



VALUING NATURE

SPIES: Solar Park Impacts on Ecosystem Services

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A tool to assess the impacts of solar parks on ecosystem services

- Developing a decision-support tool for solar park managers to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive ones.
- Ecosystem services: benefits to society provided by nature.
- Solar parks require significant land-use change.
- Ecological impacts e.g. biodiversity support, flood protection, pollination provision.



Why am I here?

- SPIES involves significant interaction with various stakeholders:
 - Renewable energy managers
 - Farmers
 - Country councils
 - NGOs
 - Civil servants
 - Community cooperatives
- Aim to embed the tool in business and government policies.
- Use knowledge and advice gained to influence future interactions, research proposals, and influence on business impacts and policies.

Opportunities and challenges for business impacts

Opportunities	Challenges
Academic, evidence-based support	Costs associated with actions
CSR benefits	Dissemination
Comply with legislation	Convincing uptake
Economic benefits e.g. agri-voltaics	Competing/conflicting information
Moral/ethical rewards	Differences in methods/approaches

Thank you

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