



Ecosystem Quality meeting (Feb 24, 2014)

Participants: Inga, Anne-Marie, Stephan, Manuele, Cecile

Excused: Montse, Francesca

Introduction/Objectives:

- 3 working groups: general (stress) midpoint, human health mid/endpoint and this group (ecosystem quality mid-/endpoint)
 - Endpoint probably not possible as not much work done yet (at least gaps for many impact pathways)
- Focus on CF on midpoint level.
- AMB mainly supports/coordinating work but is not main expert

Summary of work done:

- Stephan:
 - Wetland study by Francesca: published and improvements ongoing (results expected to be there in summer 2014). Covers aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem (combined as wetland impacts), but not focus on aquatic ecosystem only (focus on species loss of water-dependent species)
 - PhD thesis on Danielle Tendall: building up on work of Hanafiah et al. Looking more into local detail, different species, different runoff-species richness function etc. still a large gap towards a global method. -> rather learning points
 - Paper just published: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/es4048686>
 - PhD thesis: <http://e-collection.library.ethz.ch/view/eth:7365>
- Cecile: Impact World+: Hanafiah et al methods is integrated on a global average level; no regionalized CF yet (do not cover globe).
 - Student will work on this in summer
- Manuele: Co-supervised Master thesis (Jean-Daniel Savard) with Cecile on comparing methods.
 - Summing up or combining into one indicator (as suggested by Kounina et al.) might be overestimating (over-emphasizing) what can be achieved. Methods are not consistent among each other. Additionally, developed for very specific regions and might not be relevant for other regions.
 - First job of this group: map all impact pathways and see where are gaps and what is available.
 - Manuele can share soon the graph/framework of the Master student (with Prof. Christian Bouchard) for a good discussion. Now it is still difficult to evaluate
 - Cecile: everyone should share material as soon as possible in order to get this work done as good as possible

Inga: Not familiar with methods yet (just started PhD).

- Not sure if she can work on this topic (Prof. needs to accept but is in another field)
- Manuele/Cecile will have a PhD student on water /stream management and ecosystem quality
 - There is enough work to be done, Inga to follow if her project can look into this

Manuele will share master thesis (in French) and try to get the basics translated to English.

- TBD Before next group meeting
- Midpoint: Stress group issues
 - How can ecosystem features be included in to generic midpoint (correlations with specific features?)
- Should we find specific factors for stress midpoint
- Stephan: suggests to have first a clear picture what is relevant as impact pathways and then find most suitable proxy indicators for stress indicators

Next steps: Manuele, Cecile and AMB will discuss framework and send a version arounds within next 3 weeks .

Next meeting March 31st, 11-12:30 EST