

Quarterly Report

Fourth Quarter – October to December 2019

Progress summary

- Enabling ecosystem surveillance policy brief presented at Science meets Parliament.
- Website conversion begun.

Governance

Meetings

Monthly ESC meeting held 11 Oct, 8 Nov, 13 Dec.

Communication and engagement

Website

Website upgrade continues led by Anita. Options paper developed and presented for consideration. Council agreed to convert website to WordPress without donations button. Governance, website and funding model are linked and requires further discussion.

Meetings and conferences

Joint meeting with ESA and ESA conference postponed due to unavailability of ESA. Bryony attended Science meets Parliament and met with Senator Rex Patrick from S.A. and discussed the need for national ecosystem surveillance and the review of EPBC Act.

Submissions

Preparation of a submission to the review of the EPBC Act

Finance

Finance subgroup developing a funding framework for transition to independence.

Key Directions

Making the most of data -

- Glenda and Steve attended recent TERN workshop on future data needs.

Inspiring a generation -

- Susanne and Pauline met face to face recently at a conference. Current program at university that provides financial assistance (\$1000 per student) for developing employability of students. Susanne proposed that ESC utilize this for outreach. Some examples of what student have done are speaking at conference, preparing videos how you would go from study to a job. If students were involved with ESC they would gain insight into current national priorities, exposure to peak body operations, increase network etc. which can help with employability.

Enabling ecosystem surveillance –

- Short policy brief was prepared and endorsed to be used at Science meets Parliament.

Future planning and priorities

Agreeing on the governance and financial structure for long-term security and operation of council.