



Young Ecosystem Services Specialists (YESS) in Asia: Early-career researchers' perspectives on the assessment of Ecosystem Services

Hosts

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Abstract

We welcome submissions and voluntary contributions from **all early career researchers** for this session, being explicitly open for the submission of ongoing research!

The inter- and transdisciplinary ecosystem services research landscape has been growing over the years and has links to many different fields. This complex, socio-ecological field of science with a clear reference to policy and practice attracts early career researchers (ECR) with numerous specializations from various disciplines with fresh ideas, methodological approaches and viewpoints. Our session, run by ECRs for ECRs, aims to bring together, empower and connect members and those interested in joining the work of the Young Ecosystem Services Specialists network (YESS) and take part in this lively youth community of ESP.

For many ECRs all over the world, the year 2020 was associated with difficulties when it came to presenting their own research ideas to peers. In order to better network, exchange ideas and put our own research into a larger context, we offer ECRs who are from/in Asia or working about the region the opportunity to present themselves and their research in our session. As the [3rd ESP Asia Conference in Nagasaki](#) will be held fully online, ECRs who are normally not able to attend the conference personally due to financial or health restrictions will be able to present and discuss their research with a broader audience and get to know others who are initiating their career in the ES field.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The overall objective is to give ECRs from all relevant research areas the opportunity to participate in the scientific discourse, which has been difficult since the start of the pandemic. Especially for ECRs, the opportunity of peer exchange is crucial, as we have to find our way into the scientific community.

As a common thread across all presentations, we ask presenters to point out in their abstracts: (1) the

challenges they see in (their) ES research in Asia and (2) starting points to address them (3) how/if their research is related to eco-health. Questions to the talks will be coordinated by the host team and moderated by interactive participation techniques (e.g. Mentimeter).

The session will be structured as follows:

- 1) The Executive Team members will first give a brief introduction about the YESS network to familiarize everyone about its work and the most recent developments.
- 2) There will be space for 5-10 minute presentations of all the submitted abstracts (exact times will be communicated once submissions are in), presenting methodology, research questions, hypotheses and findings. However, this YESS session is also explicitly open as a space for sharing ongoing research!
- 3) The presentations are followed by a discussion, which is usually a great space for sharing questions and knowledge on similar approaches, methodologies or experience sharing.
- 4) Following the conference's theme "Eco-health and ecosystem services in Asia: Bottom-up aspects for planetary health", we encourage a discussion on how our ES research might relate to health.

Planned output / Deliverables

The session will provide an overview of the latest research on ecosystem services carried out by ECRs while focussing on the challenges of (their) ES research in the region and ways to address these challenges, to allow for shared learning from experiences. It also has the potential to highlight common challenges that ECRs face in ES research in Asia, while underlining the role of YESS as a peer network in which they are supported in their activities by low-threshold exchange opportunities.

Related to ESP Working Group/National Network

Open Sessions