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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. 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)).
2. At its nineteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice recommended (recommendation XIX/5) that the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting initiate the preparation for a fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* which should draw upon the thematic, regional and global assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and any relevant scenario and analysis of biodiversity and ecosystem services undertaken as part of these assessments, among other things.
3. 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. The present note provides background information for documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/9 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/13. The note has been prepared by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and is being made available in the form and language in which it was provided to the Secretariat.

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/1/Rev.1.

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

1. 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 conceptual framework for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.²

2. This report provides information on the decisions taken by the Plenary of IPBES at its fourth session, which was held from 22-28 February 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as well as other work undertaken in the period October 2015 to March 2016 (since SBSTTA 19), and builds upon document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/INF/11. It has been structured around the different objectives and deliverables of IPBES' work programme.

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

3. 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 the Platform's functions in identifying and prioritizing capacity-building needs related to the IPBES work programme, and helps to identify resources for meeting those needs. In order to advance these deliverables the Platform also provides a forum with conventional and potential sources of funding, and implements a "matchmaking facility". 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, Member Governments approved a list of priority capacity-building needs. These priority needs, identified with the support of the task force on capacity-building, are set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/1. 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). The task force will meet from 19-22 April 2016 in Budapest, Hungary.
- ii. The task force on capacity-building is developing a prototype matchmaking facility to support implementation of the Platform's work programme. UNDP is supporting the development of the online component of the matchmaking facility through BES-Net. The aim of this facility is to bring together those who have capacity-building needs with those able to help meet those needs, whether technical or financial. The task force was requested by the Plenary, at its fourth session, to continue the piloting of the prototype matchmaking facility (decision IPBES-4/1, section I, para. 2).

¹ Available at http://www.ipbes.net/images/decisions/Decision%20IPBES_2_5.pdf.

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

- iii. The first IPBES capacity-building forum took place in Dehradun, India, 19-22 October 2015. The Plenary, in decision IPBES-4/1, section I, paragraph 4 took note of the lessons learned from the first forum and requested the convening of a second meeting of the forum. The second IPBES capacity-building forum is tentatively scheduled to be held in September 2016.
- 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). Thirty-three fellows selected as part of the IPBES fellowship pilot programme support the four regional assessments and the thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration. The programme aims to build capacity among early career experts in the science-policy interface. The fellows participate throughout the assessment process as part of the chapter teams. In addition to participating in the author meetings, the fellows participated in a one-week training workshop from 7-11 December 2015 in Bonn, Germany. Fellows to participate in the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services can be nominated until 5 May 2016.
 - 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 decision IPBES-4/3, and will form part of the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables contained in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3. It requested the task force and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to continue to further develop the approaches to incorporating ILK into the Platform (decision IPBES-4/1, section II, para. 5).
 - ii. The Plenary also took note of the progress made in the development of a roster of ILK holders and ILK experts and urged the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in conjunction with the task force, to further develop that roster (decision IPBES-4/1, section II, para. 3).
 - iii. Further, the Plenary, at its fourth meeting, took note of the approach for the participatory mechanism for working with indigenous, local and various knowledge systems and requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, with the support of the task force, to pilot the mechanism (decision IPBES-4/1, section II, para. 3).
 - iv. The Plenary also took note of the progress made in piloting ILK dialogue workshops and requested the continued piloting of such workshops in the preparation of assessments with a view to considering this methodology at its fifth session. The task force convened a dialogue workshop in Panama (1-4 December 2014) in the context of the assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production, in Paris, France, (14-16 September 2016) in the context of the African regional assessment (14-16 September 2015), and in the context of the European and Central Asia regional assessment (11-13 January 2016). Further dialogue workshops in the context of the regional assessments

- on biodiversity and ecosystem services are planned in June/July 2016 for the Asia-Pacific and Americas regions.
- v. A meeting of the task force is tentatively scheduled for 20-24 June 2016 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

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 task force completed a number of key activities set out in the data and information management plan of 2015, approved by IPBES-3. This includes the further development of data and information management plans for IPBES assessments, included in the guide for assessments for use by all regions; and the further development of the knowledge and data strategy. Further completed activities include the development of a proposal on a core set of indicators across the four regions; an on-line survey on access to literature and initiatives to increase this access; as well as establishment of a literature repository system to store literature and share among assessment experts, and a literature management system to generate lists of references to be publicly shared. A meeting of the task force is tentatively scheduled from 13 to 17 June in Bonn, Germany.
- ii. A dialogue workshop will be held late 2016/ early 2017 in collaboration with partner organizations to catalyze the generation of new knowledge, in order to fill gaps identified through IPBES assessments.

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

4. 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. It was developed by nine experts, selected following a call for nominations, working with 12 MEP and Bureau members and a further 48 experts in charge of providing an independent review of successive drafts. Technical support is provided by the UNEP 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, para. 1). It is planned to make the guide available as an e-book on the IPBES website.

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 Policy Makers (SPMs) are to be submitted for the consideration of the 6th session of the IPBES Plenary (early 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 provides a generic chapter outline, a timetable and a cost estimate for the four regional assessments, 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 the 5th MEP meeting (April 2015), the MEP selected experts from the pool of experts (IPBES/MEP-5/11) nominated by member countries and organizations.
- iii. The first author meetings were held in Bogota, Colombia (20 to 27 July 2015), Pretoria, South Africa (3-7 August 2015), Tokyo, Japan (17 – 21 August 2015) and Engelberg, Switzerland (31 Aug- 4 September 2015). All four meetings produced Zero Order Drafts (ZOD).
- iv. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, welcomed the progress made in the regional and subregional assessments (decision IPBES-4/1, section III, para. 2).
- v. The next step is the production of the first order drafts (by end of May 2016) and their external review (6 weeks in June/July 2016). A joint second author meeting for all four assessments and the assessment of land degradation and restoration is tentatively scheduled from 22 to 26 August 2016 in Bonn, Germany.

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 progress made on this deliverable is as follows:

- i. 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.
- ii. 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 benefits 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.

- iii. Nominations for experts to contribute to the global assessment can be submitted until 5 May 2016. The first author meeting is scheduled for 15-19 August 2016. It is anticipated that the global assessment would be submitted for consideration to the Plenary of IPBES in early 2019.
- iv. SBSTTA, at its twentieth meeting, will consider, under agenda item 11, information related to the *Global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services* as it relates to work under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Further information as well as draft recommendations are contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/13.

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

5. 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. It is anticipated that the deliverable will contribute to the attainment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 on safeguarding and restoring ecosystems that provide essential services. The progress made on this deliverable is:
 - i. The first author meeting was held in Siegburg, Germany from 30 June – 4 July 2014, following which the zero order draft was developed.
 - ii. A Global Dialogue Workshop on Indigenous and Local Knowledge on Pollination and Pollinators associated with Food Production was held in Panama City, Panama, 1-5 December 2014. A workshop on the confidence framework (23-24 March 2015) and a science-policy workshop (6-7 May 2015) were held in Cambridge, UK. The zero order draft was subject to two rounds of internal review by authors and members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in August and November/December 2014, and thereafter developed into the first order draft.
 - iii. The first review of the first order draft by experts took place from 19 January - 2 March, 2015 (6 weeks).
 - iv. The second author meeting was held in Belém, Brazil from 9 – 13 March 2015.
 - v. The second order draft of the full technical report and the first order draft of the summary for policymakers for deliverable 3a: Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production were prepared.
 - vi. The second review by Governments and Experts was held from 22 May – 17 July, 2015 (8 weeks).
 - vii. The third author meeting was held in Rome, Italy, from 27 – 31 July, 2015.

- viii. 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 summaries.
 - ix. SBSTTA, at its twentieth meeting, will consider, under agenda item 7, the implications of this assessment for work under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Further information as well as draft recommendations are contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/9.
 - x. During the second session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly, a media round table on the summary for policymakers on the assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production will be held to discuss implications of the assessment for the national level.
 - xi. Additional media events and presentations at key national and international events are planned throughout 2016.
- 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 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. IPBES-3 (Decision IPBES-3/18) approved the undertaking of a thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration, based on a scoping report.
 - ii. Following a call for experts, about 100 experts were selected by the MEP in April 2015 to participate in the preparation of the report. In order to respond to a request from the Plenary to develop a coordinated approach among the regional assessments and the thematic assessments, half of these experts are working as Lead Authors in in both their respective regional assessment and the land degradation and restoration assessment, while the other half are contributing only to the land degradation and restoration assessment. 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 from 20-24 September 2015 and produced a zero order draft, including detailed outlines for each of the six chapters of the report. The zero order draft was subject to two rounds of internal review by authors and members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in December/January 2015/2016 and March 2016.
 - iv. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, welcomed the progress made in the assessment of land degradation and restoration (decision IPBES-4/1, section IV, para. 2).
 - v. The next step is the production of the first order draft (by end of May 2016) and its external review (6 weeks in June/July 2016). A joint second author meeting with the regional/subregional assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services is scheduled from 22 to 26 August in Bonn, Germany.
- c) *Deliverable 3(b)(ii) - Thematic assessment - Invasive alien species and their control:* This assessment 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.

- 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 from 7-25 September 2015. A draft of the scoping document was prepared by the MEP co-chairs 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.

d) *Deliverable 3(b)(iii) - Thematic assessment - Sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and strengthening capacities and tools:* This assessment will address the ecological, economic, social and cultural importance, conservation status, drivers of change, of mainly harvested and traded biodiversity related products and wild species. It will also assess the potential of the sustainable use of biodiversity for the enhancement of livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities, including the role of traditional governance and institutions. It will identify guidelines, methods and tools and promote best practices, including both modern technologies and indigenous and local knowledge, for sustainable management and harvesting. The assessment will contribute to identification of related knowledge gaps and better technologies, including in respect of indigenous and local knowledge. It will also contribute to the development of policy support tools and methodologies, to enhancing sustainable management schemes (including the establishment and management of harvest quotas), to aiding compliance and enforcement measures, and to addressing capacity-building needs in countries of origin. 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 these deliverables 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 from 7-25 September 2015. A draft of the scoping documents was prepared by the MEP co-chairs 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. The scoping workshop has been scheduled, tentatively, from 2 to 4 August 2016.

e) *Deliverable 3(c) - Methodological assessment-Scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services:* The fast track assessment of methodologies for scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services is important for guiding the use of such methodologies in all of the Platform's 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 an evolving guide, followed by 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 modelling. It is anticipated that the deliverable will contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as a whole. The progress made on this deliverable is:

f) Following an open call for nominations, about 80 experts were selected for this assessment. The Technical Support Unit is hosted by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL, The Netherlands).

g) The first author meeting was held in Egmond aan Zee, the Netherlands from 27-31 October 2014

h) The first review of the assessment by experts was held from 9 January - 27 February 2015 (7 weeks)

i) The second author meeting was held in Ushuaia, Argentina from 9-13 March 2015

j) The second order draft of the individual chapters and the first order draft of the Summary for Policymakers were prepared.

k) The second review phase was held from 15 May – 9 July 2015.

l) The third author meeting was held from 27-31 July 2015 (Beijing, China)

m) 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 summaries.

n) SBSTTA, at its twentieth meeting, will consider, under agenda item 11, the implications of this assessment for work under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Further information as well as draft recommendations are contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/13.

o) 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). An expert workshop is tentatively scheduled for 3 to 7 October 2016 in Leipzig, Germany.

p) Deliverable 3(d) - *Diverse conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature's benefits 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 benefits to people including provisioning, regulating and cultural services. 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 Bureau and MEP members to scope the assessment and prepare a preliminary guide. Both documents were considered by IPBES-3.
- ii. IPBES-3 requested the expert group (IPBES-3/1) to revise the preliminary guide, and the scoping report. Technical support for this work has been provided by the Ecosystem Services and Economics (ESE) Unit of UNEP's Division of Environmental Policy Implementation.
- iii. The preliminary guide was revised based on comments from an open review. The scoping document was revised based on comments made during the third session of the IPBES Plenary and an open review.

- iv. The IPBES Plenary, at its fourth session, welcomed the preliminary guide on the conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature's benefits 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.
- v. The Plenary also 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.

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

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

a) *Deliverable 4(a) - Catalogue of relevant assessments:* The existing online catalogue of assessments will be maintained and further developed. The catalogue will provide the basis for periodic critical reviews of the assessment landscape and lessons learned. It will facilitate the identification of inputs to the thematic, regional and global assessments, support knowledge exchange and help avoid duplication of efforts. Periodic reviews of lessons learned and captured in the catalogue will inform the Platform's processes. The Catalogue of Assessments was established in 2012 (<http://catalog.ipbes.net>), and has already been used in developing one critical review of the assessment landscape.

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 MEP and Bureau members 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)

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. A communication strategy was developed for the launch of the assessment reports on pollinators, pollination and food production and on scenario analysis and modelling.
- ii. Stakeholder engagement strategy and implementation plan: The Plenary, at its fourth meeting (decision IPBES-4/4, section II), welcomed strategic partnerships between open-ended networks of stakeholders and the Platform, and requested the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the open-ended networks of stakeholders. The Executive

Secretary was also requested to undertake the activities set out in the initial implementation plan of the stakeholder engagement strategy provided in the appendix to annex II to decision IPBES/3.4, and to finalize the institutional arrangements needed to establish such strategic partnerships.

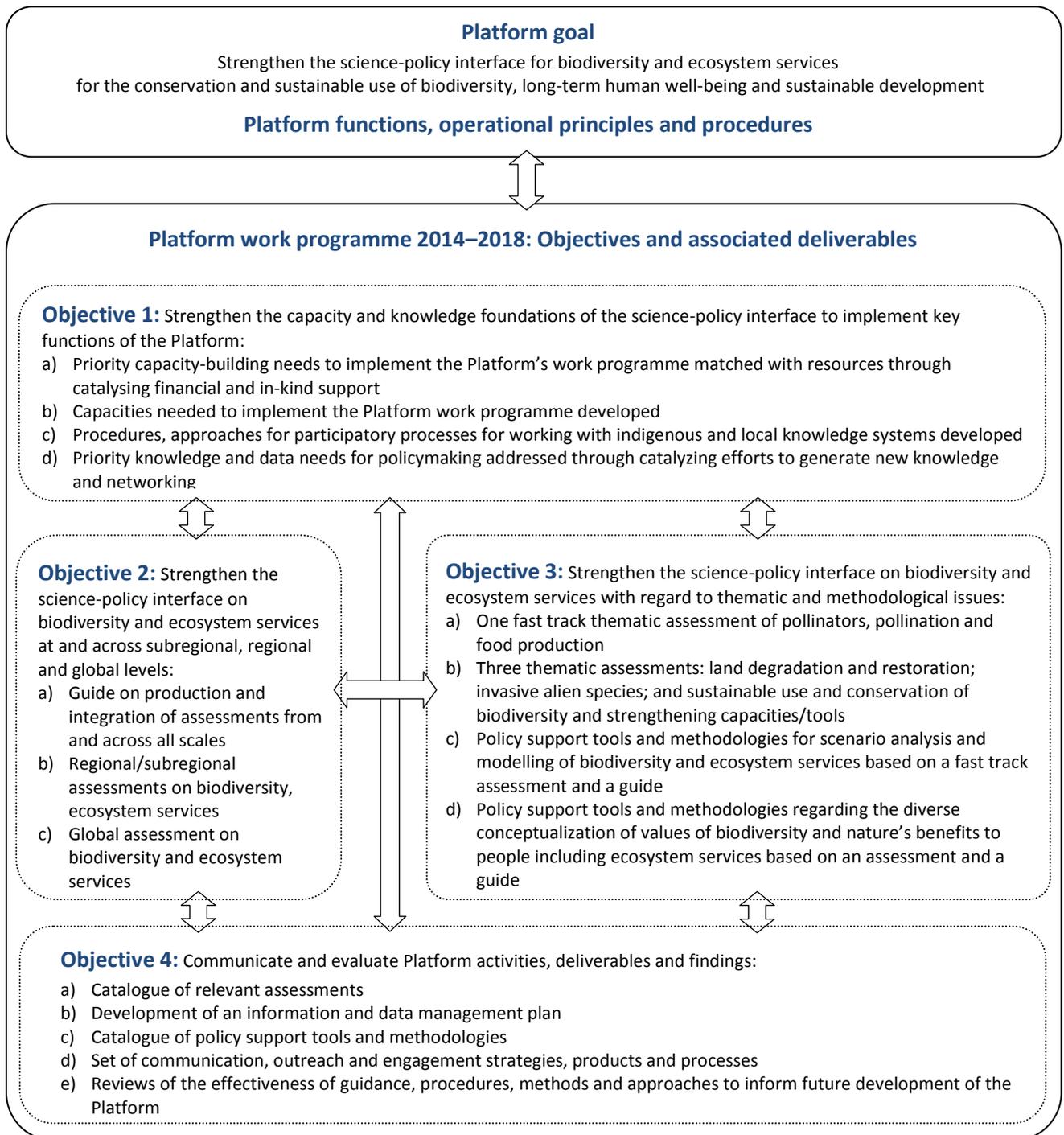
- iii. The Plenary also requested the Executive Secretary to finalize memoranda of cooperation with the secretariats of the individual multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services and the secretariat of the Platform (decision IPBES-4/4, para.1).

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 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.

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

Annex I

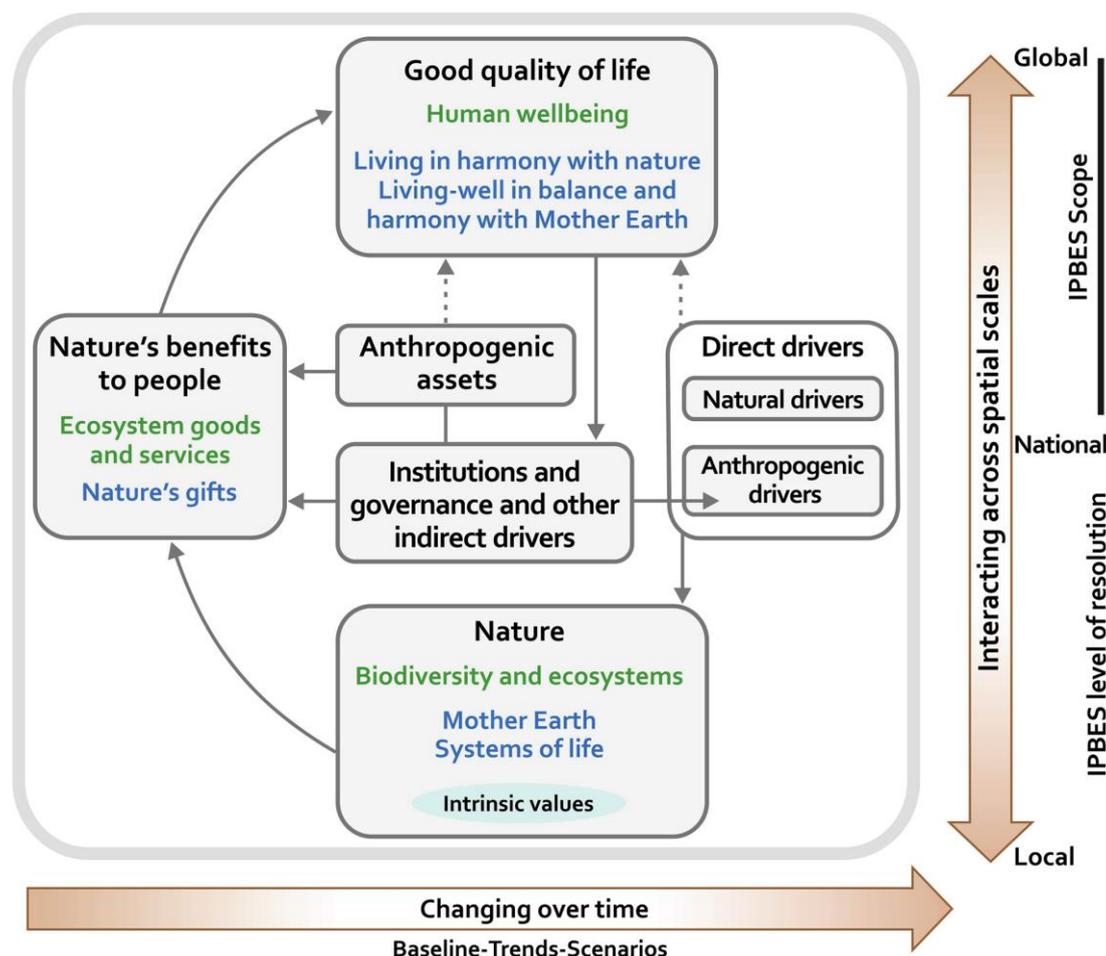
The IPBES work programme 2014-2018.



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 diagram 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 refers to knowledge, technology, financial assets, built infrastructure, etc.

Nature's benefits to people are all the benefits (and disbenefits) that humanity obtains from nature. By definition, all nature's benefits 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 benefits, 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*.
