



EKLIPSE

Knowledge & Learning Mechanism
on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services

Developing a mechanism
for supporting better
decisions on our
environment
based on the best
available knowledge.

EKLIPSE is developing a European Mechanism to answer requests from policy makers and other societal actors on biodiversity-related issues.

EKLIPSE invites proposals for requests from consortia representing policy, research, NGOs or individual applications from policy or other societal actors.

More information on the processes and the EKLIPSE project funded by the EU in H2020 is available at
www.eclipse-mechanism.eu

CALL FOR REQUEST Cfr.3/2018, EKLIPSE – APRIL 2018

Deadline to answer the Call: 12th August 2018

Announcement of the selected request: Week starting 17th September 2018

1 Invitation to request knowledge for informed decision-making

Policy and other societal actors are invited to **identify topics or evidence needs relating to biodiversity and ecosystem services and of EU policy relevance, requiring in-depth analysis and a consolidated view from science and other knowledge holders**. We particularly encourage the building of consortia representing policy, research, NGOs or individual applications from policy or other societal actors.

Interested parties – including consortia – should apply by **12th August 2018** by following the rules and procedures detailed below. This will be followed by a 6 week period to allow other stakeholders to join and start discussions around the requests that have been put to EKLIPSE. The selected requests will be announced week starting **17th September 2018** and will be publicized on the EKLIPSE website. The process of answering these requests will start thereafter.

Please put forward your request by accessing the open calls on www.eclipse-mechanism.eu/open_calls

2 Objective of the call

EKLIPSE coordinates innovative and transparent approaches for science, policy and societal actors to jointly provide the best available evidence leading to better informed decision-making. The topic and/or evidence needs are identified by policy and other societal actors. The objective of this call is to



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encourage policy and other societal actors to suggest topics and/or evidence needs to be addressed by EKLIPSE.

Potential requests might include:

- **Greater understanding or predictive power** e.g. what is the role of biodiversity in maintaining specific ecosystem functions e.g. biogeochemical cycles?
- **Measures of anthropogenic impact** e.g. what is the impact of wind farms on bird populations?
- **Measures of effectiveness of interventions** e.g. how effective are marine protected areas at enhancing commercial fish populations?
- **Appropriate methodologies** e.g. what is the most reliable method for monitoring changes in carbon stocks in forest ecosystems?
- **Optimal management options** e.g. what is the optimal grazing regime for maximizing plant diversity in upland meadows?
- **Socio-economic impacts of specific developments in biodiversity** e.g. what are the anticipated costs of the spread of the invasive species xyz on health or agriculture?
- **Desirable states** e.g. what is the desirable state of forest in terms of deadwood and other biodiversity-relevant structures?
- **Scenario building** e.g. how will the risk of flooding change under current climate scenarios up to 2050?
- **Existing knowledge of distribution of species, diseases and their drivers** e.g. how has the distribution and abundance of rabies in fox populations changed in the last 10 years?
- **Clarification of definitions** e.g. how do different people/groups define ecosystem services?
- **Consultation to identify research priorities** (e.g. What are current knowledge gaps and needs on nanoparticles impact on marine biodiversity)
- **Horizon scanning** e.g. what will be the biggest novel threats to biodiversity in 2050?
- **Public opinion/ perception issues** e.g. is there public support for badger culling in the UK?

3 Process for the call for requests

Interested parties or consortia (referred to as the requester) need to fill in a [request form](#) outlining the major elements of the request by the **30th June 2018**. In this form, the requester is expected to provide some background on why the topic/evidence need is of interest, its policy relevance at the European scale, an indication of required outputs, deadline for final outputs, etc. Requesters will be encouraged to allow the Secretariat to share their request via the EKLIPSE KNOCK Forum to allow other forum participants to discuss topics put forward in the request form, find common ground and potentially create consortia. The requests will be screened by the EKLIPSE Secretariat who might engage in an initial exchange with the requester to clarify general questions.

The submitted requests will then be proposed to and discussed with the Strategic Advisory Board (SAB) and selected by the Knowledge Coordination Body (KCB) of EKLIPSE. The outcome of the selection process will be announced week starting **17th September 2018**. This stepwise selection will help increase the quality and relevance of the request. It is in the interest of the requester to prepare their request as thoroughly and precisely as possible in order to facilitate the selection process.

All selected requests go through an initial scoping phase and, potentially, a preliminary Call for Knowledge and stakeholder consultation to support the framing of the request. At the end of scoping phase, and following agreement from the Knowledge Coordination Body, requests may then be addressed by a dedicated expert group that will together with the requester agree on the



methodological approach to be taken through a publically available protocol. Finally, the results of the co-generated process are communicated in targeted ways to the requester (e.g. as a report or brief or other output to be discussed with the requester), as well as relevant decision-makers, the knowledge community and the general public. See figure below for the process of answering requests and here for the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGvz4cBJEWI>.



4 Eligibility criteria

4.1 Eligibility criteria for requesters

- Requesters cannot be from organisations that are part of the EKLIPSE consortium.
- Requesters cannot be individual members of the Knowledge Coordination Body, or Strategic Advisory Board but the organisations represented on the KCB and SAB can submit requests on the understanding that they will not be favoured over other requesters or gain financially from their requests.
- Requesters should be able to represent the 'community' view of their policy or societal group e.g. policy makers, an NGO, international business group, local community group etc.
- Requesters cannot be a single individual with no professional or community affiliation.

4.2 Eligibility criteria for requests

- Relevant to the European scale.
- Relevant to ongoing or future policy processes.
- Relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Not requiring new knowledge, but based on the synthesis of existing knowledge.
- Consortia of requesters, representing for example different countries and/or different sectors (policy, NGOs/society, research), will be encouraged.

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