

6th ESP Europe Conference

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SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: E5

The changing landscape of academic publishing on ecosystem services research: editors' perspectives

Hosts:

	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host (s):	Louise Willemen	Editor-in-Chief of Ecosystem Services	l.l.willemen@utwente.nl
Co-host(s):	Andrea Ghermandi	Editor-in-Chief of Ecosystem Services	aghermand@univ.haifa.ac.il
	Alexander van Oudenhoven	Editor-in-Chief of Ecosystems and People	a.p.e.van.oudenhoven@cml.leidenuniv.nl
	Benjamin Burkhard	Editor-in-Chief of One Ecosystem	burkhard@phygeo.uni-hannover.de

Abstract:

Academic research on ecosystem services has undergone profound transformation since its foundational publications, evolving from a nascent concept into an essential framework for sustainable environmental management. The field has experienced remarkable expansion in scope, encompassing diverse geographical regions and biomes previously underrepresented in the literature. Moreover, while foundational topics—including classification frameworks and economic valuations—remain central to the discourse, they have been enriched by innovative elements that reflect the field's maturation. Among other developments, this evolution is exemplified by the increasing embrace of pluralistic approaches to nature valuation that incorporate diverse value systems and perspectives, a renewed emphasis on the social-cultural dimensions of ecosystem services supply and use that recognizes the intricate relationships between human societies and natural systems, and a growing emphasis on empirical insights derived from novel data sources and advanced analytical techniques. Together, these trends are reshaping how ecosystem services research is conducted, communicated, and published in academic venues. This session brings together editors from three leading academic journals publishing ecosystem services research to reflect with you on the field's evolution. We will discuss the changing publishing landscape, the role of academic publishing, emerging research priorities, and future directions that will shape how ecosystem services knowledge continues to develop and influence policy and practice.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The session aims to provide attendees insights into current practices and considerations in academic publishing, and facilitates discussion on the role of journals in disseminating ecosystem services knowledge. The session is meant for researchers of all walks of life; we hope for a mixture of early-career and more seasoned researchers, as well as specialized and interdisciplinary ones.

Planned output / Deliverables:

TBD. feedback and inspiration.

Session format:

Roundtable discussion with introductions

1. Andrea Ghermandi: Opening remarks, setting the scene with an overview on the evolution of themes, methods, geographical scope, and journals that publish ES research.
2. Alexander van Oudenhoven: Insights in the transition from an ES-focused journal to one with a much broader scope. What the consideration of plural valuation, multiple knowledge types and qualitative research means for publishing on ES. Related to that, the challenge of interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity when editing and reviewing submissions.
3. Benjamin Burkhard: Sharing experience in open-access ecology and sustainability research publishing, gained through work with an independent academic publishing company. This includes novel collaborative writing and data publishing tools, transparent editing and reviewing processes, and fair article processing charges.
4. Louise Willemen: Insights from the views and perspectives of authors on the work they wrote in 2012. What has changed (the goods and bads), what (new) directions were taken, what remained the status quo, and why, what future (should) lies ahead of us, and how do this link to academic publishing?

Roundtable and open discussion session

Voluntary contributions accepted:

No, I only want to include abstracts from my own invited speakers

Related to ESP Working Group:

Other