

6th ESP Europe Conference

18-22 May 2026 | Prague, Czechia

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: B3

Sustainable forest development as biodiversity indicator: role of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in the rural communities

Hosts:

	Name	Organisation	E-mail
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Abstract:

The session's topic, "sustainable development as biodiversity indicator", is complex because it involves socioeconomic, political and environmental aspects, making it necessary for the coordination between all stakeholders involved. On one hand, the population is growing at a rate, so that it will require livelihoods two or three times higher than it is today. On the other hand, the multifunctional of forests promotes markets for forest products other than wood, which could generate capital to finance forest management linked to rural development. Policymakers, private owners and the individual's capacity to recognize different opportunities are essential factors in the making of growth possibilities for communities. Feedback from all experts suggest a need for training programs, aiming to show occasions offered by the forestry sector. Most recent assessments of forest ecosystems prioritize the economic benefits; however, many ecosystem services valuations ignore the nonmaterial values. For example, the spiritual and cultural worth of forests is not only critical in scope but also implies having great potential for significant international conservation actions, given that several billion people respect their forests because of their spiritual significance.

Goals and objectives of the session:

The goal is to promote a debate, through assessment and analysis, on the role that Nature-based Solutions (NbS), as an indicator of biodiversity, play in the sustainable forest development of rural communities.

Planned output / Deliverables:

Based on the communications submitted, the possibility of publishing a special issue in an international scientific journal will be evaluated.

Session format:

Presentation of individual communications, final discussion, and conclusions. Active audience participation is required for success and the proper development of the session. The idea is to facilitate interaction and contribute to the development of competences. It is planned to publish a special issue on the proposed topic in an indexed international journal.

Voluntary contributions accepted:

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

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