



## A Word from the BES-Net Team



Dear Members of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network,

June has been busy with the Global Inception and Capacity Building Workshop held in Kribi, Cameroon, from 13-15 June 2017. This workshop was led by UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and represented a key milestone for the implementation of our project funded by the German International Climate Initiative (IKI). The project is implemented by WCMC, through the Sub-Global Assessment Network, and BES-Net and aims to develop capacity for undertaking national ecosystem assessments using the IPBES methodology. Participants from Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia and Viet Nam took part in the meeting. The discussion focused on the rationale and process of undertaking national ecosystem assessments, tools and data for ecosystem assessments, and an initial scoping for assessments in each country. The ecosystem assessments will be undertaken over the upcoming three years and will include a national BES-Net Dialogue.

We are also happy to announce the expansion of the methodological area of Scenarios & Modelling for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the BES-Net website, with the addition of a library of knowledge, and a list of international experts who agreed to respond to questions from users. The module has been developed in collaboration with the [PBL Netherlands Environmental Agency](#), to whom we extend our special thanks. We hope that you will enjoy exploring this [new module](#)!

Finally, we are happy to welcome two new BES-Net partners: the Capacities for Biodiversity and Sustainable Development ([CEBioS](#)) Programme, and [Panorama](#) - Solutions for a Healthy Planet. The CEBioS programme is housed and executed at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) in Brussels, and carries out capacity building for partners of the Belgian cooperation in the field of biodiversity

### About BES-Net

BES-Net is a capacity building “network of networks” that promotes dialogue among science, policy and practice for more effective management of biodiversity and ecosystems, contributing to long-term human well-being and sustainable development. Find out more [here](#).

### Did you know?

New research published in the *Environmental Research Letters* identifies statistically significant spatiotemporal trends of forest loss in Brazil, Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Congo between the years 2000 and 2014. The results show that the “overall rate of forest loss in Brazil declined over the 14-year time period, spatiotemporal patterns of loss shifted, with forest loss significantly diminishing within some Amazonian states and intensifying within the cerrado biome. In Indonesia, forest loss intensified in Riau province in Sumatra and in Sukamara and West Kotawaringin regencies in Central Kalimantan. Substantial portions of West Kalimantan became new and statistically significant hot spots of forest loss in the years 2013 and 2014. Similarly, vast areas of DRC emerged as significant new hot spots of forest loss, with intensified loss radiating out from

conservation and sustainable management in relation to poverty eradication. Panorama is a partnership initiative, which documents and promotes replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics - their online platform has currently over 300 solutions varying from protected areas to ecosystem-based adaptation. We are happy about being partners with CEBioS and Panorama and looking forward to our cooperation in the future!

All the best and wishing you a great summer,

The BES-Net Team



city centers.” (N. L. Harris et al. 2017. Using spatial statistics to identify emerging hot spots of forest loss, Environ. Res. Lett. 12). Access the whole publication [here](#) and browse through other publications related to [scenarios & modelling for biodiversity and ecosystem services](#).

#### In Focus

- Click [here](#) to view upcoming events in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.
- Click [here](#) for current jobs and internships in the field of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

#### BES-Net Partners

The Network now counts [88 organizations](#) that play a key role in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Contact us at [info@besnet.world](mailto:info@besnet.world) should you want to join.

## Science - Policy - Practice Discussions: Insights from David Duthie

Sustaining development for sustainable development – resilience is the key

For many current biodiversity people, sustainable development goes back a long way and [resilience thinking](#) is the “new kid on the block.” In fact, resilience thinking is as old as sustainable development thinking, both dating back to 1972, to the Stockholm Conference and C.S (Buzz) Holling’s seminal review “[Resilience and stability of ecological systems](#),” respectively. Resilience thinking might have its origin as a “Buzz” (Holling) term, but as it becomes the new buzzword in sustainable development there is a danger of many thinking that resilience is more about stability than coping with change, a point recently made by Thomas Elmqvist of the Stockholm Resilience Centre in a recent [letter](#) in *Nature*. A couple of years ago, an [article](#) proposed that “resilience” should replace “sustainability” as a policy concept, an idea which has been strongly [critiqued](#) by William Rees (of ecological footprint fame). Sustainable development of our modern industrial economic systems may not be possible, but sustaining development as in the idea of [doughnut economics](#), respecting both planetary and social boundaries, clearly is a desirable trajectory, which will require a healthy dose of correct resilience thinking. If you are about to become a resilience thinker, please read the recent free [article](#) in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Environmental Science* by Carl Folke, another founding father of resilience thinking and co-founder of the Stockholm Resilience Centre.

## Highlights from BES-Net Partners

### **Stockholm Resilience Centre Together with the Resilience Alliance to Organize the Resilience 2017 Conference in Stockholm, 20th -23th August**



The conference will discuss resilience as a key lens for biosphere-based sustainability science. The agenda reflects the scientific progress made, and aim to set out exciting future directions for related research. The main focus of the Resilience 2017 will be on global sustainability challenges and opportunities, which are heavily influenced by the speed, scale and connectivity of the Anthropocene. Access more information about the upcoming conference on their [website](#).

### **FLARE Annual Meeting 2017**



FLARE (Forests and Livelihoods: Assessment, Research, and Engagement) network is pleased to announce its 3rd annual meeting. This year's meeting is being organized in partnership with Stockholm University, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), the Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative (SIANI), Forest, Climate and Livelihoods Research Network (FOCALI), and the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). It will continue to advance discussion and collaboration around the relationships surrounding forests and livelihoods, with special attention to three core themes, although it will also build on themes from previous meetings. Read more about the meeting [here](#).

### **Enhancing the World's Longest Running Botanical Magazine through Citizen Science**



Curtis's Botanical Magazine is the world's longest running botanical magazine, representing two centuries of botanical history and discovery. The public domain volumes are freely available through the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL): <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/706>.

The magazine is most famous for its illustrations, many of which depict plants being scientifically described for the first time. Through collaboration with BHL Australia and the National Herbarium of New South Wales, BHL has launched a citizen science project to enhance available data about these illustrations. Learn more about how you can get involved [here](#).

Image caption: Curtis's Botanical Magazine. v. 111 (1885). Art by Matilda Smith. Digitized by the Missouri Botanical Garden for the Biodiversity Heritage Library: <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/431543>.

### **BIOFIN's Africa Regional Workshop in Uganda Focused on Finance Solutions for Biodiversity**



The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) organized a regional workshop in Entebbe, Uganda, on 13th – 15th June. The workshop gathered representatives of governments, the United Nations, and technical experts across Africa to share knowledge and discuss new financial solutions for biodiversity. In her opening speech, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator, Adriana Dinu said "The world 100 years ago was in a very different place...The Paris Agreement, the SDG's framework are our ray of hope – the era of implementation. Even though we have transgressed two planetary boundaries, there is still hope if we act

creatively, quickly and with resolve, but we cannot keep on not counting, what counts – and here enters the role of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative." More updates from the regional workshop can be found [here](#).

During the workshop, BIOFIN also launched its new website. The website showcases the [progress of BIOFIN countries](#) and provides material for biodiversity finance knowledge and learning. The BIOFIN country publications are available in the new [knowledge platform](#), and the [news section](#) keeps the reader up to date with BIOFIN activities around the world.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> Poverty Environment Partnership Meeting Focused on Investing in Natural Capital**

The Poverty Environment Partnership (PEP) hosted its 22nd meeting in New York in June 2017. The concept of the meeting built on PEP's "[Getting to Zero](#)" paper and 2016-18 PEP Strategy. The meeting was co-hosted by the Governments of Austria and Finland, Korean International Cooperation Agency and the United Nations. The meeting aimed to share knowledge, develop partnerships and support country-level implementation in investing in natural capital. The main focus of the meeting was on natural capital mainstreaming and institutions, local solutions for scaling up natural capital and financing natural capital investments. [Read more](#) about the meeting and access the meeting documents [here](#).

**Let us know if you would like your news to be featured in the next version of the newsletter:**  
[info@besnet.world](mailto:info@besnet.world).

## **Jobs and Internships**

### **Environment & Climate Officer at IFAD** (9th July 2017 – Ankara, Turkey)

The International Fund for Agriculture and Development is looking for a professional with at least 5 years of experience in a climate and environment activities. The selected candidate will independently analyse technical and policy problems of concern to IFAD, intergovernmental bodies, and national authorities and provide substantive technical input to the development of policies, technical strategies and proposals. Knowledge of English and Turkish is required for this position. More detailed job advertisement can be found [here](#).

### **"Business and Biodiversity" Intern at Birdlife International** (12th July 2017 – Cambridge, England)

The selected intern will play an important role in part in a wide range of tasks which will support the work of Birdlife International with the extractives industry in West Africa, organising a global business and biodiversity conference, and developing and testing innovative tools for business. Ideally the internship would be a part-time position for a time-period of six months. If this caught your interest, read more and apply [here](#).

### **Postdoc on Global Groundwater Model at Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research** (14th July 2017 – Leipzig, Germany)

The successful candidate will focus on the development of a global groundwater model with the aim to estimate shallow groundwater resources and to model baseflow within the model chain of the collaborative project. Moreover, groundwater indicators are to be defined together with decision makers and to be calculated for groundwater management worldwide. More information about the position and instructions on how to apply can be found [here](#).



**Consultants for Study on Modelling the Economic Impacts of Climate Change on Agriculture and Food Security at UNDP** (17th July 2017 – Cotonou, Benin)

UNDP Benin is seeking an international (1) and a national (1) consultant to conduct a study on modelling the economic impacts of climate change on agriculture and food security in Benin (*Modélisation des impacts économiques des changements climatiques sur l'agriculture et la sécurité alimentaire*). This study is funded by the PEI Africa Regional Programme, and will be carried out in close consultation with UNDP Benin and the UN Environment Africa Office (Nairobi). Application instructions and more information can be found [here](#).

**Other Job Opportunities**

The BES-Net web portal provides access to a [list of jobs and internships](#) available in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network

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