



Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Information Alert:

Strengthening Decisions by Including Nature's Diverse Values IPBES Assessment Report Scheduled to Launch on Monday, 11 July 2022

"It is essential to understand the different ways in which people value nature, as well as the different ways in which these values can be measured. The diversity of values of nature is often overlooked in policy decisions about nature. Effective policy decisions about nature must be informed by the wide range of values and valuation methods, which makes the IPBES Values Assessment a vital scientific resource for policy and action for nature and human well-being."
– Ana Maria Hernández Salgar, IPBES Chair.

- Presents nature's diverse values and different approaches to valuing nature's contributions to people
- Offers options to choose and design appropriate valuation methods and approaches
- Explores ways to address conflicts due to different perspectives on values and valuation of nature
- Prepared by 82 leading international experts from 47 countries from all regions of the world
- Draws on more than 13,000 references, 4 years in development, at a total cost of more than US\$1 million
- Will inform decisions by Governments, civil society, indigenous peoples & local communities, business etc.
- Media Launch: 11 July 2022 at 14:00 CEST/08:00 EDT/13:00 UK BST
- Social Media: @IPBES #ValuesAssessment

On Monday, 11 July 2022, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ([IPBES](#)) plans to launch **its Assessment Report on the Diverse Conceptualization of the Multiple Values of Nature and its Benefits** (known as the "Values Assessment").

The IPBES Values Assessment **responds to the need to support decision-makers in understanding and accounting for the wide range of nature's values in policy decisions** in order to **address the current biodiversity crisis** and to **achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**.

The report is **expected to be discussed and approved in the first week of July by the Plenary of IPBES, which represents almost 140 Governments** seeking to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The Assessment is deeply cross-disciplinary, based predominantly on social science, humanities and economics, and has been four years in development, at a total cost of more than US\$1 million. It has been prepared by **82 top international experts from 47 countries from all regions of the world**, led by four co-chairs: Prof. Patricia Balvanera (Institute for Ecosystem and Sustainability Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico); Dr. Brigitte Baptiste (Chancellor, Universidad Ean, Colombia); Prof. Mike Christie (Director of Research, Aberystwyth Business School, Aberystwyth University, United Kingdom); and Prof. Unai Pascual (Ikerbasque Research Professor at the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3), Spain, and Associated Senior Research Scientist at the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, Switzerland). It draws on more than 13,000 scientific references that capture the diversity of values and valuation methods, including scientific articles, governmental reports and contributions on indigenous and local knowledge.

The report will be considered at the ninth session of the IPBES Plenary (#IPBES9, 3-9 July 2022). A ‘Summary for Policymakers’ of the Report, highlighting key messages, findings and options is **scheduled for a hybrid (in-person and online) media launch at IPBES headquarters, Bonn, Germany, Monday, 11 July 2022, to be webcast live (available at www.ipbes.net) at 14:00 CEST (08:00 US EDT/13:00 UK BST – check for other times worldwide here: <https://bit.ly/35cFaZu>).**

Media accreditation for the launch will begin in May 2022. To receive the invitation to accredit, journalists and media organisations not yet on the IPBES media list should subscribe here: <http://eepurl.com/hxkQgn> (media only please).

Often described as the ‘[IPCC](#) for Biodiversity’, IPBES is the global science-policy body tasked with providing the best-available evidence to decision-makers, for people and nature.

Important aspects of the Values Assessment

Building upon [earlier IPBES assessment reports](#), especially the IPBES Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Values Assessment Report:

- Examines the diversity of worldviews about nature and the different conceptualizations of nature across cultures, disciplines, and decision-making contexts
- Focuses on the diversity of values of nature and its contributions to people
- Assesses opportunities and limitations of the many methods and approaches to valuing nature and its benefits
- Highlights ways to embed diverse values and valuation methods into policymaking, and the implications of doing so for transformative change towards sustainability and justice
- Considers how nature’s values and valuation approaches can be leveraged in policymaking and what opportunities these offer to tackle the underlying drivers of the global biodiversity crisis
- Identifies critical gaps in knowledge and data regarding values, valuation and their policy uptake

Structure of the Values Assessment

The Summary for Policymakers of the Values Assessment will be based on a set of **six chapters**, which provide the scientific basis for the key messages of the report. The chapters are:

1. Setting the stage for the relevance of nature’s values and valuation in decision-making to address the biodiversity crisis
2. Covering the multiple conceptualizations of the values of nature and its contributions to people across different social and ecological contexts around the world
3. Assessing valuation methods and approaches to make visible the diversity of values of nature to inform decision-making about nature
4. Analysing the extent to which different values of nature are considered (or not) in decision-making and implications for the wellbeing of people and nature
5. Characterizing the ways in which nature’s diverse values are considered in future scenarios and sustainability pathways
6. Identifying opportunities and challenges for embedding values and valuation in decision-making, including readily available policy support tools, key capacity-building needs and knowledge gaps

Expected impacts

The IPBES Values Assessment will:

- Provide decision-makers, including policymakers and a large diversity of stakeholders, with the best-available evidence, analysis and options about embedding nature's values in decisions about nature
- Contribute to the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and support implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework expected to be agreed in 2022
- Facilitate national assessments as well as future IPBES assessments to support policy formulation and implementation
- Provide a toolkit and roadmap to navigate the pathways to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Reviewers and audiences

To ensure the highest-possible levels of accuracy, credibility and policy-relevance, the IPBES Values Assessment has been extensively reviewed through an open and transparent process, through thousands of external review comments, from scientists and decision-makers (including Governments), practitioners and the holders of indigenous and local knowledge.

The Values Assessment has been prepared for a wide spectrum of decision-makers, including government and business leaders, civil society groups, indigenous peoples and local communities.

IPBES Podcast

To hear Prof. Patricia Balvanera, one of the four co-chairs, speak more about the scope, scale and significance of the Assessment, listen to episode 5 of Season 2 of the IPBES Podcast, *Nature Insight* – available here: <https://link.ichtbl.com/NatureInsightS02>

4-Year TIMELINE

<i>March 2018</i>	The IPBES Plenary, comprising representatives of IPBES member States, approved the ' <u>scoping report</u> ' establishing the roadmap for the assessment.
<i>July 2019</i>	External experts reviewed first draft of the assessment, with review comments addressed in the subsequent drafts by IPBES experts.
<i>January 2021</i>	Governments and experts reviewed the second draft of the assessment and first draft of the summary for policymakers. These comments have been addressed in the final draft by IPBES experts.
<i>July 2022</i>	Consideration by member States at #IPBES9 Plenary session of final text of the Summary for Policymakers in Bonn, Germany, followed by the planned media launch scheduled for 11 July 2022.

Launch venue: #IPBES9, Bonn, Germany, 3- 9 July 2022

For breaking news, the latest announcements, calls for experts and more, register today as an IPBES stakeholder: www.ipbes.net/stakeholders (non-media)

About IPBES

With almost 140 member Governments, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is the global body that assesses the state of biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, in response to requests from decision-makers, and outlines options for the future based on different socio-economic choices.

The mission of IPBES is to strengthen policy and decisions through science, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development.

The IPBES secretariat is hosted by the German Government and located on the UN campus in Bonn. Several thousand scientists worldwide contribute to the work of IPBES on a voluntary basis. They are nominated by their Governments or organisations and selected by the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.

The IPBES Pollination Assessment, released in 2016, was covered in 18 languages by over 1,300 media outlets in more than 80 countries. For the news release see: <http://bit.ly/2sq6gbQ>

The IPBES Regional Assessments and the thematic Assessment of Land degradation and Restoration, released in 2017, was covered in 37 languages by over 2,500 media outlets in more than 124 countries. For the news releases see: <http://bit.ly/2C0tnNu> and <http://bit.ly/2ylipy0>

The IPBES Global Assessment, released in 2019, was covered in more than 170 countries, in 50 languages, by more than 10,500 media outlets. For the news release see: <http://bit.ly/GlobalAssessment>

For more information contact: media@ipbes.net www.ipbes.net

Follow IPBES:

Twitter.com/@IPBES

facebook.com/IPBES

youtube.com/ipbeschannel

linkedin.com/company/ipbes

instagram.com/ipbes_