Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services

A briefing on IPBES

IPBES Secretariat
Outline

– What is IPBES and how is it organised: the overall science-policy framework

– What will IPBES do?
  • The 4 functions
  • The Conceptual Framework
  • The Programme of Work

– Possible areas of collaboration with the RCE network and IPBES
What is IPBES?

- Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- Overall objective: To provide policy relevant knowledge to inform decision making
- Established in April 2012, Panama
- 121 Members
- Secretariat hosted in Bonn, Germany
How is IPBES organised?

**Plenary:** Decision-making body

**Secretariat + Technical Support Units (TSUs)**

**Bureau**
- Oversight of WP

**Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP)**
- Scientific oversight of WP

**Task forces**
- Local knowledge and indigenous and knowledge and data, capacity-building
- Expert groups
  - for assessments,
  - policy support tools

**Expert groups**
- on

+ Responsible for the overall work programme (WP)
Outline

- What is IPBES and how is it organised: the overall science-policy framework

- What will IPBES do?
  - The 4 functions
  - The Conceptual Framework
  - The Programme of Work

- Deliverable 2b: A set of regional/subregional assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services
IPBES was established with **four** agreed functions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge generation</td>
<td>Identify knowledge needs of policymakers, and catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Deliver global, regional and thematic assessments, and promote and catalyse support for sub-global assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy support tools</td>
<td>Identify policy relevant tools/methodologies, facilitate their use, and promote and catalyse their further development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>Prioritize key capacity building needs, and provide and call for financial and other support for priority needs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IPBES Analytical Conceptual Framework

Nature's benefits to people
- Ecosystem goods and services (Provisioning, regulating, cultural)
  - Nature's gifts

Anthropogenic assets
- Built, human, social, financial

Institutions and governance and other indirect drivers
- Socio-politic, economic, technological, cultural

Direct drivers
- Natural drivers
- Anthropogenic drivers
  - Habitat conversion, exploitation, climate change, pollution, species introductions

Nature
- Biodiversity and ecosystems
  - MotherEarth
  - Systems of life
    - Evolution, biocultural diversity
    - Non-living natural resources
      - Intrinsic values

Good quality of life
- Human wellbeing
  - Living in harmony with nature
    - Living well in balance and harmony with MotherEarth
  - Ability to achieve a life that people value, e.g., food, water, energy and livelihood security, health, social relationships, equity, spirituality, cultural identity

Changing over time
- Baseline–Trends–Scenarios
Structure of the work programme

**Objective 1:** Strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key IPBES functions

**Objective 2:** Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across the sub-regional, regional and global levels

**Objective 3:** Strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues

**Objective 4:** Communicate and evaluate IPBES activities, deliverables and findings
18 Deliverables

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of the Platform:

a) **Priority capacity-building needs** to implement the Platform work programme are **matched with resources** through catalysing financial and in-kind support
b) **Capacities needed to implement the Platform work programme** are developed with support provided by network on capacity-building
c) Procedures and approaches for **working with indigenous and local knowledge systems**
d) **Priority knowledge and data needs** for policy-making are addressed through catalysing efforts to generate new knowledge and networking

Objective 2: Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across the subregional, regional and global levels:

a) **Guide on production and integration of assessments** from and across all scales
b) **Regional/Subregional assessments** on biodiversity and ecosystem services
c) **Global assessment** on biodiversity and ecosystem services

Objective 3: Strengthen the science-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues:

a) One fast-track thematic **assessment on pollination** and food production
b) Thematic **assessments on land degradation** and restoration; **on invasive alien species; and on sustainable use.**
c) **Policy support tools and methodologies for scenarios analysis and modelling** of biodiversity and ecosystem services based on a fast-track assessment and a guide
d) **Policy support tools and methodologies regarding diverse conceptualizations of values** of biodiversity and nature’s benefits to people based on an assessment and a guide

Objective 4: Communicate and evaluate Platform activities, deliverables and findings:

a) **Catalogue of relevant assessments**
b) **Development of an information and data management plan**
c) **Catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies**
d) **Set of communication, outreach and engagement strategies**, products and processes
e) **Reviews of the effectiveness** of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches to inform future development of the Platform
In 2014:

- work on 15 out of 18 deliverables was initiated;
- 3 task forces and 7 expert groups were established, with a total of 516 experts selected from a total of 1691 nominations submitted;
- 16 meetings were held in 8 different locations (including the 3rd and 4th MEP and Bureau meetings, excluding the 3rd Plenary); and
- 6 institutional arrangements, with 4 TSUs and 2 consultants, were established to provide the technical support to implement specific deliverables.
– What is IPBES and how is it organised: the overall science-policy framework

– What will IPBES do?
  • The 4 functions
  • The Conceptual Framework
  • The Programme of Work

– Possible areas of collaboration with the RCE network and IPBES
Basic Principle

Where possible IPBES is asked to Build on existing institutions:

• engaging centres of excellence
• promoting and building networks
• Using existing communities of practice
Opportunities

This is particularly true when it comes to:

• Capacity building

• Providing data and knowledge
Initial discussions with UNU on potential collaboration with RCE network:

• Capacity building on policy support tools and methodologies developed/presented by IPBES
Policy support tools and methodologies are defined as:

approaches and techniques based on science and other knowledge systems inform and assist policy making and implementation …

… at local, national, regional and international levels to protect and promote nature, nature’s benefits to people, and a good quality of life
What are policy support tools and methodologies?

- Biodiversity Loss and Degradation of Ecosystem Services
  - Nature Protection
  - Protected Areas Systems (PA)
- Sustainable Use of Ecosystem Services
  - Payment for Ecosystem Services Schemes (PES)
- Remote Sensing Monitoring
- Scenario Analysis and Modells
- Participatory Planning
- Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Multi Criteria Analysis

Challenge
Policy
Policy Instruments
Policy Support Tools and Methodologies
What are policy support tools and methodologies?

7 Families of Policy Support Tools and Methodologies:

1. Assembling data and knowledge
2. Assessments and evaluation
3. Public discussion, involvement and participatory process
4. Selection and design of policy instruments
5. Implementation, outreach and enforcement
6. Capacity building
7. Social learning, innovation and adaptive governance
Thank you!