

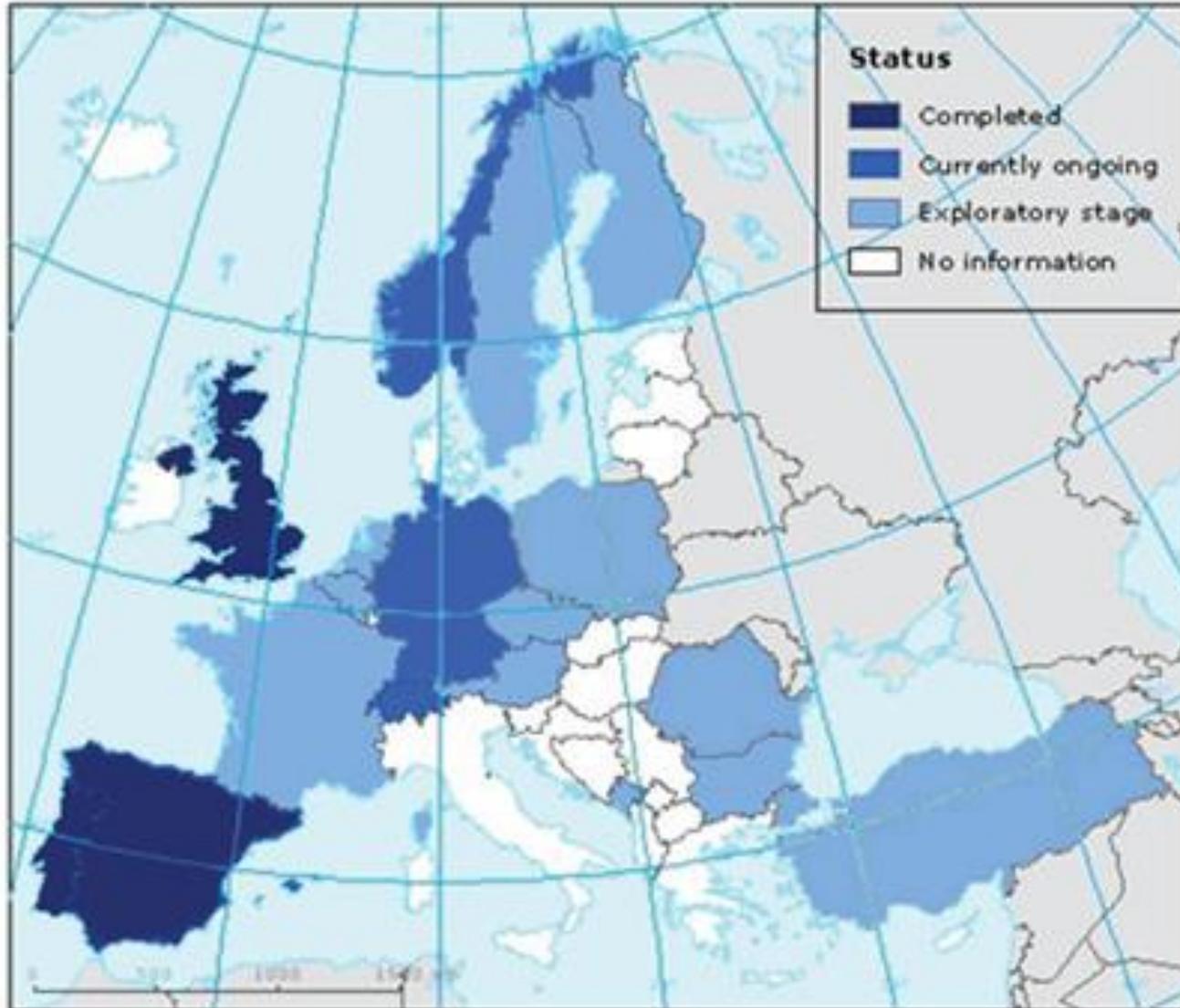
Tools for assessing ecosystems in Europe

Sub-Global Assessment Network, 26-29 November 2012, South Africa

Valérie LAPORTE



National ecosystem assessments in Europe



✓ Completed:
Portugal, UK, Spain

✓ Ongoing/exploratory:
Austria, Belgium,
Bulgaria, Czech
Republic, France,
Finland, Germany,
Montenegro,
Netherlands, Norway,
Poland, Romania,
Sweden, Switzerland,
Turkey...



Policy context for ecosystem assessment in Europe

EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

➤ Under target 2, **Action 5**:

”Member States, with the assistance of the Commission, will **map and assess the state of ecosystems and their services** in their national territory by 2014, **assess the economic value** of such services, and promote the integration of these values into **accounting and reporting systems** at EU and national level by 2020”

➤ Working Group - “Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services in Europe”



Target 2 - Maintain and restore ecosystems and their services

Knowledge base

Action 5 -

- Mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services (by 2014)
- Economic value assessment & integration into accounting & reporting (by 2020)

Policy tools

Action 6a - Setting priorities for ecosystem restoration

Action 7a - Methodology for assessing the impact of EU funded projects, plans and programmes

Policy initiatives

Action 6b - Green Infrastructure Strategy (by 2012)

Action 7b - No net lot initiative (by 2015)



Target 1 -
Conserve &
restore
Nature

Target 3 -
Sustainable
agriculture
& forestry

**Other EU
legislation
(WFD,
MSFD)**

Target 4 -
Sustainable
fishery

Target 5 -
Combat
invasive
alien species

Target 6 -
Avert global
biodiversity
loss

4 steps of implementation

By 2014:

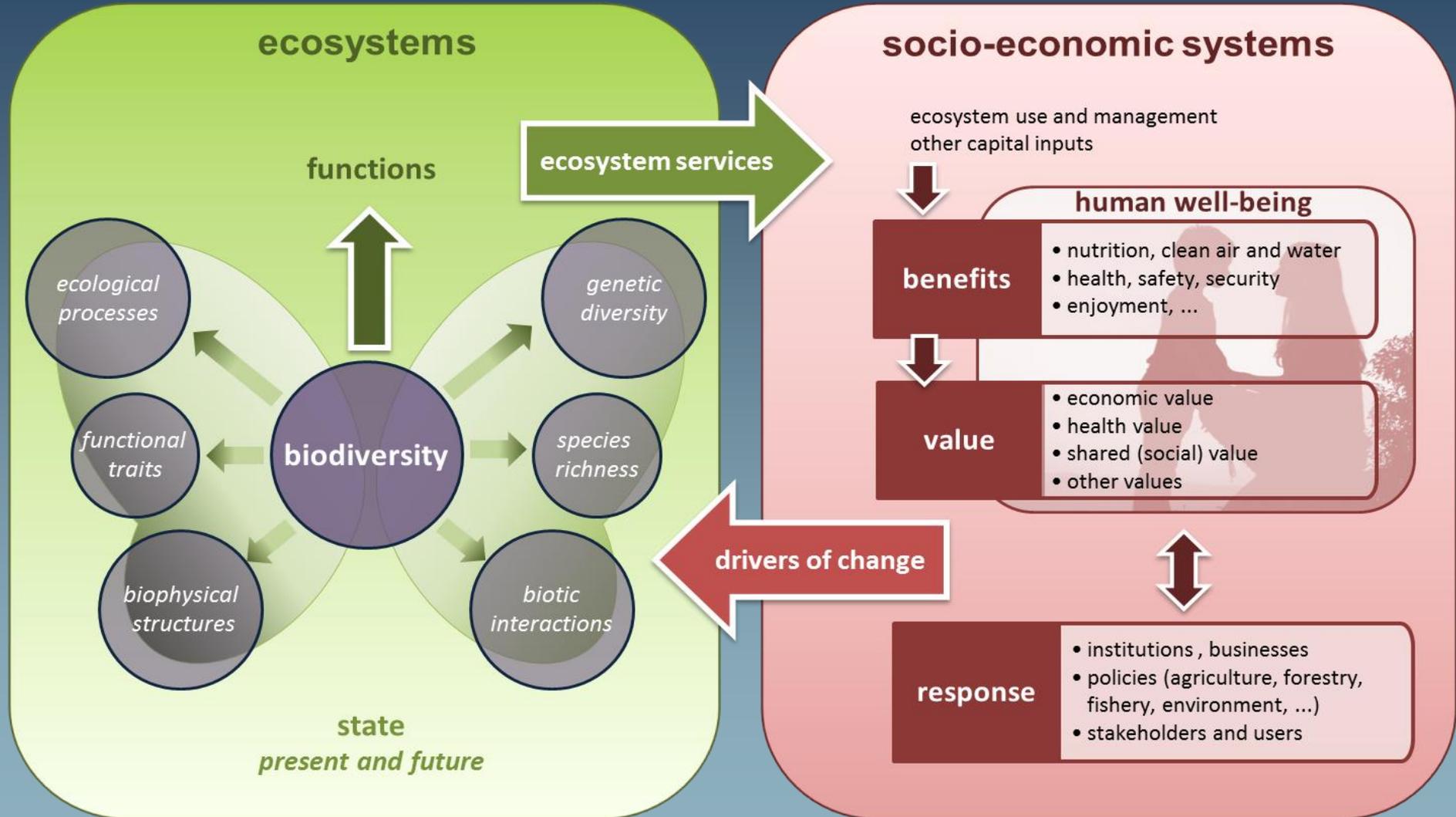
- I. Biophysical baseline mapping and assessment of the state of major ecosystems
- II. Biophysical baseline mapping and assessment of defined ecosystem services

2015-2020:

- I. Alignment of ecosystem service assessments with scenarios of future changes
- II. Valuation of ecosystem services for baseline and contrasting scenarios and integration into environmental and economic accounting



Conceptual framework



Tools for EU wide ecosystem assessments

- **Classification and prioritization of ecosystems & ES**
 - The Common International Classification of Ecosystem Services - www.cices.eu on-going consultation
 - Forward-looking tool - **Quickscan**
- **Environmental accounting to pave the way for valuation**
 - UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting: Vol II for Experimental Accounts under consultation - potential adoption in Feb. 2013
- **Indicators: SEBI, Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators**
 - <http://biodiversity.europa.eu/topics/sebi-indicators>
- **First contribution - A spatial assessment of ecosystem services in Europe: methods, case-studies & policy analyses**
 - <http://www.peer.eu/projects/press-project/> October 2012
- **An information platform in BISE, the Biodiversity Information System for Europe** <http://biodiversity.europa.eu>



Topics

Policy

Data

Research

Countries

Networks



Biodiversity Information System for Europe

BISE is a single entry point for data and information on biodiversity in the EU. It also serves as the EU Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism to CBD.

- A partnership between the EC & the EEA
- Support the implementation of the EU biodiversity strategy to 2020
- EU Biodiversity clearing House Mechanism to CBD
- A portal for information on biodiversity in the EU, providing links to policies, topics, data centres, research, countries & networks

BISE platform on Ecosystem assessments

<http://biodiversity.europa.eu/ecosystem-assessments>

Concepts and approaches

Process & Governance

Conceptual framework

Status of ecosystems & ecosystem services

Valuation

Scenarios

Policies

Case-studies & Events

Portugal

UK

Spain

Belgium

Czech Republic

France

Germany, Norway...

European: MAES

Global: MA, TEEB, IPBES, CBD, ...

Country survey on ecosystem-based management



On-going developments

1. A virtual library

- ✓ Provide a more comprehensive and indexed collection of relevant documents
- ✓ Populated & documented by multiple experts
- ✓ Documents will be collected together with mandatory information describing their content

2. A country survey on Ecosystem-based management

- ✓ Capture and disseminate country experiences on policy approaches, strategies, targets and instruments
- ✓ Provide inputs to support the policy processes at national, EU and international level



Thank you

