

Selecting requests (first CfR call, 2016)

1) Pre-screening criteria

The requests should comply with the following criteria, as set out in the call text:

Criteria A: Eligibility criteria for requesters:

- Requesters cannot be members of the EKLIPSE consortium, the Knowledge Coordination Body, or Strategic Advisory Board.
- Requesters cannot be single individuals
- Requesters should be able to represent the 'community' view of their policy or societal group e.g. an administration, international business group, NGO, local community group etc.

Criteria B: Selection criteria for requests

- Relevance to the European scale
- Relevance to ongoing or future policy processes
- Relevance to biodiversity and ecosystem services (if possible European EUNIS habitat type to be specified)
- Relevance to society
- Not requiring new knowledge, but based on the synthesis of existing knowledge
- A principle of EKLIPSE is to avoid duplication of existing mechanisms; it will therefore not accept requests that could for example be done by consultancy contracts.

2) Pre-screening committee

Project members who pre-screened received requests:

- Eszter Kelemen (ESSRG), Estelle Balian (RBINS), Carsten Neßhöver (UFZ), Allan Watt (CEH).

3) Timelines

Extension of request submission until Sept 30th 2016:

- Selection skype meeting – Wednesday 12th October 2016

- Ensuring that any communication with the Secretariat is recorded and addressed efficiently.

4) Further process: SAB advice and KCB decision

The SAB discusses the eligible requests from a strategic point of view regarding policy relevance (and potential dangers), diversity of communities, knowledge involved, topics addressed and potential for supporting the establishment of EKLIPSE as a valuable mechanism in general. Recommendations from the SAB will be handed over to the KCB for final decision.

The KCB reviews the eligible requests again, taking into account the recommendations of the SAB, but pays specific attention to the issue of knowledge and methodological diversity, costs and resource needs, timing etc. to allow EKLIPSE to properly address the requests based on the ethical framework of EKLIPSE.

5) Criteria to be considered by the SAB and KCB

The criteria for taking decisions on which requests to consider are based on these in the pre-screening, but also need to consider strategic dimensions in terms of policy relevance and the suitability for the EKLIPSE mechanism at an early stage in its establishment. For example, if several requests are selected, they should address different topics and also different knowledge holder communities in order to broaden the EKLIPSE network. The following criteria should be taken into account:

General criteria:

- 1) Scale: Which scale is addressed (should be European or at least for a wider region)?
- 2) Cross-sectoral topic: Will the request go beyond the core biodiversity and ecosystem services policies (e.g., by addressing health, agriculture, or other issues and according knowledge)?
- 3) Duplication: Is there known work already done on the topic so that EKLIPSE should not take it?

SAB criteria (strategic aspect regarding relevance of topic and recognition for EKLIPSE):

- 1) What is the policy-relevance of the request (on EU level and other relevant level)?
- 2) What is the potential relevance of the topic to gain recognition for the EKLIPSE mechanism?
- 3) Is a topic a (highly) contested one with lots of activities ongoing that may risk the credibility of the EKLIPSE mechanism?

KCB and secretariat criteria (with view on feasibility of request in the EKLIPSE context):

- 1) Methods: Which synthesis methods are likely to be used? Does it contribute to the variety of methods across topics?
- 2) Relevance for community building: Does the request allow learning for the overall EKLIPSE process and does it help to build the Network of Knowledge community?

- 3) Finances and timeline: do the potential requests match the general financial means and timelines foreseen in EKLIPSE?
- 4) Relevance for other EKLIPSE WPs: Could the topic be addressed in activities of other WPs (especially WP4- research needs, horizon scanning; WP6: societal engagement)?