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

Eighth session

Online, 14–24 June 2021

Item 8 of the provisional agenda[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Building capacity, strengthening knowledge foundations and supporting policy

Work on building capacity, strengthening knowledge foundations and supporting policy: deliverables and workplans

Note by the secretariat

Introduction

1. In its decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), at its seventh session, adopted the rolling work programme of the Platform for the period up to 2030. The work programme includes among its six objectives: objective 2, building capacity; objective 3, strengthening knowledge foundations, which comprises objectives 3 (a), advanced work on knowledge and data and 3 (b), enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems; and objective 4, supporting policy, which comprises objectives 4 (a), advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies, 4 (b), advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services and 4 (c), advanced work on multiple values.
2. In the same decision, the Plenary extended the mandates of the task forces on capacity‑building (section III of the decision), on knowledge and data and on indigenous and local knowledge systems (section IV), and established task forces on policy tools and methodologies and on scenarios and models (section V) for the implementation of the respective objectives of the work programme. It also requested the task forces to develop specific deliverables for each of the priority topics set out in paragraph 8 of the work programme[[2]](#footnote-3) for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session.
3. The general terms of reference of the task forces, set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1, foresee that each task force will, among other activities, provide a regular progress report and, in consultation with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, develop and update a workplan that sets out clear milestones and deliverables with regard to the relevant topics and objectives of the rolling work programme up to 2030 for periodic consideration by the Plenary.
4. In order to accommodate the agenda for the eighth session of the Plenary within the limited time available for the online meeting, the Plenary is invited to consider for approval the interim workplans for the intersessional period 2021–2022 and to postpone the consideration of deliverables for objectives 2, 3 and 4 of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030 and the approval of workplans for the intersessional period 2022–2023 until its ninth session. The activities of the interim workplans, which are specific to the relevant intersessional period, are presented in relation to the draft deliverables listed at the beginning of each section, which are formulated in general terms and could apply to the duration of the entire work programme. The workplans reflect the assumption that the Plenary, at its eighth session, will approve the undertaking of the thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (referred to hereinafter as the “nexus assessment”) and the thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity (referred to hereinafter as the “transformative change assessment”).
5. Interim workplans for the intersessional period 2021–2022 and draft workplans for the period 2022–2023 are set out below.

I. Overview

1. The following sections set out proposed activities under objectives 2 to 4 of the IPBES rolling work programme for the period up to 2030 for the intersessional period 2021–2022 for approval by the Plenary, and draft activities for the intersessional period 2022–2023 for the information of the Plenary.
2. In addition to the activities set out below, each task force is scheduled to hold an in-person meeting to coordinate its work during each intersessional period, in addition to regular online meetings.
3. The activities will be implemented by the respective task forces, supported by the respective technical support units under the guidance of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau. The Plenary will receive, at its ninth session:
   1. For its consideration:
      1. The nature futures framework for the development of scenarios on biodiversity and ecosystem services, developed by the task force on scenarios and models (to be finalized following a consultation process in 2021);
      2. Deliverables for objectives 2 to 4 of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030;
      3. Workplans for the task forces for the intersessional period 2022–2023;
   2. For its information:
      1. A report on the implementation of activities for the intersessional period   
         2021–2022;
      2. A revised version of the data management policy and the long-term vision on data management that will have been reviewed and approved by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau.

II. Building capacity

A. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the task force on capacity‑building prepared a set of deliverables for objective 2 of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, building capacity, namely:
   1. For objective 2 (a): Enhanced learning and engagement:
      1. Implementation of the fellowship programme;
      2. Dedicated training and familiarization activities for IPBES experts and others involved in the science-policy interface and development and promotion of webinars and other online approaches;
      3. Science-policy dialogue meetings with national focal points to develop capacities and increase Government participation in the production and uptake of IPBES deliverables and processes;
      4. Youth workshops to strengthen the engagement of young people in the work of IPBES and to support the uptake of assessments among young people, other individuals, and organizations;
   2. For objective 2 (b): Facilitated access to expertise and information:
      1. Support for the uptake of approved assessments and other deliverables;
      2. Promotion of communities of practice;
      3. Convening of the capacity-building forum to facilitate engagement with and to build and further enhance collaboration among organizations and institutions for the implementation of the IPBES capacity-building rolling plan;
   3. For objective 2 (c): Strengthened national and regional capacities:

Activities to encourage the establishment of science-policy platforms, networks and assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services at the national, subregional and regional levels.

1. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 and an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is provided in document IPBES/8/INF/9.

B. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. Objective 2 (a): Enhanced learning and engagement

1. Activities for the implementation of the fellowship programme will include:
   1. For the nexus and transformative change assessments:
      1. Issuance of a call for the nomination of candidates by Governments and organizations and selection of up to 12 fellows for each of the assessments by the respective management committees;
      2. Organization of an “induction day” for fellows of the nexus and transformative change assessments;
      3. Participation of fellows in the first author meetings of the nexus and transformative change assessments;
   2. For the values, sustainable use and invasive alien species assessments: participation of fellows of the sustainable use assessment (11 fellows, selected in 2018) in the third author meeting of the assessment;
   3. Organization of an annual fellows training workshop;
   4. Provision of support to the IPBES fellows and alumni network.
2. Dedicated training and familiarization activities for IPBES experts and others involved in the science-policy interface and development and promotion of webinars and other online approaches will include:
   1. Development and promotion of webinars, online tools and videos, for example to introduce guidance on the preparation of IPBES assessments for new IPBES experts and others involved in the science-policy interface;
   2. Provision of support to relevant training activities catalysed by IPBES and developed by other organizations and institutions.
3. The following science-policy dialogue meetings with national focal points to develop capacities and increase Government participation in the production and uptake of IPBES deliverables and processes will be held:
   1. During the review period for the scoping report of the business and biodiversity assessment (planned as an online meeting);
   2. During the review period for the nature futures framework being developed by the task force on scenarios and models (planned as an online meeting);
   3. During the second external review of the invasive alien species assessment (planned as an in-person meeting).
4. A youth workshop to strengthen the engagement of young people in the work of IPBES and to support the uptake of assessments among young people, other individuals and organizations will be organized.

2. Objective 2 (b): Facilitated access to expertise and information

1. Activities in support of the uptake of approved assessments and other deliverables will include:
   1. Issuance of a call for contributions to support the uptake of IPBES assessments and other products;
   2. Provision of support to uptake activities for IPBES deliverables organized by other organizations.
2. Activities to promote communities of practice will include:
   1. Development of a guide on how communities of practice[[3]](#footnote-4) can engage with IPBES;
   2. Encouraging existing communities of practice to facilitate access to the expertise and information relevant to IPBES.
3. A fifth meeting of the capacity-building forum will be convened to facilitate engagement with and build and further enhance collaboration among organizations and institutions for the implementation of the IPBES capacity-building rolling plan.

3. Objective 2 (c): Strengthened national and regional capacities

1. The task force will encourage the establishment of science-policy platforms, networks and assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services at the national, subregional and regional levels, in particular by facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise between key actors from existing science-policy platforms and those interested in establishing a new platform, on how to support the work of IPBES, and disseminate and promote examples of best practices. As part of that work, an online dialogue workshop will be organized.

C. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. Objective 2 (a): Enhanced learning and engagement

1. Activities for the implementation of the fellowship programme will include:
   1. For the nexus and transformative change assessments: participation of fellows in the second author meetings of the nexus and transformative change assessments;
   2. For the invasive alien species assessment: participation of fellows (12 fellows, selected in 2019) in the third author meeting of the assessment;
   3. Participation of fellows of the scenarios and models task force (5 fellows, selected in 2019) to attend a working meeting or workshop on scenarios and models;
   4. Organization of an annual fellows training workshop;
   5. Provision of support to the IPBES fellows and alumni network.
2. Dedicated training and familiarization activities for IPBES experts and others involved in the science-policy interface and development and promotion of webinars and other online approaches will include:
   1. Further development and promotion of webinars, online tools and videos;
   2. Further provision of support to relevant training activities catalysed by IPBES and developed by other organizations and institutions.
3. Regional and/or global science-policy dialogue meetings with national focal points to develop capacities and increase Government participation in the production and uptake of IPBES deliverables and processes will be convened.
4. The task force will continue to strengthen the engagement of young people in the work of IPBES and support the uptake of assessments among young people, other individuals and organizations, by convening a youth workshop.

2. Objective 2 (b): Facilitated access to expertise and information

1. Activities in support of the uptake of approved assessments and other deliverables will include:
   1. Issuance of a call for contributions to support the uptake of IPBES assessments and other products;
   2. Provision of support to uptake activities for IPBES deliverables organized by other organizations.
2. Activities to promote and encourage communities of practice to facilitate access to expertise and information relevant to IPBES will be organized.
3. A sixth meeting of the capacity-building forum will be convened to facilitate engagement with and to build and further enhance collaboration among organizations and institutions for the implementation of the IPBES rolling capacity-building plan.

3. Objective 2 (c): Strengthened national and regional capacities

1. The task force will continue to encourage the establishment of science-policy platforms, networks and assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services at the national, subregional and regional levels, in particular by facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise between key actors from existing science-policy platforms and those interested in establishing a new platform, on how to support the work of IPBES, and disseminate and promote best practice examples.

III. Advanced work on knowledge and data

1. The present section sets out activities under objective 3 (a), advanced work on knowledge and data. The activities will be implemented by the task force on knowledge and data, working in two subgroups, on knowledge generation catalysis and on data management, to implement the two work streams of objective 3 (a).

A. Advanced work on knowledge generation catalysis

1. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the subgroup on knowledge generation catalysis of the task force on knowledge and data prepared a set of deliverables on the knowledge generation catalysis aspects of objective 3 (a) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, advanced work on knowledge and data, namely: 
   1. Review and further development of the process to catalyse the generation of new knowledge, living guidelines and a template to support assessment authors in identifying knowledge gaps, based on lessons learned from ongoing assessments;
   2. Provision of support to assessment authors in identifying knowledge gaps, including in producing a list of knowledge gaps as part of the assessments, using the guidelines and template;
   3. Promotion of the uptake of identified knowledge gaps by relevant external organizations and initiatives;
   4. Monitoring of the impact of knowledge generation catalysis efforts to effectively fill the identified gaps.
2. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 as well as an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is provided in document IPBES/8/INF/11.

2. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. The task force will review and further develop the process to catalyse the generation of new knowledge, the living guidelines and the template to support assessment authors in the identification of knowledge gaps, based on lessons learned from ongoing assessments.
2. Activities to provide support to assessment authors in the process of identifying knowledge gaps, including in producing a list of knowledge gaps as part of the assessments, using the guidelines and template, will include:
   1. Online or in-person sessions for the values, sustainable use and invasive alien species assessments;
   2. Online or in-person sessions for the first author meetings of the nexus and transformative change assessments.
3. Activities to promote the uptake of identified knowledge gaps by relevant external organizations and initiatives will include:
   1. Regional online or in-person dialogues with programmers and funders on the generation of new knowledge, focused mainly on the gaps identified in the IPBES Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and, where such gaps have been identified, focused on the Regional Assessments. The dialogues will also be an opportunity to present separately the gaps identified in the report on the IPBES workshop on biodiversity and pandemics (IPBES/8/INF/5), using appropriate disclaimers;
   2. Exchange of information with programmers and funders on projects initiated based on gaps identified in completed assessments.
4. Monitoring of the impact of knowledge generation catalysis efforts to effectively fill the identified gaps will include:
   1. Implementation of monitoring plan on the catalysis of new knowledge generation based on the gaps identified in IPBES assessments;
   2. Update of the monitoring plan as necessary based on lessons learned.

3. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. The task force will review and further develop the process to catalyse the generation of new knowledge, the living guidelines and the template to support assessment authors in the identification of knowledge gaps, based on lessons learned from ongoing assessments.
2. Activities to provide support to assessment authors in the process of identifying knowledge gaps, including in producing a list of knowledge gaps as part of the ongoing assessments, using the guidelines and template, will include:
   1. Online or in-person sessions for the invasive alien species assessment;
   2. Online or in-person sessions for the second author meetings of the nexus and transformative change assessments.
3. Activities to promote the uptake of identified knowledge gaps by relevant external organizations and initiatives will include:
   1. Regional online or in-person dialogues with programmers and funders on the generation of new knowledge, focused mainly on the gaps identified in the values and sustainable use assessments;
   2. Exchange of information with programmers and funders on the projects initiated based on the gaps identified in completed assessments.
4. Monitoring of the impact of knowledge generation catalysis efforts to effectively fill the identified gaps will include:
   1. Implementation of a monitoring plan for the catalysis of new knowledge generation based on the gaps identified in IPBES assessments;
   2. Update of the monitoring plan as necessary based on lessons learned.

B. Advanced work on data management

1. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the subgroup on data management of the task force on knowledge and data prepared a set of deliverables on the data management aspects of objective 3 (a) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, advanced work on knowledge and data, namely:
   1. Data management policy and long-term vision on data management;
   2. Provision of support to assessment authors on aspects relating to the data management policy and the generation, management, handling and delivery of IPBES products;
   3. Exploration and establishment of collaborations with external initiatives and service providers on data, including geospatial and earth observation, infographic and cartographic visualizations, and web systems and services.
2. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 and an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is provided in document IPBES/8/INF/11.

2. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. Activities related to the data management policy and long-term vision on data management will include:

Review and further development of the IPBES data management policy, support and monitoring of its implementation in all objectives of the Platform and development of a long‑term vision on data management.

1. Activities to provide support to the values, sustainable use, invasive alien species, nexus and transformative change assessments in aspects relating to the data management policy and the generation, management, handling and delivery of IPBES products will include:
   1. Continued support concerning the implementation of the data management policy, including the development of data management reports;
   2. Continued support concerning the handling of spatial data, including remote sensing‑enabled essential variables and indicators;
   3. Continued support concerning advanced data technology to support the assessment process.
2. The task force will explore and establish collaborations with external initiatives and service providers on data, including geospatial and earth observation, infographic and cartographic visualizations, and web systems and services.

3. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. Activities related to the data management policy and long-term vision on data management will include:

Revision of the IPBES data management policy, support and monitoring of its implementation, and further development of the long-term vision on data management.

1. Activities to provide support to the invasive alien species, nexus and transformative change assessments on aspects relating to the data management policy and the generation, management, handling and delivery of IPBES products will include:
   1. Continued support concerning the implementation of the data management policy, including the development of data management reports;
   2. Continued support concerning the handling of spatial data, including remote sensing enabled essential variables and indicators;
   3. Continued support concerning advanced data technology to support the assessment process.
2. The task force will continue to explore and establish collaborations with external initiatives and service providers on data, including geospatial and earth observation, infographic and cartographic visualizations, and web systems and services.

IV. Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems

A. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the task force on indigenous and local knowledge prepared a set of draft deliverables for objective 3 (b) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems, namely:
   1. Implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES;
   2. Further development of the methodological guidance on the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES.
2. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 as well as an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is provided in document IPBES/8/INF/10.

B. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. Activities for the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES will include:
   1. Establishment of expert groups for assessments:

Distribution of the call for nominations of experts and fellows for the nexus and transformative change assessments through relevant networks to encourage applications from indigenous and local knowledge experts and experts on indigenous and local knowledge. Provision of assistance to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in the implementation of the process for filling gaps in expertise for these assessment expert groups, where required;

* 1. Support to indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for assessments:
     1. Establishment of indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for the nexus and transformative change assessments;
     2. Provision of support to the indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for the values, sustainable use, invasive alien species, nexus and transformative change assessments;
     3. Assisting ongoing assessments in using multiple types of evidence on indigenous and local knowledge;
  2. Calls for contributions on indigenous and local knowledge for the nexus and transformative change assessments, to further enhance the IPBES indigenous and local knowledge library and roster of experts;
  3. Dialogue workshops with experts on indigenous and local knowledge and members of indigenous peoples and local communities:
     1. Online dialogue workshop for the scoping process of the assessment on business and biodiversity;
     2. In-person dialogue workshops for framing key indigenous and local knowledge questions for the nexus and transformative change assessments;
     3. In-person dialogue workshop for the review of the second order draft of the chapters and first order draft of the summary for policymakers of the invasive alien species assessment;
  4. Peer review of assessments:
     1. Peer review by the task force of the draft scoping document of the business and biodiversity assessment and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;
     2. Peer review by the task force of the second order draft of the chapters and first order draft of the summary for policymakers of the invasive alien species assessment and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;
  5. Participatory mechanism:
     1. Engagement with indigenous peoples and local communities through side‑events at relevant meetings;
     2. Monitoring national and local processes around the findings of assessments, which include policymakers and indigenous peoples and local communities;
     3. Further development of the indigenous and local knowledge section of the IPBES website, for improved usability and display of information;
     4. Further development of a communications and engagement strategy for strategic partners and collaborative supporters (e.g., International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services);
     5. Monitoring of participation by experts on indigenous and local knowledge, and indigenous and local knowledge experts in IPBES processes;
     6. Reviewing, with the task force on data, options for making the IPBES library of materials on indigenous and local knowledge publicly available.
  6. Provision of support to the work of other task forces regarding aspects related to indigenous and local knowledge, including organization of a consultation workshop on the nature futures framework from the perspective of indigenous and local knowledge.

1. The task force will further develop the methodological guidance on the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, as required by the nexus and transformative assessments.

C. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. Activities for the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES will include:
   1. Support to indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for assessments:
      1. Provision of support to the indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for the invasive alien species, nexus and transformative change assessments;
      2. Assisting ongoing assessments in using multiple types of evidence on indigenous and local knowledge;
   2. Dialogue workshops with experts on indigenous and local knowledge and members of indigenous peoples and local communities:

In-person dialogue workshops for the review of the first order draft of the chapters of for the nexus and transformative change assessments;

* 1. Peer review of assessments:

Peer review by the task force of the first order draft of the chapters of nexus and transformative change assessments and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;

* 1. Participatory mechanism:
     1. Collation and dissemination of materials of relevance to indigenous peoples and local communities from the sustainable use and values assessments;
     2. Engagement with indigenous peoples and local communities through side events at relevant meetings;
     3. Monitoring national and local level processes around the findings of assessments, which include policymakers and indigenous peoples and local communities;
     4. Monitoring of participation by experts on indigenous and local knowledge, and indigenous and local knowledge experts in IPBES processes;
  2. Provision of support to the work of other task forces regarding aspects related to indigenous and local knowledge.

1. The task force will further develop the methodological guidance on the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, as required.

V. Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies

A. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the task force on policy tools and methodologies prepared a set of draft deliverables for objective 4 (a) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies, as follows:
   1. Promotion of and support to the use of findings of IPBES assessments in decision‑making;
   2. Increasing the policy relevance of IPBES assessments;
   3. Provision of support to authors of policy chapters in IPBES assessments;
   4. Maintenance of the policy support gateway as a repository for IPBES products.
2. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 as well as an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is set out in document IPBES/8/INF/13.

B. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. Activities for the promotion of and support to the use of findings of IPBES assessments in decision-making will include:
   1. Convening of up to four dialogue workshops with actors at the science-policy interface to promote the use of the findings of completed thematic, regional and global IPBES assessments in decision-making, including engagement with existing platforms and networks. Dialogue workshops will be held online or in-person, to the extent possible, as part of or back to back with an existing regional or subregional meeting;
   2. Contribution of inputs related to policy support to capacity-building activities, including those related to national, subregional or regional science-policy platforms or networks or national ecosystem assessments;
   3. Provision of support to strengthen the IPBES impact tracking database (TRACK, available at: https://ipbes.net/impact-tracking-view), including by considering the development of case studies illustrating the use of completed IPBES assessments in decision-making;
   4. Exploration of opportunities and potential modalities for increasing the use of IPBES products by intergovernmental processes at global, regional and subregional levels;
   5. Identification of options for potential activities to strengthen the use of IPBES assessments in decision-making, building on the results of the analysis of responses to the survey on the use of IPBES assessments in policymaking at the subnational or national levels (see IPBES/8/INF/13).
2. Activities for increasing the policy relevance of IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Development of a strategy to further increase the involvement of practitioners in the assessment process;
   2. Peer review by task force members of the draft scoping report for a business and biodiversity assessment;
   3. Peer review by task force members of the second order draft of the chapters and first order draft of the summary for policymakers of the invasive alien species assessment.
3. Activities to provide support to authors of policy chapters in IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Convening of webinars for authors of the nexus and transformative change assessments based on the methodological guidance for assessing policy instruments and facilitating the use of policy support tools and methodologies through IPBES assessments;
   2. Provision of support for the identification of policy-related knowledge gaps in IPBES assessments through the process led by the task force on knowledge and data.
4. The task force will maintain the policy support gateway as a repository for IPBES products.

C. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. Activities for the promotion of and support to the use of findings of IPBES assessments in decision-making will include:
   1. Convening of further dialogue workshops with actors at the science-policy interface to promote the use of findings of completed thematic, regional and global IPBES assessments in decision-making, including engagement with existing platforms and networks. Dialogue workshops will be held online or in-person, to the extent possible, as part of or back to back with an existing regional or subregional meeting;
   2. Contribution of inputs related to policy support to capacity-building activities, including those related to national, subregional or regional science-policy platforms or networks or national ecosystem assessments;
   3. Provision of further support to strengthen the IPBES impact tracking database (TRACK);
   4. Implementation of selected activities to strengthen the use of IPBES assessments in decision-making, building on the results of the analysis of responses to the survey on the use of IPBES assessments in policymaking at the subnational or national level.
2. Activities for increasing the policy relevance of IPBES assessments will include peer review by task force members of the first order draft of the chapters of the nexus and transformative change assessments.
3. Activities to provide support to authors of policy chapters in IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Convening of webinars for authors of the nexus and transformative change assessments based on the methodological guidance for assessing policy instruments and facilitating the use of policy support tools and methodologies through IPBES assessments;
   2. Provision of support for the identification of policy-related knowledge gaps in IPBES assessments through the process led by the task force on knowledge and data.
4. The task force will continue to maintain the policy support gateway as a repository for IPBES products.

VI. Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services

A. Introduction

1. In response to the request by the Plenary in decision IPBES-7/1, the task force on scenarios and models prepared a set of draft deliverables for objective 4 (b) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, namely:
   1. Provision of support on scenarios and models to IPBES assessments;
   2. Catalysation of the further development of scenarios and models for future IPBES assessments.
2. Information on the activities implemented in the intersessional period 2019–2021 as well as an illustration of possible activities related to the nexus and transformative change assessments is provided in document IPBES/8/INF/14.

B. Interim workplan for the intersessional period 2021–2022 (for approval)

1. Activities to provide support on scenarios and models to IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Distribution of the call for nominations of authors and fellows for the nexus and transformative change assessments through relevant networks to encourage the application of experts on scenarios and models. Provision of assistance to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in the implementation of the process for filling gaps in expertise for these assessment expert groups, where required;
   2. Organization of webinars for authors of the nexus and transformative change assessments to support the development of scenario chapters for these assessments based on the *Methodological Assessment of Scenarios and Models*;
   3. Peer review by the task force of the draft scoping document of the business and biodiversity assessment and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;
   4. Peer review by the task force of the second order draft of the chapters and first order draft of the summary for policymakers of the invasive alien species assessment and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;
   5. Publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals to stimulate the development of scenarios and models tailored to IPBES assessments, and to test the application of the draft nature futures framework and narrative scenario development methods where appropriate;
   6. Provision of support to all ongoing IPBES assessments on the use of currently available scenarios, including those developed by previous global-scale assessments and the shared socio-economic pathways (SSP) framework assessed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
2. Activities to catalyse the further development of scenarios and models for future IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Further development of the nature futures framework for catalysing the development of the next generation of scenarios for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session, and of related methodological guidance, which will be presented to the Plenary for its information at the same session; consultation regarding the draft nature futures framework and methodological guidance with Governments (written review and online science-policy dialogue workshop with national focal points);
   2. Organization of an online dialogue workshop with experts on indigenous and local knowledge and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities to collect feedback on the nature futures framework and the methodological guidance;
   3. Ongoing provision of support to case study exercises by modelling groups to test the application of the draft nature futures framework to follow up on the first part of the modelling workshop held in January 2021 and in preparation for its second part scheduled for 2022;
   4. Further refinement of illustrative examples of nature futures (referred to as “narratives”) to provide the wider scientific community with examples of how the nature futures framework could be used to imagine new desirable futures for nature.

C. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 (for information)

1. Activities to provide support on scenarios and models to IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Organization of webinars for authors of the nexus and transformative change assessments to support the development of scenario chapters for these assessments based on the *Methodological Assessment of Scenarios and Models*;
   2. Peer review by the task force of the first order drafts of the chapters of the nexus and transformative change assessments and dissemination of the invitation to review through relevant networks;
   3. Publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals to stimulate the development of scenarios and models tailored to IPBES assessments, and to further illustrate the application of the nature futures framework and narrative scenario development methods where appropriate;
   4. Provision of support to the invasive alien species, nexus and transformative change assessments on the use of currently available scenarios, including those developed by previous global‑scale assessments and the shared socio-economic pathways (SSP) framework assessed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
2. Activities to catalyse the further development of scenarios and models for future IPBES assessments will include:
   1. Further development of the methodological guidance of the nature futures framework;
   2. Organization of the second part of the workshop with modelling communities (in‑person workshop) to collect feedback on the methodological guidance on the use of the nature futures framework and to facilitate the development of case studies which would be available for the nexus and transformative assessment;
   3. Provision of outreach on the nature futures framework to catalyse the application of the framework and the narrative scenario development methods by various stakeholders, e.g., through the publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals (on, for instance, modelling the nature futures framework, and illustrative examples of nature futures), which would provide the wider scientific community with examples of how the nature futures framework could be used to imagine new and desirable futures for nature.

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1. \* IPBES/8/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The three priority topics are: (a) understanding the importance of biodiversity in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (b) understanding the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and determinants of transformative changeand options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity; and (c) measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. In this context, communities of practice are groups of experts, policymakers and/or practitioners who work to increase access to expertise and information on a specific topic or focus area, both for supporting the implementation of the IPBES work programme and for increasing the reach and impact of work programme deliverables. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)