

Call for Contributions – International Expert Workshop on „Economic Aspects of Nature Restoration“

October 13-16, 2021 – Vilm, Germany

The international expert workshop "Economic Aspects of Nature Restoration" will take place from **October 13-16, 2021** at the International Academy for Nature Conservation (INA) on the island of Vilm, Germany and will be hosted by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN). The event will provide a platform for exchange between experts from science, administration and civil society on (socio-)economic issues of restoration of degraded ecosystems. Hereby we would like to call for the submission of abstracts. The deadline for submission is **May 28, 2021 (18.00 CET)**. The conference language is English. Limited funding for travel and accommodation is available for presenters whose institution cannot cover the costs of participation.

The UN Decade on Restoration (2021-2030) urges member states to mobilize research on ecosystem restoration and develop policies to strengthen and scale up restoration initiatives. The EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 announced an „ambitious EU Nature Restoration Plan“ to „create jobs, reconcile economic activities with nature growth and help ensure the long-term productivity and value of our natural capital.“ As an actor at the science-policy interface, BfN contributes with this workshop to shed light on the (socio-)economic and parameters of restoration of degraded ecosystems in the European Union. We therefore invite researchers from economics, social sciences, geography, ecology and other related disciplines as well as practitioners from nature conservation to participate in the workshop. We welcome a pluralism of theories and methods and encourage submission of inter- and transdisciplinary work. Presenting completed research papers is advisable, but applicants could also submit for discussion of early drafts or advanced proposals of their research work. A regional focus on the EU is desirable but not mandatory – case studies from outside the EU are highly welcome to inform the EU process. Key topic areas that will be addressed in the workshop are:

- Case studies on the economic evaluation of restoration of ecosystems;
- Analysis of regional value creation through restoration;
- Analysis of favorable socio-economic framework conditions as well as barriers for restoration;
- Ethical, conceptual and methodological challenges for the economic valuation of nature restoration;
- Possibilities and limits of (innovative) economic instruments to support restoration goals;
- Governance and acceptance issues.

Due to the Covid-pandemic, we currently plan to hold the workshop as a hybrid (virtual and on-site) event. Please consult the INA-website (<https://www.bfn.de/en/int-academy.html>) for further information on the venue, travel arrangements and prices for accomodation and board (<https://www.bfn.de/en/int-academy/vilm-as-venue/registration-prices.html>). The workshop information in the INA conference calender will be updated regularly:

https://www.bfn.de/en/int-academy/conferences-and-seminars.html?tx_blitzcalendar_pi1%5Bevent%5D=10&tx_blitzcalendar_pi1%5Baction%5D=show&tx_blitzcalendar_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=Data&cHash=90aabeeb1a339ba1a90c748a663985ea

To participate, we kindly ask that you submit a brief abstract of your work (max. 500 words), including a short paragraph how it informs the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and indicating the project status and the institutional affiliation of the authors. Furthermore, please let us know your preference for virtual or on-site participation and indicate if you require financial support for travel and/or accomodation. Please email the above information to dennis.abel@bfn.de no later than **May 28, 2021 (18.00 CET)**. Submissions will be evaluated on the basis of the policy relevance, empirical contribution, the originality and the scientific rigor of the proposal. Financial support for travel and accomodation costs will be allocated on a needs and availability basis. Notification of acceptance will be issued in June 2021. Any further questions about the workshop organisation can be sent to the above email-address.