



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
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Item 4 of the provisional agenda***
**Matters related to the work programme of the
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform
on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**

Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. In its decision [16/11](#) on matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity suggested various topics for consideration by the Platform as potential additional assessments in its rolling work programme. It also requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention to, inter alia, update the overview of previous and future deliverables of the Platform and their relevance to decision-making under the Convention and to provide an update on joint activities between the Secretariat and the Platform at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in each intersessional period.
2. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body to consider the future outputs of the Platform according to the schedule contained in the annex to the decision, which, for the nexus assessment,¹ the transformative change assessment² and the business and biodiversity assessment,³ was to be done at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Consequently, at its twenty-seventh meeting, held in October 2025, the Subsidiary Body considered reviews of findings from the nexus assessment and the transformative change assessment, as well as their respective implications for the work undertaken under the Convention, and adopted recommendation [27/2](#).
3. The present note contains an overview of the recently adopted deliverables of the Platform (sect. II), reviews of findings from the business and biodiversity assessment (sect. III) and its implications for the work undertaken under the Convention (sect. IV), a summary of collaboration

* [CBD/SBSTTA/28/1](#).

¹ *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health.*

² *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.*

³ *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Impact and Dependence of Business on Biodiversity and Nature's Contributions to People.*

between the Platform and the Secretariat of the Convention (sect. V and updated schedule in the annex to the draft decision in sect. VI) and recommendations for consideration by the Subsidiary Body (sect. VI).

II. Overview of the recently adopted deliverables of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

4. By its decision IPBES-12/1, adopted in February 2026, the Plenary of the Platform approved the summary for policymakers of the business and biodiversity assessment and accepted the individual chapters of the assessment, including their executive summaries. In the summary for policymakers, the authors explored methods and actions for businesses, financial actors and civil society to measure and respond to business impacts and dependence on biodiversity.

5. In the same decision, the Plenary of the Platform decided not to add a new assessment to the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030. It also requested its Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel of the Platform to develop a proposal for the nature, topics and timing of Platform deliverables on assessing knowledge, building capacity, strengthening the knowledge foundations and supporting policy, for consideration by the Plenary at its thirteenth session.

6. Also in the same decision, the Plenary of the Platform welcomed with appreciation the report on the midterm review under the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030. It requested its Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel of the Platform, with technical support from the Secretariat of the Platform, to further review the recommendations set out in that report and to take the relevant recommendations into account. Several recommendations are directly related to the work undertaken under the Convention and to collaboration between the Platform and the Secretariat of the Convention, for example, enhancing opportunities for collaboration with relevant multilateral environmental agreements, among others, with a view to aligning programmes and sharing information and tools;⁴ addressing policy relevance and effective collaboration with policy customers at all stages;⁵ and strengthening the policy support function by improving engagement with key policy users at global levels, such as the Convention.⁶

7. By its decision IPBES-12/1, the Plenary of the Platform approved workplans for the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 for the intersessional period between its twelfth and thirteenth sessions (i.e. between 2026 and 2027). The workplans are available in decision IPBES-12/1 and include, in particular, the organization of online dialogues in support of: (a) the external reviews of the spatial planning and connectivity assessment⁷ and the second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services by Governments and stakeholders; and (b) the additional reviews of the monitoring assessment⁸ and the spatial planning and connectivity assessment by Governments. Considering the relevance of those assessments to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation and monitoring of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Parties are encouraged to take part in the online dialogues and reviews.

8. At its thirteenth session, scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2027, the Plenary of the Platform is expected to consider both the monitoring assessment and the spatial planning and connectivity assessment.

9. The report of the Plenary of the Platform on the work of its twelfth session is available online.⁹

⁴ IPBES/12/8, recommendation 12.

⁵ Ibid., recommendation 17.

⁶ Ibid., recommendation 24.

⁷ Methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity.

⁸ Methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people.

⁹ IPBES/12/11, available at www.ipbes.net/events/ipbes-12-plenary.

III. Review of findings from the summary for policymakers of the methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contribution to people

10. In its decision [14/36](#), the Conference of the Parties invited the Platform to take into account a request to assess the potential positive and negative impacts of productive sectors and undertake a methodological assessment of the criteria, metrics and indicators of the impacts of those sectors on biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a view to enabling business to reduce negative impacts and to promote consistency in assessment and reporting, taking into account the direct and indirect pressures on biodiversity, as well as the interconnections between them.

11. As mentioned above, the plenary of the Platform approved the summary for policymakers of the business and biodiversity assessment and accepted its individual chapters by its decision IPBES-12/1.

12. In line with the procedures set out in decision [XII/25](#) of the Conference of the Parties, the Subsidiary Body is invited to consider the business and biodiversity assessment with regard to the relevance of its findings for the work undertaken under the Convention and for the preparation, as appropriate, of a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

13. As noted in the preface of the summary for policymakers, the authors of the methodological assessment have reviewed and critically evaluated approaches for measuring the impacts and dependence of businesses on biodiversity. They have examined how such information can support improved decision-making by businesses, financial institutions and policymakers and contribute to better outcomes for biodiversity and nature's contributions to people. They have also considered the roles of Governments, businesses, financial institutions and other actors in creating an enabling environment to support such action.

14. The summary for policymakers has been made available as a reference document for the present meeting. The full assessment report are available on the website of the Platform.¹⁰

15. The key messages of the assessment are reproduced below as found in the summary for policymakers:

- (a) All businesses depend on and impact biodiversity and can be agents of positive change;
- (b) The current external conditions in which businesses operate are not always compatible with achieving a just and sustainable future and perpetuate systemic risks;
- (c) Collaboration, collective and individual actions are essential to create an enabling environment where businesses contribute to a just and sustainable future;
- (d) All businesses have a responsibility to address their impacts and dependencies;
- (e) Existing methods, knowledge and data for measuring impacts and dependencies already and can further inform decisions and actions, directly and in the value chain;
- (f) Different methods to measure and manage impacts and dependencies are needed for different sectors, levels of decision-making and business purposes;
- (g) Appropriate methods to measure and manage business impacts and dependencies can be selected based on coverage, accuracy and responsiveness;
- (h) Businesses could better measure and manage their impacts and dependencies by appropriately engaging with science and indigenous and local knowledge, methods and practices;

¹⁰ At www.ipbes.net/business-impact.

(i) The existing knowledge base needs to be strengthened by addressing important gaps in knowledge and its application;

(j) Creating an enabling environment can incentivise actions that are beneficial for businesses, biodiversity and society for a just and sustainable future.

16. In addition to the key messages, the summary for policymakers contains a set of background messages that set out the evidence base, analytical framing and contextual information underpinning the findings, including the drivers and pathways of business impacts and dependence on biodiversity, as well as the assumptions, limitations and knowledge sources considered in the assessment. The recommendations at the end of the present document have been developed on the basis of the text in the summary for policymakers, including key messages and background messages underlined in the report.

IV. Implications of the business and biodiversity assessment for the work undertaken under the Convention

17. The assessment provides concrete information on how businesses can have both negative and positive impacts on the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and what Governments and businesses alike can do to improve an enabling environment in order to encourage businesses to engage in conservation, restoration or the sustainable use of biodiversity and, more generally, contribute to the Framework through actions that are beneficial for businesses, biodiversity and society.

18. It is stated in the assessment that creating an enabling environment involves changes in policy, legal and regulatory frameworks; economic and financial systems; social values, norms and culture; technology and data; and capacity and knowledge.

19. The assessment lists more than 100 potential actions divided into those five categories, highlighting roles for Governments, businesses, financial institutions and other actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, consumers, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and academia. It also lists a set of actions that businesses can take to assess their impacts and dependence on biodiversity using existing methods, knowledge and data, while recognizing constraints in identifying and using appropriate methods. Key information and knowledge gaps, including data, metrics and geospatial information, are identified. The fact that businesses and other actors can already act on the basis of existing knowledge is, however, also emphasized.

20. The assessment contains important scientific and technical information useful for the implementation of Target 15 of the Framework, for example, it clarifies how businesses and financial institutions depend and have an impact on biodiversity and it identifies approaches for assessing, managing and disclosing those impacts and dependence across operations, value chains and portfolios. The findings also support the implementation of Target 14 by highlighting the need to mainstream biodiversity considerations across public policies, regulatory frameworks and economic incentives that shape business behaviour, including fiscal, trade, financial and industrial policies.

21. The assessment may also support the implementation of Target 16 of the Framework by underscoring the role of production and consumption systems, corporate strategies, supply chains and market incentives in driving biodiversity loss, on the one hand, and the importance of shifting away from unsustainable consumption patterns and identifying opportunities for sustainable business models that reduce pressures on biodiversity, on the other hand. It provides information useful for the implementation of Target 18 by documenting the scale and impacts of incentives harmful to biodiversity and the need to eliminate, phase out or reform such incentives, while strengthening positive incentives and financial instruments that support conservation, restoration and sustainable use. The assessment is also relevant to the implementation of Target 19, as it highlights the role of

the financial sector and investors in aligning financial flows with biodiversity objectives and mobilizing private finance to support biodiversity-positive outcomes.

22. Furthermore, the assessment supports the implementation of Targets 1, 5, 7 and 8 of the Framework, as the role that businesses play in driving biodiversity loss, including land- and sea-use change, overexploitation, pollution and climate change is highlighted. Similarly, the assessment supports the implementation of Targets 2, 4, 9, 10 and 11 by identifying opportunities for businesses to contribute to restoration, sustainable management and to reduce negative impacts on biodiversity progressively.

23. The findings underline the importance of strengthening national policy coherence and governance arrangements, including through the integration of biodiversity considerations into fiscal, trade, financial and industrial policies, spatial planning and regulatory frameworks affecting production and consumption systems.

24. The role of business disclosure, transparency and accountability in supporting the implementation of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is highlighted in the assessment. Standardized and comparable metrics, reporting frameworks and data-sharing mechanisms can support risk assessment, policy design and decision-making by Parties and other stakeholders.

25. It is indicated in the assessment that, while an increasing number of businesses and financial institutions are taking steps to assess their impacts and dependence on biodiversity, progress in understanding and assessing dependence on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people remains limited. As a result, many businesses do not yet have a comprehensive understanding of the biodiversity-related risks and opportunities associated with their activities. The overall scale, scope and pace of the actions already taken by businesses and financial institutions therefore remain insufficient to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and to achieve the goals and targets of the Framework. The findings underscore the need to improve the assessment and understanding of business impacts and dependence on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, supported by coherent policy frameworks, economic incentives, data and capacity. An improved understanding of impacts, dependence and associated risks can help to inform business decision-making and to create incentives for businesses and financial institutions to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive outcomes for biodiversity, thereby contributing to a transformative change and the implementation of the Convention and the Framework.

26. In the assessment, emphasis is placed on the need for strengthened capacity-building, access to data, tools and methodologies, and scientific and technical cooperation, including to support developing country Parties, small and medium-sized enterprises and actors across value chains in assessing and managing business impacts and dependence on biodiversity. They also highlight the importance of strengthening capacity and knowledge across all actors to support the measurement of business impacts and dependence on nature and to guide business action.

27. Also underlined in the assessment are the importance of indigenous peoples and local communities and the mutual benefits that can arise when businesses recognize and support the roles of indigenous peoples and local communities, including by respecting their knowledge systems and supporting their participation in decision-making, and the implementation of those decisions, in line with relevant provisions of the Convention and its Protocols.

28. Overall, the assessment provides a strong scientific and technical basis for enhancing work undertaken under the Convention to enable businesses to assess risks for them and their dependence and impacts on biodiversity. More generally, it lists actions that are needed to build an enabling environment to provide incentives for conservation. It could strengthen the ability of Parties to engage with businesses in order to improve how issues related to business and biodiversity are considered in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national monitoring systems, resource mobilization strategies and implementation mechanisms for the Framework.

V. Collaboration between the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

29. The Secretariat of the Convention and the Platform have continued their joint activities and mutual support.

30. A workshop on the assessments adopted by the Platform in 2024 and forthcoming assessments was held jointly on 18 October 2025, just before the twenty-seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

31. In addition, the Secretariat of the Convention gave presentations at (a) two global dialogue workshops, held by the Platform to promote the use of its products for policymaking, on the relevance to the Convention of the nexus assessment and the transformative change assessment, respectively; and (b) several authors' meetings held by the Platform for the monitoring assessment, the spatial planning and connectivity assessment and the second global assessment.

32. In line with decision [16/32](#), in which the Conference of the Parties invited the Platform to contribute to the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework, meetings between the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for the Preparation of the Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the authors of the second global assessment and those of the monitoring assessment were held on 2 and 29 April 2026, respectively.

33. The Chair of the Subsidiary Body and representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention participated in the twelfth session of the Plenary of the Platform and the twenty-fifth meeting of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, held from 3 to 8 February and from 11 to 13 May 2026, respectively. In addition, the Secretariat of the Convention provided inputs to the meeting documents related to stakeholder engagement prepared for those events.

34. Last, the Secretariat of the Convention issued a number of notifications to promote engagement in peer review processes and other activities of the Platform and to share information related to work undertaken under the Platform,¹¹ and it will continue with this practice.

VI. Recommendations

35. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt elements of a decision along the following lines, for consolidation into the draft decision contained in recommendation [27/2](#):

The Conference of the Parties

1. Welcomes *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Impact and Dependence of Business on Biodiversity and Nature's Contributions to People* ("business and biodiversity") of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

2. Encourages Parties:

(a) To use the findings of the business and biodiversity assessment to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular to achieve Target 15, including through the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and relevant policy and regulatory frameworks;

(b) To provide or enhance enabling environments for sustainable business practices through the implementation of the needed actions listed in the assessment, including by:

¹¹ See notifications Nos. [2025-105](#) and [2025-027](#).

- (i) Fully implementing Target 18 of the Framework and aligning fiscal policies and financial flows with the goals of the Framework;
- (ii) Undertaking capacity-building activities focused on measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity;
- (iii) Incorporating traditional knowledge into capacity-building frameworks;
 - (iv) Encouraging businesses, the financial sector and other actors to implement the actions required to create an enabling environment, as listed in the assessment, and supporting them in that regard;
- (c) To identify gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge for measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity;
- (d) To address such gaps by:
 - (i) Facilitating the uptake by businesses of existing methods and knowledge for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;
 - (ii) Collecting and sharing information on the activities and locations of businesses, their operations and value chains that can be compared among businesses and the financial sector, including through disclosure mechanisms;
 - (iii) Providing actionable guidance for businesses to select methods appropriate for their context and needs;
 - (iv) Supporting research and data collection;
 - (v) Strengthening the integration of science and traditional knowledge and of methods and practices for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;
- (e) To strengthen engagement and collaboration with business and financial sectors and other actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, consumers, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and academia, to address gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge, as described in the assessment, and to engage in conservation restoration or the sustainable use of biodiversity;

3. *Encourages* business and financial actors to identify and use appropriate existing methods to measure and manage the impacts and dependence of businesses on biodiversity and to use that information to guide decision-making and actions aimed at improving biodiversity outcomes, in line with Target 15 of the Framework;

4. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to implement the recommendations from the midterm review under the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030, in particular recommendations to increase the policy relevance of assessments and to strengthen collaboration between the Platform and the Secretariat of the Convention.

5. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outputs of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services according to the schedule contained in the annex to the present decision;

Annex*

Schedule of assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and of their

* The annex will be updated, as necessary, in the compilation of draft decisions to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

**consideration under the Convention on Biological Diversity
(2024–2030), as updated after the twelfth session of the Plenary of
the Platform****

<i>Session number and date of consideration by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services^a</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Meeting number and date of consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity</i>
Twelfth session (2026)	Methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people ("business and biodiversity assessment") ^b	Twenty-eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body (2026)
Thirteenth session (2027)	Methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people ("monitoring assessment") ^c	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2028) Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2028)
	Methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity ("spatial planning and connectivity assessment") ^d	
Fourteenth session (2028)	Second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services ^e	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2030)
Fifteenth session (2029)	Potential assessment topic to be determined at the thirteenth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2030)

^a The dates of future sessions are indicative.

^b See www.ipbes.net/business-impact.

^c See www.ipbes.net/monitoring-assessment.

^d See www.ipbes.net/spatial-planning-assessment.

^e See www.ipbes.net/second-global-assessment.

** The original schedule was issued as the annex to decision [16/11](#).