

Use of the Self Assessment Tool (SAT) within MERLIN

1. Mentimeter icebreaker
2. SAT in MERLIN - action plan?
3. Results and observations
4. Google SAT questions: participation encouraged!
5. Plenary discussion

Quick mentimeter poll

- Sanja is sharing a [weblink](#), and [code](#) to enter, in the Zoom chat.
- Please cut and paste the link into your browser and then enter the code.
- This will take you to a couple of quick questions and give everyone instant feedback.

The SAT team and using SAT within MERLIN

- MERLIN has adopted the NbS approach, and the SAT is relatively new tool to guide and standardize implementation of NbS, so we are effectively piloting it.
- Hassan, Keith (James Hutton Inst), Sanja (WWF), and Pawel (SGGW)
- Will engage Emmanuelle Cohen Shacham (IUCN) who is on the MERLIN board
- Our role:
 - Report on the application of the SAT (IUCN and academic)
 - Work with Case Studies and develop links across MERLIN activities e.g. Monitoring and Evaluation, WP2.1 (gap-analysis and optimization strategies), WP3 (financing options), to make best use of SATs.
- ***request from Ellis Penning: Please review all SATs for your cluster before the March 29th/30th meeting.***

Case studies' comments following use of the SAT

(from “Overview of CS part 2”)

1. “Supporting tool, to use along the project to re-evaluate impacts. Weak in some categories > improve our performance.”
1. “To what extent do we have to precise? The SAT is useful but it should not be a deliverable in itself - need to keep the balance between time spent on it and time gained from it. It is a supporting tool.”
1. Multiple SATs covering different projects within Case Studies
 - a. “This could both hamper the comparisons with other Case Studies and highlight the special situation with a Case Study.”
1. Alternatively - most evaluated their entire Case Study which some found led to difficulties answering questions focussed on concrete, local measures.
 - a. “Would additional SATs be appropriate for individual activities?”
1. Unclear Criterion descriptions: e.g. how to evaluate 2.1 “NbS considers interactions between economy, society and ecosystems”?
1. One case study noted that the NbS approach is a new concept not yet adopted in the Case Study country so it may take some time to embrace it as a supporting tool.

completed	draft	missing						
	9	10	1		Cluster 1 - peatlands	Cluster 2 - small rivers	Cluster 3 - big rivers	
								avg
1. Societal challenges	0.6	0.7	0.6					<u>0.6</u>
2. Design at scale	0.6	0.6	0.7					<u>0.7</u>
3. Biodiversity net-gain	0.7	0.8	0.8					<u>0.8</u>
4. Economic feasibility	0.4	0.5	0.4					<u>0.4</u>
5. Inclusive governance	0.6	0.7	0.7					<u>0.7</u>
6. Balance trade-offs	0.7	0.6	0.7					<u>0.6</u>
7. Adaptive management	0.5	0.7	0.5					<u>0.6</u>
8. Sustainability and mainstreaming	0.7	0.7	0.7					<u>0.7</u>
Avg	<u>0.59</u>	<u>0.66</u>	<u>0.64</u>					<u>0.6</u>

Case study	Peatlands cluster		1. Societal challenges	2. Design at scale	3. Biodiversity net-gain	4. Economic feasibility	5. Inclusive governance	6. Balance trade-offs	7. Adaptive management	8. Sustainability and mainstreaming	Avg	Resource status complete	MERLIN activities continuing
1a	1	Svoldrup kær	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8	1	1	0.7	1	0.83	No	?
1b	1	Kvorning	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	1	1	0.7	1	0.89	No	?
3	1	Beaver	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.48	Partial	No
5	1	Kampinos	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.74	No	Yes
6	1	BiH peatlands	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	0	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.25	No	Yes
14	1	Oulujoki-lijoki	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.34	Yes	Yes
		Average	0.62	0.65	0.58	0.40	0.62	0.67	0.45	0.70			
		SD	0.27	0.22	0.16	0.29	0.38	0.34	0.25	0.28			

Observations

- BiH peatlands (CS 6): improvement in scores (esp. Economic feasibility and Balance trade-offs) between 2015 Action Plan and 2021 (*yet to include 2021 data here*).
- Economic feasibility (4) and adaptive management (7) often score lower in these initial SATs.

Strong
Adequate
Partial
Insufficient

Case study	Small rivers cluster	1. Societal challenges	2. Design at scale	3. Biodiversity net-gain	4. Economic feasibility	5. Inclusive governance	6. Balance trade-offs	7. Adaptive management	8. Sustainability and mainstreaming	Avg	Resources tab complete	MERLIN activities continuing
2	2 Deba	0.67	0.67	0.92	0.67	0.47	0.44	0.89	0.89	0.70	No	?
11	2 Emscher	0.8	0.6	1	0.7	0.8	0.7	1	1	0.83	No	Yes
12	2 Lima (Peatlands)	0.8	0.6	1	0.7	0.7	0.9	1	1	0.84	No	Yes
13	2 Sorraia	0.7	0.7	1	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.80	No	Yes
15	2 Tzipori	0.2	0	0.4	0	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.21	No	Yes
16	2 Scheldt	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.69	No	Yes
17a	2 Forth FRT	0.90	0.80	1.00	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.93	No	Yes
17b	2 Forth Nscot	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.75	No	Yes
17c	2 Forth IFHN	0.7	0.9	0.6	0	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.41	No	Yes
	avg	0.69	0.63	0.84	0.52	0.66	0.65	0.72	0.77			
	SD	0.19	0.24	0.20	0.30	0.19	0.26	0.33	0.26			

Observations

- Forth – Separate SATs for MERLIN components vs wider projects?
- How do SATs relate to activities subject to MERLIN Monitoring and Evaluation?
- Resources tab: record links to any documentation used in arriving at SAT category scores - may correspond to the *'Means of verification' column*.

Strong
Adequate
Partial
Insufficient

Case study	Large rivers cluster		1. Societal challenges	2. Design at scale	3. Biodiversity net-gain	4. Economic feasibility	5. Inclusive governance	6. Balance trade-offs	7. Adaptive mgmnt	8. Sustainability and mainstream'g	Avg	Resource tab complete	MERLIN activities continuing
4	3	RftRhine Danube HU	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.68	No	Yes
7a	3	AT	0.6	0.7	1	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.70	No	Yes
7b	3	Danube HU	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.76	No	Yes
8	3	Danube RO	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.68	No	Yes
9	3	Tisza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	3	Blue Belt	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.39	Yes	No
		avg	0.62	0.70	0.78	0.42	0.74	0.66	0.52	0.68			
		SD	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.12	0.21	0.19	0.23	0.17			

Observations

- Most CS have MERLIN funded activities starting in 2022 or 2023 in their NbS plans - and most have a mixture of completed, ongoing, and planned (MERLIN) activities.
- For use across MERLIN CS whether funded activities or not.

Strong
Adequate
Partial
Insufficient

5 minutes for
your responses
to Google
questions
followed by
wider discussion

Brief questions to inform future SAT activities

(please see link to Google questionnaire in “chat”. It will remain open for rest for meeting)

1. What did you find useful about the process of completing the SAT?
1. What difficulties did you experience when completing the SAT?
1. What have you learnt about your Case Study through using the SAT that would be useful to the IUCN?
1. **How could MERLIN help Case Studies use the SAT to improve their NbS outcomes?**

Some discussion points

1. SAT throughout MERLIN – who needs to be involved and how?
 - a. CS leads
 - b. Which WP activities (e.g. Monitoring and Evaluation, Financing, Transformation aid)?
 - c. CS boards/stakeholders?
 - d. Nature of IUCN link to be confirmed:
 - i. Case studies to feedback to IUCN
 - ii. MERLIN overview

1. What might a SAT action plan to stimulate transformative action across MERLIN Case Studies look like?

1. How useful are the Case Study clusters? Different tasks will require consideration of other groupings (e.g. longevity of the initiative; types and stage of intervention; numbers of stakeholders).