BID-REX Interregional thematic workshop: MATCHING INFORMATION TO NEEDS

Bilbao, June 14 and 15, 2017

https://www.interregeurope.eu/bid-rex/events/event/822/workshop-matching-information-to-needs/

Guidelines for discussion

BLOCK 1: THE INFORMATION WE HAVE, IS IT FIT-FOR-USE BASED ON OUR REQUIREMENTS?

For better understanding of this block, we suggest a series of questions for debate:

The information we need

- Does the information we need exist?
- How can we establish what information is relevant for each need?
- What to do about the potential lack of experts, taxonomists, generational change?
- Obsolescence of information and data.
- Do information producers know the specific information needs of the public authorities?

Driving forces - new processes

- Who produces and where is the potentially useful information? How can we identify key people, entities, activities and projects that generate potentially useful information for decision-making?
- How to facilitate access and use of information?
- Innovation: How can information be more efficiently obtained using new technologies? Satellite images, sensors, data mining...
- What to do with the "information gaps"? How to prioritize the collection of new data?

Decision making

- What must be done to make available information directly/easily useable in decision-making?
- How to evaluate the quality of information used in decision-making?
- How can a knowledge network be efficiently managed at regional scale?

BLOCK 2: INFORMATION NEEDED TO RESPOND TO THE OBLIGATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REGULATIONS, STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES

The aim is to reflect, both from the point of view of public authorities and information producers, on the difficulties in complying with the reporting obligations required by compliance with regulations, strategic documents and policies.

These needs could be addressed in the debate:

Data and information - Access and identification

- Inventories of habitats and species:
  - habitats:
    - surface area, absolute and percentage, of the place covered by the type of habitat, indicating if it is associated to another type of habitat.
    - list of the typical species found in each habitat.
    - structure and function.
  - species:
    - data on their populations
    - specific information considered interesting in relation to the species habitat
- Cartography of habitats and species

How to value the information

- Assessment of the conservation status of habitats and species
  - Information on Favourable Reference Area (FRA), in the case of habitats, and on Favourable Reference Population (FRP) for species.
  - Evaluation of the conservation status, future perspectives.
- Ecological processes and environmental services

- Uses needed for conservation
- Description of pressures and threats and cause-effect relationships, impact mapping

Evaluation and impact

- Monitoring and evaluation system:
    - Degree of implementation and effectiveness of measures and actions established. Management indicators. At different scales.
    - evolution of the distribution and conservation status of the habitats and species.
    - evaluation of the effectiveness of public funding
- How to use information on biodiversity to improve public funding systems, particularly ERDF funds
- How to adapt data and information needs to the scale to which we must give the answers: regional, biogeographical, for protected sites, etc.

BLOCK 3: INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES: NEW TOOLS FOR THE CAPTURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE INFORMATION

New sources of raw data

New sources of raw data (technologies, spatial data and services -Copernicus Programme- and platforms for citizen science and the use of mobile devices, among others) are now available. We will analyze the opportunities and threats of the use of these tools.

Predictive and interpretive and data processing tools

Different predictive and data processing and interpreting tools (modelling of ecological and species distribution niches, artificial intelligence for ecosystems services, such as

ARIES, among others) can be used complementary to one another or as a substitution for other traditional tools. We will analyze the opportunities and threats of the use of these tools.

Potential application in decision making

Design of mechanisms and processes adapted for their potential application in decision making and analysis of the limitations of these tools