

European Sustainable Use Group AGM

Agenda

- ▶ Introduction & Welcome, Apologies
- ▶ Statement on Quorum and adoption of the Agenda
- ▶ Minutes of meeting on 24 April 2019 and matters arising not covered below
- ▶ History of ESUG - Robert Kenward
- ▶ IUCN update: SUME/CEM - Adrian Lombard; CEH/IAF/ESUG developments - Robert Kenward
- ▶ IBPES update - Julian Mühle
- ▶ EU project submissions 2019-2023 & Future possibilities - Stratos Arampatzis
- ▶ Update from Ukraine - Tetiana Gardashuk
- ▶ Report of the Chair - Julie Ewald
- ▶ Financial reports - Zenon Tederko/Robert Kenward
- ▶ Adoption of financial report
- ▶ Elections of Chair and Committee Members
- ▶ Any other business

Matters arising from minutes

- ▶ ESUG members encouraged to join SUME - 42 SUME; 61 SULi of 135
- ▶ World Conservation Congress 7 in Marseilles
 - ▶ Postponed, attendance by Julian Mühle
- ▶ Identify two additional ESUG offices - legally and financially difficult
 - ▶ May address again in future, with project funding

History of ESUG

- ▶ Began as the European regional Sustainable Use Specialist Group (ESUSG) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- ▶ Established in 1997 by the Sustainable Use Initiative of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), as a voluntary multi-disciplinary network of experts.
- ▶ Became part of the Sustainable Use Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of IUCN. Funded for EU Projects AEMBAC, GEM-CON-BIO, TESS.
- ▶ In 2011 IUCN restructured Sustainable Use across SSC and CEESP. Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group lost regions and focussed on species.
- ▶ In 2014, Sustainable Use and Management of Ecosystems founded in CEM. ESUG was funded for networking in Sakernet (by IAF+CMS), Perdixnet & FalCoNet (IAF).
- ▶ TESS-initiated 'Naturalliance' network became global in 2019. In 2021 ESUG became a National Non-Governmental Organisation in IUCN - through Belgium.
- ▶ Patrons: Robin Sharp CB, BASC, FACE, Anatrack

History of ESUG - policy support

- ▶ IUCN Amman (2000) Statement became White Oak Principles, then Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity - 2004
- ▶ Paper for Council of Europe for 2001 Inter-Ministerial Agriculture Conference recommends decision support software to conserve through sustainable use
- ▶ European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity - Bern Convention - 2007
- ▶ European Charter on Recreational Fishing and Biodiversity - 2010
- ▶ European Charter on Fungi-gathering and Biodiversity - 2013
- ▶ From EPBRS to IPBES: reviews of many assessments - from scoping (2016) to summary for policymakers (2022) on the subject of sustainable use.

History of ESUG: EU projects pre-2019

- ▶ AEMBAC - agri-environment tools and concepts from Agriculture Working Group
- ▶ GemConBIO - explore the interactions between governance modes and sustainable development objectives in view of identifying what governance processes and institutions can best contribute to the conservation of biodiversity.
- ▶ TESS - assist policy makers to integrate knowledge from the EU, national, regional and local level into the decision-making process while also encouraging local people to maintain and restore biodiversity ecosystem services. Designed a transactional environmental decision support system, linking central policy planning to local livelihoods. Launch Naturalliance.eu.
- ▶ EPIC-ICT - development of a highly innovative collective decision support engine (CDSE) which can support citizens and communities in a visual and personalised way, while providing incentives for their participation in the collective intelligence process.
- ▶ TESSA - stimulate and empower local communities and civil society to restore and maintain biodiversity and ecosystem services across Europe, engaging them in active environmental governance.

History of ESUG: Who do we work with?

- ▶ UNEP - CMS Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species
- ▶ IPBES - Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- ▶ SULi - IUCN CEESP/SSC Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group
- ▶ SUME - IUCN CEM Sustainable Use and Management of Ecosystems Thematic Group
- ▶ IAF - International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey
- ▶ EBCD - European Bureau for Conservation and Development
- ▶ FACE - European Federation for Hunting and Conservation
- ▶ ELO - European Landowners Organisation
- ▶ BASC - British Association for Shooting and Conservation
- ▶ GWCT - Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust
- ▶ TERO Ltd. - Technologies to improve environmental and social welfare
- ▶ Anatrack Ltd. - Software for networking and predictive modelling

SUME/CEM - Adrian Lombard

- ▶ Introduction to IUCN CEM Sustainable Use and Ecosystem Management Thematic Group
- ▶ Relationship between SUME and ESUG
- ▶ Projects:
 - ▶ www.naturalliance.org Current status and page on IPBES Values Assessment, and of the IPBES Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment. Forum development.
 - ▶ www.perdixnet.org Forum development - IAF Biodiversity Working Group
- ▶ Future developments:
 - ▶ Cape Town IAF-IUCN SUME conference
 - ▶ ITEMS - for Prof. Robert Kenward

UKCEH/IAF/ESUG/GWCT developments - Robert Kenward

- ▶ As IPBES has recognised, combining Cultivation and Sustainable Use is complex
- ▶ ESUG has been planning Decision Support to aid this since 2001
- ▶ Inspired by work at Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT)
- ▶ Following a report for Council of Europe, two projects for European Commission
- ▶ GEMCONBIO showed level of Private Payments for Ecosystem Services
- ▶ TESS, with UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH), designed Transactional Environmental Decision Support - exchanging Local Knowledge for Central Help
- ▶ Implementation for Communities in Europe not funded, but wanted by International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey (IAF), leading to multilingual Sakernet, Perdixnet, Naturalliance.org and FalCoNet.
- ▶ Now IUCN-SUME's MoU with IAF has convened all these organisations to build the multilingual Decision Support into the networks for a multinational consortium

Integrated Transactional Environmental Management

In the development of Integrated Transactional Environment Management Systems, there are four distinct areas where language is important:

1. The interface for policy-makers;
2. The interface for land managers at local level;
3. The 'engine' of code for calculations (including its notation);
4. The databases of localised information.






The most important for multilingual operation is

2. The interface for land managers at local level;

Including all the work to define, for the computation engine and databases, the 'Use-Cases' on what they require. This is our work area.

IPBES update - Julian Mühle

- ▶ Attendance at Plenary 9 - July 2022
 - ▶ Assessment on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
 - ▶ <https://www.ipbes.net/sustainable-use-assessment>
- ▶ Recent responses to requests for review
 - ▶ IPBES Transformative Change Assessment
 - ▶ IPBES Nexus (Interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health) Assessment
 - ▶ IPBES Assessment of Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
 - ▶ Methodological guidance of the Nature Futures Framework

Practice		Use Category	20-year global trends	
			Use	Sustainable Use
Fishing		Food / Feed (big, well-managed)	Strong decrease	Strong increase
		Food / Feed (big, weakly-managed)	Weak increase	Uncertain
		Food / Feed (small-scale)	Uncertain	Uncertain
		Medicine / Hygiene	Strong increase	Uncertain
		Recreation	Strong increase	Uncertain
Gathering		Food / Feed	Weak increase	Stable
		Medicine / Hygiene	Strong increase	Uncertain
		Decorative / Aesthetic	Weak increase	Stable
Logging		Materials / Construction	Strong increase	Uncertain
		Energy	Strong increase	Uncertain
Terrestrial Animal Harvesting		Recreation	Uncertain	Stable
		Food / Feed	Uncertain	Strong decrease
Non-Extractive Practices		Recreation	Strong increase	Uncertain
		Ceremony / Ritual	Uncertain	Uncertain
		Medicine / Hygiene	Uncertain	Uncertain

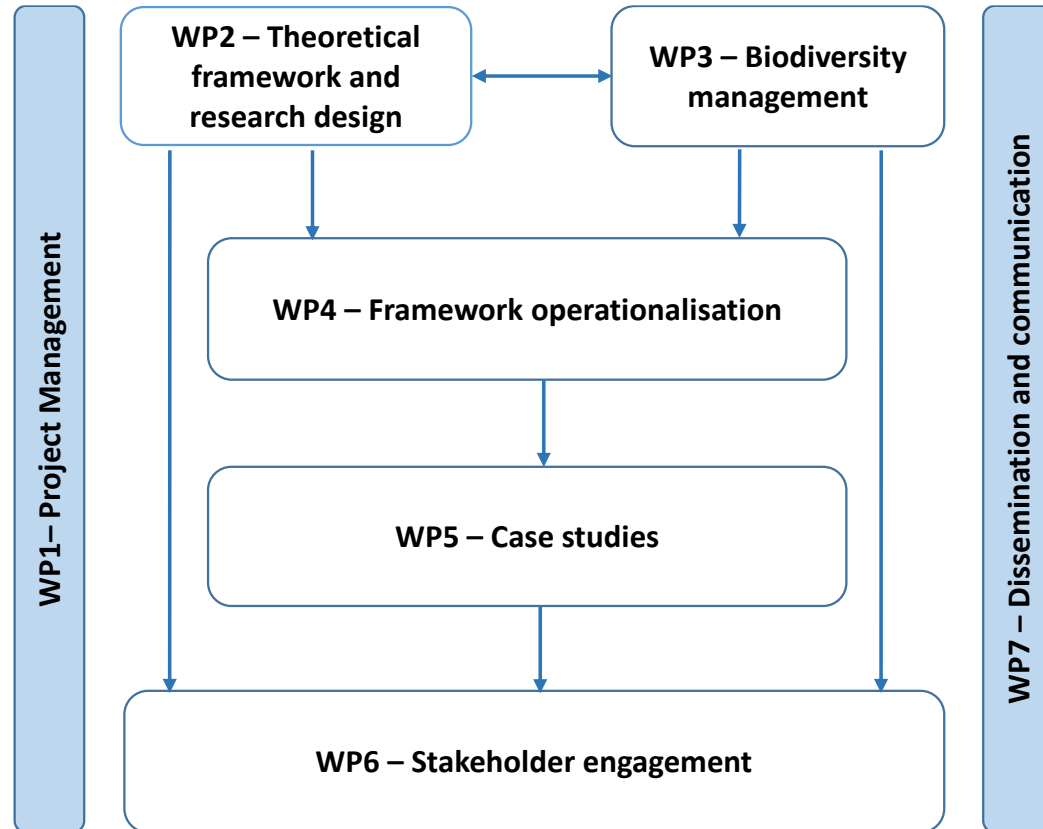
EU funding applications since 2019

- ▶ RE-BIO - in response to the H2020-LC-GD-2020 call - Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future: Research and innovation in support of the European Green Deal
 - ▶ Governance structures to support local communities for the Restoration of Ecosystem services and BIOdiversity (RE-BIO).
 - ▶ Provide advice, provide sensors, build adaptive decision support, bottom-up restoration, scaling up across landscapes and bringing stakeholders together.
 - ▶ Case studies across ESUG membership.
 - ▶ Submitted early 2021.

EU funding applications since 2019

- ▶ PRO-COAST - in response to HORIZON-CL6-2022-BIODIV-01-09: Understanding the role of behaviour, gender specifics, lifestyle, religious and cultural values, and addressing the role of enabling players (civil society, policy makers, financing and business leaders, retailers) in decision making
 - ▶ A PROactive approach for COmmunities to enAble Societal Transformation
 - ▶ Assist local communities to support biodiversity conservation across Europe, through community driven initiatives which benefit both biodiversity and livelihoods and leverage private investment.
 - ▶ 9 Case Studies in IT, IE, MT, EE, RO, SI, ME, NO, UK.
 - ▶ Submitted early 2022. Put in reserve list because of lack of funds at the time.
 - ▶ ESUG (with TERO) to assist with management, coordination, dissemination & communication, with a total budget of **452K EUR** = 326K EUR (staff), 20K EUR (travel), 16K EUR (Other goods and services), 90K EUR (indirect). 100% EC funded.

PRO-COAST



ESUG involvement

WP1: 26 person-months (lead)

Task 1.1 Project Management & Technical Coordination

Task 1.3 Data Management

Task 1.4 Risk management and Quality Assurance

WP2: 2 person-months

WP3: 2 person-months

WP4: 2 person-months

WP5: 2 person-months

WP6: 2 person-months

WP7: 15 person-months (lead)

Task 7.2 Dissemination activities

Task 7.4 Cooperation and clustering with other projects

Task 7.7 Policy guidelines

Future promising EU funding opportunities (All with Deadline 22 Feb 2024)

- [HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-2](#): Digital for nature. IA (70% funding for companies, 100% funding for ESUG). 8M EUR per project, 2 projects to be funded, one for each of 2 topic focus areas. The first focus area touches upon many issues described in TESSA and in PRO-BIO (data harvesting and analysis). The second asks for new robotic sensors for biodiversity (e.g. with drones)..
- [HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-5](#): Transformative action of policy mixes, governance and digitalisation addressing biodiversity loss. RIA (100% funding for all). 2M EUR per project, 2 projects to be funded. This topic touches on issues also tackled in PRO-COAST.
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-1: Invasive alien species
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-3: Dependence of society and the economy on pollinators
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-4: Biodiversity, economics and finance: Understanding macro-financial risks associated with biodiversity loss
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-6: Promoting pollinator friendly farming systems
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-7: Reintroduction of landscape features in intensive agricultural areas
- HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-8: Conservation and protection of carbon-rich and biodiversity-rich forest ecosystems

Update from Ukraine - Tetiana Gardashuk

- ▶ Ukraine faces negative environmental impacts from the time of the Russian occupation of Crimea and proxy hostilities in the part of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions (2014);
- ▶ Full-scale Russian aggression in Ukraine (24.02.2022) raises a broad range of problems, and the direct/indirect and short-term/long-term destruction of the natural and human (rural and urban) environment is among them;
- ▶ The scale of military effects is extensive and covers directly or indirectly the entire territory of Ukraine and has transboundary impacts;
- ▶ The military actions devastate the natural ecosystems, habitats, flora, and fauna, which are “silent victims” of the war;
- ▶ The sooner the war ends, the less damage will be done to the environment;
- ▶ The end of the war is not only the cessation of hostilities but also the demilitarization and denuclearization of Russia in order to prevent acts of aggression and blackmail in future.

Report from the Chair - Julie Ewald

- ▶ Covid-19, Ukraine, Brexit
- ▶ Professor Dr Evgeny Bragin and Professor Basil Manos
- ▶ ITEMS, Global Naturalliance, Perdixnet, IAF's Conservation Portal
- ▶ IPBES - provide input/review to assessments
- ▶ Funding proposals - PRO-COAST, future developments
- ▶ ESUG - regularising our standing with the authorities and our bank
 - ▶ Moniteur Belge official registration - Federal Public Service Justice
 - ▶ Bank - comply with anti-money laundering legislation
- ▶ IUCN registration as a national non-governmental organisation (1 vote)

Financial report - Zenon Tederko/Robert Kenward

- ▶ Thank you to our Patrons: Robin Sharp CB, BASC, FACE, Anatrack
- ▶ Adoption of financial report, including accounts for 2019-2022

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bank on 1st January	6969	5102	2455	35
Income	4625	1244	1000	2800
Spending	6491	3893	3419	541
Bank on 31st December	5102	2455	35	2294
Comments	Karlovac GM, €3,750 from patrons	€1,195 spent on translation	€800 prepaid for 2022	€1,200 owing for 2022

Currently

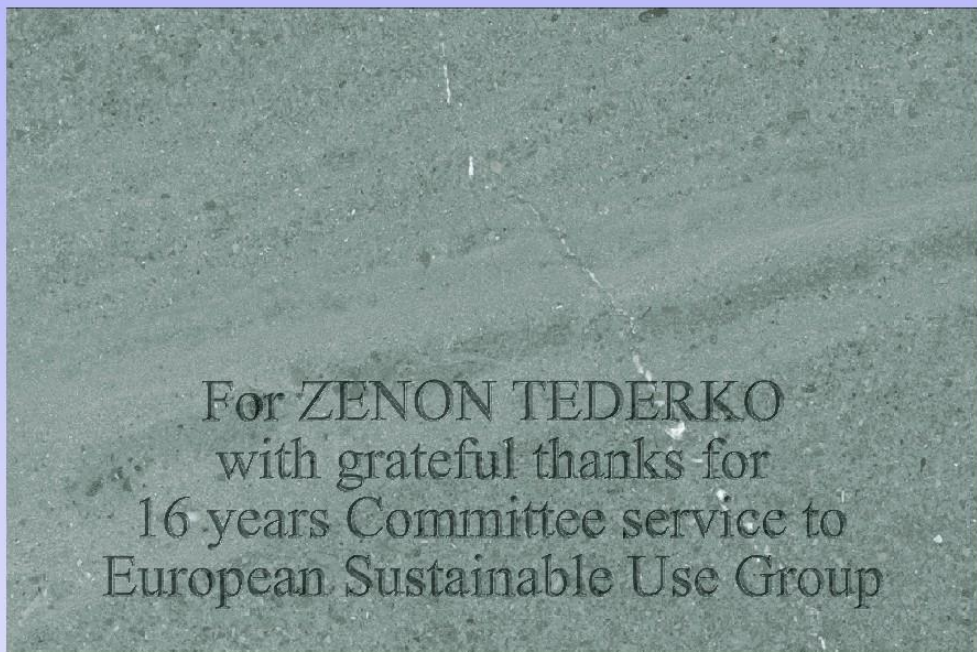
€387 (still to request Patrons, IUCN to be paid)

Elections of Chair and Committee Members

- ▶ Julian Mühle - nominations officer
- ▶ 14 ESUG members needed to be present for quorate
- ▶ Five committee candidates: Sándor Csányi, Tetiana Gardashuk, Robert Kenward, David Scallan, Viktor Šegrt
- ▶ One candidate for chair: Julie Ewald

AOB

- ▶ Frank Vorhies - standards and certification schemes for wildlife enterprise



<https://www.conistonslate.co.uk/>

Zenon Tederko

Our heartfelt thanks for his hard work over many years

Served as ESUG Treasurer

Kept us Solvent!!!

Involved in all our projects

Support for development of networking software

Remain an ESUG member

ESUG - priorities in the next two years

- ▶ Provide assistance & support to Ukraine anyway that we can reasonably do so both during and following conflict to recover biodiversity.
 - ▶ Propose that we work towards the next ESUG AGM in 2025 be held in Ukraine.
- ▶ Support for the work ongoing with developments from ITEMS, Perdixnet, Pro-Coast.
 - ▶ Ensure administrative support.
 - ▶ Explore further funding around our thematic groups: Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Biodiversity Business, Wildlife Species, Plants & Fungi.
- ▶ Support IPBES through reviewing, etc.
 - ▶ Succession planning - please put forward possible new ESUG members.
- ▶ Ensuring that national measures to identify sustainable use as conservation are supported and gain recognition internationally.
 - ▶ Propose that Frank Vorhies be seconded to the committee for this purpose.