Biodiversity Knowledge Newsletter

Creating a Network of Knowledge for biodiversity and ecosystem services in Europe

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- What is BiodiversityKnowledge? - missions and principles
- Learn more: First BiodiversityKnowledge conference outputs
- Get involved: our demonstration cases

Dear colleague,
With this second issue of our Newsletter, we would like to keep you informed about the BiodiversityKnowledge project. As exciting times are coming up for the science-policy interface in our area of research, this newsletter will now be released more regularly every 2-3 months. Stay engaged!
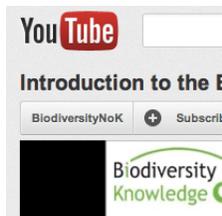Best wishes,
The BiodiversityKnowledge team

The BiodiversityKnowledge Project

BiodiversityKnowledge is an initiative by researchers and practitioners to help all societal actors in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services to make better informed decisions. In this challenge, we invite you and the whole biodiversity community to help us set up an innovative mechanism called "Network of Knowledge" (NoK) - an open networking approach to boost the knowledge flow between biodiversity knowledge holders and users in Europe.

In order to achieve this mission, we have developed a prototype network of knowledge that we are now testing and discussing with the knowledge community.

[Learn more about our principles and the NoK prototype]

Outputs from the first BiodiversityKnowledge conference on internet

Our first conference was held in Brussels from May 21st to 23rd 2012. The aim of the conference was to introduce and discuss broadly the approach of designing a Network of Knowledge in the area of biodiversity and ecosystem services in Europe. At the heart of it was the idea of engaging different knowledge hubs and identifying their interests when getting involved. This worked very well with 80 attending experts from across Europe and a broad participation in our webstreaming.

Discussions showed the needs and niche for a Network of Knowledge in Europe, including as potential functions a European link towards IPBES, a community of interest linking science with practice and a mechanism to serve requests from policy and other decision makers. The conference also highlighted the major challenges in terms of transparency, governance, finance, broad engagement and credibility.

[Learn more …]

Get involved: Engage as an expert in demonstration cases on nature conservation management, agriculture and biodiversity or on marine biodiversity

Consultation on the NoK as well as the three demonstration cases have now been launched and are up and running. The demonstration cases aim at testing our prototype for a Network of Knowledge on concrete questions from policy and science.

- The scoping step in the conservation case has led them working on a Green Infrastructure topic related to multifunctional floodplain management and well balanced delivery of ecosystem services.
- The scientific evidence has led the marine case to select a topic dealing with kelp forest in Europe.
- The agriculture case is asking the NoK "which types of landscape/habitat management are effective at maintaining or restoring populations of natural pest control agents?"

A Forum for each demonstration will be set up on the website and we invite anyone to contribute.

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