

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T14f

Linking Ecosystem Services and Nature-based Solutions for achieving a nature-and people-positive Europe

Hosts:

	Name	Organisation	E-mail
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Abstract:

Achieving a nature- and people-positive Europe requires innovative, knowledge-based approaches that integrate ecosystem services into policies and practices for restoration, resilience, and sustainability. NbS are central to this agenda, offering pathways to climate mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and improved human well-being. However, effective design and implementation of NbS depend on evidence about ways ecosystem services provision is enhanced in different ecological, social and economic contexts.

This session will highlight case studies in which the IUCN Global Standard for NbS was implemented, some of which are published in the new book on “Applying the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions”: 21 case studies from around the globe.” These examples demonstrate how NbS can restore ecosystems, strengthen resilience, and generate measurable co-benefits for people and nature.

By linking real-world case studies to the ecosystem services framework, the session will explore how NbS can be planned, implemented, assessed, monitored, and upscaled for positive outcomes for biodiversity and society. In doing so, it will highlight the importance of integrating scientific evidence and local knowledge to strengthen and mainstream strong NbS interventions, upscaled in policy. In addition, by recognizing the value of nature and harnessing its power through NbS, society can achieve a more sustainable and resilient future for both people and the planet. Through dialogue among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, this session will contribute to advancing ecosystem services knowledge and explore the integration of ES and NbS to unlock NbS’ potential in Europe.

The IUCN Global Standard for NbS and its Self-Assessment Tool provide an operational framework to assess, improve and upscale NbS interventions. For this session, we welcome the presentation of relevant case studies and research initiatives that look into the link between NbS and ES knowledge and/or tools to achieve a nature- and people-positive Europe.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The objectives of this session are to:

- Present the Global Standard for NbS and raise the awareness of the ESP community on NbS implementation and this operational framework;
- Learn, through presentations of case studies and relevant research initiatives, ways that the two concepts can complement each other to address global challenges at scale, for a nature-and people-positive Europe;
- Strengthen knowledge exchange between researchers and practitioners to support the integration and mainstreaming of NbS in European policy agendas.

The session's objectives are consistent with the conference theme, ""Advancing ecosystem services knowledge for achieving a nature- and people-positive Europe,"" with a special focus on the key challenge, ""Climate and natural solutions for ecosystem restoration and resilience.

Planned output / Deliverables:

A summary of the case studies presented, main discussion points, and ideas for new research collaborations on the link between NbS and ES to achieve a nature-and people-positive Europe.

Session format:

The session will have 3 hours of presentations and 1 for discussion.

Voluntary contributions accepted:

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

Related to ESP Working Group:

[TWG 14 – Application of ES in Planning & Management](#)