

6th ESP Europe Conference

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SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID: X16

Are we there yet? Enhancing implementation of the ecosystem services framework with science–policy–practice interfaces and national networks

Hosts:

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Abstract:

There have been numerous calls to minimize the gap between ecosystem services (ES) knowledge and its implementation in policy, decision making, and practice, which reflect the mission-oriented nature of ES assessments. Lately, there has been a rise in participatory and transdisciplinary approaches providing stakeholder engagement and potentially also increasing the impact of ES assessments. A key tool in this aspect is a functional science–policy (and practice) interface which can aid implementation of the ES framework across a range of policies and decision-making processes. The importance of such interfaces is well acknowledged in ESP by establishing national networks which “aim to improve decision making on ecosystem services by providing a platform for researchers, government, non-government, business, industry and communities to exchange information and experiences on the theoretical and practical application of ecosystem services at local to national scales.” Several networks already exist in the European region and new ones are emerging, such as the one in the Czech Republic.

In this policy- and practice-oriented session we aim to create space for the exchange of experiences with implementation of the ES framework. We invite representatives of ESP national networks as well as other researchers and stakeholders who can share information and experiences on various aspects of moving ES knowledge into practice. We are especially interested in experiences with science–policy–practice interfaces and national networks. Acknowledging that real-world examples of ES implementation are still somewhat rare, we highly appreciate presentations on various examples of achieving impact in policy and decision-making including key factors enhancing ES knowledge uptake in each specific case. Participants in this session will have the opportunity to meet and discuss with members of the Czech National Platform for Ecosystem Services (NPES, <https://www.jednapriroda.cz/en/o-npes/>) who will also be invited to this session. These members are key national level stakeholders who have joined annual platform meetings since 2022. This session will thus create a unique space for researchers and stakeholders with shared aim in minimizing the existing gap between science and practice.

Goals and objectives of the session:

This session aims at discussing and advancing knowledge on implementation of the ES framework from two interlinked perspectives: a) experiences with science–policy–practice interfaces and national networks; b) experiences with achieving impact in policy and practice – practical applications of ecosystem services at local to national scales.

Planned output / Deliverables:

The outcome might be a joint paper on perspectives and insights into implementation of the ES framework based on presentations and discussions.

Session format:

Presentations (1,5h) including invited contacts of ESP national networks, invited members of NPES, voluntary contributions

Discussion (1,5h) including panel discussion and moderated discussion

Voluntary contributions accepted:

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

Related to ESP Working Group:

[Regional chapters/ National Networks](#) & TWG 14 & TWG 18