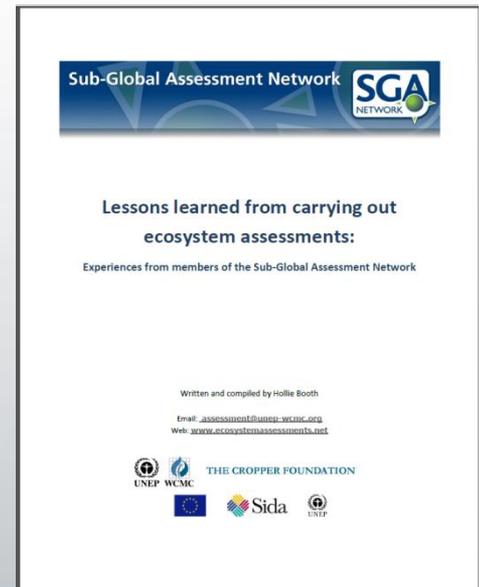


## Lessons learned from carrying out ecosystem assessments

*5<sup>th</sup> SGA Network Meeting, Dubai*

# The original exercise

- At the 3<sup>rd</sup> SGA Network meeting in Bilbao (2011)
- Groups identify their key lessons learned
- Individuals then voted on their top lessons learned
- Lessons learned report developed and disseminated



# Lessons

## Getting started

### Challenge:

Assessments are complex, cover a variety of topics, scales, approaches, and knowledge systems and perspectives

**Lesson 1** Define clear, policy relevant questions

**Lesson 2** Carefully plan and set clear boundaries of scope and scale

# Maintaining a balance between all components

## Challenge:

Ecosystem approach is multi-layered and complex: coordination and integration of all components, with well-balanced inputs and resource allocation is critical

**Lesson 3** Be inclusive

**Lesson 4** Apply a clear governance structure

# Securing buy-in

## Challenge:

Securing buy-in from stakeholders is difficult to get and difficult to maintain

**Lesson 5** Promote the assessment concept

**Lesson 6** Understand the decision-making context

# Broadening the technical basis

## Challenge

Assessments are complex and multi-disciplinary and require scientific expertise across numerous line of research

**Lesson 7** Exchange with experts

**Lesson 8** Appreciate the need to understand, use and present different types of information

# Today's exercise

1. In your groups identify the challenge, key lesson learned and practical tip for overcoming this challenge. Note any case study
2. Report back to plenary
3. Vote on the top key lessons for you
4. Indicate if the lessons from 2011 still hold true