

# TEEBrief

## About TEEB

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) is a global initiative focused on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity, highlighting the growing cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and drawing together expertise from the fields of ecosystem science, economics and development policy to support the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem considerations in policy making.

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## TEEB Reports

### TEEB for Oceans & Coasts knowledge platform

An initial version of the TEEB for Oceans & Coasts knowledge portal has been made available. The portal is a web-based platform which aims to monitor, over the long term, the changes in value of ocean and coastal ecosystem services around the world. It will also promote information and knowledge sharing, assist capacity building facilitation and provide a platform for continued knowledge development. Feedback is welcome. [Browse the platform.](#)

### On the invisible value of the Sundarbans

The Sundarbans are the largest mangrove forest in the world, providing habitat to a dense and diverse ecosystem. Pavan Sukhdev, Tony Juniper and Dr. M Sanjayan, in this BBC Power of Nature Series film, speak about the invisible value of the Sundarbans and why their conservation and restoration is essential. [View the film.](#)

### Valuing green infrastructure in an urban environment under pressure in Johannesburg

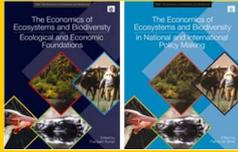
This article by Schäffler et al. (February 2013) considers the importance of planning for green infrastructure in fast changing Southern African cities. A key theme is the extent to which ecosystem services are valued publicly, and the opportunity costs of not investing in green infrastructure. It explores green infrastructure through pairing insights of social-ecological resilience with perspectives on urban infrastructure transitions and shows how green infrastructure can be viewed as an innovative response to challenged urban environments. [Download the report.](#)

### The challenges of linking wetland science to policy in the UK

The UK National Ecosystem Assessment (NEA) conducted an initial assessment of the extent and condition of the current wetland resource in the UK, the degree of loss of different wetland types and their broad implications for biodiversity and a wide range of ecosystem services. This article (Maltby et al., February 2013) summaries some of the findings of the NEA in relation to some key challenges of linking wetland science to policy. [Download the article.](#)

### State of Green Business Report 2013

The sixth annual edition of the State of Green Business Report looks at the trends of where the world of sustainable business is headed



TEEB has produced four principal reports and a synthesis report aimed at various stakeholders including national decision-makers, local and regional policy-makers and businesses.

Several other publications on thematic topics can also be found on the [website](#).



## Quicklinks

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and the indicators used by the private sector to address global environmental challenges to assess future progress. Trucost contributed to this year's edition by bringing natural capital metrics to the report. [Download the report.](#)

## A report on Corporate Engagement with Ecosystem Services

The uptake of ecosystem services concepts and frameworks by the private sector is on the rise. The new report by BSR assesses the current state of play on corporate ecosystem services initiatives and it offers the first opportunity to review corporate engagement with ecosystem services around the world. [Download the report.](#)

## Report examines resource efficiency indicators

Resource efficiency forms a vital part of the European Union's growth strategy towards a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy in 2020. *In-depth report Resource Efficiency Indicators*, from Science for Environment Policy, published in February, examines the robustness of the EU indicators to measure progress towards resource efficiency. [Download the report.](#)

## Linking ecosystem services to strategic environmental assessment in development policies

This paper (Kumar et al., February 2013) introduces the concept of mainstreaming ecosystem services (ES), presents the role and importance of strategic environmental assessment in designing and implementation of development policy, sets-out the concept of economic valuation of ecosystem services. It argues that ES can be an appropriate indicator to weight developmental policies, programmes and plans to ensure the consideration of environmental balancing at the policy level. The paper suggests that the roles of ES in macroeconomic policies can be used to link environmental policies and strategic environmental assessment with development policies for a successful impact assessment at policy and programme levels. [Download the paper.](#)

## Reaching for a sustainable, resilient urban future using the lens of ecosystem services

Åsa Jansson suggests in this article (published February 2013) the use of the ecosystem service framework in combination with the merging of the concepts "ecology *in* cities" and the "ecology of cities". The former mainly focuses on designing energy efficient building, sustainable logistics and providing inhabitants with healthy and functioning green urban environments. The latter acknowledges the total dependence of cities on the surrounding landscape and the ever-ongoing dance between urban and rural, viewing the city as an ecosystem. [Download the article.](#)

## ESP Conference: Call for papers

In preparation of the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) conference (Bali, Indonesia , 26-30 August 2013), the ESP Working Group "Governance and institutional aspects" invites members as well as the interested community to send an abstract or a full paper. Focus is on instruments, policies and implementation issues regarding ecosystem services and the socio-economic and political processes dealing with them. Papers on TEEB implementation processes are of particular interest. [Read more.](#)

## IUCN Director vacancy for the Global Economics and Social Science Programme

IUCN Headquarters in Switzerland, is seeking a new Director for their Global Economics and Social Science Programme, who will be responsible for the development and implementation of a programme of work that applies cutting edge economic and social science knowledge and practice to the delivery of IUCN conservation priorities. Interested parties should apply through the [IUCN website](#).

### Contact

For further information about the TEEB initiative, for media inquiries, or to submit content to TEEBrief please contact:

Sharon Oseku-Frainier  
email: [TEEB@unep.org](mailto:TEEB@unep.org)  
tel:+41 (0)22 917 82 55

[teeb@unep.org](mailto:teeb@unep.org)



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