



# Networking session

Organized by  
Stoyan Nedkov and Jeroen Arends



# Networking session

## Content

16:30 – 16:35 Introduction

16:35 – 17:05 Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP)

Introduction to ESP – Benjamin Burkhard

The role of ESP in South East Europe (SEE) - Jeroen Arends

17:05 – 17:25 ESP National Networks in SEE

17:25 – 17:45 Other networks and groups

MAES – Joachim Maes

ILTER Maria Nijnik, Svetla Doncheva

17:45 – 18:00 Discussion



# Networking session

## Introduction

The **main objective** of the session is to promote the **existing networks** on ecosystem services and generate ideas for their development in South East Europe

- **Ecosystem services partnership (ESP)** - worldwide network to enhance the science and practical application of ES
- **ESP in South East Europe (SEE)** – emerging national networks, prospects and directions for their development
- **SEE in ESP** – can we develop regional structure of ESP?



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## Introduction

Other networks and groups in related to ecosystem services  
– MAES, ILTER, IALE ...

- **How they interact between themselves?**
- **What are the common areas they could cooperate in?**
- **How they can cooperate in mapping of ES?**
- **What are the main perspectives?**



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## ESP National Networks in SEE

**Bulgaria** – Stoyan Nedkov

**Greece** – Panayotis Dimopoulos

**Macedonia** – Nate Nikodinoska

**Romania** – Cristian Mihai Adamescu

**Serbia** – Jeroen Arends

# Bulgaria

Welcome to the official webpage of the Bulgaria ESP national network. If you would like to visit this network's discussion board, [please click here](#) (members only).

## Lead team

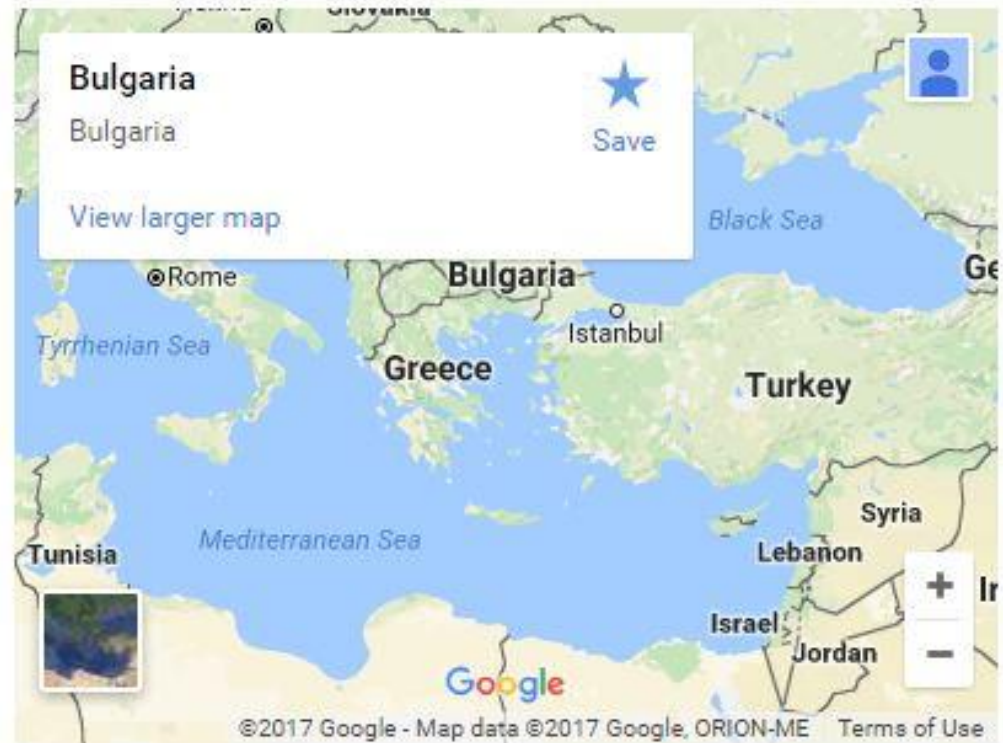
- Stoyan Nedkov
- Svetla Doncheva
- Kremena Boyanova (support)

If you are interested in becoming a member of the lead team, please contact the current lead team members.

If you are interested in **becoming a member** of this national network, [please click here](#).

## Introduction & Objectives

ESP National Networks aim to improve decision making on ecosystem services by providing a platform for researchers, government, non-government, business, industry and communities to exchange information and experiences on the theoretical and practical application of ecosystem services at local to national scales.





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## Bulgaria ESP NN

### **Objectives of the National Network in Bulgaria**

- Provide a focal point for ESP members at the national level, in Bulgarian language
- Organize meetings and conferences of interest to the National ESP members
- Support the implementation of ES science and practice at national and local levels and especially by contributing to national assessments and policy evaluations
- Feed bottom up information into regional and international activities
- Maintain a database of researcher and practitioner expertise, contacts and projects
- Organize meetings of interest to the National ESP members
- Actively promote ESP activities and membership
- Actively promote national activities and membership
- Promote educational opportunities to improve understanding of ES
- Maintain webpage on ESP website



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## Bulgaria ESP NN

### Proposed activities of the National Network:

- Develop an ES researchers and practitioners contact database for the nation
- Draw attention to publications specific to the nation
- Collaborate on RS surveys to create an overview of the needs, ideas of researchers and other stakeholders
- Develop an inventory of case studies in the country and put them on ESP website.
- Actively approach researchers and practitioners to become ESP members and identify ways to increase the ESP membership.
- Jointly design and conduct research projects or applications in practice with RCs.





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## Bulgaria ESP NN

### Related projects:

Methodological Support for Ecosystem Services Mapping and Biophysical Valuation (MetEcosMap)

Toward better UNDERstanding the Ecosystem Services *in* URBan environments trough assessment (TUNESinURB)

Enhancing ecoSysteM sERvices mApping for poLicy and Decision mAKing (ESMERALDA)

### Collaborators:

Miglena Zhiyanski – FRI- BAS

Biliyana Borisova – Sofia University

Mariyana Nikolova – NIGGG-BAS

Boian Kulov – NIGGG-BAS

Rositsa Yaneva NIGGG-BAS



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## ESP National Networks in SEE

### Key issues for collaboration

- Exchange of knowledge, experience good practices
- Organization of common events i.e. regional conference
- Preparation of common projects, cross border projects
- .....



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## ESP National Networks in SEE

### Main challenges

- to identify and incorporate research communities
- to create a platform for knowledge exchange
- to promote the ES concept in education
- to engage non-academic stakeholders
- to find funding
- ....



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## ESP National Networks in SEE

### Development of the network(s)

- to create a platform for knowledge exchange
- cross-border cooperation
- to create regional network ESP-SEE
- .....



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## Other networks

**MAES working group** – Joachim Maes

**ILTER** – Maria Nijnik, Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva



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## Discussion

**Collaboration between the networks**

**Platform for knowledge exchange**

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