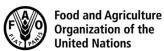
# UNITED NATIONS











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#### IPBES/8/INF/5



# Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

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Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Eighth session

Online, 14–24 June 2021 Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

Assessing knowledge: scoping report for a thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health

Report on the workshop on biodiversity and pandemics held to support the scoping of the thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health

#### Note by the secretariat

- 1. In the light of the extraordinary situation caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and considering the role that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) can play in reaching the public and in strengthening the knowledge base related to the link between pandemics and biodiversity, the IPBES Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel decided that IPBES would organize a virtual Platform workshop to support the scoping of the thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, climate, water, food, energy and health, also known as the nexus assessment. An overview of the process for the preparation of the scoping report on the nexus assessment is set out in the annex to document IPBES/8/INF/4. The workshop was held online from 27 to 31 July 2020, as a Platform workshop, in accordance with IPBES procedures.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. The purpose of the workshop was to review the evidence of the transmission of infectious diseases from wild animals to humans, the relationship between pandemics and biodiversity, in particular the drivers of pandemics, and options for action related to biodiversity and ecosystem services, in the context of the current pandemic and for the prevention of future outbreaks.
- 3. Governments and other stakeholders were invited to nominate as workshop participants experts with recognized expertise related to biodiversity and pandemics, including expertise in ecology, the evolution of infectious diseases, epidemiology, public health, political science, economics and the behavioural sciences.<sup>2</sup> In response to the call, the secretariat received 116 nominations. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel selected 22 experts to participate in the workshop, including 5 experts from ongoing assessments and scoping processes to serve as liaison experts.
- 4. In line with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel appointed a subset of its members to act as a scientific steering committee for the workshop, including Luthando Dziba (co-chair of the Panel), Isabel Sousa Pinto, Judith Fisher and Katalin Török. Douglas Beard and Hamid Custovic participated in the organization of the work as representatives of the Bureau.

<sup>\*</sup> IPBES/8/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Platform workshops are described in section 6.1 of the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables, set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The call for nominations for the IPBES workshop on biodiversity and pandemics document is set out in document EM/2020/09.

5. A draft report on the workshop was prepared and made available, from 2 to 16 October 2020, for external review. Approximately 1,400 comments were received from 66 reviewers. Participants in the workshop took the comments into account in finalizing the workshop report, which was launched during a press event on 29 October 2020. The final version of the report was published online on 9 December 2020 and is available on the IPBES website at https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/IPBESPandemicsReport.pdf.

The list of workshop participants is set out in the annex to the present note, which has not been formally edited.

### Annex

## List of participants

MULTIDISCIPLINARY EXPERT PANEL		
Luthando Edward Dziba	South African National Parks, South Africa	
Judith Fisher	Fisher Research Pty Ltd, Australia	
Isabel Sousa Pinto	University of Porto, Portugal	
Katalin Török	Centre for Ecological Research, Hungary	
BUREAU		
Douglas Beard	Geological Survey, United States of America	
Hamid Custovic	University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina	
LIAISON EXPERTS		
Peter Daszak	Workshop chair; EcoHealth Alliance, United States of America; expert assisting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in scoping the nexus assessment	
Paola Mosig	La Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico; lead author, assessment of the sustainable use of wild species	
Karen O'Brien	University of Oslo, Norway; expert assisting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in scoping the transformative change assessment	
Unai Pascual	Ikerbasque, Basque Centre for Climate Change, Spain; co-Chair, values assessment	
Peter Stoett	University of Ontario, Institute of Technology, Canada; co-Chair, assessment of invasive alien species	
EXPERTS		
Heliana Dundarova	Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria	
Yasha Feferholtz	Resource Mobilization Panel of the Convention on Biological Diversity; Chile; EcoHealth Alliance	
Gabor Foldvari	Institute of Evolution, Centre for Ecological Research, Hungary	
David Hayman	Massey University, United Kingdom	
Etinosa Igbinosa	University of Benin, Nigeria	
Sandra Junglen	Institute of Virology, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany	
Thijs Kuiken	Department of Viroscience, Erasmus University Medical Centre, Netherlands	
Qiyong Liu	Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, China	
Carlos Das Neves	Norwegian Veterinary Institute, Portugal	
Benjamin Roche	French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), France	
Gerardo Suzán	School of Veterinary Medicine and Husbandry (FMVZ), National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico	
Carlos Zambrana Torrelio	Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (Plurinational State of) Bolivia; EcoHealth Alliance	
Marcela Uhart	University of California, Davis, United States of America; Argentina	
Chadia Wannous	Towards A Safer World (TASW) Network, Future Earth; Syria	
Katie Woolaston	Queensland University of Technology, Australia	
John Amuasi	Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana	
Peter Buss	Kruger National Park, South African National Parks, South Africa	

RESOURCE PERSONS	
Nichole Barger	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
David Cooper	Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Tom de Meulenaer	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
Hans Otto-Poertner	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
Cristina Romanelli	World Health Organization (WHO)
IPBES Secretariat	
Anne Larigauderie	Executive Secretary
Hien Ngo	Head of technical support unit, Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
Satomi Yoshino	Associate Programme Officer