

**Corrections made to the summaries for policymakers  
following the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the IPBES Plenary**

A letter informing governments and other stakeholders about these corrections was sent on 4 May 2018, under the reference [EM/2018/11](#)

**Summary for policymakers of the regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Africa of the IPBES (IPBES/6/15/Add.1)**

A correction was made to the extent of degraded land in Africa in section B5 of the background part of the summary for policymakers (SPM). Approximately 20% of the total land surface area of Africa is degraded, and not 2%, as erroneously indicated in the SPM. The 20% total land surface area is equivalent to 660 Million ha (or 6.6 million km<sup>2</sup>). The error was originally committed in the chapter although the correct references were cited. This error was then carried on to the SPM. The Bai et al. 2008 method (cited in Chapter 4) was used to compute this estimate from country level data because it is globally consistent, quantitative and readily repeatable (Gibbs & Salmon 2015).

Changes made to section B5 of background:

Some ~~20~~ per cent of Africa's land surface (~~6.6 million 500,000~~ km<sup>2</sup>) is estimated to be degraded because of soil erosion, salinization, pollution and loss of vegetation or soil fertility.

**Summary for policymakers of the regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Asia and the Pacific of the IPBES (IPBES/6/15/Add.3)**

A correction was made to the statement on the future projection of exploitable fish stocks in the second non-bolded paragraph of section B6 of the background part of the summary for policymakers. While reviewing the outcome of the 6th session of the IPBES Plenary, experts identified that the sentence, extracted from the underlying chapter 3 of the assessment report, conveyed an excessive sense of certainty when read in the context of the summary for policymakers. The experts have thus revisited the literature and consulted a series of additional publications which will be listed in the respective chapters. The sentence has been edited as follows to adequately convey the findings based on the relevant literature included in chapters 3, 4, and 5.

Changes made to section B6 of background:

Coastal and marine ecosystems are threatened due to unsustainable aquaculture practices, overfishing and destructive harvesting practices. It is projected that if ~~current unsustainable~~ fishing practices continue, there ~~will~~ could be no exploitable fish stocks left by as early as 2048. The intertidal zones are also rapidly deteriorating owing to human activities (*established but incomplete*) {3.1.3.1, 3.2.3.2, 3.2.3.3, 3.2.3.6, 3.2.4.6, 3.4, 4.1.2.3, 5.2.3}.

## Summary for policymakers of the regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Europe and Central Asia of the IPBES (IPBES/6/15/Add.4)

1- In section B2 of the background part of the summary for policymakers, a correction was made to the footnote 8 to correctly specify the geographical scope of the statement related to that footnote, on the percentage of extinction rates, as described below. In the same section B2, the reference to the same footnote was deleted in the two other statements which were previously referring to this same footnote.

### Changes made to footnote 8:

From:

As defined by the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) including Western and Central Europe, thus excluding Anatolia and Israel, and Eastern Europe to an eastern border following the Ural Mountains, the river Ural to the Caspian Sea, and a southern border along the Kuma-Manych Depression to the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea, and the Bosphorus.

To:

The geographical scope here is continent-wide, extending from Iceland in the west to the Urals in the east, and from Franz Josef Land in the north to the Canary Islands in the south. The Caucasus region is not included.

2- Correction were made to section B2 of the background to two statements to reflect the correct geographical scope of those statements. These corrections rendered the reference to footnote 8 obsolete for these two cases, as mentioned above, and the reference to the footnote was therefore deleted:

### Changes made to section B2 of background:

The extent of wetlands in Western, ~~and~~ Central and ~~Europe and the western parts of~~ Eastern Europe<sup>8</sup> [...]

and

The rate of natural habitat loss (e.g., wetlands) has slowed in Western, Central and ~~Western and the western part of~~ Eastern Europe<sup>8</sup> [...]

3- In section B2 of the background, the percentage 51% was corrected to 50% to be in line with the key message from section B (“wetland extent has declined by 50 per cent since 1970”), and with the number in the corresponding chapter, as follows.

### Changes made to section B2 of background:

The extent of wetlands in Western, Central and Eastern Europe has declined by ~~50~~51 per cent from 1970, while 71 per cent of fish and 60 per cent of amphibians with known population trends have been declining over the last decade {3.3.3.1, 3.4.5, 3.4.6.2}.

4- Corrections were made to several percentages of extinction rates in section B2 of the background and in the corresponding key message in section B as follows, as the earlier version had referred to percentages at the global level, rather than at the level of Europe (geographical scope as defined in footnote 8). The percentages for crayfish and crabs have been deleted because these figures are available in the literature only for the global level.

Changes made to section B2 of background:

In Western and Central Europe and the western parts of Eastern Europe<sup>8</sup> at least 37 per cent of freshwater fish and about 23 per cent of amphibians are currently threatened with extinction. In the same area, freshwater invertebrates are ~~more~~ also threatened, with the most threatened groups among those that are well monitored being gastropods (~~33-68~~45-70 per cent of species threatened depending on whether or not data deficient species are considered threatened), followed by bivalves (~~26-49~~20-26 per cent), ~~crayfish (24-47 per cent), crabs (16-65 per cent)~~ and dragonflies (~~9-44~~15-19 per cent) (*established but incomplete*) {3.4.5, 3.4.6.2, 3.4.8}.

Changes made to key message in section B:

Among all the assessed groups of species living in the region, particularly threatened are mosses and liverworts (50 per cent), freshwater fish (37 per cent), freshwater snails (~~45~~33 per cent), vascular plants (33 per cent) and amphibians (23 per cent).