Millennium Assessment Survey

1. Welcome to the Millennium Assessment Survey

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the MA Study. The purpose of this project is to understand more about how scientific communities come together as well as their role in the formation of scientific consensus and the global environmental policy-making process.

We estimate that the survey will take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. First, we ask a series of general questions about your background and affiliations. Then we ask about your participation in the MA, including how you got involved. Finally, we ask you to evaluate some opinions people might have about the work of the MA.
Again, we would like to stress the complete confidentiality of the survey. Names will be removed from the data and replaced with identification numbers. Only members of the research team will have access to the list of names. Data will not be shared with the MA or its members, except in the aggregate. The information we gather will not be used for commercial purposes and will not be shared; it will only be used for academic research. Thank you again for your participation.

Background

The first set of questions will ask you about your background and affiliations.

*** 1. What is your full name?**

*** 2. What is your email address?**

3. Which category best describes your area of expertise? (Select one area under the appropriate heading)

Applied Sciences
- o Civil engineering
- o Earth and environmental engineering
- o Environmental science

Biological Sciences
- o Microbiology
- o Marine biology
- o Zoology

Social Sciences
- o Anthropology
- o Development studies
- o Economic modeling
- o Economics
- o Geography
- o Law and Policy
- o Sociology
- o Urban Planning

Earth Sciences
- o Agricultural science
- o Atmospheric and planetary science
- o Ecology
- o Environmental and conservation studies
- o Forestry
- o Geology
- o Hydrogeology
- o Hydrology
- o Limnology
- o Oceanography

Medical Sciences
- o Epidemiology
- o Public health

Other public health

4. Which best describes the highest level of education you have received?
- o Bachelor/Baccalaureate
- o Masters/LLM
- o Doctorate/PhD
- o J.D.
- o M.D.
- o M.D./PhD

5. In what subject did you earn your degree

6. At what university did you earn your degree?

7. What is your gender?

__Male __Female

8. What is your nationality?

9. What is the name of the institution that provides your primary source of income?

10. What is your job title there?

11. How many years have you held this job?

12. In what country is this institution located?

13. Do you deal with the government as part of your job? __Yes __No

14. Do you negotiate on behalf of your government as part of your job? __Yes __No

15. Do you negotiate on behalf of some other governmental body (e.g., the European Union) as part of your job? __Yes __No

16. Who provides funding for you to attend MA meetings?

17. If you hold a secondary affiliation, what is the name of that institution?

18. Are you affiliated or have you ever been affiliated with any of these organizations? (Check all that apply)

- o Asia Pacific Environmental Strategy Project (APEIS)
- o Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research
- o Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
- o Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
- o Global Biodiversity Assessment
- o Global Environmental Outlook (GEO)
- o Global Environmental Facility
- o Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- o International Council for Science
- o International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change
- o IUCN-World Conservation Union
- o Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion
- o UN Development Programme
- o UN Environment Programme
- o UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- o United Nations Foundation
- o UN University
- o World Health Organization
- o The World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)
- o World Bank
- o WorldFish Center

Your involvement with the MA

The next few questions will ask you about your work with the MA, including how you became involved.

19. What is the name of the person who nominated you? (answer DK if you do not know)

20. Who did you nominate? Please use full names. They will be coded and replaced with ID numbers for the study.

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)
6)
7)
8)
9)
10)

21. Check here if you nominated more than 10 people.

__10 +

22. What motivated you to join the MA?

23. What is your role in the MA? (Check all that apply)

- o Chair of working group
- o Coordinating lead author (CLA)
- o Coordinating author (CA)
- o Lead author (LA)
- o Other (please specify)_____

24. In which of the following are you involved as an author and/or participant? (Check all that apply)

- o Conceptual framework
- o Conditions and trends working group
- o Scenarios working group

- Responses working group
- Sub-global working group
- MA board
- Assessment panel
- MA Secretariat

25. Please list the reports and chapters on which you are working.

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)

26. Which ten members of the MA do you contact most frequently about work outside of the MA?

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)
6)
7)
8)
9)
10)

Opinions about the work of the MA

The final set of questions asks about your opinions and those you may encounter about the work of the MA.

27. What do you see as the role of science in policy-making?

28. What is your perspective on the political goals of the MA?

29. Is an organization like the MA a good way of accomplishing the MA's stated goals? If yes, how so? If no, why not?

30. The following are criticisms you might hear about the work the MA is trying to do. Select the three you think you are most likely to hear in international negotiations. Place a (1) before the one you are most likely to hear, (2) before the second most likely and (3) before the third most likely.

__ Cumulative scientific work like this assessment is not effective in helping preserve the environment's capacity to produce for human needs.

__ Although the MA is trying to go beyond environment-centered concerns in its assessment of ecosystems, it cannot achieve truly integrated knowledge because its members come from a limited set of disciplines.

__ Although the MA is trying to produce integrated, uniform, and valid knowledge, it is destined to fail because its members come from too many disciplines to create scientific consensus.

__ Members of the MA come from different countries and cultures, making it impossible to have common values.

__ Members of the MA come from a variety of professions, e.g., scientists, politicians, program administrators, etc., so they come to the project with conflicting objectives.

__ Even though the Ecosystem Assessment includes site-specific research, its effect on environmental policy-making is negligible because it is impossible to translate scientific data into policies and practical measures.

__ Even though the Ecosystem Assessment includes site-specific research, its effect on governmental policies will be negligible because the MA has no authority to influence governments.

__ The MA includes people from all over the world, but it can hardly be called a global community because communication among participants is so limited.

__ Science is too difficult for lay people to understand, making it impossible to garner public support for the MA's ideas.

31. How would you personally respond to the critique you placed a (1) next to?

32. How would you personally respond to the critique you placed a (2) next to?

33. How would you personally respond to the critique you placed a (3) next to?

Finished

This concludes the MA Survey. Thank you again for participating. If you have any questions or comments, please send an email to millecostudy@columbia.edu.