

Call for Papers for a Workshop on the

Assessment and Economic Valuation of Recreational Ecosystem Services of Landscapes in EU Member States

Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany
September 12-13, 2016

organized by

Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institute for Environmental Planning, and
Georg August-Universität Göttingen, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural
Development



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
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mAking)

[Working Group
“Landscape Planning” of
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Ecology \(IALE\)](#)

[Working Group “Application
of Ecosystem Services in
Planning and Management”
of the Ecosystem Service
Partnership \(ESP\).](#)



Dear colleagues,

We warmly invite you to a workshop on the Assessment and Economic Valuation of Recreational Ecosystem Services (RES) of Landscapes in EU Member States at Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany, on September 12-13, 2016. The workshop picks up the challenge of assessing and valuing ecosystem services as stipulated by target 2, action 5 of the EU Biodiversity strategy (i.e. Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services – a process commonly abbreviated as MAES, <http://biodiversity.europa.eu/maes>). The workshop focusses on RES as one kind of cultural ecosystem services and, more specifically, on the potential, demand, actual use, and economic value of RES. We understand RES as the contributions of landscapes for non-specific and specific recreation opportunities. Non-specific recreation opportunities refer primarily to aesthetic quality as it determines a landscape's general suitability for recreation purposes. Specific recreation opportunities, in contrast, refer to activities like hiking, climbing, boating, in-situ bird watching that require specific elements in landscapes. Potential is understood as the current provision of RES in a given landscape, regardless of their actual use. Demand is the societal request for RES, which may or may not be fulfilled. Actual use is the current usage of RES, and economic value describes the value attributed to a marginal change of landscapes' provision of RES.

The objectives of the workshop are:

1. To bring together and discuss the best available knowledge concerning RES of landscapes in EU member states, that is spatial analysis and quantification of potentials, estimation of demand as well as actual use, and economic valuation,
2. To synthesize commonalities and differences, current bottlenecks and new ideas for further research to advance the theory and practice of RES mapping, assessment and economic valuation in the context of MAES, including suggestions for harmonizing the diversity of approaches,
3. To develop material and insights for a joint publication effort on the topic such as a special issue or joint paper, depending upon the interest of participants,
4. To initiate and enhance across EU member states' knowledge exchange and cooperation around RES assessment and valuation approaches.

The workshop is planned as a 1,5 day meeting addressing (i) approaches and methods for assessing and mapping potentials of RES of landscapes, (ii) approaches and methods for modelling the demand as well as actual use of RES, and (iii) approaches and methods for the economic valuation of RES. A final session (iv) will integrate the results and discuss future steps of cooperation.

If you wish to join us, **please fill in the registration form** at the end of this mail and send it to hermes@umwelt.uni-hannover.de **until July 31, 2016**. If you wish to present a paper or a poster, please add a short abstract (max. 300 words). The number of participants will be restricted to ensure a reasonable size for collaboration. Therefore, only an early registration will assure your place. We will distribute a preliminary program, local information and assistance for travel and accommodation in the first half of August.

Please, also inform us if you have remarks or ideas on the contents, the topics and the organization of the meeting, or if there are any questions.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Hannover and to receive your registration by e-mail soon.

Best regards from the organisers

Johannes Hermes, Christian Albert, Jan Barkmann, Miguel Cebrián-Piqueras and Christina von Haaren

In the following paragraphs you can find preliminary questions to be explored in each of the sessions:

Session I: Assessing and mapping potentials of RES of landscapes

This session will address approaches, methods, tools and findings of efforts in EU member states to assess and map RES potentials. Questions to address include:

1. Which approaches have been used?
2. Which bottlenecks have been identified, and how have they been addressed?
3. What are potential future pathways for enhancing the modelling of RES potentials?
4. How can the information be used for monitoring of landscape changes and other potential policy applications?

We are particularly interested in methods using more complex modelling approaches (i.e. referring to the tier 3 approach outlined by Maes et al. 2014), as well as in approaches that combine modelling approaches for evaluating plausibility.

Session organizer: Johannes Hermes (hermes@umwelt.uni-hanover.de)

Session II: Assessing and valuing the demand, as well as actual use of RES of landscapes

Increasingly studies in Europe and beyond explore the demand, as well as actual use of cultural ecosystem services for recreation, specific sports or leisure activities. As empirical data concerning the actual use is often rare, many researchers have turned to indirect ways of estimating RES usage, for example on the basis of the amount and frequency of photo uploads on Flickr or panoramio, geo-references twitter messages, and the like. Another option to estimate demand without extensive empirical studies might be to correlate residential density with RES potentials of landscapes.

This session will exhibit some of the most innovative approaches in the field and aims at jointly discussing the following questions:

1. How can the actual use be assessed?
2. How to assess the demand (without empirical data of actual use)?
3. What has been learned concerning the reliability of indirect measures to model RES demand and usage?
4. What has been learned from comparisons of assessment of RES potentials and the actual use or the demand?
5. Which avenues for further research seem most promising?

Session organizer: Miguel Angel Cebrián-Piqueras (cebrian@umwelt.uni-hannover.de)

Session 3: Economic valuation of RES of landscapes

Economic valuation of RES is a hot topic much in need of a unified approach at the EU level. To address target 2, action 5 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 to assess the economic value of ES, much research is needed to promote the integration of economic RES values into accounting and reporting systems. This research should take into account ongoing efforts at various levels, including the UN initiative of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and the Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (EEA). The issue of economic valuation of RES becomes even more challenging as stated preference methods (contingent valuation, choice experiments) are widely used in applied RES contexts but are usually not incorporated into national accounts.

Key questions are:

1. Which approaches have been proved useful for economically valuing RES at the landscape or national level?
2. Which approaches to assess the economic value of RES are suitable in the context of accounting and reporting systems?
3. Which approaches seem promising to derive valid demand functions for RES, e.g. by linking assessments of landscape potentials, actual use and economic values?
4. What can be learned from existing economic valuations of RES at EU MS level for the integration into national accounts? What are the challenges and how can they be overcome?

Session organizer: Jan Barkmann: jan.barkmann@h-da.de

Registration information: please copy the following section into an e-mail and send your information ASAP but before July 31, 2016 to hermes@umwelt.uni-hannover.de

Your name:

Your affiliation:

Your postal address:

Your e-mail address:

I want to participate without presentation or poster

I want to present a poster. My poster's title:

I want to give a presentation. My presentation's title:

The preferred session for your presentation:

RES potentials

RES uses

Economic valuation of RES

Your abstract (max. 300 words):
