



Creating a Network of Knowledge for
biodiversity and ecosystem services
www.biodiversityknowledge.eu

2nd BiodiversityKnowledge conference

***Towards a future Network of Knowledge
on biodiversity and ecosystem services in Europe***

September, 24th-26th, 2013
Berlin, Jerusalemkirche

Rationale

To counteract biodiversity loss, efforts to strengthen the science and in general the knowledge-policy-society interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services have considerably increased over the past years. There is indeed an active, still scattered landscape of projects, institutions, organizations and individuals in Europe involved in the science-policy-society interface, all aiming to improve the knowledge flow so that decisions at different policy levels (from European, to national and local levels) are based on the best available knowledge.

In this context, the BiodiversityKnowledge project has been set up to help organize this landscape. For this the project has been developing and testing a prototype Network of Knowledge since 2011 with more than 300 active participations of representatives of the biodiversity and ecosystems services knowledge community. Stakeholders involved ranged from practitioners, researchers to policy makers.

The objective of this second conference is to discuss and finalize the recommended design of a future Network of Knowledge (NoK) on biodiversity and ecosystem services in Europe.

This conference will not only present BiodiversityKnowledge work (e.g. prototype, mapping of the landscape, results from the demonstration cases, etc...See Figure 1, the two upper bubbles in the flowchart), but will also aim to:

- discuss and develop, with participants, innovative ways of dealing with some of the challenges the project encountered,
- further develop options for the design of an operational Network of Knowledge for Europe, and how this network would be integrated in the wider context of science-policy-society interfaces.
- provide the space for institutions and any interested players to voice their interests in contributing to the Network of Knowledge and outline the roles they can envisage for themselves.

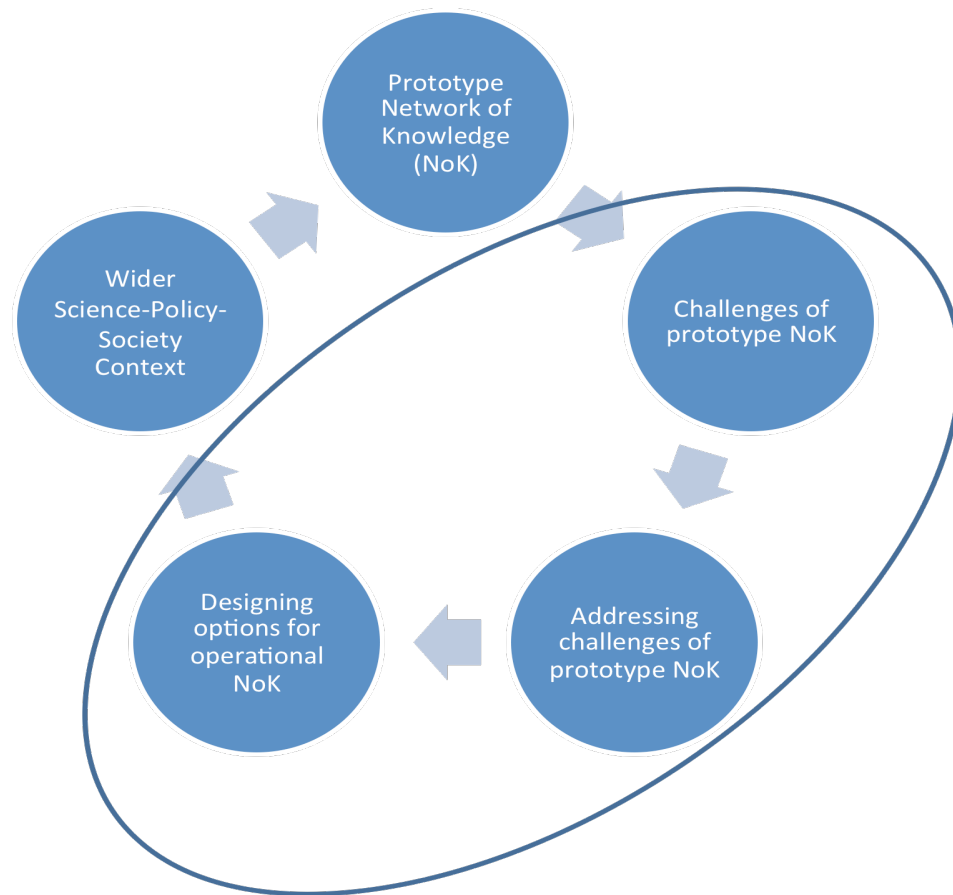


Fig 1: Flowchart representing the iterative steps in the project. The 3 encircled bubbles represent the focus of this second conference.

To support our discussions, the project team will provide a White Paper prior to the conference. This White Paper provides a concrete concept for a NoK, including its context, its functions, overall objectives as well as the practicalities of such a NoK through the lessons learned from three demonstration cases. The paper also elaborates on governance issues, rules and procedures and highlights the strong and weak points as well as the uncertainties for future implementation.

Target groups of the conference

Participants will come from across Europe and will include professionals working in science, policy, practice and in the interface between these groups at the national and international levels.

Expectations of participants

To help discussions move forward participants are asked to;

- Familiarize themselves with the white paper which provides a concrete concept for such a NoK

- Discuss before attending the conference within their institution potential contribution to and benefit from the NoK.

This will enable participants to engage more deeply in the discussions within the conference.

Expected benefits for participants

These include;

- The opportunity to develop individual networks by meeting other professionals working on or with an interest in biodiversity science policy interfaces
- Learn about some existing networks across Europe
- Learn about the BiodiversityKnowledge project
- Share information to inform science-policy-society interfaces at a country level
- The space for institutions and any interested players to voice their interests in contributing to the Network of Knowledge and outline their potential role.

Expected outputs




The outputs will be the identification of additional suggestions on how to overcome the big challenges of establishing a credible, legitimate and relevant NoK and this information will feed into the development of a finalised white paper.





Programme outline

Day 1: Sept 24th	Framing the challenge: Improving the evidence base for decision making, and the science-policy-society interface	
12:00-13:00	Light lunch	
13:00-15:30	Session 1: Welcome and inspiration	
20 min 🗣️	Opening	BiodiversityKnowledge team
20 min 🗣️	The wider science-policy-society landscape, including short introduction on BISE, EPBRs, IPBES...	TBD
20 min 🗣️	The knowledge landscape in Europe and the case study of Belgium.	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 🗣️	Introduction to the conference and the Network of Knowledge (NoK) approach	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 🗣️	Introduction to the White paper and rationale of conference	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 🗣️	Warm-up Getting to know each other and Warm up discussion round (open space setting)	
15:30-16:00	Coffee break	
20 min 🗣️	Presentation of the prototype NoK	Barbara Livoreil (KNEU project, FRB)
60 min 🗣️	Testing the prototype NoK <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservation case: Connecting conservation knowledge to the policy issue of floodplain management 2. Agriculture case: Coordinating knowledge on natural pest control 3. Marine case: Increasing policy awareness of kelp beds 	Demonstration case leaders Stefan Schindler, University of Vienna Barbara Livoreil (FRB) Isabel Sousa Pinto (CIIMAR)
40 min 🗣️	Panel discussion on the prototype with representatives from the European Commission, IPBES, EPBRs, BISE (EEA)	TBD
Conference dinner	Dinner with the dinosaurs of the Natural History Museum of Berlin.	

Day 2: Sept 25th	The Network of Knowledge in practice	
9:00-10:30	Session on challenges and how to address them	
30 min 🗣️	Challenges of the NoK and lessons learned	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 🗣️	Networking, and some lessons learned	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 🗣️	Discussion and introduction to break-out group I	
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-12:30	Break-out group I on the Networking function: Connecting, motivating and acknowledging the actors ➔ Learn how others have addressed the identified challenges	
90 min	Break-out groups on different aspects of the networking function Wrap-up of break-out group I	3-5 groups
12:30-13:30	Lunch break	
13:30-16:00	Challenges of the NoK: Decision support	
30 min 🗣️	Wrap up from BGI	
30 min 🗣️	Challenges on the decision support function and lessons learned	BiodiversityKnowledge team - WP4
30 min 🗣️	Discussion and introduction to break-out group II	
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee break	

15:30-17:30	Break-out group II	
90 min	Break-out group II on solving challenges related to decision support	3-5 groups
30 min	Wrap-up of Break-out Group II	

Day 3: Sept 26th	Bringing a NoK into action: joint construction of design options	
9:00-11:00	Options	
30 min 	Presentation of the design options	BiodiversityKnowledge team
30 min 	Challenges identified related to governance issues, and lessons learned	BiodiversityKnowledge team - WP4
30 min 	Discussion and introduction to break-out group III	
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	

11:00-12:30	Summary, outlook and closing	
60 min	Break-out group III on design options	3-5 groups
30 min 	Wrap-ups from break-out group III Decision upon an option?	
12:30-13:30	Lunch break	
40 min 	Speed presentations of institutions/initiatives on how they might act/position themselves in the NoK	TBD
40 min 	Participative exercise: weaving the NoK	
10 min 	Summary and next steps for BiodiversityKnowledge	BiodiversityKnowledge team
	Closing words	TBC
15:00	End of conference	

 *Live Webstreaming*