

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 policy tools and methodologies

A. Responsibilities

2. The task force on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 4 (a) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies”, 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 4 (c) of the first work programme and by:

- (a) Overseeing the development of content for the IPBES policy support web portal and support to the use of the portal by Governments and stakeholders and ensuring that policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies identified in IPBES assessments are featured on the portal and accessible to decision makers;
- (b) Catalysing the further development of policy instruments, support tools and good practices to fill gaps identified in IPBES assessments;
- (c) Supporting the use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies in the implementation of the work programme relevant for biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use, as well as provision of ecosystem functions and services in the conduct of the assessments, and in enabling the uptake of the findings of the assessments in decision-making.

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 of ongoing IPBES assessments and of other relevant task forces;

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.

(c) representatives of qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and scientific and policy institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge and indigenous and local knowledge experts, known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force; (d) individual experts with practical experience in policy formulation and implementation; and (e) recognized individual experts on matters related to the mandate of the task force.

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 additional experts on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies and representatives of indigenous and local organizations 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 Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and/or the Bureau. 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 Panel and the Bureau 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.