June 29, 2022

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – The University of Maryland’s (UMD’s) National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) is pleased to announce the launch of its new website at www.sesync.org, featuring a collection of free, open-access resources.

Capturing 10+ years of SESYNC’s experience, history, and knowledge, this new website aims to serve an ever-growing community of socio-environmental and interdisciplinary researchers, teachers—and beyond.

The new site comes as SESYNC, funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation to UMD, moves into the next phase of its life. It also follows the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which a shift towards virtual collaborations, courses, and research projects made SESYNC recognize the growing need for open-access, online resources for investigators, instructors, self-leaners, and more.

As a result, SESYNC is moving its focus from providing in-person training and research opportunities to offering an expanding collection of virtual resources—designed to help those at all career stages and experience levels engage in socio-environmental and interdisciplinary research. This resource collection serves as the core feature of SESYNC’s new website.
“I'm really excited about this phase of SESYNC and have been enjoying working with many to build new and innovative resources. The advanced features of the website allow for customized searches that enable users to discover content that will encourage new ways of thinking about and exploring socio-environmental systems,” says Director Margaret Palmer.

These freely available resources include lessons and learning materials for the classroom, videos, case studies, data lessons and guides, explainer articles, and more. The materials cover a range of topics related to interdisciplinary collaborations, synthesis research, and socio-environmental systems. Examples include a guide on facilitating meetings, tutorials on socio-environmental modeling, and introductions to the core theories of political ecology, environmental economics, sociology, and other socio-environmental-related disciplines.

In addition to resources, the site also provides a detailed record of SESYNC’s past supported projects, teams, researchers, events, and programs, as well as their related research products and publications, to inspire and inform the next generation of socio-environmental leaders.

SESYNC will continue to contribute to this collection over the following months and years with new products. For now, we invite you to explore our resource collection at www.sesync.org/resources and hope you'll share it among your networks. We welcome any suggestions or recommendations for future resources at communications@sesync.org.