



São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Scenarios and Modelling on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to Support Human Well-Being

01 to 14 July 2019, São Pedro, Brazil

<https://scenariosbes.wixsite.com/spsas-scenarios>

<http://www.iai.int/sao-paulo-school-scenarios/>

The São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Scenarios and Modelling on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to Support Human Well-Being (SPSAS Scenarios) is sponsored by the São Paulo State Research Foundation (FAPESP), and will be held from 01 to 14 July 2019 at the Hotel Fonte Colina Verde in São Pedro/SP, Brazil. It is organized by the Institute of Biology/State University of Campinas (IB/UNICAMP), the Brazilian Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BPBES) and the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI). Other collaborators are the Center for Environmental Studies and Research (NEPAM/UNICAMP), the Bioscience Institute/ University of São Paulo (IB/USP), the National Institute of Space Research (INPE) and the BIOTA-FAPESP Program

Background

This is the first FAPESP São Paulo School of Advanced Science that addresses the issue of modeling and scenarios in biodiversity and ecosystem services, a theme that has been the focus of major international agencies, and is aligned with other efforts such as the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services/IPBES.

Good quality of life depends directly on ecosystem services, such as pollination associated with food production, provision of water resources associated with water for consumption and for energy production, mitigation of climate change impacts, and provision of fundamental intangible services for the psychological and often spiritual health of human beings.

Scenarios and models are important tools for prospective analysis. They allow the exploration and communication of the results of different narratives ("futures") for social, economic and environmental development. They are indispensable for supporting the formulation and implementation of science-based policies. For example, if Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) for biodiversity go forward on the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework under de CDB, scenarios and modelling will be the basis for defining each country's targets

One of the key benefits of using scenarios and models is to move away from the current reactive mode of decision-making, whereby decision-makers and society respond to the degradation of biodiversity and ecosystem services in an uncoordinated and fragmented way. The goal is to move to a proactive way in which decision makers and society anticipate change and capitalize on opportunities to mitigate negative impacts.

The SPSAS Scenarios will encourage a wider spread use of tools like scenarios and modeling. Increasing the use of these tools may allow us to exercise changes in scale, that will make this an important tool in planning ahead the possible impacts in changes in drivers upon biodiversity, ecosystem services and human wellbeing. It will allow as well an interpolation of biodiversity/ecosystem services/human wellbeing with climate scenarios forecasted by IPCC and other climate centers of expertise.

Objectives

The objective of the SPSAS Scenarios is to provide graduate students with advanced knowledge and practice in the area of scenarios and modeling in biodiversity and ecosystem services, and its relation to human wellbeing, including issues related to public policy. At the same time, it will be a contribution to build professional capacity to use the results of IPBES policy support tools and methodologies for scenario analysis and modeling of biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment.

Program

The School is divided into 4 modules:

- 1. Ecosystem Services and Natures' Contribution to People** where the evolution of the concepts, and the current debate, will be presented and discusses;
- 2. Challenges in the Development of Scenarios and Models** focusing on direct and indirect drivers in biodiversity and ecosystem services, the conceptual bases of scenarios and models. In this module students will develop real world exercises, working in groups to solve challenges posed by world class experts.
- 3. IPBES Assessment on Scenarios and Modeling** where the main authors of this outstanding assessment will present and discuss their findings.
- 4. Scenarios and Modeling – Brazil's case study to achieve Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** in which some of the experts involved in establishing the Brazilian proposal to the Paris Climate Agreement will present and discuss how those goals where established, and the rest of the lecturers will help to discuss the impact achieving these goals may have in biodiversity, ecosystem services and human wellbeing.

The detailed program will be available on the course website.

Who can apply?

Preference will be given for graduate students, currently registered in Doctoral/PhD, but exceptionally young researchers that got his/her PhD from 2017 onwards can be accepted. We encourage applications from students from different academic disciplines (natural, social and human sciences, engineering, and communication) provided their academic work and study is related to the themes of the school and related topics.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 20 February 2019

Please verify with the local Brazilian consulate in your country which vaccines may be mandatory for your trip to Brazil (in our homepage you will find a PDF with preliminary information)

All material should be submitted in **ENGLISH**. Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Applicants must clearly state the reasons for their personal and academic interest in the school and why they should be selected as a participant.

Approximately 100 applicants, 50 from Brazil and 50 from other countries will be selected to participate in the Advanced School. Participants will be selected based on the merit of their application information, the relevance of the academic work and studies to the themes of the school. Field of study, gender and geographic representation and balance will also be considered. Applicants should receive notification from the organizing committee from 30 March 2019 onwards.

The SPSAS Scenarios will be conducted in **ENGLISH**. Applicants must be proficient or have a sound understanding of the English language in order to understand, communicate, and participate actively in the School activities.

- **Application form:** <https://scenariosbes.wixsite.com/spsas-scenarios/application>
- **CV (not more than 2 pages, following the model available in [our homepage](#))**
- **A 1 page (Times New Roman 12, space 1.5) Summary of your Research Project**, with Title, Summary, Key Words and, if you are a PhD student, the name and institution of your supervisor
- **Intention Letter** – explaining why this School is important in your professional training, and say how do you intend to use the knowledge acquired
- **Recommendation Letter** – issued by your Supervisor in letterhead paper, if you are a PhD student, by the Principal Investigator of the project you are engaged with, if you are a post-doc, or by your ex-supervisor(s) if you are a young researcher
- **Document from your University** attesting that you are enrolled in a PhD Program, if you are a PhD student

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A very limited number of travel grants are available for eligible participants, coming from developing countries, who are selected to attend the School. If you need financial support, for your travel please indicate such need in the application form when required. Boarding and meals will be provided during the school for all selected applicants.

Financial support will be given based on the need of the applicant and merit of the application. Additional considerations will include geographic representation and gender balance. Priority may be given to applicants from less developed and emerging countries and countries at risk.

Certificate

Participants will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation in the School, provided if they attend all sessions of the program.

Contact

For additional information, please contact: scenarios.bes@gmail.com