

## 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
- 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	
08:30-9:00	<b>Morning Coffee, Registration</b>
09:00-10:00	<p><b>High Level Ministerial Opening</b></p> <p><b>Chair</b></p> <p>Satu Hassi Member of Finnish Parliament, Chair of Grand Committee</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker</b></p> <p>The Environment State and Outlook report by Ronan Uhel, Programme Manager EEA</p> <p><b>High-level panel members</b></p> <p>Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation and Youth (tbc)</p> <p>Charlina Vitcheva, Acting Director General of JRC</p> <p>Pascal Canfin, EP Env chair (tbc)</p> <p>Joanna Drake, Deputy-Director General DG Environment</p>
10:00-11:30	<p><b>Session 1: The first EU wide ecosystem assessment</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Eeva Primmer, SYKE</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker</b></p> <p>The first outcomes of the EU-wide ecosystem assessment by Joachim Maes, JRC</p> <p><b>Panel members</b></p> <p>Maria Luisa Paracchini, JRC : agro-ecosystems</p> <p>José Barredo, JRC : forest ecosystems</p> <p>Olga Vigiak, JRC : freshwater ecosystems</p> <p>Joachim Maes, JRC : marine ecosystems</p>

	<p>Grazia Zulian, JRC : urban ecosystems</p> <p>Sophie Condé, ETC/BD : heathland, shrub, sparsely vegetated land</p> <p>Dania Abdul Malak, ETC/ULS : wetland</p> <p>Sara Vallecillo, JRC: ecosystem services</p>
<b>11:30-12:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>12:00-13:00</b>	<p><b>Session 2: Roundtable discussion on policy relevance and how to integrate ecosystem assessments into decision-making processes</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Stefan Leiner, Head of Biodiversity unit, DG Environment</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p>Guido Schmidt-Traub, Deputy-Director, Sustainable Development Solutions</p> <p>Timo Lehesvirta, Sustainable Forestry Lead, Forest, Global, UPM</p> <p>Janez Potocnic, Co-Chair International Resources Panel (tbc)</p> <p>Fernando Louro Alves, City of Lisbon - 2020 European Green Capital 2020 (tbc)</p>
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Buffet</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:30</b>	<p><b>Session 3: Outcomes of ecosystem assessment applied into policies by the EU Member States and Norway</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Mrs Tanja Suni, Ministry of the Environment</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bulgaria: Stoyan Nedkov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences will present Urban planning and ecosystem services beyond MAES</li> <li>2. France: Antonin VERGEZ, Chef du Bureau de l'Économie des biens communs Sous-direction de l'Économie des Ressources Naturelles et des Risques, will present the EFESE program with a particular focus on its conceptual and governance frameworks</li> <li>3. Greece: Panayotis Dimopoulos, School of Natural Sciences, University of Patras, will present MAES implementation in Greece: a national-scale assessment for ecosystem condition and ecosystem services under the Life Integrated Project 4 Natura</li> <li>4. Lithuania: Kristina Simonaityte, Chief Specialist, Nature Conservation and Forests Policy Group, will present some highlight project on specific ecosystems or regarding specific aspect of MAES</li> <li>5. Norway: Eirin Bjørkvoll, will present the latest outcomes of mapping and monitoring of Norwegian ecosystems, including the development of an ecosystem condition index</li> <li>6. Outermost regions and overseas territories : Ina Sievers, University of Hanover (tbc)</li> </ol>
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>16:00-17:00</b>	<p><b>Session 4: Knowledge needs and next steps for post-2020 biodiversity policy &amp; supporting mechanisms</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Nerea Aizpurua, Policy Officer DG RTD</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <p>Janne Kotiaho, Chair of Finnish national IPBES panel: to emphasise IPBES upcoming developments, including on scenarios and business to support post-2020 EU and global biodiversity frameworks</p> <p>Piero Visconti IIASA: to present NatureMap and the pledging proposal for biodiversity in the post-2020 biodiversity context</p>

	<p>Johan Lammerant, UNSD Consultant, Arcadis on a System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), with particular focus on business needs</p> <p>Opportunities provided by Copernicus for post-2020 by Markus Erhard, EEA</p>
<p><b>17:00 – 17.30</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Closing session</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Facilitator:</b> Mrs Marina von Weissenberg FI PRES</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel members</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Anne Teller, Senior Expert DG ENV</p> <p>Mari Pantsar SITRA, Finland – role of public institutions, how to support mainstreaming biodiversity related knowledge into wider society</p> <p>Gerald Bos IUCN/Business engagement (tbc): to focus on how to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into business plan and reporting and to present knowledge needs related, e.g. the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT), which draws together information on globally recognised biodiversity data bases.</p> <p>Cheryl Jones Furs Deputy Mayor, Växjö, Sweden, Member of the Regional Executive Committee of the ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability: to present role of local governments and the five ICLEI pathways towards low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development are designed to create systemic change.</p>
<p><b>17:30 - 21:30</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Transportation to Allas Sea Pool (17:30-18:00)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evening reception</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outcomes of MAES by EU Member States (Pecha Kucha):</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Facilitator:</b> Mr Petteri Vihervaara, Finnish Environment Institute</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Dr Jaana Bäck, Professor in Forest-atmosphere interactions, Institute for Atmospheric and Earth System Research INAR / Forest Sciences eLTER project (tbc)</p> <p>Dr. Kremena Gocheva, Bulgaria, Long-term, whole-system, harmonised observations as a response to the key challenges in European environmental assessment (MAES, eLTER)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Dr. Tanács Eszter, research fellow, Centre for Ecology, Institute of Ecology and Botany, Results and progress of the MAES project in Hungary</p> <p>Peter Kullberg, the Finnish Environment Institute: FEO pilot project of the Finnish Ecosystem Observatory (FEO) project</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Networking cocktail &amp; Walking dinner</b></p> <p><b>Photo exhibition on the history of the MAES Working Group and process by Attila Takacs, Hungary</b></p> <p><b>Photos by Internationally awarded Nature Photographers Hannu Hautala and Jarmo Manninen in the spirits of live rock music by Kepa Salmirinne</b></p>