



**Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and
Ecosystem Services**

Distr.: General

4 January 2016

English only

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

Kuala Lumpur, 22–28 February 2016

Item 5 (e) of the provisional agenda*

**Work programme of the Platform: scoping report
for a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**Information on the scoping process for the global assessment of
biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 2 (c))**

Note by the secretariat

In paragraph 4 of section III of its decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services approved a scoping process for a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. As provided in that same paragraph, the scoping report (IPBES/4/8) was developed by an expert group in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables as set out in the note by the secretariat on the initial scoping report for the assessment (IPBES/3/9). The annex to the present note provides information on the composition and work of the expert group that produced the scoping report. It is presented without formal editing.

Annex

I. Context

1. The global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (hereafter referred to as “the global assessment”) is one of the final deliverables in the Platform’s work programme 2014–2018, which was adopted by the Plenary (decision IPBES-2/5, annex I). The overall scope of the global assessment is foreseen to assess the status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services, the impact of their changes on human well-being and the effectiveness of responses, including the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
2. The global assessment was included in the work programme in response to requests made by several Governments, multilateral environmental agreements and other stakeholders, including Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Council for Science (ICSU), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (see IPBES/2/INF/9).

II. Composition of the expert group for the scoping of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

3. On 05 February 2015, in response to the request by the Plenary, the Chair of the Platform called on Governments and stakeholders to nominate experts to scope the global assessment. At its fifth meeting held in Bonn, Germany, from 13 to 17 April 2015, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, with advice from the Bureau, reviewed all 121 submitted nominations. Four experts from each of the five United Nations regional groupings (African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States, Latin American and the Caribbean States and Western Europe and other States) were selected to participate in the scoping meeting for the global assessment. The selected experts are listed in annex I.
4. The group of experts selected for this report included 20 per cent of experts from Africa, 20 per cent from Asia Pacific, 20 per cent from Eastern Europe, 20 per cent from Latin America and the Caribbean and 20 per cent from Western European and Others Groups. The group included 45 per cent of females and 55 per cent of males. Eighty per cent of the selected experts were nominated by Governments and the remaining 20 per cent were nominated by stakeholders. The composition of the expert group is presented in annex I.

III. Process followed

5. The scoping meeting took place from 5 to 7 October 2015, in Bonn, Germany, and produced a draft scoping report. This scoping meeting was held back to back with the sixth meetings of the MEP and the Bureau, in order to allow MEP and Bureau members, as well as representatives of task forces and other expert groups, to attend. The co-chairs of each regional/subregional assessment and of the methodological assessment of scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services also participated in the scoping meeting to ensure strong ties between all of these assessments. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau also invited a representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to attend as a resource person. The full scoping report was prepared in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform’s deliverables set out in the annex to decision IPBES-2/3. The agenda of this scoping meeting is presented in annex II.
6. The first day of the scoping meeting focused on introducing all experts to IPBES, its conceptual framework, guides, tools, task forces, and the assessment process. In addition to these presentations, there were also presentations on 1) the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5) from the invited resource person, David Cooper, from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and 2) the United Nations World Oceans Assessment from Jake Rice. The second day included a few more presentations on the IPBES tools and guides but a majority of the day was spent in breakout groups discussing chapter outlines and content. Day 3, the final day, was spent alternatively in breakout groups and Plenary discussing and agreeing on the final chapter content and the draft scoping report to be circulated for external consultation.

7. The draft scoping report was then submitted for external consultation to Governments, stakeholders, and all IPBES experts. This external consultation was held from the 13 October to 6 November 2015. The review solicited approximately 600 additional comments, which were taken into consideration and reflected in the final scoping report (IPBES/4/8).
8. The scoping report presented in IPBES/4/8 outlines how the global assessment will largely, but not exclusively, rely on the compilation and synthesis of current data, knowledge and information from IPBES thematic, regional/subregional and methodological assessments.
9. The scoping report outlines how the global assessment will build upon and relate to other previous and ongoing assessments, e.g., the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), and the World Ocean Assessment (WOA), including the IPBES thematic, methodological and regional and subregional assessments. It also describes how it will contribute to the fifth Global Biodiversity Outlook report of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Approaches for promoting the coherence of a variety of elements of the regional and global assessments, including the harmonization of indicators, concepts and terminology, are reflected. The conceptual framework for the Platform (decision IPBES-2/4, annex), the guide for assessments developed for deliverable 2 (a) (see IPBES/3/INF/4), and the methodological assessments, will facilitate coherence across all the Platform's assessment processes.

IV. Next steps towards the preparation of the assessment report

The following next steps will be followed if the Plenary requests the undertaking of a global assessment at its fourth session:

A. Management committee meeting

10. In the first quarter of 2016, the Chair of the Platform will call on Governments and stakeholders to nominate experts (co-chair, coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors) to deliver the global assessment. Once the co-chairs of the global assessment are selected and confirmed, a management meeting will take place in the second quarter of 2016. The management committee meeting will be attended by selected co-chairs for the global assessment, members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau, the technical support person/unit and supported by the Secretariat. An annotated timeline is presented in document IPBES/4/8.

B. First author meeting

11. In the beginning of the third quarter (August 2016), a first author meeting for the global assessment will take place in Bonn, Germany (exact dates to be determined). The co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, resource person(s), dedicated Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau members, the Secretariat including the technical support unit will be in attendance. In addition, representatives of various task forces and experts groups, including: i) scenarios and models, ii) valuation, iii) knowledge and data, iv) indigenous and local knowledge, and v) capacity-building will be invited to attend the first author meeting.

12. The overall objectives of the first author meeting include:

- Introducing all experts to IPBES, its conceptual framework, guides, tools, task forces, and the assessment process
- Familiarizing all experts with IPBES' on-going methodological, thematic, and regional/subregional assessments
- Discussion of further strategies on the coordination of the global assessment content along with the on-going regional/subregional assessments
- Producing a first version of the chapters (i.e. zero order drafts) which includes detailed chapter outlines with preliminary content under chapter sub-sections
- Devising internal chapter timelines and deadlines, chapter communication strategies, agreed roles for each expert, and a list of potential contributing authors.

13. The co-chairs of the global assessment will be invited to attend the joint second author meeting between the regional/subregional assessments and the land degradation and restoration assessment in Bonn, Germany (22-26 August 2016) in order to better coordinate and harmonize content among assessments.

C. Technical Support Unit

14. In order to better facilitate coordination with other on-going regional/subregional, thematic and methodological assessments, the technical support unit is expected to be based at the IPBES secretariat in Bonn, Germany. This unit is expected to be composed of one full-time staff, and of one or several full time staff seconded to the secretariat. In the first quarter of 2016, the Chair will request Governments and stakeholders to provide offers for in-kind contributions to assist the head of the technical support unit, if the Plenary approves the undertaking of a global assessment.

D. Timeline and budget

15. Timeline and budget of the global assessment, if approved, are provided in document IPBES/4/8.

Annex I

List of experts selected for scoping a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Nominating Country/Organization</i>
Sevil Acar Aytakin	Department of Economics, Istanbul Kemerburgaz University	Turkey
Nkwatoh Athanasius Fuashi	University of Buea	Cameroon
Patricia Balvanera	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)	Future Earth
Kirsten Davies	Macquarie University, Australia	International Council for Science
Maheshwar Dhakal	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Nepal
Jane Carter Ingram	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), New York, USA	Wildlife Conservation Society
Maria Magdalena Ixquiactap Tuc	Dirección General del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural	Guatemala
Nicholas King	Independent consultant/researcher	South Africa
Junsheng Li	Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences	China
Juan Pablo Lozoya Azcárate	Centro Universitario Regional Este - La Universidad de la República (UdeLaR)	Uruguay
Hiroyuki Matsuda	Yokohama National University	Japan
George Owoyesigire	Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities	Uganda
Bayram Öztürk	Istanbul University	Turkey
Jan Plesník	Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Tianbao Qin	Research Institute of Environmental Law/Wuhan University	China
Belinda Reyers	Stockholm Resilience Centre, Sweden	South Africa
Johan Rockström	Stockholm University, Sweden	Sweden
Isabel Sousa Pinto	University of Porto, Portugal	EUROMARINE european consortium
David Tarkhnishvili	Ilia State University	Georgia
Ximena Velez-Liendo	IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

Annex II

Agenda of the scoping meeting of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

Day 1, Monday, 05 October 2015	
08:30	Registration
09:00	Welcome and objectives of the meeting (Chair; IPBES Executive Secretary)
09:15	Round-table introductions
09:30	Introduction to IPBES (IPBES secretariat) including brief presentation on the Valuation Guide to be presented on Day 2 (Valuation expert group)
10:00	IPBES Global Scoping Assessment (MEP/Bureau)
10.30-11.00	Coffee
11:00	Brief update on 4 Regional Assessment and Land Degradation and Restoration (Co-chairs of each assessment)
11:50	Tools: Scenarios and Modelling (Co-chairs scenarios and models)
12:15	Global Oceans Assessments – status (Jake Rice)
12.45-13.45	Lunch
13.45-14.00	Plenary presentation – Previous global assessments and their approach (background)
14.00-14.30	CBD presentation (CBD Secretariat)– Needs of CBD regarding global assessment (2020 report); plans on GBO-5 (synergies and links)
14.30-15.30	Plenary – discussion on approach and outline of Global Assessment Including elements of the assessment report: oceans, marine systems, arctic, antarctic, policy responses, human well-being, critical issues, cross-cutting issues etc.
15.30-16.00	Coffee
16.00-17.30	Group breakout – in-depth discussions – discussion of draft chapter outline of global assessment
17.30-18.00	Plenary – Discussion –Results from group breakout
18.00	Adjourn
Day 2, Tuesday, 06 October 2015	
8.30-8.45	Plenary – brief summary of Day 1 & agenda for Day 2: outstanding remarks
8.45-9.15	The Valuation Guide – (Valuation expert group)
9.15-9.45	Indigenous and Local Knowledge – components and approach to integration in the Global Assessment (ILK task force)
9.45-10.15	Indicators (Knowledge and data task force) (may include discussion on global datasets and global scenarios)
10.15-10.45	Coffee
10.45-11.15	Briefing on Invasive Alien Species (Deliverable 3bii) and Sustainable Use (Deliverable 3biii) (results from e-conference; MEP)
11.15-12.30	Plenary discussion on overall structure and approach - agreement
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-14.15	Plenary discussion on overall structure and approach
14.15-14.30	Introduction to break out groups
14.30-16.30	Chapter breakout discussions – development of sections of the scoping document
15.30	[Coffee available during break out groups session]
16.30-18.00	Plenary – Update on progress – Chapter outlines – Adjourn for the day
Day 3, Wednesday 07 October 2015	
9.00-9.15	Plenary – brief summary of Day 2 & agenda for Day 3
9.15-10.30	Chapter breakout discussions

10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee</i>
11.00-12.30	Chapter breakout discussions
12.30-13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 16.30	Chapter breakout discussions
16.30-17.30	Closing Plenary – Results of breakouts & Next steps
17.30	End of meeting
