

Developing a methodology for cultural services research

3-4 March 2014

Helen gave an oral presentation on this workshop and its findings at the 2014 BESS Science Meeting (see website). Below is original scope of the workshop and a preliminary report.

Workshop outline

Title	Developing a cohesive methodological approach for cultural ecosystem services (CES) research
Organising team	Helen King (Cranfield), Tim Stojanovic (St Andrews), Andrew Church (Brighton)
Provisional dates	March 3 rd /4 th 2014
Location	Birmingham (venue tbc)
N^o of participants	20
Links	BESS projects, UK NEA, Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) , Ecosystem Knowledge Network, AHRC Cultural Value programme, Natural Capital Project, DEFRA, Natural England, Forestry Commission (please feel free to add to this)

Approach

The workshop will be interactive, dynamic and discussion based. Leading up to the workshop, a proforma will be sent to participants that asks them to outline a CES research project they have been involved in or are familiar with. Sessions will then be grounded in these 'mini-case-studies', and will incorporate interdisciplinary (socio-economic and arts/humanities) perspectives.

Provisional workshop session topics

- CES definitions and sub categories
- Theory that underpins CES research
- Spatially explicit methods (quantitative and qualitative) for CES research
- Identifying contextual and specific factors which inhibit scaling up of results
- Evidence required for decision making/ policy
- Real world examples
- Lunchtime (opt-in) session on CES challenges and supporting early career CES researchers

Workshop outputs

1. Paper: 'schematic representation of core CES concepts and related methods'. Co-authoring option will be extended to all workshop participants accompanied by a clear outline of expectations
2. Initiation of international CES network (linked to ESP)
3. Creation of a CES literature repository

Preliminary progress report June 2014

With respect to progress, I am pleased to announce that the three outputs outlined in the workshop funding proposal (publish a paper, create a CES network, and set up a literature repository) are all (gradually) coming to fruition. We have a sharepoint website up and running entitled 'CESNET: the cultural ecosystem services network'. This sharepoint is a storage/ collaboration space for documents, information, and ideas. It currently hosts the workshop presentations, a list of references/ open access publications, our paper aims/ objectives/draft structure, and our case-study material. It will be the mechanism by which we manage the paper writing process. We have devised a basic structure for the paper, and have named teams (and some section leaders) leading the writing (please see table below). We need to be realistic about progress as everyone is super busy, but stage one is to have a rough bulleted structure of the detailed content of each section, a plan for how the writing will be tackled, and who is doing what by the end of June.

Helen King

Paper section	Content	Participant
Introduction 1500 words	Why is CES research important, how this paper came together, aims and objectives, lit review	Helen King*
		Timothy Stojanovic
		Andrew Church
		Joe Morris
Concepts 2000 words	What is culture and its relation to CES; traditional approaches to CES research; overview of relevant epistemological positions and theory; interest from new field/ disciplines (frameworks, concepts etc.)	Tim Stojanovic*
		Kate Irvine
		Jasper Kenter
		Simon James
		Tim Acott
		Rob Fish
Applications 2000 words	Summary of typical applications (from CES literature/ reports); overview of proformas; focus on selected case studies; highlight implicit paradigms; highlight effects of different scales; table of methods (pros & cons); link methods to stages in policy cycles	Rob Fish*
		Ruth Waters
		Kelvin Peh
		Joe Morris
		Julie Urquhart
		Anil Graves
		Kai Chan
		Rebecca Lovell
Discussion 2000 words	How are CES managed; what decision makers require (including critique of evidence policy prefers); consequences of different ways of producing evidence; pragmatic approach to reconcile/ integrate what we know about CES	Steve Fletcher*
		Jamie Tratalos
		Andrew Church
		Jasper Kenter
		Anja Byg
		Berta Martin

	methods; discussion of 'thorny issues'	Tobias Plieninger
Conclusion 5000 words	Tbc	tbc

