Open Webinar

Country Experiences in using National Ecosystem Assessments for Evidence-Based Policymaking

15 April 2026

15:00 – 16:15 British Summer Time (GMT +1)

Register here:
https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QOFqX2INSWeQK537Us5SKg

Organized by the Ecosystem Assessment Initiative at UNEP-WCMC

Concept Note and Agenda

As of 30 March 2026

Background

Since its inception in 2017 and building on over 20 years of ecosystem assessment experience, UNEP-WCMC's Ecosystem Assessment Initiative (formerly National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative) in partnership with UNDP and UNESCO through the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Network (BES-Net) has supported countries around the world to conduct or scope national ecosystem assessments.

Seven national ecosystem assessments have been completed and government-approved, each accompanied by a Summary for Policy Makers in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, Grenada, and Viet Nam—providing critical evidence to inform biodiversity planning and decision-making. Eight additional national ecosystem assessments will be finalized and launched by the end of Quarter 2 of 2026 in Botswana, the Dominican Republic, Malawi and Thailand.

Following the approval and validation of a national ecosystem assessment, the process enters a phase focused on the dissemination and use of assessment findings. The findings may be applied across sectors and governance levels and inform the development and implementation of priorities and policies.

For example, fifteen strategic messages from the Colombia National Ecosystem Assessment directly informed the National Development Plan (2022–2026),

strengthening the integration of biodiversity considerations into national development priorities. In Viet Nam, national ecosystem assessment recommendations are being implemented through a pilot Payment for Wetland Ecosystem Services (PWES) initiative at the Tram Chim National Park.

At the international level, national ecosystem assessment findings could help strengthen national participation and implementation of multilateral agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

Objectives

The webinar aims to:

- Share country experiences in the dissemination and use of national ecosystem assessment findings in decision and policymaking.

- Discuss how approaches to the use and dissemination of assessment findings can be further improved to achieve maximum impact among decision-makers and other stakeholders.

Target Audience

This webinar is organized as part of the Sub-Global Assessment Network (SGAN) and is relevant to national ecosystem assessment teams, practitioners and experts in the fields of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as policymakers, researchers, civil society representatives, and media professionals interested in these topics.

Date and Time

Thursday, 15 April 2026 from 15:00 – 16:15 British Summer Time (GMT+1)

Event Format and Registration

This virtual webinar will be held on Zoom in English with live French and Spanish interpretation. Access to the online event will be provided to all pre-registered participants. Please register for the event here:
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Proposed Agenda

75mins

Time	Session	Moderator/Speaker
5’	Welcome and Introduction to the Webinar Housekeeping	**Pratik Tandon** Communications Officer UNEP-WCMC **Laura Mack** Senior Events Manager UNEP-WCMC
5’	Overview of national ecosystem assessments	**Juanita Chaves** Senior Programme Officer UNEP-WCMC
30’	Country Experiences (1) Botswana (TBC) (2) Grenada (3) Thailand	**Kriss Davies** Chairperson, Grenada Land Actors; Civil Society Representative in the Grenada National Ecosystem Assessment Process **Dr. Petch Manopawitr** Project Manager, Thailand National Ecosystem Assessment; Advisor to the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand
10	Interactive Mentimeter exercise	**Pratik Tandon**
20’	Panel Discussion, including Q&A	**Pratik Tandon**
4’	Closing	**Juanita Chaves**

Contact

For webinar enquiries, please contact Pratik Tandon (pratik.tandon@unep-wcmc.org) from UNEP-WCMC.

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