



# IPBES

An update on the platform



# What is IPBES?



- Established in April 2012, Panama City, after years of discussion and negotiation.
- An interface between scientific and policy communities
- Filling gaps at multiple scales
- Multiple contributors and users



# A long process

**Identification  
of needs and  
gaps**



**Nov. 2008 - Putrajaya, Malaysia**



**Oct. 2009 - Nairobi, Kenya**



**June 2010 - Busan, Republic of Korea**

**We need an  
IPBES**



**Oct. 2011- Nairobi, Kenya**



**April 2012 - Panama City, Panama**

**Modalities of  
operation and  
establishment**



**Intersessional process**



**Jan. 2013 - First plenary meeting**

**Operation-  
-alisation**

# What will IPBES do?



## Four main functions

- Knowledge generation
- Regular and timely assessments
- Support policy formulation and implementation
- Capacity building



# Under which principles will IPBES operate?

Address terrestrial, marine and inland water biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interactions

Inter- and multidisciplinary approach

Gender equity

Collaboration – avoiding duplication

Bottom-up

Full participation of developing countries

Policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive

Scientific independence, credibility, relevance and legitimacy

Contribution of indigenous and local knowledge



# Who are the IPBES Stakeholders?

IPBES relevant to a wide range of stakeholders, including:

- Governments (including through biodiversity and ecosystem services related Conventions, UN bodies, and IGOs)
- International scientific community
- NGOs
- Private sector
- Indigenous people, farmer's associations, etc.
- Potential donors;
- General public and media.



# How is IPBES structured?

**Plenary** – Decision making body of the Platform

- Government Members (currently 92) and observers

**Bureau** – Overseeing administrative functions

- 10 members (2 from each UN region)

**Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP)** – overseeing scientific and technical functions

- 25 members ( 5 from each UN region)



# Potential activities in the area of assessments

- **Regular multidisciplinary assessments at regional (including sub-regional) and global scales.**
- **Thematic assessments on policy relevant issues, including emerging issues**
- **Technical support and capacity building for national assessment activities**
- **Developing common frameworks and tools for assessment**
- **Catalogue of assessments**
- **Produce and disseminate reports – but the assessment process also important!**



# Potential activities in the area of policy support



- **Overview of policy-relevant knowledge, tools and methodologies**
- **Partnerships to develop priority tools and approaches**
- **Promotion of effective tools through communication and capacity building**
- **Policy-relevant (eg sector specific) knowledge syntheses**

# Potential capacity building activities



- **Maintain a list of CB needs**
- **Specific workshops and training on assessment approaches**
- **Increasing access to data, information and knowledge for use in assessment**
- **Scholarships, fellowship programme, mentoring**
- **Peer to peer exchange visits**
- **Regional hubs supporting assessment and peer learning**

# Potential activities on knowledge generation



- **Identifying and communicating gaps in knowledge – including from assessments**
- **Convening research and donor communities to agree on policy-relevant research priorities**
- **Supporting peer learning and networks to strengthen generation of policy-relevant research**



## Resolving various procedural elements

- Rules of procedure
- Other procedures

## Preparations for the initial work programme of the platform

- Capacity building needs
- Scoping process
- Overview of assessments
- Conceptual framework
- MEP bioregional structure



- **Contribute to the current intersessional process**
- **Participate in IPBES-1 (21 to 26 Jan. 2013, Bonn Germany)**
- **Future contribution to implementation of IPBES work programme – this will depend on thousands of scientists and policy makers!**



For more information

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