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.

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

CALL FOR KNOWLEDGE FOR INITIAL SCOPING, EKLIPSE – FEBRUARY 2017

Responses most useful before: April 18th 2017

TOPIC:

What are the effects of CAP greening measures on biodiversity and related ecosystem services?

1 Invitation to share knowledge for informed decision-making

EKLIPSE is inviting scientists, policy, practitioners and other societal actors to share their knowledge on the following overarching question: **What are the effects of CAP greening measures on biodiversity and related ecosystem services?** The objective is to identify which measures work, and which aspects do not work as intended. The intention is to establish options on how greening measures could be improved to increase their effectiveness for supporting biodiversity and biodiversity-based ecosystem services. Suggestions for improvements should take into account administrative feasibility (ideally they should be simpler), social implications and farm economics. Based on the findings of the Call for Knowledge, EKLIPSE and the requester discuss if and how to proceed with the request.

The final framing of the request is being developed through an interactive dialogue between the EKLIPSE scientists and the requesters, and will be further discussed with stakeholders end of April 2017 to ensure relevance for policy making regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services

We ask for **completed or ongoing knowledge generation activities or synthesis** on the following aspects:

1) Evidence on the effects of agricultural policies or management practices for **biodiversity** in Europe**,** please specify the (ideally quantitative) indicators.
2) What are the quantitative indicators for **ecosystem services** (ES) that are known or hypothesized to be strongly related to these indicators for biodiversity? For each ES, please specify the quantitative units and how it was estimated (e.g., statistical analysis based on field data, simulation based on mix of empirical data and expert judgement, raw data – no analysis done yet).
3) What **policy instruments and management actions** have been implemented (and subsequently quantified using a quantitative indicator) to maintain/improve these indices of biodiversity? Please specify
4) What new (i.e. not-yet-implemented) **policy instruments and management actions** are being proposed to maintain/improve these indices of biodiversity? Responses should ideally include quoted text when referring to existing documents.
5) What are the identified **barriers to developing or implementing the instruments/actions** (from Qs 3 & 4)? Responses should include quoted text when referring to existing documents.

For each indicator identified in responding to questions 1-3, please specify:

- Quantitative units and how it was estimated (e.g., statistical analysis based on field data, simulation based on mix of empirical data and expert judgement, raw data – no analysis done yet)
- Supporting document/citation with page number or web link. If available, documentation in English should be provided.

We want to explore the amount of knowledge that exists in this area, who the main knowledge holders are and, if after scoping we decide to answer this request by a dedicated knowledge synthesis process, we want to identify the most suitable methodology(ies) for answering it.

The outcome of this call will thus inform the final framing of the request that is being developed through an interactive dialogue between the EKLIPSE scientists and the requesters (IUCN Regional Office for Europe and the Swedish Board of Agriculture), and will be further discussed with stakeholders to ensure relevance for policy making regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services (see below for more information on the EKLIPSE mechanism and how it conducts knowledge syntheses).

A first literature screening exercise has already been carried out to help us to decide to scope this request. It resulted in a compilation of research papers and reports related to the topic. The compilation can be found in the KNOCK forum. We would now like your contribution to take this request one step further.

Please contribute your comments and additional knowledge/references on the topic in the online KNOCK forum.

How to contribute to the Call for Knowledge

All knowledge collected through this call for knowledge will be collected and be open for discussing /commenting on the KNOCK Forum. To add documents and participate in the discussion, please register at our quick and easy 'Keep me Posted' page. Then, please click on the relevant thread to add your information. Each thread already contains a list of documents that are potentially relevant to the request. We invite you to add any information that you think is relevant for this request, and

justify its inclusion e.g. additional information from countries, scales or disciplinary perspectives not covered sufficiently etc…). Relevant information should be grouped under the following threads: 1) literature reviews, 2) empirical studies/practical experiences 3) modelling studies and 4) conceptual papers and can include:

- Links to open access papers (in any language).
- Links to published and unpublished grey literature or case studies (in any language).
- Description of on-going research projects, or knowledge compilations, expected to deliver results within the next year.

Please write the information you like to add in the comment box of the respective thread (1: literature reviews, 2: empirical studies/practical experiences, 3: modelling studie, 4: conceptual papers).

2 Objective of the call and request to be addressed by this 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 and to identify current and future research priorities. A request on "Evaluating CAP greening measures on biodiversity" was proposed by IUCN Regional Office for Europe and the Swedish Board of Agriculture, to the EKLIPSE call for Request (CfR.1/2016). The objective of this call for knowledge is to launch an initial scoping process on the request meant to identify available assessments, existing studies and other resources.

3 Background on EKLIPSE

EKLIPSE is an EU-funded project that started in February 2016. With support from the European Commission and a high level Strategic Advisory Board (SAB), the project aims to establish a robust and flexible long-term mechanism for policy support on biodiversity and ecosystem services, communicating and engaging a wide set of knowledge holders and ensuring tailor-made outreach of results to knowledge requesters and society more broadly.

The success of EKLIPSE and its resulting mechanism is in everyone's hands:

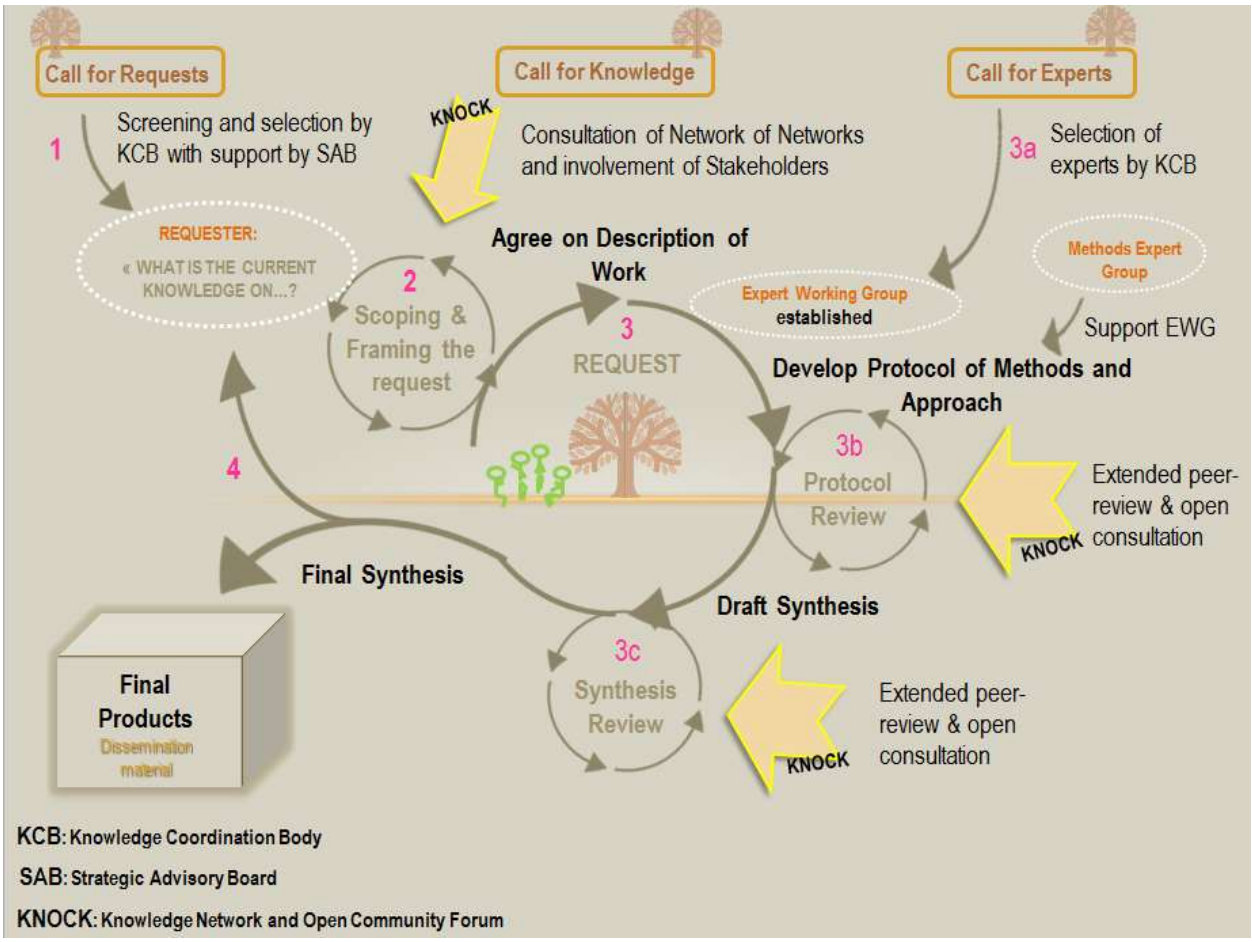
- the 'requesters' from policy and society who need to know what knowledge is out there to answer their policy or societal needs;
- the knowledge holders (be they scientists or other citizens) who want their knowledge to mean something; and
- the extensive networks working on biodiversity and ecosystem services who have the enthusiasm and knowledge to make the mechanism work in the long term.

4 The process: how EKLIPSE answers requests

The EKLIPSE process consists of several steps (see figure below): After the Call for request (step 1), the second step is the Call for Knowledge that supports further Scoping and Framing the request (step2). Based on the findings of the Call for Knowledge, EKLIPSE and the requester discuss how to proceed with the request (step 3). If already sufficient knowledge on the request is available or other reasons exist for not continuing with the request, the request will not be taken further, and the outcome is the collection

of knowledge identified in second step. If EKLIPSE and the requester agree on continuing, the request will be framed and finalised jointly with relevant science, policy and societal actors. EKLIPSE then organizes a Call for Experts inviting experts to form an expert working group on the request (step 3a).

The selected expert group will, together with the Knowledge Coordination Body (KCB) and the requester, agree on the methodological approach to be taken for the knowledge synthesis. This will be compiled in a protocol, made publicly available and peer reviewed (step 3b). During the process of gathering, integrating and synthesizing the best available evidence, communication between all relevant actors will be key. Finally, the results of the co-generated evidence will be peer reviewed before being 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 (steps 3 c and step 4).



5 Next steps: How EKLIPSE will answer the request

If EKLIPSE decides to carry out a new knowledge synthesis based on the call, it will invite experts on the topic to express their interest in joining the Expert Working Group. The expert working group will cover diverse and complementary skills (including multidisciplinary skills and a broad geographical coverage) and will interact with relevant stakeholders to ensure appropriate methodological choices and uptake of outputs.

The Call for Experts will be widely publicized on the EKLIPSE website, on the Forum and other dissemination channels to ensure a broad coverage of disciplines and geography. The selected group will be supported financially by the EKLIPSE project for travel expenses and in certain cases through honorary contracts.