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

Bonn, Germany, 12–17 January 2015

Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda\*

**Initial work programme of the Platform: scoping  
documents for regional assessments, land degradation  
and restoration and the conceptualization of values****Information on the scoping process for a thematic assessment of  
land degradation and restoration (deliverable 3 (b) (i))****Note by the secretariat**

In its decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services approved the initiation of scoping for a thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration. The resulting scoping report (IPBES/3/7) was developed by a time-bound and task-specific expert group in accordance with the institutional arrangements for the implementation of the work programme set out in annex I to decision IPBES-2/5 and in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables set out in decision IPBES-2/3. The expert group met once in Beijing from 9 to 11 September 2014, thanks to generous in-kind support received from China. The annex to the present note provides information on the composition and work of the expert group. It is presented without formal editing.

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\* IPBES/3/1.

## **Annex**

### **I. Composition of the expert group**

1. A time-bound and task-specific expert group of 35 experts was selected from a total of 235 nominations received from governments and other relevant stakeholders. The selection process was performed by members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, with advice from Bureau members, together reviewing all nominations that had been submitted, based on examination of nomination templates and CVs for each nominee. Selections were made on the basis of excellence and relevance of candidates' expertise with respect to relevant areas of the work programme. Once selected on merit, further selection was focused on balancing disciplinary, regional and gender diversity, as well as sectorial aspects (i.e. 80 per cent of selected experts from governments and 20 per cent from non-governmental stakeholders).
2. The group selected included 20 percent of experts from Africa, 20 percent from Asia Pacific, 14 percent from Eastern Europe, 20 percent from Latin America and the Caribbean and 23 percent from Western European and Others Groups, with 77 percent nominations made by governments and 23 percent by non-governmental stakeholders, and an overall male to female ratio of 66 to 34. The composition of the expert group is presented in the appendix hereto.

### **II. Process followed**

3. The meeting was chaired by Ann Bartuska (Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, MEP) in accordance with the institutional arrangements for the implementation of the work programme. Günay Erpul (MEP) and Jay Ram Adhikari (Bureau ) were in attendance. The group first discussed and agreed, in plenary, on the scope, rationale and utility and on the chapter outline of the thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration. It then worked alternately in break out groups and in plenary sessions to discuss the content of each chapter. A final plenary meeting reviewed all aspects of the content of the scoping report. The expert group finalised the document by email, with support from the secretariat.

## Appendix

### List of experts selected for scoping an assessment on land degradation and restoration

Name	Affiliation	Nominating Country or Organisation
Abbas, Mohamed	Ministry of Water Resources and Electricity	Sudan
Arabi, Mourad	Institut National de recherche forestière (INRF)	Algeria
Argaw Denboba, Mekuria	Addis Ababa University	Ethiopia
Barger, Nichole	University of Colorado	United States of America
Bolashvili, Nana	Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University	Georgia
Chapela, Gonzalo	Universidad Autonoma Chapingo	Mexico
Čustović, Hamid	Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Davies, Jocelyn	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	Australia
Dolisca, Frito	State University of Haiti	Haiti
El-Bana, Magdy	University of Suez Canal and Port Said	Egypt
Gardner, Toby	Stockholm Environment Institute	Sweden
Gutiérrez-Espeleta, Edgar E.	University of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Ishikawa, Mikiko	Cho University	Japan
Karim, Md Saiful	Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology	Australia
Kohler, Florent	Université de Tours	France
Madenoglu, Sevinc	Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock Soil Fertilizer and Water Resources Research Institute Ankara	Turkey
Mendes, Isabel Da Silva Ana	University of Lisbon	Portugal
Mohd. Tamin, Noraini	Qatar University	Malaysia
Morris, Joe	Retired, formerly from Cranfield University	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ramirez, Wilson	Alexander von Humboldt Institute	Colombia
Razafy Fara, Lala	Madagascar and West Indian Ocean Programme Office-World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF MWIOP)	Madagascar
Ritsema, Coen	Wageningen University	Netherlands
Rodrigues, Ricardo Ribeiro	Agriculture School-ESALQ - University of Sao Paulo	Brazil
Safriel, Ariel	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Israel
Thwin, San	Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry Forest	Myanmar (Burma)
Török, Katalin	Centre for Ecological Research	Hungary
Wu, Bo	Institute of Desertification Studies (IDS) Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF)	China
Aragón, Roxana	Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET)	Instituto de Ecología Regional, Facultad de Ciencias Naturales, Univ. Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina
Godbole, Archana	Applied Environmental Research Foundation	Applied Environmental Research Foundation
Mirzabaev, Alisher	Center for Development Research, University of Bonn	Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn
Munoz, Pablo	United Nations University	International Council for Science (ICSU)

Name	Affiliation	Nominating Country or Organisation
Nkonya, Ephraim	Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
Von Maltitz, Graham	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	UNCCD CST Bureau
Wang, Fei	Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, CAS	Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, CAS and MWR
Zdruli, Pandi	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM)	International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Italy