



# Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature

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The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform  
on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services



**#ValuesAssessment**



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# 1

## ■ Introducing the IPBES values assessment





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Result from **19 years** of in-kind voluntary contributions  
by more than **300 people**:

- **95 Experts nominated by IPBES** (18 ILK experts/holders) from **47 countries**,
- **+ more than 200 contributing authors** (25 ILK experts/holders).

## Structure of the report (Chapters)

1. The role of the values of nature and valuation for addressing the biodiversity crisis and navigating towards more just and sustainable futures
2. Conceptualizing the diverse values of nature and their contributions to people
3. The potential of valuation
4. Value expression in decision-making
5. The role of diverse values of nature in visioning and transforming towards just and sustainable futures
6. Policy options and capacity development to operationalize the inclusion of diverse values of nature in decision-making



# Structure of the report

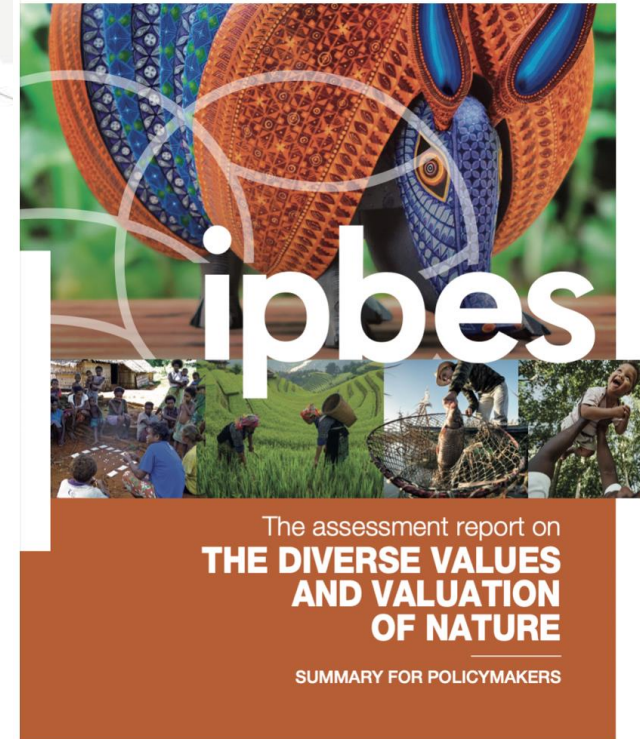
## Summary of Policymakers (SPM)

The SPM was approved by the 140 member states of the IPBES in July 2022

10 key messages

Background messages divided into 4 sections

- A. Understanding the diverse values of nature.
- B. Measuring and making visible the values of nature
- C. Leveraging the diverse values of nature for transformative change towards sustainability.
- D. Embedding the values of nature for transformative decision-making for sustainability.





# 2. ■

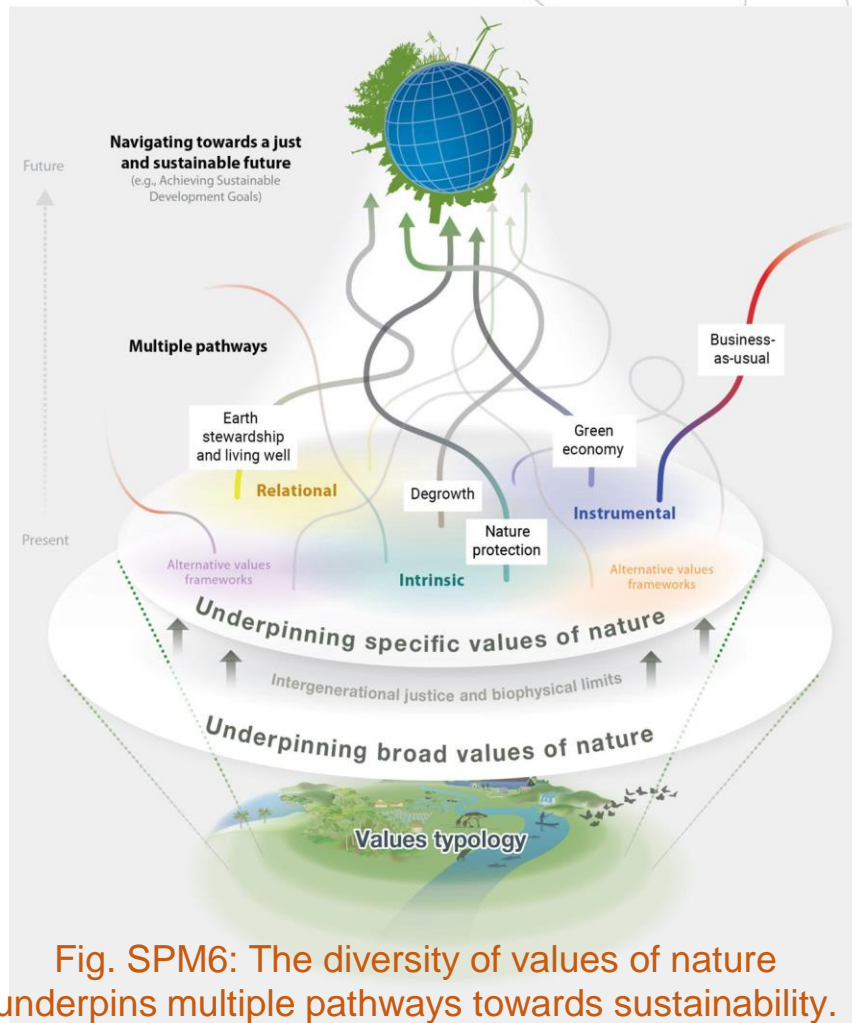
## Key insights from the IPBES Values Assessment for the GBF



# KM1. The causes of the global biodiversity crisis and the opportunities to address them are tightly linked to the ways in which nature is valued in political and economic decisions.

... a consolidated global consensus reflected by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity has established a shared vision of prosperity for people and the planet. **Achieving this vision depends on system-wide transformative change that incorporates the diverse values of nature and is aligned with the mutually supportive goals of justice and sustainability** and their intertwined economic, social and environmental dimensions.

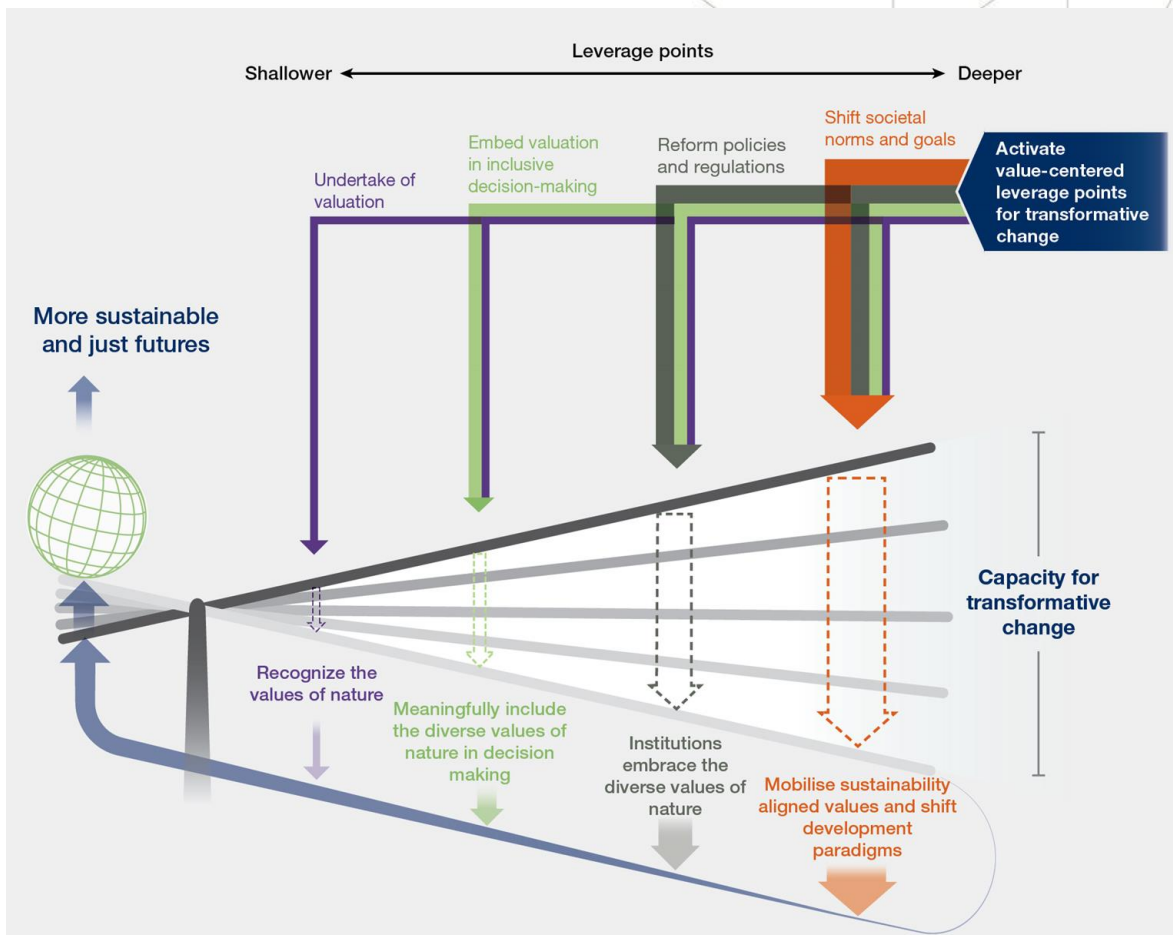




**Transformative change to sustainability requires accounting for the diversity of nature's values.**

There are alternative pathways to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, supported by different coalitions of stakeholders, responding to different contexts and needs, and being adjusted as they are operationalized.





**Transformative change** needed to address the global biodiversity crisis relies on:

- **shifting away from values that over-emphasize short term and individual material gains,**
- **to nurturing sustainability-aligned values across society.**

Figure SPM.7. Embedding nature's values in decisions can leverage transformative change towards more sustainable and just futures.

3.

Links to Section B of the GBF



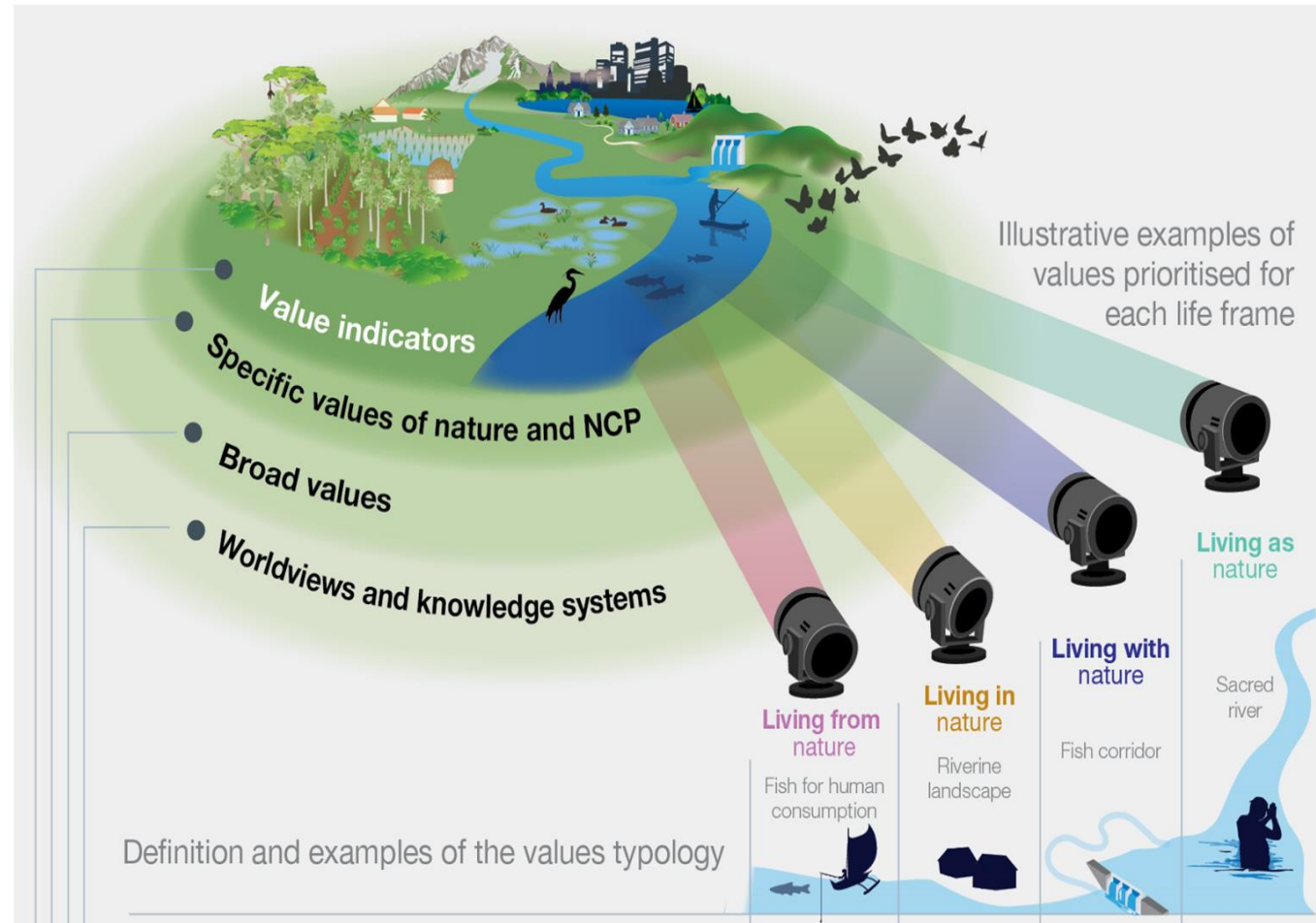
## **GBF Section B outlines key concepts and premises for the Global Biodiversity Framework, including:**

- Different worldviews, knowledge systems and values
- Contributions of indigenous and local communities
- Equitable and participatory implementation
- Capacity needs (including education and financial resources)
- Whole of government and whole of society approach





**KM3. The IPBES 'values typology' explicitly recognizes that different worldviews and knowledge systems impact the way people interact with and value nature.**

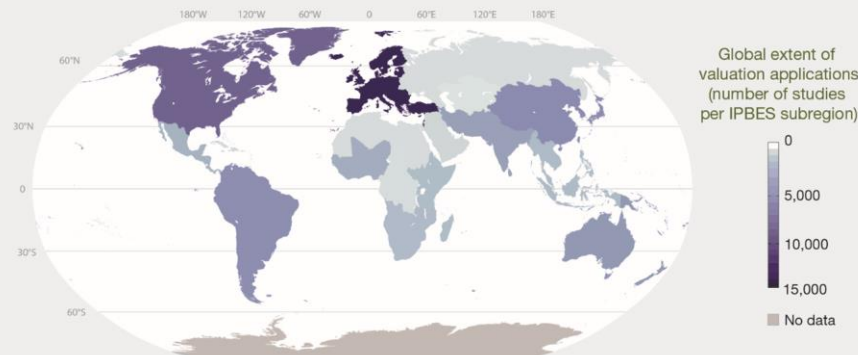




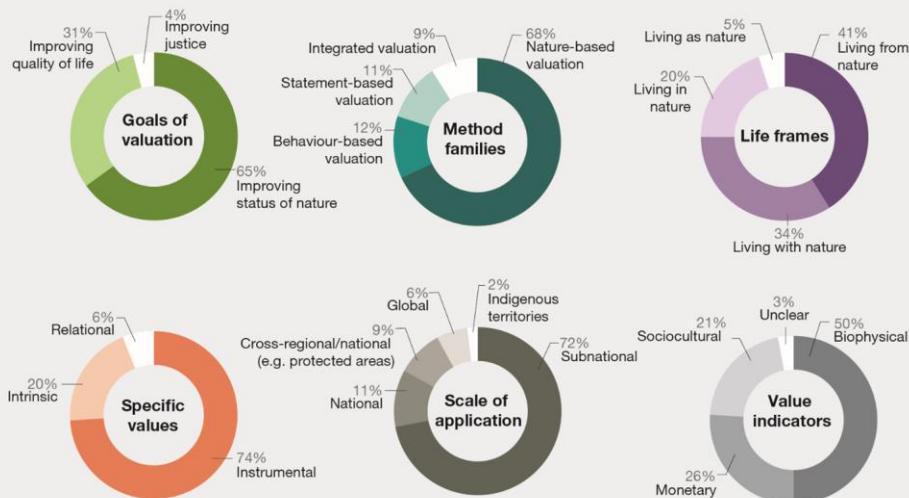
**C5. Recognizing and respecting indigenous and local knowledge and their associated diversity of values ... can lead to more equitable and sustainable outcomes.**



## A Global distribution of valuation studies



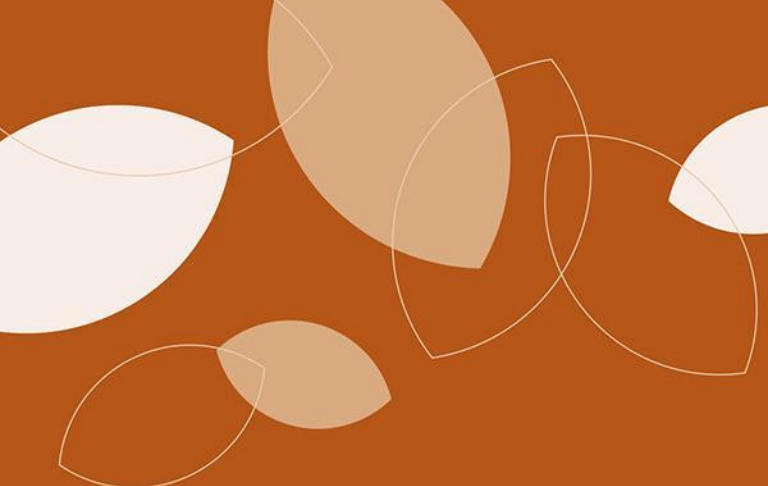
## B Characterization of nature valuation studies reported



**KM4. There are over 50 methods to value nature and its multiple contributions to people.**







# 4.

## Potential contributions of IPBES VA to the GBF 2050 goals (Section F)



## Section F, Goal B - To take into account the wide range of values

- KM3. The **values of nature vary greatly** across knowledge systems, languages, cultural traditions and environmental contexts – values typology.
- B3. **Indigenous peoples and local communities undertake valuation of nature** in their places and territories in accordance with their own worldviews and applying locally established procedures
- B4. Different **valuation methods and approaches** can assess different types of values of nature
- B5. Meaningful **stakeholder participation** in valuation is needed to ensure appropriate consideration of their values in decisions, but is **only found in 1 per cent of valuation studies** reviewed.

## Section F, Goal C - Dimensions of justice

- **Achieving justice implies :**
  - acknowledging and respecting different world-views, knowledge systems and values
  - making decisions that are legitimate and inclusive for those holding different values
  - ensuring the fair distribution of nature's contributions to people
- Values-centred policies to advance justice involve engaging with and **addressing power asymmetries.**







# 5



## Potential IPBES contributions to the GBF 2030 action targets (Section G)



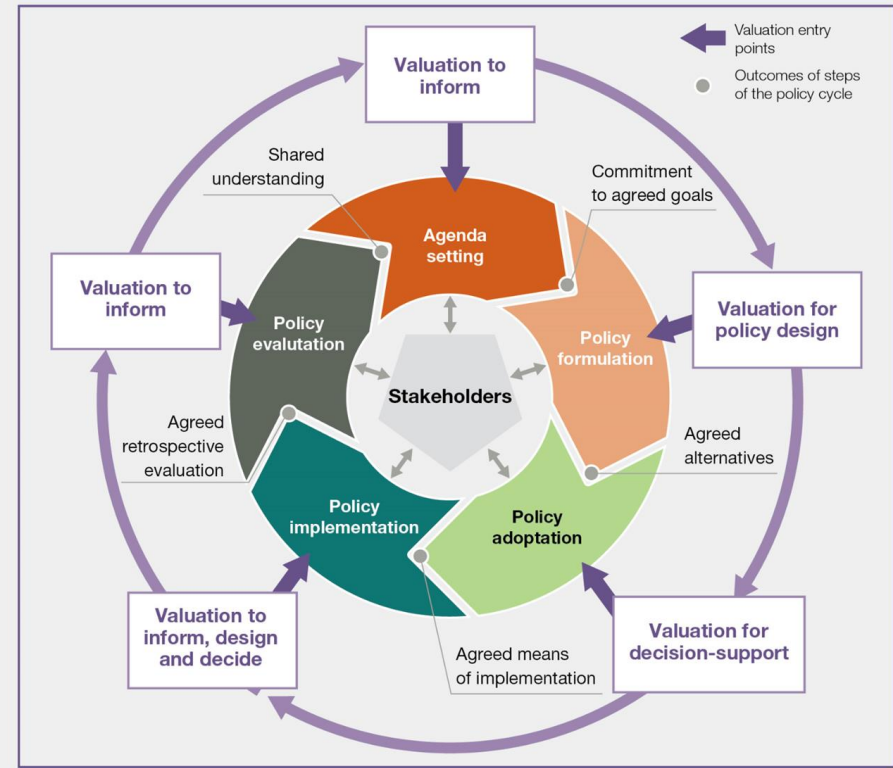
# Targets for ‘Reducing threats to biodiversity’

**KM6.** Despite increasing calls to consider valuation in policy decisions, **less than 5 per cent of published valuation studies report its uptake in policy decisions.**

**C2.** Valuation can support policymaking across the different stages of the policy cycle.

The uptake of valuation is more likely:

- when the **valuation process is relevant** to the different stages of policymaking and when it is **sufficiently resourced**;
- if **co-production of valuation knowledge, best practice guidance, standardization of valuation methods**;
- if **participatory and deliberative methods** that represent indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ values are used.



## VALUATION PURPOSES AND EXAMPLES

Explorative for research	Informative to inform	Decisive to support decisions	Technical to design instruments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Method development and testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising, formative, affirmative</li> <li>• Advocacy (ex-ante decision)</li> <li>• Accounting and indicators (in media res)</li> <li>• Impact evaluation (ex-post decision)</li> <li>• Justification (ex-post decision)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision-support guidance</li> <li>• Participative</li> <li>• Benefit-cost, feasibility</li> <li>• Prioritization and ranking</li> <li>• Environmental management criterion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitting, standard setting</li> <li>• Pricing</li> <li>• Damage compensation estimation</li> </ul>



## Targets for ‘Meeting people’s needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing’

**C4. More equitable and sustainable policy outcomes are more likely to be achieved when decision-making processes recognize and balance the representation of the diverse values of nature and address social and economic power asymmetries among actors.**

- In biodiversity conservation, **community involvement that allows for the prioritization of local values leads to social outcomes being perceived as fairer**, often enhancing programme sustainability and consequently social-ecological outcomes.
- **Power asymmetries... can be addressed** to improve decision outcomes, such as through co-management of protected areas and co-design of payments for ecosystem services programmes.
- **Whose values are included in conservation decisions is a key consideration since it influences the outcomes of decisions.**





## Targets for *‘Meeting people’s needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing’*

**C6. Ignoring, excluding or marginalizing local values often leads to socio-environmental conflicts linked to value clashes.**

- **Socio-environmental conflicts often result from decisions that exclude some groups’ values**, especially those of indigenous peoples and local communities who can be directly connected with and dependent on nature and who bear a disproportionate burden from changes in rights to access or use of nature.
- **Ignoring or marginalizing local values in the design and management of conservation activities**, including protected areas and payments for ecosystem service programmes, **can also leave a legacy of mistrust or resentment** that is difficult to repair and can provoke local protest and even sabotage, jeopardising conservation outcomes over time.

# Targets for *'Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing'*



## C8. Mobilizing sustainability-aligned values involves empowering civil society and changing societal structures and institutions

- **Sustainability-aligned values** shape people's interactions with nature and with each other, e.g. unity, responsibility, stewardship, justice.
- **Holding sustainability-aligned values is necessary but insufficient** to ensure pro-environmental behaviour.
- Besides motivation, **people also need the capabilities and opportunities to act.**

# Targets for *‘Meeting people’s needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing’*

**KM7. Achieving sustainable and just futures requires institutions that enable a recognition and integration of the diverse values of nature and nature’s contributions to people.**

- **Institutions influence which values become socially legitimized** and which ones are excluded from decision-making.
- **Reforming existing institutions and creating new ones can improve political, economic and social decision-making**, mainstreaming the consideration of nature’s diverse values and leading to better outcomes for people and nature.
- Recognizing and respecting the world-views, values and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities and the institutions that support their rights, territories or interests allow **policies** to be **more inclusive of how different people live, relate to and value nature, which also translates into better outcomes for people and nature.**

# Targets for *'Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming'*

**D2. Environmental policy instruments and policy support tools are more likely to foster transformative change for sustainability and justice when they are aligned with nature's diverse values.**

- **Policy instruments can foster transformative change** when:
  - (i) a diversity of values is considered in their design and implementation;
  - (ii) they address direct or indirect drivers of biodiversity loss;
  - (iii) they mobilize sustainability-aligned values through institutional change;
  - (iv) they promote capacities to embed nature's values into decisions; and
  - (v) they are integrative and adaptive enough to bridge across world-views, values, sectors and scales
- **Different rights-based approaches have been found to incorporate the diverse values of nature** into local and national laws and constitutions (e.g., rights to a healthy environment, rights of nature, rights of Mother Earth, rights of specific entities like rivers, lakes, mountains).



# Targets for ‘Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming’

Fig SPM.3 Potential of environmental policy instruments to support transformative change towards more sustainable and just futures by representing diverse values.

Illustrative policy instruments		Potential for transformative change					Relevant decision-making scales	Key stakeholders to act
		Representing diverse values	Addressing direct and indirect drivers	Stimulating institutional change	Enhancing capacities	Being integrative and adaptive		
More transformative	Co-management regimes	●	●	●	●	●	🚩📍	Resource users Non-governmental organizations Governments
	Eliminating harmful subsidies	●	●	●	●	●	🌐🚩📍	Governments Intergovernmental organizations
	Payments for ecosystem services	●	●	●	●	●	🌐🚩📍	Governments Non-governmental organizations Business actors
	Other effective area-based conservation measures	●	●	●	●	●	🚩📍	Indigenous peoples and local communities Donors Governments Intergovernmental organizations
	Rights of nature	●	●	●	●	●	🚩📍	Governments
Less transformative	Certification schemes	●	●	●	●	●	🌐🚩📍	Business actors Governments Intergovernmental organizations
	Environmental accounting	●	●	●	●	●	🚩	Intergovernmental organizations Governments Business actors
	Legally protected areas	●	●	●	●	●	🚩📍	Governments Intergovernmental organizations Non-governmental organizations
Business as usual	Biodiversity offsets	●	●	●	●	●	🚩📍	Governments Business actors
	Trade bans	●	●	●	●	●	🌐	Governments Intergovernmental organizations Business actors

More transformative ← → Less transformative



International



National



Subnational/Local

# Targets for *‘Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming’*

**D5. The values held and expressed by indigenous peoples and local communities can inspire environmental governance models in different social-ecological contexts.**

- Sustainability-aligned values held and expressed by many indigenous peoples and local communities have **inspired other societies around the world**, and the incorporation of these values into laws and regulations.
- **Collaborative governance and co-design of management plans and policies** offer opportunities to make use of indigenous and local knowledge in the design and implementation of sustainable alternatives.
- **Developing ‘bridging’ and ‘governance’ capacities** can aid the translation of indigenous and local values into laws and regulations that could mobilize society’s sustainability-aligned values.

# Targets for *'Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming'*

## **GBF TARGET 14**

Ensure the [full] integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, [accounts,] and strategic environmental and environmental impact assessments within and across all levels of government and across all [social, economic and productive] sectors, [in particular agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, finance, tourism, health, manufacturing, infrastructure, energy and mining, and deep-sea mining with safeguards,] [applying safeguards as necessary,] [progressively] aligning all [relevant] public and private activities, [fiscal] and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework [and the Sustainable Development Goals].

... The assessment of the diverse values and valuation of nature is expected to contribute to achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the future post-2020 global biodiversity framework, towards just and sustainable futures.

**It can support Target 14 by providing relevant information related to:**

- **Uptake of valuation**
- **Capacity building**
- **Valuation methods**
- **Power dynamics in relation to values**
- **Stakeholder involvement**
- **Deliberative/participatory methods**

6



To conclude





**D9. Scientists, policymakers, indigenous peoples and local communities and other societal actors can collaborate in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and implementing the future post-2020 global biodiversity framework by ensuring due consideration of the diverse values of nature**








Achieving shared visions, such as those globally agreed under the Convention on Biological Diversity, relies on providing strategic policy guidance for national, subnational and local implementation as well as developing capacities to bridge across the different values of nature through fair and equitable participation of different actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities.

**Values-centred transformative change can be propelled by strengthening collaborations across diverse societal actors to revert the biodiversity crisis and navigate pathways to more sustainable and just futures.**



**Table SPM.6**  
**Transformative**  
**change can be**  
**propelled by**  
**synergistic actions**  
**by different actors to**  
**advance the**  
**consideration of the**  
**diverse values of**  
**nature in decision-**  
**making.**

**Examples of actions:**

Values-centered action points	STAKEHOLDERS						
	Intergovernmental organizations 	National and subnational governments 	Non-governmental organizations 	Academia 	Citizen groups/ indigenous peoples and local communities 	Private sector 	Media 
<b>Embed diverse values into decisions</b>	Promote the incorporation of diverse values into national biodiversity strategies	Implement policies that articulate diverse values	Develop values-centred safeguards	Address knowledge gaps	Mobilize sustainability-aligned values	Implement standards for values-based corporate responsibility	Communicate on the diversity of values of nature
<b>Foster policy coherence across sectors based on sustainability-aligned values</b>	Align policy with value diversity	Establish coordination mechanisms among sectors around shared values	Foster initiatives to make visible diverse values	Advance inter and transdisciplinary research on values	Advocate for recognition and respect for diverse values	Engage in cross-sectoral dialogue to build shared values	Highlight stories of successful values alignment
<b>Ensure representation of stakeholders' values</b>	Develop standards for inclusive participation in decisions	Encourage participatory policy design	Support valuation uptake in policy decisions	Assess representation in valuation and outcomes	Promote respect for marginalized world-views and values	Adopt practices of inclusive participation	Promote public debates on the diverse values of nature
<b>Enable capacities to embed diverse values into decisions</b>	Address barriers (e.g. understanding of trade-offs) to develop capacities of stakeholders	Enable mechanisms for policy uptake of plural valuation	Support capacity development activities based on nature's values	Build research programmes to strengthen the transformative potential of values-centred leverage points	Network to foster peer-to-peer learning	Support capacity development on values-based corporate sustainability standards	Train communication experts (including local communicators) on the role of nature's values
<b>Strengthen co-learning among stakeholders to develop shared values</b>	Promote projects that entail cross-sectoral planning by highlighting best practices	Encourage collaborative learning across scales and sectors	Document good co-learning practices across actor groups	Promote research on values incorporating different knowledge systems	Support awareness-raising among peers	Promote co-learning with affected stakeholders	Communicate on how shared values are built



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**Thank you!**

**¡Gracias!**

**Merci!**