



Science for Evidence-based and sustainable decisions about Natural capital (Horizon 2020 Selina project)

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Baltic Environmental Forum - Latvia

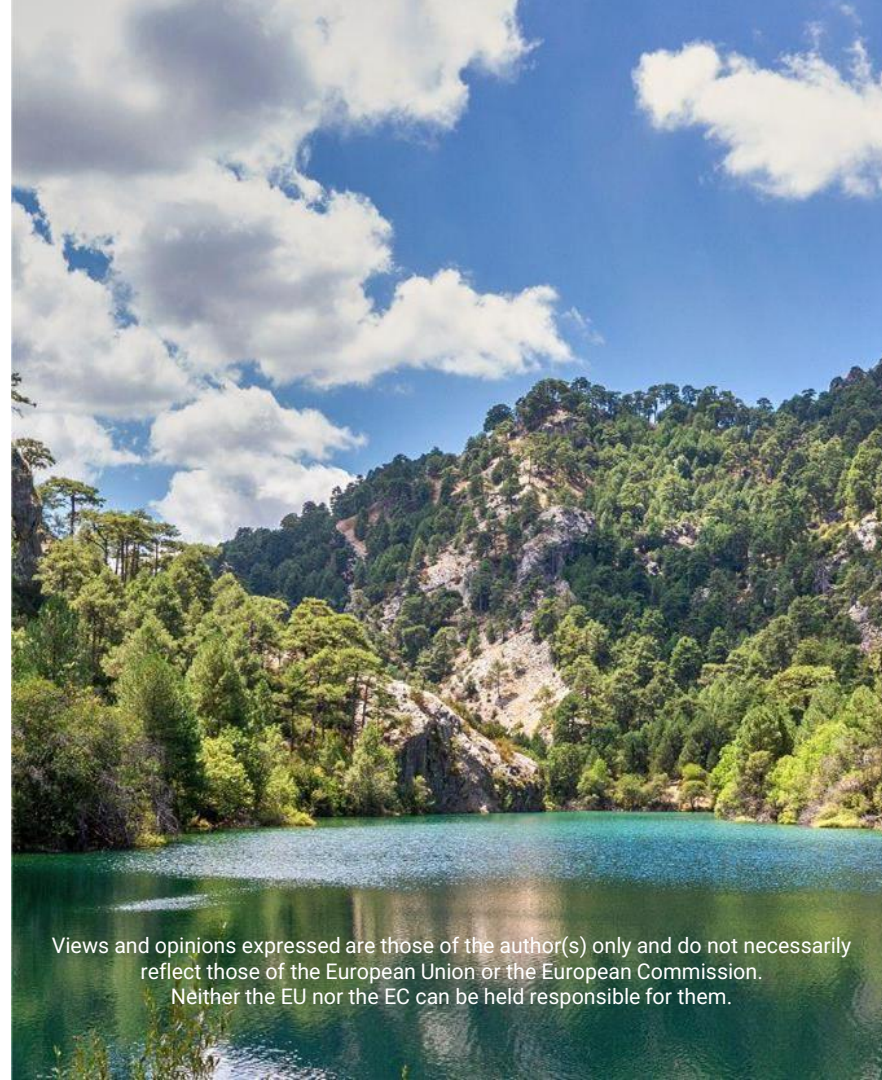
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Universität
Hannover



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SELINA in nutshell



Duration: 01.07.2022 – 30.06.2027 (60 months)

Funded by: EU Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Actions

Call: HORIZON-CL6-2021-BIODIV-01

Consortium: 50 partner organisations from all 27 EU member states, Norway, Switzerland, Israel, and the United Kingdom





Project Consortium

-  Leibniz University Hannover
-  Stichting Capitals Coalition
-  Ecostack Innovations Limited
-  University of Trento
-  Pensoft Publishers
-  Centre for Ecological Research
-  Mykolas Romeris University
-  Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
-  University of Patras
-  space4environment
-  National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography
-  Rey Juan Carlos University
-  University of Salzburg
-  University of Bucharest
-  Flemish Institute for Technological Research
-  Foundation for Sustainable Development
-  Baltic Environmental Forum
-  Adam Mickiewicz University
-  National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment
-  Copenhagen University
-  Norwegian Institute for Natural Research
-  Estonian University of Life Sciences
-  The Cyprus Institute
-  Wageningen University
-  The Finnish Environment Institute
-  Global Change Research Institute SarVision

-  Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
-  Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia
-  Research Centre in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources
-  University of Haifa
-  COHAB Initiative Secretariat
-  KTH Royal Institute of Technology
-  Forest Research Institute
-  SEAcop
-  Macroplan
-  University of Reunion Island
-  Spatial Services
-  Asplan Viak
-  denkstatt
-  Wolfs Company, part of Grant Thornton
-  Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge
-  ETH Zürich
-  Joint Research Centre
-  UNEP-WCMC
-  South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute

-  Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic
-  Gaspar Frutuoso Foundation
-  Flemish Agency for Nature and Forest
-  Municipality of Trento





Main aims

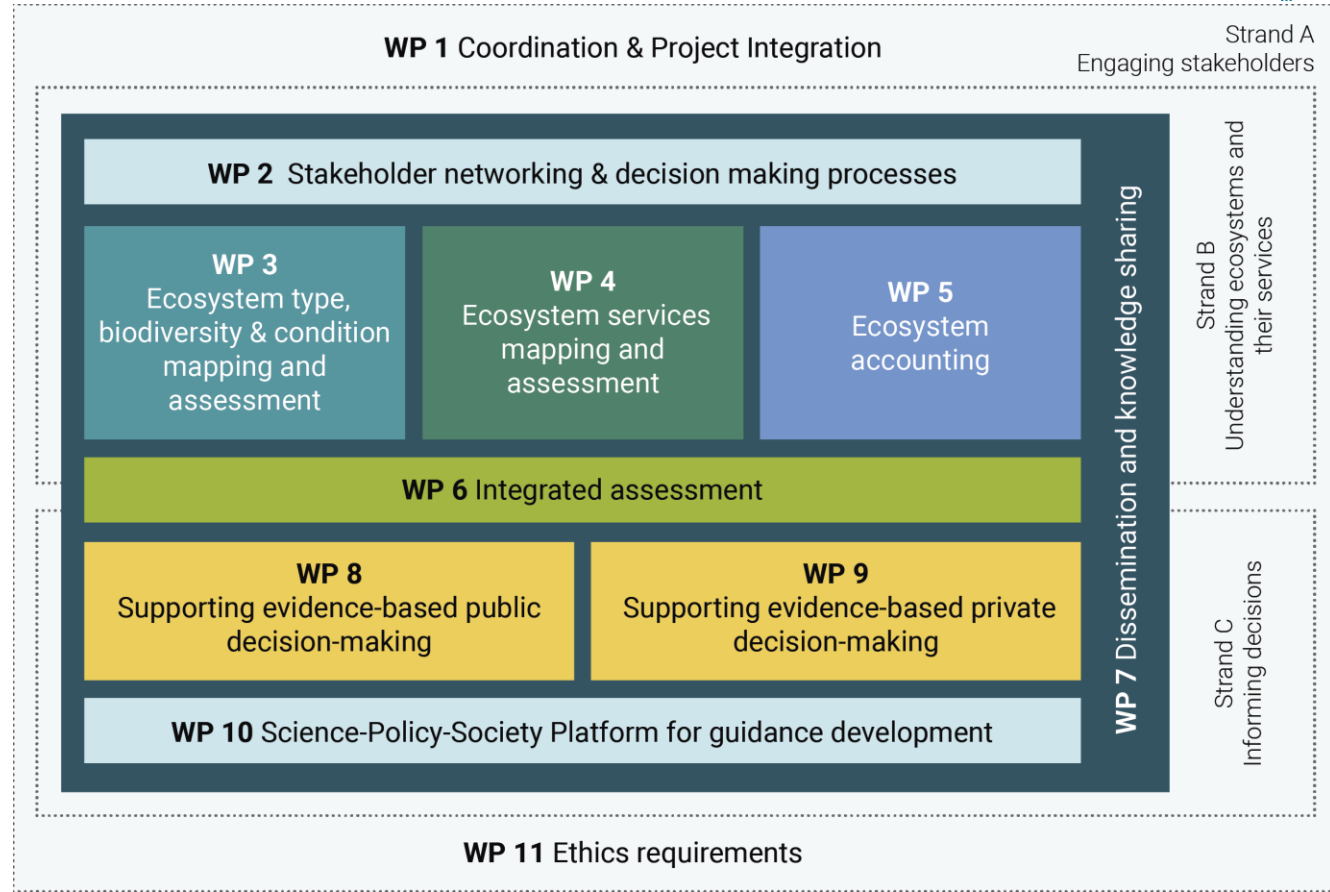
- Provide **robust information** that support the protection, restoration and sustainable use of ecosystems and their services in the EU by 2030
- Builds upon EU initiative on Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (**MAES**) in the context of the **EU BD Strategies**
- **Integrate** the different MAES components (ecosystem types & condition; ecosystem services; ecosystem accounting) **to enable uptake** of ES in decision making





Project implementation

- 11 Work Packages in 3 Strands





Project implementation

- **15 Demonstration projects** for knowledge sharing, feedback collection and mutual learning
- **Communities of Practices** with stakeholders from public and private decision making, science and society
- **10 Project Workshops** and Meetings across themes, people and European countries





Project implementation

- Project Workshops and Meetings' itinerary:

1. Hannover/Germany
2. Bulgaria
3. Spain
4. Netherlands
5. Norway
6. Azores
7. Italy
8. Ireland
9. Latvia
10. Brussels/Belgium



<https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/ecosystem-types-of-europe-1>





WP 3 - Ecosystem type, biodiversity & condition mapping and assessment

Objectives:

- Development and testing of methodologies to map and assess terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem condition (EC) to support the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), the legally binding restoration targets in BDS, and the better integration in decision-making;
- Advancement of the sustainability of the EU economy and human well-being via the definition of minimum criteria for ecosystems to achieve or maintain high ecological integrity and good EC.

Tasks:

1. Integrating data flow to map and assess ecosystem types
2. Derive a minimum set of key EC indicators per ecosystem type
3. Define the reference levels for good condition of an ecosystem
4. Propose a scientifically robust decision framework for designation of EC levels





WP 4 - Ecosystem services mapping and assessment

Objective:

- Refinement of the ES knowledge base available from prior EU Actions – such as MAES, ESMERALDA, MAIA, and INCA etc.

Tasks:

1. Systematic review of ES model-related barriers to uptake in decision-making;
2. Diagnose, develop and test ES models:
 - Hydrological & water quality related
 - Climate & air quality related
 - Amenity & recreation related
 - Agriculture & forestry related
 - Fisheries, aquaculture & marine harvest
3. Guidance on enabling ES models for decision support





WP 5 - Ecosystem accounting

Objectives:

- Connection of emerging insights in EC and ES supply and use to the UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Ecosystem Accounting approach;
- Facilitation of the inclusion of said insights in the integrated assessment process and decision-making

Tasks:

1. Specifying and testing how externalities can be included in ecosystem accounts;
2. Enhancing the spatial & temporal resolution of ecosystem accounts using satellite data
3. Testing the implications of different value assumptions for SEEA monetary values





WP 8 - Supporting evidence-based public decision-making

Objective:

- Development of real-world innovative examples (Demonstration Projects) of how knowledge on BD, ecosystems and ES can be used to support evidence-based public decision-making processes (from projects to plans and policies) in a range of sectors – including urban and regional development, agriculture, energy, **marine spatial planning**, forest and nature conservation, green infrastructures and ecosystem restoration.

Tasks:

1. Setting the decision contexts
2. Generating evidence on ecosystems and ES in each DP
3. Feeding evidence into decision-making process
4. Cross-comparing DPs to assess effectiveness and transferability
5. Solutions for shared private-public use of evidence on ecosystems and ES





Demonstration Project: MSP & thematic planning of coastal public infrastructure in Latvia

- **Partners involved:**

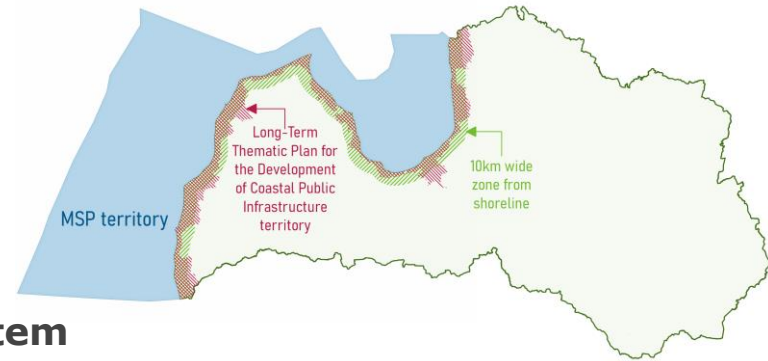
- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia (MoEPRD), Spatial Planning Department
- Baltic Environmental Forum – Latvia (BEF-LV)

- **Type of decision-making process and key Ecosystem Services**

- Supporting the interim assessment mid-term and update of the MSP of Latvia and the Long-Term Thematic Plan for the Development of Coastal Public Infrastructure by uptake of latest information on marine and coastal ecosystem services

- **Expected added value**

- Consolidation of the recent research results on marine and coastal ecosystem services in Latvia (e.g. MAREA), and contributing to the national MAES process development





Expected outcomes

- Concrete **Deliverables** (i.e. reports, publications, online methods database and documentation)
- **Networking** (e.g. by Communities of Practice and a series of thematic Workshops across Europe)
- Open access **Compendium of Guidance** at the science-policy-business-society interface
- **Stakeholder engagement** to support evidence-based sustainable decision-making
- 15 SELINA public and private decision-making **Demonstration Projects** to transfer knowledge





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