

## SESSION DESCRIPTION

### ID: S8b

Protected areas and ecosystem services they provide in the European and global biodiversity policy frameworks

#### Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:		Elena Osipova	European Environment Agency	elena.osipova@eea.europa.eu

#### Abstract:

"As the world is facing the challenge of addressing multiple global crises, it becomes clear that we need comprehensive approaches that integrate biodiversity conservation and solutions to societal challenges. Additionally, involvement of different sectors and societal groups in defining truly transformative pathways to sustainability has been recognized as a key need in recent policy discussions, such as those around the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. At the European level the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 is also calling for all parts of society to play their role in helping address biodiversity loss.

Protected areas have long been used as one of the main nature conservation tools. In the current policy context, it is important to recognize their potential, through achieving their primary conservation goals, to also address societal challenges. To do so, it is essential to be able to measure, assess and value the ecosystem services they provide. While a lot of progress has been recently made in addressing the scientific and technical aspects of assessing ecosystem services provided by protected areas, the involvement of different stakeholder groups in the process, on one hand, and the use of the results to mainstream the knowledge about these ecosystem services, on the other hand, have advanced less. This session therefore will focus on the latter aspects and will seek to present case studies from different places highlighting such integrative and inclusive approaches. It will then also aim to discuss how such examples can help inform the current policy agenda."

#### Goals and objectives of the session:

This session will aim at working at two levels. First, it will present case studies of ecosystem services assessments in protected areas that demonstrate involvement of different stakeholder and societal groups. Secondly, it will look at how these case study can inform the development and implementation of key biodiversity-related policy frameworks in what concerns two-fold integration – that of biodiversity conservation in finding solutions to societal challenges and

that of inclusion of all sectors and groups of the society in co-creating transformative change on the pathway to sustainability.

**Planned output / Deliverables:**

Compilation of case studies

**Session format:**

Standard session (presentations)

**Voluntary contributions accepted:**

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

**Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:**

[Sectoral Working Groups: SWG 8 – ES in Conservation](#)