



Environment Division Perspectives on Data and Statistics

A presentation for the OECS Ministers of Environmental Sustainability (COMES 6) Meeting, Martinique 11th May, 2019.

Prepared and presented by Aria R. St. Louis,
on behalf of the OECS and the Biodiversity
Ecosystem Management Committee, 11th May 2019.

- **Environment in the context of Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements**
- **Momentum for Evidence Based approaches**
- **State of the Environment Report and Environmental Compendium**
- **New Legislation**
- **The role of Citizen Science**



Environment Division Experience:

Data in the context of the:

Climate Change Portfolio

Biodiversity Portfolio

Coastal Zone Portfolio

Environmental Protection Portfolio

Multilateral Environmental Agreements Portfolio

Biological Diversity – what are the current trends? Why is loss a concern?

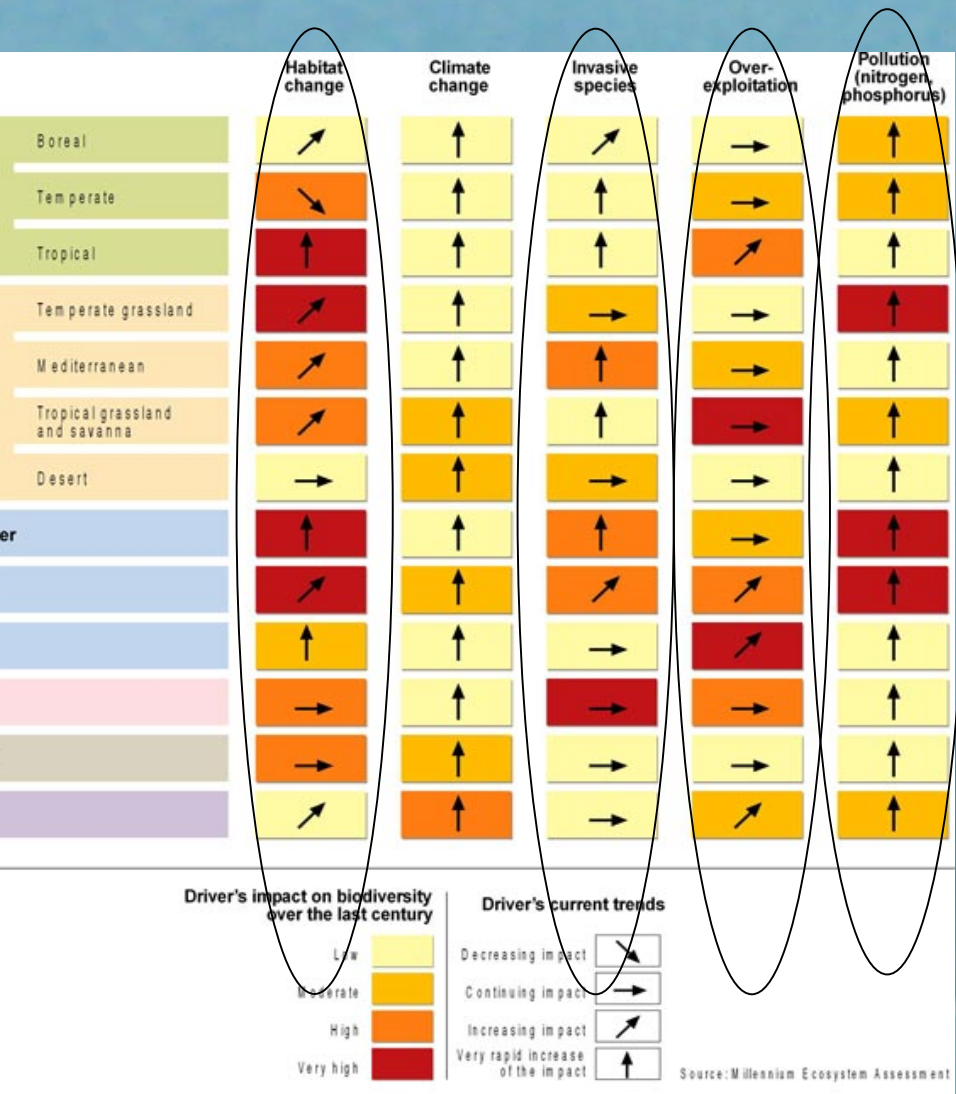
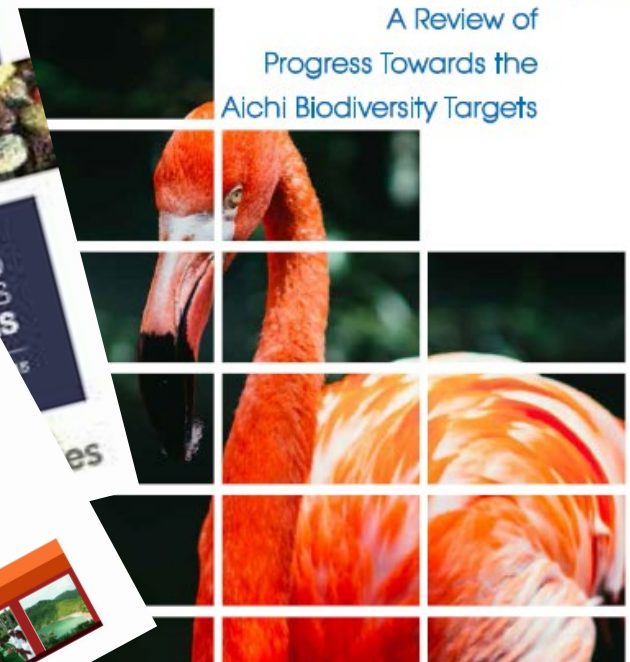


Figure 3.10 Direct Drivers of Change

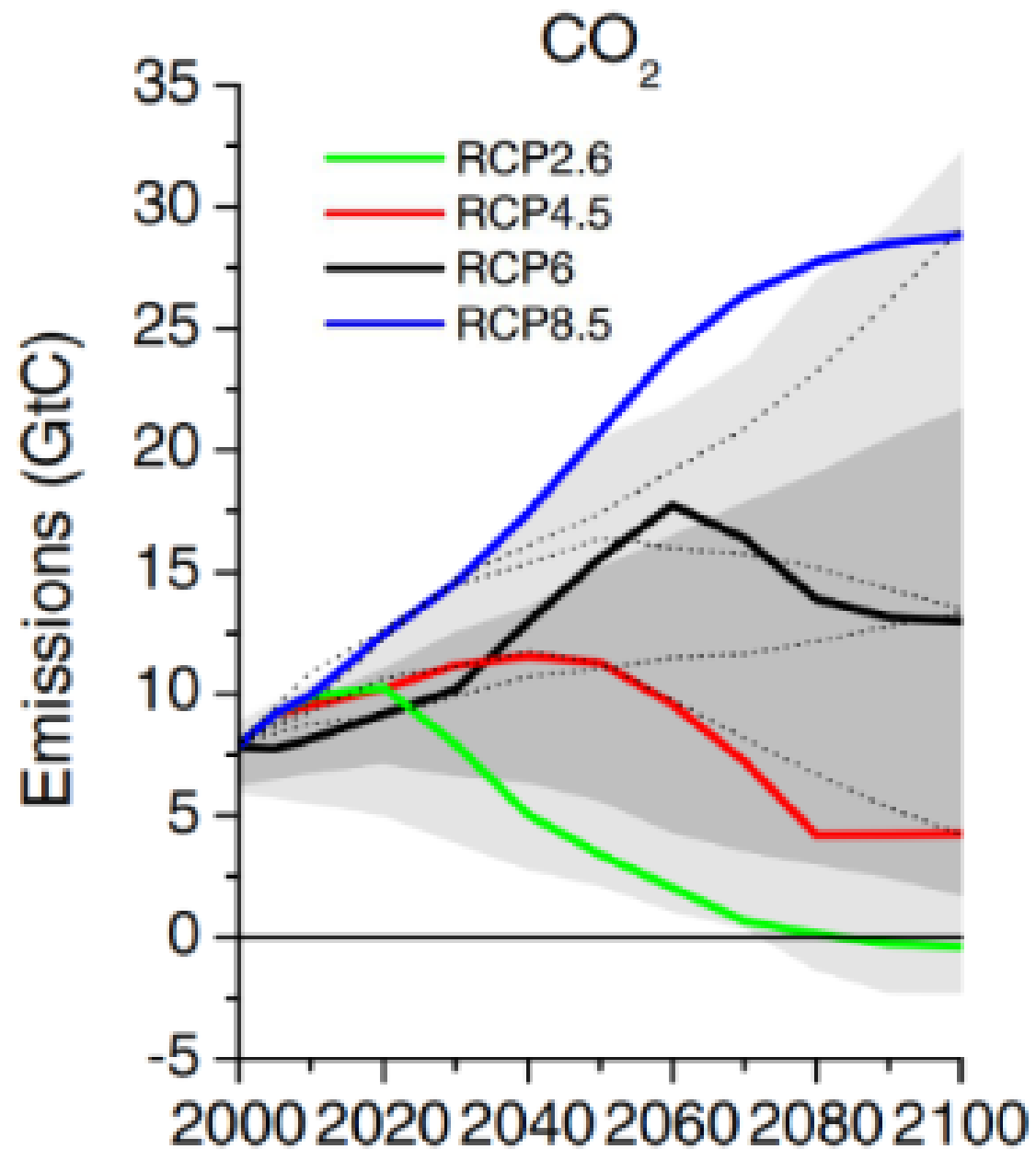
- Direct Drivers of change
- Habitat change
 - Invasive species
 - Climate change
 - Pollution/waste
 - Direct exploitation



THE STATE OF BIODIVERSITY
IN THE CARIBBEAN
COMMUNITY
A Review of
Progress Towards the
Aichi Biodiversity Targets

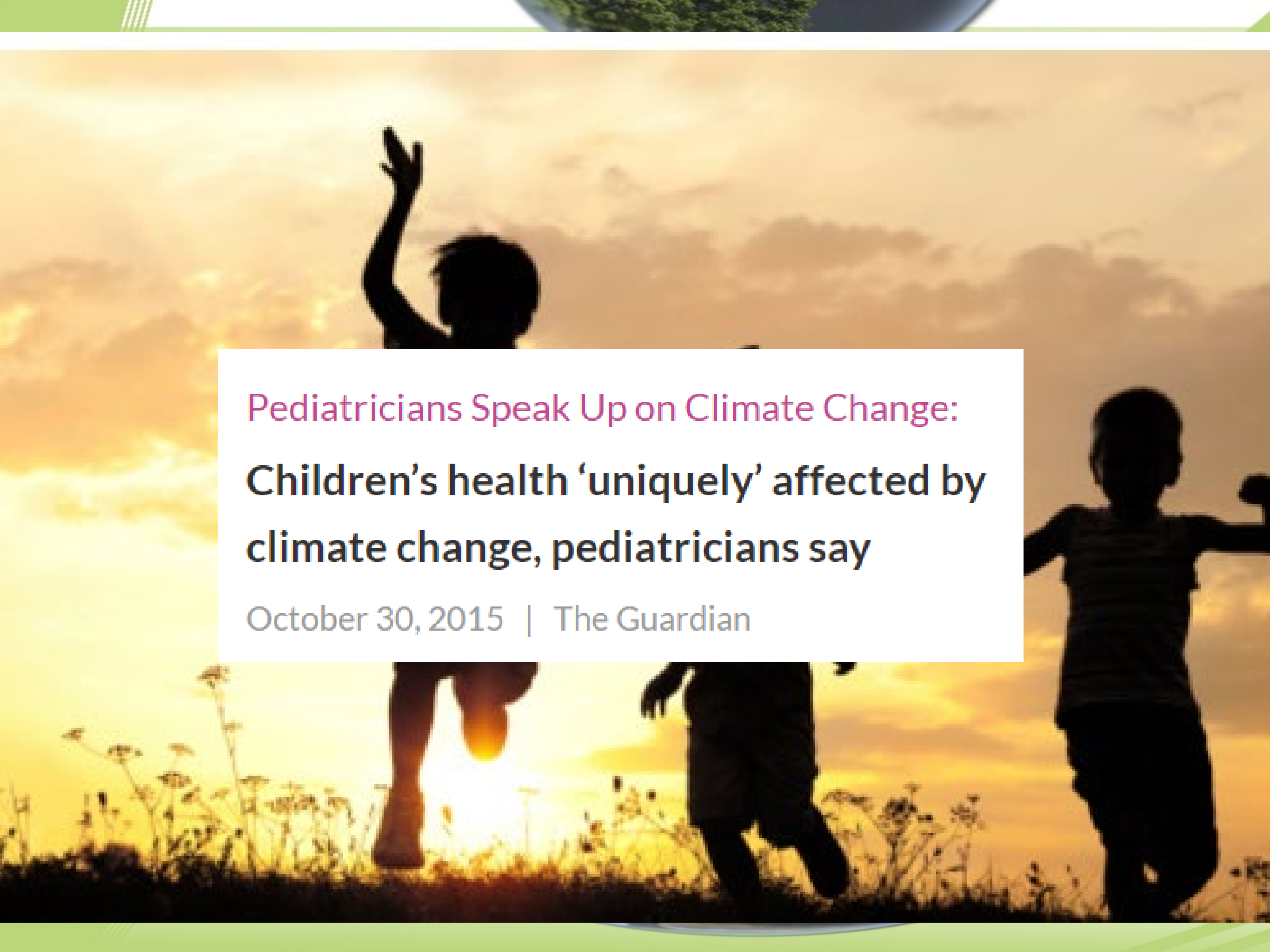


Climate Change Portfolio



- Reporting Obligations to UNFCCC
- Issues: disaggregation of data captured for reporting purposes
- Models and relationship between our emissions today and the CO₂ concentration experienced by our grandchildren
- NAP –Measuring impacts on sectors e.g. climate and health

NEED FOR URGENT ACTION IN Biodiversity & Ecosystem Management!

The background of the slide features a warm, golden sunset sky with soft clouds. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several children are captured in motion, running across a field of tall grass. One child on the left has their right arm raised high. Another child is in the center, and a third is on the right, also running. The overall mood is one of joy and vitality, contrasting with the serious subject matter of the text.

**Pediatricians Speak Up on Climate Change:
Children's health 'uniquely' affected by
climate change, pediatricians say**

October 30, 2015 | The Guardian

Slide on sea level rise in the Grenada

0.5 m = loss of Marquis beach by 100%

1m = About 22% of the Grand Anse beach disappears



- Shoreline change and sediment transport Policy
- Collaboration with Universities to begin primary data collection for management

2019

Environmental Protection Portfolio

Monitoring/ Data collection to address introduction of non-native, invasive species

Benthic Surveys to look at bathymetry but also the natural resources and living systems

Sediment Transport study
/circulation patterns etc.

Sargassum



SEA GRASS BEDS

Multilateral Environmental Agreements Portfolio

Principle 10 – Escazu Principle

Coastal Clean up data and Days of International Significance



SEA GRASS BEDS

Community Interventions/ Action

Data on community projects using best practices from CCCAF

www.iccas.gd



SEA GRASS BEDS

<https://www.unep-wcmc.org/featured-projects/national-ecosystem-assessments>

em-assessments

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NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENTS

SUPPORTING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

OUTPUTS

Building capacity for national ecosystem assessment: note by the Executive Secretary to the Convention on Biological Diversity

CAN WE HELP YOU?

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The Challenge

Biodiversity and ecosystem services are often undervalued and misunderstood, meaning National Policy-making and decision-making processes have often not taken their true value fully into account.

As a result, different sectors such as forestry, agriculture and water often do not account for the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services in achieving their own objectives and risk undermining sustainability.

Ecosystem assessments can deliver an evidence base that meets the needs of different sectors and encourages integration. Full stakeholder engagement in carrying out assessments builds understanding and trust in the outputs, and therefore a better outcome. The assessment will undertake a consultative process with a range of stakeholders, government and private

Thank You!

KEY REFERENCES

Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Biodiversity and Ecosystems Management in the OECS. OECS Technical Brief.2019.
Caribbean Census Data 2019.United Nations, Population Division.2019
Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment, Science Direct, Volume 236, 2 January 2017.
Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Biodiversity Synthesis