

ESP 11 World Conference

"From global to local ecosystem services: pathways to Nature-based Solutions inspired from Down Under"

23-27 June 2025 | Darwin, Australia

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T7b

Making Nature Count: Global and local applications of monetary valuation for transformation to nature-inclusive decision-making

Hosts:

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Abstract:

To transform the current economic decision-making process, it is important to mainstream nature into different forms of private and public decision-making both at a global and a local scale. It is pivotal to showcase the benefits of nature to individuals, but also the public and the private sector with the need to finance nature. Additionally, it is important in showing that working with nature via Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and other nature positive initiatives, rather than instead of nature, is beneficial for both nature and human societies and economies.

The valuation of ecosystem services in general, and monetary valuation of ecosystem services in particular, is playing an increasingly important role in the integration of nature into private and public decision-making and in showing the benefits of NbS. Monetary valuation is institutionalized in official UN frameworks (SEEA-EA framework), is being addressed in private and influential initiatives (such as the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures; TNFD) and has the potential to contribute to many of the targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

With the increase in available primary valuation studies (see e.g. ESVD), value transfer is increasingly used to estimate the (monetary) value of ecosystem services. These monetary ecosystem service values are important for sustainable natural resources management (by internalizing the value of nature) and natural capital accounting (by recognizing the value of nature in national accounts) and to show the value of Nature-based Solutions.

However, many questions regarding the implementation and transformative nature of monetary valuation remain. How does monetary valuation substantialize in private and public decision–making? How can we tailor and scale–up value transfer for better and more accurate decision–making? Or how can we use monetary valuation to close the biodiversity finance gap? Given these opportunities and challenges, it is important to critically explore methodological considerations, assess advances and discuss applications of monetary valuation – in particular in relation to their potential role to inform decision making, underpin natural capital accounting, and facilitate transformative change towards sustainable natural resources management.

Across this session we will seek to discuss recent considerations, advances and applications of monetary valuation for the integration of nature in private and public decision-making, specifically in NbS. These may be examples of monetary valuation in private or public decision-making, methodological advances and practical innovations in value transfer and/or critical contributions and thoughts on the mainstreaming and institutionalization of monetary valuation in public and private decision-making contexts.

Goals and objectives of the session:

Researchers are invited to present their recent considerations, advances and applications of monetary valuation, underpinning the contribution and application towards NbS and sustainable natural resource management on a local and a global scale. This session will give insight in the opportunities, challenges and practices of using monetary valuation in private and public decision making.

Planned output / Deliverables:

Journal Special Issue about considerations, advances and applications of monetary valuation for transformation to nature-inclusive decision-making.

Session format:

1½-2 hours, but possibly more depending on the popularity of the session and the submitted abstracts

10-minute pitches/presentations and a group discussion

Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

Related to ESP Working Group:

TWG 7 - Economic & Monetary valuation