



Programme BG03 „Biodiversity and ecosystems“
Methodological assistance for ecosystems assessment and biophysical valuation - MetEcosMap



„Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services - science in action“ .

*International Scientific Conference on
ecosystem services*

Sofia, 6-8 February 2017

In collaboration with:
Bulgarian National Network, Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP)
Bulgarian National LTER Network (LTER-Bg)
National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography, BAS
Forest Research Institute, BAS

International Scientific Conference: Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services – Science in action

The conference (www.metecosmap-sofia.org) aims to bring together researchers from different countries to discuss the scientific aspects of mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services. It will be focused on the methods for mapping of ecosystem services, the challenges and problems of their implementation in the national assessments related to MAES. The program includes plenary sessions with keynotes and workshops on the main conference **topics**:

- Mapping of ecosystems
- Assessment of ecosystem's condition
- Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services
 - Biophysical perspectives
 - Socio-cultural perspectives

Mapping of ecosystems.

The assessment of ecosystems and their services needs spatially explicit data representing the landscape heterogeneity of different areas. This topic aims to address the ecosystem typologies used at European and national scales, the variety of spatial datasets and methods used for delineation of ecosystems and correspondence between the approaches applied in different countries.

Assessment of ecosystem's condition.

The assessment of ecosystem's condition requires information about drivers (land use, management), pressure (land-take, pollution, climate change) and their impact on the structure and function of the ecosystems. The main objective of this topic is to discuss about appropriate indicators for ecosystem condition, quantification of these indicators and spatial representation of the indicators data.

Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services – biophysical perspective.

Ecosystem services need to be mapped in their integrity based on the capacity to ecosystems to provide multiple services. Biophysical methods for mapping ecosystem services are used to quantify ecosystems' capacity to deliver ecosystem services and the amount of this capacity to ensure human benefits. In this topic, the objective is to discuss the variety of methods for quantification of indicator for ecosystem services, the challenges and problems in their spatial representation as well as their application in national assessments.

Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services – socio-cultural perspective.

Socio-cultural methods are related to analyzes of human preference, uncover of individual and collective values and perceptions towards ecosystem services in non-monetary units. This topic addresses the problems and challenges in the application of socio-cultural methods for mapping and assessment purposes and their potential to derive indicators for ecosystem services supply, flow and demand.

International Scientific committee (*in alphabetic order*)

Anna Ganeva, Director of Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS
Boyko Georgiev, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS
Benjamin Burkhard, Hannover University, Germany; ESP
Elena Rafailova, MAF
Erik Stange NINA, Norway
Fernando Santos-Martín, University of Madrid, Spain
Georgi Kostov, MAF
Iva Apostolova, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS
Jari Niemelä, University of Helsinki
Jeroen Arends, SEEDEV; ESP
Joachim Maes, European Commission – Joint Research Centre; ESP
Karsten Grunewald, Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development Dresden, Germany
Maria Grozeva-Sokolovska, Forest Research Institute – BAS,
Margarita Mondeshka, University of Architecture, Civil engineering and Geodesy, Sofia
Michael Mirtl, ILTER
Miglena Zhiyanski, Forest Research Institute – BAS,
Nesho Chipev, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS,
Paul Aspholm, NIBIO, Norway
Stoyan Nedkov, National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography – BAS,
Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS,
Yordan Uzunov, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS

Organising Committee

Chair

Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS,

Members

Stoyan Vergiev, MOEW, Bulgaria

Kremena Gocheva, MOEW, Bulgaria

Graciela Rush, NINA, Norway

Stoyan Nedkov, National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography – BAS, Bulgaria

Miglena Zhiyanski, Forest Research Institute – BAS, Bulgaria

Nesho Chipev, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS, Bulgaria

Margarita Mondeshka, University of Architecture, Civil engineering and Geodesy, Bulgaria

Nadejda Jarlovska, University of Architecture, Civil engineering and Geodesy, Bulgaria

Emilia Varadinova, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS, Bulgaria

Radka Fikova, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS, Bulgaria

Gergana Georgieva, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS, Bulgaria

Kostadin Katrandjiev, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS, Bulgaria

Anna Petrakieva – Executive Forest Agency, Bulgaria

Preliminary conference programme

Day 1, February 6th (Monday)

08:30-09:30 Registration

09:30-09:50 Welcome

09.50-11.00 Plenary Session, Part 1

Keynote 1: **Benjamin Burkhard**

Integrated mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services

Keynote 2: **Fernando Santos-Martín**

TBD

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Networking and poster session

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Parallel Sessions,

15:30-16.00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 Parallel Sessions,

17:30-18:30 Wine reception - Welcome drink

Day 2, February 7th (Tuesday)

09.30-11.00 Plenary Session, Part 2

Keynote 5: **Joachim Maes**, JRC, MAES

Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services: Highlights and uncertainties of a science-policy interface

Keynote 4: **Jari Niemelä**

TBD

Keynote 5: **Maria Nijnik**, The James Hutton Institute, UK

Valuation of ecosystem services: a decision support means or Pandora's box for policy-makers?

11:00-11:30 Coffee break
11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions,
13:00-14:00 Lunch
14:00-15:30 Workshop “***Ecosystem services assessment and evaluation – panacea or Pandora’s box?***”
15:30-16.00 Coffee break
16:00-17:30 Plenary Session - Closing remarks
19:00-22:00 Conference dinner

Important dates

Registration – 20.11.2016

Abstract Submission Deadline – 20.11.2016

Abstracts Acceptance Notification – 01.12.2016

Abstract book for the Conference will be prepared

Full text submission for selected papers – after the Conference – March, 2017

A special issue in One Ecosystem journal (<http://oneecosystem.pensoft.net/>) will be organized for participants who submit full papers

Instruction for Abstracts and submission

To submit an abstract please follow this procedure and refer to the template shown on the next page. The abstracts should be in English and provide a synthesis of your research.

A maximum of 2000 characters (including spaces) is allowed, single-spaced in 12 point type Times New Roman.

We appreciate if you could submit your abstracts by 30th November, and sent as an email attachment to: sbrat@abv.bg

In the email message, please indicate your preference as below:

- Oral presentation - up to 20 minutes (last 5 minutes for discussion)
- Poster presentation – 80x110 cm

A final decision on the format of presentation (i.e. poster or oral) will be taken by the Organizing Committee by 10th December and notifications of the acceptance of the abstract for either oral or poster presentation sent by email.

Template for Abstract

Title of the abstract

Author name¹, Author name², the presenter's name is bolded.
¹Authors's affiliations and full addresses in italic, 10-point, centered
presenter's e-mail address: 10-point type, centered

Abstract (max 2000 characters, including spaces)

Keywords: Keywords 1, Keywords 2, Keywords 3, Keywords 4, Keywords 5

Acknowledgments:

References (example):

Cardinale BJ et al. (2012) Biodiversity loss and its impact on humanity.
Nature 486: 59–67.

Hedlund K & Ohrn MS (2000) Tritrophic interactions in a soil
community enhance decomposition rates. *Oikos* 88: 585–591.

Wardle DA (2002) *Communities and Ecosystems: Linking the
Aboveground and Belowground Components* (Princeton Univ. Press).