

Metropolitan Hotel, Sofia, October 1-3, 2013

**Object: Meeting Minutes WG1**

Chairman: Ülo Niinemets (chair) and Roeland Samson (vice-chair)

Vice-chairman: Carlo Calfapietra

Minutes taken by Marco Moretti and assisted by Roeland Samson

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**Specific aims of WG1**

- 1) Qualitative and quantitative data on the **environmental ecosystem services** (envESS), such as *climate change mitigation, water control, phytoremediation, energy saving, microclimatic improvement*, provided by UF and GI will be collated.
- 2) Defining the threats represented by climate change on UF on the provision of envESS.

**Activities of WG1 in Sofia**

- We discussed and tuned the objectives and outcomes proposed in Milano
- We worked in small groups on the different envESS and reported first thoughts
- We agreed on how to proceed and scheduled next steps

**Reorientation of the objectives and outcomes of WG1**

Regarding the first aim of WG1 (see above) we agreed to redefine the original main goal of collecting quantitative data on 11 envESS defined in Milano and concentrate our activities on two parallel objectives:

- a) Writing an **opinion paper** (literature work, state-of-the-art, gap analysis, formulation of advices) on *the envESS provided by GI and UF in urban environment and scenarios related to climate changes*.
- b) **Redefining the data collection sheet for each envESS** trying to optimizing and simplifying the list for a realistic and pragmatic data collection.

## **Objective a - Opinion paper**

We agreed that:

- We aim to publish the opinion paper in a high ranked ISI scientific-oriented journal.
- The paper will provide a position / review on the following key issues:
  - Indicators of each envES
  - The role of the structure and management of GI and the city on each envES
  - Species dependency and relationship with each envES
  - The role of models on the determination of each envES
  - The role of society and geography on each envES
  - Climate change impacts on each envES
- The paper will conclude by discussing the following points (first attempt):
  - Priority envESS and UF character will depend on local situation,
  - Need for species selector
  - Complicated story because interaction of social
  - Economic and environmental impacts
  - Need for data collection

The above formulated key issues to be discussed in the paper are based by the following main questions/remarks put forward by the WG1 members during the meeting:

- Which trees can grow where? (ecological/bioclimate info, plant functional types)
- What are the best ESS indicators (indicators of healthy forests)?
- Which species, functional type, traits best provide ESS, now and in the future?
- ESS report for policy makers, urban planners, broad public
- Combination of ESS with other services (eg social)
- Effect of urban design (eg light) on ESS
- GI design in relation to ESS

## **Objective b - Redefining the data collection sheet for each envESS**

The original 11 envESS have been pooled in 5 main groups of services:

1. **Air** (CO<sub>2</sub>, air quality, pollen, noise) – Leader: Roeland Samson
2. **Biodiversity** (all taxonomic groups) – Leader: Marco Moretti
3. **Delivery of goods** (food, wood, bioenergy, litter) – Leader: Vladimir Stojanovski
4. **Climate** – Leader: Elena Paoletti
5. **Protection** (food, building, noise) – Leader: [\*]  
[\*] *we decided to allocate this last ES to the other services above, ie flood -> water; building -> air quality and climate; noise -> air*

**We further agreed to the open question:**

- How to store the data?

- In simple excel table stored in the website of the COST that will be accessible to the COST member
- It is important to create a system able to keep track of the change history (new input and corrections) and guarantees quality control, source of the data (eg literature, data from the city council), and paternity of the changes.
- Who can we use the data/how to make it available?
  - In principle the data can be used by all COST members based on a deontology rules that need to be defined and approved. It is not yet clear in which form and time this will be available.
- Organization of the valorisation (papers, gap definition, projects, management advice,...)?
  - We decided to concentrate in this phase on the opinion paper, and the data collection as described above. Therefore, we decided not yet to develop any further valorisation plans, but to wait for the experience with the efficiency and practicality of the data collection. Further valorisation, e.g. like potential (review) papers on the defined groups of envESS, will be discussed in the next meeting in Lausanne.

### Missing data

In Milano we decided that we also need to make an inventory of:

- models to estimate envESS
  - These data will be collected in the new data collection sheet (see objective b)
- environmental observatories
  - No special effort will be put in this data collection as such kind of data can be found through e.g. the website of the EEA
- ~~○ Inventory of management practices/diseases~~
  - As the collection of these data is very time consuming and mainly out of scope for our objectives we decided not to put effort in the collection of these data
- Inventory of climate change impacts
  - These data will be collected in the new data collection sheet (see objective b)

Who will represent WG1 in WG4?

- Marco Moretti agreed to send a short report of WG1 to WG4 (Giovanni Senesi) every three months.
- The next deadlines until Dec 2014 are: 27 Dec 2013, 28 Mar, 27 Jun, 26 Sep, and 29 Dec 2014.
- Marco will ask short state of the work to the envESS leaders 2 weeks before each deadline.

On the website: report of the WGs and FP1204-publications

The reports of our WG1 meetings will be published on the website of our COST-action ([http://www.cost.eu/domains\\_actions/fps/Actions/FP1204](http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/fps/Actions/FP1204)), together with all FP1204 linked publications. Please send your FP1204 publications (journal paper, reports, posters, proceedings,...) to Lucia Cherubini (owner-fp1204.wgall-ibaf@ibaf.cnr.it). COST will mainly

focus on joint papers. Carlo Calfapietra will foresee a template so that all bibliographical information can be added in a uniformised way.

## Schedules and next steps

**Table** - Schedule for two objectives of WG1: a) Opinion paper; b) Data sheet of the different envESS.

Tasks for the two objectives of WG1	Who	Deadline
<b>a) Opinion paper</b>		
Roeland ask to all who want to contribute on a given envESS	Roeland to All	In few days
Each participant declares its interest for a specific envESS	All to Roeland	30 Oct
Interested participants are asked to contribute	All to ESS-leaders	15 Nov
Potential coauthors are selected and asked to contribute	ESS-leaders to Coauthors	31 Jan
Potential coauthors send one page contribution to ESS-leaders	Coauthors to ESS-leaders	15 Feb
ESS-leaders prepare a draft and send to the ESS-coauthors	ESS-leaders to Coauthors	15 Mar
ESS-coauthors review to draft and send it back to ESS-leaders	Coauthors to ESS-leaders	31 Mar
ESS-leaders sent ms for their specific envESS to Roeland	ESS-leaders to Roeland	15 Apr
Possible writing workshop with all ESS-leaders to be organized	ESS-leaders + Roeland	?
First draft of the paper is sent around and discussed in Lausanne	Roeland to All	2 Jun
Final version of the paper is ready and discussed in Israel	Roeland to All	28 Oct
<b>b) Data sheet of the different envESS</b>		
The data sheet of each envESS is optimized	ESS-leaders to Roeland	30 Oct
The data sheet is harmonized by Roeland	Roeland to ESS-leaders	15. Nov
ES-leaders sent feedback on the final list to Roeland	ESS-leaders to Roeland	30 Nov
The overall data collection sheet is operational	Roeland to All	31 Dec
Data collection can be started	All	1 <sup>st</sup> . Jan

**List of names and contacts for WG1 on Environmental services of GI and UF implications of climatic change (Mi= Milano; So= Sofia) – A complete list with affiliation is in the excel table of the Data Collecting Sheets.**

<b>Participants WG1</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>SubWG</b>	<b>Mi</b>	<b>So</b>	<b>Contact</b>
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Butorac Lukrecija	Croatia			x	lukrecija.butorac@krs.hr
Carinanos Gonzalez Paloma	Spain	Air		x	palomacg@ugr.es
<b>Carlo Calfapietra</b>	Italy	Water	x	x	carlo.calfapietra@ibaf.cnr.it
Cristina Branquinho	Portugal	Biodiversity		x	cmbranquinho@fc.ul.pt
Elena Paoletti (Leader subWG)	Italy	Climate		x	e.paoletti@ipp.cnr.it
Evangelos Tasoulas			x		tasoulasv@hol.gr
Gregorio Sgrigna	Italy	Air	x	x	gregorio.sgrigna@ibaf.cnr.it
Henrik Sjöman			x		henrik.sjoman@slu.se
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Lilit Sahakyan			x		svlilit@yahoo.com
Lina Straigyte	Lithuania	Goods	x		lina.straigyte@asu.lt
Lotte Fjendbo Møller			x		lfm@life.ku.dk
Marco Moretti (coleader subWG)	Switzerland	Biodiversity	x	x	marco.moretti@wsl.ch
Marie-Reine Fleisch	France	Biodiversity	x	x	marie-reine.fleisch@agroparistech.fr
Maria Ignatieva (Leader subWG)	Sweden	Biodiversity	x		maria.ignatieva@slu.se
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Masa Zorana Ostrogovic			x		masao@sumins.hr
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Oded Potchter	Israel	Climate		x	potchter@post.tau.ac.il
Otmar Urban	Czech Rep.	Climate/ Water/ Air		x	urban.o@czechglobe.cz
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<b>Ülo Niinemets (chair)</b>	Estonia	Biodiversity/ Air	x	x	Ylo.Niinemets@emu.ee
Urša Vilhar	Slovenia	Water	x		ursa.vilhar@gozdis.si
Vania Doichinova	Bulgaria	Climate		x	v_doichinova@abv.bg
Vladimir Stojanovski (Leader subWG)	Macedonia	Goods	x	x	vlatko_5@hotmail.com
Zsolt Keseru	Hungary	Biodiversity		x	keseruzs@erti.hu

**Object: Meeting Minutes WG2**

Chairman: Arne Arnberger and Marcel Hunziker

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**General comments**

The meeting was chaired by Arne Arnberger and Marcel Hunziker who took over following the resignation of Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch as WG 2 leader; the vice-chair of WG2 was unable to attend.

**WG 2 Plenary Meetings**

The interims chair and co-chair welcomed the WG. The whole WG introduced themselves via a tour de table as there were a considerable number of new attendees and people from the first meeting absent. The chair and co-chair went over the main aims of the WG and how the work had been organized in the first meeting, with four topic groups. Later the meeting split into the topic groups which were well represented and had separate meetings, the minutes of which are noted below.

WG 2 tasks for this meeting were:

- Getting to know each other because of many new members
- Identification/verification of status of work per topic group
- Continuation of work in topic groups
- Preparation of home work
- Exchange between topic groups (and WGs)
- Work plan for 2013/2014, tasks and responsibilities

The Wednesday was dedicated to topic group work; on Thursday, work of topic groups was continued and presentations of the topic groups (status, tasks for this meeting, next steps; need for exchange with other WGs) within the WG2 plenary were held and discussed.

## Status of WG2 Topic groups

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Topic Groups	Status of work
TG1: Linking GI characteristics with perceptions & socio-cultural ESS	Database: secondary data of empirical (“grey”) studies; template tested (23 entries) & refined; Categorisation of studies into 3 categories
TG2: Listing available surveys and assessments on socio-cultural ESS	Secondary data of (empirical) (“grey”) studies; database draft ready and tested (32 entries); database revised
TG3: Learning from things that went wrong	Primary data: EFUF/GreenInUrbs members questionnaire discussed and ready; workplan ready
TG4: Role of GI in tourism	Primary data: urban tourist questionnaire discussed/workplan

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## Minutes of the Topic groups

### **WG2 TOPIC GROUP 1** (Linking physical characteristics of GI and UF and social-cultural ESSs)

The topic group started with a short presentation of the status of work (activities, deliverables, time schedule) and the first draft of the template table for collecting relevant studies. Discussion focussed on study types categories and suitability of developed criteria (column tables).

Schedule till Sofia:

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Period/ Deadline</b>	<b>Person(s) in charge</b>	<b>Status</b>
Defining the work to be done	workplan	31.5.13	Marcel	ok
Defining evaluation criteria	template-table for the evaluation of the literature	30.6.13	Arne	ok
Testing the criteria by filling in the template for the members' countries	evaluation of the literature of the members' countries	15.9.13	all TG1	ok
Compiling the inputs	completed table of evaluations from the members' countries	30.9.13	Arne/Marcel	ok
Discuss, revise results, present to WG2, define regional responsibilities	final evaluation criteria and template to be used by whole WG2	Sofia meeting	all TG1	

There were discussions over what categories of studies, data and models which we might collect for comparison and gap analysis. Discussion emerged about what kind of cultural ecosystem services such as aesthetic, restoration, recreation etc. we want to include.

There are so far 3-4 categories of studies

Type A: Forest inventory including social data (from surveys or other sources)

Type B: Population survey including links to (perceived) physical (forest) data

Type C: Studies, inventories, surveys or combinations of it **explicitly** focussing on the link between physical and social data

Type D: Discussion on that new type. This type should be preference studies which are clearly linked to spatially explicit physical data of specific places.

Several examples from Austria, Switzerland and UK illustrated the types. Discussion emerged around the questions: Do we try to fit the studies or data into pre-formed categories or do we do this afterwards? Is the focus going to be predictive models which help us to understand what kinds of GI produce which CES? The key is to look for links between the physical characteristics and the social benefits. We prefer to cast the net widely within broad categories and then classify them according to a number of criteria such as GI type, scale, degree of relationship to spatial or physical or social aspects, with the aim being to focus on those which have some predictive power. It is also important to find the studies or surveys which have utility at different scales – right down to the practical management scale for eg a park manager in a particular city.

Since other people have to fill this in matrix it needs to be as clear and simple as possible. The Type D was later abandoned as being difficult to segregate from the other types and integrated in C.

If we collect too many papers of studies which are general about preferences then we have a problem but we should be trying to focus on the links between GI and CES. Therefore, an exchange with TG2 was discussed because of the potential overlap with Type B studies. It was decided to develop a common procedure.

Questions over what to include in terms of the green infrastructure types – just urban forest or all green areas? The definition of GI and the urban forest we are using is the one which treats all trees, from street trees to continuous forests within the urban envelope.

Next steps: revised schedule, based on the original one of TG1 just for information. However it is **no longer valid**, due to the decision of merging TG 1 & 2 (see below). Actual work program to be discussed before Lausanne meeting or at the meeting at the latest.

Activities	Deliverables	Period/Deadline	Person(s) in charge
Discuss, revise results, present to WG2, define regional responsibilities	final evaluation criteria and template to be used by whole WG2	Sofia meeting	all TG1
Entries again from TG1 and comments,		30.11.13	all TG1
Compiling, Revision.		31.12.13	A, M
Evaluating the literature of each country	Country reports regarding the questions of TG1	31.3.14	all WG2
Compiling			A, M
Discuss, revise, distributing work		Lausanne 14	all TG1
Analyse evaluations, including international literature, formulate research agenda	Final report	31.12.15	all TG1
Preparing a scientific article	submitted manuscript	31.12.15	A, M, C, all

## WG2 TOPIC GROUP 2 (Listing available surveys and assessments on socio-cultural ESS)

Tasks Sofia meeting:

- Further population of spreadsheet – is there more that we have not captured from our own countries – can we gather more? Extend to other countries represented in COST Action?
- Clarification of data on spreadsheet –need agreement on what we mean by forest characteristics and some of the other column headings
- What do we know about the social distribution of social/cultural benefits identified so far?
- Have we got the categories right – is there anything else we should cover in our spreadsheet?
- What about overlap with Topic Group 1

## Status of data collection

- Developed criteria for data gathering such as Project name, Status of research – complete or on-going, Objectives, Methods, Benefits of UF/GI identified ....
- Data examples collated so far on spreadsheet: so far, in total = 32 studies; international studies 4, Regional studies 3, Local studies 14 and National studies 11
- Focus of studies: Well-being e.g. use and enjoyment of GI/UF; Ecosystem services e.g. benefits of GI/UF; Health e.g. linking GI/UF to perceptions of health; Economic e.g. house prices, non-market valuation of ES; Climate e.g. benefits of UF in periods of heat stress; Planning e.g. GI planning in North East England and Catalonia
- Diverse methods used, mainly questionnaires
- Mainly urban forests as study sites
- GI / UF benefits identified
- Observations about studies

TP1 and TP 2 decided to merge. Thus the following workplan for TG 1&2 is ***the valid one***:

Task	Deadline	Responsible person
New columns and headings of TG1, with descriptions to Maren, Sjerp, Mercedes Sanchez (mersan@unavarra.es), Liz	end of October	Marcel Hunziker & Arne Arnberger
Merging of the spreadsheets sent to Marcel, Arne, Mercedes, Maren, Liz	21. November	Sjerp de Vries
Feedback to Sjerp	30. November	TP 1 & 2
Send to TG1&2, Examples as a test	by 15. December	Sjerp de Vries
Send out to WG2 and MC-members with guidelines and typical and critical examples of entries	15. January	Maren Kern Mercedes Sanchez
Filling by all	15. March, reminder 31. March	WG2 and MC-members
Send to Liz to compile	30. April	all
Skype about Lausanne Agenda	15. May	?

### **WG2 TOPIC GROUP 3** (Learning from things that went wrong)

This group developed further a questionnaire during the meeting, and presented it towards the WG2. The activities focus mainly on "evidence on how best to design and maintain urban forests and Green Infrastructure for the maximization of social benefits". This questionnaire will collect information on mistakes, work experiences that go wrong or not according to plan to learn from such experiences. Discussions on the way of distributing the questionnaire and the degree of anonymity arose. This questionnaire will be sent to EFUF/ Greeninurbs members by the end of October 2013

### **WG2 TOPIC GROUP 4** (The role of GI in tourism (led this time by Aikaterini Gkoltsiou))

#### Members of WG2.4. Tourism Group

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#### **Aim of Work**

In the context of our effort to understand and assess the ways that tourists relate to urban GI (and urban forests) in the cities they visit, we propose a study of tourists' perceptions of GIs in various European cities.

More specifically, we propose the undertaking of comparative on-site survey research, with the use of social scientific methodologies, including interview questionnaires, in order to record, assess and interpret tourists' perceptions, attachments/ preferences, practices/ behaviors vis-à-vis

urban GI, as well as their expectations from experts, in these respects. Key variables of the study and proposed (but not exhaustive) research questions:

How do we conceptualize landscape/ greenspace?

How do tourists understand GI? What do these spaces mean to them, for example in their choice to visit cities and during? How do tourists use these spaces? How do they like/ prefer them to be and how do they like/ prefer to use them?

We propose a cross-cultural/ country analysis, among at least two groups of countries: a) South, b) Central and c) North European (or a combination thereof) countries.

### **02-03 October 2013. Proceedings from WG 2.4. meeting in Sofia**

- We have discussed and ameliorated the draft questionnaire, prepared by Associate Prof. Theano S. Terkenli.
- We discussed to give priority to tourists and then to stakeholders. However, any decision about stakeholders interviews, was not taken.
- We proposed to have two groups of tourists (domestic, international) from south, central and north Europe. Then we are going to select 3 countries per geographical area and one big city or capital per country. We ended with nine (9) case studies. We recommended at least 450 questionnaires (50/case study).
- From Central Europe, we proposed 3-4 countries: U.K., Germany, Switzerland, Hungary.
- From North Europe, we proposed 3-4 countries: Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland.
- From South Europe: Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Italy.

The Questionnaire (with close ended questions) will be only for tourists

### **Feedback from the all members of WG2, during our presentation**

- We have to decide the time of research (probably in winter, before the master thesis start).
- The research should be done only by master students and the STMs researchers might help.
- A lot of people were volunteering to give the questionnaire to their master students: e.g. Simon Bell (Estonia, Univ. of Tartu), Researcher from Ireland (I do not know his name), Liisa Tyrvaiven (Prof. Finland). Therefore, we have decided to send the final version of questionnaire to all the members for comments and then to ask for their assistance in our research with the questionnaires.
- The cities to be the same for all WGs of Cost Action (Proposal from the MCs).
- We have also to think the holiday period. E.g. for Estonia and Ireland is beginning of the year.
- Till June, we can complete a pilot study, in order to ameliorate the questionnaire.

- We have to think how many people will be involved in this research and how we are going to mention them in the paper (outcome of this research).
- We need to think the term of GI that we are going to use in the questionnaires (urban forests? Parks? e.t.c.). In every language the term is different.
- The questionnaire should also be sent to the person who is in charge for WG4 . He also offered to help us, but he needs the final version of the questionnaire as soon as possible.

### **Proposed timetable**

1. 10-2013 till 01-2014: Develop the questionnaire and identify the universities which are going to get involve.
2. 01-2014 till 03-2014: Test the questionnaire in a pilot area (case study and improve it.
3. 03-2014 till 06-2014: Spread the questionnaire to universities that will use their local master students.

### **WG 2: Next Tasks – Outlook for the Lausanne Meeting**

<b>Topic Groups</b>	<b>Aims till Lausanne</b>
TG1: Linking GI characteristics with perceptions & socio-cultural ESS	Database ready, manual; feedback from TGs 1&2 and data collection together with TG2, filled by WG2
TG2: Listing available surveys and assessments on socio-cultural ESS	Database ready, manual; feedback from TGs 1&2 and data collection together with TG1; filled by WG2; distributed to all Cost members
TG3: Learning from things that went wrong	Questionnaire sent to EFUF/ Greeninurbs members by the end of October 2013
TG4: Role of GI in tourism	Questionnaire ready, WG2 feedback, – pilot test in one or more cities – inclusion of student theses/STSM?

Object: **Meeting Minutes WG3**

Chairman: Silvija Krajter

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**SUBGROUP ON PHYSICAL RESOURCES**

- Worked on developing survey for data collection about amount of urban forests in participating countries
- It was agreed that survey will be activated in collaboration with COST FP1001 (National Forest Inventories-NFI)

Work plan:

**December 2013**

- Agreement between FFP1204 and FP1001 on collaboration
- Draft survey is developed and submitted to selected FP1001 members (i.e. Italy, Slovenia, Sweden and Denmark) for review and commenting

**January 2014**

- Survey layout and content complete
- Survey distributed to NFI units in all 34 participating countries

**Lausanne meeting (June 2014)**

- Are the data collected, analysed and used on a regular and nationwide basis?
- Are the data analysed or just collected, but not used?
- How the data are published- Type of publication (Scientific, Official reports, Yearbook of Statistics, etc.), Language, Frequency of publication)

**Output**

- Output – joint paper(s) between FP1204 and FP1001
- Urban forest resources in Europe – an overview from NFI surveys
- Extending NFI to urban forest – suggestion of a standard for data collection
- Joint submission of a proposal for Horizon 2020 between members of FP1204 and FP1001

**SUBGROUP ON COLLABORATIVE PROCESSES**



- Group members worked on collected case studies about collaborative processes (9 case studies from 5 countries)
- Criteria for selection of useful case studies was established- case studies should focus on UF in the context of GI
- Previously developed template for collecting information about case studies was improved
- Started with outlining the paper on collaborative processes related to UF in the context of GI
- Discussed other target audiences beside scientific community

Work plan:

**By Lausanne meeting (June 2014)**

- Distribution of the improved template
- Adapting collected case studies according to improved template
- Adding new case studies (e.g. Denmark, Iceland, England) through inviting other participating COST countries to contribute, our own networks and secondary sources of information- by December 2013
- Agreement on the outline of the paper and persons responsible for drafting the paper

**Output in the year 2014**

- Draft paper based on collected case studies on collaborative processes

**SUBGROUP ON POLICY PROCESSES**

- Decided to focus on case studies only from countries participating in this subgroup (BIH, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Slovenia, Switzerland and UK)
- Group worked on improving the current template for collecting information about policies and governance related to UF in the context of GI

Work plan:

**By Lausanne meeting (June 2014)**

- Distribution of improved template to group members
- Continuation of data collection according to the template
- Case studies collected (800-1000 words)

**By the second meeting (October 2014)**

- Writing group defined
- Draft paper based on collected case studies

