



„Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services - Science in action“

*International Scientific Conference on
ecosystem services*

Sofia, 6-7 February 2017

I Announcement

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, University of Kiel, Germany, ESP

Elena Rafailova, MAF

Fernando Santos-Martín, University of Madrid, Spain

Georgi Kostov, MAF

Iva Apostolova, Institute of biodiversity and ecosystem research – BAS

Jeroen Arends, SEEDEV

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

NINA - representative

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

(The place will be selected afterward)

Day 1, February 6th (Monday)

08:30-09:30 Registration
09:30-09:50 Welcome
09.50-11.00 Plenary Session, Part 1
 11:00-11:30 Coffee break
11:30-13:00 Plenary Session, Part 2
 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 Networking and poster session
 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 – 30.10.2016
Abstract Submission Deadline – 30.10.2016
Abstracts Acceptance Notification – 30.11.2016
 Abstract book for the Conference will be prepared

Full papers Submission paper – after the Conference – March, 2017
 The papers could be published in special issue of Journal with impact factor

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 October, 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 30th November 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).