

ISSUE 5

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear ESMERALDA friends and partners,

With the summer holidays approaching, we would like to take stock of the latest ESMERALDA actions and achievements!

After three-and-a-half years of hard work, the time has come for the **ESMERALDA Final Project Conference!** With more than 100 delegates from 33 countries, the event gave an overview of the key findings of the project and future plans for implementing the results.

Here, you can learn more about the ESMERALDA final event and other stakeholder meetings in the past few months.

Stay tuned for one last ESMERALDA's e-newsletter later in July!

Yours sincerely,
Benjamin Burkhard
(ESMERALDA Coordinator)

ESMERALDA final project Conference: showcasing the results of three-and-a-half years of hard work

The Horizon2020-funded EU project ESMERALDA has succeeded in assisting and guiding EU Member States in Mapping and Assessing Ecosystems and their Services (MAES) in their respective local, national and pan-national contexts.

Marking the end of the project, a three-day Conference was organised in Brussels, Belgium, to demonstrate key scientific results and practical resources supporting the actions towards development of a flexible methodology.

About 100 delegates from 27 EU Member states, 6 other European countries, EU outermost regions, and various European Commission's bodies and institutions attended the event. Director-General of DG Environment and Deputy Director-General of DG Research & Innovation highlighted how the ESMERALDA outcomes are supporting the implementation of various EU policies.

"ESMERALDA was a great opportunity for us to create a pan-European network of ecosystem services specialists and stakeholders and to further develop methodologies for mapping and assessment of ecosystem services that work not only on the theoretical level, but will be hopefully of use at the local and national levels to stakeholders across Europe," comments project coordinator Prof. Benjamin Burkhard, [Leibniz Universität Hannover](#), Germany.

Within the event, participants had the chance to click through the [MAES Explorer](#) - an online platform assisting users from policy, science and the society through ESMERALDA's methodology in choosing the right approach and execution in their specific context.

Read [more here](#).



Group photo of the ESMERALDA final project Conference in Brussels, Belgium



Sofia, July 2018

On 3rd July, project partners and stakeholders met in Sofia, Bulgaria, and discussed how to continue with mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services on a national level after an ambitious and dedicated participation in the project.

"ESMERALDA, being a coordination and support action of the EU, focuses on the use of knowledge and dissemination of science. For that reason, the practical implementation of results is crucial," explained project partner Stoyan Nedkov, Assoc. Professor in the National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography.

[Read more.](#)



Eger, March 2018

From 19 to 22 March 2018, a ESMERALDA Workshop took place in Eger, Hungary, focusing on testing the final version of the flexible ecosystem services (ES) mapping and assessment methodology in policy- and decision-making through real-world case studies. One of the last project Workshops involved a larger variety of policy- and decision-making processes and actors, including businesses and citizens, coming from a range of geographical contexts, the Workshop was divided into ten sessions.

[Read more.](#)



Trento, January 2018

Within a three-day Workshop in Trento, Italy, project partners and stakeholders tested the final version of the flexible ES mapping and assessment methodology in policy- and decision-making and analysed how MAES can support different stages of a decision-making process. The Workshop took place from 22 to 25 January 2018 and focused on urban planning as an illustrative and relevant decision-making process. ESMERALDA case studies from the cities of Trento (Italy) and Antwerp (Belgium) were used to practice the whole MAES process.

[Read more.](#)



Copyright © 2018 Pensoft Publishers, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

MailChimp