NetworkNature+

TF2: Integrated Assessment Framework

Bi-annual Work Plan

This template was produced by IUCN to facilitate the development of the Task Forces (TFs) bi-annual work plans. These work plans are aimed at providing a structured and forward-looking approach to the work of the specific TFs, to facilitate effective planning and execution of activities towards the contribution to their specific objectives. When developing the work plans, TFs should consider their updated description, overarching objectives and purpose, as well as their previous structure and potential changes to it (e.g. workstreams).

The template provides key questions to consider for developing a work plan, keeping in mind that these are not intended for precise and meticulous responses but rather to guide the TFs members' brainstorming and planning.

The bi-annual work plans of all TFs will be published on the NetworkNature TFs page.

Time frame: February to July 2025

Bi- annual work plan

*Indicate compulsory responses

Priority objectives*

 From the overall TF objectives, which ones will the TF focus on in the next 6 months? The objectives of TF2 align with the strategic actions outlined in the <u>European Research</u> and <u>Innovation Roadmap for Nature-based</u> <u>Solutions</u>. Building on the Roadmap, two strategic areas are particularly relevant at this stage of TF2 collaboration:

Advancing NbS knowledge and data on NbS 1a. Advancing knowledge for sustainable and effective NBS design and implementation

- Advancing systemic understanding of and approaches to NBS development and implementation, incl.:
- Developing easy-to-apply and established methods and tools for systematic evaluation of NBS, such as frameworks for identifying, selecting and designing NBS and conducting cost-benefits analyses; systematic comparisons of different processes of design and implementation 29 as well

as the adoption of standardised indicators for crosscutting measurement of NBS socio-ecological performance

1b. Improved evidence-base on NBS effectiveness

 Addressing the needs for systemic and comparable analyses and evaluations of NBS, and underlying monitoring needs, which are often linked to assessing NBS design and performance. This entails an improved documentation of ecosystem functions and services

Closing the NBS research-implementation gap

2c. Developing and testing tools to help close the research-implementation gap.

- Further developing guidance for NBS design and implementation, and tools to facilitate the inclusion of NBS in planning and policy frameworks, for example using web-based decision support approaches
- Promotion and further development of dynamic resource platforms and knowledge sharing opportunities on best practices, with a clear need for better accessibility of NBS resources and outcomes over time, but also better communication of existing evidence into policy and practice and help to assess knowledge and better share information on NBS and related initiatives

Implementation*

- How will the TF contribute to the priority objectives within the indicated time frame?
- Will there be any workstreams created for this purpose? Please specify.

Refining and streamlining NbS indicator selection, building on TF2's experience with the NbS Handbook for Practitioners:

- Laying the groundwork for an online KPI selection tool.
- Contributing to analysis for improving NbS impact methodologies.
- Standardization of biodiversity indicators.

Development of standardised data templates:

 Contribution to the continuation of TF1 Hackathon work, including advancing with further indicators and linking with case studies

Promoting knowledge and resource sharing opportunities:

- Collaborating with ClimateADAPT TWG on the monitoring and evaluation of climate adaptation projects and the NBS4EU cluster taskforce to avoid duplication, maximise opportunities for exchanges and mutual learning, identify potential areas for collaboration and synergies with the focus areas of TF2.
- Continued exchange to identify common areas of interest (Mural board contributions) with a view to identifying potential new workstreams and coordinating activity on specific topics and tasks (mental health and wellbeing implications of NbS?)
- Facilitating the sharing of information on relevant events
- Opportunities for TF2 members' contributions to science-policy events

Workstreams:

- Project proposal for a KPI selection tool for nature-based solutions: if successful – and depending on the needs – a steering group will be formalised, with regular exchanges with the wider TF2
- Sub-group to finalise work on biodiversity mini handbook (TBD)

Products & activities*

- What activities and/or products will the TF develop in the indicated timeframe to contribute to the priority objectives?
- Contribution to a survey to identify real-world bottlenecks in NbS impact evaluation.

- Which is the target audience/ end user of the activity/ies and/or product/s?
- Collection of insights from EU-funded NbS projects to understand evaluation challenges, bottlenecks, and successes, with a view to identifying resource-efficient key indicators that can capture multiple NBS benefits
- Continued work on the biodiversity mini-handbook for practitioners (TBD)
- Development and distribution of a form to collect best practice examples of NbS indicator use; the sharing of best practice examples by TF2 members, other NN+ participants and their networks
- Mapping of TF2 research areas and interests.
- Building a repository of best practice case studies on NbS measurement, reporting, and verification.
- Identification of TF2 members to act as liaisons with ClimateADAPT TWG and NBS4EU cluster taskforce (TBD)

Outcomes

- What measurable outcome/s is the TF aiming to achieve through the abovementioned activities/products?
- Finalised form for the collection of information on best practice use of NbS indicators case studies
- Finalised survey for the Collection of practitioners' insights from EUfunded NBS projects to understand bottlenecks, challenges and successes in NbS impact evaluation
- The publication of selected best practice case studies on the NN+ website
- Shortlist of possible workstream topics, activities and leaders for the next planning period

Potential enablers

 What are the enablers for the delivery of the activities/products (e.g. building on projects' outcomes, events, resources, etc.)?

- Task Force 1 (data and knowledge sharing) to lead on the follow-up work to the Hackathon, with the addition of new priority indicators and development of standardised data templates.
- NN+ hubs to contribute to the collection of best practices and insights from NbS implementation and MRV
- NBS4EU cluster taskforces and MI4ADAPT TWG to help scan for parallel efforts with potential for duplication or synergies with the focus areas of TF2

Potential risks

Do you foresee any risks/challenges?If so, how can they be overcome?

Handling multiple standards and alignment of approaches:

- Numerous standards and indicators make it difficult to establish uniform approaches.
- Solution: Use feedback loops to identify the most useful indicators for stakeholders.

Resource constraints (personnel/budget):

- Limited availability of resources may impact outputs.
- Solution: Allow TF members to determine their levels of commitment and focus efforts on realistic, highimpact outputs.