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European Biodiversity Partnership

External review of IPBES Second Global Assessment

Thursday 2nd July 2026 – 1pm CEST

13:00 – 13:05 – **Welcome words**

Rainer Schliep - Senior Consultant at the German project management agency VDI/VDE-IT, co-lead of Biodiversa+ Workpackage 5 on Internationalisation

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

Marie-Claire Danner - Science officer in European Affairs at FRB, Biodiversa+ task leader on the collaboration with IPBES, former TSU for the IPBES Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment

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

Emma Archer – Professor at the University of Pretoria, Coordinating Lead Author in Chapter 3 of the second global assessment

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**

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Introduction

Rainer Schliep
Co-lead of Biodiversa+ Workpackage 5 on Internationalisation

What is Biodiversa+?

- Part of the European Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030.
- Main aim: connect science, policy, and practice for transformative change.

Currently 81 partners from 40 countries working 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

A successful worldwide collaboration

In line with its objective to **reinforce the science-policy interface on biodiversity** – including at the global level –, Biodiversa+ engages with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

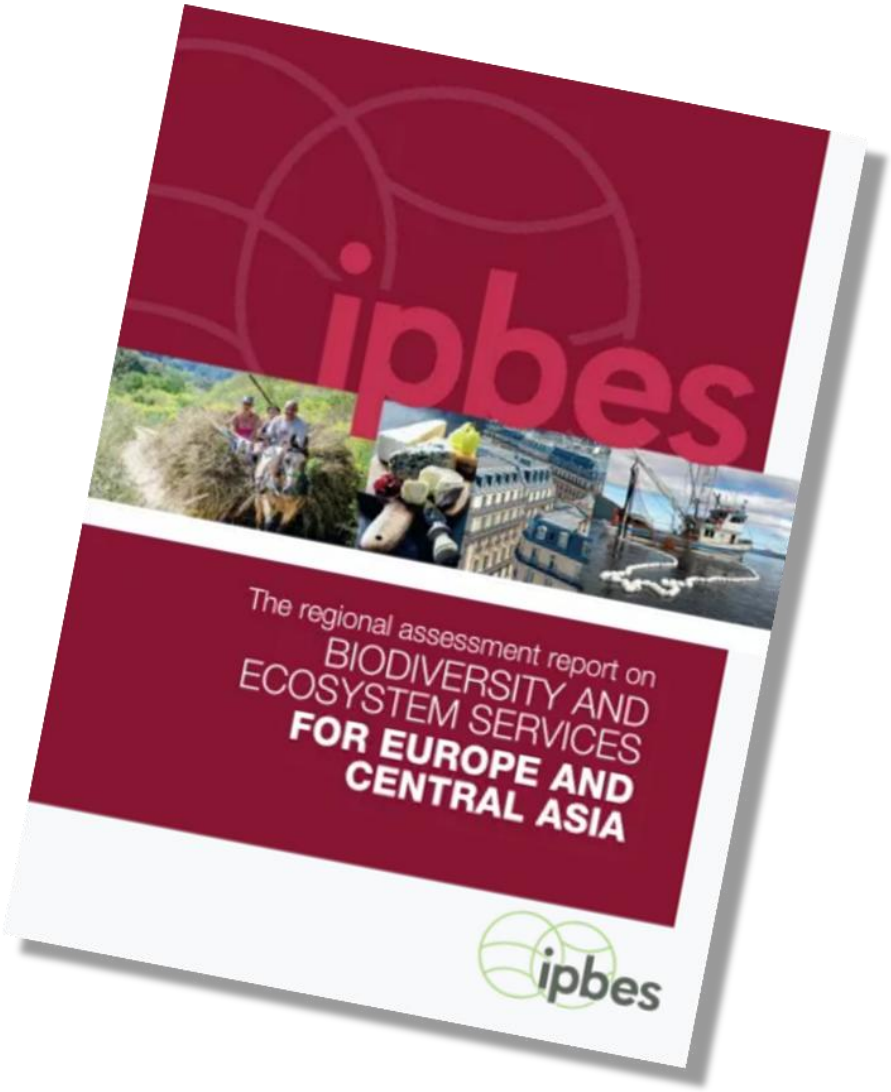
Biodiversa+ has been contributing to the **four main functions of IPBES** since its start in 2012.

In practical terms, the collaboration between Biodiversa+ and IPBES translates into the following activities:

1. **Assessing knowledge**
2. **Building capacity**
3. **Strengthening the knowledge foundations**
4. **Supporting policy**

Biodiversa+ findings feed into IPBES

- Biodiversa+ projects directly feed into IPBES assessments.
- Biodiversa+ research findings ensure that IPBES assessments are informed by the latest and most comprehensive scientific evidence available.
- Example: The thematic fact sheets developed by Biodiversa+ on the basis of research results from projects made important contributions to the Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Europe and Central Asia.



IPBES findings feed into Biodiversa+

- Biodiversa+ supports knowledge generation to close knowledge gaps identified by IPBES.
- Example 1: launch of BiodivScen Call addressing the knowledge gaps identified in the IPBES Methodological Assessment on Scenarios and Models (2016).
- Example 2: strong coordination between the IPBES Transformative Change Assessment (adopted in 2024) and the Biodiversa+ BiodivTransform Call (launched in 2024)

Why get involved?

- Exchange of best practices and innovative methodologies
- Contribution to and shaping of global policies
- Networking opportunities and partnerships.

Source: pixabay / angelac72

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Introduction to IPBES and IPBES assessments

Marie-Claire Danner

Science officer in European Affairs at FRB, Biodiversa+ task leader on the collaboration with IPBES, former TSU for the IPBES 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)
- 153 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

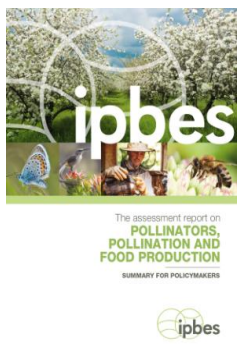
Promote the generation of **knowledge and management of data** on biodiversity as a foundation for the work of IPBES

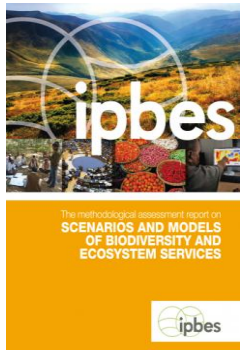
Identify and promote the **development and use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies**

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

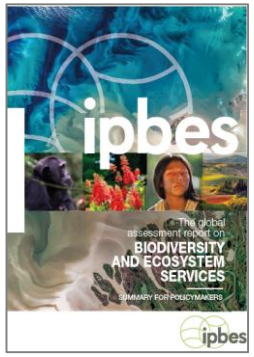
14 completed IPBES assessments

2016

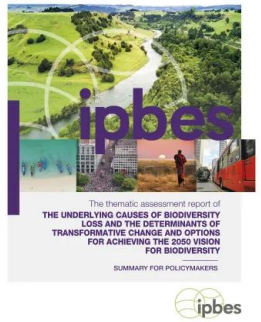


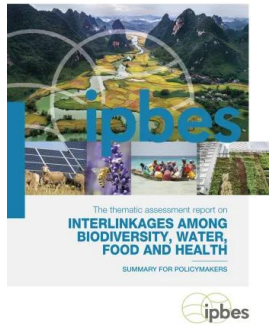


2019

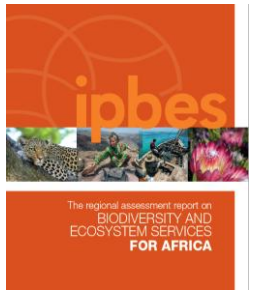


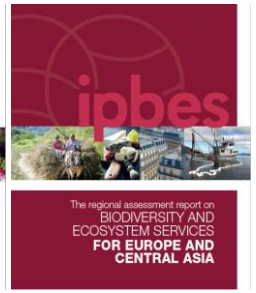
2024

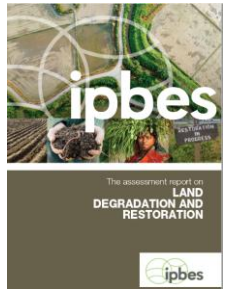


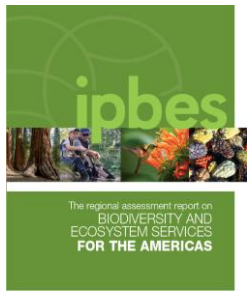


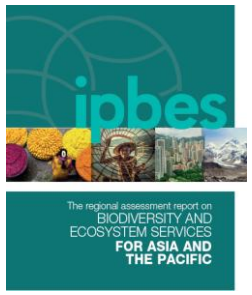
2018



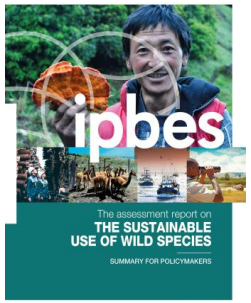


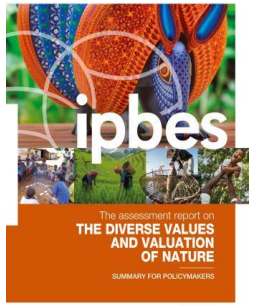




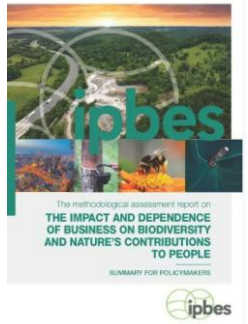


2022

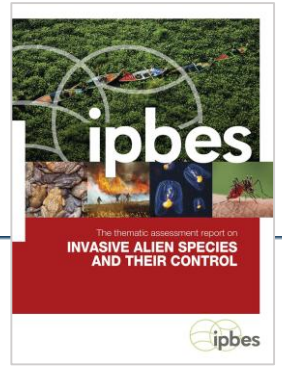




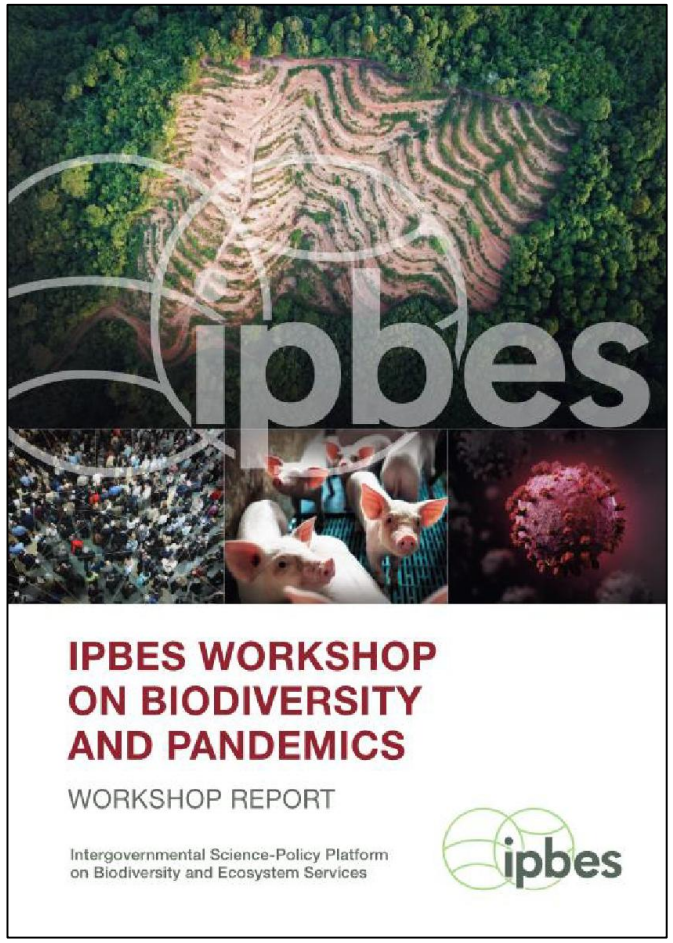
2025

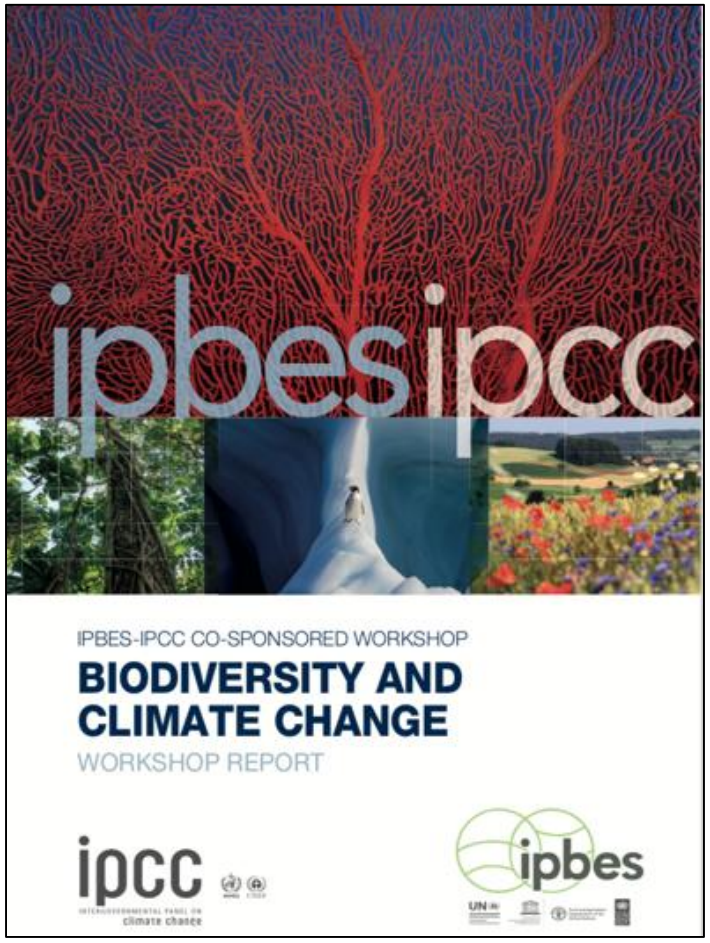


2023



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

3 to 4 years / 2 to 3 years for fast track

External reviews open to all

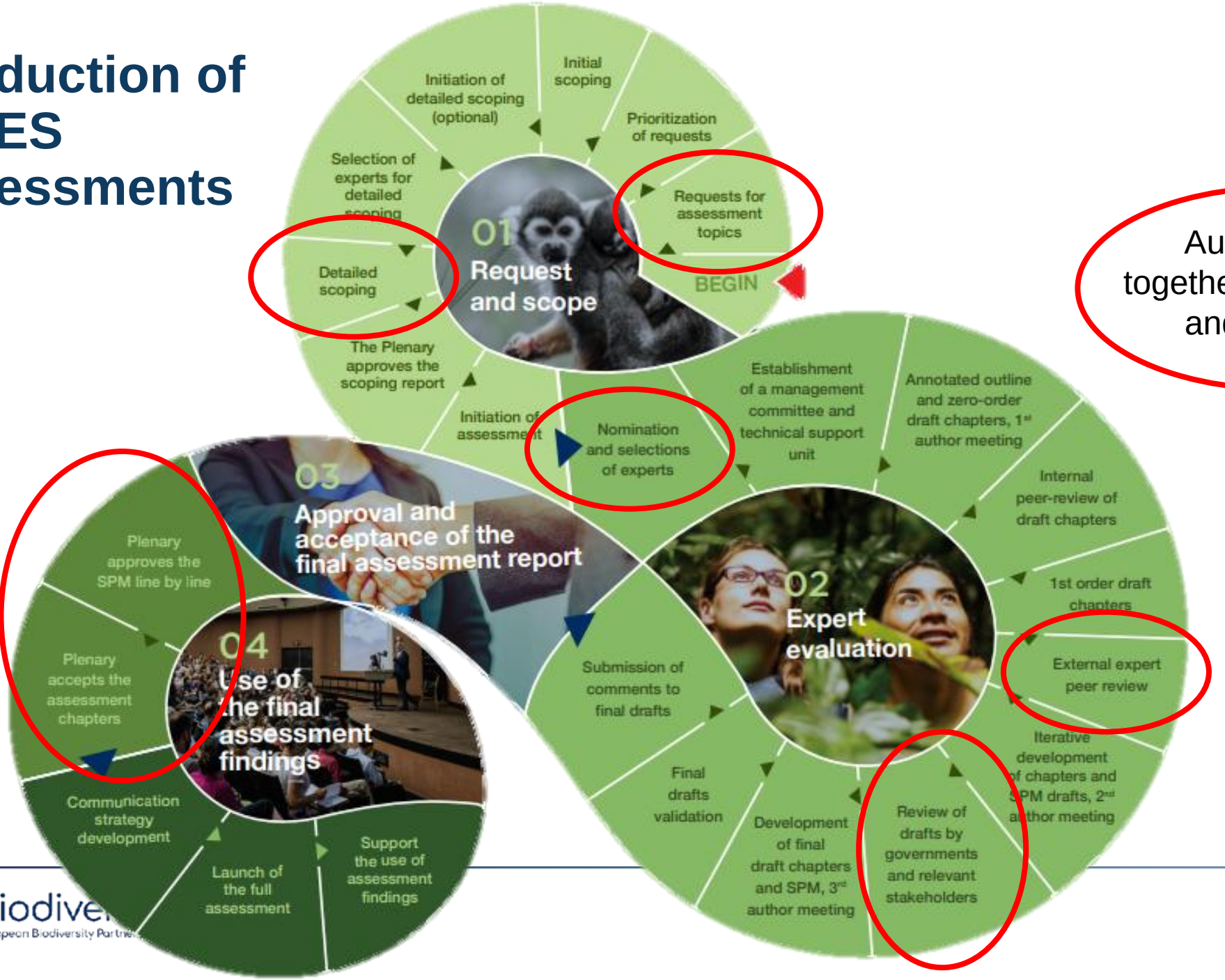
Approval by IPBES member states

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

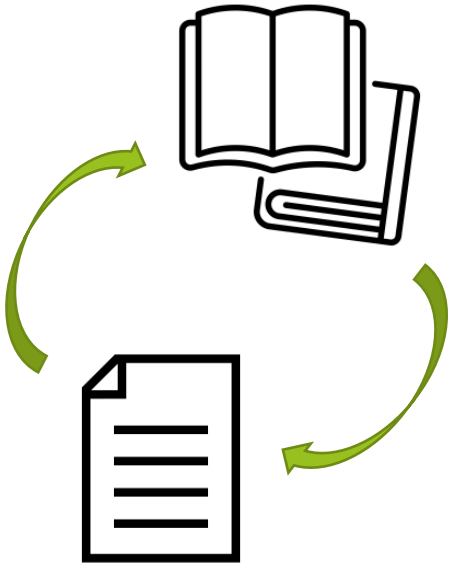
The **chapters** are written by the authors of the assessment and contain a summary of existing, well-established and widely shared knowledge, but also more uncertain knowledge, and knowledge gaps.

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.

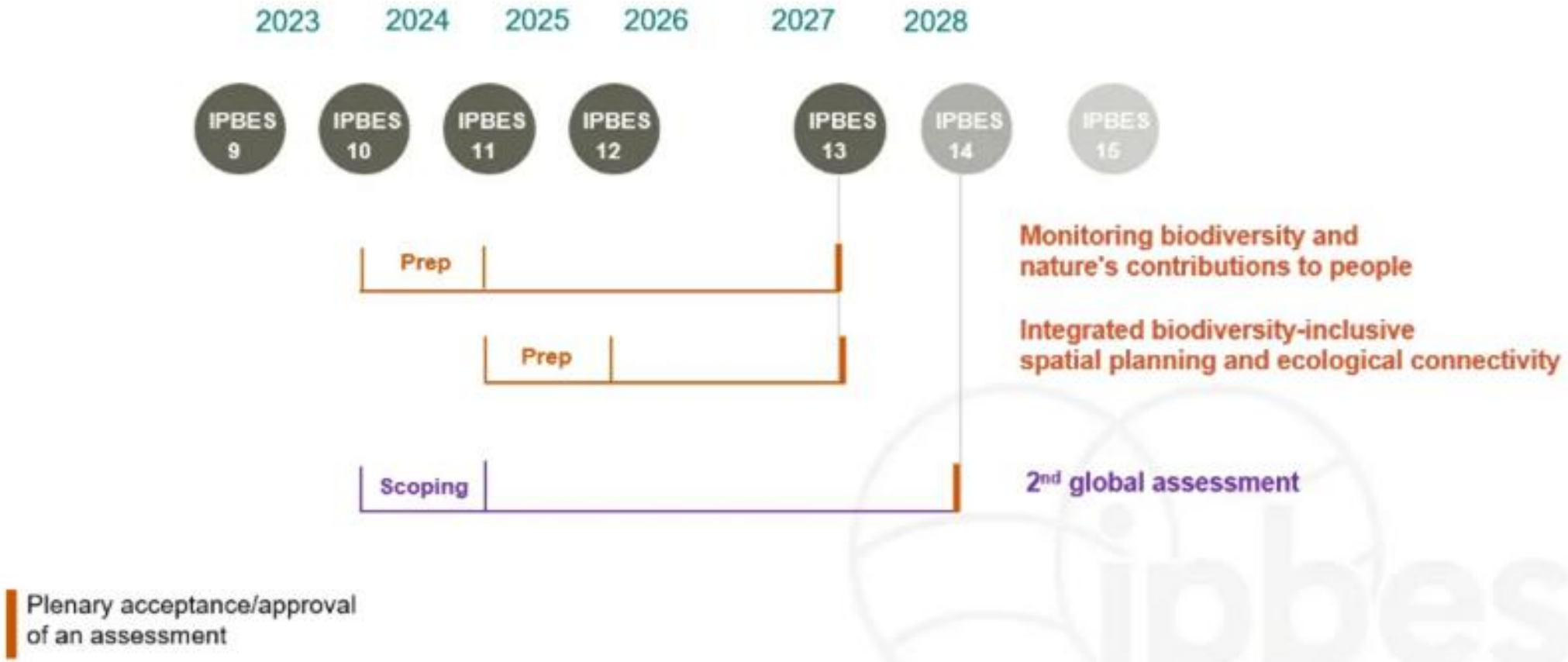
Production of IPBES assessments



Authors write together the chapters and the SPM



Indicative assessment timeline up to 2030



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. During the review period, access to the drafts is provided after registration on condition that the drafts are not cited, quoted or distributed.

The drafts are not made public before the final document is approved because they are works in progress – they will necessarily change as review comments are addressed and the latest literature is assessed.

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? 1/2

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.

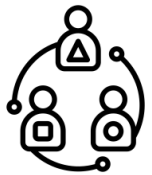
Increasing transparency and trust

Opening drafts to expert and governmental reviews enhances transparency.

Increase the impact of your expertise and research

You can make sure that your area of expertise is well-covered in the assessment and, if relevant, ask the authors to cite your research (academic or grey literature).

Why should you review an IPBES assessment? 2/2



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 are 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. You can also indicate imbalances and bias in the presentation of knowledge that the authors might not be aware of.

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

Emma Archer
Professor at the University of Pretoria,
Coordinating Lead Author in Chapter 3 of the second global assessment

Second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

First external review period
15 June – 7 August 2026

UN environment programme

unesco

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

UNDP

Assessment background and general description

Background

In decision IPBES-11/1, the Plenary approved the undertaking of a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (second global assessment), to be considered at IPBES 14.

The objective of the assessment is to assess relevant knowledge that has become available since the publication of the IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) and assess progress towards achieving the goals of sustainability and living in harmony with nature. The second global assessment will strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people on a range of spatial scales, from the local to the global, by providing the knowledge and the policy support tools needed for informed decision-making.

Assessment team for the first order draft

Expert group

- 3 co-chairs
- 20 coordinating lead authors
- 64 lead authors
- 12 review editors
- 12 fellows

Management committee

- Erik Grigoryan
- Sebastian König
- David Obura
- Maria Gasalla
- Sebataolo Rahlao
- Josef Settele

Zhi Lu

Co-chair

Nick Oguge

Co-chair

Becky Chaplin- Kramer

Co-chair

Technical support unit

Hosted by the IPBES secretariat in Bonn, Germany

A. Scope and rationale

Overall objective: to assess relevant knowledge which has become available since the first Global Assessment and to assess progress towards achieving the societal goals of sustainability and living in harmony with nature.

Specific objectives:

a) Multilateral environmental agreements and the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

b) Global targets for 2030 and the global goals for 2050 of the KMGBF

c) Additional efforts needed to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity

- Build on prior assessments and review new evidence
- Reflect on challenges and highlight positive examples
- Address critical gaps (Global Assessment) - oceans; neglected components of biodiversity; multiple worldviews; relevant social issues and groups
- Assess different challenges, lessons learned and potential solutions
- Synthesize the differing roles of actors

B. Geographic coverage

- Cover both regional and global dimensions
- Cover all biogeographic and oceanographic zones from regional to global level
- Include terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems

C. Temporal coverage

- Prioritize the period 2011 to 2020 as the reference period for monitoring and reporting progress (KMGBF)
- Consider trends up to 2025, focusing primarily on the past 50 years; (if available look back prior to the industrial revolution or as far back as is clearly relevant).
- Consider future pathways up to 2100, or as far forward as relevant, with a focus on the period 2030 to 2050
- Use long-term historical data as an information source for possible baselines and contemporary reference states that could be considered for various national, regional or global indicator comparisons.

Chapter outline

Chapter 1: Setting the scene
- IPBES conceptual framework
- Changes in international biodiversity policy

Chapter 2: Different knowledge systems and the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities
- IPLC's diverse and plural values and worldviews and their relevance for driving transformative change
- Reciprocal relationships between nature and people
- Roles of social relationships, kinship, caring and the guardianship of nature, including governance
- Responses to changing social, cultural, economic and environmental conditions
- Inform other chapters on how to weave together diverse worldviews

Chapter 3: Status and trends

Chapter 4: Future pathways

Chapter 5: Options for action

Scoping document (mandate for the assessment) available **here**.

Chapter outline

Chapter 1: Setting the scene

Chapter 2: Different knowledge systems and the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Chapter 3: Status and trends

Chapter 4: Future pathways

Chapter 5: Options for action

Subchapters

- Good quality of life
- Nature
- Direct and indirect drivers
- Nature's contributions to people (NCP)

- Key connections among the four elements
- Range of indicators to present the trends, including for global goals (e.g. KMGBF, SDGs)
- Focus on the global level; also represent regional status and trends
- Updated evidence on the role and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Scoping document (mandate for the assessment) available **here**.

Chapter outline

Chapter 1: Setting the scene

Chapter 2: Different knowledge systems and the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities

Chapter 3: Status and trends

Chapter 4: Future pathways

Chapter 5: Options for action

- Scenarios and models
- Urgency of action
- Transformative pathways
- Consequences of inaction

- Learning from past action
- Building on successful examples
- Portfolio of options for action
- Governance and stakeholders
- Implications of multilateral processes for IPLCs
- Financing

Scoping document (mandate for the assessment) available **here**.

Cross cutting themes

IPBES conceptual framework

Climate change

Coastal and marine systems

Units of assessment

Case studies

Transformation

Glossary

Indigenous and local knowledge

Second global assessment: external review and next steps

First external review period
15 June – 7 August 2026

To participate:

- Register as a user of the IPBES website (https://ipbes.net/user/register)
- Register to review the draft documents at https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=second-global-assessment/first-external-review/registration
- Once registered as reviewer, you will receive and email providing CONFIDENTIAL access to the documents, including a template for comments.
- Before 7 August, upload your comments, in English, to the IPBES website, using the Excel comment template available on the same webpage containing the draft documents.
- If you register as a reviewer, you will be invited to attend an online dialogue with stakeholders on 10 July 2026.

Assessment timeline

Online introductory meetings
06 – 08 October 2025

1st ILK dialogue workshop
03 – 07 November 2025

1st author meeting
24 – 28 November 2025

1st external review
15 June-7 August 2026

2nd ILK dialogue workshop
02 - 07 July 2026

Biodiversity and climate change workshop
18-20 August 2026

2nd author meeting
1st SPM meeting
05 – 11 October 2026

2nd external review
Q2 2027

3rd ILK dialogue workshop

3rd author meeting
3rd SPM meeting
Q3 2027

Final Government review
Q3 2028

Chapter outlines

1st draft of the chapters

2nd draft of the chapters

1st draft of the SPM

Final version of the chapters

2nd draft of the SPM

Final SPM

IPBES 14 (2028)
Consideration by Plenary

WE ARE HERE

2nd SPM meeting
Q1 2027

4th SPM meeting
Q2 2028

Additional SPM review
Q1 2028

ipbes

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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 FRB, Biodiversa+ task leader on the collaboration with IPBES, former TSU for the IPBES Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment

46	Koskela, Jarkko	3	2	48	2	51	It is not clear why it is urgent to gather knowledge on the genetic resources of crop wild relatives only, and not on the genetic rsources of other wild species as well.	Thank you for your comment. In this assessment we are considering sustainable use at the species level and not at the genetic level. However, the genetic level is mentioned in this specific case because of the role of wild plant relatives in
47	Ryan, Mark	3	2	50	2	51	"... local knowledge on wild plants and fungi, genetic resources of crop wild relatives, and small scale fisheries is an urgent need (well established)" should also include a mention of "fauna"	Thank you for your comment. However this point relates specifically to scientific literature on flora. It is not in the opinion of the authors and the material used to support this point does not mention fauna.
48	Cascone, Carmela	3	2	52	2	52	Lichens should also be added	Thanks for this suggested change of wording. Lichens have been included as composite organisms arised from algae and fungi. And we will not adopt the adding.
49	Hurley, Patrick	3	2	52	2	62	Exec Summary, item VI: It would be helpful to note that gathering occurs in richer and poorer countries and that the practice may relate to motivations other than those related to poverty or need (such as with food insecurity). Further, I think that adding a	Thanks for this suggested change. We have included it in the new subsection of urban gathering in the new version.
50	Kristina, Rodina	3	2	52	2	55	wild meat is missing in this message	Thank you for your comment. This message is not about wild meat.
51	Costello, Mark	3	2	54			1 in 5 of all people gather food from the wild, directly themselves (or perhaps are recipients of)? Seems surprisingly high considering levels of urbanisation.	Thank you for your comment. The feedback is greatly appreciated by the chapter authors.
52	Sousa Pinto, Isabel	3	9	54		56	Unclear phrase "Unless the use of squalene is decreasing in cosmetics in developed countries, the trade of shark liver oil increased from less than 50 t in 2017 to 700 t in 2018.	Thank you for your comment, but we can see no connection between the higlighted text and the comment, so we are unable to respond appropriately.
53	Costello, Mark	3	2	55			this is a sweeping statement. How many people in rural developed countries "rely on wild plants and fungi" (I would think none). Perhaps the sentence should say ."..economically disadvantaged rural areas ".	Thanks for this suggested change of wording. It is an improvement and we have adopted it.
54	Mahoney, Shane	3	2	59	2	61	The need for more dedicated research is important. In many cases, however, even general metrics on harvests are unavailable or have never been quantified in terms of food security and livelihoods.	Thank you for the comments. The positive feedback is greatly appreciated by the chapter authors.
55	Malsch, Kelly	3	2	63	2	71	CITES covers 32,800 species of plants (see https://cites.org/eng/disc/species.php), but I'm not sure where the information on 32,000 "wild ornamental plants" comes from? could just revise to "plants"? Not all CITES plant species are	Thank you for the question. please see 3.3.2.5 for the background and methods for analysis.
56	Rosenberg, Andrew	3	2	63	2	71	but aren't their consequences to biodiversity of native species in the importing countries from this trade in ornamentals? Seems odd to ignore that challenge.	Thank you for the comment. The key messages in this chapter focus on what is sustainable use. The section on gathering has more information on species. Chapter 4 on drivers has details on trade.
57	Caceres, Carolina	3	2	67	2	67	CITES does not regulate the gathering of wild ornamental plants; suggest strike "gathering and" as only their international trade is regulated by CITES	Thanks for this suggested change of wording. It is an improvement and we have adopted it.
58	Morgan, David (CITES)	3	2	67	2	67	CITES does not regulate the gathering of wild ornamental plants per se, only that being harvested for international trade	Thanks for this suggested change of wording. It is an improvement and we have adopted it.
59	Rosenberg, Andrew	3	2	72	3	86	worth noting there is a tradeoff interaction in hunting of bushmeat and availability of fish. See Brashares et al. 2004, Science 306, 1180-1181.	Thank you for the comment. However due to the structure of the analysis trade off interactions are not covered in this section.
60	Botero-Arias, Robinson	3	3	79	3	86	The use of the wild life is associated with the environment, and the changes(short and long term) affect the food security of the local people. In the western Amazon Basin, a people's adaptations are reflecting the shifts in animal populations, which ultimately helps	Thank you for your comment. We will add this information to the text of section 3.3.3.3.1

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

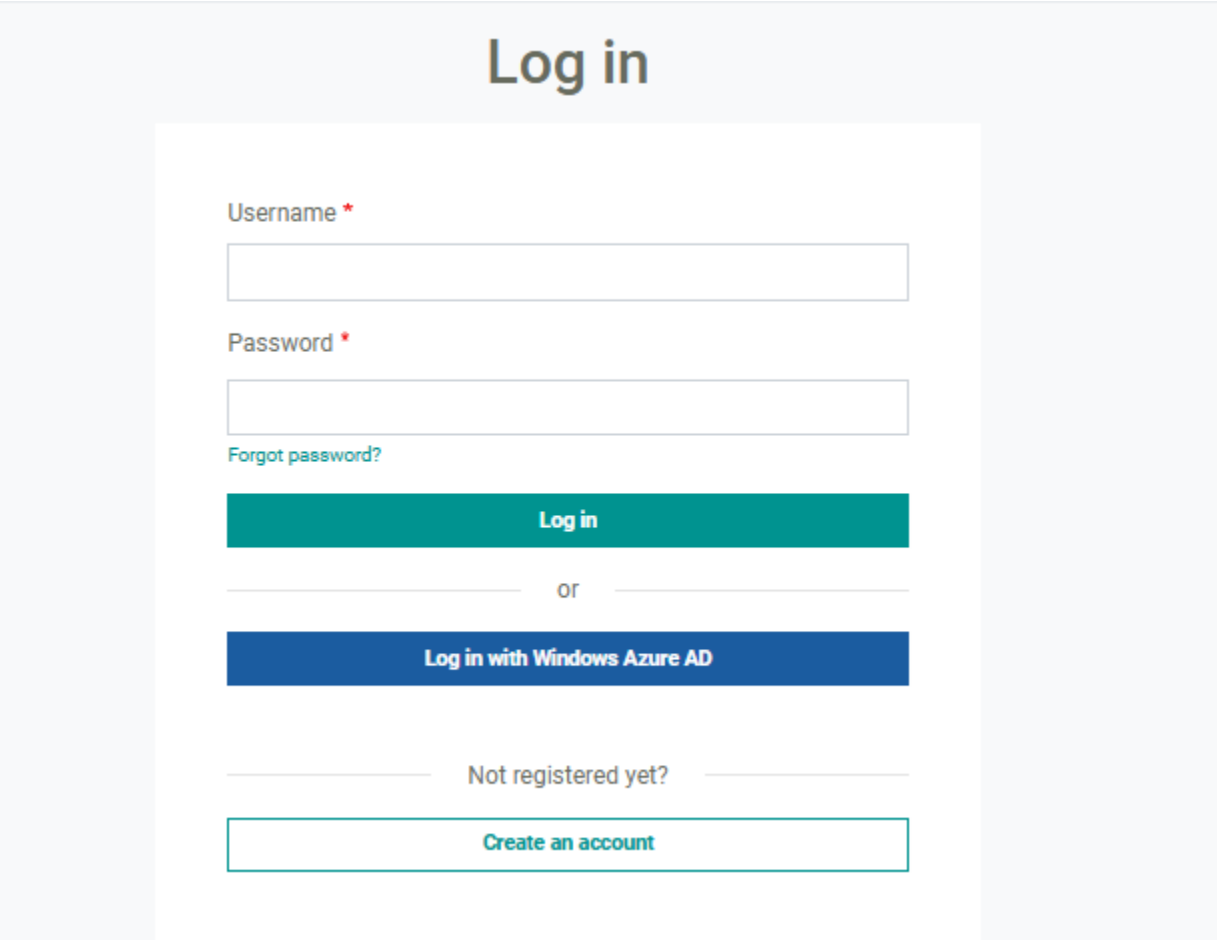
- **Criticize** or **praise** the content of the assessment (don’t hesitate to also say what you like!)
- Propose new text/alternatives if relevant
- Examine consistency and **relevance**
- Verify the **completeness** of the assessment results and request the addition of academic or gray references - and provide the references!
- Identify areas requiring **clarification** or request a nuance or rewording
- Introduce you as a **contributing author**

Suggested steps for effectively review the assessment

1. Read the scoping report 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.

2. Check the chapter descriptions in the scoping report to identify the section that corresponds to your area of expertise.

How to register as a reviewer



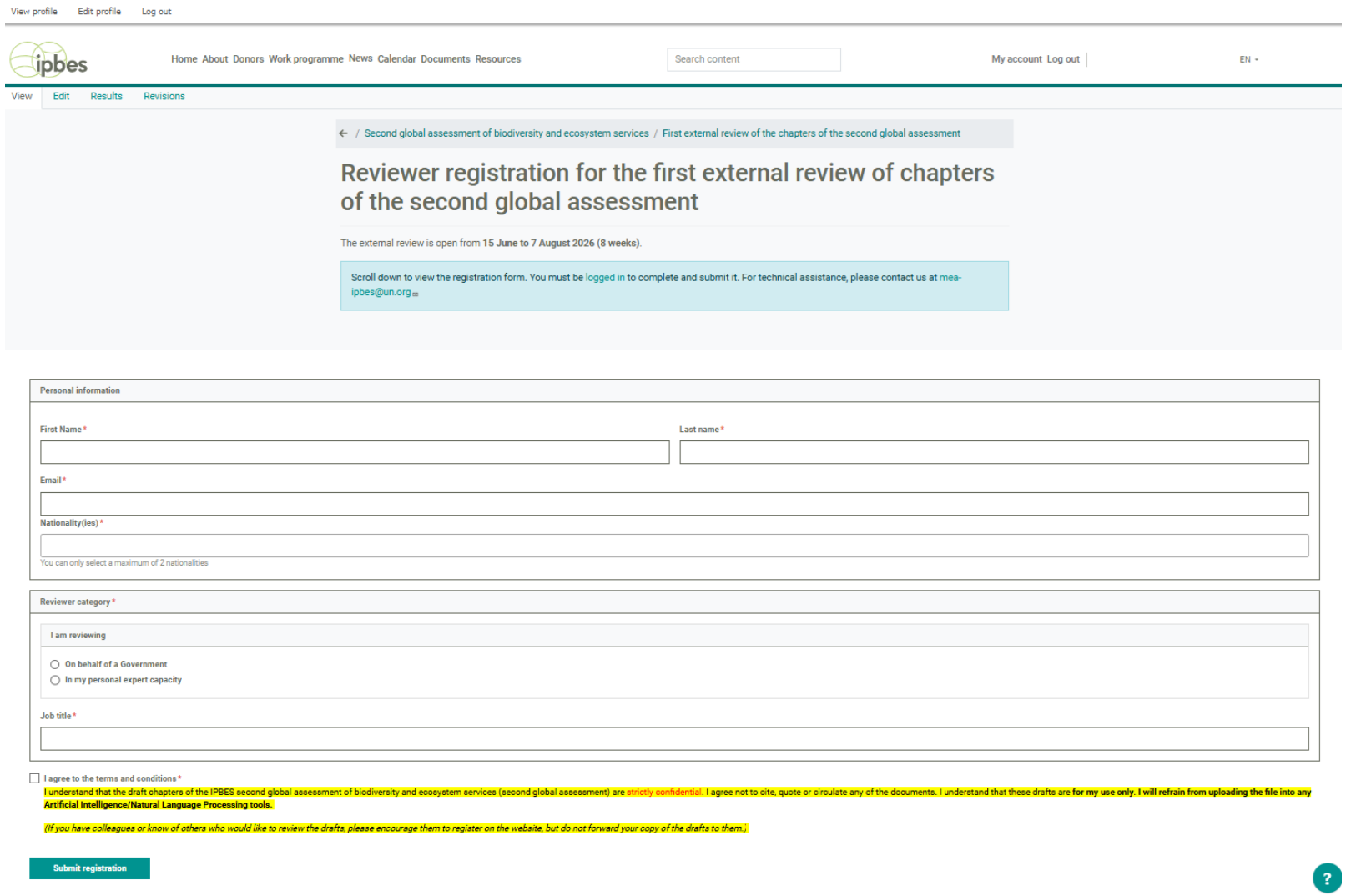
Step 1

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**.

Step 2

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



Step 3

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

Download the documents and the spreadsheet to leave comments.

First external review of the chapters of the second global assessment

The review period will close on **7 August 2026**.

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for your registration and willingness to review the first draft of the chapters of the IPBES second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (second global assessment).

Guidelines for the 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 you provide 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 harmonized for the final version. Graphic editors will format the final versions of tables and figures.

Instructions and guidelines for the 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 the worksheet in any way, including its structure, formatting, formulas, or locked content. Review comments will not be accepted unless properly entered in the Excel sheet provided. The review will take place from **15 June to 7 August 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, it is not permitted to upload the files into any 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 second global assessment technical support unit at mea-ipbes-ga2-tsu@un.org.

We thank you again for your continued support of IPBES.

Add Review

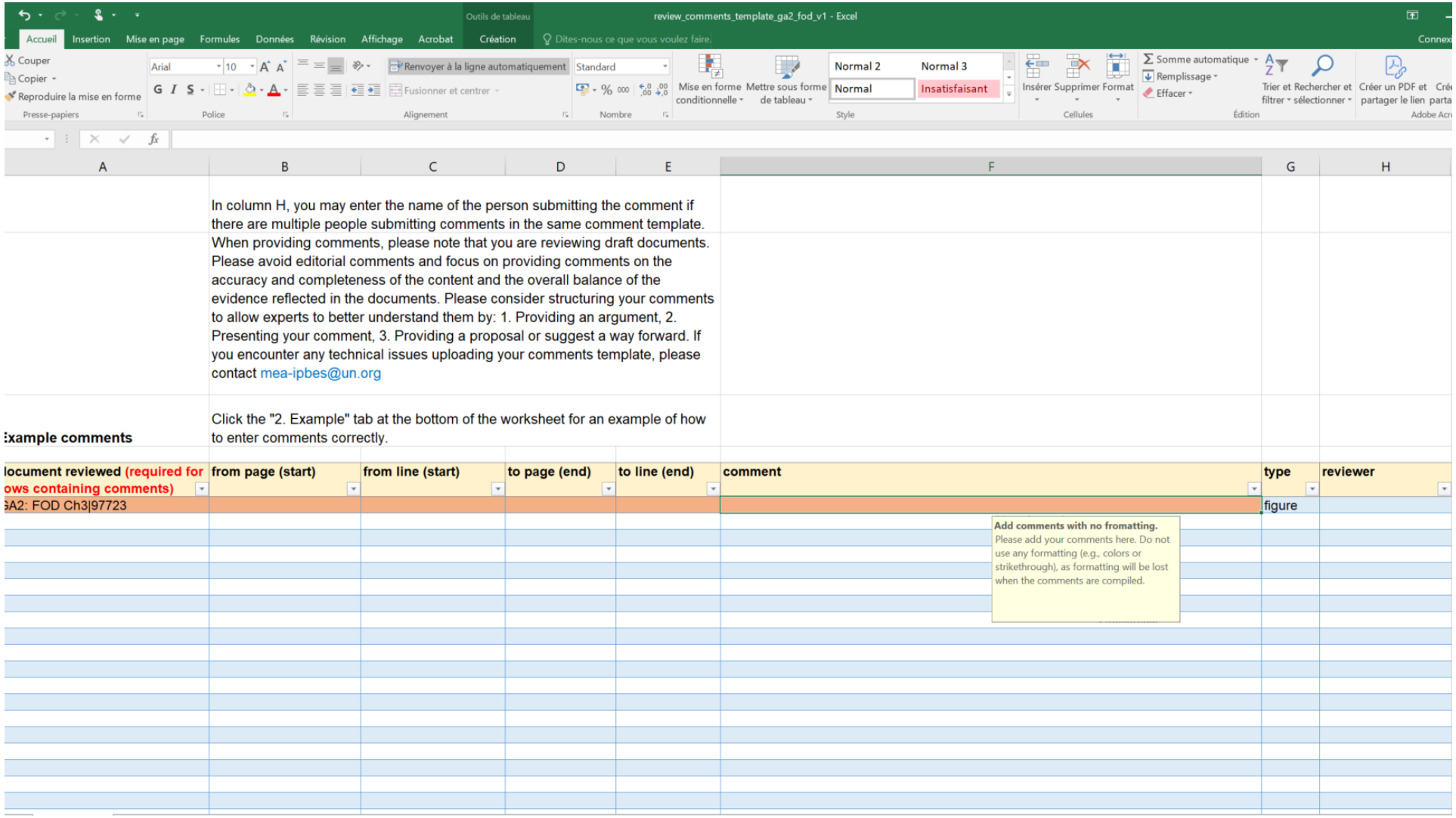
Title	Document	Deliverable	
GA2: First draft of Chapter 1	GA2_Ch1_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 2	GA2_Ch2_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 3	GA2_Ch3_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit

Step 4

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



Step 5

Submit the excel table

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.

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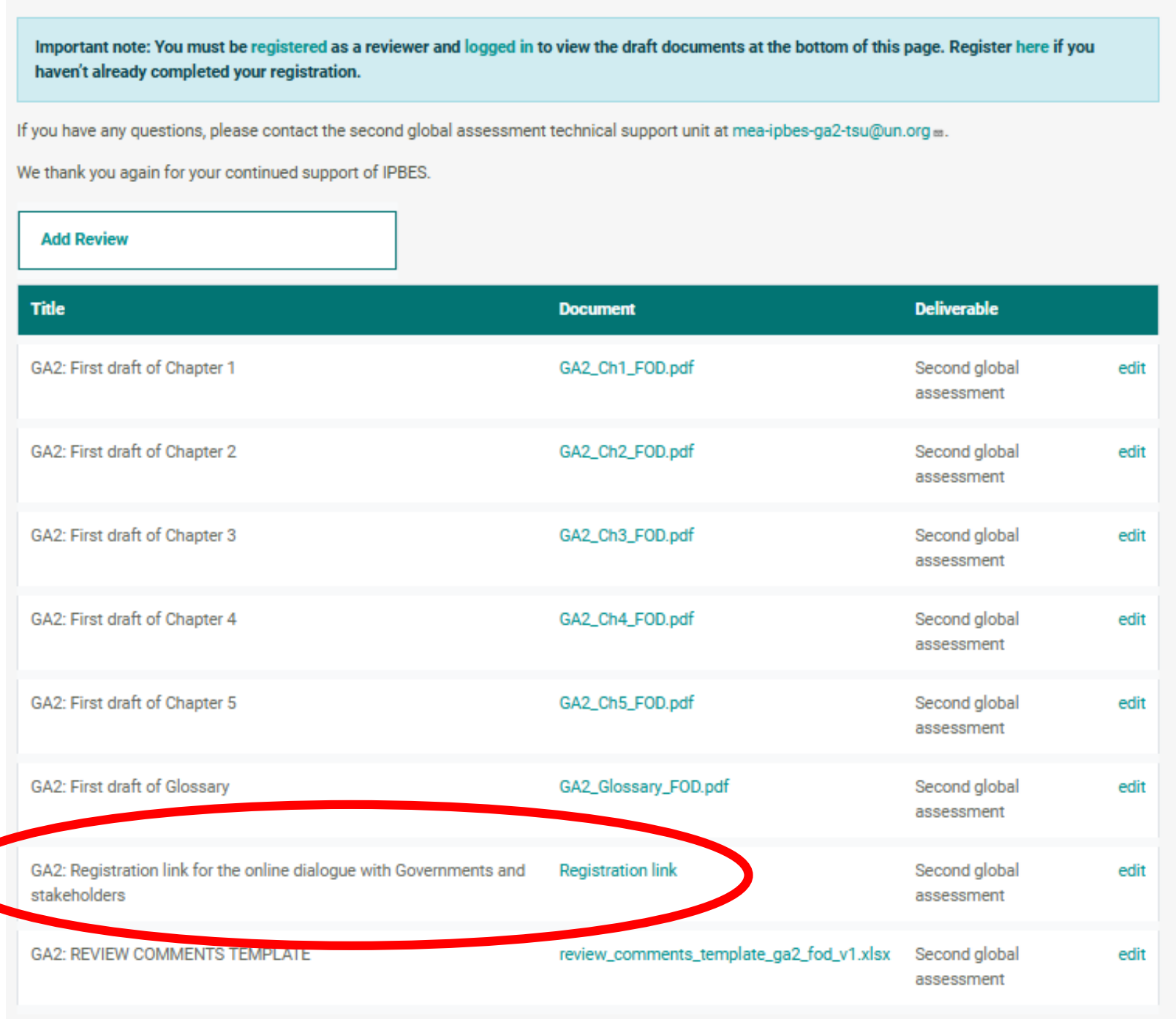
GA2: First draft of Chapter 3	GA2_Ch3_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 4	GA2_Ch4_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 5	GA2_Ch5_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Glossary	GA2_Glossary_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: Registration link for the online dialogue with Governments and stakeholders	Registration link	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: REVIEW COMMENTS TEMPLATE	review_comments_template_ga2_fod_v1.xlsx	Second global assessment	edit

Online dialogue with Governments and stakeholders in support of the external review of the IPBES second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (English only)

Friday 10th July 2026

- 10:00-12:00 CEST
- 16:00-18:00 CEST



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.

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We thank you again for your continued support of IPBES.

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GA2: First draft of Chapter 2	GA2_Ch2_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 3	GA2_Ch3_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 4	GA2_Ch4_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Chapter 5	GA2_Ch5_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: First draft of Glossary	GA2_Glossary_FOD.pdf	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: Registration link for the online dialogue with Governments and stakeholders	Registration link	Second global assessment	edit
GA2: REVIEW COMMENTS TEMPLATE	review_comments_template_ga2_fod_v1.xlsx	Second global assessment	edit

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Questions ?

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EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

Co-funded by the European Union

Thank you for attending!

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

www.biodiversa.org
contact@biodiversa.org