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

Online, 14–24 June 2021

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**Report of the Executive Secretary on progress in the
implementation of the rolling work programme up to
2030****Progress in scoping the methodological assessment of the impact
and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's
contributions to people****Note by the secretariat**

1. In paragraph 4 of section II of decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary approved the scoping process for a methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (business and biodiversity assessment), for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables¹ and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment set out in section IV of appendix II to document IPBES/7/6, and decided to consider conducting the assessment over a period of two years following a fast-track approach.²
2. The annex to the present note, which is presented without formal editing, provides an overview of progress in the scoping process.

* IPBES/8/1.

¹ See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, sect. 3.4.² See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, sect. 3.2.

Annex

Progress in scoping the methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people

I. Context

1. In its decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary adopted the rolling work programme of IPBES up to 2030. The work programme includes three initial priority topics, including topic 3, *Measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people: Appropriate tools for measuring, assessing and monitoring the dependence and impact of the business sector on biodiversity are important for reducing adverse effects. Such tools are also important for promoting business actions contributing to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity and to developing the business case for long-term sustainability. They are also important for promoting public accountability, informing regulatory agencies and guiding financial investments and in influencing consumer behaviour. Deliverables under this topic include categorization of the ways in which businesses depend on, and impact, biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, and work related to criteria and indicators for measuring this dependence and impact, taking into consideration how such metrics can be integrated into other aspects of sustainability.*

2. Objective 1 of the rolling work programme, assessing knowledge, aims to assess the state of knowledge on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people in support of sustainable development. Deliverable 1 (d) under this objective, corresponding to the third priority topic set out in the previous paragraph, is a *methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people*. This methodological assessment is aimed at categorizing how businesses depend on, and impact, biodiversity and nature's contributions to people and identifying criteria and indicators for measuring that dependence and impact, taking into consideration how such metrics can be integrated into other aspects of sustainability.

II. Online conference to seek early input into the scoping process

3. In order to provide Governments and other stakeholders with an opportunity to provide early input to the scoping process to increase the policy-relevance of the assessment, an online conference was held on 25 and 26 March 2021 (see notification [EM/2021/06](#)). The online conference was open to all interested stakeholders.

4. The online conference was held over two days. Each day started with a presentation by an expert on a sub-theme relevant to the assessment, followed by a live session where participants were able to ask questions and present elements which they considered relevant to the assessment. Following each live session, participants had the opportunity to provide further written inputs through an online forum.

5. A total of 208 individuals attended the online conference. Among the individuals, 15% were from Africa, 17% were from Asia-Pacific, 4% were from Eastern Europe, 16% were from Latin America and the Caribbean and 47% were from Western Europe and Others region. The input collected through the online conference was made available to the experts assisting with the scoping during the online scoping meeting.

III. The scoping team

A. Dedicated Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau members

6. In line with the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables (decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 3.4), the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel is overseeing the scoping process, with the Bureau responsible for the procedural and administrative elements of the scoping process. The following members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau constitute the management committee for the scoping process and oversee the preparation of the scoping report on behalf of the Panel and the Bureau:

(a) **Multidisciplinary Expert Panel:** Marie Stenseke, Germán Ignacio Andrade Pérez, Judith Fisher, Özden Görücü (alternate), Madhav Karki (alternate), Eric Fokam (alternate);

(b) **Bureau:** Julia Marton-Lefevre, Floyd Homer.

B. Experts assisting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel with the scoping

7. Based on the criteria outlined in the call for the nomination of experts (EM/2020/34), the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, selected, at its 16th meeting, a group of experts responsible for assisting with the scoping of the business and biodiversity assessment. The final list of 40 selected experts is set out in the appendix.

8. Of the selected experts, 18% came from African States, 20% from Asia-Pacific States, 5% from Eastern European States, 18% from Latin American and Caribbean States and 40% from Western European and other States. 35% of the experts were female; 65% male. 82% of the selected experts were nominated by Governments; 18% by organizations.

IV. Scoping process

A. Online scoping meeting

9. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to hold the scoping meeting online from 26 to 30 April 2021.

10. Following the selection of experts, consultations were held with members of the management committee to prepare for the online scoping meeting.

11. The main objectives of the scoping meeting were to introduce scoping experts to IPBES and each other, to develop, in dedicated breakout sessions, the chapter outline and to develop chapter descriptions to be included in the final scoping document.

12. Following the online scoping meeting, a draft of the scoping report will be prepared and reviewed by all experts. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau, within their respective mandates, will review the draft scoping report at their meetings in September 2021. The management committee will oversee the preparation of the final draft scoping report for external review.

B. External review

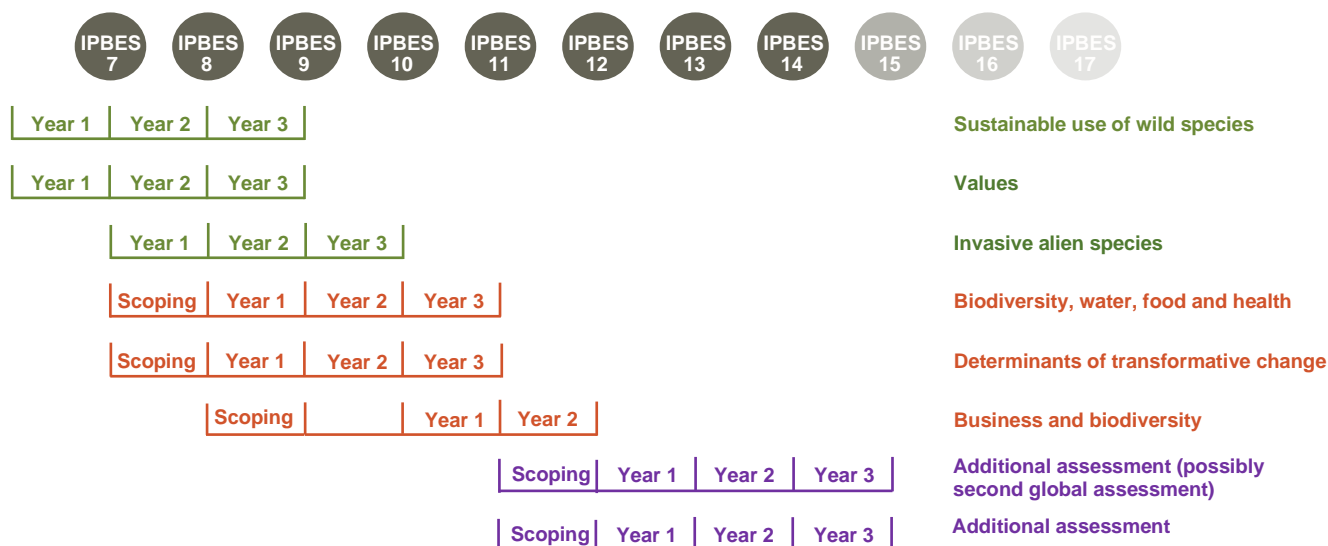
13. It is planned to make the draft scoping report available for external review for a period of six weeks, in September/October 2021.

14. In order to support national focal points in their review of the draft scoping report, an online dialogue meeting will be organized during the review period. During the meeting, scoping experts will present the scoping report and answer questions of clarification.

15. To further strengthen the participation of stakeholders in the review of the scoping report, a webinar for stakeholders will also be organized during the review period. As part of the implementation of the IPBES approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES for the scoping process, an online indigenous and local knowledge dialogue with experts on indigenous and local knowledge and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities will be held during the review period.

V. Timing of the assessment

16. Considering the results of the scoping exercises for the nexus and transformative change assessment (see documents IPBES/8/3 and IPBES/8/4) and bearing in mind various resource restrictions, it is suggested to delay the start of the business and biodiversity assessment until IPBES 10, as set out below. The Plenary will be invited to consider the timing of the start of the assessment at IPBES 9.



Appendix

List of participants in the scoping meeting

EXPERTS	
Cengiz Akandil	University of Zürich, Switzerland
Katerina Atanasovska	Farmahem DOOEL, North Macedonia
Jan Bebbington	University of Lancaster, United Kingdom
Kate Brauman	University of Minnesota, United States of America
Kalpana Chaudhari	Institute for Sustainable Development and Research, India
Farid Chemat	Avignon University, France
Dumisani Chirambo	Seeds of Opportunity, Malawi
Hamed Daly-Hassen	National Observatory of Agriculture, Tunisia
Steven Dickinson	TOTAL SA, France
Clément Feger	AgroParisTech / University of Montpellier, France
Annelisa Grigg	Globalbalance Ltd, United Kingdom
Ernesto Herrera Guerra	Reforestamos México
Luis Inostroza	Ruhr University Bochum, Germany
Norihiro Itsubo	Tokyo City University, Japan
Lorena Jaramillo	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Chul-Hyun Jeon	National Institute of Forest Science, Republic of Korea
Mark Johnston	BP plc, United Kingdom
Matthew Jones	United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre
Elikana Kalumanga	University of Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania
Pauline Kalunda	Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda
Michal Kulak	Robeco Switzerland
Koichi Kuriyama	Kyoto University, Japan
Jinlong Liu	Renmin University of China
Rafael Loyola	Brazilian Foundation of Sustainable Development
John Mburu	University of Nairobi, Kenya
Warwick Mostert	Anglo American, South Africa
Valerie Nelson	University of Greenwich, United Kingdom
Giuseppe Nerilli	Responsible Tourism Institute, Italy
Fabien Quétier	Biotope, France
Asha Rajvanshi	Wildlife Institute of India
Vanesa Rodriguez Osuna	German Corporation for International Cooperation, Germany
Oliver Schelske	Swiss Re Institute, Switzerland
Jessica Smith	United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
Laura Sonter	The University of Queensland, Australia
Claudiana Souza	Anglo American, Brazil
Rady Tawfik	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Michel Trommetter	National Institute for Research in Agriculture and Environment, France
Madhu Verma	World Resources Institute, India
Ederson Augusto Zanetti	Global Conservation Standard, Brazil
Yang Zhao	Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China

MEMBERS OF THE IPBES MULTIDISCIPLINARY EXPERT PANEL AND BUREAU

Floyd Homer	IPBES Bureau, Multicrop Facility Ltd, Trinidad and Tobago (member of the management committee)
Julia Marton-Lefevre	IPBES Bureau, Independent Advisor on Environment and Sustainable Development, France (member of the management committee)
Marie Stenseke	Co-Chair of IPBES MEP, Gothenburg University, Sweden (member of the management committee)
Luthando Dziba	Co-Chair of IPBES MEP, South African National Parks, South Africa
German Ignacio Andrade Perez	IPBES MEP, University of the Andes, Colombia (member of the management committee)
Judith Fisher	IPBES MEP, Fisher Research Pty Ltd, Australia (member of the management committee)

RESOURCE PERSONS

David Cooper/Bianca Brasil	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
Pamela McElwee	Lead author, IPBES Global Assessment
Stephen Polasky	Coordinating lead author, IPBES Global Assessment
Robert Watson	Former Chair of IPBES
