



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
Technical and Technological Advice
Twenty-seventh meeting
Panama City, 20–24 October 2025
Item 4 of the provisional agenda***
**Matters related to the work programme of the
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform
on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**

Review of the scoping report for a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services and its potential implications for the work undertaken under the Convention

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. In decision [16/11](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity took note of the information contained in the overview of previous and future assessments and, as appropriate, other deliverables of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, including a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services to be considered by the Plenary of the Platform at its fifteenth session, in 2028.
2. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outputs of the Platform according to the schedule contained in the annex to the decision. In the schedule, the second global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services is tabled for consideration at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body held before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, itself scheduled for 2030.
3. At its eleventh session, the Plenary of the Platform approved the undertaking of a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as outlined in the scoping report for the assessment set out in annex I to decision IPBES-11/1.

II. Objective of the assessment and timeline

4. The overall objective of the second global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services¹ is to assess relevant knowledge that has become available since the publication of the first such assessment, as well as progress towards achieving sustainability and the vision of living in harmony

* CBD/SBSTTA/27/1.

¹ See www.ipbes.net/second-global-assessment.

with nature. Critical gaps in the first global assessment, as well as emerging issues, will also be addressed in the second assessment.

5. One of the specific objectives of the second global assessment is to support the assessment of progress towards the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

6. The authors of the second global assessment will incorporate and build on completed assessments of the Platform and the findings of other science-policy panels, identifying policy-relevant information for achieving the global goals referred to above. They will evaluate new information on the experiences of effecting transformative change and further options for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the vision of living in harmony with nature. The issues related to indigenous peoples and local communities, including multiple world views and values, will be addressed comprehensively.

7. The second global assessment will cover both regional and global dimensions. It will contain information relevant to all biogeographic and oceanographic zones, from the regional to the global level, including terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems.

8. In line with the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the period 2011–2020 will be prioritized as the reference period for monitoring and reporting progress. The analyses will consider trends up to 2025, focusing primarily on the past 50 years and, where information is available, looking as far back as relevant. In their analyses, the authors will also consider future pathways up to 2100, or as far forward as relevant, with a focus on the period 2030–2050.

III. Chapter outline

9. The assessment will consist of a summary for policymakers and five chapters, each with an executive summary of key findings. The assessment will also include a cross-chapter synthesis of the findings on oceans. A summary of each chapter of the assessment is provided below. For a more comprehensive overview, readers are invited to refer to the scoping report of the assessment.

Chapter 1: setting the scene

10. Chapter 1 will comprise sections on how the assessment applies the conceptual framework of the Platform, how the global context relating to biodiversity and nature's contributions to people has changed since the first global assessment, and the structure of the assessment.

Chapter 2: different knowledge systems and the role of indigenous peoples and local communities

11. In chapter 2, the authors will explore the diverse and plural values and world views of indigenous peoples and local communities all over the world. They will also assess the relevance of those values and world views to driving transformative change towards a just and sustainable world. The authors will draw out common themes and cross-cutting elements that will be considered and further elaborated in the following chapters.

Chapter 3: status and trends

12. Chapter 3 will consist of a description of the status and trends relating to the main elements of the conceptual framework of the Platform and the key connections among them. In each subchapter, the authors will use a range of indicators to describe the trends, with an emphasis on the indicators adopted under relevant multilateral environmental agreements, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity. In doing so, they will contribute to assessing trends relevant to progress against globally agreed goals, in particular, where possible, those of the Framework, while avoiding potential duplication with work undertaken under other processes, such as those conducted under the Convention.

13. Chapter 3 will comprise four subchapters, as follows:

(a) *Good quality of life*. In this subchapter, the authors will discuss the connection between nature and quality of life through nature's contributions to people, including the potential to alleviate poverty and improve health. They will also discuss how conceptions of good quality of life help to shape indirect drivers of change;

(b) *Direct and indirect drivers*. The subchapter will contain a description and summary of trends in indicators that measure direct and indirect drivers of change in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems;

(c) *Nature*. The subchapter will contain a description of indicators that measure aspects related to nature, ecological processes, ecosystem integrity and connectivity across the range of taxonomic groups and terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. The subchapter will also provide evidence of the impact of drivers of change on nature and an assessment of the impacts of conservation, restoration and sustainable use;

(d) *Nature's contributions to people*. The authors will provide evidence regarding the status of and trends in nature's material and non-material contributions to people, from terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. They will build on completed assessments of the Platform to describe evidence of the value of nature's contributions to people, trade-offs and co-benefits among contributions.

Chapter 4: future pathways

14. In chapter 4, the authors will consider a variety of future pathways and highlight the actions needed, as well as challenges and opportunities in the light of the transformative pathways needed to meet globally agreed goals. The chapter will end with a summary of the consequences of following a business-as-usual model, as opposed to transformative pathways.

15. Chapter 4 will comprise three subchapters, as follows:

(a) *Setting the stage regarding future pathways*. For this subchapter, the authors will build on information contained in *The Methodological Assessment Report on Scenarios and Models of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, including by taking into consideration the importance of assessing a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods;

(b) *Urgency of action*. The authors will highlight the pace and magnitude of the transformative change required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature;

(c) *Transformative pathways*. The authors will examine synergies and trade-offs in transformative pathways, from a nexus perspective and across social groups and sectors. They will also assess how different drivers and combinations of drivers contribute to achieving biodiversity and sustainability goals, on the basis of policy and management intervention scenarios.

Chapter 5: options for action

16. In chapter 5, the authors will consider options for action by all actors at all levels. They will generally focus on timescales up to 2050 but may also consider longer timescales, if relevant.

17. Chapter 5 will comprise four subchapters, as follows:

(a) *Learning from past action*. In this subchapter, the authors will review evidence of success, or lack thereof, in meeting previous biodiversity goals adopted under multilateral environmental agreements. They will also consider lessons learned from the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and early information on progress in the implementation and monitoring of the goals and targets of the Framework;

(b) *Building on successful examples.* The authors will identify promising options for actions and synthesize evidence of the factors and enabling conditions that allow actions and innovations to be sustained and disseminated to promote transformative change;

(c) *A portfolio of options for action.* The authors will review options and targets for action. They will also examine realistic options for strengthening the implementation of the Framework. They will build on the findings of the methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people of the Platform, due to be delivered in 2026;

(d) *Financing.* The authors will review challenges faced by countries, in particular developing countries, and other actors in leveraging resources to support the implementation of the objectives of the assessment. They will also evaluate enabling factors and barriers to action in relation to the goals and targets of the Framework.

IV. Implications for work undertaken under the Convention

18. The second global assessment will contain information and analyses relevant to the final global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework to be conducted at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The usefulness of the assessment in the context of the global review could be enhanced if the assessment is directly linked with the goals and targets of the Framework.

V. Recommendations

19. The Subsidiary Body may wish to encourage Parties to fully engage in the preparatory process for the second global assessment, including the peer reviews, and to provide views to maximize the usefulness of the assessment for the final global review mentioned above. A recommendation to that effect is included in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/3.
