

POLICY BRIEF NO. 6

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National collaboration for KM-GBF implementation: integrating IPBES Assessments Findings in NBSAPs

Executive summary

This policy brief summarises the strategic requirement for integrating robust scientific knowledge into national biodiversity planning, a mandate formalised by the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). One of the foundational scientific evidence for the KM-GBF was provided by the 2019 IPBES Global Assessment. This imperative for evidence-based national action was the central focus of the first in-person CABES Central African sub-regional workshop. The event, held in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in October 2024, convened 92 participants from 26 countries. Attendees included National Focal Points (NFPs) of IPBES and/or the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), researchers, practitioners, Indigenous and local knowledge holders, and Non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The audience also featured the inaugural cohort of the SPIBES Master's programme at the University of Lubumbashi.

The central conclusion reinforced during the workshop is the need for greater collaboration between the National Focal Points of the UN CBD and IPBES to achieve biodiversity conservation goals. This collaboration is essential because IPBES assessments are critical for the review and adaptation processes required to align NBSAPs with the KM-GBF.

Key messages

- Integrate relevant IPBES findings into the review and updating of the NBSAPs and other national policies.
- The collaboration between IPBES and CBD NFPs is the cornerstone of this policy integration and national networking (SPPI).
- Adequate funding and comprehensive support needed to strengthen the necessary networking activities and equitable exchanges within inclusive collaborative interfaces.



Cross section of participants at the CABES in-person central African subregional workshop

Context: IPBES assessments: the scientific basis for KM-GBF targets

IPBES assessments^o were instrumental in the development of the KM-GBF and provide the scientific foundation for key goals, targets, and implementation mechanisms. The 2019 IPBES Global Assessment was fundamental for developing the framework. The direct links between specific IPBES thematic assessments and KM-GBF components as presented by Dr. Jillian Campbell (IPBES Focal Person at the UN CBD) were a key focus of discussion:



IPBES assessment	Relevant KM-GBF Goal/Target(s)*
2016 Pollinators Assessment	Goal B (Prosper with Nature) and Target 11 (Restore, Maintain and Enhance Nature's Contributions to People)
2016 Scenarios and Models Assessment	Section J (Responsibility and Transparency) and the Framework review process
2018 Land Degradation Assessment	Target 1 (Plan and Manage all Areas To Reduce Biodiversity Loss), Target 2 (Restore 30% of all Degraded Ecosystems), and others
2018 Regional Assessments	Section E (Theory of change) and Section I (implementation and support mechanism and enabling conditions)
2022 Values Assessment	Target 14 (Integrate Biodiversity in Decision-Making at Every Level), 21 (Ensure That Knowledge is Available and Accessible To Guide Biodiversity Action), and 22 (Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all), and Section C (Means of Implementation)
2022 Wild Species Assessment	Target 4 (Halt Species Extinction, Protect Genetic Diversity, and Manage Human-Wildlife Conflicts) and Target 9 (Manage Wild Species Sustainably to Benefit People)
2023 Invasive Alien Species Assessment	Target 6 (Reduce the Introduction of Invasive Alien Species by 50% and Minimize Their Impact)
Ongoing Assessments	The ongoing work of IPBES is also critical for addressing spatial targets, linking specifically to Target 1 and other spatial objectives, including Targets 2, 3, 5, 10, and 12. Furthermore, new assessments inform Target 15 and other elements such as Goal D and Target 19, and post-2030 GBF

^omore on IPBES assessments can be found here: <https://www.ipbes.net/assessing-knowledge>

*more info on the KM-GBF can be found here: <https://www.cbd.int/gbf/default.shtml>

Informing implementation and NBSAP review processes

The need for close collaboration between the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the Convention on Biological Diversity collaboration between the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) at the national level was highlighted as critical for driving national biodiversity actions, particularly in the context of implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). This collaboration is vital for effectively translating global biodiversity commitments into national action to achieve conservation goals. The KM-GBF requires rapid alignment of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), including the development of national targets. IPBES assessments are essential for the review and adaptation processes necessary to align NBSAPs with the KM-GBF. The collaboration ensures that the scientific knowledge produced by IPBES, such as the 2019 Global Assessment (fundamental for developing the KM-GBF) and thematic assessments like the 2023 Invasive Alien Species Assessment (linked to Target 6), is effectively incorporated into national policies.

Fostering collective efforts and capacity

The collaboration ensures that national efforts are informed by the best available science and coordinated efficiently. This ensures that the essential scientific findings from IPBES, which link to specific KM-GBF targets such as Goal B, Target 11 (Pollinators Assessment), Target 6 (Invasive Alien Species Assessment), and Targets 14, 21, and 22 (Values Assessment), are effectively integrated during the crucial NBSAP review and updating processes. Furthermore, participants stressed the importance of adequate funding and comprehensive support to strengthen the networking activities necessary for enhancing the overall effectiveness of these collaborative efforts.

CONCLUSION

Dialogue at the CABES Central Africa workshop underscore that the KM-GBF cannot be successfully implemented without the structured utilisation of IPBES assessments. By committing to the integration of these IPBES findings into NBSAPs and fostering socially inclusive, well-funded national science-policy interfaces, Central African nations can ensure their contributions to advancing biodiversity-friendly policies and achieving the global 2030 biodiversity targets are robust and evidence-based.

SOURCES CITED

IPBES Assessments. All IPBES assessments, including their summary for policymakers can be found here: <https://www.ipbes.net/assessing-knowledge>

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework. Details can be found here: <https://www.cbd.int/gbf/default.shtml>

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