

TESSA



Quick Facts

Inputs

Site data collected by the user

Outputs

Quantitative data about ecosystem service benefits

Scale

Site scale or local scale

Context

A range of land uses

Cost

Open access

Software required

Adobe pdf viewer

Skills Required

Field survey skills may be required. Training recommended to use Co\$tingNature and WaterWorld, if required.

Developer

Birdlife International, University of Cambridge, RSPB, UNEP-WCMC, Anglia Ruskin University, University of Southampton and the Tropical Biology Association..

Description

The TESSA toolkit is an easy-to-use workbook that leads the user through the steps needed to assess the ecosystem services provided at a particular site. It was initially developed for conservation practitioners but can be used by anyone, including those with no prior knowledge of ecosystem services. Worked examples are provided, as well as instructions for collecting site-specific data where appropriate (including field surveys and stakeholder input).

Ecosystem services included

10 provisioning, regulating and cultural services.

Habitats

Semi-natural grasslands, woodland, enclosed farmland, freshwater, wetlands and floodplains, mountains, moors and heaths, coastal margins and urban.

How does it work?

The toolkit is based on an interactive pdf document which guides the user to select a suitable site, define the exact questions to be addressed, engage the relevant stakeholders and carry out a scoping appraisal to identify the most important services for the site. For each of these services, decision trees help the user find the most suitable assessment method, from a selection including manual calculations, stakeholder mapping, field surveys or modelling tools (options include use of the WaterWorld and Co\$tingNature models). Electronic links take the user to separate short pdfs which describe how to apply each method, and there are also links to additional guidance documents and case studies.

Case studies in the UK

TESSA was used to evaluate the benefits of restoring Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire by comparing a block of restored wetland with adjacent unrestored arable land. The results suggest that restoration would provide net benefits worth \$199 ha/y, for a one-off investment of \$2320/ha.

Where can I get it?

<http://tessa.tools/>

Development of the Tool Assessor database and information sheets was funded by JNCC.