



Creating a Network of Knowledge for  
biodiversity and ecosystem services  
[www.biodiversityknowledge.eu](http://www.biodiversityknowledge.eu)

**1<sup>st</sup> BiodiversityKnowledge conference**  
***Discussing the Network of Knowledge approach for Europe***  
***and its links to international processes***

May 21st-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
Brussels, BELSPO offices

**Rationale**

The conference aims to introduce and discuss broadly the approach of designing a Network of Knowledge approach in the area of biodiversity and ecosystem services in Europe. At the heart of it is engaging different knowledge hubs and identifying their interests when getting involved.

The focus of the conference will be on identifying solutions and options for the NoK and identifying steps to create a broad community of interest with it. For a detailed discussion, the project team will provide a green paper as basis prior to the conference. To back this with a practical perspective, the conference will also introduce the demonstration cases of the project that will test the processes of the NoK over the next year.

On the last day, the conference will discuss the European input into IPBES and other international developments.

**Programme outline**

<b>Day 1: May 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Framing the challenge: Improved networking of knowledge holders in Europe on biodiversity and ecosystem services – for Europe and the world</b>	
<b>13:00-15:00</b>	<b>Session 1: Welcome and inspiration</b>	
30 min 🗣️	Opening	BELSPO representative Pia Bucella (DG Environment) Arnoldas Milukas (DG Research & Innovation)
30 min 🗣️	Introduction to the conference and the Network of Knowledge approach	Carsten Neßhöver (KNEU project, UFZ)
30 min 🗣️	A look beyond: The Cochrane collaboration as example of successful evidence provision in the health sector	Filip Cools (Cochrane Collaboration)
30 min 🗣️	Warm up discussion round	
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	Coffee break	




<b>15:30-18:00</b>	<b>Session 2: Experiences from different knowledge holders in supporting policy making</b>	
30 min 🗣️	Introduction: the knowledge landscape in Europe and the needs from policy – a synopsis	Estelle Balian (KNEU team, RBINS)
80 min	Knowledge café: Discussion experiences from different knowledge holder perspectives	
40 min	Table wrap up	


<b>Day 2: May 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Experiences and challenges for the operations of a NoK</b>	
<b>8:30-10:30</b>	<b>Session 3: How could a Network of Knowledge look like?</b>	
40 min 🗣️	Introduction: the NoK prototype	Barbara Livoreil (KNEU project, FRB)
40 min 🗣️	The main challenges identified behind the NoK and its approach	Rob Jongman & Ilse Geijzendorffer, (KNEU project, ALTERRA)
40 min 🗣️	Discussion and introduction to break-out group I	
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	Coffee break	

<b>11:00-12:30</b>	<b>Session 4: Break-out group I - Technical aspects for the operations of a Network of Knowledge</b>	
90 min	Break-out groups on different aspects of the NoK, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enabling conditions for participation &amp; networking</li> <li>- Transparency &amp; governance</li> <li>- Quality assurance</li> <li>- Relevance for policy</li> <li>- ... (topics to be specified in session 3)</li> </ul>	3-5 groups
30 min	Wrap-up of break-out group I	
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	Lunch break	

<b>14:00-16:00</b>	<b>Session 5: Bringing a NoK into action – demonstration cases and community driven activities</b>	
3*15 min 🗣️	The demonstration cases to test the NoK: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conservation case</li> <li>2. Agricultural case</li> <li>3. Marine case</li> </ol>	KNEU demonstration case leaders Stefan Schindler, University of Vienna Barbara Livoreil (FRB) Isabel Sousa Pinto (CIIMAR)
30 min 🗣️	Developing a continuous exchange base	Carsten Neßhöver (KNEU project, UFZ)
45 min 🗣️	Discussion of break-out group I results and introduction to break-out group II	
<b>16:00-16:30</b>	Coffee break	

<b>16:30-18:30</b>	<b>Session 6: Break-out group II: Thematic and practical challenges</b>	
90 min	Break-out group II on practical challenges, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integration of different forms of knowledge into the work; use of adaptive management</li> <li>- Use of evidence-based approaches</li> <li>- Building a community of interest with other networks</li> <li>- ... (topics to be specified in session 5)</li> </ul>	3-5 groups
30 min	Wrap-up of Break-out Group II	
<b>19:30</b>	<b>Conference dinner</b>	

<b>Day 3: May 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>The international challenge: Supporting IPBES and other global processes from Europe</b>	
<b>9:00-11:00</b>	<b>Session 7: Supporting IPBES and other processes</b>	
30 min 	The EEA and its work on interfacing knowledge provision and decision making	Jacqueline McGlade (EEA)
30 min 	Results of the IPBES plenary in Panama	Thomas Koetz, DG Environment
75 min 	Roundtable discussion on European role in IPBES and other processes	With: Claire Brown (UNEP-WCMC) Thomas Koetz (DG Environment) Olaf Banki (GBIF) Rob Jongman (GEOBON)
<b>11:15-11:45</b>	Coffee break	

<b>11:45-12:45</b>	<b>Session 8: Summary, outlook and closing</b>	
60 min 	Summary and next steps for BiodiversityKnowledge	KNEU project team
<b>12:45</b>	<b>Lunch</b> <b>End of conference</b>	

 *Live Webstreaming*

**Additional Events (upon invitations):**

- **Afternoon of the 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Special session on Mapping and assessing ecosystems and their services (MAES).
- **Afternoon of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and morning of the 24<sup>th</sup> of May:** Workshops of the working groups of the BiodiversityKnowledge demonstration cases