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

Ninth session

Bonn, Germany, 3–9 July 2022

Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Building capacity, strengthening knowledge foundations and supporting policy: work programme deliverables and task force workplans

Information on work related to building capacity

 Note by the secretariat

1. In section I of decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) established a task force on capacity‑building for the period of its first work programme (2014‒2018). In section II of decision IPBES‑5/1, the Plenary welcomed the Platform’s capacity‑building rolling plan, including its executive summary, set out in annex I to the decision, noting that the rolling plan was a living document intended to guide the work of the Platform and collaboration among partners aimed at the implementation of deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b) of the Platform’s first work programme.
2. At its seventh session, in decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary adopted the rolling work programme of the Platform for the period up to 2030, which included among its six objectives building capacity (objective 2). The objective aims to build capacities of individuals and institutions for a strengthened science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services. The achievement of the objective is supported by the three components of the capacity-building rolling plan, which applies to ongoing and future activities of the work programme.
3. In section III of the same decision, the Plenary recalled the establishment of the task force and extended its mandate for the implementation of objectives 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) of the rolling work programme of IPBES, in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in the decision, and requested the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the IPBES secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference.
4. According to its terms of reference, the task force on capacity-building oversees and takes part in the implementation of the three deliverables under objective 2 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 and acts in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b) of the first work programme and guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in implementing the capacity-building rolling plan, which frames the work under objective 2, and in reporting to the Plenary on progress made. In section III of decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary also decided to review the mandate and terms of reference of the task force at its tenth session.
5. The general terms of reference for task forces for the rolling work programme up to 2030, set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1, stipulate that each task force will, among other activities, provide a regular progress report and, in consultation with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, develop and update a workplan setting out clear milestones and deliverables with regard to the relevant topics and objectives of the rolling work programme up to 2030 for periodic consideration by the Plenary.
6. At its eighth session, in decision IPBES-8/1, the Plenary welcomed the progress made by the task force on capacity‑building in the implementation of objectives 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 and approved the interim workplan of the task force for the intersessional period 2021–2022, set out in annex III to the decision. Further, the Plenary welcomed the progress made in the development of the deliverables supporting objectives 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) and the three initial priority topics of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 and decided to consider the deliverables at its ninth session.
7. Workplan deliverables for objective 2, a workplan for the task force for the intersessional period 2022–2023 and a draft workplan for the intersessional period 2023–2024 are set out in document IPBES/9/10. An overview of activities carried out by the task force since the eighth session of the Plenary is set out in the report of the Executive Secretary on progress in the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 (IPBES/9/4).
8. The annex to the present note provides further information on activities carried out by the task force in addressing its mandate and on activities planned for the next intersessional period. Information about activities carried out by other organizations and institutions to support the achievement of objective 2 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 is available on the IPBES website.[[2]](#footnote-3) The annex is presented without formal editing.

Annex[[3]](#footnote-4)\*

Information on work related to building capacity

 I. Membership of the task force

1. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau, at their 13th meetings selected the members of the task force in line with its terms of reference set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1.
2. The current composition of the task force comprises:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Name* | *Country* | *Function* |
| Sebsebe Demissew Woodmatas | Ethiopia | Task force co-chair, Member of the Bureau |
| Vinod Bihari Mathur | India | Member of the Bureau |
| Juana Venecia Álvarez De Vanderhorst  | Dominican Republic | Member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel |
| Dorothy Nyingi | Kenya | Task force co-chair, Member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel |
| Leng Guan Saw | Malaysia | Member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (alternate) |
| Carlos Alfredo Joly | Brazil | Expert |
| François Hiol Hiol\* | Cameroon | Expert |
| Yu Tian | China | Expert |
| Victor David | France | Expert |
| Tamar Pataridze | Georgia | Expert |
| Spencer Thomas | Grenada | Expert |
| Asha Rajvanshi | India | Expert |
| Bente Herstad | Norway | Expert |
| Ferozah Conrad | South Africa | Expert |
| Çigdem Adem | Turkey | Expert |
| \*Passed away in April 2022. |  |  |

1. Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) participated in the work of the task force as resource persons.
2. The technical support unit located at the Norwegian Environment Agency, which had provided technical support to the task force during its first work programme, was selected by the Bureau at its 13th meeting to also provide technical support to the task force under the 2030 rolling work programme until the tenth session of the Plenary. The technical support comprises three full-time staff members.

 II. Third meeting of the task force

1. The third meeting of the capacity-building task force under the rolling work programme up to 2030 was held online on 22 and 23 October 2021.
2. During the meeting, the task force:
	1. Planned the implementation of key capacity-building activities in the approved interim workplan, including the organization of a fifth meeting of the IPBES capacity-building forum; the development of learning materials and online resources; and the organization of activities to encourage establishment of new and the further development of existing science-policy platforms, networks and assessments;
	2. Reviewed the draft deliverables for objective 2, building capacity, of the IPBES rolling work programme up 2030 to be presented at the ninth session of the Plenary;
	3. Reviewed the draft workplans of the task force for the intersessional periods between the ninth and the tenth, and the tenth and the eleventh sessions of the Plenary.
3. In addition, the task force has had several informal online meetings to discuss and plan implementation of key activities of the approved workplan.

 III. Progress in the implementation of objective 2: building capacity

1. The work on building capacity aims to address objective 2 of the IPBES 2030 work programme: *To build capacities of individuals and institutions for a strengthened science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services*. The achievement of this objective is supported by the three components of the capacity-building rolling plan, which applies to ongoing and future activities of the work programme[[4]](#footnote-5),[[5]](#footnote-6):
	1. Enhanced learning and engagement;
	2. Facilitated access to expertise and information;
	3. Strengthened national and regional capacities.
2. All activities are undertaken with due regard to achieving balanced participation across regions, gender, disciplines and knowledge systems, including indigenous and local knowledge, in line with the functions, operating principles and institutional arrangements of IPBES. Activities and programmes are designed and implemented to facilitate engagement of IPBES members and stakeholders from all age groups and including indigenous peoples and local communities.

 A. Progress under objective 2 (a): Enhanced learning and engagement

 1. IPBES fellowship programme

1. The IPBES fellowship programme provides an opportunity for outstanding early-career individuals from all backgrounds and disciplines working on biodiversity and ecosystem services to participate in IPBES assessments[[6]](#footnote-7). As part of the programme, fellows gain first-hand experience in participating in IPBES processes while working with, and being mentored by, leading experts in their fields who serve as authors in IPBES assessments. Calls for the nomination of fellows are issued by the secretariat, in parallel with calls for the nomination of assessment experts, and fellows are selected from the pool of nominations received by the respective assessment management committee with support from the task force on capacity-building. All fellows are selected based on merit and academic qualifications and in their individual capacity as experts and with a view to achieve disciplinary, gender and geographic balance among the group of fellows.
2. As of March 2022, 117 fellows, holding 61 different nationalities are part of the IPBES fellowship programme, including 49 fellows as alumni. The overall gender distribution in the programme is 59% female and 41% male. To date, 21 individuals who have taken part in the fellowship programme have been selected as coordinating lead authors or lead authors in subsequent IPBES assessments. The full list of fellows is available in appendix I.

 *Annual fellows training workshops*

1. The task force on capacity-building has organized annual training workshops as part of the fellowship programme to further strengthen the capacity of fellows to contribute to the work of IPBES. The workshops aim to address needs reported by fellows in surveys and periodic reviews of the fellowship programme, and by respective management committees and technical support units.
2. A fellows’ training workshop for 2022 will be organized on 6-9 July in Bonn, Germany, in parallel with the ninth session of the Plenary. The workshop will bring together all current fellows in the programme and aim to increase fellows' understanding of the science-policy interface, to further develop the alumni element of the fellowship programme, and to further strengthen fellows' capacities to contribute to the development of IPBES assessments and other products.

 *Fellows for the nexus and transformative change assessments*

1. Since the eighth session of the Plenary, 25 fellows have joined the programme as part of the nexus and transformative change assessments. Two capacity-building activities were organized for the fellows of each assessment: an online introductory session, ahead of the first online meeting of all assessment authors, was organized on 14 and 15 March 2022 and an induction day will be organized on the day prior to the respective first author meeting, on 8 and 19 May 2022. The aims of these activities were to familiarize fellows with IPBES, its assessment process and the fellowship programme and to provide an opportunity for fellows to get to know each other. Former fellows that have been selected as coordinating lead authors or lead authors for the two assessments will participate in the meetings to share their experiences from the programme.

 *IPBES fellows and alumni network*

1. The IPBES fellows and alumni network was initiated in 2018, with the first cohort of fellows becoming alumni following the approval of the summaries for policymakers of the assessments for which they had been selected at the sixth session of the Plenary. Through the network, fellows initiated several activities related to raising awareness, strengthening engagement and supporting the use and uptake of approved assessments.

 2. Dedicated training and familiarization activities for IPBES experts and others involved in the science-policy interface and development and promotion of webinars and other online approaches

1. Online resources, such as the IPBES webinar series, e-learning tools, guides and best practices, aim to build and develop capacities to increase understanding of key concepts, processes and outputs of IPBES. Target groups include new assessment experts, national focal points and stakeholders.
2. Resources developed since the eighth session of the Plenary include:
3. Two recorded webinars produced in the context of the external review of the nature futures framework and the second external review of the invasive alien species assessment. The webinars were undertaken in close collaboration with the scenarios and models task force and management committee of the invasive alien species assessment and aimed to support engagement in the review processes. Subtitles in the six official languages of the United Nations were added to the presentations to increase reach and impact. The recorded webinars were made available on the IPBES website to all those who had registered to review the documents;
4. A webinar on the biodiversity and ecosystem services scenarios-based model intercomparison (BES-SIM) exercise was organized in close collaboration with the task force on scenarios and models on 8 April 2022. Close to 400 participants attended the webinar.
5. All publicly available webinars developed by the task force can be accessed at <https://ipbes.net/webinars> while e-learning resources are available on <https://ipbes.net/e-learning>.

 3. Science-policy dialogues with national focal points to develop capacities and increase Government participation in the production and uptake of IPBES deliverables and processes

1. Online dialogues were organized for national focal points to increase policy relevance of assessments by strengthening engagement of Governments in their review. The dialogues introduced the draft documents and facilitated knowledge exchange between assessment experts and Governments.
2. The following dialogues have been organized in the intersessional period:
3. An online dialogue organized in the context of the external review of the nature futures framework on 4 October 2021 in close collaboration with the task force on scenarios and models. The meeting was attended by 117 participants with representatives from 43 Governments;
4. An online dialogue organized in the context of the external review of the draft scoping report of the business and biodiversity assessment on 16 and 18 December 2021 in close collaboration with the assessment management committee. The meeting was attended by 103 participants, with representatives from 54 Governments;
5. An online dialogue organized in the context of the second external review of the invasive alien species assessment on 19 January 2022 in close collaboration with the assessment management committee. The meeting was attended by 106 participants, with representatives from 42 Governments.

 4. Dialogues with stakeholders to develop capacities and increase stakeholder participation in the production and uptake of IPBES deliverables and processes

1. Online dialogues were organized for stakeholders to increase engagement in IPBES review processes. The meetings introduced the draft documents and facilitated knowledge exchange between assessment experts and stakeholders.
2. The following dialogues have been organized in the intersessional period:
3. An online dialogue organized in the context of the external review of the nature futures framework on 6 October 2021 in close collaboration with the task force on scenarios and models. The meeting was attended by 182 participants;
4. An online dialogue organized in the context of the external review of the draft scoping report of the business and biodiversity assessment on 18 November 2021 in close collaboration with the assessment management committee. The meeting was attended by 98 participants;
5. An online dialogue organized in the context of the second external review of the invasive alien species assessment on 20 January 2022 in close collaboration with the assessment management committee. The meeting was attended by 89 participants.

 B. Progress under objective 2 (b): Facilitated access to expertise and information

 1. Support for uptake of approved assessments and other deliverables

1. The task force has worked with the IPBES communication and outreach team to catalyse, facilitate, and support activities aimed at increasing uptake of approved IPBES assessments and other deliverables. As part of this work, the Executive Secretary launched a call inviting interested organizations to support the uptake of IPBES deliverables by, inter alia, organizing stand-alone uptake events, adding items on such assessments to already planned events, pledging funds for activities supporting uptake, or sharing online capacity-building resources developed during the COVID-19 pandemic ([EM/2022/15](https://ipbes.net/notification/call-support-global-assessment-uptake-events)). Submissions received in response to the call, as well as uptake events reported through other channels, are listed with other support to the implementation of the capacity‑building rolling plan on the IPBES webpage.[[7]](#footnote-8)

 2. Promotion of communities of practice

1. Communities of practice are understood in the context of IPBES as groups of experts, policy makers and/or practitioners who work to increase access to expertise and information on a specific topic/focus area, for both supporting implementation of the IPBES work programme and increasing the reach and impact of work programme deliverables. These communities of practice are self‑organising groups and can have different modalities and working arrangements. The task force has continued to promote the two pilot communities of practice on the social sciences and humanities and on scenarios and models. The task force has also begun work to explore ways to promote potential communities of practice on values and sustainable use of wild species.
2. A guide on how communities of practice can engage with IPBES has been developed and will be made available on the IPBES website.

 3. Convening of the capacity-building forum to facilitate engagement, build and further enhance collaboration with and among organizations and institutions for the implementation of the IPBES capacity-building rolling plan

1. The fifth meeting of the IPBES capacity-building forum will be organized online on 1 June 2022. The objective of the meeting is to contribute to the strengthening of the science-policy interface on the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity through:
2. Increasing understanding of the planned work of IPBES on business and biodiversity, priority topic 3 in the IPBES 2030 rolling work programme, and on how to engage in, contribute to, and support this work, including capacity-building efforts;
3. Facilitating knowledge-sharing on how to engage in work on capacity-building under the auspices of IPBES to strengthen the science-policy interface on the interconnections between business and biodiversity;
4. Strengthening dialogue and collaboration among organizations, institutions and networks working to build capacities for a strengthened science-policy interface on the interconnections between business and biodiversity.
5. The fifth meeting of the forum will aim to convene businesses interested in engaging with the work of IPBES, organizations working to promote mainstreaming of biodiversity in business, national platforms and networks on biodiversity and ecosystem services, organizations and institutions interested in engaging with IPBES on issues of business and biodiversity, and IPBES national focal points and other Government representatives.
6. The report of the meeting and other meeting documentation will be made available on the meeting webpage on the IPBES website.

 C. Progress under objective 2 (c): strengthened national and regional capacities

1. The task force has worked to encourage the establishment of new and further development of existing science-policy platforms and networks for biodiversity and ecosystem services at national and (sub)regional levels. This has been done, in particular, by facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise regarding participation in and support to IPBES between key actors from existing science‑policy platforms and those interested in establishing a new platform, and by disseminating and promoting best practice examples. Activities have included:
2. Organization of an online dialogue with national and (sub)regional platforms and networks and national focal points on 1 March 2022. The objective of the workshop was to build capacities on communicating the importance of biodiversity for nature and people through dialogue and knowledge sharing. The meeting was attended by 86 participants. The report of the meeting is available in appendix II;[[8]](#footnote-9)
3. Development of a document describing opportunities for national platforms and networks to engage with IPBES. The document is available on an IPBES webpage dedicated to national and (sub)regional science-policy platforms and networks supporting the work of IPBES;
4. Establishment of an online space on the IPBES website with relevant information and guidance for national and (sub)regional science-policy platforms and networks supporting the work of IPBES to facilitate knowledge sharing and support collaboration among the platforms and networks.

 D. Support and engagement on building capacity

1. The achievement of objective 2, building capacity, relies on support from a wide range of organizations and institutions interested in or already conducting capacity-building activities supporting the IPBES work programme and addressing the identified priority capacity-building needs approved by the IPBES Plenary[[9]](#footnote-10) as part of their work.
2. The task force is undertaking an incremental approach to building support and engagement. The approach aims to ensure a sustainable, manageable and transparent stepwise process that mobilizes resources through in-kind contributions and alignment of activities towards the implementation of objective 2. The task forces engages in strategic dialogues with interested organizations and institutions, such as through the IPBES capacity-building forum. The efforts of the task force towards strengthening national and regional capacities have been greatly amplified by the work of strategic partners and collaborative supporters.
3. An overview of support from organizations and institutions to the implementation of objective 2 is provided on the IPBES webpage.[[10]](#footnote-11)

 IV. Additional information on the interim workplan for the intersessional period 2022–23

1. The workplan[[11]](#footnote-12) for the period between the ninth and tenth sessions of the Plenary (intersessional period 2022–2023) is presented to the Plenary for approval in document IPBES/9/10. The table below presents the rationale for the activities proposed as part of the workplan.

| **Deliverables** | **Short description and intended outcome** | **2022–23 workplan activities** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective 2 (a): Enhanced learning and engagement** |
| ***Fellowship programme*** | **What**: The IPBES fellowship programme provides early career professionals with an opportunity to engage with IPBES activities and work alongside more experienced colleagues. Each fellow is paired with a mentor who is part of the team of assessment experts and receives training. Alumni to the programme are invited to stay connected through the fellows and alumni network that promotes the work of IPBES.**Intended outcome**: A significant number of outstanding early-career professionals from all over the world with increased capacity to work in the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services, including on upcoming IPBES assessments and other deliverables.  | **Call for nomination and selection of new fellows:** Subject to the approval by the Plenary of the start of the assessment: Issuance of a call for nomination and selection of fellows (up to 12 fellows) for the assessment of business and biodiversity by the assessment management committee (August 2022).**Participation in author/task force meetings:** Fellows contribute to the production of their assessment/task force deliverables (e.g., developing sections or parts of chapters in an IPBES assessment in collaboration with the other chapter experts), and participation in the author/task force meetings are key events in this regard.In this intersessional period, the nexus fellows will participate in the second author meeting in March 2023 and the scenarios fellows will attend a working meeting on scenarios and models in October/November 2022. Their attendance is facilitated by the capacity-building technical support unit.**Fellows' training workshop:** Enhances the capacity of fellows regarding key topics relevant to their activities in IPBES and provides an opportunity for fellows to engage with and learn from each other both within and between different cohorts of fellows. An annual fellows' training workshop will be organised in April/May 2023 for fellows taking part in ongoing assessments and the scenarios and models task force.**Support to the fellows and alumni network:** Provision of support to the IPBES fellows and alumni network, including through promoting engagement of fellows and alumni in activities supporting the implementation of objective 2, mapping and further developing activities of the network, and organizing an online meeting to facilitate knowledge exchange across different cohorts of the fellowship programme. |
| ***Training and familiarization***  | **What:** The training and familiarization programme includes both face-to-face training and e-learning resources. In-person activities undertaken by the task force to date include writing and training workshops for IPBES experts to further develop their capacities to contribute to the production of IPBES assessments. In addition, other institutions and organizations have developed training materials and undertaken activities supporting the work of IPBES. E-learning resources on IPBES deliverables and processes can include webinars, learning videos, e-learning tools, and guides and best practices. All e-resources are made publicly available on the IPBES webpage.**Intended outcome:** Strengthened capacity of IPBES experts, policymakers, practitioners and other stakeholders to engage in IPBES processes, participate in the production of, and use, IPBES assessments and other deliverables. | **Development of e-learning resources:** Resources to strengthen broad and efficient engagement in IPBES processes and support uptake of IPBES deliverables will be developed. A pilot educational interface visualizing key findings of the invasive alien species assessment is suggested to be developed. This educational interface could support building capacities, raising awareness, increasing knowledge and support uptake of the invasive alien species assessment. The primary target group will be the general public, including youth and the educational sector. It will be developed drawing on several innovative examples of such online resources, including from UNEP, IPCC and the World Bank. A concept note can be found in appendix III.**Catalysation of the development of training materials and activities:** Catalyse and provide support to relevant training activities developed by other organizations and institutions in support of IPBES to achieve further reach and impact.**Training and familiarization for implementing the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES:** Relevant activities, such as workshops and webinars, will be undertaken in collaboration with the task force on indigenous and local knowledge. |
| ***Youth workshops*** | **What:** Youth workshops provide an opportunity for youth and youth networks from across the globe to engage with IPBES. The workshops aim to support youth participation in IPBES processes and enhance their knowledge on IPBES assessments’ key findings and other deliverables. The first workshop was organized in 2019 (see meeting report on the IPBES webpage).[[12]](#footnote-13)**Intended outcome:** Strengthened engagement with IPBES among youth networks. | **Youth workshop:** Convening of a global physical workshop in September 2022 at Isle of Vilm, Germany.Participants will be invited to explore possible youth nature futures and learn about IPBES and its processes and products. An open call for nominations of participants, including selection criteria, will be issued.In-kind contributions are provided by the Governments of Germany and Norway.  |
| ***Dialogues with national focal points*** | **What**: Dialogues bring together national focal points and other Government representatives with IPBES experts on key IPBES deliverables and processes. Furthermore, they provide an opportunity for Government representatives to, e.g., share experiences and best practices, discuss common issues and potential collaborations. **Intended outcome**: Strengthened policy-relevance of IPBES products and deliverables. Facilitated knowledge-sharing, peer-learning and networking among national focal points.  | **In-person dialogues:** An in-person dialogue with new IPBES members and with observer States will be organised in the 1st quarter of 2023. The meeting aims to develop capacities on IPBES deliverables and processes and encourage IPBES membership. |
| ***Dialogues with stakeholders*** | **What:** Online dialogues with stakeholders to increase engagement in and build capacities on IPBES processes and products. **Intended outcome:** Strengthened stakeholder engagement with IPBES  | **Online dialogues:** Two dialogues with stakeholders and experts will be organized in January/February 2023 during the first external reviews of the nexus and transformative change assessments.  |
| **Objective 2 (b): Facilitated access to expertise and information** |
| ***Support for uptake of IPBES assessments and other deliverables*** | **What**: IPBES relies on the support of a wide range of institutions, organizations and individuals to familiarise decision-makers, different stakeholder groups, and the general public with the key findings from IPBES assessments and other deliverables. Open calls are launched for institutions and organizations to undertake uptake events or in other ways encourage the use of findings from IPBES deliverables. Organizers of such events may be supported with, for example, printed or electronic materials or be put in contact with relevant IPBES experts. Work under this deliverable is undertaken in collaboration with assessment authors and the IPBES communications team.**Intended outcome**: Increased uptake of IPBES assessments and other deliverables. | **Call distribution:** Subject to the approval of the start of the assessment by the Plenary: Distribution of the call for nominations of experts and fellows for the business and biodiversity assessment through relevant networks to encourage applications from as wide a range of experts as possible. Provision of assistance to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in the implementation of the process for filling gaps in expertise for the assessment expert group, where required.**Call for and support to uptake activities for IPBES deliverables:** A call for contributions in July 2022, to support the uptake of approved IPBES assessments and other products, including for the sustainable use of wild species and values assessments, pending their approval. **Provision of support:** Provision of support to uptake activities for IPBES deliverables organized by other organizations (e.g., printed or electronic materials, feedback on draft agendas or contact details for relevant IPBES experts);**Collaboration with other task forces**: Collaborate with the other task forces in the catalyzation of activities to further build capacity on IPBES deliverables, including the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES. |
| ***Communities of practice*** | **What**: Communities of practice are understood in the context of IPBES as groups of experts, policy makers and/or practitioners who work to increase access to expertise and information on a specific topic/focus area, for both supporting implementation of the IPBES work programme and increasing the reach and impact of work programme deliverables. Two pilot communities of practice have been established by experts engaged in the work of IPBES. One is centred around social sciences and the humanities, and the other around the work on scenarios and models. Experiences and lessons learned from these pilot communities of practice will help inform future work under this deliverable.Intended outcome: Expanded stakeholder engagement and increased use of IPBES products and further development and sharing of associated information and experience by individuals and institutions taking part in the communities of practice.  | **Encourage facilitation of access to expertise and information:** Further encourage communities of practice to facilitate access to expertise and information relevant to IPBES.**Encourage communities of practice around IPBES products and deliverables:** Explore opportunities to promote potential communities of practice in the context of the values and sustainable use of wild species assessments.[[13]](#footnote-14) |
| ***IPBES capacity-building forum*** | **What**: The capacity-building forum brings together institutions and organizations supporting, or interested in supporting, the work on capacity-building under IPBES. It provides an arena to increase engagement and facilitate cooperation around specific thematic capacity-building areas. The forum facilitates dialogue and knowledge sharing to explore and advance common agendas and long-term alignment of relevant programmes and activities among participants.**Intended outcome**: Increased engagement with IPBES and cooperation among institutions and organisations that fund, undertake or otherwise contribute to the achievement of objective 2: building capacity.  | **Convening of a sixth meeting of the capacity-building forum** to facilitate engagement, build and further enhance collaboration with and among organisations and institutions for the implementation of the IPBES capacity-building rolling plan. The specific theme of the forum meeting will be identified by the task force and agreed by the Bureau. |
| **Objective 2 (c): Strengthened national and regional capacities** |
| ***Science-policy platforms, networks and assessments***  | **What**: National and (sub)regional platforms, networks and assessments may play important roles in strengthening the science-policy interface and knowledge foundations on biodiversity and ecosystem services at national and (sub)regional levels, and in supporting the work of IPBES. The task force will help facilitate dialogue and knowledge sharing, including on lessons learned among institutions and organizations already involved, or interested in, such initiatives. The task force will draw strongly on the experience of strategic partners and collaborative supporters to implement this objective. **Intended outcome**: Increased understanding of how national and (sub)regional science-policy platforms, networks and assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services can help strengthen national and regional capacities and support the work of IPBES. | Continue to **encourage, engage with and strengthen national and (sub)regional science-policy platforms, networks and assessments** for biodiversity and ecosystem services, in particular by:* Facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise among institutions and organizations already engaged, or interested in engaging, in work related to national or (sub)regional platforms, networks and assessments;
* Disseminating and promoting best practice examples;
* Promoting and sharing the activities of existing national and (sub)regional biodiversity platforms and ongoing national and (sub)regional ecosystem assessments;
* Continuing development of an online space on the IPBES webpage for national and (sub)regional platforms and networks;

Organizing an online dialogue with national platforms and networks. |

Appendix I

List of IPBES fellows

| *Assessment* | *Name* | *Nationality* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Regional Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Africa  | Houda Ghazi | Morocco |
| Cosmas Dayak Kombat Lambini | Ghana |
| Dimpho Malebogo Matlhola | Botswana |
| Gregory Mero Dowo | Zimbabwe |
| Martha Mphatso Kalemba | Malawi |
| Joyce Ojino | Kenya |
| Nadia Sitas | South Africa |
| Regional Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the Americas  | María Paula Barral | Argentina |
| Julio Diaz Jose | Mexico |
| Rodolfo Jaffe Ribbi | Venezuela |
| Juliana Sampaio Farinaci | Brazil |
| Laura Thompson | United States of America |
| Mireia Valle | Spain |
| Regional Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Asia-Pacific  | Amani Al Assaf | Jordan |
| Catherine Mitra Febria Oabel | Canada |
| Sonali Ghosh | India |
| Aidin Niamir | Iran |
| Felicia Permata Sari Lasmana | Indonesia |
| Yasuo Takahashi | Japan |
| Yuanyuan Zhang | China |
| Regional Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Europe and Central Asia  | Carlos António Bastos De Morais Guerra | Portugal |
| Fanny Boeraeve | Belgium |
| Luca Coscieme | Italy |
| Zuzana Harmackova | Czech Republic |
| Elena Osipova | Russia |
| Rahat Sabyrbekov | Kyrgyzstan  |
| Thematic Assessment of Land Degradation and Restoration | Vanessa Marie Adams | Australia |
| Sugeng Budiharta | Indonesia |
| Ruishan Chen | China |
| Maylis Desrousseaux | France |
| Marina Monteiro | Brazil |
| Bernard Nuoleyeng Baatuuwie | Ghana |
| Matthew R. Ross | United States of America |
| Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | Lenke Balint | Hungary and Romania |
| Ivis Julieta Chan | Belize |
| Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares Onrubia | Spain |
| Palomo Ignacio | Spain |
| Pedro Jaureguiberry | Argentina |
| Michelle Mei Ling Lim | Australia and Malaysia |
| Julia Abigail Lynch | United States of America |
| Assem Mohamed | Egypt |
| Tuyeni Heita Mwampamba | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Selomane Odirilwe | South Africa |
| Patricio Pliscoff | Chile |
| Rashad Salimov | Azerbaijan |
| Aibek Samakov | Kyrgyzstan |
| Uttam Babu Shrestha | Nepal |
| Anna Sidorovich | Belarus |
| Basher Md Zeenatul | Bangladesh |
| Thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species | Camila Alvez Islas | Brazil and Uruguay |
| Temitope Borokini | Nigeria |
| Murali Krishna Chatakonda | India |
| Shiva Devkotas | Nepal |
| Vukan Lavadinović | Serbia |
| Denise Margaret | The Philippines |
| Laura Isabel Mesa Castellanos | Colombia |
| Penelope Mograbi | South Africa |
| Zina Skandrani | Tunisia and Germany |
| Håkon Stokland | Norway |
| Methodological assessment on values | Ariane Manuela Amin | Côte d'Ivoire |
| Cem Iskender Aydin | Turkey |
| Anna Filyushkina | Russia |
| Marcello Hernandez | Costa Rica |
| Natalia Lutti Hummel | Brazil |
| Pricila Iranah | Mauritius |
| Ann-Kathrin Koessler | Germany |
| Dominic Lenzi | Australia and Italy |
| Bosco Lliso Tejera | Spain |
| Lelani Maurice Mannetti | Namibia |
| Ana Sofia Monroy | Mexico |
| Ranjini Murali | India |
| Sara Holiday Nelson | United States of America |
| Evonne Yiu | Singapore |
| Sacha Amaru Zaman | Indonesia |
| Methodological Assessment of Scenarios and Models  | América Paz Durán | Chile |
| Ghassen Halouani | Tunisia |
| Jan Jurjen Kuiper | The Netherlands |
| Hye Jin Kim | Republic of Korea |
| Brian Miller | United States of America  |
| Thematic assessment of alien invasive species | Bernd Lenzner | Germany |
| Betty Rono | Kenya |
| Dongang Ceraphine Mangwa | Cameroon |
| Hanieh Saeedi | Iran (Islamic Republic of) |
| Joana Vicente | Portugal |
| Maria Loreto Castillo | Chile |
| Ninad Mungi | India |
| Rafael Xavier | Brazil |
| Romina Fernandez | Argentina |
| Tatsiana Lipinskaya | Belarus |
| Ellen Ryan-Colton | Australia |
| Esra Per | Turkey |
| Thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (nexus) | Ana Carolina Esteves Dias | Brazil |
| Charity Nyelele | Zimbabwe |
| Georgios Kazanidis | Greece |
| Gracia Andrea Pacheco Figueroa | Honduras |
| Helena Duchková | Czech Republic |
| Mario Machado | United States of America |
| Martin Jung | Germany |
| Maysoun Mustafa | Sudan |
| Nazifa Rafa | Bangladesh |
| Paulina (Summer) Karimova | Russian Federation |
| Pradeep Dubey | India |
| Roxanne Suzette Lorilla | Philippines  |
| Rine Reuben | Nigeria |
| Thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 vision for biodiversity (transformative change) | Adla Kahrić | Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| Andressa Vianna Mansur | Brazil |
| Asmita Sengupta | India |
| Fernanda Rojas Marchini | Chile |
| Geraud Tasse Taboue | Cameroon |
| Josheena Naggea | Mauritius |
| Koji Miwa | Japan |
| Oleksandr Karasov | Ukraine |
| Rachel Golden Kroner | United States of America |
| Stephen Woroniecki | Sweden |
| Timothée Fouqueray | France |
| Xiaona Guo | China |

Appendix II

Report of the online dialogue workshop with national and regional platforms engaging in IPBES: Communicating the importance of biodiversity for nature and people

 I. Introduction

1. The workshop was held online 1 March 2022. It was organized in the context of the capacity‑building work of IPBES[[14]](#footnote-15) and aimed to facilitate a dialogue for sharing knowledge, best practices and creative tools for communicating the importance of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people.
2. The present document provides an overview of the attendance, of the discussions held during the meeting and of the results of the evaluation of the meeting. More details are available in the following documents[[15]](#footnote-16):
* IPBES/TF/CBG/WSP/2022/3/1 – Agenda and organization of work.
* IPBES/TF/CBG/WSP/2022/3/Other/1 – List of participants.
* IPBES/TF/CBG/WSP/2022/3/Other/2 – All PowerPoint slides.
* IPBES/TF/CBG/WSP/2022/3/Other/3 – Knowledge shared in group-discussions (Mentimeter).

 II. Summary of discussions

 A. Opening of the meeting

1. IPBES Chair Ana Maria Hernandez Salgar welcomed participants to the meeting. The head of the IPBES technical support unit on capacity-building, Ingunn Storrø, presented the agenda and objectives of the meeting.

 B. Communicating for reach and impact about biodiversity and nature's contributions to people

1. Rob Spaull, head of communications at the IPBES secretariat, and Kasia Popiołek, social media specialist at the secretariat, gave a presentation on communicating for reach and impact on issues related to biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people. They introduced basic principles for effective communication, provided advice on how to work with traditional and social media, shared examples of successful communication events organized to support uptake of IPBES products, and provided an overview of the resources the IPBES secretariat can offer through its work on communication and capacity-building.

 C. Sharing experiences – how can platforms communicate effectively on biodiversity across the science-policy interface

1. Juanita Chaves Posada from the Alexander von Humboldt Institute in Colombia gave a presentation on the “what”, “to whom” and “when” of the communication strategy for the Colombian national ecosystem assessment. During her presentation, she highlighted how they had worked throughout the assessment process to raise public awareness of the ongoing national ecosystem assessment and its importance for Colombia through, among other things, the organization of trialogues with indigenous peoples and local communities, regional meetings on the report, and an official launch event. She also highlighted the effectiveness of videos and presentations in the communication campaign, and the importance of advocacy efforts to promote uptake of the assessment.
2. Nadia Sitas and Odirilwe Selomane from the Centre for Sustainability Transitions at Stellenbosch University in South Africa presented the 'youth nature futures' project in Southern Africa[[16]](#footnote-17). The project, which also has been undertaken in Brazil, aimed to engage with youth groups to explore nature futures and communicate these through creative communication of science. The presentation provided an overview of how youth groups, through the project, have been able to develop their own nature futures, and communicated these through a number of creative projects such as poems, murals and videos.
3. Isabella Sedivy and Bettina Walch from Plan Biodivers Ltd. presented their work under the project "Mission B – for more biodiversity in Switzerland". They presented several examples of creative and successful communication from "Mission B" and highlighted the opportunities offered by social media to researchers and others seeking to inform the public about the importance of biodiversity. They also provided guidance on how such communication can be structured to increase its effectiveness, noting the importance of building a comprehensive story relevant to the audience, showing how the audience can contribute to address the problem presented, and building partnerships with individuals and organizations that can amplify the message.

 D. Exploring creative tools for effective communication (group discussion)

1. Ingunn Storrø from the technical support unit on capacity-building introduced the group discussion and gave an introduction to Mentimeter, an interactive software used to facilitate the group discussion. The discussion was centred around four overarching topics:
	1. Effective communication: Participants shared a wide range of effective ways of communicating the importance of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people used by their platform, network or organization. Examples included developing infographics and videos tailored for different audiences, organizing forums and workshops with a wide range of stakeholders to build partnerships, building a presence on popular social media platforms, using local languages and working with celebrities and other influential individuals to reach new audiences.
	2. Creative tools and ways of communicating: Creative tools and ways of communicating recommended by participants included infographics, videos, podcasts, workshops, songs, art, quizzes, tea talks, competitions, and cookbooks.
	3. Reaching the general public: Participants identified a number of ways to make aspects of nature and biodiversity relevant to the general public. Examples and advice included showing how biodiversity loss impacts the everyday lives, incomes and livelihoods of the audience; demonstrating the links between biodiversity and human wellbeing; highlighting the relation between nature and climate change; building capacity on how the public can contribute by for example developing their gardens to support pollinators; and showcasing positive stories the readers can emulate.
	4. Supporting each other on communication: A number of ideas for what the participants as part of the IPBES community can do to support each other were proposed. Examples included continuing to organize sharing sessions; developing joint capacity-building and communication materials that are made available as online resources; and developing communication networks to share and amplify each other's messages.

 E. Closing of the meeting

1. In her concluding comments, IPBES Chair Ana Maria Hernandez Salgar thanked all participants for their valuable contributions during the meeting. Summarizing the discussions of the meeting, the Chair highlighted the key role played by national platforms and networks in communicating the importance of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people and encouraged further dialogue and cooperation between existing platforms and networks.

 F. Participants

1. The meeting was attended by a total of 86 participants. The full list of participants is available in document IPBES/TF/CBG/WSP/2022/Other/1.

 G. Evaluation

1. Following the meeting, participants were invited to complete a short evaluation form. 38 participants completed the form.
2. In their evaluation, participants expressed high satisfaction with the meeting and highlighted its usefulness.[[17]](#footnote-18) All respondents indicated that they would like to see similar events organized in the future to facilitate further knowledge exchange and enhanced collaboration and to encourage the establishment and further development of national and (sub)regional platforms and networks.

Appendix III

Pilot educational interface

 Online capacity-building material on the key messages of the invasive alien species assessment

Background

The task force on capacity-building is working to support uptake of approved assessments and other deliverables through, among others, the development of online tools and e-learning resources. As part of these efforts, the task force has collaborated with the IPBES secretariat communications team and the management committee of the invasive alien species assessment to explore new opportunities for online capacity-building tools. Drawing on several innovative examples of such online resources, including from the United Nations Environment Programme, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the World Bank,[[18]](#footnote-19) the task force is proposing the development of a pilot educational interface on the findings of the invasive alien species assessment.

Intended output

An educational interactive interface visualising the key messages of the invasive alien species assessment. The interface would draw lessons from similar initiatives following other scientific assessments.

Objective

To build capacities, raise awareness, increase knowledge and support uptake of the invasive alien species assessment.

Content

The content would highlight the key findings of the report and summary for policy makers of the IPBES assessment on invasive alien species, pending its approval at IPBES 10. The content will be taken from the approved assessment. No changes to the wording of the assessment will be made.

Use and target audience

The online interface will primarily target the general public, including youth and the educational sector, and could be used as a resource by all stakeholders to promote and share information about the key messages of the invasive alien species.

Languages

The pilot interface would be available in English. If successful, options for developing interfaces in all UN languages for subsequent assessments will be explored.

Supports the implementation of the following objectives of the IPBES 2030 work programme

Objectives: 1. Assessing knowledge, 2. Building capacity, and 5. Communicating and engaging.

Further development of online educational interfaces for assessments within IPBES

Similar interfaces for subsequent assessments in collaboration with the IPBES secretariat communications team and with the technical support units for the relevant assessments could be considered in the future.

Tentative timeline

* Concept note developed by the capacity-building task force, the secretariat (communications) and management committee of the invasive alien species assessment presented at the 18th meetings of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau for their consideration and feedback (February 2022);
* Concept note and budget implications, presented to the Plenary at its ninth session for approval as part of the workplan of the task force (July 2022);
* Selection of service provider;
* Draft interface presented to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau for their input;
* Final interface presented to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau for their approval as soon as possible after the approval of the summary for policymakers for the invasive alien species assessment at the tenth session of the Plenary; and
* Launch after approval by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau.

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1. \* IPBES/9/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See www.ipbes.net/implementation-capacity-building-rolling-plan-contributions-strategic-partners-collaborative. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. \* The annex has not been formally edited. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. See annex I to decision IPBES-7/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Activities under the objective will be implemented in accordance with the priority capacity-building needs approved by the Plenary in decision IPBES-3/1 and the capacity-building rolling plan welcomed by the Plenary in decision IPBES-5/1. The plan comprises three strategies: learning and engagement, facilitating access to expertise and information and strengthening national and regional capacities. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. In addition, five fellows participate in the work of the task force on scenarios and models. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. The list of contributions is available on the IPBES website: https://www.ipbes.net/implementation-capacity-building-rolling-plan-contributions-strategic-partners-collaborative. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. For meeting documentation see: <https://ipbes.net/events/dialogue-workshop-national-and-subregional-platforms>. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Decision IPBES-3/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. The list of contributions is available on the IPBES website: https://www.ipbes.net/implementation-capacity-building-rolling-plan-contributions-strategic-partners-collaborative [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. The workplan for the intersessional period 2022–23 builds on the achievements and lessons learned in the implementation of the capacity-building rolling plan. Work under objective 2 (a) will primarily be implemented by IPBES, while activities under objective 2 (b) and 2 (c) will largely be implemented by strategic partners and collaborative supporters. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. https://ipbes.net/ipbes-youth-workshop. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. In this context, communities of practice are groups of experts, policymakers and/or practitioners who work to increase access to expertise and information on a specific topic or focus area, both for supporting the implementation of the IPBES work programme and for increasing the reach and impact of work programme deliverables. These communities of practice are self-organizing groups and may have different modalities and working arrangements. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. Supporting objectives 2 and 5 of the IPBES 2030 rolling work programme. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. All documents can be found on the meeting webpage: <https://ipbes.net/events/dialogue-workshop-national-and-subregional-platforms>. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. Including Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. Average usefulness of 4,5 on a 5-point scale, with 5 being 'very useful'. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. See for example the Global Environment Outlook 6 (<https://www.unep.org/interactive/global-environment-outlook/>), the atlas of sustainable development developed by the World Bank (<https://datatopics.worldbank.org/sdgatlas/>), and the infographic (<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/infographic/worlds-apart/>) and interactive atlas(https://interactive-atlas.ipcc.ch/) developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)