BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

I. SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T14b

Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:		Francis Turkelboom,	INBO, Belgium	francis.turkelboom@inbo.be
Co-host(s):		Eszter Kelemen	ESSRG, Hungary	kelemen.eszter@essrg.hu
		Christian Albert	Ruhr University, Germany	christian.albert@rub.de
		Jennifer Dodsworth	University of Aberdeen, UK	jennifer.dodsworth@abdn.ac.uk
		Solen Le Clec'h	Wageningen University, Netherlands	solen.leclech@wur.nl

Abstract:

The intensification of agriculture and rapid expansion of large scale farming enterprises has had a significant impact upon the environment over the past century. Meanwhile, many farmers across Europe continue to struggle to maintain the economic viability of their farms, and are facing serious trade-offs between short-term profitability and sustainable production. Agri-environmental contracts (AEC)/Payments for Environmental Services (PES) schemes are promoted as mechanisms to reduce these trade-offs: they provide farmers with the means and incentives to deliver a combination of private and public goods that better reflect society preferences for more environmentally-conscious agricultural production. However, the present contracts are being criticised on multiple fronts: conservation organizations maintain that many AEC are too inefficient to reach environmental goals, and farmers remain deterred by complex agreements with high administrative demands and cumbersome controls that are not well-suited to the farming practices and challenges. Meynard et al. have highlighted that agricultural practices "leave the farmer's private sphere to become subjects of public debate, of negotiations, standards and regulations" (2012). However, this highlights the pressing need for more meaningful and sustained 'bottom-up' participation from farmers and land managers (Asah & Blahna, 2020).

In this session, we invite short papers from researchers and practitioners to discuss contemporary co-design methods and processes for developing agri-environmental/PES programmes with farmers and land managers. One of such methods is the living lab

approach, utilized in the H2020 project Contracts2.0, which creates an open and user-centred atmosphere to initiate meaningful dialogue and co-creation between various types of actors (Bergvall-Kareborn and Stahlbrost, 2009). We conceptualize agri-environmental programmes more broadly than government-led contracts or schemes, and encourage also to submit papers which focus on bottom-up co-design processes for PES, nature-based solutions and other innovative interventions for sustainable land management.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The main goal of the session is to learn from a diverse range of transdisciplinary experiences on how to co-design contracts and other arrangements for a more effective and land manger-supported supply of biodiversity and ecosystem services. There are three specific objectives related to this goal: (1) to share insights on co-designing and co-producing approaches which include diverse stakeholders and knowledge forms, (2) to initiate a joint reflection process among researchers, on-the-ground practitioners and policy-makers about enabling factors and constraints of co-design activities, and (3) to discuss perceptions of policy makers/administrators on bottom-up developed policy options.

Planned output / Deliverables:

The main output of the session is a summary of co-design best practices and main lessons learnt from a variety of national contexts. Potentially, a policy guidance paper can be developed with the participation of presenters and other participants.

Session format:

Standard session (presentations)

Voluntary contributions accepted:

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

Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

Thematic Working Groups: TWG 14 - Application of ES in Planning & Management

II. SESSION PROGRAM

Date of session: Thursday 13 October
Time of session: 11:00-12:30

Timetable speakers

Time	First name	Surname	Organization	Title of presentation
11:00	Francis	Turkelboom	INBO (Research Institute for Nature and Forest)	Introduction of session
11:05	Louise	Vercruysse	INBO	Practitioner participation in the co-design of agro-environmental contracts
11:15	Zuzana	Harmáčková	Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences	Co-designing sustainability pathways in European agricultural landscapes: environmental justice perspective on rural transformations
11:25	Charl Justine	Darapisa	University of the Philippines Diliman	Can social learning processes help Indigenous communities elicit conservation knowledge? The Case of the Mangyan Iraya Tribe, Philippines
11:35	Inés	Gutiérrez-Briceño	Autonomous University of Madrid	Finding incentives to move towards agroecological transition in the Community of Madrid (online)
11:45	Bronislav	Farkač	Charles University Environment Centre	Participatory principles in cooperation between nature conservation managers and local stakeholders: best practices from the Czech Republic
11:55	Jennifer	Dodsworth	University of Aberdeen	Mapping processes of Co-Design within Agri-Environment Scheme Development: the case of ELMS in the North of England (online)
12:05	Coordinators T14b	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Discussion around common co-creation themes (separate physical and online discussion)

III. ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are ordered based on the session program. The first author is the presenting author unless indicated otherwise.

1. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

Participatory principles in cooperation between nature conservation managers and local stakeholders: best practices from the Czech Republic

Presenting author: Bronislav Farkač
Other author(s): Kateřina Mácová, Eva Sochová
Affiliation: Charles University Environment Centre,
Contact: bronislav.farkac@czp.cuni.cz

In the cultural landscapes of Europe, the cooperation between landowners and tenants (such as farmers or agricultural companies) on one hand, and the nature conservation managers on the other hand, is crucial both for effective nature conservation and sustainable provision of ecosystem services. Long-term relationships, principles of participatory management, trust building and implementation of local knowledge could serve as strong factors for functioning cooperation. However, the legal management practices, such as public law contracts and agri-environmental schemes, are not always inherently suitable for implementation of these principles.

In our contribution, we focus on exploring the good practices in establishing and maintaining fair and just cooperation between the landowners and tenants and the nature conservation managers, based on our qualitative research in the protected areas in the Czech Republic. Focus groups with nature conservation managers of Nature Conservation Agency and individual in-depth interviews with several main categories of landowners and tenants were conducted to obtain a coherent picture of current practices of cooperation, which are bound by the existing institutional setting - public law contracts and agri-environmental schemes.

We frame and discuss our findings in the perspectives of social psychology and participatory management, and reveal several crucial principles which help to implement the knowledge and opinions of the local stakeholders into the management process and also help to bypass the bureaucratic strictness of the cooperation set by the public law contracts and agri-environmental schemes. These include e.g. implementation of collaborative principles, trust-building mechanisms, establishing long-term partnerships, and appropriate use of the perspective of ecosystem services for effective argumentation. For each principle, we offer a

set of applied recommendations and examples that can be readily used by the nature conservation managers.

Keywords: Participatory management; contracts and agreements; agri-environmental schemes; Natura 2000; nature conservation

2. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

Finding incentives to move towards agroecological transition in the Community of Madrid

Presenting author: Inés Gutiérrez

Other author(s): Marina García-Llorente, Carolina Yacamán Ochoa

Affiliation: Socio Ecosystem Lab, Ecology Department, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain,

Contact: ines.gutierrezbriceno@gmail.com

The crisis of the agri-food system calls for the need of redesign the current model in order to innovate towards a sustainable agroecologically based model. This requires changes and innovation processes at different scales of action and research. The European Contracts 2.0 project promotes collaborative innovation strategies with the aim of co-designing new incentives or agri-environmental measures. In the study case of Madrid Community, innovation strategies based on participatory process are being promoted to redesigned agri-environmental measures adapted to the local territory. Following the methodology of living labs, two permanent working groups with stakeholders from the administration and from the productive sector were created. By promoting dialogue and active participation we have been working on measures of the rural development programme (RDP). The goal of our case was to designed measures oriented to horticultural production in the local river meadows in order to promote biodiversity and landscape conservation. After an initial diagnosis, it was decided that this desired measure would have a hybrid payment model between action based and results based payments. Indeed, land stewardship entities play an important role as an intermediary between the local administration and farmers to facilitate coordination and communication. In order to implement this contractual approach format, a set of biodiversity and landscape indicators adapted to local conditions are being tested. This strategy based on multi-actor bottom up approach, aims to integrate the needs of producers and the public needs for agri-environmental services in order to accelerate the process of agro-ecological transition.

Keywords: Agroecological transition, agroenvironmental measures, co-design processes, living lab,

3. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

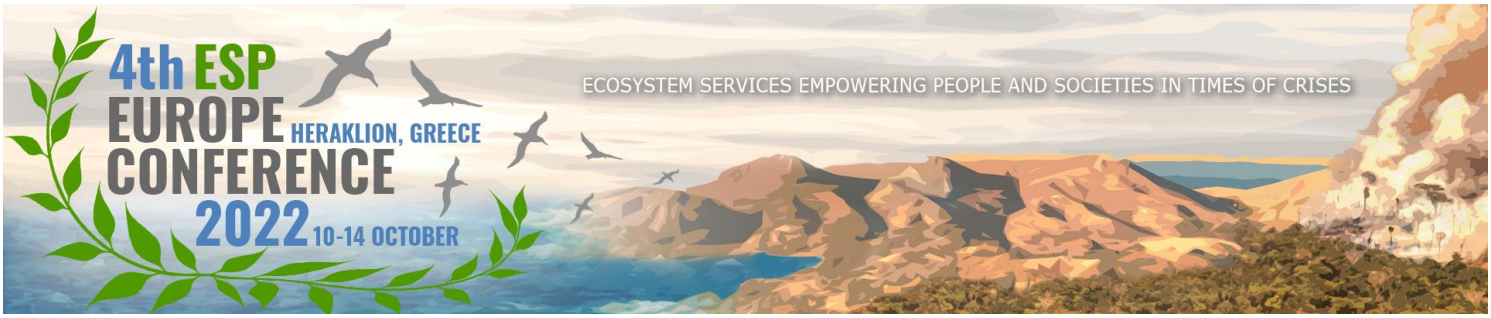
Practitioner participation in the co-design of agro-environmental contracts

Presenting author: Louise Vercruysse
Other author(s): Lisa Sharif, Francis
Affiliation: INBO, Netherlands
Contact: louise.vercruysse@inbo.be

In an attempt to protect biodiversity on farm level and lower the negative impacts of farming on the climate, the CAP has introduced agri-environmental measures to incentivize farmers to adopt more sustainable practices. However, research (Brown et al., 2019) shows that these measures are often ineffective and in some cases even detrimental to biodiversity on farm level, partly because national authorities and farmers prefer the measures that are easiest to manage and/or to implement. A new view on policy making, where practitioners and policy makers sit together to co-create innovative contracts, might lead to more successful results. Expected benefits of participatory co-design processes include improving the relevance of the newly-designed contracts and enabling learning and empowerment of the practitioners. Furthermore, involving local knowledge in research processes makes it possible to anticipate unexpected negative outcomes.

The Horizon 2020 project Contracts2.0 aims to assess the merits of participatory co-design of agri-environmental contracts by setting up 11 Contract Innovation Labs and Policy Innovation Labs in 9 European countries. Currently, 5 innovation labs are working on implementing new contracts and most of the labs are now in the testing phase. Via online interviews with the lab coordinators, we assessed the successes and challenges of the process. One of the major achievements is the exchange of knowledge and experience between the stakeholders, such as farmers, environmental organizations, policy makers and researchers. These connections will likely be valuable long after the project's timespan. Furthermore, the flexibility of the methodologies proposed allowed the different labs to adapt methods to their context. Some of the challenges included difficulties to engage stakeholders and to have a sufficient return of value for the participants.

Keywords: agri-environmental contracts, participatory policy design, living lab, co-creation



4. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

The Economic Impacts of Energy Efficient Stoves on Forest Conservation and Grass-Roots Climate Resilient Development in Kenya: A proposal to reduce the knowledge gap on the impacts of improved cooking technologies in Kenya

Presenting author: Laura Villegas
Other author(s): Olivia Molden, Tena Ward
Affiliation: Earth Economics,
Contact: lvillegas@eartheconomics.org

Energy links economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability. However, important knowledge gaps exist on the impacts of sustainable energy transitions. Eco2librium (ECO2) is a social enterprise based in Kakamega, Kenya, that aims to promote forest conservation through entrepreneurship and job creation.

The Kakamega Forest is a mid-altitude tropical rainforest and the easternmost relic of the once great rainforests that stretched across Africa's equatorial region. It is one of Kenya's primary biodiversity hotspots, but despite having a protected status, it has been extensively degraded by human pressure. In a country where 90% of the rural population depends on forest resources for fuel and livelihood, the Kakamega forest is a place of tension between the need to meet basic social foundations (e.g., access to energy for cooking) and the need to protect the ecological ceiling.

In promoting the conservation of the Kakamega Forest, ECO2 has taken an economic approach underpinned by the need decrease reliance on forest resources. To address forest degradation through excessive fuelwood collection, ECO2's energy efficient cook stove division distributes and installs improved biomass cook stoves to rural households in communities around the Kakamega forest.

As part of its project operations, ECO2 collects information from user households. The data collected and organized by ECO2 can be used as backbone for further research that could help fill in knowledge gaps in how we understand the benefits of time savings associated with efficient energy technologies, impacts on important social development goals, including

nutrition and childcare, impacts on labor market variables such as employment choices, and impacts on household investment decisions.

In partnership, Earth Economics and ECO2 conducted a preliminary analysis of existing household surveys and are looking to raise funds to finance an in-depth study of the years of data collected by ECO2.

Keywords: Energy efficiency, Energy transition, Forest conservation, Health impacts, Business solutions

5. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

Co-designing sustainability pathways in European agricultural landscapes: environmental justice perspective on rural transformations

Presenting author: Zuzana Harmackova
Other author(s): Barbora Nohlova, Jan Urban
Affiliation: Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Brno, Czechia; Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden, Czech Republic
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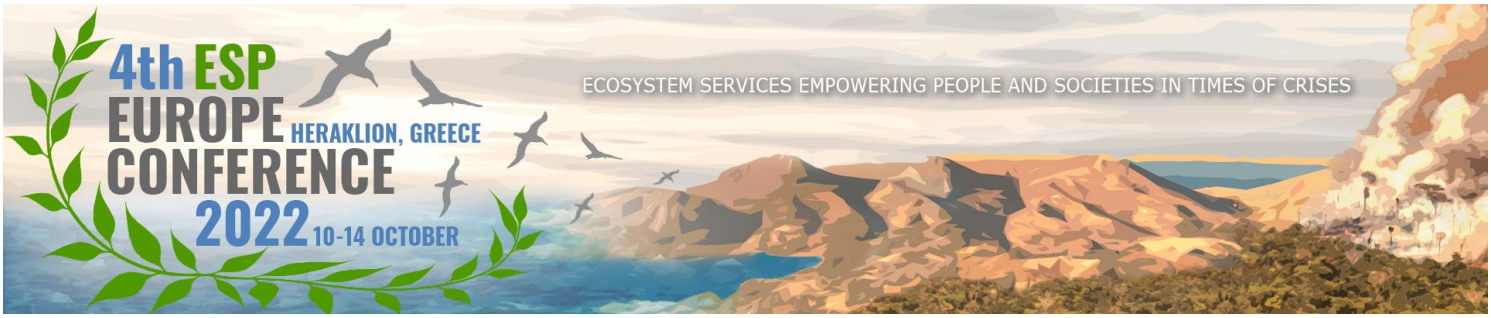
Climate change impacts on nature, ecosystem services and human well-being in Europe have increased the calls for transforming landscape management, particularly in rural agricultural landscapes. However, different concerned actors may perceive such transformations as contradictory to objectives such as profit-making, as well as to the current set-up of regulations and subsidies. Thus transformative changes related to rural societies and landscapes can be met with resistance of rural populations due to local values, knowledge, norms as well as economic dependence on land.

To address this issue, we studied the barriers to rural transformations in agricultural landscapes, applying an environmental justice-based lens. Specifically, we explored the relationship between people's willingness to accept and implement transformative changes in landscapes around them and their perception of environmental justice of these changes in agricultural landscapes in Czechia, Eastern Europe.



We applied a transdisciplinary approach of Just Transformation Labs as a process supporting multi-stakeholder groups in addressing complex societal problems. The Just Transformation Labs included stakeholder analysis, followed by participant observations, semi structured interviews, and a series of participatory workshops, including an engagement with stakeholders through arts-based approaches. Through interactions with a range of relevant stakeholders, we elicited how various actors conceive climate justice, how these plural conceptions are contested within particular places, what values and normative concerns act as barriers to the shared vision, and what individual and systemic motivations provide opportunities for co-designing sustainability pathways and collective action.

We identified several key topics related to the just transition towards sustainability in our study area, namely harmful set-up of agricultural subsidies, the processes of land consolidation and associated justice issues, as well as the market demand to use unsustainable farming strategies. On an individual level, problems of landowners' loss of connection to land and the question of their agricultural identity have emerged as key barriers. Individual and group values for a good quality of life in local landscapes emerged as a key leverage for co-designing potential sustainability pathways for local agricultural landscapes.

The results illustrated how creating a long-term safe space for collective learning and building shared understandings can benefit collaborative envisioning and planning for rural transformations. The study also demonstrated the importance of addressing rural justice issues when working with various stakeholders towards landscape management transformations. Finally, the study discusses how our research findings provide understanding and methodologies for wider application or rural transformational actions.

Keywords: environmental justice, rural transformations, agricultural landscapes, sustainability pathways, climate change

6. Type of submission: Abstract

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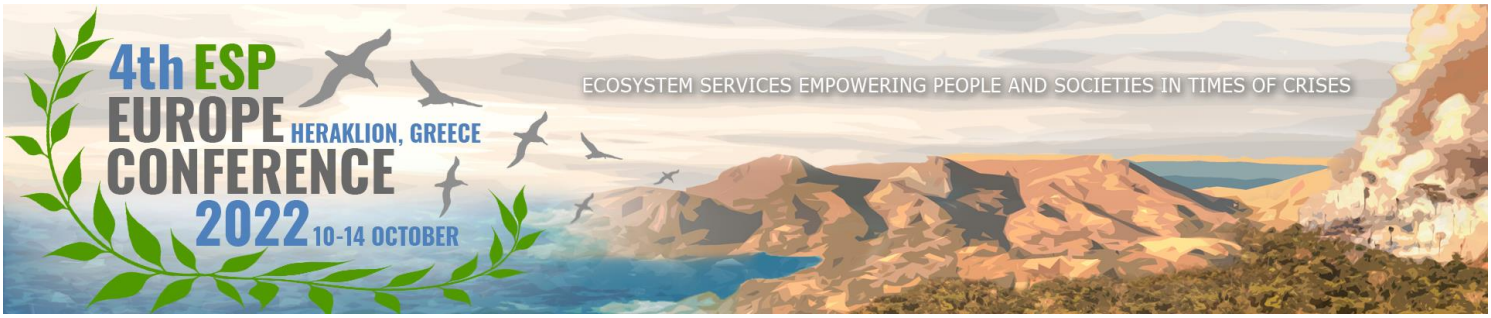
Can social learning processes help Indigenous communities elicit conservation knowledge? The Case of the Mangyan Iraya Tribe, Philippines



Presenting author: Charl Justine Darapisa

Other author(s): Shaira Faye Salazar,

Affiliation: University of the Philippines Diliman, College of Architecture, Environmental Landscapes Studio Laboratory, Philippines

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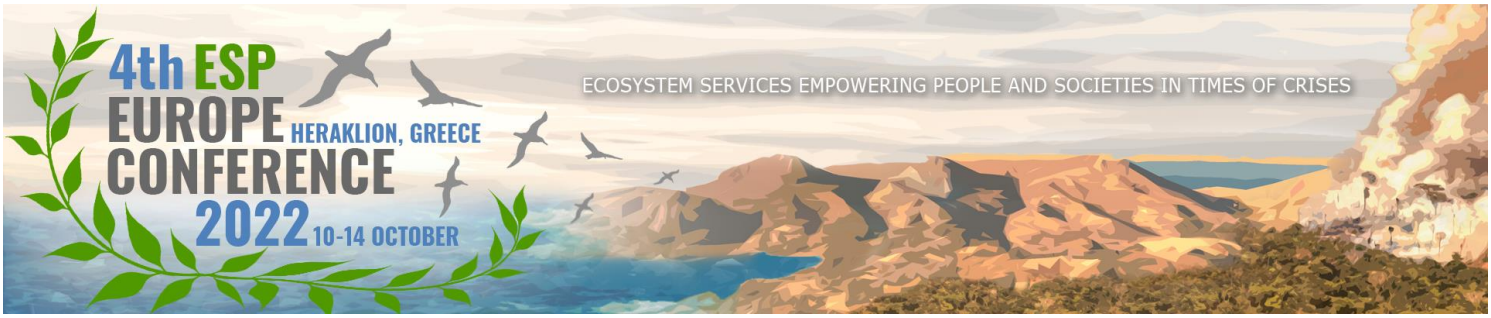
The subsistence of Indigenous communities summarizes their way of life beyond means of survival. However, external policies lack the proper tools to best represent subsistence as a component of biocultural diversity; this is where policies become a problem rather than a solution. For example, in the Philippines, the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992 (NIPAS), the recommended suitability assessment tools do not include social learning processes (SLPs) in understanding the lenses of Indigenous communities. This is critical because complex systems such as subsistence are not pre-formed but need to be generated through deliberation and social learning. Inspired by the Deliberative Value Formation model, we answer the question: how can creative SLPs be used to digest the concept of subsistence of the Mangyan Iraya tribe in the context of managing their natural resources and conserving biodiversity? This research focuses on integrating creative SLPs in the form of community participatory mapping, sketching, visual resource mapping, story-telling, and re-enactments. We argue that heterogenous knowledge such as subsistence extracted through complex and consultative processes elicits co-learning and enhances research results. We focus the deliberation on four subsistence concepts that constantly recur during the initial ethnographic study namely (a) the roles of Gods, myths, and legends in biodiversity conservation, (b) the influence of cultural beliefs in managing swidden farms, and (c) the spatial association of world views to the landscape around the community. We found out that subsistence as a component of biological diversity remains an integral part of the Mangyan Iraya's culture and identity. This invites policies to step back from a polarized top-to-bottom approach but rather foster conversation around shared values connecting culture to people, culture to place, and culture to values. We recommend recognizing subsistence as part of biocultural diversity in assessing management regimes in protected areas in the country.

Keywords: Deliberative Value Formation Model, community voice mapping, biodiversity conservation, natural resources management, social learning



7. Type of submission: Abstract

T. Thematic Working Group sessions: T14b - Making local knowledge count: Co-design principles and practices for agri-environmental programmes

Mapping processes of Co-Design within Agri-Environment Scheme Development: the case of ELMS in the North of England.

Presenting author: Jennifer Dodsworth
Other author(s): Katrin Prager, Annabelle Le Page
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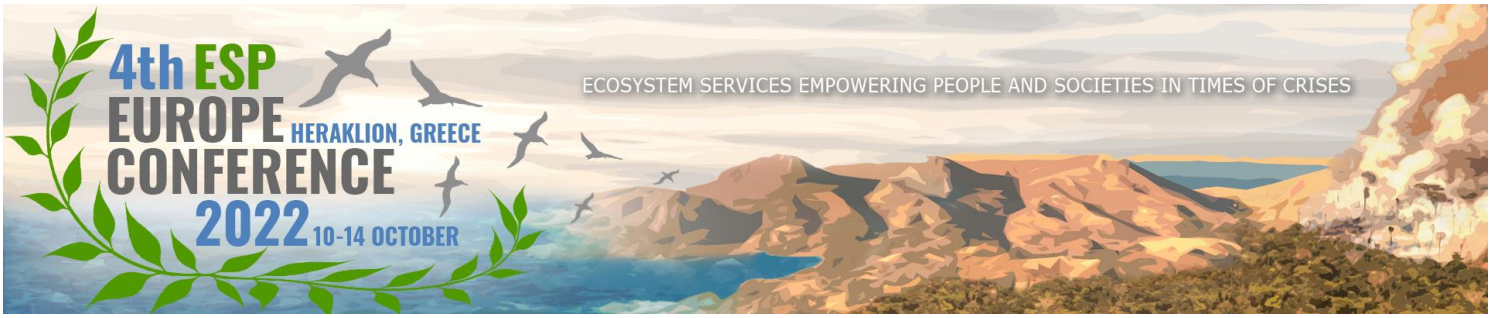
Britain's departure from the European Union and the Common Agricultural Policy has, for better or worse, created an opportunity for the redevelopment of agri-environment policy across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In England, DEFRA has embarked upon an ambitious new agricultural policy based upon the principle of "public money for public goods", currently centred around the development of the new Environmental Land Management scheme (ELMS). Alongside this new direction in agri-environment policy, DEFRA also committed to 'co-design' the new ELM policy with the key stakeholders involved in environmental land management; namely the farmers, foresters and related organisations who maintain Britain's landscapes and produce its food.

In 2018, DEFRA's Test & Trials (T&T) programme was set up to co-design ELMS with these stakeholders. A wide variety of short to medium-term projects which explore and sometimes implement different approaches and objectives which might be relevant to ELMS have been delivered over the past four years. However, a critical question which remains central to ELMS development is the extent to which this 'co-design' process has been consistent and meaningful: so far, there are varying accounts of sustained dialogue between policymakers and stakeholders, who do not know what happens to their findings beyond the submission of T&T reports.

This paper reports what we learned from following this co-design process from test through to policy impact in 10 case study ELMS T&Ts, to investigate where and when stakeholders are consulted or reintroduced into policy design. Through following this process, we aim to uncover various social, administrative, environmental and institutional spaces where co-design has not been able to function and flourish in the policy development process. In order to enable more sustained and meaningful co-design processes, we developed



constructive solutions with policymakers as ELMS policy development continues over the coming years.

Keywords: co-design, agri-environment policy, environmental land management, participatory methods, follow the thing