First stakeholder workshop

INBO, Brussels, 23 – 24 May 2013
Partners and particulars

**Instrument:** FP7, Collaborative Project

**Total Cost:** 3,775,337.40 Euro

**EC Contribution:** 3,009,972.65 Euro

**Duration:** 4 years

**Start Date:** 1 September 2011

**Consortium:** 15 partners from 13 countries

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**Project Web Site:** www.besafe-project.net

**Key Words:** Biodiversity, protection, Ecosystem Services, effectiveness

**Partners:***

- **NL** Wageningen UR (Alterra)
- **UK** The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford (UOXF-AF)
- **GE** Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)
- **UK** Natural Environment Research Council - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (NERC-CEH)
- **SE** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
- **DK** National Environmental Research Institute - Aarhus University (NERI-AU)
- **UK** Economics For The Environment Consultancy Ltd. (EFTEC)
- **FI** Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
- **HU** Szent István University (SZIU)
- **AU** Paris-Lodron University Salzburg (PLUS)
- **BU** Pensoft Publishers Ltd. (PENSOFT)
- **BE** Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)
- **IT** Joint Research Centre - European Commission (JRC)
- **NO** The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)
- **RO** University of Bucharest (UNIBUC)
What the call asked for:

An analysis of alternative ways to improve biodiversity policy making and governance at local, national and global scales
Our angle

To find out which type of argumentation is most effective in a given situation, or:

.. to describe the relationship between the effectiveness of argument(ation) types and the context in which they are used ...
Our main product for stakeholders:

.... and to make this knowledge easily accessible and usable through a user-friendly web tool.
What do we need to consider?

Who do the convincing?
- NGO’s, other policy makers, etc.
- Usually biodiversity people

What’s in between?
- Arguments
  - The ones they THINK the policy makers in question will accredit

Who need to be convinced?
- Policy makers
  - The ones deciding on biodiversity aspects – in any policy. Usually NOT biodiversity people

Both parties are influenced by the situation: their own convictions, their relationship with each other, the problem at hand, public opinion, other interests, ....
What do we need to consider?

Who need to be convinced?

Our **research target:**
the value they accredit to arguments determines their effectiveness

Policy makers
The ones deciding on biodiversity aspects – in any policy. Usually NOT biodiversity people
What do we need to consider?

Who do the convincing?

**NGO’s, other policy makers, etc.**

Usually biodiversity people

Our dissemination target

They need to know which arguments to use when
What do we need to consider?

What do they use?

Our **research objects**

What *are* relevant ‘argument types’?

What value(s) do policy makers accredit to them?

How does that depend on the context in which they are used?

**Arguments**

The ones they THINK the policy makers will accredit, used in the way they THINK will be most effective

How can stakeholders make best use of our results?
So ..... 

.... what about this workshop?
Workshop aims

• To do a reality check
• To get stakeholders involved
  – We need you
  – We want to know about your problems with argumentation
  – We want you to help us to help you
BESAFE’s basic setup

- Review of arguments
- Interactions between governance levels
- Case studies
- Ecosystem services
- Web-tool development
- Communication and dissemination
BESAFE’s approach

‘Learning by doing’

We have an iterative approach
Assessment, evaluation

Assumptions, interpretation and values of policy makers and their advisors

Discourse – media, politics, science, society
First session: arguments

1) Results of the arguments review

What can you find about ‘types’ of arguments in scientific and gray literature?

Bruce Howard, CEH
2) The context of use

What factors could influence the effectiveness of different ‘types’?

Rob Tinch, Eftec
3) The effect

How do arguments generate effect
Then ....

You get the change to ‘discover’ some arguments yourself

Bialowieza forest argumentation example
Interactions between governance levels

Ann van Herzele, INBO
Ecosystem services

Pam Berry, Oxford University
Case studies