

External review of IPBES Monitoring Assessment

Monday 24th November 2025 – 1pm CET



13:00 – 13:05 – **Welcome words**

Rob J.J. Hendriks - Science-policy officer at the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food security and Nature, IPBES capacity building task force and co-lead of Biodiversa+ work package on Internationalization

13:05 – 13:15 Introduction to IPBES and IPBES assessments

Marie-Claire Danner - Science officer in European Affairs at the French Foundation for Biodiversity Research, former technical support unit for the Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment

13:15 – 13:30 Presentation of the Monitoring Assessment and where input is most needed from reviewers

Petteri Vihervaara – Research Professor at Syke, Coordinating lead author in the Monitoring Assessment and lead of Biodiversa+ work package on Monitoring

13:30 – 13:40 How to register as a reviewer and write comments that have more chance to be taken into account

Marie-Claire Danner

13:40 - 14:00 **Q&A** session





Introduction

Rob J.J. Hendriks

Science-policy officer at the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food security and Nature, IPBES capacity building task force and co-lead of Biodiversa+ work package on Internationalization

Biodiversa+

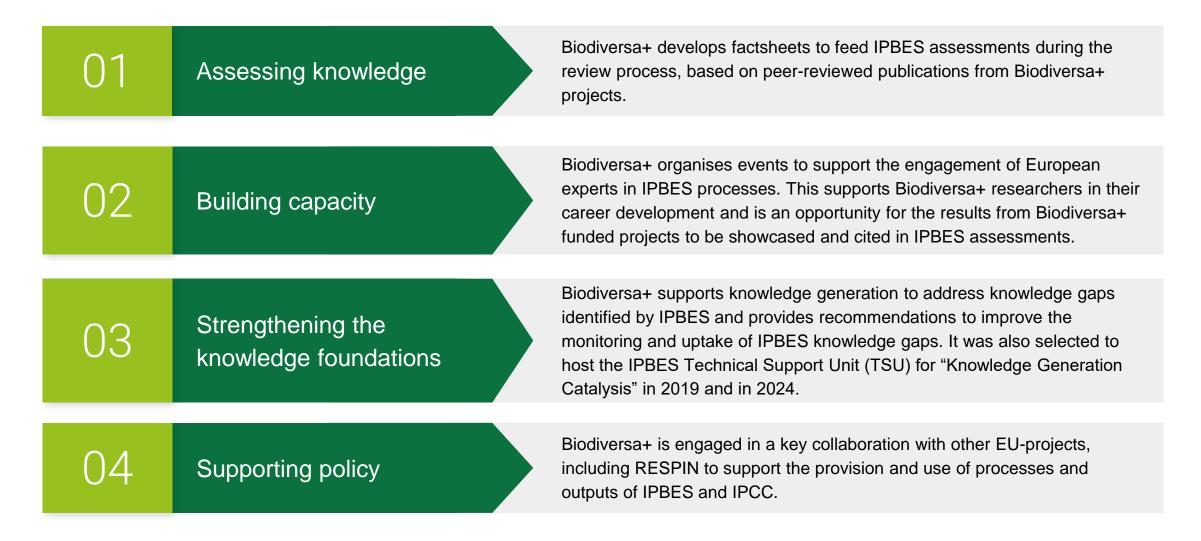
Biodiversa+, the **European Biodiversity Partnership**, is committed to the Global 2050 Vision of "Living in harmony with nature" adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the corresponding EU's vision that by 2050, biodiversity and its benefits to people will be protected, valued and restored.

It currently gathers 83 research programmers and funders and environmental policy actors from 41 European and associated countries to work on 5 main objectives:

- 1. Plan and support research and innovation on biodiversity through a shared strategy, **annual joint calls for research projects** and capacity-building activities
- 2. Set up a network of harmonised schemes to improve monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services across Europe
- 3. Contribute to high-end knowledge for deploying **Nature-based Solutions** and valuation of biodiversity in the private sector
- 4. Ensure efficient science-based support for policy-making and implementation in Europe
- 5. Strengthen the relevance and impact of pan-European research on biodiversity in a global context.



Biodiversa+ and IPBES







Introduction to IPBES and IPBES assessments

Marie-Claire Danner

Science officer in European Affairs at the French Foundation for Biodiversity Research, former technical support unit for the Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment



Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

- Established in 2012 by 94 governments and hosted by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
- 152 governments as members and + 600 organisations as observers (CITES, TRAFFIC, IPCC, Universities, Environmental associations, Environmental centers, etc.)

Main goal: To strengthen knowledge foundations for better policy through science, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development





Assess the state of knowledge on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people in support of sustainable development



Build capacities of individuals and institutions



Promote the generation of knowledge and management of data on biodiversity as a foundation for the work of IPBES



Identify and promote the development and use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies



Strengthen the involvement of members and stakeholders, and increase the visibility of IPBES and the use of IPBES products



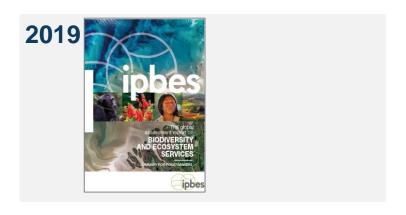
13 completed IPBES assessments

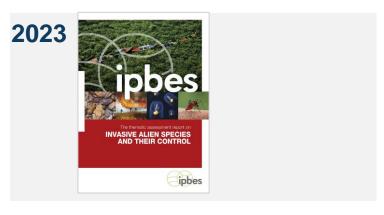
The assessment report on POLLINATION AND FOOD PRODUCTION AND FOOD PRODUCTION AND FOOD PROJECTION AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

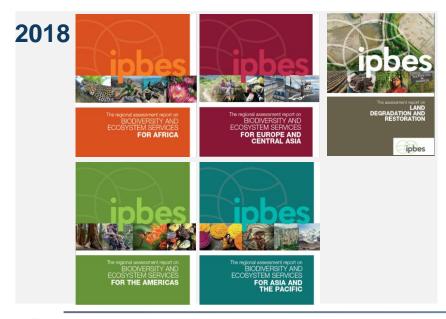
IPDES

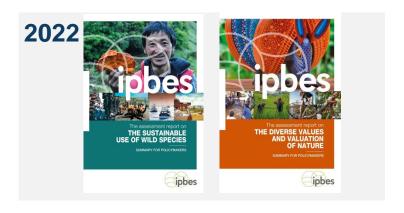
The assessment report on POLLINATION AND FOOD PROJECTION AND MODELS OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

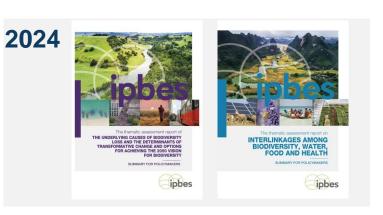
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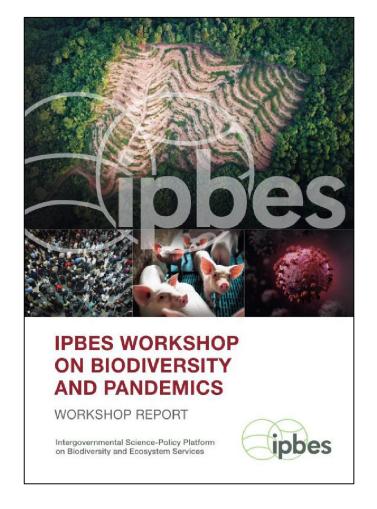


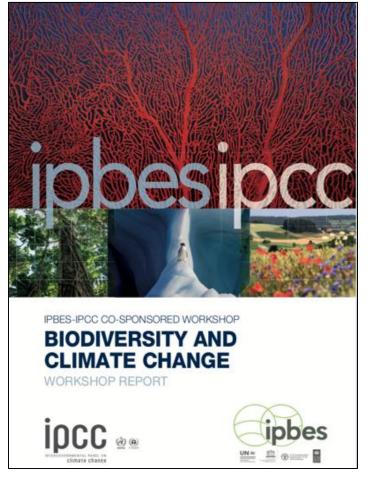






And two workshop reports







What is an IPBES assessment report?

5/6 chapters and a glossary

Summary for policymakers (SPM)

Around 50 to 150 experts with different expertise from all countries

Between 3 and 4 years

External reviews open to all

Approval by IPBES member states

IPBES does not produce new knowledge; it synthesizes existing knowledge and produces recommendations.

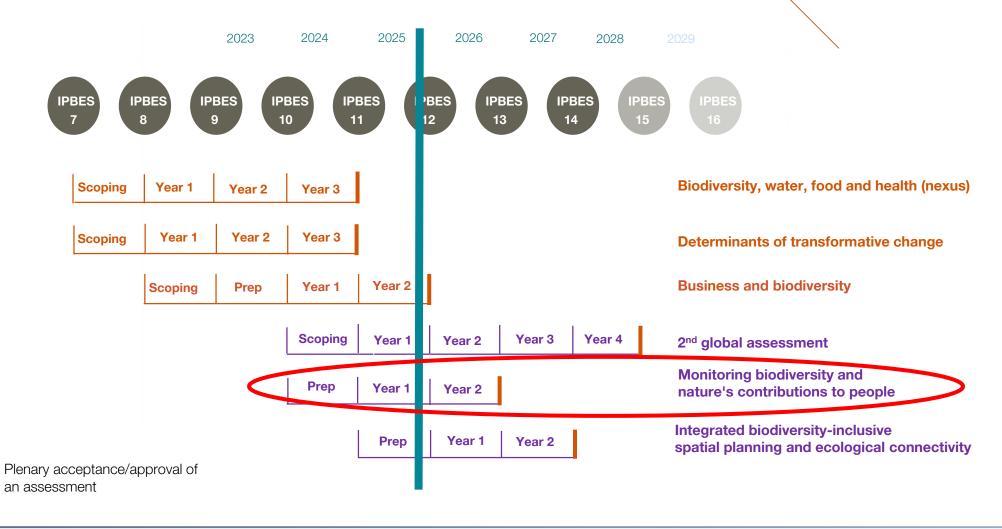
The **chapters** are written by the authors of the assessment and contain a summary of existing, well-established and widely shared knowledge, but also more uncertain knowledge, and knowledge gaps.

The SPM is a document, negotiated by countries during IPBES plenary sessions, which summarizes the key messages from the chapters of the assessment. The elements of the summary for policymakers are therefore taken from the elements present in the chapters.



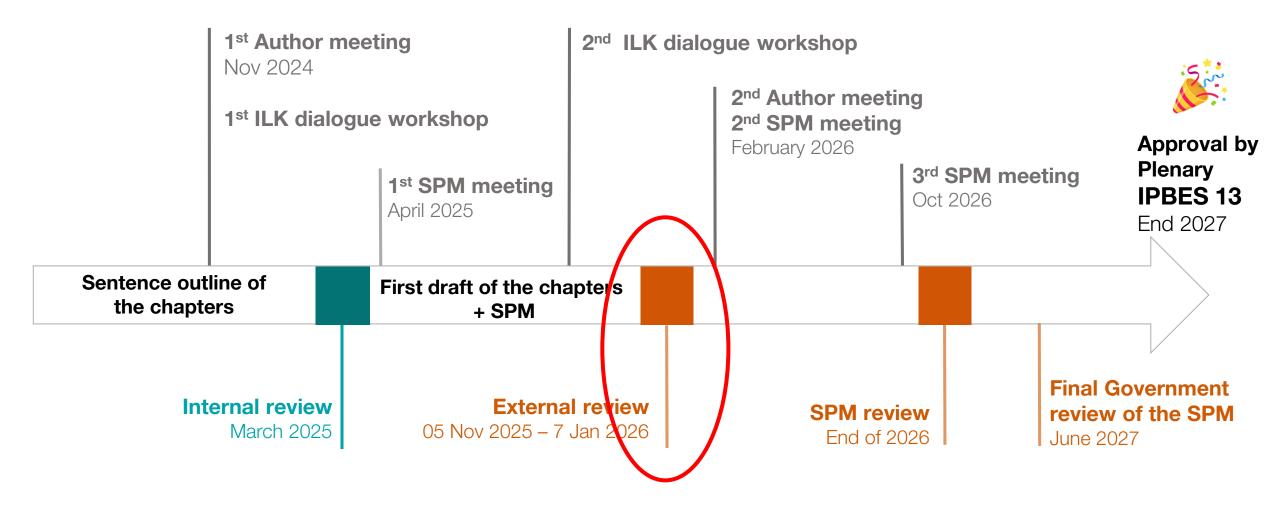
Production of Initial Initiation of scoping detailed scoping **IPBES** (optional) Prioritization of requests Selection of assessments experts for detailed Requests for assessment topics Authors write Request Detailed together the chapters BEGIN scoping and scope and the SPM The Plenary approves the Establishment scoping report Annotated outline of a management and zero-order committee and draft chapters, 1" Nomination technical support assessme author meeting and selections of experts Internal peer-review of Approval and acceptance of the draft chapters Plenary final assessment report approves the SPM line by line 1st order draft chapters evaluation Plenary External expert Submission of accepts the se of peer review comments to he final final drafts assessment Iterative findings development Final f chapters and drafts PM drafts, 2nd Communication Review of validation athor meeting strategy Development drafts by development Support of final governments the use of draft chapters Launch of and relevant assessment and SPM, 3rd the full stakeholders findings biodive assessment author meeting www.biodiversa.org

Indicative assessment timeline up to 2030





Revised timeline





What is a reviewer?



Expert reviewers participate in the review process by evaluating chapters and/or SPM drafts for scientific accuracy, balance, and completeness.

You may review individual sections, full chapters, or entire drafts during formal review periods.

Anyone with relevant expertise can register.

All reviewers are acknowledged publicly with their names, affiliations and country in an annex to the published reports. All comments and their responses are made available after publication.

Why should you review an IPBES assessment?



Ensuring scientific rigour and balance - The task is to critique and improve the draft's accuracy, comprehensiveness, and objectivity. This helps guarantee that the final assessment is scientifically robust, unbiased, and credible.



Increasing transparency and trust - Opening drafts to expert and governmental reviews enhances transparency.



Capturing diverse perspectives and knowledge - Broad participation in the review process, including scientists, practitioners, policymakers, and representatives of Indigenous peoples and local communities, helps ensure that a diversity of perspectives and relevant literature is considered.



Identifying and closing knowledge gaps - Reviewers can highlight areas where important evidence or viewpoints may be missing, as well as point out inconsistencies or uncertainties that require clarification. They can also indicate imbalances and bias in the presentation of knowledge that the authors might not be aware of.





Presentation of the Monitoring Assessment and where input is most needed from reviewers

Petteri Vihervaara

Research Professor at Syke, Coordinating lead author in the Monitoring Assessment and lead of Biodiversa+ work package on Monitoring



IPBES Monitoring Assessment (MTA) - ongoing

Petteri Vihervaara, Syke Research Professor (*Biodiversity monitoring for sustainability*) IPBES MTA, CLA, Chapter 3



IPBES Monitoring assessment

Scope and rationale

The objective of the methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people is **to support national and global efforts to**

- (a) monitor biodiversity, nature's contributions to people and the direct and underlying causes of the observed changes; and
- (b) monitor progress towards the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in support of a balanced and enhanced implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity



IPBES MTA – background

- Increasing awareness on the lack of data (on the state of biodiversity & NCPs) to report, for instance, CBD
- GEO BON, GBIF, OBIS etc. have suggested a need for GBiOS Global Biodiversity Observing System





Main driving policy-need for IPBES MTA: Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

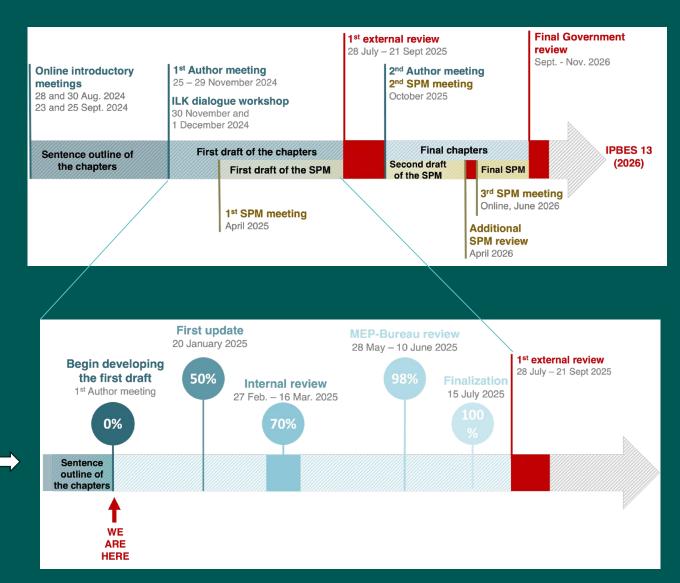




IPBES Monitoring assessment

- Fast track (2 years)
 - Kick-off & 1st authors meeting Nov 2024, Montreal, Canada
 - SPM April 2025, Hongkong
 - External revision of draft chapters and draft SPM, Nov 2025 – Jan 2026
 - 2nd authors meeting Feb 2026, Frascati, Italy, update chapters
 - Final revision by governments and stakeholders, early 2027
 - Acceptance in the IPBES 13th Plenary late 2027

Extremely agressive timeline! (preliminary)



https://www.ipbes.net/monitoring-assessment

Revised timeline

Online introductory CLA meeting 28 and 30 August 2024 **Annotaated** outline of chapters

All experts online introductory meeting 23 and 25 September 2024

1st Author meeting 25 – 29 November 2024 1st ILK dialogue workshop 30 November and 1 December 2024

SPM meeting
April 2025

2nd ILK dialogue workshop 18 – 22 August 2025

Draft submission

18 September 2025 2nd Author meeting 2nd SPM meeting

February 2026

3rd SPM meeting October 2026

Approval by Plenary

Sentence outline of the chapters

First draft of the chapters + SPM

WE ARE HERE 1st external review (6 October -28 November 2025

Additional review of the SPM 3rd quarter - 2026

IPBES 13

(3rd quarter 2027)

Government review of the SPM

June 2027

Internal review

(28 Feb – 16 March 2025)

Chapters & Roles

- 4 chapters (negotiated by the Plenary):
 - Chapter 1: Setting the scene (i.e., concepts & history)
 - Chapter 2: Assessing the data needs (i.e., global, regional, national, local/IP/LC)
 - Chapter 3: Assessing the challenges in biodiversity monitoring to meet needs (i.e., what data do we
 have, gaps, challenges, and what systems do we have to deliver data to users)
 - Chapter 4: Options for strengthening the capacity to monitor biodiversity worldwide (i.e., way forward)
- MTA's 3 co-chairs (with areas of responsibility: general/terrestrial, marine, ILK)
- Each chapter has 3 coordinating lead authors (CLA)
- Each chapter has 11-15 lead authors (LA) + 2 review editors + 2 fellows
- Option to invite contributing authors to fill thematic gaps (no authorship, just acknowledgements)
 - Approximately 20 % of working time is expected to be used as a CLA, and 10-15 % as a LA



Where to pay attention during the revision

- Mirror with the scoping document
- Overlaps between chapters
- Missing data or monitoring systems
- Missing literature
- Glossary
- Information going for Annexes
- Figures and tables are in progress
- SPM will evolve after the revision

"No new data collection or analysis is possible in the assessment; everything needs to be based on already published evidence."

"Role of AI was expected to be more promising as it was in the end."

"Geographical gaps occur, such as Africa, Central Asia."

"Global and regional scale schemes are pretty well covered, but access to local/national scale data and systems has been tricky."



Thanks!



1st author meeting in Montreal Nov 2024



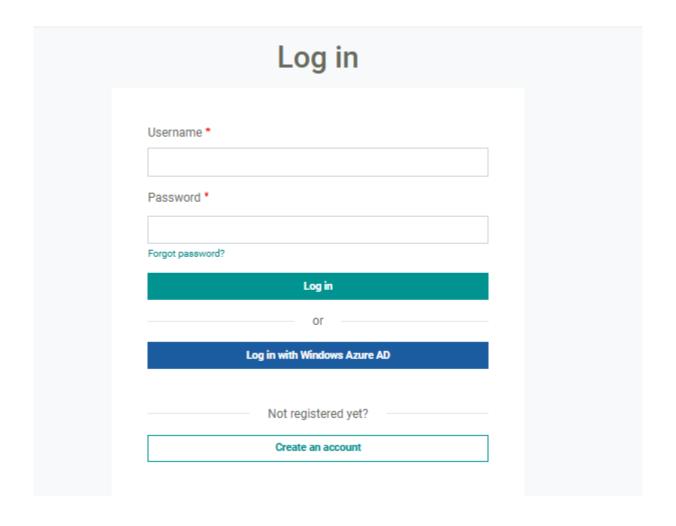


How to register as a reviewer and write comments that have more chance to be taken into account

Marie-Claire Danner

Science officer in European Affairs at the French Foundation for Biodiversity Research, former technical support unit for the Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment

How to register as a reviewer

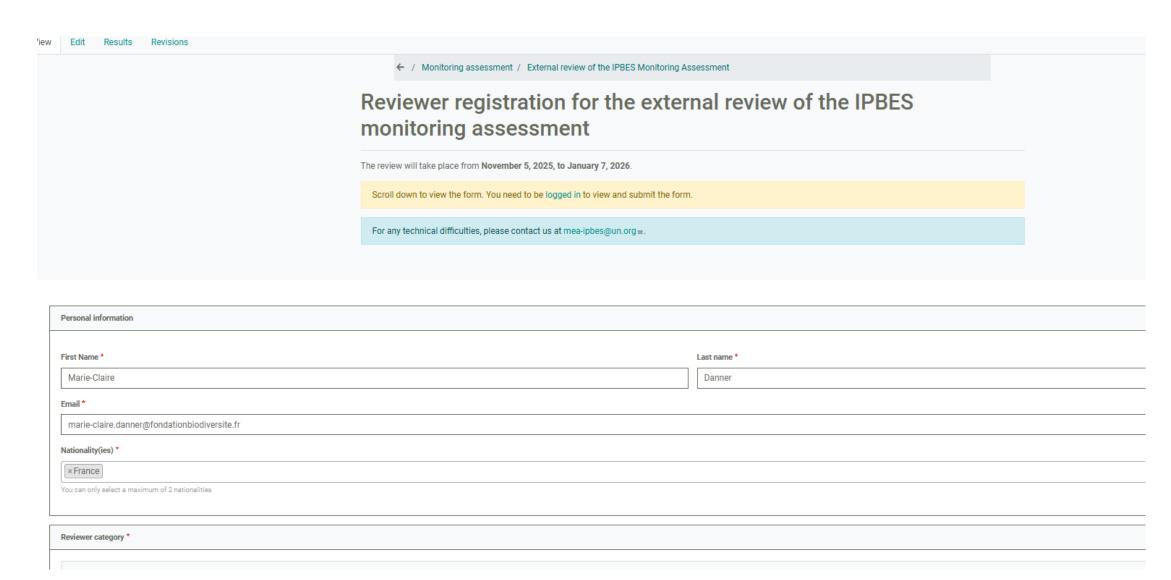


Step 1

Create an account on IPBES website if you do not have one already.

You can only register to become a reviewer if you are **LOGGED IN**.

Go to the review page https://www.ipbes.net/monitoring-assessment/external-review/registration - (you can only see it if you are logged in) and fill the registration form



Access all documents. They are **CONFIDENTIALS** and should not be shared with any third parties.

Download the documents and the spreadsheet to leave comments.



External review of the IPBES Monitoring Assessment

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for your registration and willingness to review the summary for policymakers (SPM) and the chapters of the IPBES methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (monitoring assessment).

Guidelines for the additional review

Review comments should be provided in English and focus on key substantive issues. Comments should be provided in a constructive fashion, with, if possible, a suggestion for improvements. If providing suggestions for text revisions, please provide full citations for relevant literature. Please also provide full citations if suggesting additional references. Text style, grammar and spelling will be corrected for the final version of the assessment and do not need comments at this stage of review. Formatting will also be corrected and harmonised a for the final version. Graphics editors will be used to format the final versions of tables and figures.

Instructions and guidelines for the additional review

It is mandatory to use the **review comments template** worksheet ("1. Comments" tab) in the Excel file provided below to submit comments. Please see the second worksheet ("2. Examples" tab) in the Excel file for examples of how to input comments. Please do not modify any worksheet structure, formatting, formulas, or locked content. Review comments will not be accepted unless properly entered in the Excel sheet provided. The additional review will take place from **November 5, 2025, to January 7, 2026**. All worksheets must be submitted by uploading using the 'Add Review' button on this page.

Please note that the draft documents are confidential. One of the conditions of being a reviewer, to which you agreed upon registration, is that the drafts cannot be cited, quoted or circulated. Please note the drafts are for your use only. If you have colleagues or know of others who would like to review the draft documents, please encourage them to register on the website but do not forward your draft document file(s) to them. Furthermore, as these are confidential drafts we ask you to please refrain from uploading the files into Artificial Intelligence/Natural Language Processing tools.

Important note: You must be registered as a reviewer and logged in to view the draft documents at the bottom of this page. Register here if you haven't already completed your registration.

If you have any questions, please contact the monitoring assessment technical support unit at monitoring-assessment@ipbes-tsu.org E.

We thank you again for your continued support of IPBES.

Add Review

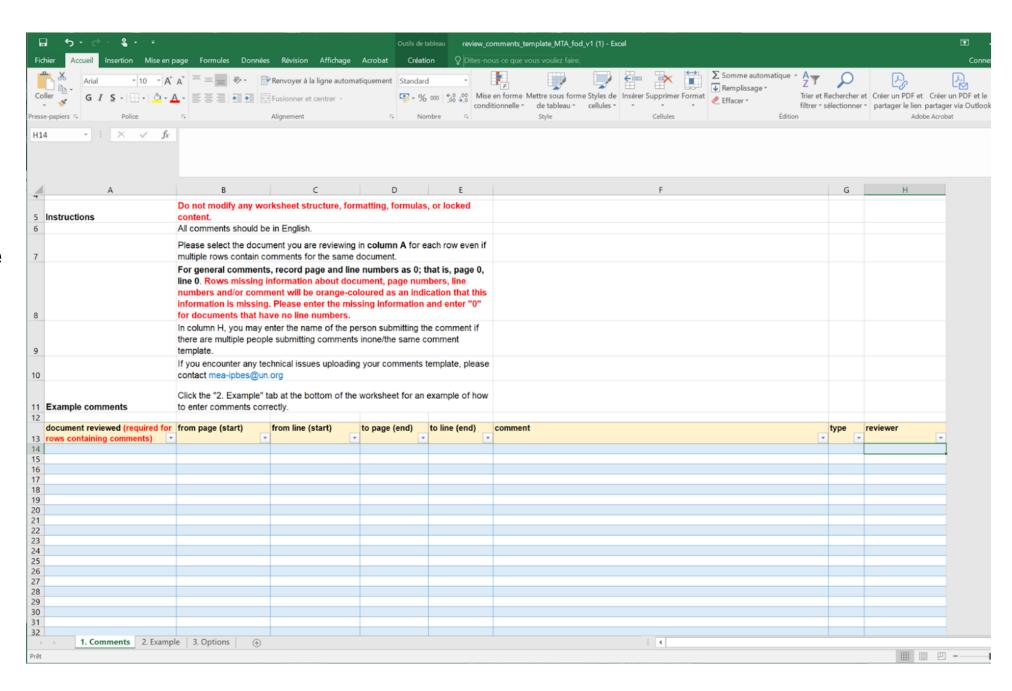
Title	Document	Deliverable	
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MTA: First draft of Chapter 2	MTA_FOD_CH2.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: First draft of Chapter 3	MTA_FOD_CH3.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit

Review the documents relevant to your expertise using the excel table provided.

Do not modify the structure of the table.

TIP: use 2 screens

– one with the
chapter/SPM and
one with the excel
table



Submit the excel table



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Add Review

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MTA: First draft of Chapter 3	MTA_FOD_CH3.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit

Deliverable Page*

External review of the IPBES Monitoring Assessment - 85782

Add a new file *

Choisir un fichier Aucun fichier choisi

Upload review comments spreadsheet. Make sure you are using the correct template in .xlsx format or your comments won't be processed. One file only.

2 MB limit.
Allowed types: xlsx.

Reviewer Name*

Enter your full name as [Salutation] [First name] [Family name] e.g. Dr. Mary Poppins

Reviewer Category*

- Select a value - ∨

Please select "Government" if you are submitting comments on behalf of a Government or "Individual" if you are not a national focal point or a person acting on behalf of a national focal point

Note to secretariat

Some notes to the secretariat

You can add a brief note to provide some background about your submission e.g. info about additional reviewers

Suggested steps for effectively review the assessment

- 1. Read the <u>scoping report</u> to have in mind the request, the mandate given to the authors, the structure, and the elements that are included in the assessment and those that are not so you don't make any comment requesting inputs outside of the scoping.
- 1. Check the chapter descriptions in the scoping report to identify the section that corresponds to your area of expertise.
- 1. If you review the SPM, read the background section BEFORE the key messages so you don't make comments about something mentioned later.



How to write a « good » comment



- Comments must be provided in English, using the Excel comments sheet provided by the review system
- Review comments need to be submitted before the deadline
- There is no lower or upper limit to the amount of review comments
- Review comments should focus on substantive issues no need for "you spelt this word wrong there"
- If several comments are identical on two separate parts of the document: rewrite the entire comment, do not say "see previous comment"
- Avoid the first person and use polite sentences

How to write a « good » comment

Comments may:



- criticize or praise the content of the assessment (don't hesitate to also say what you like!)
- examine consistency and relevance
- verify the completeness of the assessment results and request the addition of academic or gray references - and provide the references!
- introduce you as a contributing author
- identify areas requiring clarification or request a nuance or rewording



Example: criticism (positive or negative) or request for addition, rewording, deletion, modification, addition with argument/justification + possible new text proposal + priority level of the comment + reference when relevant

The concept of "global pandemics" used in the sentence is too narrow and focuses immediately on human health. In order to also reflect other human and non-human health threats, such as non-communicable disease, we suggest to replace "global pandemics" by "health threats". **Medium** priority.

We believe that an important message regarding agriculture, contained in background message A3, is missing in this key message. To ensure consistency with the background message and equal coverage of all nexus elements, we suggest adding "intensification of agriculture has been unsustainable as it has causes biodiversity loss, increased water use, lowered food diversity, pollution and greenhouse gases emissions." after "pandemic." High priority.

Figures SPM2B and figure SPM3 have identical colours but their meaning differs. This could be confusing for readers. To increase clarity, we suggest to change the colours of SPM3. Medium priority.



All comments and their responses are made available on IPBES website after publication of the assessment

	Comments received during the external review of the Second Order Draft (SOD) chapters and for the First Order Draft Summary for Policy Makers (SPM) of the IPBES assessment of the sustainable use of wild species. The review period was from 15th April to 27th June 2021.							
			From Page (start)	From Line (start)	To Page (end)	To Line (end)	Comments / Feedback	Response
1	Burgess, Neil (UNEP-WCMC)	6	0	0	0	o	of that is better elsewhere unless it is linked 100% to how policy options change outcomes. I do also wonder if (for fisheries) some viersion of the core figures in the following paper could be used to make general points about benefits of co-management of fisheries and how differnt options deliver (or not) https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Leadership%2C-social-capital-and-incentives-promote-Guti%C3%A9rrez- Uilborn/T3c70d47058e8och68abacd652a27ede0650c642. General comment: The chapter provides policy-relevant options, which have substantially formed the SPM. Well-done!	Thank you for your comment. The positive feedback is greatly appreciated by the chapter authors. We have reviewed the content to more closely link to intended or realised outcomes. We have cited the mentioned paper, however do not feel it is representative of the field of co-management as this paper was controversial when it came out so we would prefer to recognise but not privilegate these messages. Thank you for your comment. The positive feedback is greatly appreciated by the chapter authors.
3	Germany	6	0	0	0	0	General comment: At numerous occasions, policy-prescriptive language has been used in ch 6. This is quite disturbing because besides the SPM policy-makers will be particularly inclined to read this chapter. Please rephrase sentences such as "People and human rights should be" (p. 1, L11).	Thank you for your comment. According to your comments, we reviewed and rephrased many sentences to avoid policy-prescriptive language in our chapter.
4	Germany	6	0	0	0	0	General comment: We realized that there are numerous editorial issues and we expect these to be addressed before the next version is available. We have highlighted some aspects below.	Thank you for your comment. The feedback is greatly appreciated by the chapter authors.
5	Germany	6	0	0	0	0	Executive summary: The executive summary is remarkably long (8 pages), and is spiked with policy-prescriptive language. It is a bit disturbing that strongly phrased sentences (more below) are partly communicated without indications on the "degree of confidence".	Thank you for your comment. According to your comments, we reduced sentences and added "degree of confidence" at the the excutive summary.
6	Jones, Victoria	6	0	0	o		The importance of upholding the rights of indigenous people and local communities in relation to sustainable use is mentioned a lot, perhaps with disenfranchised communities with low socioeconomic status and poorly upheld rights in mind. I think this chapter could benefit from more reflection of the broad spectrum of users involved in use whether it be sustainable or not, including very well resourced and politically well connected groups of relatively wealthy hunters in large parts of the world, wealthy Middle Eastern individuals securing falcons from the wild etc. These different groups have very different needs, motivations and power. There should also be different expectations upon these groups in relation to my above point in terms of the degree to which they can be expected to record take, contribute to monitoring and fill knowledge gaps	Many thanks for your comment. The focus on IPLC in IPBES is in a effort to recognise that IPLC have have different ways of perceiving the world than the majority society in their country are are often left out of assessments. The focus on this group of actors is therefore to address the imbalance, rather than to cover all actor groups. However, we take your point and will where refevant highlight the influence and therefore responsibility of powerful/dominant actors.
7	Kumagai, Joy (IPBES TSU on data	6	0	0	0	0	GENERAL. Please provide the license of the figure (should be CC-0 or CC-BY) and produce a data deposit package for each figure. This comment applies to all figures produced by authors of the assessment	Thank you for your comment. All figures were provided a license in the final draft.
8	Kumagai, Joy (IPBES TSU on	6	0	0	0	0	General: Please add the literature reviews into a data management report specifying how and when these literature reviews were preformed.	Thank you for your comment. The literature review is now in a data mangement report available at https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4663236
9	Malsch, Kelly	6	0	0			In general, this chapter has quite a lot of content, but I found it a bit hard to follow, with some jumping around. I was expecting more content around how to actually ensure that use is sustainable — to more content around the different policy approaches (e.g. Maximum sustainable yield in fisheries, etc.) — in general, the fisheries and timber "world" — as these are commercially important stocks tend to get more attention and seem to have more sophistocated approachs to "sustainability" — but what policy approaches could be applied to wider sustainable use of species — what lessons could be learned from these sectors — and what should be pursued to be able to effectively monitor/manage species use in a way that does not harm populations in the wild? I felt these aspects — which will ultimately be needed as the world's governments move towards establishing targets/indicators for the Post-2020 Global Framework, were a bit light — or at least hard to find / not very prominent in this chapter.	

Add Review

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MTA: First draft of Chapter 4	MTA_FOD_CH4.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: First draft of the Glossary	MTA_FOD_Glossary.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: First draft of the SPM	MTA_FOD_SPM.pdf	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: Online dialogue meeting with stakeholders	Registration link	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: Online dialogue meetings with national rocal points	Registration link	Monitoring assessment	edit
MTA: Review comments template	review_comments_template_MTA_fod_v1.xlsx	Monitoring assessment	edit

10 December 2025 12.00 to 2.00 p.m. CET



Questions?





Thank you for attending!

If you have any questions, please contact marie-claire.danner@fondationbiodiversite.fr



www.biodiversa.org



contact@biodiversa.org

