

High Level Celebration Conference of the first EU wide ecosystem assessment

Helsinki, Finland 13 December 2019, Finland Hall

Objectives:

- To present the first outcomes of the EU wide ecosystem assessment as an outcome of the work on the Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES) under the EU Biodiversity Strategy and how it will contribute to the final evaluation of the current strategy and post-2020 framework
- To showcase how to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services in public and private decision-making processes including at EU, national and local levels
- To highlight the policy relevance of the work undertaken on MAES at different scales to the implementation of the European Green Deal
- To discuss next steps, knowledge needs and the relevance of this work in the context of the post 2020 biodiversity agenda

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW	
08:30-09:00	Morning Coffee, Registration
09:00-09:30	<p style="text-align: center;">High Level Opening</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Satu Hassi, Member of Finnish Parliament, Chair of the Grand Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">High-level panel members</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Charlina Vitcheva, Acting Director General of Joint Research Centre (JRC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joanna Drake, Deputy-Director General DG Environment</p>
9:30 - 11:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 1: The first EU wide ecosystem assessment</p> <p>Facilitator: Eeva Primmer, Research Director, Professor, Finnish Environment Institute</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Speakers</p> <p>The Environment State and Outlook report by Ronan Uhel, Programme Manager EEA</p> <p>The first outcomes of the EU-wide ecosystem assessment by Joachim Maes, JRC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel members</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maria Luisa Paracchini, JRC : agro-ecosystems</p> <p style="text-align: center;">José Barredo, JRC : forest ecosystems</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Olga Vigiak, JRC : freshwater ecosystems</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joachim Maes, JRC : marine ecosystems</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grazia Zulian, JRC : urban ecosystems</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sophie Condé, ETC/BD : heathland, shrub, sparsely vegetated land</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dania Abdul Malak, ETC/ULS : wetlands</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sara Vallecillo, JRC: ecosystem services</p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break

12:00-13:00	<p>Session 2: Roundtable discussion on policy relevance and how to integrate ecosystem assessments into decision-making processes</p> <p>Facilitator: Stefan Leiner, Head of Biodiversity unit, DG Environment</p> <p>Panel members</p> <p>Guido Schmidt-Traub, Deputy-Director, Sustainable Development Solutions</p> <p>Timo Lehesvirta, Sustainable Forestry Lead, Forest, Global, UPM</p> <p>Saara Kankaanrinta, SoilFood Ltd, Baltic Sea Action Group</p> <p>Fernando Louro Alves, City of Lisbon - 2020 European Green Capital 2020</p> <p>Johan Lammerant, UNSD Consultant, Arcadis on a System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), with particular focus on business needs</p>
13:00-14:00	Buffet
14:00-14:15	Photos by Internationally awarded Nature Photographers Hannu Hautala and Jarmo Manninen in the spirits of live rock music by Kepa Salmirinne
14:15 – 15:45	<p>Session 3: Outcomes of ecosystem assessment applied into policies by the EU Member States and Norway</p> <p>Facilitator: Tanja Suni, Research Director, Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bulgaria: Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences: Urban planning and ecosystem services beyond MAES 2. France: Antonin Vergez, <i>Chef du Bureau de l'Économie des biens communs Sous-direction de l'Économie des Ressources Naturelles et des Risques</i>: the EFESE program with a particular focus on its conceptual and governance frameworks 3. Greece: Panayotis Dimopoulos, Professor School of Natural Sciences, University of Patras: MAES implementation in Greece - a national-scale assessment for ecosystem condition and ecosystem services under the Life Integrated Project 4 Natura 4. Netherlands: Joop van Bodegraven, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality: Progress on natural capital activities in the Netherlands 5. Estonia: Madli Linder, Estonian Environment Agency: Estonian developments in nation-wide MAES 6. Norway: Eirin Bjørkvoll: latest outcomes of mapping and monitoring of Norwegian ecosystems, including the development of an ecosystem condition index
15:45-16:15	Coffee Break
16:15-17:15	<p>Session 4: Knowledge needs and next steps for post-2020 biodiversity policy & supporting mechanisms</p> <p>Facilitator: Nerea Aizpurua, Policy Officer DG RTD, Horizon BD Partnership</p> <p>Panel members</p> <p>Janne Kotiaho, Chair of Finnish national IPBES panel: IPBES upcoming developments, including on scenarios and business to support post-2020 EU and global biodiversity frameworks</p>

	<p>Piero Visconti IIASA: NatureMap and the pledging proposal for biodiversity in the post-2020 biodiversity context</p> <p>Markus Erhard, EEA: Knowledge needs in future - EEA perspective</p> <p>Bram Edens, UN: State and future plans of SEEA</p>
<p>17:15 – 18:00</p>	<p>Closing session – Take home messages</p> <p>Facilitator: Marina von Weissenberg FI PRES</p> <p>Panel members</p> <p>Anne Teller, Senior Expert, Commission, DG ENV</p> <p>Juha Siikamäki, Chief Economist, IUCN</p> <p>Eeva Hellström, Senior Lead, SITRA</p> <p>Cheryl Jones Fur Deputy Mayor, Växjö, Sweden, Member of the Regional Executive Committee of the ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability</p>
<p>18:00 - 21:30</p>	<p><i>Transportation to Allas Sea Pool (18:00-18:30)</i></p> <p>Evening reception</p> <p>18:30-19:30 Outcomes of MAES by EU Member States and stakeholders (Pecha Kucha):</p> <p>Facilitator: Petteri Vihervaara, Finnish Environment Institute</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barbara Herrero Cangas, EU Nature Policy Officer, BirdLife International: Mapping restoration priorities, with a focus on enhancing the cohesiveness of the Natura 2000 Network, and bringing nature closer to people. 2. Dr Jaana Bäck, Professor in Forest-atmosphere interactions, Institute for Atmospheric and Earth System Research INAR: Forest Sciences eLTER project 3. Dr. Kremena Gocheva, Bulgaria: Long-term, whole-system, harmonised observations as a response to the key challenges in European environmental assessment (MAES, eLTER) 4. Dr. Giulia Capotorti, Department of Environmental Biology, Sapienza University of Rome: Assessment of ecosystem condition with respect to land consumption, both inside and outside protected areas (National Parks) as part of the last two National Capital Accounting Reports. 5. Dr. Tanács Eszter, research fellow, Centre for Ecology, Institute of Ecology and Botany, Hungary: Results and progress of the MAES project in Hungary 6. Peter Kullberg, the Finnish Environment Institute: the Finnish Ecosystem Observatory (FEO) project 7. Dr Fernando Santos, <i>PDI /Tecnología Química y Ambiental, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos</i>: MAES in outermost regions and overseas <p>Networking cocktail & Walking dinner</p> <p>Photo exhibition on the history of the MAES Working Group and process by Attila Takacs, Hungary</p>