

sDiv Workshop Summary

"A restoration synthesis"

Focal areas of discussion + main results/conclusions + open questions

The workshop focused on two main issues, fixing some small issues with the database, and framing the first set of publications we expect from the whole project.

During the first day, we spent most of the time fixing bugs in the database. By the end of the day, basically all known bugs were fixed, although new ones came afterward that were then fixed.

The second day was mostly devoted to precisely frame the most relevant publications. We came up with six potential manuscripts, with leaders, main co-authors, and timelines:

1. Estimating the restoration debt of ecosystems. Leader: David Moreno Mateos. Co-authors: Peter Jones, Edward Barbier, Holly Jones, Jose Maria Rey Benayas, and external participants, James Aronson, and Kingsley Dixon. Timeline: whole ms by the meeting in November in Annapolis.
2. The effect of restoration actions. Leader: Holly Jones. Participants: Peter Jones. Timeline: Submitted by September.
3. Feedbacks between biodiversity and ecosystem

functions during ecosystem recovery.

Leaders: Daniel Montoya and David Moreno Mateos. Co-authors: Jose Maria Rey Benayas. Timeline: first results by November meeting.

4. Recovery of tropical forests. Leader: Paula Meli. Co-authors: Karen Holl. Timeline: First results to be discussed in Annapolis.
5. Recovery of eutrophicated aquatic ecosystems. Leader: Michelle McCracking. Co-authors: David Moreno Mateos. Timeline: First results to be discussed in Annapolis.
6. Compendium of lessons learned/bullet points for practitioners. Timeline: Start in Annapolis.

The final list of co-authors for each publication is open to further collaborations. All authors signed the authorship agreement posted at the SESYNC collaboration website.

Which outputs were discussed and which steps were undertaken

For each manuscript, we identified the data-base needs and potential analysis to respond to the questions. Each participant was assigned a task for those manuscripts for which s/he showed interest. We also discussed funding options to support our just graduated participant, Paula Meli, to hire her and focus on the tropical forest manuscript. It seems that IUCN is willing to pay for her salary during 6 months to finish this

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study. For the manuscript 1, the whole statistical analysis was discussed between David and Peter, and agreed the structure of the manuscript.

We did a preliminary analysis to understand the real data availability for the different questions that are to be answered. We found that data is irregularly distributed, some moderators and response variables accumulate most of the data, and we will not be able to respond precisely to all questions. For example, about 80% of the response variables belong to measures of abundance.

Balance between work on outputs, general brainstorming/ information exchange and participants presentations in %

Work on outputs 55%

Brainstorming 40%

Presentations 5%

Inspiration for own work and/or further cooperation

The study is focused on patterns and hardly any mechanistic explanation can be obtained. To explain some of the patterns found, experimental and field work is required. These patterns are helping some researchers to frame correctly some proposals for experimental and field work that could explain why recovery is slow in some cases and fast in others, and what can be done to increase the success of ecosystem restoration.

There is a potential of collaboration with other of the

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services team which is also doing a meta-analysis more oriented of the effects of disturbance on biodiversity and service provision.

General working atmosphere and feedback on sDiv support

The working environment was fantastic and allowed high optimization of the time spend at sDiv. The goals planned in our pre-meeting agenda were all met, and participants know what they had to do for the next meeting in November. We came up with realistic timelines.

All this was possible thanks to the EXCELLENT support we got from all sDiv members and the fantastic facilities sDiv has. The only issue that can be raised is that the in-office catering was a bit deficient and did not attend for participants special dietary needs.

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