

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

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

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda*

**Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative
partnership arrangement for the work of the Platform
and its secretariat****Progress report on the United Nations collaborative partnership
arrangement**

1. In its decision IPBES-2/8, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) approved the collaborative partnership arrangement to establish an institutional link between the Plenary of IPBES and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as presented in the annex to that decision.
2. In the same decision, the Plenary invited UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP to approve the collaborative partnership arrangement. In response to that invitation, approval processes were undertaken by each of those United Nations entities (see document IPBES/3/INF/14).
3. The annex to the present note, which is presented without formal editing, contains a consolidated progress report on the support provided by the four entities to the work of IPBES and its secretariat since the seventh session of the Plenary.

* IPBES/8/1.

Annex

Progress report on the United Nations collaborative partnership arrangement for supporting the work of the Platform and its secretariat

I. Context

1. The collaborative partnership arrangement set out in the annex to decision IPBES-2/8 acknowledges the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the development and establishment of the Platform, and the relevance of their respective mandates and programmes of work to the functions of the Platform. The aim of the institutional link created between the Platform and these United Nations entities was to provide a collaborative framework whereby:

(a) The partners coordinate relevant activities and cooperate in areas related to the functions of the Platform;

(b) Dedicated capacity and secondments or otherwise assigned staff are made available by the organizations to support the secretariat of the Platform;

(c) Technical and programmatic support is provided by the organizations to support implementation of the work programme of the Platform;

(d) Joint fundraising is undertaken to enable the activities of the Platform to be implemented; and

(e) The communications activities of the Platform are supported by the communications capacity of the organizations.

2. On behalf of the Plenary, at its seventh session, the Chair of IPBES expressed thanks to UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP for their support to IPBES in the implementation of its first work programme and requested them to continue providing support during the next work programme.

3. The review of the first work programme of IPBES (IPBES/7/INF/18) noted that IPBES had to develop more synergetic collaboration and partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders, including with the four UN partner organizations, each of which had an equal standing and ability to contribute to the Platform. The organizations noted that they could, to varying degrees, strengthen their engagement with IPBES and make more proactive use of the important work that it was carrying out towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The adoption of the Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in 2019 provided many opportunities in this regard.

4. Since the seventh session of the Plenary the organizations have continued providing direct and indirect support to the secretariat of the Platform for the implementation of the six objectives of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030. These activities are described below.

II. Direct support for the secretariat of the Platform

A. Secretariat staff and secondments

5. Consistent with decision IPBES-1/4, UNEP continues to provide the Platform's secretariat, which is solely accountable to the IPBES Plenary on policy and programmatic matters. In addition, UNEP has, since 2014, provided a dedicated professional programme officer (P-4) as an in-kind contribution to the IPBES secretariat. On request, UNEP continues to provide other staff to support the meetings of IPBES, in particular to advise on legal issues.

6. FAO seconded a consultant as an in-kind contribution to the secretariat of the Platform during the workshop on biodiversity and climate change co-sponsored by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and IPBES held online 14–17 December 2020.

B. Technical support units and other recognized institutional arrangements

7. Technical support unit on indigenous and local knowledge: The technical support unit on indigenous and local knowledge located at UNESCO in Paris, which provided technical support to the task force during its first work programme, was selected by the Bureau at its thirteenth meeting to provide technical support to the task force also under the 2030 rolling work programme until the tenth session of the Plenary. The technical support unit is funded by IPBES and a matching in-kind contribution by UNESCO.

8. Technical support unit on policy support tools: The technical support unit on policy support is provided by UNEP-WCMC, which was selected by the Bureau at its thirteenth meeting to provide technical support under the 2030 rolling work programme until the tenth session of the Plenary.

C. Other administrative issues

9. Consistent with decision IPBES-2/7, UNEP manages a trust fund for the Platform, which has been operational since 2014. Consistent with decision IPBES-1/4, UNEP continues to provide administrative support, as necessary, in close liaison with the Executive Secretary. UNEP receives programme support cost from the IPBES trust fund for its administrative services.

III. Support for implementation of the work programme

10. In addition to the direct support described above, the four UN partners have continued to support the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030. Information on this work is presented below by work programme objective. Beyond the activities described here in direct support of the work programme of the Platform, many other activities carried out by the four UN entities are consistent with and supportive of the objectives and activities of the Platform. Some of these are described below.

A. Objective 1: Assessing knowledge

11. The UN partners contributed to the four deliverables under this objective by broadly circulating information relevant to the various scoping processes and technical papers, providing experts through the nomination process, and reviewing and providing expert advice on scoping reports and technical papers.

12. A UNEP-WCMC expert was invited, as part of the group of selected peer reviewers, to review the draft workshop report of the IPBES/IPCC co-sponsored workshop on biodiversity and climate change. A UNEP-WCMC expert was also selected by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to participate in the scoping of the methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people.

13. During the reporting period, FAO contributed in particular to the sustainable use assessment by reviewing the drafts, providing datasets for use in the assessment and contributing authors with forestry expertise.

B. Objective 2: Building capacity

14. Objective 2 (a) Enhanced learning and engagement: UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO have jointly been supporting the implementation of the IPBES Capacity-Building Rolling Plan through the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) project, with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, through the International Climate Initiative (IKI), and SwedBio. To contribute to enhancing the policy-science-practice dialogues, or "Trialogues", around the IPBES assessment themes, UNDP has collaborated with the IPBES fellows to develop the Trialogue background documents for the Anglophone Africa, Central Asia and Francophone Africa regions, tailoring and aligning the IPBES assessment findings and key messages to the specific regional/national contexts. The fellows were also invited to the Trialogue sessions and participated in the strategic planning on the concerted IPBES assessment uptake at national and regional levels.

15. UNESCO, through BES-Net, is promoting the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in national and regional science-policy-practice Trialogues on biodiversity and ecosystem assessments. UNESCO promoted the engagement of IPLCs in the Kenya National Trialogue on Land Degradation Neutrality held on 20 April 2021. The Trialogue was organized by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Kenya.

16. UNEP-WCMC, UNDP and FAO have actively engaged in the work of the IPBES task force on capacity building, contributing resource persons to both the task force meeting and inter-session activities through the task groups established by the task force. UNEP-WCMC and UNDP also participated and presented at the capacity-building forum, which was convened virtually on 7–8 December 2020.

17. Objective 2 (b) Facilitated access to expertise and information: In 2020, UNDP created the BES Solution Fund under the BES-Net framework as a modality to provide selected countries with catalytic seed funding to accelerate the coordinated uptake of the IPBES assessments and the national ecosystem assessments produced based on the IPBES guide. Seven countries are expected to receive the BES Solution Fund support in the first phase up to 2022.

18. Objective 2 (c) Strengthened national and regional capacities: Through its National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative (NEA Initiative), UNEP-WCMC is supporting 14 countries either in undertaking or in scoping a national ecosystem assessment based on the IPBES conceptual framework and assessment process. Each country also develops or enhances a national science-policy platform, to support the assessment process but also to provide support related to engagement with intergovernmental processes such as IPBES. The initiative is currently receiving funding from the IKI, the German Government and the Norwegian Government.

19. The NEA Initiative is part of a consortium that includes UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO, working under the umbrella of UNDP's BES-Net. It is building a community of practice around the science-policy-practice interface and facilitates national engagement in the global discussion around biodiversity and ecosystem services.

20. Led by the University of Bonn, UNEP-WCMC has also been working with West African partners to establish a master's course focusing on developing capacity around the science-policy interface to support IPBES. Alongside the master's course, a network has been created to allow more frequent exchanges between West African countries on IPBES related activities. This project is supported by the Government of Germany. It is anticipated that this programme will be up scaled to cover Central and East Africa in 2022.

21. Thanks to the generous contribution of the Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF), UNEP-WCMC is working with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to develop guidance focusing on how national ecosystem assessments as a tool can support implementation of the CBD at national level. The outputs of the assessment process also potentially contribute to several of the draft elements under the long-term approach to mainstreaming.¹ By bringing together diverse stakeholders and developing interdisciplinary capacities to provide policymakers with the best information available, national ecosystems assessments can enable activities on six key areas that are fundamental to achieving the CBD objectives. Reference to the NEA initiative is contained in SBSTTA working document CBD/SBSTTA/24/8² and related information document CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/18.³

22. Applying BES-Net's Trialogue methodology, UNDP facilitated the creation and strengthening of networks among policy, science and practice sectors around the IPBES assessment themes in 12 countries across Anglophone Africa and Central Asia in the reporting period. In preparation for the forthcoming Francophone Africa Trialogue, it also supported networking and knowledge exchange among IPLCs in six countries in the region on the themes of pollinators and land degradation/restoration.

C. Objective 3: Strengthening the knowledge foundations

23. Objective 3 (a) Advanced work on knowledge and data: With financial support from the European Union and Switzerland, UNEP developed the Data and Reporting Tool – DaRT⁴ in collaboration with the CBD secretariat (decision XIV/25). DaRT is the first tool that promotes cooperation and synergies in reporting to multilateral environmental agreements. It provides Parties with private and secure national working spaces to collect organize, store and share knowledge in order to monitor and verify their progress in national implementation and to report thereon, to conduct gap analyses of implementation actions and/or to revise or update related strategies and action plans. DaRT is the primary space for mapping between strategies from which information will be permeating into

¹ Long-term Approach to Mainstreaming: SBI-3, Item 11 on the Provisional Agenda.

² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/5843/7bce/0b699bdc4b1b62fbb53cf2d3/sbstta-24-08-en.pdf>

³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/73ad/c55b/615e1f1e1882ab9807758d0e/sbstta-24-inf-18-en.pdf>

⁴ Data and Reporting Tool – DaRT: <https://dart.informea.org/>

other tools. DaRT catalyses and strengthens international, regional and national networks with a focus on biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge.

24. UNEP-WCMC provides a resource person from the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to the task force on knowledge and data.

25. BES-Net's web portal has been hosting a database of biodiversity and ecosystem services-related online resources. Currently, over 3,500 resources related to IPBES's target thematic areas, encompassing publications, research papers, policy documents, on-the-ground good practice reports, etc., are stored and are freely accessible. As part of BES-Net's Trialogue effort, and complementing the IPBES thematic assessments, UNDP also undertook a context analysis on pollinator/pollination and land degradation/restoration at sub-regional and national levels in the Anglophone Africa, Central Asia and Francophone Africa regions. Information and data gathered through a literature review and key informant interviews were compiled as regional Trialogue background documents and are being utilized as the key reference to guide the IPBES assessment uptake planning and subsequent policy, research and on-the-ground actions.

26. UNESCO-IOC's Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) is a global data platform that acts as a data and information clearing-house on marine biodiversity. It makes an important contribution to a number of international processes. OBIS has been contributing data on the distribution of invasive species to support the invasive species thematic IPBES assessment, still under development. OBIS also supported several chapters of the recently launched (April 2021) second UN World Ocean Assessment and more specifically contributed to the development of statistics on trends in marine biota (chapter 6) and on the state of biodiversity in marine habitats (chapter 7). In addition, the first Global Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Status Report (GHSR), which will be released in May 2021, provides an overview of Harmful Algal Bloom events and their societal impacts. The GHSR builds on the data and information from UNESCO-IOC's Harmful Algal Information System, which draws its data from OBIS, the World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) and the UNESCO-IOC Harmful Algal Event Database (HAEDAT).

27. FAO develops and improves food and agriculture datasets, metrics, indicators, baselines and other tools for biodiversity mainstreaming, with analytical application in various sectors such as the business and financial sectors. It manages and continuously updates FAOSTAT, FAO's statistical system, providing free access to food and agriculture datasets from over 245 countries and territories and covering the period from 1961 onwards. FAO provides guidance, capacity development and support to national reporting and has prepared guidance documents and communication materials. FAO is a UN custodian agency for 21 SDG indicators across SDGs 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15 and a contributing agency for a further four.⁵ Many of these indicators are related to biodiversity, including those developed by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture on Target 2.5. A substantive portion of FAO support has been devoted to developing methodologies on SDG indicators and training statistical experts so as to facilitate monitoring of national indicators related to food security, sustainable agriculture, and sustainable management and use of natural resources, including water. FAO supports SDG reporting to the High-Level Political Forum and contributes to the annual global SDG progress report prepared by the UN Secretary General. FAO also provided indicator fact sheets and other information for use on the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership website and in other communication materials.

28. Objective 3 (b) Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems: Between the seventh and eighth sessions of the IPBES Plenary, the technical support unit on indigenous and local knowledge based at UNESCO supported the task force and assessments on the work on indigenous and local knowledge described in documents IPBES/8/7 and IPBES/8/INF/10, including eight dialogue workshops, a call for contributions, and development of materials for indigenous peoples and local communities from the IPBES Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

29. UNESCO, through BES-Net, is promoting the inclusion of indigenous and local knowledge in NEAs. In early 2021, UNESCO along with other consortium partners (UNDP and UNEP-WCMC) organized an inception session with the Dominican Republic, Malawi and Thailand, as well as earlier partners, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Grenada and Viet Nam, to introduce methodologies, concepts and approaches for working with indigenous and local knowledge in NEAs. UNESCO is also developing a practical guide on working with indigenous and local knowledge

⁵ see <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/en/>

in NEAs, which will build on and reference the IPBES approach to working with indigenous and local knowledge.

D. Objective 4: Supporting policy

30. Objective 4 (a) Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies: UNESCO is developing a methods guide on working with indigenous and local knowledge in NEAs, that will draw from and reference the IPBES approach and methodological guidance on working with indigenous and local knowledge. In pursuit of strengthening the policy-science-practice interface, the BES-Net consortium of UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO is committed to promoting the participation of IPLCs in the knowledge co-generation process.

31. FAO provides a resource person to the task force on policy support tools.

32. Objective 4 (b) Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services: Modellers from UNEP-WCMC have continued to work closely with the technical support unit to support and contribute to the continuing programme of activities on scenarios and models.

E. Objective 5: Communicating and engaging

33. The four UN partners coordinate inputs to IPBES communication products such as press releases, social media content or traditional media on a regular basis.

34. Objective 5 (a) Strengthened communication: The UNEP synthesis report “Making Peace with Nature”⁶ communicates the latest scientific findings from assessments including IPBES assessments and other knowledge products in accessible language with engaging visuals, thereby further disseminating scientific information and IPBES products to many audiences. The report synthesizes scientific findings on tackling the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies, and facilitates access to information by consolidating the latest findings in one report. IPBES knowledge products, including the Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Biodiversity and Pandemics Workshop Report, were essential in the development of the report. This initiative has increased the visibility and communication of IPBES knowledge products, both via the report itself and via the many outreach events held since the launch.

35. The report was developed by a team of over 50 experts from the global environmental assessments, including former IPBES assessment authors and experts, who synthesized more than 20 major assessments, using high-impact literature as relevant. Key messages of the report state that the climate, biodiversity and pollution crises are interlinked and need to be tackled together and discuss transformation. The eight leverage points and five levers for categorizing actions and strategies for transformative change presented in the IPBES Global Assessment were instrumental in the analysis. As of 11 March 2021, a total of 1,489 articles had been published across 76 countries in 21 languages, the report had been downloaded over 42,000 times from UNEP’s website alone, and social media content related to the report had reached more than 7 million people. The report has also been presented at over 30 events to various audiences and stakeholders, with mention being made of the instrumental role of IPBES and all the global environmental assessments.

36. UNDP organized the Central Asia Regional Dialogue back-to-back with the IPBES Capacity Building Workshop held by the German Institute for Biodiversity Network (ibn) in October 2019 for coordinated awareness raising on IPBES, its roles and its products among policy, science and practice sector representatives from six countries. All the three Regional Dialogues organized during the reporting period served as opportunities to enhance the visibility of the IPBES work among the national focal points and other stakeholders.

37. FAO contributed in many ways to the uptake of the messages of the Global Assessment by a wide range of constituencies, including its governing bodies, its member countries, its staff and the public in general. FAO contributed to the communication strategy of IPBES for the Global Assessment through a statement from the Director-General and a video message by the Deputy Director-General, and distributed the press release and key messages through social media on the day of its launch (6 May 2019) and afterwards.

38. On 25 June 2019, during the 41st Session of the FAO Conference, the highest governing body of FAO, FAO co-hosted a side event with the Friends of Biodiversity and IPBES where the Executive

⁶ The report and all related information can be found at: <https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>

Secretary of IPBES presented the results of the Global Assessment to delegates attending the Conference. On the same day, the Liaison Office of FAO for North America co-organized with the Center for Strategic & International Studies an event entitled The Declining Ecosystem and its Impact on Global Food Systems.⁷ The former Chair of IPBES, Sir Bob Watson, was invited to present the Global Assessment. On the occasion of the 162nd Session of the FAO Council, held in Rome, 1 July 2019, the outcome of the seventh Session of the Plenary of the IPBES was presented in information document CL 162/INF/3.⁸ In July 2019, an IPBES Regional Assessment Co-chair was invited to present the results of the regional assessment for the Asia Pacific Region at the Regional Consultative Meeting on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agriculture Sectors for Asia and the Pacific organized by FAO in Bangkok.⁹

39. Objective 5 (b) Strengthened engagement of Governments: Within the context of the CBD, the work that UNEP-WCMC's NEA initiative is undertaking is highlighted in SBSTTA working document CBD/SBSTTA/24/8. Further details and case studies from countries undertaking assessments at the national level following the IPBES conceptual framework and assessment process and how this is supporting national level CBD-related activities can be found in the document CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/18.

40. In the process of promoting the uptake of the IPBES Assessment of Land Degradation and Restoration, UNDP engaged the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the national focal points to the Convention in the policy–science–practice Dialogue sessions across the Anglophone Africa and Central Asia regions. Such support has contributed to enhanced coordination within Governments with respect to accelerating national efforts to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality, building on the findings and messages of the IPBES assessment.

F. Objective 6: Improving the effectiveness of the Platform

41. Objective 6 (c) Improving the effectiveness of the assessment process: UNEP and IPBES continue to engage with representatives from other major global assessments as part of the Ad hoc Global Assessment Dialogue (AGAD).¹⁰ AGAD is a participant-led informal forum for exchange of information on global assessments within the UN system. It is coordinated by UNEP's Science Division under the auspices of the UNEP Chief Scientist. Its main purpose is to identify areas of synergy across different assessment processes to maximize the usefulness of these scientific assessments for policymakers. Participants include representatives from UNEP's International Resource Panel (IRP), UNCCD, IPCC, CBD, the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), the Human Development Report (HDR) and a number of UNEP-led assessments, including the Global Environment Outlook, the Global Waste Management Outlook and the Global Chemical Outlook, and the recent UNEP synthesis report "Making Peace with Nature".

42. AGAD, which was first convened in 2018, was reinitiated in August 2020, when additional participants joined the group. IPBES participates in the quarterly calls which discuss synergy items such as assessment schedules, glossaries, modelling and peer reviews as well as the provision of individual expertise for the development of the science-policy input to the commemoration of 50 years since the creation of UNEP.

G. Additional supportive actions directly related to work programme implementation

43. A comprehensive overview of the work of FAO on biodiversity since the 14th session of the Conference of the Parties of the CBD is contained in information document CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/14¹¹ and describes around one hundred activities, projects and initiatives carried out in the last two years.

44. In December 2019, FAO adopted its Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors,¹² which refers in its preamble to the work of IPBES. A plan of action for the implementation of the Strategy was approved in April 2021. The Strategy aims to mainstream biodiversity across agricultural sectors at national, regional and international levels in a structured and coherent manner,

⁷ <https://www.csis.org/events/declining-ecosystem-and-its-impact-global-food-systems>

⁸ <http://www.fao.org/3/na145en/na145en.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.fao.org/3/ca5506en/ca5506en.pdf>

¹⁰ More information on the AGAD can be found at: <https://www.unep.org/global-environment-outlook/adhoc-global-assessments-dialogue>

¹¹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/6775/ac68/06e09f04b4b113ed2b74b67e/sbstta-24-inf-14-en.pdf>

¹² <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7722en/CA7722en.pdf>

considering national priorities, needs, regulations and policies and country programming frameworks. The expected results of the application of the Strategy would be to reduce the negative impacts of agricultural practices on biodiversity, to promote sustainable agricultural practices and to conserve, enhance, preserve, restore and sustainably use biodiversity across agricultural sectors.

45. FAO hosts the secretariat of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) and facilitates the implementation of sustainable soil management actions through its regional partnerships and networks. The Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) provided scientific and technical advice on global soil issues. In December 2020, FAO and contributors published the *State of knowledge of soil biodiversity - Status, challenges and potentialities*.¹³ This report is the result of an inclusive process involving more than 300 scientists from around the world under the auspices of the FAO's GSP and its ITPS, the CBD, the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative and the European Commission. It presents concisely the state of knowledge on soil biodiversity, on the threats to it and on the contributions that it can make to the solution of problems in various fields. It represents a valuable contribution to raising awareness of the importance of soil biodiversity and its roles in addressing global threats.

46. In April 2021, FAO held the first Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity, which attracted more than 5,000 participants from over 160 countries (government representatives, scientists and practitioners working in related fields, NGOs, civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities, and land users). Twenty-eight renowned speakers discussed how policy and scientific evidence can be translated into concrete actions to reduce soil biodiversity loss and thereby contribute to food security and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Over 50 dedicated articles in the international press between 16–20 April reached around 402 million people around the world and over 37 million accounts were reached on social media.

47. FAO facilitates the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative 2.0 (IPI 2.0), which was developed based on experience from the first International Pollinators Initiative and the findings of the IPBES Assessment Report on Pollinators, Pollination, and Food Production. The goal of the initiative is to promote coordinated action worldwide to conserve managed and wild pollinators, and to encourage the development and implementation of sustainable agricultural practices for the conservation of the ecosystem services provided by pollinators.

48. FAO and UNEP are the lead organizations for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030), to be launched on World Environment Day (5 June) 2021.¹⁴ The UN Decade positions the restoration of ecosystems as a major nature-based solution for meeting a wide range of global development goals and national priorities pertaining to all terrestrial and marine ecosystems. It builds on existing commitments such as the Paris Agreement and the Bonn Challenge and it will be implemented in collaboration with Rio Conventions and other partners. It will be informed by the findings and recommendations of IPBES assessments, particularly the assessment on land degradation and restoration.

¹³ <http://www.fao.org/3/cb1928en/cb1928en.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/partners>