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|  | | **Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** | | | | | Distr.: General 20 January 2017  English only | |

Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy

Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Fifth session

Bonn, Germany, 7–10 March 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda[[1]](#footnote-1)\*

Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation   
of the work programme for the period 2014–2018

Progress report on the implementation of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 2 (c))

Note by the secretariat

In section III of decision IPBES-4/1, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) approved the undertaking of a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables (decision IPBES-3/3, annex I) and as outlined in the scoping report for such a global assessment set out in annex I to the decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session. The annex to the present note sets out information on the composition of the expert group performing the assessment (section II) and progress in their work (section III). It is presented without formal editing.

Annex

Progress report on the implementation of the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services

I. Context

1. The global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, composed of six chapters, 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), drivers of change (direct and indirect), 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 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 is intended to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem goods and services at a range of spatial scales from local to global, by providing the knowledge and policy support tools.

II. Composition of the expert groups performing the global assessment

A. Dedicated Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau members comprising the management committee for the global assessment

1. In accordance with the rules of procedures for the preparation of the Platform’s deliverables (annex I to decision IPBES-3/3), members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau oversee the production of the assessment report. A subset of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and Bureau, the co-chairs of the global assessment, members of the IPBES secretariat and the technical support unit form the management committee for the global assessment. The management committee oversees progress towards the preparation of the global assessment, and assists and guides authors in ensuring proper development and review of material. Aside from the first meeting of the management committee for the global assessment (see para 3), all management committee meetings have and will be held remotely and periodically (at the minimum once every quarter) or when needed.
2. The first management committee meeting for the global assessment was held from the 11 to 12 June 2016, Bonn, Germany, chaired by the global assessment co-chairs, was held back-to-back with the 7th meetings of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau. Its main objectives were to finalise the allocation of roles for coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors based on the list of experts selected by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel at its 7th meeting, as well as the selection of fellows. Preparation for the first author meeting of the global assessment was also discussed.

B. Process for the selection of experts

1. A call for the nomination of experts was sent by the IPBES Chair to all IPBES Member states and observers on 11 March 2016, with approximately 8 weeks to respond, resulting in 459 applications. The selection of experts was performed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, with the management committee finalising the allocation of roles to these experts as mentioned in para 3 above. In order to reach a satisfactory combination of expertise and a good geographic and gender balances, it was necessary to use the procedure for filling gaps in the availability of experts, approved by IPBES-4 (annex I to decision IPBES-4/3). A total of 59 experts were selected out of the original nomination pool (including co-chairs) and an additional 58 experts were pre-selected using the approved gap-filling procedure, totalling 117 experts to date (excluding review editors and fellows). There are 95 experts listed in appendix I as 22 pre-selected experts from the gap-filling set of experts are awaiting confirmation of nomination from their Governments, in order to be considered as selected, and are thus not included in appendix I. The selection of review editors will be finalised early 2017.
2. The global assessment also includes 16 early career fellows spread across the assessment chapters as part of the IPBES Fellowship Pilot Programme (IPBES-4/1 section I, paragraph 1; see IPBES/5/INF/3). The call for their nomination of coincided with the call for the nomination of experts.
3. The composition of the expert group is presented in appendix I to this annex.

C. The technical support unit (TSU) for the global assessment

1. In August 2016, the consultancy position for the head of the technical support unit for the global assessment was announced. A total of 52 people applied and three were interviewed according to the recruitment procedures from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).   
   Hien T. Ngo was selected to fill in this position. The role of each technical support unit is to provide scientific, technical and organizational support toward the delivery of the assessment report. In addition, the technical support units liaise with the task forces and other expert groups, as necessary, in order to ensure that cross-cutting issues are properly addressed, as well as with other relevant partners and organisations.
2. In addition to the head, the technical support unit for the global assessment currently includes, under a project cooperation agreement between IPBES and the PBL Netherlands Environment Agency, 0.8 full time staff equivalent (FTE) on scenarios and models, provided by the technical support unit on scenarios and models. This is to fulfil the mandate requested by the Plenary for the further work of the technical support unit on scenarios and models. The scenarios and models technical support unit will provide advice to all IPBES expert teams, in particular those working on the thematic, regional and global assessments on the use of scenarios. The global assessment has two chapters (Chapters 4 and 5) which focus on plausible futures of nature, nature's benefits to people and their contributions to a good quality of life and scenarios and pathways towards a sustainable future, respectively.
3. Two additional offers to contribute to the technical support unit for the global assessment have been accepted by the Bureau, including one from the Government of Germany (funding for the recruitment by the Executive Secretary of one professional post for three years) and one from the Government of the United States of America (secondment of one professional staff at the TSU in Bonn). Both are expected to be in place by the first quarter of 2017.

III. Progress towards preparation of the first order draft of the global assessment

1. The first author meeting for the global assessment was held from 15 to 19 August 2016, in Bonn, Germany. It was attended by approximately 110 participants including selected experts   
   (co-chairs, CLAs, and LAs), co-chairs of the regional assessments, management committee members, representatives of the scenarios and models technical support unit (Rob Alkemade and Thelma van den Brink), values technical support unit (David Gonzalez Jimenez), knowledge and data technical support unit (Changwan Seo and Taewoo Yi), capacity building technical support unit (Ingunn Storro), and a resource person from the Convention on Biological Diversity (David Cooper).
2. The objectives of the first author meeting were:
   1. To familiarize experts with the IPBES work programme, assessment process and secretariat;
   2. To familiarize the experts with their own assessment and chapter teams;
   3. To develop the chapter outlines and content;
   4. To develop chapter timelines and to assign team members roles and responsibilities;
   5. To identify expertise gaps.
3. At the end of this meeting, and in order to fully achieve these objectives, in particular objective (c) concerning content development, the coordinating lead authors (CLAs) requested additional chapter-specific meetings. Therefore, a separate workshop will be held for each individual chapter with experts from that chapter (except for chapter 1), thanks to extra budgetary funds, to develop content in the first quarter of 2017. The table below presents the origin of the funding for each workshop and the tentative dates and locations.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Chapter* | *Date* | *Location* | *Funding* |
| 2 | 13 to 17 March 2017 | Leipzig, Germany | Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit (BMU)  Germany |
| 3 | April 2017 | Bonn, Germany | To be confirmed |
| 4 | 27 February to 03 March 2017 | Aix-en-Provence, France | Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité (FRB), France |
| 5 | 7 to 10 February 2017 | The Hague, Netherlands | PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency/Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving  Netherlands |
| 6 | 30 January to 03 February 2017 | Trondheim, Norway | Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)  Norway |

1. Detailed chapter outlines for each of the six chapters were produced at the first author meeting and further developed for the zero order draft, based on the approved scoping report.
2. The internal review of the zero order draft will begin 23 January 2017. It consists in a review process within the author group and will last for approximately five weeks. Content development for all chapters will continue in parallel and until the deadline for the first external review.
3. The first order draft of the global assessment will undergo an external review, the First Review by Experts, between 15 June and 15 August, 2017. Following these 8 weeks, the comments will be collated by the technical support unit and distributed to the respective chapter authors for review and revision of the draft. These comments will be addressed at the second author meeting (September 2017).
4. The second author meeting will be held from 18 to 22 September 2017 at a location to be determined. It will be attended by the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, review editors, and dedicated members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, Bureau, task forces and secretariat. It will address the following main issues:
5. Handle the expert review comments from the First Review by Expert;
6. Begin the development of key messages and executive summaries (including key graphics);
7. Improve the overall quality and relevance of chapters’ content, in particular by:
   * 1. Examining the level of redundancy across chapters, and improving cross-chapter storylines;
     2. Standardizing the quality of scientific evidence across chapters and reviewing the effectiveness of the current standard method for reviewing literature from all knowledge systems;
     3. Reviewing inclusion of different knowledge systems;
     4. Reviewing inclusion of specific IPBES frameworks and work from completed IPBES assessments and guides (i.e. values, scenarios and models, etc.);
     5. Reviewing link to ongoing assessments (within and outside IPBES) and considering ways to improve this if not adequate;
8. An updated annotated timeline for the global assessment is provided in appendix II to this annex.

Appendix I:

List of experts for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services

Abbreviations: CC (co-chair), CLA (coordinating lead author), and LA (lead author)

This list is incomplete as the procedure for filling gaps in the availability of experts (annex I to decision IPBES-4/3) is still in progress.

| *Author list for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services* | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Role* | *Name* | | *Affiliation* | *Nominating Country / Organisation* |
| Assessment co-chairs | | | | |
| Co-chair | Sandra Díaz | | Instituto Multidisciplinario de Biología Vegetal (IMBIV-CONICET) and FCEFyN, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba | Argentina |
| Co-chair | Eduardo Brondizio | | Indiana University | Brazil |
| Co-chair | Josef Settele | | Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ; German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) | Germany |
| Chapter 1: Setting the scene | | | | |
| CLA | Sandra Díaz | | Instituto Multidisciplinario de Biología Vegetal (IMBIV-CONICET) and FCEFyN, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba | Argentina |
| CLA | Eduardo Brondizio | | Indiana University | Brazil |
| CLA | Josef Settele | | Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ; German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) | Germany |
| LA | Xuemei Bai | | Australian National University | Australia |
| LA | Arne Geschke | | The University of Sydney | Germany |
| Chapter 2: Status and Trends | | | | |
| CLA | | Lucas Garibaldi | Instituto de Investigaciones en Recursos Naturales, Agroecología y Desarrollo Rural (IRNAD), Sede Andina, Universidad Nacional de Río Negro (UNRN) | Argentina |
| CLA | | Zsolt Molnar | MTA ÖK Centre for Ecological Research | Hungary |
| CLA | | Cynthia Zayas | University of the Philippines | Ugnayang Pang-AghamTao, Inc. (Anthropological Association of the Philippines) |
| CLA | | Steve Polasky | University of Minnesota | USA |
| CLA | | Andy Purvis | Natural History Museum | UK |
| LA | | Alexander Pfaff | Duke University | USA |
| LA | | Patty Balvanera | Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) | Mexico |
| LA | | Aidin Niamir | Senckenberg, Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F) | Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) |
| LA | | Julian Gutt | Alfred Wegener Institute | International Council for Science (ICSU) |
| LA | | Fabrice DeClerck | Bioversity International/Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) | Belgium |
| LA | | Ute Jacob | German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) | Germany |
| LA | | Kate Brauman | University of Minnesota | University of Minnesota |
| LA | | Andrew Hendry | McGill University | USA |
| LA | | Nakul Chettri | International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) | International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) |
| LA | | Junsheng Li | Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences | China |
| LA | | Syed Ainul Hussain | Wildlife Institute of India | India |
| LA | | Nidhi Nagabhatla | The United Nations University | United Nations University |
| LA | Kazuhito Ichii | | Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) | Japan |
| LA | Emre Keskin | | Ankara University | Turkey |
| LA | Bardukh Gabrielyan | | Scientific Center of Zoology and Hydroecology, Academy of Sciences of Armenia | Armenian National Academy of Sciences and Russian Academy of Sciences |
| LA | Hannes Palang | | Tallinn University | Estonia |
| LA | Bayram Öztürk | | Istanbul University | Turkey |
| LA | Nsalambi Nkongolog | | Lincoln University of Missouri | Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| LA | Lynne Shannon | | Marine Research (MA-RE) Institute of the University of Cape Town | South Africa |
| LA | Leticia Merino | | Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) | Mexico |
| LA | Eduardo Garcia-Frapolli | | Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) | Mexico |
| LA | Andrés Viña | | Michigan State University | Colombia |
| LA | Madhu Verma | | Indian Institute of Forest Management | Indian Institute of Forest Management |
| Fellow | Pedro Jaureguiberry | | Universidad Nacional de Córdoba | Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research |
| Fellow | Anna Sidorovich | | The Scientific and Practical Centre for Bioresources of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus | The Scientific and Practical Centre for Bioresources of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus |
| Fellow | Uttam Babu Shrestha | | University of Southern Queensland | Global Young Academy |
| Fellow | Rashad Salimov | | Institute of Botany of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) | Institute of Botany of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) |
| Chapter 3: Progress towards international goals | | | | |
| CLA | Stuart Butchart | | Birdlife International | UK |
| CLA | Suneetha Subramanian | | United Nations University-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability | United Nations University |
| CLA | Belinda Reyers | | Stockholm Resilience Centre | South Africa |
| LA | Walter Jetz | | Yale University | Future Earth |
| LA | Elena Bennett | | McGill University | USA |
| LA | Ida Kubiszewski | | Australian National University | Australia |
| LA | Kathleen Galvin | | Colorado State University | USA |
| LA | Elisabeth Selig | | The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research | Norway |
| LA | Ishmael Bobby Mphangwe Kosamu | | University of Malawi | Malawi |
| LA | G.S. Singh | | Banaras Hindu University | India |
| LA | Haigen Xu | | Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences (NIES), Ministry of Environmental Protection of China | China |
| LA | Mostafa Panahi | | Islamic Azad University | Iran |
| LA | Bálint Czúcz | | Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle/MTA Centre for Ecological Research | Hungary |
| LA | Maria Gabriela Palomo | | National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) | Argentina |
| LA | Leonardo Galetto | | Universidad Nacional de Córdoba | Argentina |
| Fellow | Tuyeni Heita Mwampamba | | Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Fellow | Abigail Julia Lynch | | National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey | USA |
| Fellow | Aibek Samakov | | Universität Tübingen | Universität Tübingen |
| Chapter 4: Plausible futures | | | | |
| CLA | Pavel Kindlmann | | Charles University in Prague | Czech Republic |
| CLA | Rinku Roy Chowdhury | | Clark University | USA |
| CLA | Yunne-Jai Shin | | Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité (FRB) | France |
| CLA | Guy Midgley | | Stellenbosch University | South Africa |
| LA | Carlo Rondinini | | Sapienza University | International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) |
| LA | Andreas Heinimann | | University of Bern | Switzerland |
| LA | Almut Arneth | | Karlsruhe Institute of Technology | Germany |
| LA | Thierry Oberdorff | | Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) | Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) |
| LA | Philip Osano | | Stockholm Environment Institute | Stockholm Environment Institute |
| LA | Zhiyun Ouyang | | Chinese Academy of Sciences | China |
| LA | Jyothis Sathyapalan | | Centre for Economic and Social Studies | India |
| LA | Tianxiang Yue | | Chinese Academy of Sciences | China |
| LA | Osamu Saito | | United Nations University | Japan |
| LA | Melanie Kolb | | Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) | Mexico |
| LA | Rafael Loyola | | Conservation Biogeography Lab, Universidade Federal de Goiás, Brazil | Associação Brasileira de Ciência Ecológica e Conservação (ABECO) |
| LA | Ramon Pichs Madruga | | Centro de Investigaciones de la Economía Mundial (CIEM) | Cuba |
| Fellow | Ignacio Palomo | | Basque Centre for Climate Change | Basque Centre for Climate Change |
| Fellow | Basher Md Zeenatul | | Michigan State University | Michigan State University |
| Fellow | Patricio Pliscoff | | Universidad Catolica de Chile | Chile |
| Chapter 5: Pathways and policy intervention scenarios | | | | |
| CLA | Kai Chan | | University of British Columbia | Canada |
| CLA | John Agard | | The University of the West Indies | Trinidad and Tobago |
| CLA | Jianguo Liu | | Michigan State University | USA |
| LA | Thomas Hickler | | Senckenberg, Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F) | Germany |
| LA | Ralf Seppelt | | Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ | Germany |
| LA | Marcel Kok | | PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency | Netherlands |
| LA | Jens Jetzkowitz | | Philipps-University Marburg | Germany |
| LA | Terre Satterfield | | University of British Columbia | Canada |
| LA | Michael Murray Hudson | | Okavango Research Institute, University of Botswana | University of Botswana Okavango Research Institute |
| LA | Patrick O'Farrell | | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) | South Africa |
| LA | Wai Lung (William) Cheung | | University of British Columbia | Future Earth |
| LA | Dayuan Xue | | Minzu University of China | China |
| LA | Shizuka Hashimoto | | The University of Tokyo | Japan |
| LA | Hyun Woo Lee | | Korea Environment Institute | Korea |
| LA | Ali Kerem Saysel | | Boğaziçi University | Turkey |
| LA | Dolors Armentaras | | Universidad Nacional de Colombia | Universidad Nacional de Colombia |
| LA | Gladys Hernandez Pedraza | | Centro de Investigaciones de la Economía Mundial (CIEM) | Cuba |
| Fellow | Assem Mohamed | | Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR), Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Central Laboratory for Agricultural Climate (CLAC) | Egypt |
| Fellow | Odirilwe Selomane | | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) |
| Fellow | Lenke Balint | | The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) | RSPB/Birdlife International |
| Chapter 6: Opportunities and challenges for decision-makers | | | | |
| CLA | Ingrid Visseren-Hamakers | | George Mason University | USA |
| CLA | Volker Mauerhofer | | University of Vienna | UNEP Vienna -Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention |
| CLA | Edwin Muchapondwa | | University of Cape Town | Zimbabwe |
| LA | Pamela MceLwee | | Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey | Future Earth |
| LA | Esther Turnhout | | Wageningen University | Netherlands |
| LA | Leah Gerber | | Arizona State University | Arizona State University |
| LA | Karim Saiful | | Queensland University of Technology | Australia |
| LA | Ambika P. Gautam | | Kathmandu Forestry College | Nepal |
| LA | Jinlong Liu | | Renmin University of China | China |
| LA | Graciela Rusch | | The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research | Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) |
| LA | Lucas Joppa | | Microsoft Research | USA |
| LA | Mine Islar | | Lund University | Turkey |
| Fellow | Ivis Juileta Chan | | Plantlife International | Plantlife International |
| Fellow | Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares Onrubia | | University of Helsinki (UH) | University of Helsinki |
| Fellow | Michelle Mei Ling Lim | | Griffith University | International Social Science Council |

Appendix II

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| *Date* | *Actions and institutional arrangements* |
| **2016** | |
| First quarter | Plenary at its fourth session approves the undertaking of the global assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The Chair, through the secretariat, requests nominations from Governments and other stakeholders of experts to prepare the assessment report. |
| Second quarter | Secretariat compiles lists of nominations. The MEP selects the assessment co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors, using the approved selection criteria set out in decision IPBES‑3/3 (annex I). First meeting of the management committee for the global assessment takes place. |
| Third quarter | The first author meeting and the development of the Zero Order Draft using the approved scoping report. |
| Fourth quarter | Preparation of Zero Order Draft. |
| **2017** | |
| First quarter | Preparation of Zero Order Draft to the First Order Draft and an internal review; co-sponsored chapter workshops/meetings takes place. |
| Second/third quarter  (15 June to 15 August) | First Order Draft review by experts of the global assessment (8 weeks) |
| Third quarter  (18 to 22 September) | Second author meeting (co-chairs, coordinating lead authors\*, and review editors) (\*participation of lead author will depend on the decision of the fifth session of the Plenary) |
| Third/fourth quarter | Preparation of Second Order Draft of chapters and First Order Draft of summary for policymakers |
| **2018** |  |
| First quarter | Continued preparation and development of the second order draft of chapters and the first order draft of summary for policymakers and second internal review round |
| Second quarter | Second review by Governments and experts (Second Order Draft of chapters and First Order Draft of summary for policymakers) of the global assessment |
| Third quarter | Third author meeting (co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, Fellows, and review editors) |
| Fourth quarter | Final text changes to the assessment and the summary for policymakers |
| **2019** | |
| First quarter | Translation of the summary for policymakers into the six official languages of the United Nations |
| Jan - Mar | Submission of the assessment, including the translated summary for policymakers, to Governments for final review prior to Plenary session |
| May | IPBES-7 Presentation of the summary for policymakers to Plenary |
| Second/ third/fourth quarter | Outreach and communication |

Timeline for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

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1. \* IPBES/5/1/Rev.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)