

## Summary of Chris Klok

### Aggregating biodiversity indicators for policy purposes: sense or nonsense?

Most important message: there is a large need on biodiversity indicators for monitoring changes in ecosystems, detecting efficiency of protection processes, and recognizing if tendencies are on the way of reaching certain targets (in the present example the 2010 target on biodiversity loss). They also have to serve for better understanding of ecological changes by politicians, decision makers and the wider publicity. Aggregating indicators aim demonstrating phenomena at a more complex level.

1. We are at the brink of biodiversity crisis: extinctions, biodiversity loss, degradating ecosystems mean less ecosystem services (in quality and quantity).
2. The Drivers Pressures State Impact Response (DPSIR) approach is a tool for making narratives, for analyses. Problems are: hard to separate the different stages, systems are non-linear, and important to define specific spatial / temporal scales.
3. How to mitigate biodiversity loss: policy process („policy circle” descript, define the process). Speciflicated target: significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at all levels till 2010.
4. The 2010 target requires indicators for monitoring the status and trends in biodiversity. They have to include key properties, have to be meaningful, measurable, scientifically and broad accepted, and flexible. Aggregation is necessary due to assess the status or changes of not only one species, but at least a group of species or a community.
5. There are 5 selected indicators for monitoring the realization of the 2010 target. Three of them for assessing the status of biodiversity (Natural Capital Index, Red List Index and Species Trend Index), one for estimating pressure on biodiversity (Critical Load Exceedance) and one the functionality and integrity of ecosystems (Connectivity Index).
6. Discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of the diverse indices in the data availability, spatial and temporal resolution, sensitivity for changes etc. point of view.
7. Discussion about the policy relevance, usage, usefulness, scientific quality and acceptance of the various indices by interviews with policy makers.

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