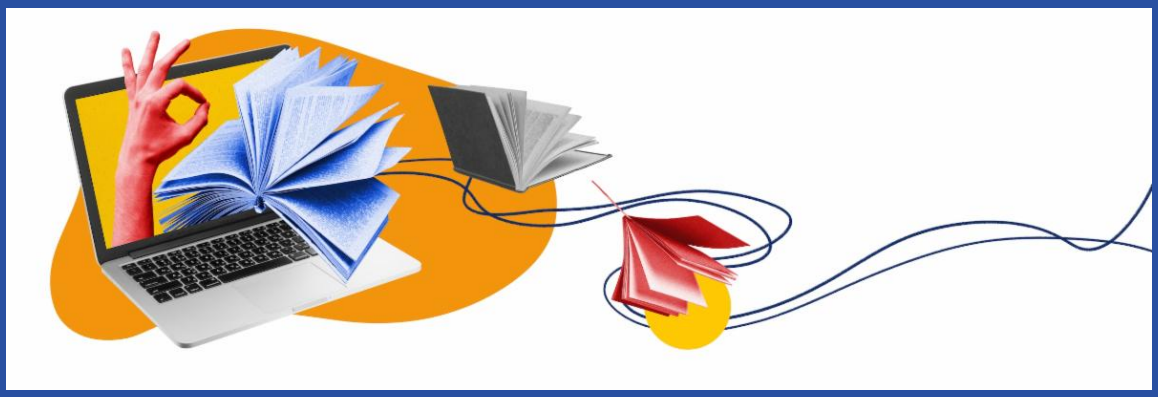
SESYNC Feedbacks

News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center



MULTI-LESSON SERIES | Perfect for Classroom Prep!

Are you looking to fill in some gaps for your lesson planning next semester? Are you wanting to dive deeper into a topic over multiple sessions but aren't sure where to start? SESYNC has the answers!

We offer several **lessons and other learning materials** intended to be used as a set or a series that are designed for classroom instruction over multiple sessions. These lessons are perfectly adaptable for nearly any learning environment and cover a wide array of important socio-environmental topics—including sustainable development, cascading effects, ecosystem services and more. Find some of our most popular topics below.

And don't miss **Our Get To Know Our Resource Types Explainer** to learn how to best use all our resources in the classroom.

Advancing Sustainable Development Goals

Each lesson in this series focuses on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations to broadly address the critical interdependencies between human well-being and environmental health.

These lessons look at topics that are central to meeting these goals, including agrobiodiversity in urban settings; sustainable consumption and production; and gender equality.

Lesson 1: **Urban Agrobiodiversity**

Lesson 2: **Systemic Change to Reduce Consumer Impact**

Lesson 3: **Gender Equality & Environmental Health**

Ecosystem Services

This three-part series of lessons explores ecosystem services—the benefits that nature provides and that people value. The first lesson examines what ecosystem services are (and are not) by looking at the methods used by economists to place value on them.

The second lesson explores how we can connect what scientists typically measure when studying nature to intermediate measures that economists can work with to support environmental decisions.

The third lesson focuses on the concept of nature's intrinsic value and on arguments against traditional economic approaches to valuation.

Lesson 1: **Defining & Valuing Nature**

Lesson 2: **Linking Ecosystems & Their Processes to What People Value and to Human Actions**

Lesson 3: **Intrinsic and Relational Values of Nature**

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Non-Native Species

This two-part lesson explores the widely contested debate over non-native species. It incorporates ***both*** the perspective of ecologists and invasion biologists (who tend to argue against non-native species) and of other scholars (who argue that non-

natives species can have value in the forms of ecosystem restoration and novel ecosystems).

Structured as a formal debate, this lesson has learners separate into two camps—those concerned over the need to control non-native species and those focused more on their value, and will argue their points. A science advisory board will then evaluate the outcome, while seeking some common ground.

Lesson 1: **Debate: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Non-Native Species**

Lesson 2: **Debate: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Non-Native Species**

Cascading Effects in Complex Systems

This series of learning resources introduces learners to the concept of cascading effects—in which changes in one part of a socio-environmental system can ***cascade—****or* cause sequential changes in the system's other parts. The series begins with a brief explainer to introduce the concept at large. This first lesson focuses on ecological systems and how communities of species can experience cascading effects.

The second lesson focuses on social cascades and investigates sectors ripe for them. It has learners develop plans to enable cascades that will lead to positive social changes.

The third lesson focuses on socio-environmental cascades using climate change impacts that cascade socio-economically and ecologically. Learners investigate the types of changes in governance that may better protect built infrastructure, humans, and economic systems.

Explainer: **Introduction to Cascading Effects: Social, Ecological, and Socio-Environmental**

Lesson 1: **Species Interactions**

Lesson 2: **Social Behavior Cascades to Support the Environment**

Lesson 3: **Socio-Environmental Cascades**

Novel Ecosystems & Natural Resource Management

This two-part lesson focuses son the great debate around novel ecosystems. Some argue that rapid changes in land use and a changing climate will make novel ecosystems the norm and that we must embrace the concept. Others argue that accepting novel ecosystems as inevitable phenomena may divert our attention from protecting and restoring nature; some also argue that the science underpinning novel ecosystems is flawed.

In these lessons, participants consider disciplinary and sector perspectives on decision making related to

managing ecosystems that have/will experience dramatic changes due to human activities. In the second lesson,

Lesson 1: **Novel Ecosystems & Natural Resource Management**

Lesson 2: **Novel Ecosystems & Natural Resource Management**

If you're interested in additional SESYNC resources, check out our **Learning & Teaching** page.

CONTACT US | We Want To Hear From You!

Have updates or outcomes tied to your SESYNC research that would make for an interesting research spotlight? Looking for a resource on a topic that we haven't covered yet? Want to share an idea? Contact us at **communications@sesync.org**.

www.sesync.org