

## **Identification of environmental variables for use in monitoring and evaluation of land management practices**

### Objectives of the study

The objective of the study is to identify and select quantitative environmental attributes for a monitoring programme that may be integrated into an evaluation of the environmental impacts of land management practices.

### Approach to the study

Overall, the work programme will use a desk review to use information on current best practice in monitoring for environmental quality. A Project Group will advise on the ongoing development of the project. There will be a consultation process with national experts, and with a number of stakeholder organisations with an interest in the monitoring of the environmental impact of land management practices.

### Scope of study

The study will *not* be directly addressing the design and implementation of a monitoring programme, which would require a detailed consideration of the sampling protocols, the experimental design of a sampling programme, and the data management and statistical treatment of the collected data.

The study *will* result in a report that will identify relevant and measurable environmental attributes and their targets, and significantly advance the ability to implement a monitoring programme.