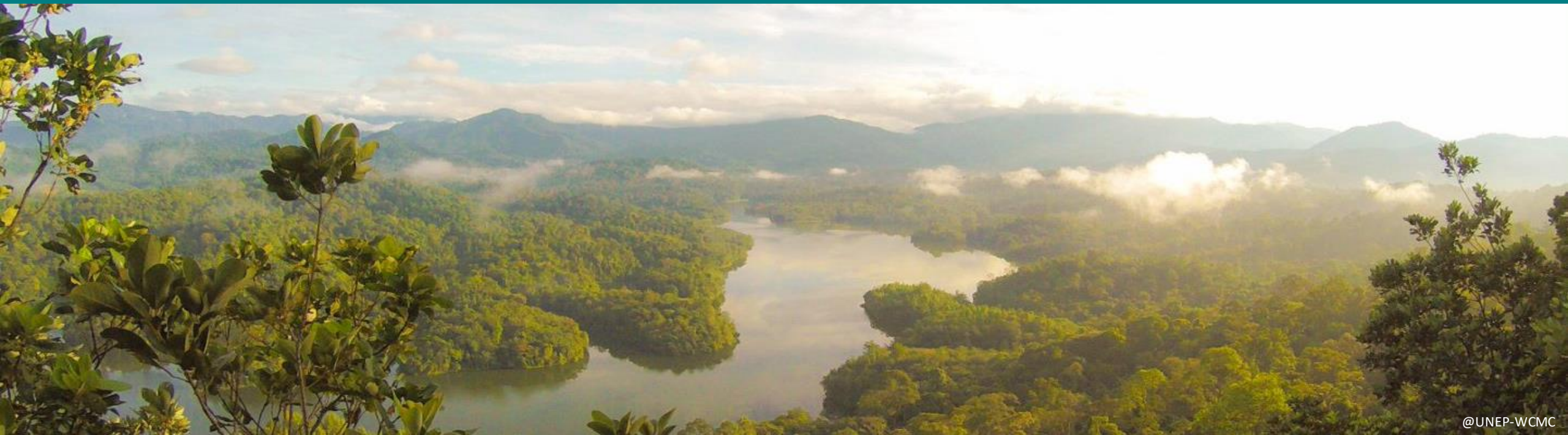




NATIONAL
ECOSYSTEM
ASSESSMENT
INITIATIVE



UN WCMC environment programme LESSONS LEARNED WORKSHOP NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE



@UNEP-WCMC



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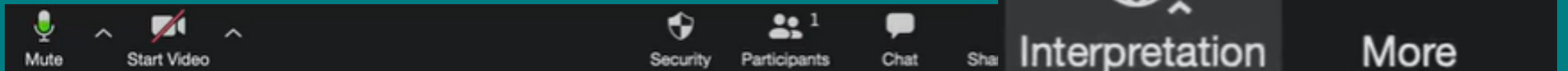
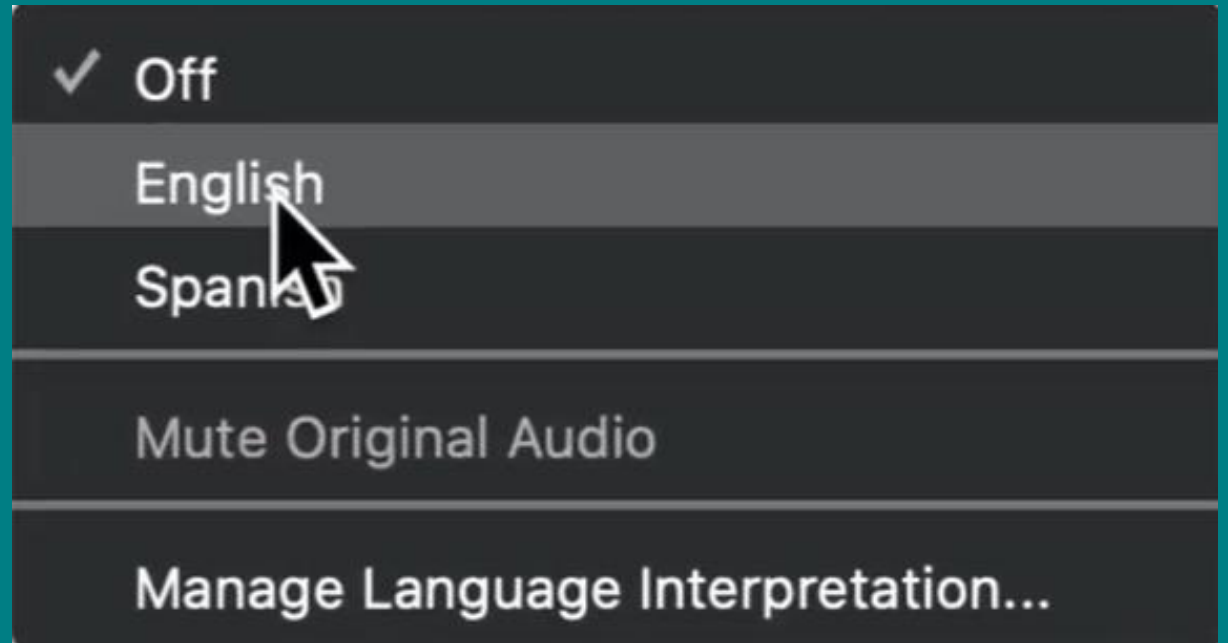


Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag



Interpretation



HOUSEKEEPING



Recording: We will be recording the meeting today please let us know if you have any issues with this.



Microphone and Camera: Your microphone will be muted in plenary and your camera will be off when you join the meeting. Please turn your camera on if you like but keep your microphones off when you aren't speaking.



Questions: If you would like to comment or ask a question, please type it in the chat function accessible from the bottom of your screen. You can also use 'raise a hand' function.



View: We recommend using side-by-side mode when presenters are sharing their screen.



Support: If you have any technical issues, please send a direct message to [Technical Support – Laura Mack] via the chat.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

- Please show respect to others by kindly waiting for your turn to speak and avoid interrupting others for the duration of the workshop
- Please respect everyone's views and contributions and listen with an open mind
- Please note that we reserve the right to mute participants to ensure the workshop runs smoothly and keeps to schedule.

A close-up photograph of a sloth hanging from a tree branch. The sloth's face is in focus, showing its eyes, nose, and mouth. It has greyish-brown fur and a reddish-brown patch on its forehead. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage. Overlaid on the image are several geometric shapes: a large teal hexagon on the left containing the text 'Introducing workshop participants', a smaller teal hexagon in the center, and a white hexagon at the bottom left containing the text 'NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE'.

*Introducing
workshop
participants*

NATIONAL
ECOSYSTEM
ASSESSMENT
INITIATIVE

Introduction

Workshop Agenda

Session 1	What have we learned?
Session 2	Stakeholder Engagement
Session 3	Evaluation
Session 4	National Biodiversity Platforms
Session 5	Acceptance & use of findings
Session 6	Celebrating national ecosystem assessments

Session 6

Celebrating national ecosystem assessments

Session 6 Agenda

Celebrating national ecosystem assessments

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Part 1 | High-level remarks |
| Part 2 | Key messages from the Lessons Learned report |
| Part 3 | Celebrating Tranche I countries achievements |
| Part 4 | Impacts of national ecosystem assessments |
| Part 5 | Next steps for partners under the National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative |



Workshop Picture

Remarks



Neville Ash

Deputy Director, UNEP-WCMC

Remarks



Dr Anne Juepner

Director of the Global Policy Centre on Resilient
Ecosystems and Desertification
United Nations Development Programme

Remarks

Dr Peggy Oti-Boateng

Director Division of Science Policy and Capacity Building
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization

Remarks



Prudence Galega

Director in the Ministry of Justice

Head of the Legal and Judicial Multimedia Center

Cameroon NEA Co-Chair



Remarks

Dr Nguyen The Chinh

Director of the Institute of Strategy and Policy on
Natural Resources and Environment
Viet Nam



Remarks

Dr Prasert Sirinapaporn

Deputy Secretary of the Office of Natural Resources
and Environmental Policy and Planning
Kingdom of Thailand

Lessons Learned Report

Key Messages

Introducing the Lessons Learned Report

Rationale

- Sharing insights from the NEA process
- Greater understanding of country contexts and experiences
- Improving support for capacity building
- Highlighting opportunities for innovation in the assessment process

Introducing the Lessons Learned Report

Content

Cross-cutting themes

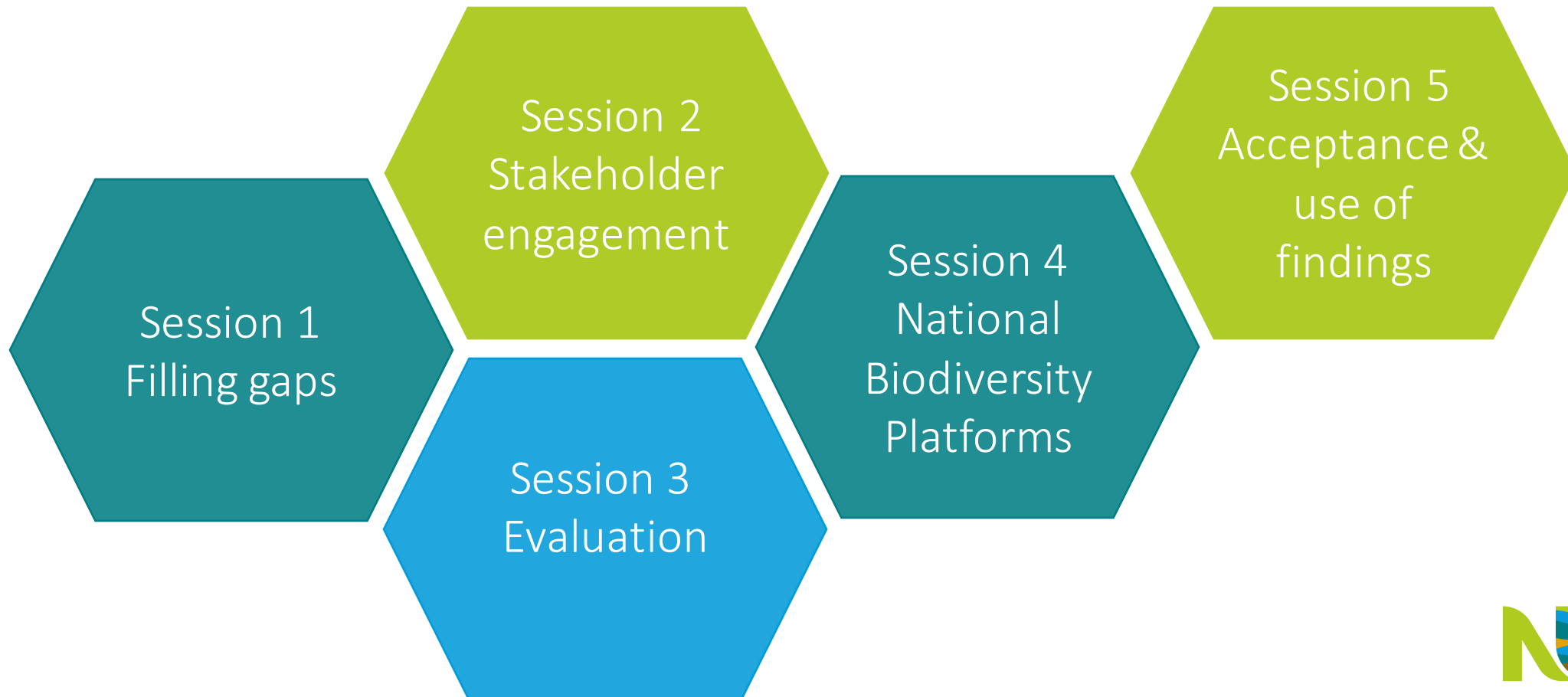
- Setting the governance structure and building the assessment team
- Stakeholder engagement
- Indigenous peoples and local communities
- The national biodiversity platform
- Identifying and addressing capacity gaps
- Communicating the NEA

Stages of the assessment

- Scoping stage
 - Recruiting, engaging and retaining authors and reviewers
- Expert evaluation stage
 - Coordinating inputs from authors and ensuring cohesion across chapters
 - Data sharing and use
 - Bringing together a range of knowledge types
- Approval stage
 - Ensuring policy relevance amidst change

Introducing the Lessons Learned Report

Content (in development)



Lessons Learned Report

Key Messages

- There is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach to managing a national ecosystem assessment
- Plan ahead! Consider the national calendar and be mindful of individual schedules

Lessons Learned Report

Key Messages

- Engaging a wide range of stakeholders early and throughout can help to build ownership and ensure relevance of the assessment
- Align key policy questions to national policy priorities and revisit them throughout to ensure the relevance of the report and SPM

Lessons Learned Report

Key Messages

- National ecosystem assessments increase country capacity at the science-policy interface
- Strategic communication responds to the evolving needs of the assessment and its stakeholders, and to foster a shared understanding of its goals

Lessons Learned Report

Key Messages

- Author recruitment draws upon available capacities and networks
- Seek coherence across chapters proactively
- Develop an organised and secured system for collecting, curating, storing and using data and information at the beginning of the evaluation stage

Final reflections



BREAK



Celebrating Tranche I countries achievements

THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

Cameroon experiences a significant increase in coordinating and strengthening policy influence with viable science-based evidence to address the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services and threats to its contribution to human wellbeing

A Strengthened Capacity for Assessments and Decision Making Processes for BES

Major Challenges

- Approaches and methodologies used for BES Assessments
- Science –Policy linkages in assessment and coordination to ensure the generation of credible scientific information
- BES Stakeholder engagement

Major capacity outcomes (successes of project)

Adapted Methodological Approach and Coordination of Science-Policy Interface on BES

Innovative National CF for BES Assessment Available and in use

- **adapted from the IPBES** Conceptual Framework and appropriated by >50 national science and policy experts ;
- Common methodology available for researchers and several tools to guide BES assessments available and being used by researchers;
- Traditional knowledge for policy research and influence is valorized

Innovative Science-Policy Platform strengthens coordination of knowledge generation on BES

- NP-SPBES is established and effectively operational for 4 years;
- Multi stakeholders engaged in decision making processes
- strengthened role of National Biodiversity platform and NFP/Institution

Innovative Network of BES Researchers generating viable information

- highly participatory approach with regular dialogue among key Authors
- Valorising work of national researchers:
- Trilogue concept appropriated to broaden consensus on key thematic issues among key-stakeholders

Existing viable science based data influencing major biodiversity and development policy outcomes nationally/globally

Major Challenges (Policy Concerns)

- Valuation of BES and linkages with human wellbeing
- Knowledge on status, trends and drivers of loss of BES
- Governance and integration of BES in sectoral (including economy and finance), local and national development planning and policies.

Major policy Outcomes (successes of project)

Available science based knowledge/assessment findings

The NBESA Report

Provides evidence to fill gaps in the 2020-2030 National Development Strategy specific to:

- the fight against climate change and valorising BES in key development sectors
- Addressing threats to the sustainability of this contribution as a result of increasing loss of biodiversity from human interventions

Contribution in national reporting and global processes

- 6th National Report to the CBD, Post 2020 Biodiversity framework, SBSTTA/SBI
- IPBES Assessments and Publications
- Regional level dialogues and Publications
- use of Network of National Authors and co-Chairs

Provides research options in BES

Identified knowledge gap to guide future research by authors.



National Ecosystem Assessment **COLOMBIA**

Celebrating the NEA – Session 6
July 29, 2021



El futuro
es de todos

Gobierno
de Colombia



UN environment
programme

WCMC



Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
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Impact of the NEA

➤ Impact on the media (June 30 – July 7) →

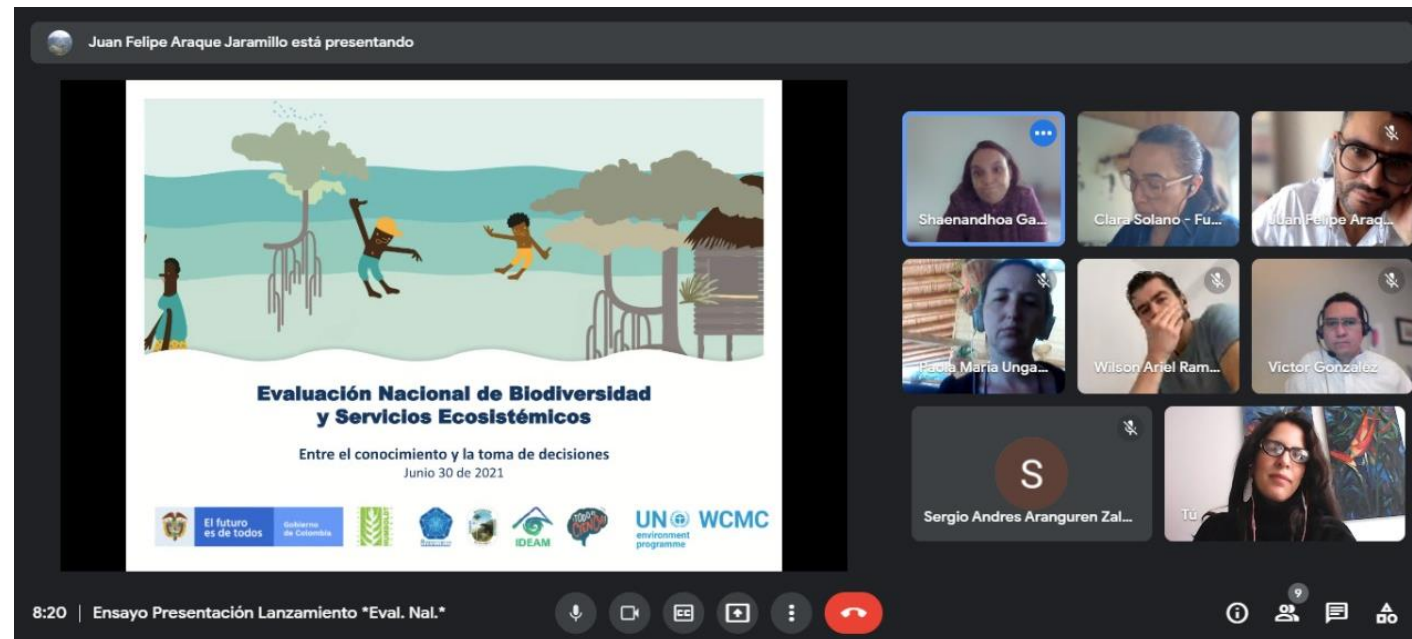
- 8 press articles
- 2 radio and 2 television interviews
- 3 digital articles.





Impact of the NEA

- **Impact on key stakeholders**
 - Ministry of Environment – Cooperation.
 - Sectorial projects (mining, agriculture, among others).
 - NGO's
 - Academy – education
 - Regional authorities





Thank you!

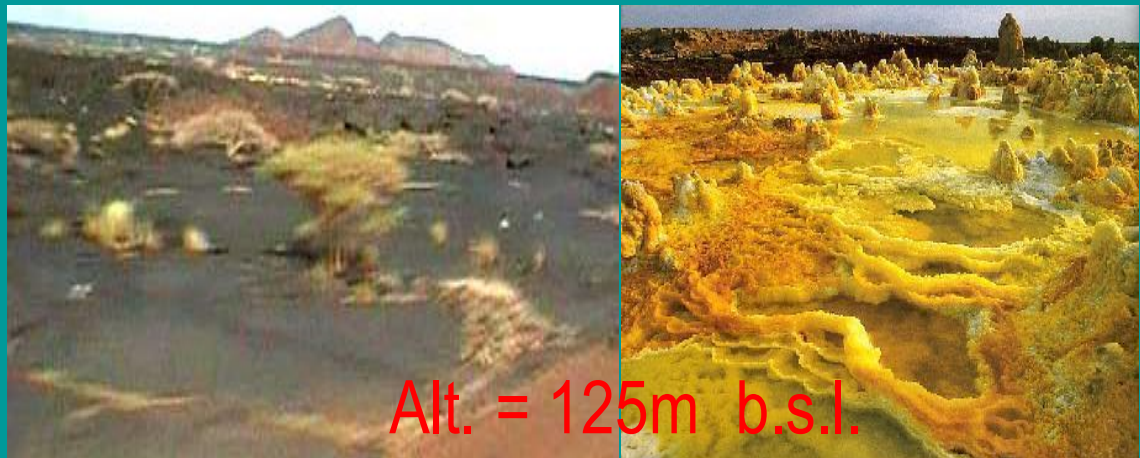
Lessons learned/impacts of NEA: Ethiopia

Debissa Lemessa (PhD),
Associate Professor of Landscape Ecology
and Ecosystem Functions

29 July, 2021

Why diverse ecosystems in Ethiopia:

- Several vegetation types
- Wide altitudinal variation
- Precipitation and temperature
- Different geological formations and soil types



Lessons learned

- The ecosystem assessment at national scale is undertaken for the first time in Ethiopia and has enabled us to clearly understand where the gaps are and identify the priority in acquiring information and knowledge to inform policy and decision-makers
- This assessment has opened up the opportunities to:
 - work with global expert team,
 - pool scientists from various institutions, expertise and work in a transdisciplinary approach, sharing of experiences, skills, knowledge and develop culture of working together,
 - synthesize evidences for bridging the science-policy gap and contributing to the conservation of national biodiversity

Lessons learned ctd.

- enhance our views/ insights and research focus to find out the missing, overlooked and inconsistent elements in ecosystem mapping and prioritizing biodiversity conservation
 - e.g. - Classification of ecosystems: rangeland and woodland in Afroalpine ecological regions, Grassland, mountain and Agroecosystems
 - Definitions of wetland, aquatic, water bodies
- give attention on the essence of integrated land use policy and plan for both development and national biodiversity conservation activities

Challenges

- Lack of database and poor accessibility to scientific websites, e.g. Web of Science, Google Scholar for literature scanning **using Boolean operators**
- Lack of adequate data for the assessment
- When resource persons are pooled together from different institutions for such kind of assessment, there are always difficulties to move with equal pace among/within the team(s)
- Pandemic COVID-19 has also hindered us to achieve the assessment inline with the work plan of the project

Thank you

Country presentation - Vietnam

NEA's Impacts and Challenges

NEA Lessons Learned Workshop within Support to
Developing Capacities to Address Science-Policy-Practice
Interface Project

29th July 2021

NEA Impacts/ Achievements

1. Integrate NEA results into the revised/revising/developing relevant policies as law, strategies and master plan
2. Future scenarios on ecosystems and their services have been developed
3. A summary for policy makers with comprehensive information and recommendations on NEA is helpful for new/revising policy development process
4. Enhance/build capacities and knowledge on NEA; Access to IPBES's methodology and approach
5. Link three groups as scientists, policymakers and practitioners together through a National Trialogue
6. Increase interests and enthusiasm of different stakeholders from Central to Provincial levels regarding NEA
7. A support tool for economic valuation of natural resources and biodiversity as well in the next years

NEA's Key Challenges and Opportunities

1. Lack of regulations on ecosystem assessment; Lack of information and data. Data is not coincidental in different sources; Lack of experience/skill/capacity in assessment and scenarios development
2. NEA is in accord with the Government's requirements/interests
3. ISPONRE/MONRE and Department of Special Use and Protection Forests Management/MARD actively involving in NEA
4. Trainings/Guidance/Meetings/Technical Supports from UNEP-WCMC and UNDP-BES Net. Share information and exchange experience from Countries
5. International and local NGOs (UNDP Vietnam, WWF, GIZ, CIAT-Vietnam, MCD, etc.) pay attention and interests to NEA
6. Mass media/communication (Journalist, correspondents, etc.)



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!



Q&A

Celebrating the impact of NEAs in Tranche I countries

Celebrating Tranche I countries

26 NEA countries
team members

Over 200 stakeholders
engaged



188 authors
contributing to the
assessment

26 volunteers with
over 800 hours of
work



Face-to-face global events

02

Global events

15

Countries

21

Organizations

62

Participants



Remote capacity building events

19

Webinars

18

Countries

30

Organizations

498

Participants



WCMC



BESNet
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network

14 | NEA Team members

30 | Support across programmes

12 | Internships

6 | BES-Net team

14 Dedicated staff working in the NEA Team full time over the course of 3 years

30 staff across multiple programmes and 2 external experts collaborating with NEAs

12 interns working in the NEA Team over the course of 3 years

6 staff members supporting the development of NEAs

Impact of NEAs in Tranche I countries so far

Viet Nam assessment findings are being used to advise the revision and development of the Law on Environmental Protection and the National Strategy on Environmental Protection

Colombia adopted BES-Net's Trialogue methodology to include the knowledge and perspectives of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs)

Cameroon established the National Platform for Science Policy Interface on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Policy support

National reporting

Stakeholder engagement

Capacity development

Science-Policy interface

Cameroon's NEA contributed to the development of the country's 6th National Report to CBD

The NEA process in Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia and Viet Nam have raised capacities on ecosystem assessments, recognising knowledge gaps, communicating findings and using methods and tools for data analysis

Celebration of Tranche I

‘What are you most proud of?’

- “The report itself, when it was ready – that was the proudest moment. **Having a platform that will serve many other assessments is also a key highlight.**”
- “We are very proud of how we engaged with **indigenous communities**. Local people really understood the objective of the NEA after we held discussions with them.”

Celebration of Tranche I

‘What are you most proud of?’

- “We have a really complex ecosystem, and **this is the first time we have assessed so many elements of our ecosystem at the national level – this is definitely a big success that we are proud of.**”
- “We have also established a really good culture amongst our scientists, which we didn’t really have before. Scientists have had to compromise and negotiate around different topics, because they are interacting with different multidisciplinary experts. **The assessment process has helped to form a much better culture amongst our experts.**”

Celebration of Tranche I

‘What are you most proud of?’

- “There is much opportunity to learn new skills from colleagues working on the NEA. **Saying “working as a team” is easy, but doing it is more challenging – and we managed this very well.**”
- “The NEA process has really enhanced the capacity of **our team members**, and many of them have undergone training through networking with international organisations.”



Q&A



Upcoming activities and events

Lessons Learned Report: Next steps

- Further developing Lessons Learned Report:
 - Input from the workshop
 - Further detail from case studies
 - Final delivery to be reviewed by country partners
 - Publication of the report
- **Repeating the process annually to support country partners of the NEA Initiative.**

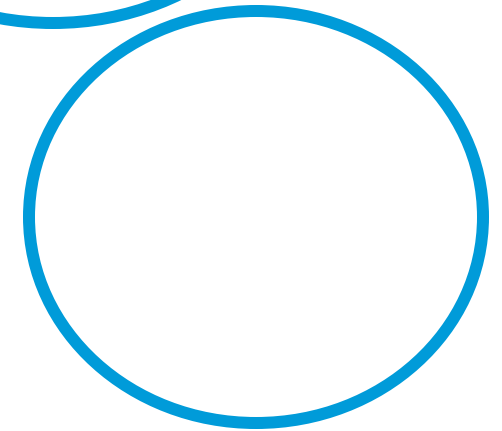


Outputs and events for 2021

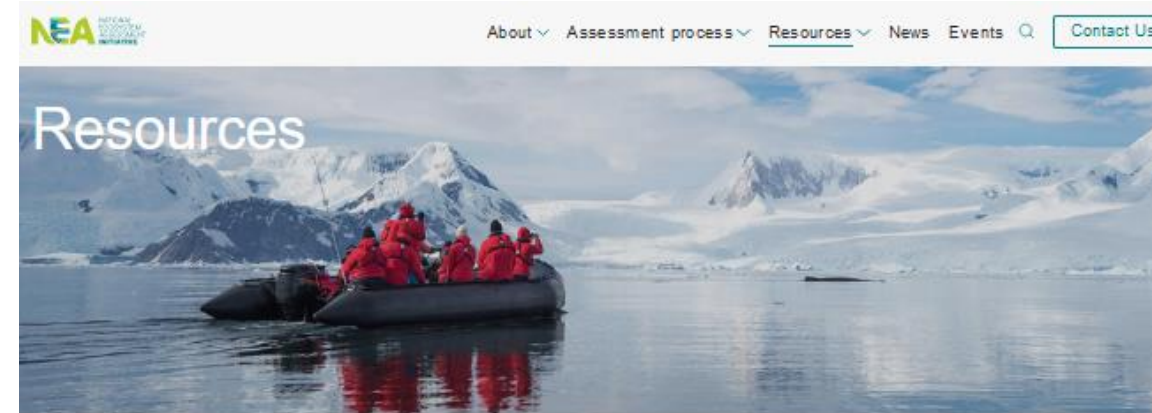
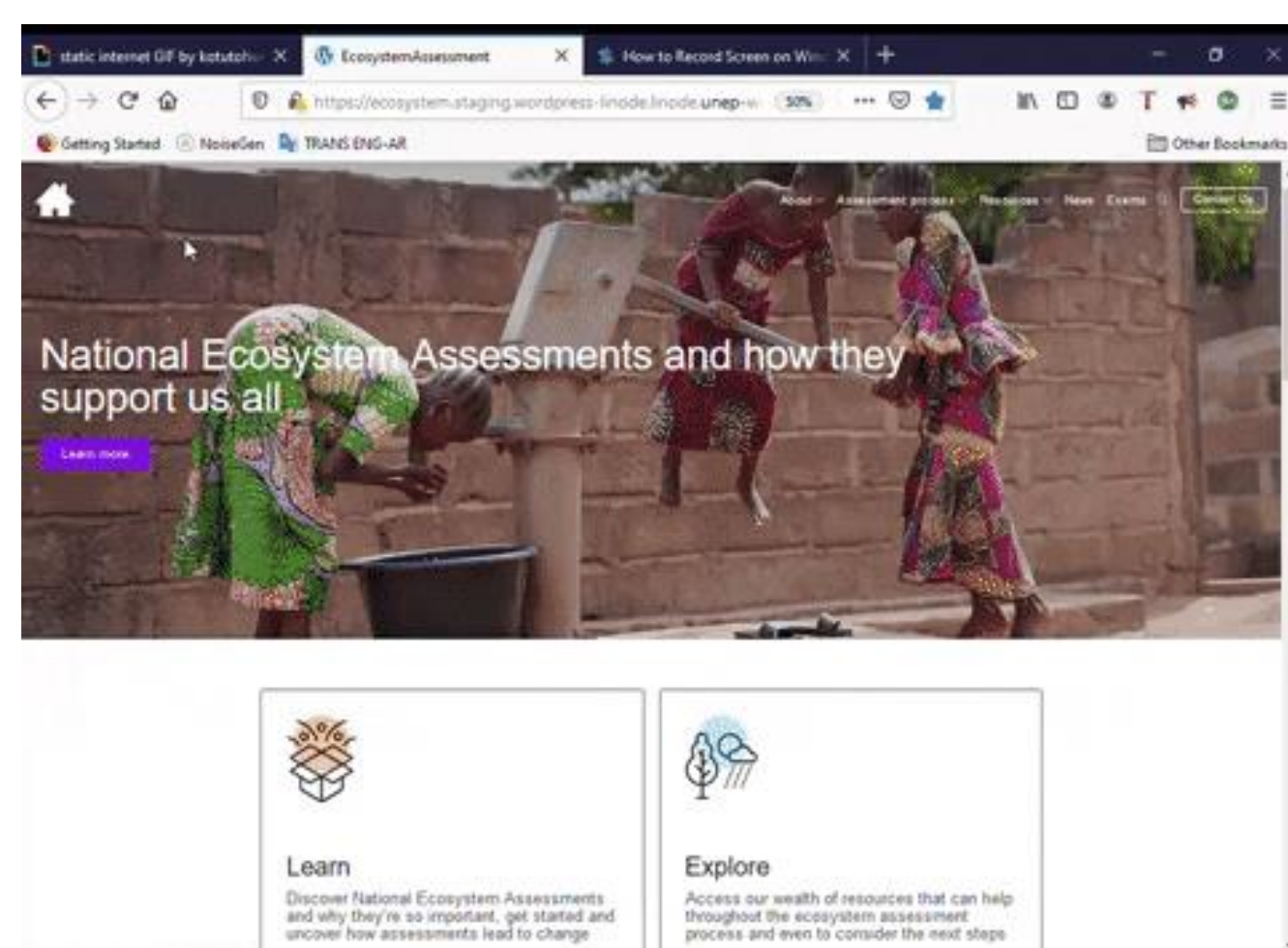
- Launch of the guidance:

NEAs to support the implementation of the CBD

- Workshop on Stakeholder Engagement Workshop
- UNESCO Workshop on ILK on NEAs
- Hosting webinars on:
 - Tailoring the IPBES methodology for national ecosystem assessments
 - Impacts and uses of the NEA

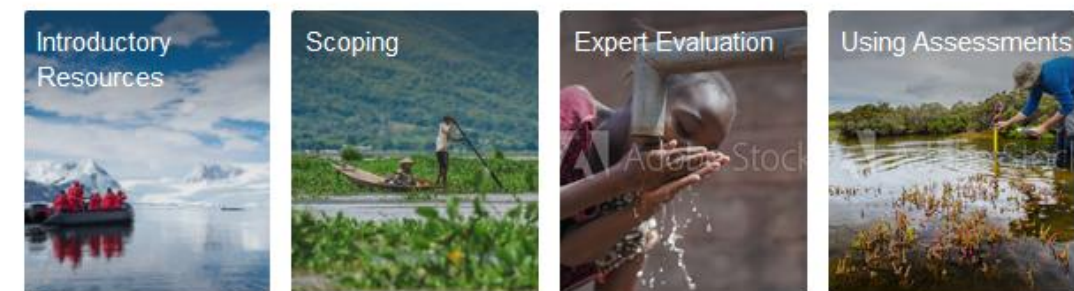


NEA Initiative website



Explore our wide range of resources on national ecosystem assessments (NEAs) that will guide you through each stage of the process. You can filter resources by assessment stage or by type of resource, from webinars and guides to case studies and reports.

Explore our resources





Q&A

Take-Home Messages

www.menti.com code: 9752 0920



@UNEP-WCMC

An aerial photograph of a large, calm lake surrounded by lush green hills and mountains. The lake is a deep blue color, and the surrounding land is covered in dense vegetation. In the background, there are more mountains under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Closing remarks

Dr Claire Brown
Principal Technical Specialist UNEP-WCMC

Thank you!
