

Terms of reference for task forces for the rolling work programme up to 2030 - General terms of reference

1. In carrying out its work, each task force will:

- (a) Ensure that all its activities draw on, build on and complement existing experience;
- (b) Perform activities that specifically address the relevant prioritized topics and objectives set out in the rolling work programme up to 2030, in support of the overall objective and four functions of IPBES;
- (c) 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;
- (d) Advise the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel on issues pertaining to its mandate across the rolling work programme up to 2030;
- (e) Advise the Bureau on the identification of new strategic partners and collaborative supporters;¹
- (f) Encourage the direct involvement of its members, as appropriate, in activities of other IPBES task forces and expert groups to foster the coherent implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 through the four functions of IPBES.

Terms of reference for the task force on knowledge and data

A. Responsibilities

2. The task force on knowledge and data will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 3 (a) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Advanced work on knowledge and data”, and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 1 (d) of the first work programme and by:

- (a) Supporting assessment experts in identifying, prioritizing and mobilizing existing knowledge and data needed for IPBES assessments;
- (b) Guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in the management of the data, information and knowledge used in IPBES products, including the development of the web-based infrastructure, to ensure their long-term availability and data interoperability;
- (c) Supporting the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in reviewing the knowledge needs and gaps identified through IPBES assessments and other IPBES deliverables and in catalysing the generation of new knowledge and data.

B. Membership

3. The task force will comprise up to 14 members covering the five United Nations regions, including: (a) up to 4 members of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; (b) members of expert groups for ongoing IPBES assessments and of other relevant task forces; (c) representatives of qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge, known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force; and (d) recognized individual experts on matters related to the mandate of the task force, including

¹ At its twelfth meeting, the Bureau approved a general approach to recognizing the work of organizations that support the implementation of the IPBES work programme. At regular intervals, the Bureau reviews, for endorsement, recommendations by IPBES task forces for the recognition of organizations undertaking activities that significantly support the implementation of the IPBES work programme on the IPBES web site. Organizations endorsed by the Bureau are listed on the IPBES website as “collaborative supporters”, and the Bureau reviews the list at regular intervals, supported by the relevant task forces.

experts from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities and indigenous and local knowledge experts.

4. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel will be selected according to the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables. The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

5. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of individual experts on knowledge and data management may be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

6. The task force will be co-chaired by members of the Bureau and/or the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interactions. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Bureau and the Panel and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

7. The task force will be supported by the secretariat including a dedicated technical support unit.