



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

CBD/SBSTTA/21/INF/16
4 December 2017

ENGLISH ONLY

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Twenty-first meeting
Montreal, Canada, 11-14 December 2017
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

REPORT ON PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The Executive Secretary is making available herewith a progress report on the implementation of the 2014-2018 work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). The note has been prepared by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and is being made available in the form and language in which it was provided to the Secretariat. The Second work programme of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services will be considered during the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Technical and Technological Advice under agenda item 12.

I. BACKGROUND

2. In decision XII/25, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity welcomed the adoption of the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for 2014-2018. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Chair and Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to continue to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, where relevant, strengthening synergies and avoiding duplication of work, to review the progress on elements of the work programme of the Platform that are relevant to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on progress (para. 5(a)). The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to make available, through the clearing-house mechanism, information on progress in the implementation of the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the period 2014-2018, including the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services scheduled to be launched in 2019, and to bring this information to the attention of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as appropriate (para. 5(d)).

3. The Conference of the Parties initiated the preparation of the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* through its decision XIII/29. In this decision, it also welcomed the decision of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to undertake a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and re-emphasized the importance of this global assessment for analysing progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties decided that the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* should draw on, among other things the thematic, regional and global assessments of IPBES and any relevant scenario analysis and

* CBD/SBSTTA/21/1.

modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services undertaken as part of these assessments. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention to prepare a joint communication strategy with the secretariats of IPBES and biodiversity-related conventions on the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and related reports and products and relevant deliverables of the Platform, and invited the secretariats of the Platform and the other biodiversity-related conventions to collaborate on this matter.

REPORT ON PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Preamble

1. The first work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), will come to an end in May 2019. This first work programme has over the past four years, progressed well in establishing IPBES as the science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services. IPBES has, among others, successfully delivered its first set of scientifically credible assessment reports, driven the elaboration of new concepts such as on multiple values, or of new approaches, such as on working with indigenous and local knowledge, and has catalysed new scientific work such as on scenarios and models. IPBES will deliver a second wave of assessments at the fifth session of its Plenary in March 2018 (Medellin, Colombia), with the release of the four regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services (Africa, Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia) and of the land degradation and restoration assessment. It will be followed, at the sixth session of the IPBES Plenary, in May 2019, with the release of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services. This work has been made possible thanks to cash and in-kind contributions from IPBES members and a multitude of other stakeholders. The sixth session of the IPBES Plenary is also expected to approve a second work programme.

Report

2. At its second session in December 2013, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) adopted in decision IPBES-2/5 a work programme for the period 2014-2018.¹ The diagram in Annex I, taken from that decision, provides a summary of the agreed work programme. For context, Annex II contains the IPBES conceptual framework.²

3. This report provides information on the decisions taken by the Plenary of IPBES at its fifth session, which was held from 7-10 March 2017 in Bonn, Germany, and builds upon document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/61. It has been structured around the different objectives and deliverables of IPBES' work programme.

4. The IPBES Plenary, at its fifth session, took note of the outcome of the expert group mandated to take into account the evolution of thinking on ecosystem services and of the transition from ecosystem services to nature's contributions to people to be in line with the inclusive approach of the IPBES conceptual framework (decision IPBES-5/1, section III). In the same decision, the Plenary noted that the concept of nature's contributions to people will be used in IPBES current and future assessments.

I. Objective 1 - Strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of IPBES

5. There are four identified deliverables under this objective, which is to strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of IPBES. Each of these deliverables is summarised below, along with a summary of the progress made to date in their implementation.

a) *Deliverables 1(a) and 1(b) - Building capacity:* A task force on capacity-building supports the delivery of IPBES' functions in identifying and prioritizing capacity-building needs

¹ Available at www.ipbes.net/event/ipbes-2-plenary.

² Adopted by the Plenary of the Platform in decision IPBES-2/4.

related to the IPBES work programme, and helps to identify resources for meeting those needs. The task force is in place for the life of the current work programme, with a technical support unit provided by the Government of Norway. It is envisaged that the deliverables will contribute to the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 19, on improving the knowledge base, and 20, on the mobilization of financial resources to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2020. The progress made on these two deliverables is:

- i. At the third session of the IPBES Plenary held from 12-17 January 2015, the Plenary approved a list of priority capacity-building needs. At its fourth session, the Plenary requested the task force to further prioritize the list of capacity-building needs with regard to those needs most important and pressing with a view to the implementation of the first work programme of the Platform (decision IPBES-4/1, section I, para. 3). At its fifth session, in decision IPBES-5/1, section II, the IPBES Plenary welcomed the Platform's capacity-building rolling plan,³ including its executive summary set out in annex I to this decision, and requested the task force on capacity-building to implement the capacity-building rolling plan. The plan is based on experience gained from the piloting of the draft programme on fellowship, exchange and training, and from efforts to develop a prototype matchmaking facility;
- ii. The task force on capacity-building was initially developing a prototype matchmaking facility to support implementation of the Platform's work programme. However, there has been a gradual shift in the focus on matchmaking – bringing together those who have capacity-building needs with those able to help meet those needs, whether technical or financial – from efforts to develop a prototype online matchmaking facility to the incremental development of matchmaking functions with web-based support structures on the IPBES website. In response to the request by the Plenary for further prioritization, programming, matchmaking and partnering, the task force developed the rolling plan for capacity-building;
- iii. The first IPBES capacity-building forum took place in Dehradun, India, in October 2015. The Plenary, in decision IPBES-4/1, section I took note of the lessons learned from the first forum and requested the convening of a second meeting of the forum. The second capacity building forum of IPBES was held in September 2016 in New York, in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly. The primary purpose of the second meeting was to explore opportunities for an increased engagement of partner organizations with IPBES in delivering capacity-building. The meeting comprised a technical segment and a high-level segment, and was co-hosted by UNDP and United Nations Environment. The Plenary, at its fifth session, requested the Bureau to consider what would be the most effective way of leveraging additional support for capacity-building and to consider whether a third meeting of the capacity-building forum is needed;
- iv. The IPBES Plenary, at its third session, took note of the draft programme on fellowship, exchange and training and requested that the task force on capacity-building and its technical support unit complete the pilot implementation of the draft programme (decision IPBES-3/1, section I, para. 2). At its fourth session, the Plenary requested the task force to continue the piloting of the draft programme on fellowship, exchange and training (decision IPBES-4/1, section I, para. 1). The fellowship programme was continued as part of the capacity-building rolling plan, with 49 fellows from 37 countries. In the context of the IPBES training and familiarization programme, three writing workshops were held in Turkey, South Africa and Norway to further build the capacity of IPBES experts to draft chapters and summaries for policy makers. In addition, four regional dialogue meetings were held in Hungary, Japan, Colombia and Ethiopia from June to August 2017, attended by a total of 76 IPBES national focal

³ IPBES/5/INF/3.

points, to enhance members' contributions to the finalization of the regional assessments.

b) *Deliverable 1(c) - Working with indigenous and local knowledge systems:* IPBES aims to promote effective engagement with indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) experts and holders in its work. A task force, supported by a technical support unit based at UNESCO, is facilitating the development of this work. It is anticipated that this deliverable will contribute to the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 18. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. An initial progress report 'Update on ILK Procedures and Approaches' (IPBES/3/INF/2) was provided to the third session of the Plenary together with a proposal for further piloting of ILK in IPBES assessments. The Plenary, at its third session, noted the progress made and decided to continue to pilot these preliminary ILK approaches in the thematic assessments and in the regional assessments. At its fourth session, the IPBES Plenary, in decision IPBES-4/3, paragraph (b), approved procedures for working with indigenous and local knowledge systems which are contained in annex II to the decision. At its fifth session, the Plenary approved the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge (decision IPBES-5/1, annex II) and requested its implementation;
- ii. Implementation of the approach in the context of the global assessment included the convening of the indigenous and knowledge liaison group of the global assessment in Hungary in April 2017; a call for contributions on indigenous and local knowledge; dialogue meetings between experts of the global assessment and representative networks and organisations of indigenous peoples and local communities and indigenous and local knowledge experts at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in the United States of America in May 2017, at the annual conference of the society of ethnobiology in Canada in May 2017, at the dialogue on human rights and biodiversity conservation organised by SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, Forest Peoples Programme, Natural Justice, the Thematic group on governance, equity and rights of the Commission on environmental, economic and social policy of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, with local hosts Chepkitala Indigenous Peoples Development Project, in Kenya in November 2017, and at the 10th meeting of the Ad hoc open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Canada in December 2017. Additional events at meetings involving indigenous peoples and local communities, and at scientific conferences were also held to inform on the approach;
- iii. The task force on indigenous and local knowledge systems also provided guidance on arrangements for the establishment of the participatory mechanism, and a participatory mechanism steering group is currently being established;
- iv. The task force met in Colombia in May 2017.

c) *Deliverable 1(d) - Knowledge and data:* A task force, supported by a technical support unit based at the National Institute of Ecology (NIE), Secheon, Republic of Korea, was established in order to help increase access to the data, information and knowledge necessary for achieving the Platform's aims and delivering its work programme. This includes helping to identify and prioritize the key scientific information needed for policymakers at appropriate scales, and to catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge in dialogue with scientific organizations, policymakers and funding organizations. It is anticipated that this deliverable will contribute to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, on improving the knowledge base. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. The Plenary, at its fifth session (decision IPBES-5/1, section III), took note of the outline workplan for the task force on knowledge and data for 2017 and 2018, which included support to experts working on assessments regarding the selection and use of indicators, metrics and related data; further improvement of the web-based

infrastructure and the identification of research gaps emerging in the context of ongoing and completed assessments, their consultation and engagement with potential research funding organizations on priority areas for knowledge generation;

- ii. Highlights of the progress achieved in the implementation of the workplan include the provision of visuals for the IPBES core set of indicators to experts for use in IPBES assessments, and the initiation of an approach, including two workshops, to define sets of social-ecological indicators on major themes of the global assessment held in Hungary in April 2017 and Republic of Korea in December 2017; the further development of the web-based infrastructure providing resources for experts performing assessments; and the implementation of a process to identify knowledge gaps and to catalyse the generation of new knowledge, beginning with a focus on the IPBES assessment of pollination, pollinators and food production and a workshop on that topic (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, November 2017).

II. Objective 2 - Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across subregional, regional and global levels

6. There are three deliverables under this objective, which is to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across subregional, regional and global levels. Each of these deliverables is summarised below, followed by information on progress to date in their implementation.

a) *Deliverable 2(a) - Guide on production and integration of assessments from and across all scales:* IPBES is carrying out a range of thematic, regional and global assessments, and in doing so accumulating expertise. A guide was developed and will be continuously updated to capture this knowledge and help ensure consistency across IPBES assessments. It addresses practical, procedural, conceptual and thematic aspects of assessments, and takes into account different visions, approaches and knowledge systems. Technical support is provided by the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, welcomed the review and updating of the guide on the production and integration of assessments from and across all scales (decision IPBES-4/1, section III). In 2017, the guide was further updated, including a summary of the guide; and an interactive web-based tool is expected to be available in time for the sixth session of the Plenary in March 2018;

b) *Deliverable 2(b) - Regional/subregional assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services:* It is anticipated that this deliverable will provide critical input to the global assessment and contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in general. The regional assessments reports including their summary for policymakers are to be submitted for the consideration of the Plenary at its 6th session (March 2018), and will be prepared in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of deliverables (annex to decision IPBES-3/3), the generic scoping report for regional and sub-regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services (annex III to decision IPBES-3/1), which includes a generic chapter outline, and the scoping reports for each one of the four regional assessments (annexes IV-VII to decision IPBES-3/1), which provide additional information pertaining to each region, to complement the generic scoping report. Technical support for the regional assessments is provided by the Alexander von Humboldt Institute (Colombia), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) (Japan), the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (South Africa) and the University of Bern (Switzerland). The progress made on this deliverable is as follows:

- i. In decision IPBES-3/1, IPBES approved the undertaking of four regional and sub-regional assessments for Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia.
- ii. At its 5th meeting (April 2015), the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel selected experts from the pool of experts nominated by member countries and organizations.

- iii. The first author meetings were held in Bogota, Colombia (July 2015), Pretoria, South Africa (August 2015), Tokyo, Japan (August 2015) and Engelberg, Switzerland (September 2015).
- iv. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth and fifth sessions, welcomed the progress made in the regional and subregional assessments (decision IPBES-4/1, section III; and IPBES-5/1, section IV).
- v. First-order drafts of the chapters of the assessment were made available for external peer review in mid-2016.
- vi. A joint second author meeting for the four assessments as well as for the land degradation and restoration assessment was held in Bonn, Germany in July 2016.
- vii. Second-order drafts of the chapters of the assessments and drafts of the summaries for policymakers of the assessments were made available for external peer review between May and July 2017.
- viii. Third author meetings for the four assessments were convened in July and August 2017 in the Czech Republic, Japan, Ethiopia and Colombia, respectively.
- ix. Regional dialogues to strengthen the capacity of Governments to review these assessments and to contribute to their consideration at the sixth session of the Plenary were held in mid-2017.
- x. The draft chapters of the assessments and summaries for policymakers will be available to participants in the sixth session of the IPBES Plenary (March 2018) eight weeks before the session.

c) *Deliverable 2(c) - Global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services:* At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity invited IPBES to prepare a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services building, inter alia, on its own and other relevant regional, subregional and thematic assessments, as well as on national reports. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, approved the undertaking of the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services as outlined in the scoping report for the assessment set out in annex I to decision IPBES-4/1, section III, paragraph 3.

The global assessment will critically assess the state of knowledge on past, present and possible future trends in multi-scale interactions between people and nature, taking into consideration different world views and knowledge systems. The assessment will examine the status, trends (past and future), direct and indirect drivers of change, values and response options regarding nature (including biodiversity and the structure and functioning of ecosystems on land and in inland waters, coastal zones and global oceans), nature's contributions to people (including ecosystem goods and services), and the interlinkages between the elements in the IPBES conceptual framework. The assessment will also highlight thresholds, feedbacks, and resilience in such linkages, as well as opportunities, synergies and trade-offs between different response options. The assessment will furthermore analyse the contributions of biodiversity, ecosystems and their benefits to a long-term good quality of life in the context of sustainable development as expressed in the Sustainable Development Goals. The assessment will consider the synergies and trade-offs associated with meeting multiple goals, and the interactions among the social (including cultural), economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. This analysis will be undertaken in the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, its 2050 Vision and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. The assessment is intended to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem goods and services at a range of spatial scales from the local to global levels by providing the knowledge and policy-support tools needed for informed decision-making by Governments, the private sector and civil society. Technical support is provided by a technical support unit established at the IPBES secretariat in Bonn. The progress made on this deliverable is as follows:

- i. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel selected experts from the pool of experts nominated by member countries and organizations.
- ii. The first author meeting was held in Bonn, Germany (August 2016).
- iii. The IPBES Plenary, at its fifth session, welcomed the progress made in the global assessment (decision IPBES-5/1, section IV).
- iv. First-order drafts of the chapters of the assessment were made available for external peer review between June and August, 2017.
- v. The second author meeting was held in Cape Town, South Africa, in September 2017.
- vi. The second-order draft of the chapters of the assessment and a draft of the summary for policymakers of the assessment will be made available for external peer review between April and June 2018 (8 weeks).
- vii. The assessment will be presented to the IPBES Plenary at its seventh session (May 2019).

III. Objective 3 - Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services with regard to thematic and methodological issues

7. There are six deliverables/subdeliverables under this objective focused on strengthening the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services with regard to thematic and methodological issues. Each of these is summarized below along with information on progress in their implementation.

a) *Deliverable 3(a) - The thematic assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production:* The scope of this assessment covers changes in animal pollination as a regulating ecosystem service that underpins food production and its contribution to gene flows and restoration of ecosystems. It addresses the role of native and exotic pollinators, the status and trends in pollinators and pollination networks and services, drivers of change, impacts on human well-being, food production of pollination declines and deficits and the effectiveness of responses to pollination declines and deficits. The assessment is required for enhancing policy responses to declines and deficits in pollination. The assessment represents an early IPBES deliverable that aims to identify policy-relevant findings for decision-making in government, the private sector and civil society, as well as helping to demonstrate how an essential ecosystem service contributes to the post-2015 development agenda. The deliverable is intended to contribute to the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 on safeguarding and restoring ecosystems that provide essential services. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth meeting, approved the summary for policymakers of the assessment (contained in annex II to decision IPBES-4/1) and accepted the individual chapters of the assessment and their executive summaries⁴. The Conference of the Parties, at its thirteenth meeting, adopted decision XIII/15 on the implications of the IPBES assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production for the work of the Convention;

b) *Deliverable 3(b)(i) - Thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration:* This assessment will examine the global status of and trends in land degradation, by region and land cover type; the effect of degradation on biodiversity values, ecosystem services and human well-being; and the state of knowledge, by region and land cover type, of ecosystem restoration extent and options. The assessment will enhance the knowledge base for policies for addressing land degradation, desertification and the restoration of degraded land. It is anticipated that the

⁴ IPBES (2016): The assessment report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on pollinators, pollination and food production. S.G. Potts, V. L. Imperatriz-Fonseca, and H. T. Ngo (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 502 pages.

deliverable would contribute to the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework (2008–2018) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 14 and 15 on safeguarding and restoring ecosystems that provide essential services. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. The Plenary, at its third meeting (decision IPBES-3/18) approved the undertaking of a thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration, based on a scoping report.
- ii. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel selected experts from the pool of experts nominated by member countries and organizations. The work is supported by a technical support unit, composed of one consultant, based within the IPBES secretariat in Bonn, Germany.
- iii. The first author meeting took place in Bonn, Germany in September 2015.
- iv. A joint second author meeting for the four regional assessments as well as for the land degradation and restoration assessment was held in Bonn, Germany in July 2016.
- v. The second-order draft of the chapters of the assessment and a draft of the summary for policymakers of the assessment were made available for external peer review between May and July 2017.
- vi. A third author meeting was held in July 2017 in Rome, Italy, at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- vii. The draft chapters of the assessments and summaries for policymakers will be available to participants in the sixth session of the IPBES Plenary (March 2018) eight weeks before the session.

c) *Deliverable 3(b)(ii) - Thematic assessment - Invasive alien species and their control:* This report will assess the threat that invasive alien species pose to biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods and the global status of and trends in impacts of invasive alien species by region and subregion, taking into account various knowledge and value systems. It is anticipated that the assessment will contribute to the enhancement of national and international policies addressing invasive alien species, in particular on the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. In decision IPBES-3/1, the IPBES Plenary approved the initiation of scoping, primarily using virtual approaches, for a thematic assessment of invasive alien species.
- ii. An open access web-based scoping consultation (e-conference) was held in September 2015. A draft of the scoping document was prepared by the co-chairs of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel based on the e-conference inputs.
- iii. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, approved the scoping report for the assessment (contained in annex III to decision IPBES-4/1) and decided to consider the undertaking of the assessment at its fifth session.
- iv. At its fifth session, the Plenary decided to consider at its sixth session, subject to the availability of sufficient funds, the initiating of the pending thematic assessment on invasive alien species (decision IPBES-5/6).

d) *Deliverable 3(b)(iii) - Thematic assessment - Sustainable use of wild species:* It is anticipated that the assessment will contribute to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 3, 4, 6, 7, 12 and 18. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. In decision IPBES-3/1 IPBES approved the initiation of scoping, primarily using virtual approaches for a thematic assessment of sustainable use of biodiversity, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session.

- ii. An open access web-based scoping consultation (e-conference) was held in September 2015. A draft of the scoping documents was prepared by the co-chairs of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel based on the e-conference inputs.
- iii. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in consultation with the Bureau to undertake a further scoping of the assessment, including by organizing a face-to-face scoping workshop, for consideration at its fifth session.
- iv. At its fifth session, the Plenary approved the scoping report for a thematic assessment of sustainable use of wild species (decision IPBES-5/1, annex IV).
- v. Also at its fifth session, the Plenary decided to consider at its sixth session, subject to the availability of sufficient funds, the initiation of the pending thematic assessment on the sustainable use of wild species.

e) *Deliverable 3(c) – Methodological assessment - Scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services*: This assessment of methodologies for scenarios analysis and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services is important for guiding the use of such methodologies in all of IPBES work to ensure the policy relevance of its deliverables. Scenarios and models, including those based on participatory methods, have been identified as policy support tools and methodologies that can help decision makers to identify potential impacts of different policy options. Based on the findings of the methodological assessment, this deliverable will result in efforts to promote methods for the use of different types of knowledge and catalyse the development of databases, geospatial data, tools and methodologies for scenario analysis and modelling⁵. It is anticipated that the deliverable will contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as a whole. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth meeting, approved the summary for policymakers of the assessment (contained in annex IV to decision IPBES-4/1) and accepted the individual chapters of the assessment and their executive summaries⁶.

The Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to oversee further work related to scenarios and models, including the provision of expert advice on the use of existing models and scenarios to address the current needs of IPBES, and catalyzing the development of scenarios and associated models by the broader scientific community (see annex V to decision IPBES-4/1; and decision IPBES-5/1, section V). The work continued to be supported by the technical support unit at PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. Further recent work included:

- i. The convening of a workshop on “Biodiversity and ecosystem services scenarios for IPBES using shared socio-economic pathways” in Germany, in October 2017.
- ii. A workshop for chapter 5 of the global assessment in the Netherlands in February 2017.

⁵ Rosa, I., Pereira, H., Ferrier, S., Alkemade, R., Acosta, L., den Belder, E., Fazel, A.M., Fujimori, S., Harfoot, M., Harhash, K.A., Harrison, P.A., Hauck, J., Hendriks, R.J.J., Hernández, G., Jetz, W., Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen, S.I., King, N., Kok, M.T.J., Kolomytsev, G.O., Lazarova, T., Leadley, P., Lundquist, C.J., Márquez, J.G., Meyer, C., Navarro, L.M., Nesshöver, C., Ngo, H.T., Ninan, K.N., Palomo, M.G., Pereira, L.M., Peterson, G.D., Pichs, R., Popp, A., Purvis, A., Ravera, F., Rondinini, C., Sathyapalan, J., Schipper, A.M., Seppelt, R., Settele, J., van Vuuren, D. (2017) Multi-Scale Scenarios for Nature and Nature’s Benefits to People. *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, 1, 1416-1419.

⁶ IPBES, 2016: The methodological assessment report on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services, Ferrier, S., K. N. Ninan, P. Leadley, R. Alkemade, L.A. Acosta, H.R. Akçakaya, L. Brotons, W.W.L. Cheung, V. Christensen, K. A. Harhash, J. Kabubo-Mariara, C. Lundquist, M. Obersteiner, H.M. Pereira, G. Peterson, R. Pichs-Madruga, N. Ravindranath, C. Rondinini and B.A. Wintle (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 309 pages.

- iii. Work related to the catalysis of the development of scenarios and associated models by the broader scientific community, including the convening of a workshop in New Zealand in September 2017 on “New visions for nature and nature’s contributions to people for the 21st century”.

f) *Deliverable 3(d) - Diverse conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people including ecosystem services*: The assessment of tools and methodologies regarding multiple values of biodiversity to human societies is important for guiding the use of such methodologies in all IPBES work. Different valuation methodologies will be evaluated according to different visions, approaches and knowledge systems, and their policy relevance based on the diverse conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people. This assessment will result in a guide, and subsequently promote and catalyse the further development and use of tools and methodologies on these issues. The aim is that such policy support tools will help guide decision-making by taking into account the multiple values of nature and its benefits. It is anticipated that the deliverable will contribute to Strategic Goal A, and in particular the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 on the integration of biodiversity values. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. Following an open call for nominations, 39 experts were selected to work with a number of members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to scope the assessment and prepare a preliminary guide. Both documents were considered by the Plenary at its third meeting;
- ii. The Plenary, at its third session, requested the expert group (IPBES-3/1) to revise the preliminary guide, and the scoping report. Technical support for this work was provided by the Ecosystem Services and Economics (ESE) Unit of UN Environment’s Division of Environmental Policy Implementation.
- iii. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, welcomed the preliminary guide on the conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people. It also approved the scoping report on the methodological assessment regarding diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, contained in annex IV to decision IPBES-4/1, and decided to consider the undertaking of the assessment at its fifth session.
- iv. In the same decision, the Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to nominate two experts per IPBES assessment to ensure, in collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, that values and valuation are incorporated appropriately into all IPBES assessments. The mandate of this group was extended until the seventh session of the Plenary (decision IPBES-5/1, section VI). Work in response to this mandate included the provision of support to the consideration of values in the six ongoing assessments of IPBES; the convening of one expert meeting in Hungary in April 2017 for the global assessment, contribution to the online tool on multiple conceptualizations of values as part of the catalogue on policy support tools, and the catalysis of activities to promote the integration of values in research projects. This work continued to be supported by the technical support unit at the Ecosystems and Sustainability Research Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, with support from the National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico and the German Corporation for International Cooperation.
- v. Also at its fifth session, the Plenary decided to consider at its sixth session, subject to the availability of sufficient funds, the pending methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits.

IV. Objective 4 - Communicate and evaluate Platform activities, deliverables and findings

- 8. There are five deliverables under this objective, which is to communicate and evaluate Platform activities, deliverables and findings. Each of these is summarized below.

- a) *Deliverable 4(a) - Catalogue of relevant assessments:* The catalogue of assessments has been updated and integrated into the new web-based architecture of the catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies, supported by the technical support unit established at the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Center;
- b) *Deliverable 4(b) - Development of an information and data management plan:* This deliverable is being implemented as part of deliverable 1(d) above.
- c) *Deliverable 4(c) - Catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies:* A wide range of tools and methodologies are relevant to IPBES-related activities. A web interface (called a “catalogue”) featuring policy support tools and methodologies will be established to facilitate easy access by decision makers to tools and methodologies promoted by the Platform. It is envisaged that the deliverable will contribute to achieving Strategic Goal A of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The progress made on this deliverable is:
 - i. Following an open call for nominations, 20 experts were selected to work closely with members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau in developing guidance for further work on policy support tools and methods, and a further 33 experts were selected to provide an independent review of the draft guidance once developed.
 - ii. The expert group met from 8-11 June 2015 in Budapest, Hungary in order to revise the proposal for the catalogue based on the comments received during an open review (February/March 2015) and to begin establishing the online catalogue.
 - iii. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, took note of the guidance, encouraged stronger integration of work regarding policy support tools and methodologies across all relevant deliverables of the work programme, and invited the submission of relevant policy support tools and methodologies by experts, governments and stakeholders for inclusion in the catalogue. It also requested the further development of the catalogue, for a prototype to be available for testing and review prior to the fifth session of the Plenary. Furthermore, the Plenary requested the identification of the various needs of users for, and facilitation of the development of policy support tools for all relevant deliverables of the work programme. (decision IPBES-4/1, section VI);
 - iv. At its fifth session (decision IPBES-5/1, section VII), the IPBES Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau and supported by a reconstituted task-specific expert group on policy support tools and methodologies and the secretariat, to undertake a number of activities to advance this deliverable.
 - v. The reconstituted expert group complemented by resource people from relevant international processes and interested partners, developed a revised catalogue which was made available to Governments and stakeholders in November 2017 for their review. This work continued to be supported by the technical support unit established at the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Center.
- d) *Deliverable 4(d) - Set of communication, outreach and engagement strategies, products and processes:* This deliverable focuses on the further development and implementation of the communication strategy and stakeholder engagement strategy. It is envisaged that the deliverable will contribute to the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 on awareness-raising. The progress made on this deliverable is:
 - i. Activities were undertaken in the context of the communication and outreach strategy and collaboration with open-ended networks of stakeholders with regard to the implementation of the stakeholder engagement strategy in accordance with decision IPBES-4/4, with technical support for the implementation of the stakeholder engagement strategy provided by the International Union for Conservation of Nature; steps were taken to enter into additional strategic partnerships;

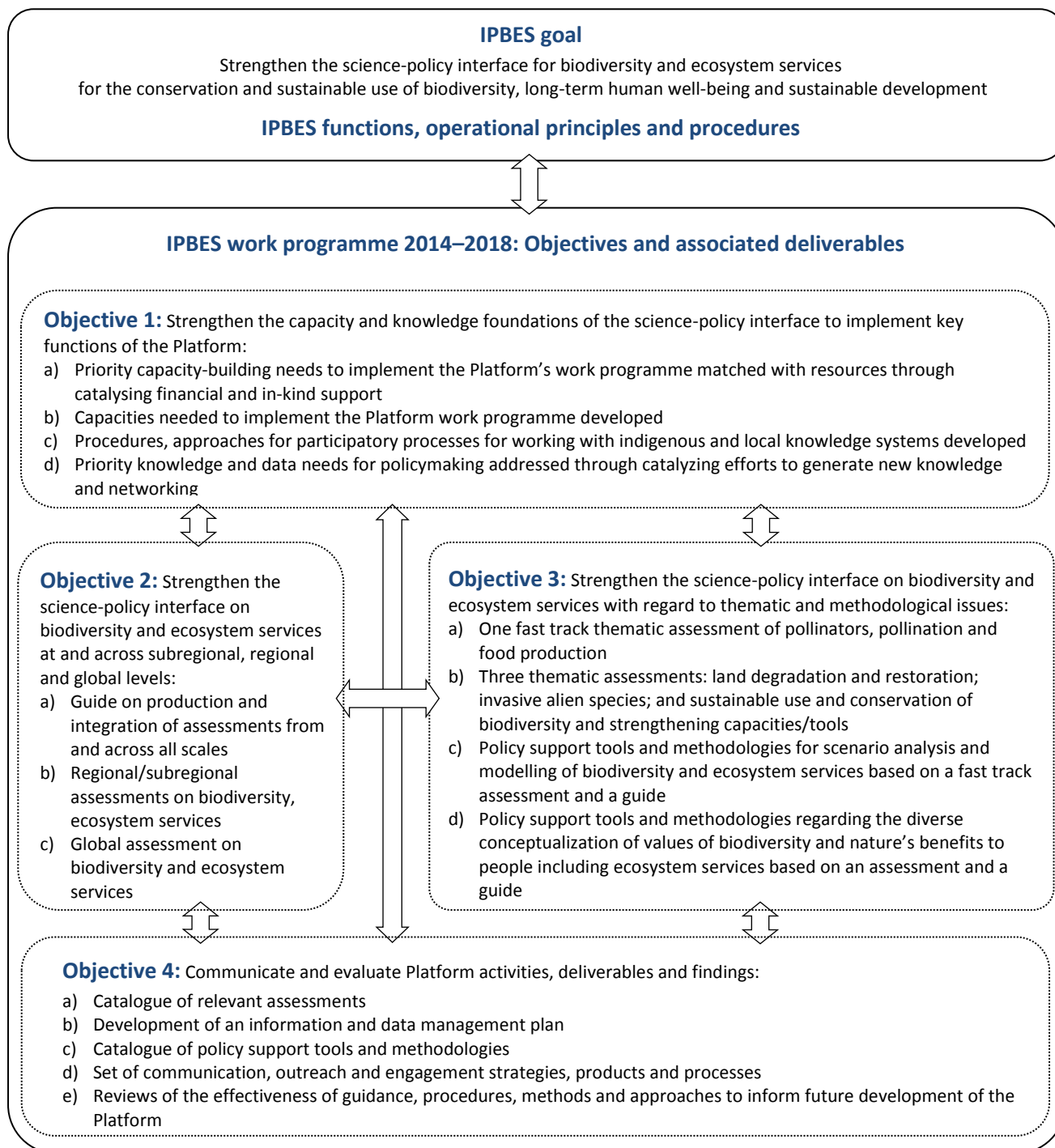
e) *Deliverable 4(e) - Reviews of the effectiveness of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches to inform future development of the Platform:* Regular reviews of the effectiveness of the Platform's guidance, procedures, methods and approaches were foreseen as part of its *modus operandi* when it was established. The progress made on this deliverable is:

- i. The IPBES Plenary, in decision IPBES-4/1, section VII, requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, to further refine the scope and terms of reference of the end-of-work-programme review for consideration by the Plenary at its fifth session.
- ii. At its fifth session, the Plenary adopted the terms of reference for the review (decision IPBES-5/2, annex) and provided guidance on their implementation.
- iii. During 2017, an internal review report was prepared by the internal review team and endorsed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau for the information of the Plenary at its sixth session, based on a questionnaire.
- iv. The Executive Secretary issued in November 2017 a call for the nomination of candidates for the review panel (external element of the review), and initiation of a bidding process for an external professional organization to coordinate the review. Nominations and expressions of interest will be received by 6 January 2018.

Additional information can be found on the IPBES web site (<http://www.ipbes.net/>), or obtained from the secretariat: secretariat@ipbes.net.

Annex I

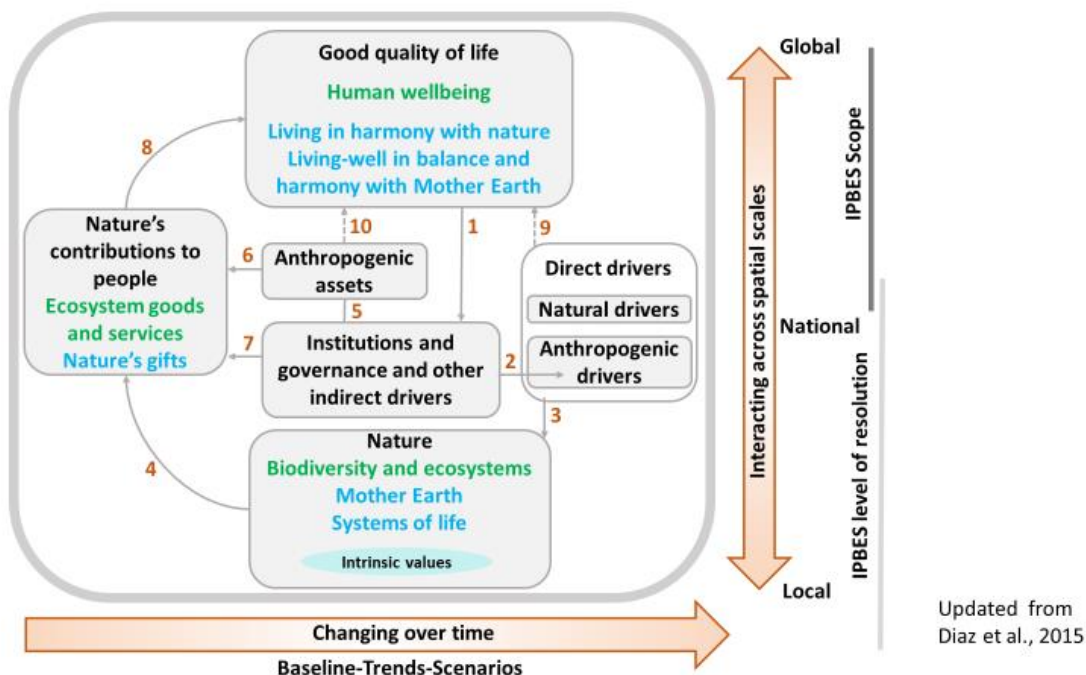
The IPBES work programme 2014-2018.



This diagramme represents the structure of the IPBES work programme approved by the second session of the IPBES Plenary (December 2013; IPBES/2/17). It is articulated around 4 objectives and includes a set of 18 deliverables. The present note presents progress on each one of these deliverables.

Annex II

Conceptual framework of IPBES



This diagramme represents the conceptual framework of IPBES approved by the second session of the IPBES Plenary (December 2013). It promotes an integrated approach to the assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and serves as a basis to structure all the work of IPBES, and its assessments in particular. It also promotes the use of various knowledge systems. It has been published as a short version (Diaz et al. 2015, PLoS Biology 13(1)), and as a long version (Diaz et al. 2015, Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, 14:1-16).

It is composed of six elements:

Nature refers to the natural world with an emphasis on biodiversity and ecosystems. Nature has values related to the provision of benefit to people, and also intrinsic values, independent of human experience.

Anthropogenic assets refer to knowledge, technology, financial assets, built infrastructure, etc.

Nature's contributions to people are all the benefits (and disbenefits) that humanity obtains from *nature*. By definition, all *nature's contributions* have human value, which can range from spiritual inspiration to market value. *Nature* also provides benefits to people directly without the intervention of society (e.g. oxygen). Many contributions, however, depend on the joint contribution of *nature* and *anthropogenic assets*, e.g. fish need to be caught to act as food.

Institutions and governance systems and other indirect drivers are the root causes of the *direct anthropogenic drivers* that affect *nature*. They include systems of access to land, legislative arrangements, international regimes such as agreements for the protection of endangered species, and economic policies.

Direct drivers, both natural and anthropogenic, affect nature directly. The *direct anthropogenic drivers* are those that flow from *human institutions and governance systems and other indirect drivers*. They include positive and negative effects, e.g. habitat conversion (e.g. degradation or restoration of land and aquatic habitats), climate change, and species introductions. Direct drivers can directly affect *nature*, *anthropogenic assets* and *quality of life* (e.g. volcanic eruptions), but these latter impacts are not the main focus of IPBES.

Good quality of life is the achievement of a fulfilled human life. It is a highly values-based and context-dependent element comprising multiple factors such as access to food, water, health, education, security, cultural identity, material prosperity, spiritual satisfaction, and freedom of choice. A society's achievement of *good quality of life* and the vision of what this entails directly influences *institutions and governance systems*

and other indirect drivers and, through them, all other elements. *Good quality of life*, also indirectly shape, via institutions, the ways in which individuals and groups relate to *nature*.
