

## ESP-EU: Conference in Antwerp

The "Ecosystem Services Conference 2016" took place from the 19th till the 23th of September at the Belgian University of Antwerp. The conference brought together 600 participants from science, politics and the professional sector to discuss topics of ecosystem services and natural capital. It was the largest European conference of the Ecosystem Service Partnership. Several ZALF researchers from the Institute for Socio-Economics (SO) organized and moderated "special sessions", gave presentations and introduced the projects "AgoraNatura" and "cp3" with first evaluations. Moreover Prof. Bettina Matzdorf presented the ESP Network Germany, which was initiated by ZALF and founded in 2015. The topics of the sessions were focused on incentive-based political instruments like private marketing and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanisms in the agricultural and forestry sectors as well as scientific methods for research on ecosystem services and governance. The well attended sessions were followed by lively discussions and interest. Hence, a special issue at the Journal Ecosystem Services will result out of the method-focused session on ES-governance next year.



*Image source: ESP-EU Conference 2016*