



CEM Annual Report 2011

Council February 2012



IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management



The Commission on Ecosystem Management

Provides expert guidance on integrated approaches to the management of natural and modified ecosystems to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

The starting point

The Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) develops and promotes the ecosystem approach in support of IUCN's mission on conservation of our biological diversity. We are dealing with the complexity of ecosystems, their components and interrelations, with different people making different and often conflicting uses of the ecosystems, and therefore with institutions and regulations dealing with these uses.

Structure

- Chair and deputy Chair
- Steering committee: 5 members incl. Chair and deputy Chair
- Regional Chairs
- Thematic Group Leaders
- National focal points, as required (Currently 4: China, France, the Netherlands and Mexico)
- Special advisors, as required (Currently 5: EA, Antarctic, Cultural matters, Green cities and Arctic)
- Commission representatives, as required
- Task forces, as required
- Supported by the Ecosystem Management Programme, IUCN HQ

Regional chairs and Thematic Group Leaders are encouraged to have a young professional as a co-lead.



For members

The Commission on Ecosystem Management prepares a quarterly newsletter for its members. CEM offers members the opportunity to communicate and collaborate with experts with the same interests. Members are encouraged to contribute in the form of publications, workshops and research activities and can apply for seed funding from CEM. Some examples for 2011/2012:

- The Virtual Encyclopedia of Key Steppes
- 'Building resilience during ecological restoration' workshop during SERI Conference
- Workshops on Climate Change in St.Louis (Senegal) and Ouadane (Mauritania)

CEM 2011 in numbers:

- 1 new Thematic Group
- 20 Thematic Groups in total
- 800 members
- III New TGLs
- II New co-chairs
- III New RCs

CEM activities in 2011

- A SC meeting in Fiji with a CEM workshop on Integration of EBM Principles into River Basin and Mangrove Management
- A SC meeting in Idaho with a workshop on Resilience of Ecosystems and Communities
- 14 nominations for Luc Hoffmann Award
- Experiences with the application of the Ecosystem Approach, *e.g.* Presentation to the Sibthorp Seminar (O. Hamerlynck)
- Publication: Principles and guidelines for integrating ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation in project and policy design
- Base-line studies to support the 2011 State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit
- Red List of Ecosystems: In February, 2011, draft categories and criteria for an IUCN Red List of Ecosystems were published in Conservation Biology. Several workshops a/o in France, New Zealand.
- The CEM-SSC Task force on Systemic Pesticides, including research in a protected area in the Netherlands and a workshop in Bath.
- UNFCCC COP 17 Durban, guidelines on EbA to CC (A. Andrade)
- Workshop at Ecosystem Services Conference, Wageningen
- Saving East Calcutta wetlands (RAMSAR)
- Fisheries and Conservation Governance book (FEG)
- Participation in CEESP Sharing Power Conference, January 2011
- UN ISDR Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction conference (Geneva)
- Society for Ecological Restoration, World Conference in Merida, Mexico, August 2011 with the symposium “Roadmap to Restoring the Ecological Health of the Gulf of Mexico”

Challenges

- Some TG and RC’s not active
- IUCN HQ financial policy
- IUCN HQ IT system

CEM plans for 2012

In 2012 CEM will present four Commission workshops at the WCC in Jeju; Disaster Risk Reduction, the Red List of Ecosystems, Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change and a closing session on Trends and Priorities in Ecosystem Management. Other activities planned for 2012 are:

- To strengthen membership in themes and regions where we need more critical mass
- More young-professionals as co-leads
- Journée des villes anciennes, Mauritania
- Workshop at Journée du Delta, Senegal
- A seminar dedicated to the late Kamal Batanouny, Qatar
- A workshop in Libya to remind the new political powers of the interesting biodiversity of their country and its importance for human well-being.
- Further development of the Red List of Ecosystems; workshops and case studies.
- Participation in COP XI of the CBD and COP 18 of UNFCCC.
- Publication of a study that assesses the performance of bycatch and discards governance by global Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).

