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**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
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Tenth session**

Bonn, Germany, 28 August–2 September 2023
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*

**Building capacity, strengthening knowledge
foundations and supporting policy****Information on enhanced recognition of and work with
Indigenous and local knowledge systems****Note by the secretariat**

1. The Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), in section II of decision IPBES-2/5, established a task force on Indigenous and local knowledge systems for the period of its first work programme. In section III of decision IPBES-5/1, the Plenary approved the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge (hereinafter referred to as the IPBES approach to Indigenous and local knowledge) set out in annex II to that decision; requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, supported by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge, to implement the approach; and requested the Executive Secretary to make the arrangements necessary to implement it, including arrangements for the establishment of the participatory mechanism, subject to the availability of resources. In the same decision, the Plenary invited Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their representatives, as well as experts on Indigenous and local knowledge, to engage in the activities described in the IPBES approach to Indigenous and local knowledge, in particular through the participatory mechanism, and invited Governments, stakeholders, strategic partners and others to support activities mobilizing Indigenous and local knowledge where such knowledge was needed.
2. At its seventh session, in decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary adopted the rolling work programme of IPBES for the period up to 2030, which includes, among its six objectives, objective 3 (b), enhanced recognition of and work with Indigenous and local knowledge systems. This objective focuses on implementing the approach to Indigenous and local knowledge, taking into account the special needs of Indigenous and local knowledge holders through the implementation of the participatory mechanism established under the approach, and the recommendations and findings set out in document IPBES/7/INF/8 and other relevant future IPBES processes.
3. In decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary also recalled the establishment of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge systems and extended its mandate for the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the rolling work programme of IPBES up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in annex II to that decision, and it requested the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the IPBES secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference.
4. According to its terms of reference, set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1, the task force oversees and takes part in the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the IPBES rolling work programme

* IPBES/10/1.

up to 2030, and acts in accordance with relevant decisions of the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 1 (c) of the first work programme; supporting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in implementing the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES; and guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in supporting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in implementing the approach. In decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary decided to review the mandate and terms of reference of the task force at its tenth session.

5. In decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary requested the task force to develop specific deliverables for each of the priority topics of the rolling work programme up to 2030. In response, the task force prepared the following deliverables for objective 3 (b), which were welcomed by the Plenary in decision IPBES-9/1:

(a) Implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES;

(b) Strengthening of the implementation of the participatory mechanism.

6. The general terms of reference of the task forces, set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1, stipulate 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.

7. In decision IPBES-9/1, the Plenary welcomed the progress made by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge in the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the work programme of IPBES up to 2030 and approved the workplan of the task force for the intersessional period 2022–2023. The workplan is set out in annex IV to the decision.

8. The annex to the present document provides further information on activities carried out by the task force in implementing its workplan (sections I, II and III and appendix). Section IV sets out additional information on the proposed workplan for the task force for the intersessional period 2023–2024, presented in document IPBES/10/8. Sections V and VI contain draft workplans for the implementation of work programme objective 3 (b) for the intersessional periods 2024–2025 and 2025–2026. The appendix contains an executive summary of the report of the review of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, prepared by the task force. The annex, including its appendix, is presented without formal editing.

Annex***Information on work related to Indigenous and local knowledge****I. Membership of the task force**

1. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau, at their 13th meetings selected the members of the task force in line with the terms of reference of the task force set out in annex II to decision IPBES-7/1. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau decided to select, as part of the task force, an expert on Indigenous and local knowledge, defined in the IPBES approach to Indigenous and local knowledge as persons from Indigenous peoples and local communities who have knowledge about Indigenous and local knowledge and associated issues, from each of the five official United Nations regions. One member was selected through the procedure for filling gaps in expertise, as set out in annex III to decision IPBES-4/3, in order to include an expert on Indigenous and local knowledge from Eastern Europe. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and Bureau also selected liaison experts from each assessment as members or alternate members of the task force, to enhance connections between the work of the task force and the ongoing assessments.

2. The task force is currently composed of the following members:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Function</i>
Ana María Hernandez Salgar	Colombia	Task force co-chair, IPBES Chair / Bureau member
Adriana Carolina Flores-Díaz	Mexico	Task force co-chair, Member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel
Catherine Febria	Australia	Member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel
Zemedede Asfaw	Ethiopia	Expert
Eduardo Brondizio	Brazil	Expert
Jocelyn Cariño-Nettleton	Philippines/ UK	Expert
Viviana Elsa Figueroa	Argentina	Expert
Jinlong Liu	China	Expert
Zsolt Molnár	Hungary	Expert
Sherry Pictou	Canada	Expert
Kamal Kumar Rai	Nepal	Expert
Kanyinke Sena	Kenya	Expert
Vyacheslav Shadrin	Russia	Expert
Patricia Howard	UK/USA	Liaison expert from the invasive alien species assessment (alternate member)

3. The technical support unit on Indigenous and local knowledge located at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, which had provided technical support to the task force during its first work programme, was selected by the Bureau at its 13th meeting to also provide technical support to the task force under the 2030 rolling work programme until the tenth session of the Plenary.

II. Meetings of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge

4. Throughout the 2022–2023 intersessional period, the task force supported and oversaw the implementation of the activities set out in the workplan approved by the Plenary at IPBES 9. The task force conducted its work through email and online meetings.

5. The annual meeting of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge was held online from 22 to 24 November 2022, with a subsequent online meeting held on 12 January 2024.

6. During the meetings, the task force reviewed progress and next steps in the implementation of its workplan. It also discussed the draft workplans for the 2023–2024 intersessional period, and the draft terms of reference for the task force going forward from IPBES 10, which are set out in document IPBES/10/8 for the consideration of the Plenary.

* The annex has not been formally edited.

7. Other key areas of focus at the meetings of the task force included:

(a) Developing the review of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, as requested by the Plenary at IPBES 9. This is discussed in more detail below and the results are provided in the appendix to this annex; and

(b) Discussing modalities for participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the IPBES Plenary, as it has been highlighted by Indigenous Peoples and local communities that participation could be significantly increased.

III. Report on progress in the implementation of objective 3 (b): Enhanced recognition of and work with Indigenous and local knowledge systems

A. Implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge

8. Progress of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge, supported by the technical support unit on the same topic, regarding the activities set out in the workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023 for the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES includes:

(a) Support for the selection of assessment expert groups included:

(i) Distribution of the call for nominations of experts and fellows for the business and biodiversity assessment through relevant networks to encourage applications from Indigenous and local knowledge experts and experts on Indigenous and local knowledge;

(b) Support for Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups¹ for assessments, included:

(i) Provision of capacity-building and training on recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge to the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for the nexus and transformative change assessments: notably through provision of methodological guidance, ongoing online meetings and during the assessments' second author meetings;

(c) Dialogue workshops with experts on Indigenous and local knowledge and members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities were organized as follows:

(i) Organization of the second Indigenous and local knowledge dialogue workshop for the nexus assessment, which focused on reviewing the first drafts of the assessment chapters and sharing knowledge relevant to the assessment (Chiang Mai, Thailand, 17-19 January 2023). The workshop included visits to communities. Participants' comments during the dialogue were synthesized, edited, approved by participants and submitted to the formal assessment review process, and were subsequently discussed and analyzed in detail by members of the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison group. A report of the dialogue is available on the IPBES website;

(ii) Organization of the second Indigenous and local knowledge dialogue workshop for the transformative change assessment, in collaboration with the scenarios and models task force, which focused on reviewing the first drafts of the assessment chapters, on sharing knowledge relevant to the assessment and on discussing scenarios of the future (Leticia, Colombia, 13-16 February 2023). The workshop included a visit to a nearby Indigenous community and to a maloca in Leticia. Participants' comments during the dialogue were synthesized, edited, approved by participants and submitted to the formal assessment review process, and were subsequently discussed and analyzed in detail by members of the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison group. A report of the dialogue is currently being developed;

¹ An Indigenous and local knowledge liaison group is a group of assessment experts from across an assessment's chapters, who are tasked with working with Indigenous and local knowledge in their chapter and with ensuring coherent narratives and approaches throughout the assessment report.

- (iii) All previous dialogue workshop reports are available online at: <https://www.ipbes.net/ilk-dialogue-reports>.
- (d) Peer review of assessment reports included:
 - (i) Participation by the task force in the first external review of the nexus and transformative change assessments (January/February 2023);
 - (ii) Dissemination of the invitation to review these assessments through relevant networks (January/February 2023);
 - (iii) In collaboration with the capacity-building task force, provision of support regarding content related to Indigenous and local knowledge to the dialogue workshops for national focal points and stakeholders that were held during the first external review of the nexus and transformative change assessments (January/February 2023);
- (e) Call for contributions: the call for contributions for the nexus, transformative change and business and biodiversity assessments was released on 13 April 2023. Contributions have been collated, stored in Zotero with relevant metadata, and synthesized for inclusion in the assessments.
- (f) Post-assessment activities included:
 - (i) Collation of materials of relevance to Indigenous Peoples and local communities from the Assessment Reports on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature. These collations are available here: <https://www.ipbes.net/ilk-messages-from-assessments>. They have been distributed through IPBES networks and communications channels and are accompanied by an online webinar “Indigenous and local knowledge in the IPBES sustainable use and values assessments”, originally held online on 30 August 2022 in English, French and Spanish, that included presentations by assessment authors and discussion among panelists from Indigenous Peoples and local communities. This webinar is now available online as a permanent resource in English, French and Spanish: <https://www.ipbes.net/ilk-sustainable-values-webinar>.
 - (ii) In collaboration with the task forces on capacity-building and on policy tools and methodologies, provision of support for the development of materials from completed assessments by other organizations and institutions, and for related uptake and outreach activities by other organizations and institutions. Supported activities include:
 - a. Two Indigenous and local knowledge posters, developed by BES-Net in English and Spanish based on the Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration. Other posters are under development focusing on the Assessment Reports on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature;
 - b. Under the umbrella of BES-Net, UNESCO is piloting an Indigenous and local knowledge model case study for in-situ pollinator conservation and sustainable land management, guided and inspired by the key messages from the IPBES Thematic Assessment Reports on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production, and on Land Degradation and Restoration. This model case study is intended as a benchmark for BES-Net supported countries in their uptake of IPBES thematic assessments. In 2022, a field-based workshop was organized to understand and document Indigenous and local knowledge practices around pollinator conservation and land management in the Eburu ecosystem, Kenya;
 - (iii) Provision of input to the in-person dialogue meeting with new IPBES members and observer States to develop capacity in relation to IPBES deliverables and processes and encourage IPBES membership;
- (g) Provision of support for the work of other task forces regarding aspects related to Indigenous and local knowledge included:
 - (i) Collaboration with the scenarios and models task force and technical support unit around the second Indigenous and local knowledge dialogue workshop for

the transformative change assessment, as mentioned above, which also focused on scenarios of the future from the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

- (ii) Collaboration with the task force on knowledge and data and related technical support unit around data management principles for working with Indigenous and local knowledge, including recording of a data management tutorial on working with free, prior and informed consent and the FAIR and CARE principles in IPBES, which is now available online as part of the data management tutorials: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6861060>.
- (h) Review of the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES included:
 - (i) Development and implementation of a series of methods for the review, including:
 - a. An overarching review of methods used in all completed IPBES assessments;
 - b. Development, dissemination, collation and analysis of a series of surveys for IPBES authors (focusing on experts from the Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Assessment of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the Assessment of the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature) and representatives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the work of IPBES;
 - c. An analysis of references to Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous peoples and local communities in the summaries for policymakers of all completed assessments;
 - d. Provision of a summary of methods by BES-Net for addressing Indigenous and local knowledge in the national ecosystem assessments coordinated by BES-Net.
 - (ii) Development of a report, including an executive summary, from the review conducted by the task force on the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES functions and deliverables. The executive summary is presented in the appendix to this annex, and the full report can be found at: <https://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/2023-06/Review%20of%20Indigenous%20and%20local%20knowledge%20in%20IPBES.pdf>.

B. Strengthening of the implementation of the participatory mechanism

9. Progress on the activities to strengthen the implementation of the participatory mechanism included:

- (a) Continued support for the MEP in the implementation of the participatory mechanism by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge, as described above;
- (b) Engagement and capacity-building with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including through on-going work with participants of the dialogue workshops described above;
- (c) Engagement and outreach to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including holding the webinar “Indigenous and local knowledge in the IPBES sustainable use and values assessments”, online on 30 August 2022 in English, French and Spanish, as described above.
- (d) Further development of the IPBES website’s pages on Indigenous and local knowledge, for improved display of information, updates, resources and modalities for participation, which are available at <https://www.ipbes.net/indigenous-local-knowledge>;
- (e) Further development of the communications and engagement strategy for strategic partners and collaborative supporters, including:
 - (i) Enhanced support for, engagement with and communication to the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IIFBES), including through technical support for web pages and a registration system, available at <https://www.ipbes.net/IIFBES>;

- (ii) Expanding the roster of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their organizations.
- (f) Monitoring of participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and experts on Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES processes.

IV. Additional information on the workplan for the implementation of work programme objective 3 (b) for the intersessional period 2023–2024

10. In decision IPBES-7/1, the Plenary decided to review the mandate and terms of reference of the task force at its tenth session. Revised terms of reference for the task force are presented in document IPBES/10/8 for consideration by the Plenary. In the same document, a workplan for the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030 is presented together with workplans for objectives 2, 3 (a – data); 3 (a – knowledge generation); 4 (a) and 4 (b). The workplans, which are presented for consideration by the Plenary, cover the period between IPBES 10 and IPBES 11 (intersessional period 2023–2024). Figure 1 presents the institutional structure proposed for the implementation of these workplans.

11. Draft workplans for the implementation of objective 3 (b), covering the intersessional period between IPBES 11 and IPBES 12 (intersessional period 2024-2025) and between IPBES 12 and IPBES 13 (intersessional period 2025-2026) are presented in sections V and VI below. Figure 2 schematically illustrates the interactions of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge with IPBES assessment processes, as reflected in the proposed workplans to implement objective 3 (b) of the IPBES rolling work programme, as follows:

- (a) Following the selection of experts, the task force runs an online Indigenous and local knowledge dialogue workshop during the review period for the scoping report;
- (b) Once the undertaking of an assessment has been approved by Plenary, the task force distributes a call for the nomination of experts and fellows for the new assessment through relevant networks to encourage applications from Indigenous and experts on Indigenous and local knowledge;
- (c) The task force provides support to assessment experts throughout the development of the assessment: delivering an introduction on Indigenous and local knowledge, supporting the establishment of Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups in each assessment, issuing a call for Indigenous and local knowledge contributions to the assessment, and running dialogue workshops;
- (d) Following the completion of an assessment, the task force collates and disseminates relevant messages from the assessment to Indigenous and local communities and to governments.

Figure 1
Illustration of the change in bodies responsible for the implementation of objectives 2,3 and 4 of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030. Bolded text and orange arrows indicate a change in responsible body

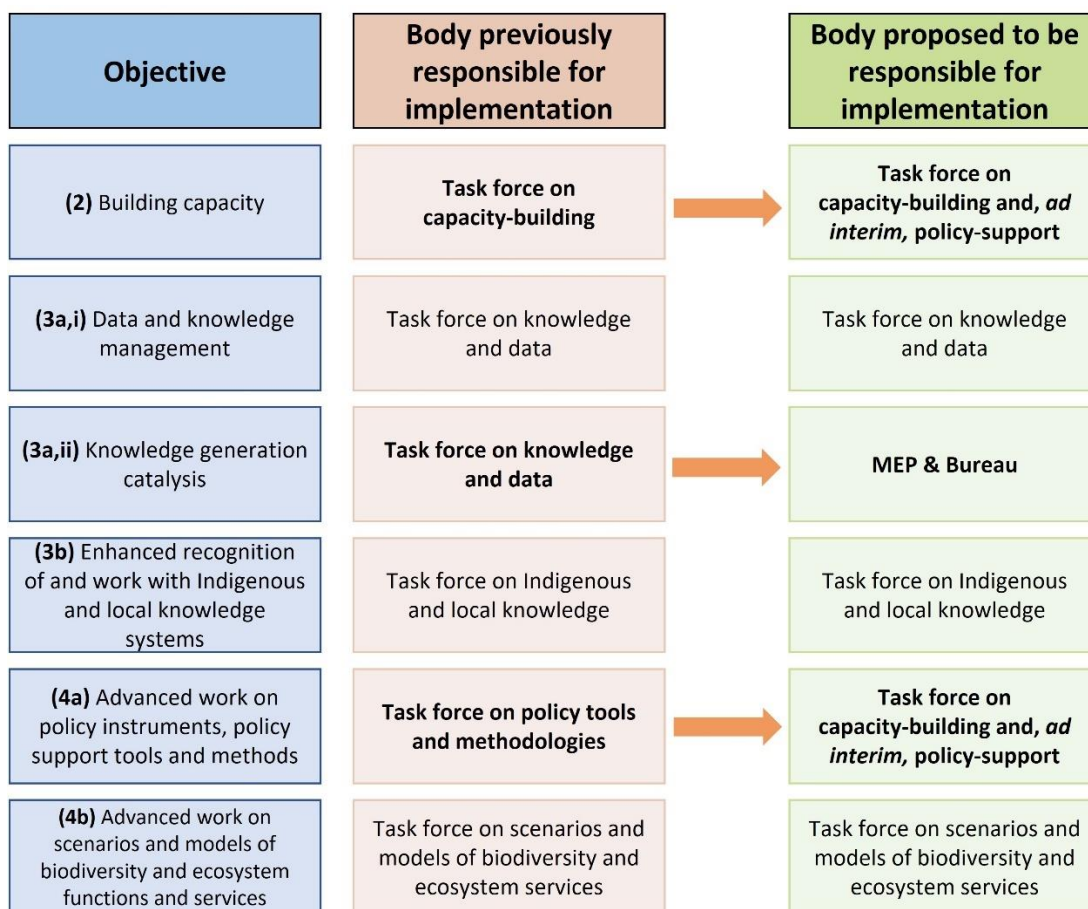
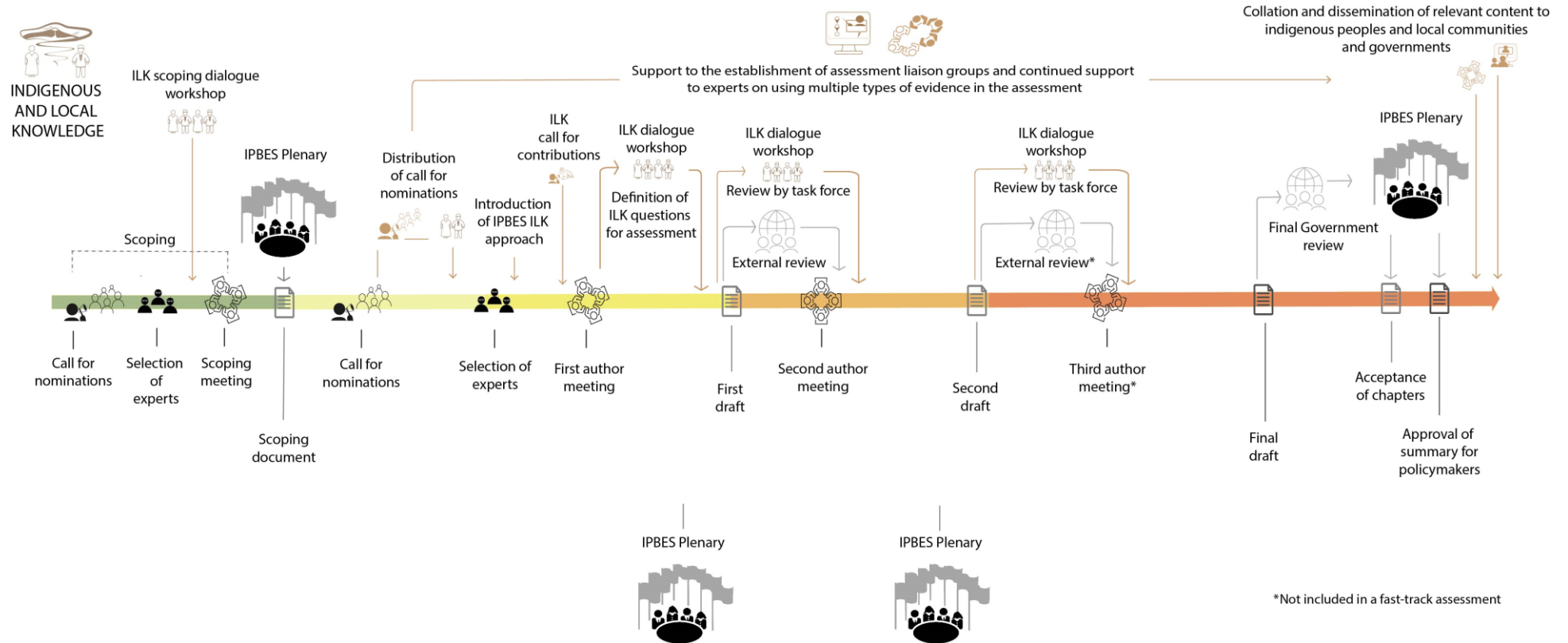


Figure 2
Interaction of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge with the assessment process. The standard process for the production of an IPBES assessment is shown along the multi-coloured horizontal arrow, with activities to implement objective 3 (b) shown in golden lines and arrows. The dotted line for scoping indicates that this process is not carried out for every assessment.



V. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2024–2025 (for information)

12. Activities for the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES would include:
- (a) Support for Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for assessments:
 - (i) Provision of capacity-building and training on recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge to the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for the business and biodiversity and any new assessments¹ in collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, where appropriate;
 - (ii) Provision of support to Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups in using multiple types of evidence on Indigenous and local knowledge and in identifying gaps relating to Indigenous and local knowledge;
 - (b) Dialogue workshops with experts on Indigenous and local knowledge and members of Indigenous peoples and local communities:
 - (i) In-person, hybrid or online dialogue workshop for developing key Indigenous and local knowledge questions for any new assessments (fourth quarter of 2024);
 - (ii) In-person, hybrid or online dialogue workshop for the external review of any new assessments (second quarter of 2025);
 - (c) Peer review of assessment reports:
 - (i) Peer review by the task force of drafts of any new assessments;
 - (ii) Dissemination of the invitation to review draft assessments through relevant networks;
 - (iii) In collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy support, provision of support regarding Indigenous and local knowledge-related content for the dialogue workshops for national focal points and stakeholders held during the relevant external review periods.
 - (d) Post-assessment activities:
 - (i) Collation and dissemination of materials of relevance to Indigenous Peoples and local communities from the nexus and transformative change assessment reports, in all six official United Nations languages, including, in collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy support, to national and regional platforms on biodiversity and ecosystem services and to Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
 - (ii) In collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, provision of support for the development of materials from completed IPBES assessments by other organizations and institutions, and for related uptake and outreach activities by other organizations and institutions;
 - (e) Provision of support for the work of other task forces regarding aspects related to Indigenous and local knowledge;
 - (f) Further development of the methodological guidance on the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, based on experience from completed and ongoing assessments and the activities described in this workplan, with a focus on enhancing the dialogue within IPBES between Indigenous and local knowledge systems and science.

¹ Any new assessments or scoping processes referred to in this document are subject to their initiation by the Plenary.

13. Activities for strengthening the implementation of the participatory mechanism will include:
- (a) Continued support to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in the implementation of the participatory mechanism by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge, including by considering the results of the review of the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, carried out in the previous intersessional period;
 - (b) Engagement with and capacity-building of Indigenous Peoples and local communities through seminars and side events at relevant meetings, both online and in-person, including provision of information on how to participate in IPBES activities;
 - (c) Further development of the Indigenous and local knowledge section of the IPBES website, for improved usability and display of information;
 - (d) Monitoring of participation of experts on Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous and local knowledge experts in IPBES processes.
25. Activities to ensure the effective implementation of the workplan include the monitoring of a set of relevant indicators for measuring the effectiveness of the workplan.

VI. Draft workplan for the intersessional period 2025–2026 (for information)

14. Activities for the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES will include:
- (a) Support for Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for assessments:
 - (i) Provision of capacity-building and training on recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge to the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups for any new assessments, in collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, where appropriate;
 - (ii) Provision of ongoing support to Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups in using multiple types of evidence on Indigenous and local knowledge and in identifying gaps relating to Indigenous and local knowledge;
 - (b) Dialogue workshops with experts on Indigenous and local knowledge and members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities:
 - (i) In-person, hybrid or online dialogue workshop for developing key Indigenous and local knowledge questions for any new assessments;
 - (ii) In-person, hybrid or online dialogue workshops for the review of any new assessments;
 - (c) Peer review of assessment reports:
 - (i) Peer review by the task force of drafts of any new assessments, as appropriate;
 - (ii) Dissemination of the invitation to review draft assessments through relevant networks;
 - (iii) In collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, provision of support regarding Indigenous and local knowledge-related content for the dialogue workshops for national focal points and stakeholders held during the relevant external review periods.
 - (d) Post-assessment activities:
 - (i) Collation and dissemination of materials of relevance to Indigenous Peoples and local communities from the business and biodiversity assessment report, in all six official United Nations languages, including, in collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, to national and regional platforms on biodiversity and ecosystem services and to Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
 - (ii) In collaboration with the task force on capacity-building and, ad interim, policy-support, provision of support for the development of materials from

completed IPBES assessments by other organizations and institutions, and for related uptake and outreach activities by other organizations and institutions;

(e) Provision of support for the work of other task forces regarding aspects related to Indigenous and local knowledge;

(f) Further development of the methodological guidance on the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, based on experience from completed and ongoing assessments and the activities described in this workplan, with a focus on enhancing the dialogue within IPBES between Indigenous and local knowledge systems and science.

26. Activities for strengthening the implementation of the participatory mechanism will include:

(a) Continued support for the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in the implementation of the participatory mechanism by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge, including by considering the results of the review of the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, carried out in the previous intersessional period;

(b) Engagement with and capacity-building of Indigenous Peoples and local communities through seminars and side events at relevant meetings, both online and in-person, including provision of information on how to participate in IPBES activities;

(c) Further development of the Indigenous and local knowledge section of the IPBES website, for improved usability and display of information;

(d) Monitoring of participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and experts on Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES processes.

15. Activities to ensure the effective implementation of the workplan include the monitoring of a set of relevant indicators for measuring the effectiveness of the workplan.

Appendix

Executive summary of the report of the review of the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES

1. Developed by the IPBES task force on Indigenous and local knowledge and its technical support unit.

I. Introduction

2. As part of the workplan for the intersessional period 2022–2023, set out in annex IV to decision IPBES-9/1, the Plenary requested the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge to prepare a review of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES as follows:

3. Review of the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES functions and deliverables, with a focus on the *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* (Global Assessment), the *Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species* (Sustainable Use Assessment) and the *Methodological Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature* (Values Assessment), and other activities since 2019, including proposals for strengthening the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, and preparation of a brief report, for consideration by the Plenary at its tenth session, with regard to:

- (a) The ways in which Indigenous and local knowledge has been included in IPBES products, as well as in national and regional assessments that are based on IPBES methodologies;
- (b) Enhancing methodologies for working with Indigenous and local knowledge;
- (c) Enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in IPBES.

4. The following summary presents the findings of the work of the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge from this review, with a longer report available [here](#).¹

II. Methods

5. Methods for the review of the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES were developed by the task force on Indigenous and local knowledge during a series of meetings and email exchanges. Methods used in the review included:

6. A brief desk review of assessment methods employed in all completed assessments.

7. Surveys:

(a) Surveys were sent to Indigenous Peoples and local communities who have participated in different ways in IPBES activities (unless they had participated as authors, in which case they were sent the survey for authors, described below), requesting their feedback on aspects of the processes for working with Indigenous and local knowledge and methods for enhancing participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The survey was partially or fully completed by 16 members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

(b) Surveys were sent to authors of the Global, Values and Sustainable Use Assessments, requesting their feedback on aspects of the process for working with Indigenous and local knowledge and methods for enhancing participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The survey was completed partially or fully by 18 authors.

(c) BES-Net was invited to provide a brief analysis of methods used in the national ecosystems assessments that are coordinated through the BES-Net project and to provide an overview on how these methods connect to the IPBES approach and methodologies.

¹ Full link address for the report: <https://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/2023-06/Review%20of%20Indigenous%20and%20local%20knowledge%20in%20IPBES.pdf>

III. Overview of methods used in IPBES assessments

8. IPBES methods for working with Indigenous and local knowledge have developed over the course of the assessments, as shown in table 1 below. The approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES was approved by IPBES 5 in 2017.

Table 1

Methods implemented to work with Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the IPBES assessments to date.

IPBES assessment	Completion date	Scoping dialogue	ILK liaison group	Dialogue workshops ²	Call for contributions	Materials for Indigenous Peoples and local communities produced from assessment ³
Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production	2016	No	No	1	No	No
Four Regional Assessments of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	2018	No	No	1-2	No	No
Assessment of Land Degradation and Restoration	2018	No	No	No	No	No
Global Assessment	2019	No	Yes	1	Yes	Yes
Sustainable Use Assessment	2022	Yes	Yes	3	Yes	Yes
Values Assessment	2022	Yes	Yes	3	Yes	Yes

IV. Surveys with Indigenous Peoples and local communities and assessment authors: main conclusions

A. What works well

9. Both members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and assessment authors noted many positive aspects of IPBES work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including:

(a) IPBES is innovative and groundbreaking in its work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities in global-scale assessments and its openness to diverse voices and types of knowledge at the global level;

(b) Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities make increasingly significant contributions to IPBES assessments, as noted by Indigenous Peoples and local communities and authors, enhancing the findings and relevance of the assessments;

(c) Dialogue workshops are recognized by both Indigenous Peoples and local communities and authors as particularly important and effective for bringing Indigenous and local knowledge into assessments;

² Lasting one day or more, organized specifically for the assessment.

³ This refers to materials produced for Indigenous Peoples and local communities by IPBES. It should also be noted, however, that materials were produced by CSIRO and SwedBio for the Pollinators assessment (see <https://research.csiro.au/multipleknowledges/category/posters/>), and by BES-Net for the land degradation assessment (see <https://www.besnet.world/back-to-our-roots-how-land-degradation-particularly-affects-indigenous-peoples-and-local-communities/>), among others.

(d) Transdisciplinarity of author teams, the work of Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups, literature reviews, dialogue workshops, calls for contributions and engagement of contributing authors have seen significant improvements with successive assessments;

(e) Free, prior and informed consent processes are noted to be very well developed around the dialogue workshops;

(f) Indigenous and local knowledge is included in increasingly diverse ways in assessments, including in graphics, images, artworks and poems;

(g) The approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, the methodological guidance to implement the approach, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, the task force on and technical support unit for Indigenous and local knowledge and other actors within IPBES, including the secretariat, serve important roles;

(h) Indigenous Peoples and local communities are using IPBES assessments to support their work and goals at international, national and local levels. Summaries for policymakers and documents and webinars produced specifically for Indigenous Peoples and local communities are particularly useful.

B. Challenges

10. Respondents also noted ongoing challenges:

(a) Dynamics and methods within author teams were highlighted as a key challenge:

- (i) Within assessments, Indigenous and local knowledge is often interpreted through a scientific lens, using scientific frameworks and methods, by authors who are not members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, which limits the ways that Indigenous and local knowledge can be understood or conveyed;
- (ii) Within an assessment chapter, authors working with Indigenous and local knowledge are often challenged regarding the methods and approaches they use, and need to justify these to other lead authors or to coordinating lead authors. This can increase the workload for these authors, and may deter participation, particularly by authors from Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- (iii) Numbers of authors working on Indigenous and local knowledge in chapter teams are often low, making it difficult to carry out extensive reviews of literature and other materials or to conduct all relevant activities related to Indigenous and local knowledge. This can mean that:
 - a. “Grey” literature and other sources of knowledge may remain underexplored;
 - b. The submissions received in response to a call for contributions may not be processed as efficiently as expected and not be included into the assessment in a systematic way;
 - c. Engagement and follow-up with contributing authors and dialogue workshop participants may be reduced;
- (iv) Insufficient engagement and interlinkages between chapters of an assessment can lead to a lack of a coherent Indigenous and local knowledge narrative. Often, Indigenous and local knowledge expertise is also dispersed across an assessment;
- (v) Language barriers can prevent access to and use of many materials of relevance to the assessments, as much Indigenous and local knowledge is documented in languages other than English.

11. While significant progress was recognized, participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities was also highlighted as an ongoing challenge:

(a) Due to the predominance of scientific frameworks, quantitative approaches and English as the main language, few members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities apply to participate in assessment teams as authors, which greatly limits the ways Indigenous and local knowledge can be included in assessments;

(b) Funding and support for participation in IPBES processes is a major challenge, as many Indigenous Peoples and local communities are not supported by institutions that would allow them to use a proportion of their time for IPBES work, for example as authors but also less time-consuming roles such as reviewing draft materials;

(c) Ineligibility for travel support of experts from the Western Europe and Others Group countries represents a major barrier to participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities from these countries, including as authors, task force members or dialogue workshop participants;

(d) Modes of participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the Plenary are very limited.

12. Communication and outreach were also recognized as ongoing challenges:

(a) For many Indigenous Peoples and local communities, knowledge of IPBES is very limited;

(b) There can be a lack of clarity on how the input from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including the outcomes of the dialogue workshops and related free, prior and informed consent processes, and the work of contributing authors, is used in the development of the chapters and summaries for policymakers by author teams;

(c) Work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities within other functions of IPBES is underdeveloped or unknown to many Indigenous Peoples and local communities;

(d) The completed IPBES assessments may not reach many Indigenous Peoples and local communities at local levels.

(e) A final challenge highlighted by many respondents is a lack of uptake of IPBES assessment findings at national levels, with few clear impacts on governments and business and industry.

C. Ways forward

13. Respondents suggested different ways to enhance IPBES work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities:

(a) Continuing to explore ways to enhance methodologies by which Indigenous and local knowledge can be reflected in IPBES assessments directly by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including:

- (i) Exploring different methodologies for addressing Indigenous and local knowledge in an assessment, including methodologies based on techniques and methods drawn from the traditions and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- (ii) Greater use of other ways of reflecting knowledge, including videos, pictures, audio records, artworks and rituals;
- (iii) Enhancing dialogue workshops and connections to communities;
- (iv) Developing a dedicated chapter on Indigenous and local knowledge in each assessment;
- (v) Initiating an entire assessment based solely on Indigenous and local knowledge;

(b) Enhancing the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to participate in assessment processes, including by:

- (i) Enhanced networking with organizations of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and scholars from Indigenous Peoples and local communities to increase interest and knowledge around how to participate in IPBES;
- (ii) Creating advisory groups of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to each assessment;
- (iii) Capacity-building with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, with a particular focus on youth and fellows, on how to participate as authors and how to develop case studies and contributions;

- (iv) Identifying sources of financial support for participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including those from Western Europe and Others Group countries; and
 - (v) Enhanced attention to local communities, which tend to be less represented in dialogues and other activities.
- (c) Enhance the expertise on Indigenous and local knowledge in each chapter, including by:
- (i) Ensuring that at least one coordinating lead author of each chapter has expertise on Indigenous and local knowledge, and that all coordinating lead authors are open to the idea of working with Indigenous and local knowledge, as they play a crucial role in ensuring effective work with Indigenous and local knowledge in a chapter;
 - (ii) Ensuring that each chapter has at least one scholar from Indigenous Peoples and local communities or one expert on Indigenous and local knowledge; and
 - (iii) Enhancing efforts at capacity-building throughout author teams and uptake of the approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge and the methodological guidance to implement it by all authors, so that Indigenous and local knowledge is well supported even by those authors who are not directly working with it.
- (d) Enhance communication, engagement and uptake so that Indigenous Peoples and local communities will use IPBES products, including by:
- (i) Enhanced communication with participants (e.g., participants in dialogue workshops or the call for contributions) during the assessment process so they can see how their inputs are influencing the development of assessments;
 - (ii) Enhancing translation and dissemination of IPBES products;
 - (iii) Enhancing follow up after an assessment is completed, and tracking of impacts;
 - (iv) Enhancing efforts to build networks and connections with Indigenous Peoples and local communities' organizations at international, national and sub-national scales.
- (e) Enhance participation in other aspects of IPBES work, including:
- (i) Enhance participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Plenary sessions; and
 - (ii) Enhance work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities particularly around capacity-building, policy support and knowledge generation catalysis.
- (f) Develop more concrete and strategic steps to enhance the uptake of IPBES findings by governments and business and industry groups, as well as other stakeholders.

V. Surveys with Indigenous Peoples and local communities: visualizations

14. The following tables show average median responses from members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to different questions within the survey. Graphs use the acronyms ILK: Indigenous and local knowledge, and IPLCs: Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Table 2
Median ratings by respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) of different aspects of work with Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) and participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in IPBES

Aspects of work with ILK and IPLC participation in IPBES	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding "I do not know"
		not at all	poor	Neither good nor bad	good	very good	
ILK and IPLCs in scoping processes	15				x		1
IPLC participation in assessments	14				x		0
ILK in assessments	15				x		0
Free, prior and informed consent	14				x		1
IPLC participation in the plenary meetings	11			x			3
Diversity of IPLC representations	14				x		0

15. As median responses relating to aspects of work with ILK and IPLC participation in IPBES, Indigenous Peoples and local communities rated as "good": "participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and work with Indigenous and local knowledge in scoping processes" (ILK and IPLCs in scoping processes), "participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in assessments", "work with Indigenous and local knowledge in assessments", "free, prior and informed consent processes", and "diversity of representation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in IPBES activities". The median response for "Participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the IPBES Plenary meetings" was "neither good nor bad", showing that this is the area where Indigenous Peoples and local communities perceive the greatest barriers to participation.

Table 3
Median ratings of how useful and interesting respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities find different IPBES assessment products.

IPBES assessment products	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding "I do not know"
		not at all	slightly	somewhat	useful	very useful	
Chapters	14				x		1
Summaries for policymakers	13					x	1
Figures/Graphs	12				x		1
Summary documents for IPLCs	13					x	1
Webinars/Events for IPLCs	14					x	0

16. As median responses relating to use of and interest in IPBES assessment products, Indigenous Peoples and local communities reported that the summaries for policymakers, summary documents for Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) and webinars and events for IPLCs on the assessment findings were "very useful". The median response for chapters and figures and graphs was "useful", with one respondent noting that few members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities may be reading or using the chapters.

Table 4

Median ratings by respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities on how well work with Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities is achieved in other IPBES functions, beyond assessments.

Other IPBES functions	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not at all	slightly	somewhat	well	very well	
Policy support	12			x			1
Scenarios	12				x		1
Capacity building	12			x			1
Data management	11			x			2
Knowledge/ Catalysis of new research	12			x			1

17. As median responses relating to other functions of IPBES, the non-assessment functions of IPBES are seen by respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities as being “somewhat” successful in terms of work with Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The exception is work with scenarios, for which the median response was that work with Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities is done “well”.

Table 5

Median ratings by respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities on the impact of IPBES assessment on different societal groups.

Impacts of IPBES assessments on different audiences/stakeholders?	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		no impact	slight impact	some impact	notable impact	great impact	
IPLCs	15				x		0
National governments and policymakers	15			x			0
Funders	15				x		0
Non-governmental organizations	15				x		0
Business and industry	15			x			0
Scientists and researchers	15				x		0
Other (Local community groups)	1					x	0

18. As median responses relating to impacts of IPBES assessments, respondents from Indigenous Peoples and local communities responded that IPBES assessments have “notable impact” on Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs), funders, non-governmental organizations and scientists and researchers. The median response ranking for IPBES assessments was only “some impact” for national governments and policymakers, and for business and industry. Meanwhile, one respondent noted “great impact” on local community groups.

VI. Surveys with authors: visualizations

19. The following tables show average median responses from IPBES authors from the Global, Sustainable Use or Values assessments, to different questions within the survey for authors. Graphs use the acronyms ILK: Indigenous and local knowledge, and IPLCs: Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Table 6

Median ratings by authors of how effective different approaches and methods function, in terms of working with Indigenous and local knowledge and enhancing participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in IPBES assessments.

ILK and IPLC processes and methods in assessments	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not at all	slightly	somewhat	effectively	highly effectively	
Consideration of ILK and participation of IPLCs in scoping documents	13			x			5
Working with IPLCs’ conceptualizations	16				x		0
Transdisciplinary authors teams	15				x		
IPLCs as authors	15			x			
Contributing authors bringing ILK into chapters	14				x		1
Literature review/ peer-reviewed literature	15				x		
Literature review/ grey literature and other materials	15			x			
Call for contributions	11			x			4
Dialogue workshop	15					x	1
External reviews and comments	13			x			1

20. As a median response, authors reported that “dialogue workshops” functioned “highly effectively”. “Working with Indigenous Peoples’ and local communities’ (IPLCs’) conceptualizations of key assessment themes”, “transdisciplinary authors teams”, “contributing authors bringing Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) into chapters”, and “review of peer-reviewed literature” all received a median response of functioning “effectively”. “Consideration of Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in developing scoping documents”, “Indigenous Peoples and local communities as authors”, “review of grey literature and other materials”, the “call for contributions”, and “external reviews and comments received” were rated as functioning “somewhat effectively”.

Table 7

The median responses of authors on the effectiveness of different resource documents and support systems for working with Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES assessments.

IPBES resources and support systems	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not at all	slightly	somewhat	effective	highly effective	
“Approach to working with ILK” document	14				x		2
IPBES methodological guidance on ILK	13				x		2
Author participation in ILK liaison groups	15				x		1

IPBES resources and support systems	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not at all	slightly	somewhat	effective	highly effective	
ILK task force and TSU	14					x	1
Co-chairs and CLAs	14					x	0
Assessment TSUs	14					x	0
MEP, secretariat, and other IPBES colleagues	11				x		3

21. As median author responses, support from the “Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) task force and technical support unit (TSU)”, “assessment co-chairs and coordinating lead authors (CLAs)” and “assessment technical support units (TSUs)” was rated as “highly effective”. The “approach to working with Indigenous and local knowledge (the document itself)” and the “IPBES methodological guidance on Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK)” both received a median response ranking of “effective”, as did “author participation in Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) liaison groups”, and support from “MEP, the IPBES secretariat and other IPBES colleagues”.

Table 8

Median ratings by authors of how well they were able to consider and include Indigenous and local knowledge within different topics and themes of their assessments.

Themes related to ILK and IPLCs	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not considered	slightly considered	somewhat considered	well covered	covered in great depth	
Values, worldviews, and spirituality	14			x			0
Biodiversity status and trends	12				x		3
Nature’s contributions to IPLCs	13			x			2
IPLCs’ contributions to Nature	11				x		3
Scenarios	9			x			5
Policymaking	9			x			4
Rights and justice	11			x			2
Knowledge gaps	14			x			1

22. In general, authors gave less favourable reviews of how well they were able to consider and represent different themes of relevance to Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the assessments, resulting in lower ratings overall compared to the previous questions. “Contributions by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) to nature” (including for example management of biodiversity by Indigenous Peoples and local communities), and “biodiversity status and trends” were considered to be the themes that were best considered, receiving median rankings of “well covered”. The median response for “values, worldviews, and spirituality”, “nature’s contributions to Indigenous Peoples and local communities”, “scenarios”, “policymaking”, “rights and justice” and “knowledge gaps” was “somewhat considered”.

Table 9
Median ratings by authors of how effectively they were able to use different ways of representing Indigenous and local knowledge in the assessments.

Ways of representing ILK in the assessment	Number of respondents who gave a rating	Median rating					Number of respondents responding “I do not know”
		not at all	slightly effectively	somewhat effectively	effectively	highly effectively	
Text on ILK and IPLCs’ issues	14			x			0
ILK/IPLC cross-chapter narrative	14			x			0
Case studies	14				x		0
Figure or graphics	14				x		0
Artworks, songs, poems	13		x				0
Representation of ILK in the SPMs	14			x			0

23. Authors gave mixed reviews of how effectively different ways of representing Indigenous and local knowledge were used in the assessments. “Case studies” and “figures and graphics” were seen to be used “effectively”, while the median response for “text on Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities’ issues” fell exactly between the “somewhat effectively” and “effectively” categories. “Development of cross-chapter narratives” and “representation of Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous peoples and local communities in the summaries for policymakers (SPMs)” were largely seen to used “somewhat effectively”. Meanwhile, for art, songs and poetry, the median response was that they were used “slightly effectively” in the assessments.

VII. National Ecosystem Assessments and Indigenous and local knowledge⁴

24. IPBES itself is not conducting national ecosystem assessments. The Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net)⁵ and the National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative, who support countries conducting national ecosystem assessments, recognize that Indigenous and local knowledge enriches policies and the conservation knowledge-base.

25. BES-Net and the National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative have developed Indigenous and local knowledge approaches and tools, which build on the IPBES approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge and the methodological guidance, with an aim of developing evidence-based National Ecosystem Assessments grounded in multiple knowledge systems.

26. The BES-Net Indigenous and local knowledge support unit also works closely with the IPBES technical support unit for and task force on Indigenous and local knowledge. The IPBES technical support unit and task force support Indigenous and local knowledge capacity-building of National Ecosystem Assessment country partners through sharing IPBES experiences with Indigenous and local knowledge, lessons learned, challenges and insights, including during dedicated webinars, as well as reviewing guidance documents on Indigenous and local knowledge approaches and methods for national ecosystem assessments.

27. The BES-Net Indigenous and local knowledge support unit and the National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative have developed two National Ecosystem Assessment Indigenous and local knowledge resources, available in English, French and Spanish, entitled:

⁴ Review kindly provided by the BES-Net program.

⁵ BES-Net is jointly implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP – hosts BES-Net and leads multi-stakeholder engagement and Dialogues), The United Nations Environment Programme’s Wildlife Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC – hosts the National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative) and UNESCO (leads the Indigenous and local Knowledge support unit).

- (a) [Why engage with Indigenous Peoples and local communities in National Ecosystem Assessments](#)
 - (b) [Practical guidelines of working with Indigenous and local knowledge in National Ecosystem Assessments](#)
28. Other National Ecosystem Assessment material guides also prominently feature Indigenous and local knowledge, including:
- (a) [Confidence Terms](#)
 - (b) [Trialogue in National Ecosystem Assessments – interactive guide](#)
 - (c) [Selecting Authors](#)
 - (d) [Gender considerations and gender balance](#)
29. As a result of this work, countries conducting national ecosystem assessments have engaged a variety of methods for working with Indigenous and local knowledge and enhancing participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Methods used in the national ecosystem assessments include:
- (a) Indigenous [Peoples](#) and local communities as authors
 - (b) Literature [reviews](#)
 - (c) Community dialogues, including scoping and framing workshops
 - (d) Walking [workshops](#)
 - (e) Mapping [projects](#)
 - (f) National [trialogues](#)

VIII. Conclusion

30. IPBES is recognized as ground-breaking and innovative for its work with Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities at the global level. Efforts to enhance work with Indigenous and local knowledge and increase participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities are showing clear benefits and results through successive assessments. This standard setting is influencing biodiversity processes at other levels, including national ecosystems assessments.
31. Challenges still remain within IPBES, including balances between natural science, social science and Indigenous and local knowledge within assessments, language barriers and funding limitations, all of which limit participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities and limit work with Indigenous and local knowledge, particularly within author teams. Other areas of IPBES work may also benefit from increased attention to Indigenous and local knowledge. From the perspective of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, there are few visible impacts on policymakers and business and industry from IPBES assessment findings related to Indigenous and local knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
32. To continue to enhance both IPBES work with Indigenous and local knowledge and participation by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, key areas of attention include enhancing the consideration of different methodologies for reflecting Indigenous and local knowledge, ensuring expertise on Indigenous and local knowledge in assessments, capacity-building for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and authors, enhancing communication to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, addressing language barriers and funding limitations, and strategically enhancing outreach to policymakers and other stakeholders.
-