

CELEBRATING GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS 2022-2023



Contributions to Global Instruments: IPBES

IPBES 10:

Panel Discussion on the Uptake and Impact of IPBES Products: Malawi Insights



Five Key Insights from the IPBES10 Panel Discussion on the Uptake and Impact of Products
1st September, 2023
[Read More](#)

Opportunities

- IPBES Nexus Assessment: A potential case study on human-rights based approach from Colombia NEA
- Possibilities of NEA authors and completed assessments to directly contribute to IPBES assessments
- Further investigating, in the NEAs, noted knowledge gaps in the IPBES assessments, i.e., invasive alien species
- Considering uptake of relevant IPBES assessments in the use of NEA findings phase

Exhibitions During IPBES 10

BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENTS AROUND THE WORLD

The National Ecosystem Assessment (NEA) Initiative at UNEP-WCMC supports countries to tailor the IPBES Guide on the production of assessments to carry out national level ecosystem assessments. Working in collaboration with UNDP and UNESCO under the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Network (BES-Net), the aim is to support informed decision-making based on the national context relevant assessments.

NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENTS

National ecosystem assessments are nationally-driven processes to develop an up-to-date, comprehensive and critical synthesis of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interlinkages to people. These assessments are contextualized to suit national needs and respond to specific policy questions.

National ecosystem assessments apply to be credible, legitimate and relevant by bringing together diverse stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and working with different knowledge systems and disciplines.

These assessments develop and support national capacity to engage with IPBES products and activities.

6 YEARS

Since 2017, the NEA Initiative has worked with countries across 5 continents to conduct or scope their national ecosystem assessments.

14 COUNTRY PARTNERS

Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon*, Colombia*, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Grenada, Malawi, Thailand, Viet Nam*, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*These four countries completed their assessments in 2023. Follow the IPBES website for more details.

THE ASSESSMENT STAGES

SCOPING

This first stage of the assessment process involves exploring how and why an assessment might be carried out and define key policy questions to be addressed. A scoping report is the main output of this stage.

EXPERT EVALUATION

This is when the compilation and comprehensive synthesis of existing knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services takes place, guided by the key policy questions identified during the scoping stage. A technical report and a summary for policymakers are the main outputs of this stage.

APPROVAL

In this stage, stakeholders are invited to validate the findings of the assessment. After the validation process, the assessment report and summary for policymakers are approved by the relevant national entities. The assessment is then officially launched.

USE OF THE ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

At this stage, with the support of BES-Net, countries that complete their assessments are supported in implementing an action plan based on their assessment findings. This is the first step towards empowering policy processes to consider the full value of nature.

SPOTLIGHT ON AZERBAIJAN

In 2021, Azerbaijan established their national biodiversity platform (NSP) consisting of representatives from government, private sector, NGOs and other national stakeholders. The NSP will help to ensure that nature's value is integrated into decision-making in Azerbaijan.

SPOTLIGHT ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

As part of their assessment, and with technical support from UNESCO, Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted novel research with local communities on the state of traditional knowledge in relation to biodiversity and ecosystem services across the country. These findings will be integrated into the assessment report.

SPOTLIGHT ON CAMEROON

At a national workshop attended by high-level representatives, civil society, and international organisations in 2022, Cameroon initiated the validation of its national assessment. Cameroon is now seeking to mobilise biodiversity knowledge in response to the the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to foster effective conservation and sustainable development.

SPOTLIGHT ON VIET NAM

The findings of Viet Nam's assessment have been used to identify suitable areas for establishing wetland conservation areas in multiple provinces. As part of their support from BES-Net, Viet Nam are now focusing on paving the way for a legal policy on payment for wetland ecosystem services and establishing a NSP.

NEA NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENTS

UNEP WCMC BES-Net UNESCO IBI SwedBio

To find out more about the NEA Initiative, visit our website: www.ecosystemassessments.net or scan the QR code.

Contributions to Global Instruments: CBD

COP 15: December 2022

- A session on "**Science and traditional knowledge**" during Restoration Day: Cambodia and Malawi contributions

Webinar Series: How NEAs can support the implementation of KM-GBF: Contributors: NEA Initiative, Colombia, Thailand and BES-Net

OEWG-12 on Article 8(j):

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: Highlight of NEA ILK work and publication on status of traditional knowledge

SBSTTA 25:

- *Indirect Contribution:* SwedBio paper on "Adopting human rights-based approach to biodiversity and climate action" capturing Malawi NEA ILK experience presented at SBSTTA 25

Opportunity: How can NEA process contribute to NBSAPs revision and implementation



Peer-to-Peer Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange

Global

- **Peer-to-peer session** on NBP to support the implementation of CBD during IPBES 10: Exchange between BES-Net, NEA Initiative and CABES countries
- **NEA Global Workshop:** NEA countries community and diverse expertise from consortium partners

Opportunities

- Strengthening private sector and IPLCs participation in NBP
- Organizing continuous peer to peer exchange sessions

Bilateral Exchanges

- Colombia-Dominican Republic
- Botswana-Malawi
- Malawi-Thailand
- Dominican Republic-Malawi



Global Knowledge Sharing

- **Celebration of LINKS 20th Anniversary and UNESCO launch of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (Dec 2022):** Contributions from BiH, the Dominican Republic, Malawi, Thailand and the NEA Initiative.
- **Webinar "*Human Rights based Approach (HRBA) in Co-creation of Knowledge for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action*":** BiH's experience on HRBA was anchored in the NEA process.

Opportunities

- Exploring interlinkages between Indigenous knowledge and Indigenous languages in line with your country's action plan for the implementation of International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032)
- Mainstreaming HRBA in the NEA process

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International Decade of Indigenous Languages

High-level Launch Event of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages

PROGRAMME

13 December 2022
UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France

BESNet SwedBio IFLS

HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH
IN CO-CREATION OF KNOWLEDGE FOR
BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES ACTION

OPEN WEBINAR

22 JUNE 2023
11:30 - 13:00 CEST
ZOOM

unesco UN-WCMC NEA

Expansion of BES-Net Advisory Committee

- International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IIFBES) - Open-ended and self-organizing network facilitating IPLCs participation in IPBES process
- **IPBES 10 "Exchange session with IIFBES"**: BiH and Malawi contributions
- Outcome: IIFBES joined BES-Net Advisory Committee
- Learn more in the upcoming November BES-Net Newsletter

Opportunity

- IPLC organizations can join IIFBES. See [here](#)
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