

**Partner:  
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental  
Research UFZ, Germany**

**Role: Work Package III national platforms  
and stakeholder networks**

**Supporting the set-up of  
National Science-Policy Platforms  
for Biodiversity**

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# Your National Ecosystem Assessment

- 1) In the process of developing national ecosystem assessments (NEAs) in your country, have any priorities been identified yet? (These priorities could be related to topics of national interest that the NEAs should include, e.g. biodiversity conservation/sustainable use, climate change adaptation, livelihoods, human well-being, etc.).
- 2) How can the NEA benefit and support your country?
- 3) What could be major challenges in organising the NEA in your country?

# National Platforms for Biodiversity

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# Why have National Platforms for Biodiversity?

Strengthen the interface between science, policy and society around biodiversity

Support effectiveness of efforts/activities and ensure long term activities at this interface, in support of biodiversity

In this project, to provide *process support* for NEA creation and uptake

# What are National Platforms for Biodiversity ?

NPBs are an idea, not necessarily a physical place

Diverse formats incl. institutional setting, activities, resources, other national circumstances like history, scope, mandate. (see IPBES/5/INF/23)

Often rooted in biodiversity research (administration) and engaging with policy processes as well as societal actors

# What do National Platforms do?

Provide/actively spread information: content and process, communication materials.

**E-newsletter, social media information on relevant issues, events, processes e.g. increased uptake of IPBES results**

Mobilisation and enabling joint analyses or activities on relevant biodiversity topics, e.g. workshops, webinars, public discourse. E.g. national policy drafts

**Invitation to participate in IPBES consultations & capacity building**

**Participatory workshops with policy, science, society actors for knowledge exchange, mutual understanding and joint products**

Connecting people & ideas

# Example of National Platform - Colombia

Objective and main activities

Institutional set-up (and reasons behind that?)

Benefits seen, lessons learned?

# Example of National Platform - Cameroon

Objective and main activities

Institutional set-up (and reasons behind that?)

Benefits seen, lessons learned?



# Benefits of joining forces

Example ,*ECA-Network*‘ in Europe and Central Asia (ECA)  
in support of IPBES activities

[www.eca-ipbesnetwork.org](http://www.eca-ipbesnetwork.org)



Exchange of ideas and support for setting up platforms

Organises joint stakeholder consultations in the region  
(,PESCs‘) on IPBES work programme activities and  
assessment drafts

<http://www.eca-ipbesnetwork.org/2173>



# WHAT?

- Network of National Platforms engaging in IPBES  
  
i.e.: linking national platforms working on IPBES-related issues in Europe and Central Asia

## ® 9 MEMBERS:

**Belgium**  
**Denmark**  
**Finland**  
**France**  
**Germany**  
**The Netherlands**  
**Portugal**  
**Switzerland**  
**The United Kingdom**

# WHY

- Stimulating and supporting the establishment of national platforms in interested countries & increase the use of IPBES findings
- Illustrating the organisation of the IPBES landscape on the particular national level
- Supporting capacity building and mutual understanding
- Posting up-to-date information on the IPBES and related national and international processes and events

# WHAT SO FAR?

- Helped establish national platforms
- Information sharing on how to organise for calls of IPBES (e.g. recruitment of experts; set-up of reviews; organisation of national workshops etc.)
- Exchange of publications, and info on day-to-day work



## ABOUT US

The Europe & Central Asia Network of organisations engaging in IPBES



## ABOUT IPBES

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



## NATIONAL PLATFORMS

National Platforms involved in the ECA-Network



## NEWS

Latest news about IPBES and biodiversity-related initiatives



## STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT

Initiatives involving different stakeholders in a variety of countries



## SUGGESTED READINGS

Non-exhaustive list of reading materials suggested by the ECA-Network

# HOW?

## Suggested reading



**Valuing Nature's Contribution to People - The IPBES Approach**

*Current Opinions in Environmental Sustainability* 26: 7-16. Pascual et al 2017



**Opinion paper by Dr. Brendan Coolsaet, in the context of the 2017 International Day on Biodiversity**

NL / De Wereld Morgen

FR / Le Soir



**Report of a workshop on IPBES assessments**

*By the Belgian IPBES Focal Point*



**IPBES - Brief introduction for scientists, policy-makers, and practitioners**

*Publication presenting the goals and activities of IPBES - By NeFo and ValuES*



**Towards solving a key puzzle in the IPBES**

*Publication presenting progress towards tools and approaches for working with diverse knowledge systems in ecosystem assessments*



**A guide to IPBES plenary meetings for new observers**

*Open-Ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders*

**Output** of this IKI NEA Project will be **Guidance for National Platforms**, to be developed with your additional experience during this project

*Possible outline:*

Rationale & mandate

Aim

Function

Relation to existing structures & networks

Model (examples)

Guiding principles

Reflection and learning

Activities (examples)

# Now some questions for you....



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# Expectations from the project wrt national platforms

What type of support do you most wish for in support of setting up a national platform for biodiversity in your country?

**What questions do you have about national platforms that remain unaddressed?**

(will try to address them early in the project where possible)

# Benefits of setting up a national platform

Which aspects (topics, activities, policies, processes) around biodiversity conservation and sustainable use could benefit from some extra support in your country?

# Possible elements/set-up of a national platform

What main actors in your country are involved in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use at the moment?

Who else has a stake and could be additionally involved?

Might there be any funding sources that can be tapped into to support activities of a national platform?

# Thanks for your interest!

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[www.eca-ipbesnetwork.org](http://www.eca-ipbesnetwork.org)



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