

Comments from 1st Review Phase of Chapter1. Deliverable 2b. Americas Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Review Editor: Patricia Balvanera

Affiliation: UNAM - Instituto de Investigaciones en Ecosistemas y Sustentabilidad

Address: Antigua Carretera a Pátzcuaro No.8701, Col. Ex Hacienda de San José de la Huerta, C.P. 58190, Morelia, Michoacán, México

Email address: pbalvanera@cieco.unam.mx

Review Editor: Rodolfo Dirzo

Affiliation: Department of Biological Sciences, Stanford University

Address: 385 Serra Mall, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305

Email address: rdirzo@stanford.edu

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	General Comment				Seria bueno hacerlo un poco mas visual y didactico se pueden poner lineas de tiempo por ejemplo en la historia de los SE	The Amazon case study, as well as other material, will be updated to apply better the overall IPBES CF
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	General Comment				Utilizar naturaleza no es lo mismo que madre tierra ???	We will use the IPBES concepts to avoid confusion about terminology. There will be a standardized glossary with definitions.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	General Comment				No tiene mucho sentido meter en este capitulo los estudios de caso, se podrian insertar en otros capitulos	We believe that the case studies add depth and clarity to the chapter. We will shorten them and focus them on the main topic of the chapter to ensure that they add to the story, but plan to retain them.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Sandra Díaz	General Comment				In this Chapter the adoption of the IPBES conceptual framework (CF) is made explicit, but then the terminology and especially the inclusive categories of nature, nature's benefits to people and good quality of life are abandoned, and the text reverts to biodiversity and ecosystem services, which are included, but do not fully represent, the inclusive categories. It is true that the name of the Platform contains the words "biodiversity and ecosystem services", but such name was chosen before the inclusive, interdisciplinary, participatory CF was constructed. During that construction, and after extensive consultation, it was decided that the inclusive categories reflected better the multiple worldviews and wider range of stakeholders of the Platform, and therefore were put forward as the main categories for reporting. These are nature (which includes biodiversity, ecosystems, the evolutionary process, biogeochemical cycles, etc., but also similar categories used by other knowledge systems), nature's benefits to people (which includes ecosystems goods and services but it is not restricted to them. including also categories such as nature's gifts, and a good quality of life that includes the classical human wellbeing but, again, goes beyond that). By using nature, nature's benefits to people and good quality of life, the authors would ensure that the assessment follows the IPBES terminology and also that they include categories of multiple knowledge systems. If the authors feel they want to report specifically on some subcategories within those broader categories (e.g. on some of the "blue" or "green" categories within the black bold categories of the CF figure), then they should clarify in each case that this is the case, and also, in general, explain their choice of such subcategories over others (e.g. their use of ecosystems goods and services to represent nature's benefits to people, excluding other (e.g. ILK) categories.	We will use the inclusive, interdisciplinary, participatory CF (and its terminology) throughout. This will be accomplished through a thorough check when the grammar and writing style is also checked.
Sandra Díaz	General Comment				In a number of places the grammar could be improved and also there are incomplete and "casual" sentences. I do realize this is a FOD and therefore have not pointed to any of them in this opportunity	We will have an English native speaker do a thorough read through by grammar and writing style.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	General Comment				For each Chapter, a half-Page abstract related to the background, methodology and key findings would be helpful, particularly for new readers.	We will depend on the secretariat of the overall regional assessment to tell us whether we should provide such an abstract. It has been determined that key findings will be listed at the start of each chapter, which might help accomplish what the reviewer is requesting with an abstract.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	General Comment				Sections addressing general (and or global relevant) aspects that are of (the same) importance to all Regional Assessments should be kept as short as necessary. Main focus should be on examples with special relevance for the Americas Regions.	As we re-work the chapter, we will focus on examples with special relevance to the Americas region. General and globally relevant material will be kept where requested by the secretariat.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations	
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	General Comment				Please reflect contents and outline on Chapter 1 in IPBES/3/6/Add. 1 and provide related input - here especially "the policy relevant questions identified for Americas region" and how the assessment will address them, "including those related to implementation of the (...) Aichi Targets".	We will work with text that is consistent across all regional assessments provided by the secretariat.	
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	General Comment				Please select certain relevant key messages for the upcoming SPM and add uncertainty statements or qualitative confidence levels to all of them to ensure the credibility of the assessment.	We will focus in on key messages. For uncertainty statements, we will depend on what is provided for us by the secretariat, which will include standardized methods for making statements about uncertainty.	
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	General Comment				Consider quoting and reference to publications "Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet" and "The trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration" (both Steffen et al 2015) to include reflections and links on global, regional and subregional levels.	We will refer to Steffen et al. 2015 here	
CONABIO	General Comment				Se sugiere mover los estudios de caso que se incluyen en este capítulo al capítulo 4 que se refiere a impulsores de cambio.	This case study will be updated to better reflect our key messages and retained in Chapter 1. Unfortunately, Chapters 3 and 4 do not have space to take on our cases. The intention of the case study here is to show with an example the application of IPBES Conceptual Framework in an American case.	
CONABIO	Introduction				Como parte de la introducción al capítulo, consideramos conveniente abordar la polémica de la evolución del concepto de servicios ecosistémicos. El concepto que se está utilizando a lo largo de la evaluación es sólo uno de tantos. Esto también se debe considerar para las otras evaluaciones regionales y la global.	We suggest that some of the text provided by the secretariat for all regional assessments state clearly that IPBES has adopted certain technology (.eg., nature's benefits for people) , but there are other things that could be measured. WITH THE SUPPORT OF NEW IPBES DOCUMENTS, WE HAVE THE RATIONAL TO SHOW THE EVOLUTION OF THE ES CONCEPTS, AND I DONT THINK THIS IS UNDER DISCUSION WITHIN IPBES. IT IS ALREADY ADOPTED.	
Garry Pierzynski		1	1	31	1016	Essential sections are missing	. THERE WERE SOME SECTIONS WE DID NOT INCLUDE IN FOD, but THEY WILL BE INCLUDED AND COMPLETED IN SOD, DUE TO THE REVISION PROCESS AND DECISIONS TAKEN IN LAST MEETING IN BONN WITH STANDARD TEXTS INCLUDED.
Garry Pierzynski		1	1	31	1016	Many references listed in the text are not listed in the list of references.	A thorough check of references and literature cited will be done.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Orlando Rey	4	68	11	356	<p>"Most of the material in Section 1.1 (including 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4 and 1.1.5) and in Section 1.2, is methodological, and therefore pertinent to all the regional assessment, and not particularly focused in the Americas. Therefore I am not convinced of the need of replicating all this material which is supposed to be valid to all the assessments. I recognize this is the first time I work under the IPBEs methodologies, and maybe I am missing some elements in my analysis, but from my external point of view if seen more practical and straightforward, to start "setting the scene" by directly engaging on the particularities of the region, how this assessment is valid for the region (not in general), which are the targeted audiences within the region (not in general)...</p> <p>For example, in Section 1.1.3 (pag.16), language from Chapter 3 (lines 34 to 41), may be used, and in Section 1.1.5 it is possible to identify some specific target audience relevant to the Americas, some examples may include regional arrangements as MERCOSUR, CARICOM, NAFTA, SICA, CELAC, and UNEP, ECLAC regional offices.....among others....</p> <p>By following that path, Chapter 1 can become shorter and more focused.</p> <p>It is important to advance that that tendency to reproduce methodological content of general value and not precisely "Americas-related", is also present in others chapters (I will provide comments). By starting Chapter 1 in this more focused manner, this Chapter will provide some guide on how to proceed with the rest of the Chapters.</p>	<p>We recognize that there was a considerable amount of material that was pertinent to all regional assessments in our chapter. Nevertheless, the regional assessments secretariat will now make decisions about what material belongs in the first chapter of all assessments. We will use whatever text they provide us with and will cover whatever material they provide for us.</p>
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero/ Lucia Perez	4	69	4	72	There is a lot of repetition of the word provide, contribute may also be used.	We will complete a thorough edit for both grammar and clarity.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Diego Pacheco	4	69	31	685	<p>There are a lot of drawbacks in this report, which needs to be corrected: 1) Is very much related to operationalize the TEEB framework and not the IPBES conceptual framework. 2) Is only related to the market-valuation of nature, which is very contradictory and against the IPBES document of diverse values of nature; 3) The documents relates only to one perspective of the conceptual framework: well-being, nature and ecosystem services. There is also another perspective: living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, nature gifts and systems of life of Mother Earth, which is completely ignored in the document; 5) There is complete absence of ILK and different systems of knowledge about nature in the Americas, which is unacceptable; 6) the document seems to be a pamphlet of the green economy, and therefore a more refined balance between different academic and knowledge perspectives must be developed; 7) this document is very much private oriented ignoring that millions of peoples in America are indigenous peoples and living in local communities; 8) using the document against the investments of China in the region directly converts it in a pamphlet supporting US investments.</p> <p>My view is that the document as it is is very weak since there has not been any effort to introduce different perspectives of the ILK work, as is the purpose of the IPBES. The conceptual framework of the IPBES is not considered but only the TEEB framework. Therefore, is very biased to the western views of society and nature.</p>	<p>We will update to standard IPBES terminology throughout the chapter. We will include any evidence on non-market valuation efforts and ILK systems knowledge about nature on the Americas.</p>
Diego Pacheco	4	69	4	70	<p>Although the platform has ben denominated as biodiversity and ecosystem services, the conceptual framework and decisions regarding this issue is as follows: biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, and therefore this wording should be use comprehensively along this text. Also, the wording of welfare or well-being must changed by good quality of life. Please, use the conceptual framework of IPBES.</p> <p>Be consistent with he conceptual framework of the IPBES. The report does not take fully into account the conceptual framework and usses only the western view reflected in this framework. This is not good for he report. Also, it is very muc hbased on the TEEB approach which discredits the scientific value of this report.</p>	<p>We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.</p>
Diego Pacheco	4	69	4	70	<p>The wording of biodiversity and ecosystem services should be changed by biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.</p>	<p>We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.</p>
Diego Pacheco	4	70	4	70	<p>The wording of welfare must be changed by good quality of life to be aligned to the conceptual framework of IPBES.</p>	<p>We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.</p>

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Diego Pacheco	4	76	4	4	<p>Include the following paragraph: In most of developing world, conversely to what happened in developed world countries, the balance between nature and society has never been broken but deteriorated to diverse extent; therefore, the aim should be to keep and strenghten the harmious relationship between peoples and society by preserving the systems of life of Mother Earth (Pacheco, 2014). In this light, the policies and strategies for reinforcing this balance must be particular to the national circunstances of each country.</p> <p>We must introduce a difference between developed and developing world contries. Americas countries are not the same. There is the need to identify what are the specific characteristics of the Americas regarding biodiversity an ecosystem functions and services. It is not only to copy previous approaches very much criticized.</p>	<p>We respectfully disagree. While there are clearly issues in the developed world vis a vis relationships between humans and the environment, there are also many issues in the developing world (some the same, some different). We will address each issue and each region relative to the particulars of the relationships between people and the environment in that region.</p>
Diego Pacheco	4	78	4	78	Change the wording wellbeing by good quality of life (as is stated in the IPBES conceptual framework).	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.
Diego Pacheco	4	79	4	79	The wording should be ecosystem functions and services, and the same in the following paragraphs of this Chapter.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.
Diego Pacheco	4	83	4	92	The wording must aligned to the conceptual framework of IPBES using nature benefits to people (instead of biodiversity and ecosyem services); and good quality of life (instead of only well-being). If wanted could be used as follows: good quality of life (well-being or living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth). Be consisten with the conceptual framework of the IPBES.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.
sandra LUQUE	4	69	4	82	all this introductory section is too Repetitive with no interest should de rewritten and summarize in just one short paragraph to go directly to the interest of this exercise for the Americas, that is the following paragraphs within the intro	The general secretariat is setting structures for all chapter 1 text of all regional assessments. We will attempt to be as concise as possible, but will work with standardized text provided by the secretariat. We will cOMPLEMENT this WITH SPECIFIC TEXTS FROM THE REGION
sandra LUQUE	4	106		108	Foley et al. 2011 is not the right reference for this statement - the paper is in terms of gral global solutions. Here you said that there are many successful examples?! I admire the optimism providing the situation on biodiversity trends in the region. Provide references to support your statement otherwise is very misleading to the readers	We will update the citations for more relevant regional ones wherever possible.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
sandra LUQUE	4	133	5	137	The problem is not about capacity building but mainly data, methods and tools to be able to evaluate manage and monitoring biodiversity. Big data and data sharing mechanism are essential as already identified in other reports like FAO, GEOBON, etc. The report is not at all tackling this key issue to advance in terms of knowledge sharing.	Comment doesn't match the material in this section and I'm not sure what to do with it.
Garry Pierzynski	4	103	4	104	Suggest replacing "the most advanced of genetic technologies are producing new strains and even new types of plants and animals for consumption and other uses." with "advanced plant and animal breeding and genetic techniques used for food production"	Will replace as suggested.
Garry Pierzynski	4	109	4	109	Replace "teleconnections to other regions" with "rapid global communications"	Thank you for the comment. However, we will leave this as originally stated. Teleconnection means something quite diff't from mere communication here. We will provide a definition of telecommunication in order ot be clearer about our meaning.
Sandra Díaz	4	69	4	92	OK, but could be greatly summarized if space is short	We will use standard text provided by the secretariat for this section.
Sandra Díaz	4	83	4	85	Formal goal of IPBES is "to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the concervation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development"	We will make the changes as requested.
Sandra Díaz	4	98	4	105	The spirit of this paragraph is interesting, but could be tightened up. For example the presentation of contrasts involving indigenous peoples could be nuanced a bit, and surely eradication of poverty is at least partially covered in "contributions to the economy, livelihoods and quality of life", so perhaps does not need to be listed in the enumeration as a separate category. If the link between poverty, biodiversity, nature's benefits to people need hihghlighting (I would agree with this), then perhpas it merits a different sentence, not as soemthing different from economics, wellbeing, livelihoods. And, surely, key references to the literature need to be added.	We will make the changes as requested.
Sandra Díaz	4	109	4	109	Great to see teleconnections here, but it needs to be defined.	We will add a definition of teleconnection
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	4	109	4	109	Please define and explain the term "teleconnections". This remains unclear (usually ist used in relation to meteorological issues); please focus on "leakage" and "leakage effects" in relation to decoupled / coupled systems with spatial distance.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	5	112	5	116	Ideas are repetitive "In some areas of the Americas, the degree of these impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions is threatening the economy, livelihoods and quality of life, particularly to those sectors of society culturally predisposed to view the value of biodiversity and specific ecosystem services".	We will do a thorough edit of the entire chapter for clarity and concise presentation of the ideas.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	5	117	5	118	Objetive a) is not clear enough "a) Trends and interactions between biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as the interaction of societies and cultures with such trends".	We will provide more text to clarify the objective; we will also update to use IPBES terminology.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	5	119	5	119	"Good quality of life" is something heterogenous and this should be clarified "Good quality of life in the Americas respecting cultural differences"	We will depend on the secretariat of the overall regional assessment to give us standardized text for these terms.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	5	137	5	137	There is a lot of repetition of the word capacity "Including the augmentation of future sustainable uses of biodiversity"	We will do a thorough edit of the entire chapter for clarity and concise presentation of the ideas.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	5	142	5	142	basic evolutionary units interact in ecological and geological time to give result to nowadays biodiversity	We will adjust as requested
Diego Pacheco	5	113	5	113	Also refer to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.	We will depend on the secretariat of the overall regional assessment to give us standardized text for these terms.
Diego Pacheco	5	138	5	138	1.1.1 Should be referred to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.	We will depend on the secretariat of the overall regional assessment to give us standardized text for these terms.
Diego Pacheco	5	146	5	149	I consider that the TEEB definition is not the most correct for ecosystem funcionts and services. The TEEB definition is very western and merchandized definition for ecosystem services. I suggest to use a more broad definition of ecosystem functions and services. You can consult the Bolivian law of Mother Earth article 5, whcih is not a scientific document but better than TEEB. Envionmental functions: "result of the interactions between flora and fauna from ecosystems, own dinamic of ecosystems or of the physical environment and solar energy. Examples of environmental functions are: hidrological cycle, nutrient cycles, pollinization, purification of water, control of diseases, soil formation, and absorption of carbon". This is a broad definition of what a ecosystem function is. Please use it. Authors are very TEEB oriented, which implies that their worldview is very wesstern oriented. This is not good for quality of the assessment.	We will depend on the secretariat of the overall regional assessment to give us standardized text for these terms and sections.
Diego Pacheco	5	150	5	150	1.1.2 Should be changed by: Why is biodiversity ecosystem functions and services (BEFS) relevant to good quality of life? Be consisten with the conceptual framework of the IPBES.	We will update (as requested) to use standard IPBES terminology.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Diego Pacheco	5	151	5	151	Stick to the concepts of the conceptual framework. Substitutue BES by biodiversity ecosystem and functions, and well-being by good quality of life. Be consistent with he conceptual framework of the IPBES	We will update (as requested) to use standard IPBES terminology.
Diego Pacheco	5	154	5	154	There is a strong bias of the report to the commodification of nature through the use of the following wording: spiritual and market value of nature. I cannot accept this academically. This is very biased to the merchantilization of nature. Should be said only that there is a different valuation of nature. I cannot accept this as a scientific document. Using this kind of wording discredit the entire document and convert this as a pamphlet of TEEB.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Diego Pacheco	5	151	6	159	There is only a definition about the western view of nature and well.being. There is the need to introduce more examples of the view of the Living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, systems of life and Mother Earth, which are the definitions related to other systems of knowledge. You can use for this the book of Pacheco 2014. Living-well in balance and equilibrium with Mother Earth. A proposal for the change of global relationships between peoples and nature. Quotation of Pacheco book. Vivir bien en armonia y equilibrio con la madre tierra. Una propuesta para el cambio de las relaciones globales entre los seres humanos y la naturaleza. Fundación de la Cordillera. La Paz, Bolivia. 2014	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework. Additionally, we will include more evidence of non-western views of nature and nature's benefits to people.
Gerardo Suzán	5	133			here, a brief description of each chapter would be important to understand how these chapters are organized.	We will add an abbreviated outline of report to the end of the introduction section.
Gerardo Suzán	5	139-149			Ecosystem structure is mentioned several times and it is not defined. The definition can be included in section 1.1.1	Useful idea. There will be a glossary in the overall assessment to address issues of definitions.
Avelino G. Suarez	5	139	5	138	Include not only ecosystems also landscape. The BD definition should include and additional level, the landscape.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
sandra LUQUE	5	138	5	149	is this needed here? It was already presented in so many other sections. As I already stated for parts in the introduction repetition of comon concepts should be avoided to present and discuss what is relevant for the region within the framwork of the exercise	We will depend on standard IPBES text provided for us for this section, attempting to be less repetitive. Also, the entire chapter will be reviewed and revised for clarity and concise presentation.
Garry Pierzynski	5	117	5	125	The statement of objectives in the paragraph is confusing. Please clarify	We will update and clarify the objectives
Sandra Díaz	5	114	5	116	This sentence is obscure. Please spell out	We will rewrite for clarity.
Sandra Díaz	5	117	5	120	See first general note about IPBES terminology. This is especially improtant here, where it deals with the objectives of the whole assessment. It needs to stick to the RA Americas scoping document terminology	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Sandra Díaz	5	123	5	124	"multiple types of social and economic distributions of wealth and eccess to ecosytem services" Do you mean uneven dsitribution of wealth and access to ecosystem services? That would be simpler. If you mean something more complex, then it needs spelling out.	We will re-write this sentence for clarity.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations	
Sandra Díaz		5	146	5	149	Why does the assessment adopts the terminology/categories of TEEB and not those of IPBES, which include those of TEEB but are more inclusive, in terms of worldviews, epistemologies and range of values? (see e.g. IPBES CF, Guide for Assessments, Preliminary Guide on Diverse Values...) This also seems in a bit of a contradiction with sections 1.1.2 and 1.2	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Sandra Díaz		5	151	5	156	This copied verbatim from Díaz et al. 2015. Nothing wrong about it. However, this, as well as other paragraphs (such as those on page 8) that are simply transcriptions of published IPBES work, could be confined to boxes, glossary, legends, etc. if there is a need to save space for new text.	We will adjust this, both to save space and to avoid plagiarizing.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists		5	138	10	279	These general (and global) sections should furthermore be kept as short as necessary for their understanding within the reg. assessments. Provide focussing on concrete regional examples.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework. For these general sections, we will depend on text provided by the secretariat to ensure consistency across all reports.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero		6	192	6	192	There is an unnecessary extra point	We will do a thorough grammar and writing review.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero		6	197	6	197	The frase "including by ensuring" is confusing "Of national, subregional and regional knowledge, as appropriate, within a bottom-up approach"	We will re-phrase for clarity
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero		6	198	6	198	A final point is missing	We will do a thorough grammar and writing review.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero		6	201	7	207	The sentence is too long, it can be divided in more than one "ecosystem services and functions. Such assessment is based on scientific and other knowledge systems, with options and policy support tools"; "under alternative scenarios. It also present a series of success stores, best practices"	We will do a thorough grammar and writing review.
Diego Pacheco		6	159	6	159	There is no such a thing of "economic value of earth". Why do you use this kind of quotations. This report with this kind of word converts into a pamphlet of the green economy, which is not the case.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Diego Pacheco		6	160	6	160	Well-being or good quality of life?	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Diego Pacheco	6	160	6	170	Please deleted this whole paragraph. I recommend to be more critical with the statements you are introducing in this report. This is very much market oriented-biased which discredits the whole report. You need to be more balanced with the different valuation and the holistic values of biodiversity. I strongly recommend to read the IPBES report in the different valuation of nature.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework. We will carefully review the IPBES report on valuation of nature. While we cannot delete or hide evidence on market-valuation studies that are relevant for some regions in the Americas, we can balance this subsection by including evidence on non-valuation of nature's effort .
Diego Pacheco	6	171	6	175	Also, this paragraph relates onlly to one perspective of the conceptual framework: well-being, nature and ecosystem services. There is also another perspective: living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, nature gifts and systems of life of Mother Earth. This report need to be comprehensive to all views about society and nature, and not only the western view. This is against the spirit of the conceptual framework of the IPBES.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Diego Pacheco	6	177	6	178	The strong emphasis en economics again... there is also contributions to social, cultural and spiritual relationships. Need to introduce more perspectives of ILK regarding biodiversity and critical views to biodiversity as only economics.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework. That said, this may be an issue of clarity of writing and nuance and we will be careful to be nuanced here.
Diego Pacheco	6	190	6	193	Again the onlly emphasis to well-being ignoring the conceptual framework of the IPBES. It is related to good quality of life (well-being and living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth). Very weak perspective of the report, very much western oriented to well-being.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework. That said, this may be an issue of clarity of writing and nuance and we will be careful to be nuanced here.
Gerardo Suzán	6	192			erase the period after the word "knowledge", estandarize the use of period and citations. See line 198	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar.
Sandra Díaz	6	157	5	159	This paragraph appears disconnected with the paragraph immediately above	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar.
Sandra Díaz	6	167	6	169	Citation ambiguous. Specifically it is not clear from the sentence whether Costanza et al. 1997 and TEEB are examples of not taking into account losses because of degradation of ES, or alternatively they point out the need for considering them	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar, including checking this citation.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	6	201	6	201	Consider quoting and reference to Hill et al (2015): "A social–ecological systems analysis of impediments to delivery of the Aichi 2020 Targets and potentially more effective pathways to the conservation of biodiversity." in Global Environmental Change 43, 22-34.	We will check the Hill et al. reference
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	7	207	7	207	The period is not in the correct place	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Diego Pacheco	7	209	7	229	Again the market-oriented perspective introducing only to the private sector and ignoring that in the Americas most of the peoples is indigenous peoples and local communities. They should be a key target for the document the people and their organizations. This documents is very much private-oriented ignores the existence of millions of indigenous peoples and local communities in the Americas. This is unacceptable.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and conceptual framework.
Gerardo Suzán	7	207			standarize the use of periods in the whole document	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar.
Avelino G. Suarez	7	221	7	221	Could be included the Climate Change Convention and the Desertification Convention	We will check whether UNFCCC and CCD are considered target audiences and add if yes.
Ricardo Gomes Luiz	7	221	7	229	I would suggest to include also United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), due to the needy of its integration with CBD	We will check whether these are considered target audiences and add if yes.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	7	229	7	229	List of stakeholders is too general, provide focusing on regional stakeholders.	We will use standard text provided by the secretariat for this section.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	7	216	7	216	We appreciate the integration of different values and views and would suggest replacing the wording "social sciences" with "social sciences and humanities (SSH)" to take into account the broader definition. For better integration of SSH see http://www.de-ipbes.de/media/content/IPBES%202016%20Biodiversity%20Policy_final.pdf	We can make this adjustment to SSH.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	7	229	7	229	Add "Delegates of the bi-regional "Senior Officials Meeting" (SOM) responsible for the implementation of the Joint Initiative for Innovation and Research (JIRI) of the EU and CELAC (Community of the Latin American and Caribbean States), biodiversity being one of the focal topics for the EU-CELAC SOM. (see http://alcuenet.eu/assets/SOM%20Thematic%20Report%20Biodiversity%20&%20CC%202016.pdf).	We will check whether these are considered target audiences and add if yes.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	8	235	8	235	It is Figure 1, not Table 1	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar, including table and figure call outs.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	8	249	8	249	The correct name is Figure 1.1	We will thoroughly edit for clarity and grammar, including table and figure call outs.
Diego Pacheco	8	230	9	250	The report mentions that uses the conceptual framework of the IPBES. As it has been reflected previously this is an empty wording, since the document is not using at all the conceptual framework of IPBES. Please use the conceptual framework of the IPBES comprehensively in the whole document.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Sandra Díaz	8	230	8	249	The whole page occupied by graphs and text pasted directly from Díaz et al. 2015. Again, this is fine, but perhaps the authors would like to confine this to a box or something to have more main text space available for this assessment	We will re-work this to avoid plagiarizing while still capturing the main points from the Díaz et al. 2015 paper.
Sandra Díaz	8	235	8	235	What is Table 1? The table of biomes does not seem to correspond to this sentence	This will be adjusted to match
Sandra Díaz	8	231	8	231	Title 1.2.1 would not be particularly illuminating to a stakeholder. I take it that this is just an internal, preliminary title?	We will adjust the sub-title here
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	8	230	8	249	Description of the Conceptual Framework (CF) is very general and might be elaborated with concrete regional examples (see e.g. Chapter 2, Page 50, Fig. 2.7).	We will elaborate on the framework with concrete regional examples. This will also ensure that the framework becomes more integrated into the chapter.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	9	261	9	261	There is an extra (')	We will edit throughout.
Diego Pacheco	9	250	9	252	You can not just copy verbatim the guidance document. Need to clarify the efforts to really use ILK in the text, since there are extensive literature and reports about ILK in Americas. the document needs extra effort to use strongly ILK literature in the different chapters. Now is completely absent, which strongly undermines the usefulness of the document.	As above.... We will re-write to capture the main concepts without plagiarizing the guidance documentation.
Diego Pacheco	9	278	9	283	Also, I suggest to send this part to the management committee of the Americas. Since you are very biased to the economic valuation of ecosystem services. This undermines the whole quality of the document. Very unbalanced perspective of values in the whole report.	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts throughout. Also, where needed, we will use the standard text provided for all Chapter 1s across the regional assessments.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	9	250	9	252	1) Dialogue Workshop for the Americas Region to be held in Sucre, Bolivia, during the week July 20-22, 2016 should be mentioned. 2) For better integration of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) (see Policy Paper http://www.de-ipbes.de/media/content/IPBES%202016%20Biodiversity%20Policy_final.pdf).	We will consider this suggestion based on notes of the workshop.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	9	266	9	267	The authors are encouraged to outline concrete existing major regional discrepancy (north-south) in available knowledge and knowledge gaps more clearly.	Rich-poor/north-south knowledge differences and gaps can be mentioned here. There are some papers about this topic, for example http://www.library.illinois.edu/mortenson/lectures/2003/lalecture.pdf

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Nichols, Liz	10	297	11	341	Would it not be sensible to give examples of both positive AND negative policies, and how they influence the environment? Clear examples of perverse incentives (e.g. subsidies, but there are others) may be useful. In addition, there is a good positive example of the biodiversity benefits of a policy change towards restoration, in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest from Banks-Leite, C., Pardini, R., Tambosi, L.R., Pearse, W.D., Bueno, A.A., Brusca, R.T. et al. (2014). Using ecological thresholds to evaluate the costs and benefits of set-asides in a biodiversity hotspot. Science, 345, 1041-1045.	This is, I think, pretty important. The section could be more nuanced in terms of understanding that there are + and - effects of policies, and sometimes policies that are overall + and have some - aspects (and vice versa. Might also be able to draw some conclusions here (at least initial categories or types of policies and the effects they are likely to have.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	10	300	10	300	Change polices for policies	grammar and writing will be reviewed
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	10	313	11	331	Some quotes have a different format	grammar and writing will be reviewed
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	10	315	10	315	A parenthesis is missing	grammar and writing will be reviewed
Diego Pacheco	10	297	10	341	<p>It is not acceptable to analyze only policies related to the view of ecosystem good and services. This is very weak. The policies should be analyzed in the context of the conceptual framework of IPBES. Policies for improving not only well-being but the good quality of living, including also concepts of the living-well in balance and harmony of Mother Earth. Introduce more examples regarding these different systems of knowledge. In the book Pacheco, Diego 2014 of Living-well I have analyzed that the approach of the management of systems of life (in the context of the Living-well) is an alternative to the payment of the ecosystem services (in the context of the green economy). Need to introduce examples of Living-Well. Only examples of PES are not good for the document.</p> <p>I recommend to introduce examples from the following book. Pacheco, Diego. 2014. Hacia la descolonización de las políticas ambientales y de los bosques: el mecanismo conjunto de mitigación y adaptación para el manejo integral y sustentable de los bosques y la Madre Tierra. Fundación de la Cordillera. La Paz, Bolivia. 2014</p>	We will use standard IPBES terminology and concepts as the framing of our analysis. We will include analysis of any reported evidence on examples of policies that affect the good quality of life in the Americas.
Sandra Díaz	10	297	10	299	Is this subtitle simply a placeholder?	Subtitle will be fixed

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Sandra Díaz	10	297	11	341	I am a bit puzzled about the purpose of Section 1.2.6, and particularly about its location. It contains some useful examples, but to me they seem to be about indirect drivers (using IPBES terminology), i.e. institutions (in the broadest sense) that indirectly affect nature and its benefits to people. This is fine, but why placing it here, in the middle of a rather methodological section that discusses sources of evidence, uncertainties and scenario bounding? Why not later on, among the questions, etc. If I am missing the main message of this section, then this suggests such message needs to be sharpened up. If indeed this is a reflection on indirect drivers, I suggest moving it to a different section, or even a different chapter.	VANESSA: the idea behind this section was to discuss how policies change NBP. examples are intended to show role of protected area. We will
Margot Hurlbert	10	297			1.2.6 there is no illustration of policies indirectly affecting value on Figure 1	See comments on row 99 and 93
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	10	284	10	296	We greatly appreciate all links to the recently published IPBES results concerning Deliverable 3c (Policy support tools and methodologies for scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services based on a fast track assessment and a guide) and would like to encourage authors to include relevant findings for future development of the SOD.	We will check Deliverable 3c document, but this will most likely be replaced by standard text across all regional assessments.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	10	310	11	332	Other outstanding Payment of Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes that could be quoted would be the Willamette Partnership (http://willamettepartnership.org/) due to its multiple types of ecosystem credits approach (e.g. floodplain and salmon related ecosystem crediting and terrestrial approaches for sagebrush/sage grouse ecosystem credits etc.) and well developed tools and management (e.g. verification protocols). There are manuals (e.g. the Willamette Partnership Ecosystem Credit Accounting System: http://willamettepartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/General-Crediting-Protocol-2.0.pdf) and annual reports available which indicate the viability of the PES scheme at hand. A peer-reviewed publication which highlights the Willamette Partnership example and the relevant bundling of ecosystem services is: Deal, RL, Cochran B, LaRocco G (2012): Bundling of ecosystem services to increase forestland value and enhance sustainable forest management. Forest Policy and Economics 17, 69–76. doi:10.1016/j.forpol.2011.12.007.	We will include these additional PES Cases as far as possible considering that we need to give balance to other policy tools as well.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	10	310	11	332	Furthermore and outstanding as well, California's cap-and-trade program is an innovative emissions trading program that does not only aim at decreasing emissions of carbon dioxide in the state by limiting the amount of carbon emitted by certain industries but also at protecting forests through the provision of a payment for ecosystem services framework – the Compliance Forest Offset Protocol for U.S. Forests (http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/protocols/usforest/usforestprojects_2014.htm). The protocol allows forest owners nationwide to receive payments for carbon sequestration provided by their forests. A related peer-reviewed publication on such approaches would be, for example: Banerjee S, Secchi S, Fargione J, Polasky S, Kraft S (2013): How to sell ecosystem services. A guide for designing new markets. In <i>Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment</i> 11 (6), pp. 297–304. DOI: 10.1890/120044.	This is a good example and could be fitted in.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	11	349	11	356	This paragraph could be well complemented with a Figure explaining it	Paragraph was included because it was requested in the first outline. Paragraph is a summary of deliverable 2a. Whether to include this paragraph or not will need to be dealt with at the Secretariat level, as they are addressing issues that are, or should be, the same across all assessments.
Sandra Díaz	11	333	11	341	Is this paragraph simply a placeholder? Fine in that case. I feel it is OK in essence, but needs considerable elaboration of language, rationale and evidence base.	There are several paragraphs like this that need elaboration, depth, and succinct writing. They will be edited in the thorough chapter review.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	11	342	11	356	This general (and global) section could furthermore be kept as short as necessary for its understanding within the regional assessments.	Need to deal with this in conjunction with other chapter 1s, and will depend on decisions at the secretariat level.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Orlando Rey	12	369	12	371	While it is true that historically, agriculture was presented as opposed to conservation outcomes, and primary driver of biodiversity loss, it is important to provide some balance by taking into account the substantial benefits provided by activities as agriculture, fisheries and forestry. These activities while putting pressure on biodiversity have enabled industrialization, economic growth and labor force employment. An analysis which take into account human wellbeing and food security, should consider the impact of agriculture in both sides.	I think the intention was as indicated here in the comment - to present the good and bad - but it doesn't quite work as written. Just needs a solid edit.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	12	380	12	380	There is an extra "and"	Will edit for grammar
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	12	396	12	396	There is an extra ("	Will edit
Diego Pacheco	12	363	12	379	Here it is important to mention that in America many societies have never broken the balance and harmonious relationship between peoples and nature, and therefore under this paradigm policy actions should be developed; not only under the TEEB and green economy which understands that under a capitalist society there is the need to restore the balance between peoples and nature through economic rationale and PES. Also it is important to introduce here a more holistic perspective of the social, cultural, political and economic relationship of peoples with nature, under the concept of Systems of Life. Suggest to read my book of the Living-Well (Pacheco, Diego 2014), mentioned before.	There are many arguments that indicate that this is not actually true - societies which are 'harmonious' are often simply those that move when they have exhausted one location or that have small populations. While it is important to adjust our terminology to be in line with IPBES frameworks, this seems to go beyond that.
Diego Pacheco	12	360	15	505	The summary of the key chapters of the document is very weak. I suggest to rewrite again once the chapters has been reviewed and corrected. I have many observations in the depicted chapters. After reviewed the chapters I suggest to come back again to this summary of them.	Can be re-written now that we've seen FODs of all chapters
Gerardo Suzán	12	360			more examples form Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, Costa Rica and other countries can be included. Examples are needed in section 1.3.1.	Examples will be added.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Gerardo Suzán	12	386			a sentence after (Kremen and Ostfeld, 2005) can be included. Something like this "Highly heterogeneous landscapes increase vertebrate diversity, and ecosystem services including pollination, plague control, fruit dispersal, and reduce the abundances of reservoir species for emerging and reemerging infectious diseases affecting human health, while homogeneous and structurally simple landscapes increase local extirpation of biodiversity and the critical ecological interactions underpinning services affecting human health"	Could add if there is space. Could also add some examples and citations, if space.
Sandra Díaz	12	359	12	359	I suggest "The Americas regional assessment and its subregional assessments will address the following policy-relevant question"(otherwise it sounds as referring to all regional assesments, not sujt the Americas one).	Will edit as suggested.
Sandra Díaz	12	360	12	360	I suggest reformulating the question to: "How do nature and its benefits to people contribute to the economy, livelihoods, food security, and good quality of life in the Americas [and its subregions], and what are the interdependences among them? "(especially in view of your adoption of the CF terminology in the following page, and your embrace of other knowledge systems). If the authors find "Nature" (preferred) too broad, perhaps a compromise would be: "How do biodiversity, ecosystems, and their benefits to people contribute to the economy, livelihoods, food security, and good quality of life in the Americas [and its subregions], and what are the interdependences among them?".	We will adjust the question as suggested.
Margot Hurlbert	12	376	12	379	Important points like this don't resurface in the governance chapter; this also occurs with the research below on best practices below on line 401	This needs to be handled at the secretariat or Regional Assessment leadership level to ensure consistency across chapters.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	12	358			In Chapter 1.3 two publications "Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet" and "The trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration" (both Steffen et al 2015) might be included and quoted, providing crucial findings to link global and regional scales.	OK to include. Also mentioned in comment row 11.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	12	358	13	427	In this Chapter discussion on the role of climate change as threat to biodiversity and food security is missing; provide adding in 1.3.2 or with seperate Chapter.	We will add a brief mention of climate change.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	12	386	12	388	Ecosystem services are also influenced by the size of remaining natural landscape (e.g. Seppelt et al. 2011, 2013.	I think this is included in the complexity. Could add Seppelt citations.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	12	396	12	397	Further discussion on the approach might be helpful to point out ecosystem services on the watershed level linked with integrated watershed management approaches (see also new Brazilian Forest Code and Embrapa land use planning).	Could add some material on watershed-level approaches, or simply point out that these are similar to watershed approaches.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	12	398	12	403	Further discussion on land sharing and sparing as strategy for protected areas might be helpful; also aspects of governmental actor constellations and political ecology with the aim to address better practices (see e.g. Fischer J et al. (2014) Land Sparing Versus Land Sharing: Moving Forward Conservation Letters 7:149-157 doi:10.1111/conl.12084.	May not want to get into this debate, but could cite the Fischer et al paper that points beyond the debate.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	407	13	407	Change "an" for "a"	We will edit throughout .
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	418	13	418	There is an extra "?"	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	419	13	419	"However on one hand" sounds repetitive	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	423	13	423	There are two final periods	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	439	13	439	There is an extra parenthesis	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	445	13	445	There is an extra "through"	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	13	445	13	447	Improve the sentence "the access, control, allocations and distribution of components of nature"	We will edit throughout
Gerardo Suzán	13	411			more examples from Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, Costa Rica and other countries can be included. Examples are needed in section 1.3.1.	We will add examples and citations throughout this section and others.
Sandra Díaz	13	411	13	423	For the same reasons as in comment 360, and in my first general comment, I suggest modifying the title to: "What are the status, trends and potential future dynamics of nature, nature's benefits to people, and their contributions to the economy, livelihoods and a good quality of life in the Americas and its subregions?" (or, less preferred, "What are the status, trends and potential future dynamics of biodiversity, ecosystems and their benefits to people, including their contributions to the economy, livelihoods and a good quality of life in the Americas and its subregions?")	We will bring the chapter into line with standard IPBES terminology as suggested here, including updating modifying this title/question.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Sandra Díaz	13	428	13	429	For the same reasons as in comment 360, and in my first general comment, I suggest modifying the title to: "What are the [external] factors driving the change in the status and trends of nature, nature's benefits to people and good quality of life in the Americas and its subregions?" (or, less preferred, ""What are the [external] factors driving the change in the status and trends of biodiversity, ecosystems, their benefits to people and contributions to a good quality of life in the Americas and its subregions?" Please note that IPBES adopted FACTORS rather than pressures to define the drivers, because the word "pressure" has a narrower meaning and was confusing with some pre-existing terminology.	See response, comment 130
Sandra Díaz	13	431	13	431	Citation to Díaz et al. 2015. There are two articles by Díaz et al. 2015 on the IPBES CF. The one in Plos Biol is a general showcasing for a broad audience and contains some of the political context surrounding the building of the CF. The one in COSUST is much more comprehensive, contains theoretical background, examples, glossary and extensive bibliography. Ideally, both should be cited. If for reasons of space, etc. only one can be cited, I suggest using the COSUST one, which is more comprehensive and has more chances to actually contain everything about the CF.	Adjust citation to COSUST Díaz et al. 2015
Sandra Díaz	13	435	14	490	Again, nothing wrong in pasting definitions from Díaz et al. 2015, but you might need this space (more than a page) for something else, in which case I recommend sending the whole thing to a special section.	We will paraphrase and re-write rather than copying directly.
Margot Hurlbert	13	435	13	448	the description of institutions and governance systems and indirect drivers are confusing. The definitions of each should be made clear and concise. There are no references here which question the veracity of all of the statements. How are institutions different from or related to governance systems?	We will edit throughout for clarity of writing and ideas.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	13	408	13	410	Provide some additional information on the concept of hotspots of biodiversity and critical areas would be helpful for studying ecosystem services development - quote references.	Could add, but perhaps depends on how/whether the nature of the question is adjusted as per S Díaz comments.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	13	424	13	427	Please provide information on the role of ecology and economy and possible trade-offs.	I don't understand this comment but we will consider it as best as we can during SOD development.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	13	431	14	490	Very general, adding concrete regional examples for Americas would be helpful (if possible for all regions - North-, Meso-, South America and the Caribics).	We will add a small set of examples to be used throughout the chapter.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	13	441	13	448	Additional information on the role of governmental colonization might be helpful (e.g. INEA BRAZIL, Benatti JH (2011) Regularizacao fundiaria na Amazonia no contexto das mudancas climaticas Mudanca do Clima: Desafios juridicos, economicos e socioambientais:202-214).	This might be more relevant in chapter 4.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	452	14	453	Make the sentence clearer Many drivers of human behavior and preferences reflect different perspectives on a good quality of life and work largely outside the market system.	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	454	14	454	The first sentence has no verb	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	458	14	458	There is an extra period	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	463	14	465	Improve the sentence	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	470	14	472	Add concept of "buen vivir" or "sumak kawsay"	This could be added in the re-write.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	479	14	479	The word "increase" is repeated, use other synonyms like raise	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	482	14	482	Improve sentence the represent of the loss of ancestral lands and their spiritual and cultural value.	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	14	487	15	495	Write Chapter always with capital letter	We will edit throughout
Margot Hurlbert	14	482			there isatypo here as the sentence doesn't end	We will edit throughout
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	14	479	14	482	Provide informations on increasing land conflicts (see Bolivia, Brazil) with new deLineation and fixing of protected areas (in partly and sometimes illegal used land (e.g. new protected forest areas in the Amazon)	The Americas units of analysis map was created by matching the categories listed in "Units of analysis Sep2016.pdf (after SAM)" and the terrestrial ecoregions map. However, SAM secretariat will produce the required maps across regional assessments. So, I guess the figure will be updated soon and will be consistent across
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	15	497	15	497	"IT" has doble capital letter	We will edit throughout
Avelino G. Suarez	15	503	15	503	Would be good and useful to include a short paragraph or sentence defining the LA indigenous nations of the Pachamama or Mother Earth. It is typical for our region, at least for the peasant and native communities.	We will include a significant paragraph on this when issues of indigenous knowledge are first introduced
Margot Hurlbert	15	497			Type with IT	We will edit throughout
Orlando Rey	16	507	18	536	In Section 1.4.1 Consider the convenience of representing in a map of the Americas, the Units of Analisis taken for the Americas Assessment. On doing that, take into account thar there is not an full correspondence between the Units referred in Table 1. and the 14 biomes in figure 2 a). To provide some explanation will be necessary. "	This figure will be created by SAM secretariat to have a standardized figure across assessments with consistent classificaitons.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
sandra LUQUE	16	509	16	520	Here the report should highlight to the conflicts of considering the Americas as a whole providing the huge contrast in terms of income, population structure, funding for research, funding for conservation. The report as stated in the first page of the introduction is about biodiversity and services> then it seems that what it was explaining I the fist page, even if redundant, was forgotten here. Without consideration of the contrasting social and economic differences the report seems useless. In terms of characterisation of Biomes and biodiversity I think that several other reports do a much better job since many years already (WWF, UNESCO, FAO, pacificbio.org, CIAT, etc.) In all, you are missing the human and economic dimension that this global report for the Americas should highlight	This will likely change complete as we bring these parts from discriptions in Chapter 3.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	17	521	17	521	Improve the quality of the image.	We will edit throughtout; this will change to the new outline in the SOC
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	17	522	17	523	The sentence is not so clear. "Increasingly" is repeated	We will edit throughtout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	17	525	17	526	The idea is repetitive "To read by any target audience. Another reason is that when ecological units of analysis are"	We will edit throughtout
Sandra Díaz	17		17		Fig. 2. Suggest just concentrating in the Americas and in the classification finally used. Otherwise there is a lot of information in the map that it is not used at all in the Americas Assesment, and the Amricas region, which is the focus, appears at low resolution.	Yes. See comment above. This figure will be created by SAM secretariat to have a standardized figure across assessments with consistent classificaitons.
Alejandra Volpedo	18	530	543	535	table 1. line 3. Alpine? The authors should change by Andine.	This reads as 'alpine' in my copy
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	18	530	18	530	A comma after Consequently is missing	We will edit throughtout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	18	536	18	536	It is not clear what exactly means "Focal", "Cross Cutting", etc. It is not clearly explained that AA is American Assessment	We will add definitions to the caption of Table 1
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	18	543	18	543	It would be clearer to write IPBES than just Platform	Change platform --> IPBES
Avelino G. Suarez	18	536	18	536	If Mexico is included into North America . It should included into NA the tropical and subtropical dry and humid forests there	We will explain the units of analysis (meso-america, etc.) in the caption of table 1. MEXICO IS INCLUDED IN MESOAMERICA
Royal Gardner	18	535	18	536	In Box 1, unit 7 seems to make a distinction between "wetlands" and "peatlands", although peatlands are a type of wetlands (as noted on page 41 of Chapter 2 and page 17 of Chapter 5). Perhaps it could be edited to say: rivers, lakes, wetlands (e.g., peatland), estuaries.	We will check for meaning and adjust if needed
Garry Pierzynski	18	535	18	536	Savannas and Grasslands should be a focal point for North America as well	This is determined by the secretariat making decisions that affect all IPBES regional assessments; our chpater must simply follow the rest of the assessment

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Sandra Díaz	18		18		Table 1. It would be nice to have in the legend the meanig of split, combining, focal, esterisk, etc. Otherwise the Table is not very useful.	This information can be added to the table caption.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	530	18	531	Please cross check: in the text seven terrestrial units of analysis are mentioned, in the following Table 1 just six units (1 to 6). see also following comment.	We will cross check to make sure table matches the text
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	530	18	536	Table 1: We greatly appreciate the well structured approach to choose 11 biomes most relevant for the Americas (6 terrestrials, 3 aquatic and 2 managed units, see also Chapter 1, Line 536, Table 1) which are investigated and referd to in detail in all 6 Chapters. Please ensure that an order once agreed upon (which might be the one here in Chapter 1, is maintained, as in the current sections of the document the order is very often mixed up and might complicate conclusions concerning certain biomes (see e.g. Chapter 2.3.1 to 2.3.9).	The regional Americas assessment leaders will work on ensure consistent order across all chapters.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	530	18	536	Table 1: We appreciate especially selecting "Marine/Deepwater/Offshore systems" (Unit 9) as knowledge on marine and antarctic issues and biological diversity in Open Oceans are essential for asssing the global biodiversity (see IPBES/3/6/Para 11)	ok
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	530	18	536	Table 1: Biome 7 "Freshwater, Surface Waters and Water Bodies - rivers, lakes, wetlands and estuaries, peatlands" is very broad and might be not focused enough (see comments in Chapter 2, Line 1332). For the elaboration of certain issues it might not be helpful to sum up all these "biomes" under one bullet point. Especially peatlands should be focused apart as they are one of the most relevant and most endangered ecosystems concerning biodiversity and services. Ramsar Definition might be helpful (see Chapter 2, Line 1536)	This decision will need to be made by the secretariat.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	530	18	536	Table 1: What is meant with Unit 10 "Production systems"? This might not represent a "biome" or clear limited area. Please clarify and define exactly (compare to comment on Chapter 2, Page 47, Line 1537). This is crucial as content of all following Chapters (2 to 6) should refer to this Table / Units / Biomes).	We will add a definition for production systems.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	18	536	18	536	Table 1: What is meant with „split“ „cross cutting“ and “*”? This needs further explanations.	As above, we will add definitions to table caption
CONABIO	18				Pág. 18: Sugerimos la inclusión de un texto que se refiera a la unicidad/diversidad de biomas presentes en “Mesoamérica” (donde se clasificó a México); particularmente en México por estar dividido en 2 regiones biogeográficas (Neártica y Neotropical). México comparte muchos biomas no sólo con Mesoamérica, sino también con el Caribe y Norteamérica (bosques templados, pastizales, etc.) Los expertos participantes en el taller aportarán información/contenidos sobre biomas en los que no se menciona a México a través de los distintos capítulos para llenar estos vacíos de información.	This can be clarified in the text in revising
Nichols, Liz	19	555	19	555	If the CF knowledge system will be explicitly represented and used throughout (and was already depicted in a figure), should the ILK system also be placed in an early figure? Perhaps alongside the CF diagram, for equal weight?	This will need to be decided by the secretariat.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	19	546	19	548	The sentence is confusing and has doble period “In the AA, for each of the units of analysis (biomes- see Table 1) one sub-region will be chosen and thoroughly analyzed through all following chapters. However, other sub-regions of the same biome will be discussed in comparison with the more intensely analyzed case”.	We will edit throughout

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	19	546	19	546	The correct name is Table1.1	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	19	546	19	576	This whole parragraph is difficult to follow. All the information could be place in a table with arrows explaining how a chapter is related to another	We will edit throughout
Margot Hurlbert	19	553	19	576	It isn't clear what the difference between Chapter 4 and 6 will be from the description.Upon reviewofch4thereis not much relating to instituions and governance	We will edit throughout. Leadership will need to ensure consistency across chapters.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	19	546	19	546	Check wording and definitions and provide clear language throughout the whole document (all Chapters): "Biomes" – see Table 1.4 - versus "Units of analysis" - see Table 1 - Line 536	We will edit throughout for clarity of language, same use of terms, following IPBES terminology
Alejandra Volpedo	20	581	612	582	This case study only impacts of North and central america. It could not for example incorporated the case study of Limnoperma fortunei either of Corbicula fluminea affecting South America.	This species is getting into South America also and is therefore relevant to all parts of the Americas.
Alejandra Volpedo	20	581	612	584	Pterois volitans	We will edit throughout
Alejandra Volpedo	20	581	612	612	The authors should incorporate the references of. -Albins, M. A. (2013). Effects of invasive Pacific red lionfish Pterois volitans versus a native predator on Bahamian coral-reef fish communities. <i>Biological Invasions</i> , 15(1), 29-43. Robertson, A., Garcia, A. C., Quintana, H. A. F., Smith, T. B., II, B. F. C., Reale-Munroe, K., ... & Klimek, B. J. (2013). Invasive lionfish (Pterois volitans): A potential human health threat for ciguatera fish poisoning in tropical waters. <i>Marine drugs</i> , 12(1), 88-97. Fortunato, R. C., & Avigliano, E. (2014). PRESENCE OF GENUS PTEROIS (Oken, 1817)(Scorpaeniformes, Scorpaenidae): EXTENSION OF INVASIVE RANGE IN CARIBBEAN SEA AND FIRST PUBLISHED RECORD FOR LOS FRAILES ARCHIPELAGO/Pterois (Oken, 1817)(Scorpaeniformes, Scorpaenidae) Genusunun Bulunmasi Üzerine: Karaib Denizinde Istila Alaninin Genislemesi ve Los Frailes Takimadalarl İcin Yavinlanan İlk Kavıt. <i>Journal of FisheriesSciences. com</i> . 8(2). 88.	We will add references to the text.
Orlando Rey	20	581	22	683	It is not clear how developing specific case studies fix into the generalities of Chapter 1. That kind of development seems to be more appropriated for others specific chapters, with Chapter 1 just declaring in a general manner, that the development of case studies will we a tool along the assessment.	We will a an explanation in the pointers to the case studies, to help explain why they are needed and what the goal/objective of the case studies is. One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an example in the Amazon region.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	20	581	20	581	There is not a good continuity between the first part of Chapter 1 and the Case Studies. It would be good to explain the objetives of writing these case studies.	Add explanation in pointers to case studies. Please see previous comment on the Amazon case study.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	20	583	20	583	Scientific names must be in italics	Will do
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	20	591	20	591	km ² should have superscript	Will do
Diego Pacheco	20	581	23	685	I consider completely inappropriate to introduce those Annexes I and II. I do not understand the relevance and why to use those examples and not others. For example: the protected areas in the region and the provision of environmental functions; sustainable management of natural resources by indigenous peoples; or the analysis of other invasive species. I strongly disagree using those examples which are very subjective, introducing policy views against China and policies of the region. This converts also this document in kind of pamphlet supporting US investment in the region and <u>discrediting other investments</u> .	For the Amazon case study, we want to help readers understand the IPBES CF with an example. We will work to improve the way this case study is written to avoid the subjective focus on China and policies.
Kevel Lindsay	20	582	20	612	Why use the lionfish as the case study? Why not use a terrestrial example that has well established studies and perspectives, in this case, introduced rats, and subsequent studies of their impacts, control and restoration efforts across the Americas? Then perhaps also include a marine-based example such as the lionfish?	For the Amazon case study, we want to help readers understand the IPBES CF with an example.
Sandra Díaz	20		22		Case studies: they are nice, but I am puzzled about the reason why they are placed in the first Chapter. What are they intended to illustrate? Wouldn't them be best placed in other chapters?	One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an <u>example in the Amazon region</u> .
Sandra Díaz	20		20		Lionfish case study: Depending on the main issue it is intended to illustrate, it might need summarizing some bits, and expanding/better documenting others. I could make suggestions once the main goal is clarified. Also, please note that there have been a couple of initiatives to use lionfish in the Caribbean as a gastronomic delicacy, in an attempt to reduce its numbers. It seems to have backfired because then people profiting from this use reintroduce them to places in which they are declining (a bit like trout angling in Southern South America). If this twist is added to the story, it might nicely illustrate the complexities of multiple incentives, institutions, preferences, etc. This is of course simply a suggestion, to be taken or not at the authors' discretion, depending on the main objective of the case study.	For the Amazon case study, we want to help readers understand the IPBES CF with an example.
Margot Hurlbert	20	581	23	683	It isn't clear why these case studies are here? Lionfish appear again in chapter 4. reference to them in that chapter should be made	One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an <u>example in the Amazon region</u> .

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	20	581	22	683	Annex I doesn't seem to fit very well to Chapter 1 - but informations are valuable and shouldn't get lost - it might be helpful to shift it to another Chapter (3 and/or 4 ?) - see following comment.	Chapter 3 is already too long and needs to be shortened, so the case cannot be shifted there. We have attempted to make a clearer explanation both here (see row xxxx) and in the chapter for why this case is included here.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	20	581	20	612	Case Study on invasive lionfish could be shifted to Chapter 3 (Chapter 3.4.5, see Page 94, Line 2408ff) or Chapter 4 (see Page 87, Line 2370ff).	There is no room available in chapter 3.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	21	632	21	632	There is an extra comma	Will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	21	646	21	646	Scientific names must be in italics	Will edit throughout
Joel Houdet	21	613	22	683	this case study is very specific... and focuses on people originating from another region... a bit peculiar... one could look at the same topic (amazon region infrastructure development) without focusing so much on the "chinese"	One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an example in the Amazon region.
Avelino G. Suarez	21	613	22	683	I do not like the written text of the case study. Mentioned in the title " the chinese investment in infrastructure to provide resources to its emerging middle class". China is not the only investor at Latin America. My perception of the case study is that it express politically points of view not adequate for a scientific publication, including the attached figures.	One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an example in the Amazon region. We will be careful with the tone in the language to avoid political sensitivity.
sandra LUQUE	21	621	21	626	This positive statements is contradictory to the whole point raised later, the case should be presented from the beginning as an important CONFLICT of typical foreign investment into the local and regional interests. Revise the introduction that is misleading. Be very careful in the way you present the problems of Amazonia and the investments by Chinese in particular in the mining sector this producing so much damage already in South America in particular. Misleading statements within the report that could be cited later on can cause an enormous damage to the existing fragile and complex situation regarding that topic in the region	One case study presented here will focus on Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an example in the Amazon region. We will be careful with the tone in the language to avoid political sensitivity.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	21	613	22	683	Case Study on Amazonas is focussing on global leakage effects, too. Leakage should be in the focus on (sub)regional AND on global level; please provide more relevant research data on leakage effects - especially for Chapter 6.	We will not concentrate on leakage effects in the Amazon case study as suggested.

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	21	613	21	614	The selected title on the Case Study doesn't seem to fit very well to the content which is a broad and very well approach to complex situation and drivers in the Amazon region.	The case study was reformulated to focus on "Nature's Benefits to People in the Amazon: Applying the IPBES CF" and aims at helping readers understand the relations and elements of the CF by providing an example.
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	21	613	21	613	"China" might be replaced by "Asian markets" .	We will check entire case study for tone and content.
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	22	663	22	668	The sentence is too long, it can be divided in more than one	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	22	675	22	675	acai does not need capital letter	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	22	682	22	682	There is an extra (')	We will edit throughout
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	23	684	23	684	Images should be improved	We will check images - may be unclear b/c of pdf conversion
Lucía Oralia Almeida Leñero	24	686	24	686	References have different formats	We will edit throughout
German IPBES Coordination Office and national scientists	24	686	31	1016	Authors should be aware that not all of the sources quoted in the text are listed in the references. Please cross-check carefully all references with all quoted sources in Chapter 1.	We will check all references
Marina Rosales Benites de Franco	101	104	4	4	I would like to suggest that highlighted sentence would be more specific: the diversification and conservation of many varieties of cultivated plants and domestic animals that are the staple foods of many other regions of the world (reference to be added) whereas in highly industrialized areas, the most advanced of genetic technologies are producing new strains and even new types of plants and animals (microorganism (Budapest Treaty), new varieties of plants (UPOV), GMO and Synthetic Biology (SB)) for consumption and other uses.	We will check and make more specific as needed; however the page and line numbers don't seem to align with the page and line numbers of our chapter.
Marina Rosales Benites de Franco	228	228	7	7	I suggest to consider High Level Forum on Sustainable Development; United Nations on Law of the Sea; Inter American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles; and, others related with marine biodiversity.	not sure what this is referring to
sandra LUQUE		402		402	update FAO 2014; FRA 2015; WWF living planet report 2014 using this updated global references will provide a more critic view to the situation that is lacking in the present IPBES report	not sure what this is referring to

Reviewer Name	From Page	From Line	Till Page	Till Line	Comment	Author Annotations
CONABIO					Es necesario actualizar la información que se refiere a la manera de abordar la incertidumbre en la información para ser consistente con otras evaluaciones de la IPBES. Se debe utilizar la palabra "inconclusive" en vez de "speculative" como se acordó para la evaluación sobre polinizadores.	This section is based on D.2.a (12–17 January 2015) in which the term "speculative" is used. This version is the one available in "common documents" Office 365 shared documents: https://undp-my.sharepoint.com/personal/tsu_americas_ipbes_net/Americas%20Assessment/Shared%20Documents/Guide%20on%20the%20production%20and%20integration%20of%20assessments%20from%20and%20across%20all%20scales-deliverable%20a.pdf
						This will most likely be replaced by standardized text.