

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: T14c

Barriers and success factors for the application of ecosystem services in decision-making

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
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Abstract:

Since the publication of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA, 2005), the ecosystem services framework has been presented as promising to address in a coordinated manner the urgent need to integrate nature's contributions to people into policy and decision-making. This is necessary to prevent the occurrence of tipping points and the deterioration of human quality of life. In the years ensuing the publication of the MA, significant scientific progress has been made in the conceptualization and operationalization of ecosystem services to facilitate their assessment and support the spatio-temporal comparability of assessment results. Despite advances in the scientific realm, mainstreaming the ES framework and integrating it into policy and practice remains a challenge. As a result, ecosystem services and biodiversity are not sufficiently taken into account within policy- and decision-making, which hinders the achievement of EU and internationally agreed sustainability goals (e.g. Aichi Biodiversity Goals, Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive, Sustainable Development Goals) and the nature inclusiveness agenda.

The aim of this session is to bring together the experiences of both scientists and policy makers to learn and reflect on how the ecosystem services framework can be successfully integrated into policy and decision-making to address pressing societal challenges (e.g. climate

change, pollution, biodiversity loss). To achieve this goal, the session will be divided into two parts. In the first part, participants are encouraged to present case studies assessing ecosystem services to inform/support policies and decisions in various contexts. Presentations/pitches should highlight examples of success stories or failures of scientists and practitioners, aimed at informing policy and decision-making. In the second part of the session, we will discuss and collect factors that make the process a success or a failure from the point of view of both scientists and practitioners.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The aim of this session is to bring together the experiences of scientists and practitioners to enhance the successful application of the ecosystem services framework within policy and decision making addressing pressing societal challenges (e.g. climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss).

Planned output / Deliverables:

In this session, presentations will be given by hosts and participants. The expected output, which will be obtained during the discussion part of this session, consists of an inventory of the success factors and barriers to the application of ecosystem services to support strategic policy development and decision making. Depending on the quantity and quality of the output, we would like to write a publication that reflects on this output.

Session format:

Other (Combined standard session (presentation) and discussion forum)

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](#)