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

Bonn, Germany, 7–10 March 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation  
of the work programme for the period 2014–2018****Progress report on the implementation of the global assessment  
of biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 2 (c))****Note by the secretariat**

In section III of decision IPBES-4/1, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) approved the undertaking of a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables (decision IPBES-3/3, annex I) and as outlined in the scoping report for such a global assessment set out in annex I to the decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session. The annex to the present note sets out information on the composition of the expert group performing the assessment (section II) and progress in their work (section III). It is presented without formal editing.

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\* IPBES/5/1/Rev.1.

## Annex

# Progress report on the implementation of the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services

## I. Context

1. The global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, composed of six chapters, will critically assess the state of knowledge on past, present and possible future trends in multi-scale interactions between people and nature, taking into consideration different world views and knowledge systems. The assessment will examine the status, trends (past and future), drivers of change (direct and indirect), values and response options regarding nature (including biodiversity and the structure and functioning of ecosystems on land and in inland waters, coastal zones and global oceans), nature's benefits to people (including ecosystem goods and services) and the interlinkages between the elements in the conceptual framework. The assessment will also highlight thresholds, feedbacks and resilience in such linkages, as well as opportunities, synergies and trade-offs between different response options. The assessment is intended to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem goods and services at a range of spatial scales from local to global, by providing the knowledge and policy support tools.

## II. Composition of the expert groups performing the global assessment

### A. Dedicated Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau members comprising the management committee for the global assessment

2. In accordance with the rules of procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables (annex I to decision IPBES-3/3), members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau oversee the production of the assessment report. A subset of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and Bureau, the co-chairs of the global assessment, members of the IPBES secretariat and the technical support unit form the management committee for the global assessment. The management committee oversees progress towards the preparation of the global assessment, and assists and guides authors in ensuring proper development and review of material. Aside from the first meeting of the management committee for the global assessment (see para 3), all management committee meetings have and will be held remotely and periodically (at the minimum once every quarter) or when needed.

3. The first management committee meeting for the global assessment was held from the 11 to 12 June 2016, Bonn, Germany, chaired by the global assessment co-chairs, was held back-to-back with the 7th meetings of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau. Its main objectives were to finalise the allocation of roles for coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors based on the list of experts selected by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel at its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, as well as the selection of fellows. Preparation for the first author meeting of the global assessment was also discussed.

### B. Process for the selection of experts

4. A call for the nomination of experts was sent by the IPBES Chair to all IPBES Member states and observers on 11 March 2016, with approximately 8 weeks to respond, resulting in 459 applications. The selection of experts was performed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, with the management committee finalising the allocation of roles to these experts as mentioned in para 3 above. In order to reach a satisfactory combination of expertise and a good geographic and gender balances, it was necessary to use the procedure for filling gaps in the availability of experts, approved by IPBES-4 (annex I to decision IPBES-4/3). A total of 59 experts were selected out of the original nomination pool (including co-chairs) and an additional 58 experts were pre-selected using the approved gap-filling procedure, totalling 117 experts to date (excluding review editors and fellows). There are 95 experts listed in appendix I as 22 pre-selected experts from the gap-filling set of experts are awaiting confirmation of nomination from their Governments, in order to be considered as selected, and are thus not included in appendix I. The selection of review editors will be finalised early 2017.

5. The global assessment also includes 16 early career fellows spread across the assessment chapters as part of the IPBES Fellowship Pilot Programme (IPBES-4/1 section I, paragraph 1; see IPBES/5/INF/3). The call for their nomination coincided with the call for the nomination of experts.

6. The composition of the expert group is presented in appendix I to this annex.

### **C. The technical support unit (TSU) for the global assessment**

7. In August 2016, the consultancy position for the head of the technical support unit for the global assessment was announced. A total of 52 people applied and three were interviewed according to the recruitment procedures from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Hien T. Ngo was selected to fill in this position. The role of each technical support unit is to provide scientific, technical and organizational support toward the delivery of the assessment report. In addition, the technical support units liaise with the task forces and other expert groups, as necessary, in order to ensure that cross-cutting issues are properly addressed, as well as with other relevant partners and organisations.

8. In addition to the head, the technical support unit for the global assessment currently includes, under a project cooperation agreement between IPBES and the PBL Netherlands Environment Agency, 0.8 full time staff equivalent (FTE) on scenarios and models, provided by the technical support unit on scenarios and models. This is to fulfil the mandate requested by the Plenary for the further work of the technical support unit on scenarios and models. The scenarios and models technical support unit will provide advice to all IPBES expert teams, in particular those working on the thematic, regional and global assessments on the use of scenarios. The global assessment has two chapters (Chapters 4 and 5) which focus on plausible futures of nature, nature's benefits to people and their contributions to a good quality of life and scenarios and pathways towards a sustainable future, respectively.

9. Two additional offers to contribute to the technical support unit for the global assessment have been accepted by the Bureau, including one from the Government of Germany (funding for the recruitment by the Executive Secretary of one professional post for three years) and one from the Government of the United States of America (secondment of one professional staff at the TSU in Bonn). Both are expected to be in place by the first quarter of 2017.

## **III. Progress towards preparation of the first order draft of the global assessment**

10. The first author meeting for the global assessment was held from 15 to 19 August 2016, in Bonn, Germany. It was attended by approximately 110 participants including selected experts (co-chairs, CLAs, and LAs), co-chairs of the regional assessments, management committee members, representatives of the scenarios and models technical support unit (Rob Alkemade and Thelma van den Brink), values technical support unit (David Gonzalez Jimenez), knowledge and data technical support unit (Changwan Seo and Taewoo Yi), capacity building technical support unit (Ingunn Storro), and a resource person from the Convention on Biological Diversity (David Cooper).

11. The objectives of the first author meeting were:

- (a) To familiarize experts with the IPBES work programme, assessment process and secretariat;
- (b) To familiarize the experts with their own assessment and chapter teams;
- (c) To develop the chapter outlines and content;
- (d) To develop chapter timelines and to assign team members roles and responsibilities;
- (e) To identify expertise gaps.

12. At the end of this meeting, and in order to fully achieve these objectives, in particular objective (c) concerning content development, the coordinating lead authors (CLAs) requested additional chapter-specific meetings. Therefore, a separate workshop will be held for each individual chapter with experts from that chapter (except for chapter 1), thanks to extra budgetary funds, to develop content in the first quarter of 2017. The table below presents the origin of the funding for each workshop and the tentative dates and locations.

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Funding</i>
2	13 to 17 March 2017	Leipzig, Germany	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit (BMU) Germany
3	April 2017	Bonn, Germany	To be confirmed
4	27 February to 03 March 2017	Aix-en-Provence, France	Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité (FRB), France
5	7 to 10 February 2017	The Hague, Netherlands	PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency/Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving Netherlands
6	30 January to 03 February 2017	Trondheim, Norway	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) Norway

13. Detailed chapter outlines for each of the six chapters were produced at the first author meeting and further developed for the zero order draft, based on the approved scoping report.

14. The internal review of the zero order draft will begin 23 January 2017. It consists in a review process within the author group and will last for approximately five weeks. Content development for all chapters will continue in parallel and until the deadline for the first external review.

15. The first order draft of the global assessment will undergo an external review, the First Review by Experts, between 15 June and 15 August, 2017. Following these 8 weeks, the comments will be collated by the technical support unit and distributed to the respective chapter authors for review and revision of the draft. These comments will be addressed at the second author meeting (September 2017).

16. The second author meeting will be held from 18 to 22 September 2017 at a location to be determined. It will be attended by the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, review editors, and dedicated members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, Bureau, task forces and secretariat. It will address the following main issues:

- (a) Handle the expert review comments from the First Review by Expert;
- (b) Begin the development of key messages and executive summaries (including key graphics);
- (c) Improve the overall quality and relevance of chapters' content, in particular by:
  - (i) Examining the level of redundancy across chapters, and improving cross-chapter storylines;
  - (ii) Standardizing the quality of scientific evidence across chapters and reviewing the effectiveness of the current standard method for reviewing literature from all knowledge systems;
  - (iii) Reviewing inclusion of different knowledge systems;
  - (iv) Reviewing inclusion of specific IPBES frameworks and work from completed IPBES assessments and guides (i.e. values, scenarios and models, etc.);
  - (v) Reviewing link to ongoing assessments (within and outside IPBES) and considering ways to improve this if not adequate;

17. An updated annotated timeline for the global assessment is provided in appendix II to this annex.

## Appendix I:

### List of experts for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services

Abbreviations: CC (co-chair), CLA (coordinating lead author), and LA (lead author)

This list is incomplete as the procedure for filling gaps in the availability of experts (annex I to decision IPBES-4/3) is still in progress.

*Author list for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services*

<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country / Organisation</i>
<b>Assessment co-chairs</b>			
Co-chair	Sandra Díaz	Instituto Multidisciplinario de Biología Vegetal (IMBIV-CONICET) and FCEFyN, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Argentina
Co-chair	Eduardo Brondizio	Indiana University	Brazil
Co-chair	Josef Settele	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ; German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)	Germany
<b>Chapter 1: Setting the scene</b>			
CLA	Sandra Díaz	Instituto Multidisciplinario de Biología Vegetal (IMBIV-CONICET) and FCEFyN, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Argentina
CLA	Eduardo Brondizio	Indiana University	Brazil
CLA	Josef Settele	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ; German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)	Germany
LA	Xuemei Bai	Australian National University	Australia
LA	Arne Geschke	The University of Sydney	Germany
<b>Chapter 2: Status and Trends</b>			
CLA	Lucas Garibaldi	Instituto de Investigaciones en Recursos Naturales, Agroecología y Desarrollo Rural (IRNAD), Sede Andina, Universidad Nacional de Río Negro (UNRN)	Argentina
CLA	Zsolt Molnar	MTA ÖK Centre for Ecological Research	Hungary
CLA	Cynthia Zayas	University of the Philippines	Ugnayang Pang-AghamTao, Inc. (Anthropological Association of the Philippines)
CLA	Steve Polasky	University of Minnesota	USA
CLA	Andy Purvis	Natural History Museum	UK
LA	Alexander Pfaff	Duke University	USA
LA	Patty Balvanera	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)	Mexico
LA	Aidin Niamir	Senckenberg, Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F)	Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)

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<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country / Organisation</i>
LA	Julian Gutt	Alfred Wegener Institute	International Council for Science (ICSU)
LA	Fabrice DeClerck	Bioversity International/Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)	Belgium
LA	Ute Jacob	German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)	Germany
LA	Kate Brauman	University of Minnesota	University of Minnesota
LA	Andrew Hendry	McGill University	USA
LA	Nakul Chettri	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
LA	Junsheng Li	Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences	China
LA	Syed Ainul Hussain	Wildlife Institute of India	India
LA	Nidhi Nagabhatla	The United Nations University	United Nations University
LA	Kazuhito Ichii	Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)	Japan
LA	Emre Keskin	Ankara University	Turkey
LA	Bardukh Gabrielyan	Scientific Center of Zoology and Hydroecology, Academy of Sciences of Armenia	Armenian National Academy of Sciences and Russian Academy of Sciences
LA	Hannes Palang	Tallinn University	Estonia
LA	Bayram Öztürk	Istanbul University	Turkey
LA	Nsalambi Nkongolog	Lincoln University of Missouri	Democratic Republic of the Congo
LA	Lynne Shannon	Marine Research (MA-RE) Institute of the University of Cape Town	South Africa
LA	Leticia Merino	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM)	Mexico
LA	Eduardo Garcia-Frapolli	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM)	Mexico
LA	Andrés Viña	Michigan State University	Colombia
LA	Madhu Verma	Indian Institute of Forest Management	Indian Institute of Forest Management
Fellow	Pedro Jaureguiberry	Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research
Fellow	Anna Sidorovich	The Scientific and Practical Centre for Bioresources of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus	The Scientific and Practical Centre for Bioresources of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
Fellow	Uttam Babu Shrestha	University of Southern Queensland	Global Young Academy
Fellow	Rashad Salimov	Institute of Botany of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS)	Institute of Botany of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS)

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<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country / Organisation</i>
Chapter 3: Progress towards international goals			
CLA	Stuart Butchart	Birdlife International	UK
CLA	Suneetha Subramanian	United Nations University-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability	United Nations University
CLA	Belinda Reyers	Stockholm Resilience Centre	South Africa
LA	Walter Jetz	Yale University	Future Earth
LA	Elena Bennett	McGill University	USA
LA	Ida Kubiszewski	Australian National University	Australia
LA	Kathleen Galvin	Colorado State University	USA
LA	Elisabeth Selig	The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	Norway
LA	Ishmael Bobby Mphangwe Kosamu	University of Malawi	Malawi
LA	G.S. Singh	Banaras Hindu University	India
LA	Haigen Xu	Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences (NIES), Ministry of Environmental Protection of China	China
LA	Mostafa Panahi	Islamic Azad University	Iran
LA	Bálint Czúcz	Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle/MTA Centre for Ecological Research	Hungary
LA	Maria Gabriela Palomo	National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET)	Argentina
LA	Leonardo Galetto	Universidad Nacional de Córdoba	Argentina
Fellow	Tuyeni Heita Mwampamba	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)	United Republic of Tanzania
Fellow	Abigail Julia Lynch	National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey	USA
Fellow	Aibek Samakov	Universität Tübingen	Universität Tübingen
Chapter 4: Plausible futures			
CLA	Pavel Kindlmann	Charles University in Prague	Czech Republic
CLA	Rinku Roy Chowdhury	Clark University	USA
CLA	Yunne-Jai Shin	Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité (FRB)	France
CLA	Guy Midgley	Stellenbosch University	South Africa
LA	Carlo Rondinini	Sapienza University	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
LA	Andreas Heinimann	University of Bern	Switzerland
LA	Almut Arneth	Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	Germany
LA	Thierry Oberdorff	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)
LA	Philip Osano	Stockholm Environment Institute	Stockholm Environment Institute

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<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country / Organisation</i>
LA	Zhiyun Ouyang	Chinese Academy of Sciences	China
LA	Jyothis Sathyapalan	Centre for Economic and Social Studies	India
LA	Tianxiang Yue	Chinese Academy of Sciences	China
LA	Osamu Saito	United Nations University	Japan
LA	Melanie Kolb	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)	Mexico
LA	Rafael Loyola	Conservation Biogeography Lab, Universidade Federal de Goiás, Brazil	Associação Brasileira de Ciência Ecológica e Conservação (ABECO)
LA	Ramon Pichs Madruga	Centro de Investigaciones de la Economía Mundial (CIEM)	Cuba
Fellow	Ignacio Palomo	Basque Centre for Climate Change	Basque Centre for Climate Change
Fellow	Basher Md Zeenatul	Michigan State University	Michigan State University
Fellow	Patricio Pliscoff	Universidad Católica de Chile	Chile
Chapter 5: Pathways and policy intervention scenarios			
CLA	Kai Chan	University of British Columbia	Canada
CLA	John Agard	The University of the West Indies	Trinidad and Tobago
CLA	Jianguo Liu	Michigan State University	USA
LA	Thomas Hickler	Senckenberg, Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F)	Germany
LA	Ralf Seppelt	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ	Germany
LA	Marcel Kok	PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency	Netherlands
LA	Jens Jetzkowitz	Philipps-University Marburg	Germany
LA	Terre Satterfield	University of British Columbia	Canada
LA	Michael Murray Hudson	Okavango Research Institute, University of Botswana	University of Botswana Okavango Research Institute
LA	Patrick O'Farrell	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	South Africa
LA	Wai Lung (William) Cheung	University of British Columbia	Future Earth
LA	Dayuan Xue	Minzu University of China	China
LA	Shizuka Hashimoto	The University of Tokyo	Japan
LA	Hyun Woo Lee	Korea Environment Institute	Korea
LA	Ali Kerem Saysel	Boğaziçi University	Turkey
LA	Dolors Armentaras	Universidad Nacional de Colombia	Universidad Nacional de Colombia
LA	Gladys Hernandez Pedraza	Centro de Investigaciones de la Economía Mundial (CIEM)	Cuba



*Author list for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services*

<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country / Organisation</i>
Fellow	Assem Mohamed	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR), Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Central Laboratory for Agricultural Climate (CLAC)	Egypt
Fellow	Odirilwe Selomane	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
Fellow	Lenke Balint	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	RSPB/Birdlife International
<b>Chapter 6: Opportunities and challenges for decision-makers</b>			
CLA	Ingrid Visseren-Hamakers	George Mason University	USA
CLA	Volker Mauerhofer	University of Vienna	UNEP Vienna -Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
CLA	Edwin Muchapondwa	University of Cape Town	Zimbabwe
LA	Pamela MceLwee	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	Future Earth
LA	Esther Turnhout	Wageningen University	Netherlands
LA	Leah Gerber	Arizona State University	Arizona State University
LA	Karim Saiful	Queensland University of Technology	Australia
LA	Ambika P. Gautam	Kathmandu Forestry College	Nepal
LA	Jinlong Liu	Renmin University of China	China
LA	Graciela Rusch	The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)
LA	Lucas Joppa	Microsoft Research	USA
LA	Mine Islar	Lund University	Turkey
Fellow	Ivis Juileta Chan	Plantlife International	Plantlife International
Fellow	Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares Onrubia	University of Helsinki (UH)	University of Helsinki
Fellow	Michelle Mei Ling Lim	Griffith University	International Social Science Council

## Appendix II

### Timeline for the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Actions and institutional arrangements</i>
<b>2016</b>	
First quarter	Plenary at its fourth session approves the undertaking of the global assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The Chair, through the secretariat, requests nominations from Governments and other stakeholders of experts to prepare the assessment report.
Second quarter	Secretariat compiles lists of nominations. The MEP selects the assessment co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors, using the approved selection criteria set out in decision IPBES-3/3 (annex I). First meeting of the management committee for the global assessment takes place.
Third quarter	The first author meeting and the development of the Zero Order Draft using the approved scoping report.
Fourth quarter	Preparation of Zero Order Draft.
<b>2017</b>	
First quarter	Preparation of Zero Order Draft to the First Order Draft and an internal review; co-sponsored chapter workshops/meetings takes place.
Second/third quarter (15 June to 15 August)	First Order Draft review by experts of the global assessment (8 weeks)
Third quarter (18 to 22 September)	Second author meeting (co-chairs, coordinating lead authors*, and review editors) (*participation of lead author will depend on the decision of the fifth session of the Plenary)
Third/fourth quarter	Preparation of Second Order Draft of chapters and First Order Draft of summary for policymakers
<b>2018</b>	
First quarter	Continued preparation and development of the second order draft of chapters and the first order draft of summary for policymakers and second internal review round
Second quarter	Second review by Governments and experts (Second Order Draft of chapters and First Order Draft of summary for policymakers) of the global assessment
Third quarter	Third author meeting (co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, Fellows, and review editors)
Fourth quarter	Final text changes to the assessment and the summary for policymakers
<b>2019</b>	
First quarter	Translation of the summary for policymakers into the six official languages of the United Nations
Jan - Mar	Submission of the assessment, including the translated summary for policymakers, to Governments for final review prior to Plenary session
May	IPBES-7 Presentation of the summary for policymakers to Plenary
Second/ third/fourth quarter	Outreach and communication