystem services is significant. To make a strong case for justification of conservation finance for tiger reserves in India and convincing policy makers, the tool of valuation of ecosystem services emanating from tiger reserves of the country came very handy from the study conducted for Six tiger reserves in India in 2013–2015 by IIFM. The findings resulted not only in inculcating an appreciation for conserving the habitat of tigers across the country for varied set of stakeholders but also led to an increase in the number of tiger reserves as well as budget for their conservation.



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3. Type of submission: Invited speaker abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T18 – WII-INSEE Panel Discussion on: Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in India

Marine Ecosystem Valuation and Policy Engagement

First author(s): Jyothis Satyapalan

Affiliation: National Institute for Rural Development, Hyderabad

Overfishing is found to be an important issue of marine sector. It is leading to increased by-catch, juveniles and under sized fishes in large quantities in marine fish landing. Communicating the economic value lost due to juvenile catch and the cases of charismatic species like turtles, dolphins are extremely important for decision making. In India there is a need to strengthen the conservation effort by integrating conservation measures through precautionary approaches based on economic valuation. As a precautionary approach, it is essential to mainstream biodiversity conservation in fisheries policies. A policy shift is needed from fishing intensification to diversification, technologies that promote intensification to technologies that guarantee sustainable catch and rationalization of fishing subsidies.



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4. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T18 WII-INSEE Panel Discussion on: Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in India

Valuation of Biodiversity and Forest Ecosystem Services: Communicating and Engaging in Policy and Practice

First author(s): K N Ninan

Affiliation: Centre for Economics, Environment and Society, Bangalore

Drawing on the findings of studies and research conducted by the author and his research team in a cross section of forest reserves and protected areas in the tropical forests of the Western Ghats biodiversity hotspot and also among local communities residing in these areas, this presentation will present some of the key findings of these studies and experiences with communicating and engaging with policy makers and efforts to internalise its findings in making more informed decisions and policies for conserving biodiversity and protected areas. Experiences with suggestions to implement a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), revise compensation rates for wildlife damages and making the case for augmenting conservation funding are discussed in particular.