



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

### ***Information Alert:***

### **Invasive Alien Species: IPBES Assessment Report Will Tackle One of the Five Leading Direct Drivers of the Biodiversity Crisis**

**Report Scheduled to Launch on Monday, 4 September 2023**

*“The rapidly growing threat that invasive alien species pose to biodiversity, ecosystem services, sustainable development and human well-being is generally poorly understood. This authoritative report will make a major contribution to filling critical knowledge gaps, supporting decision-makers and raising public awareness to underpin action to mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species.” - Professor Helen Roy, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Co-chair of the IPBES Invasive Alien Species Assessment Report*

- Presents latest evidence about status and trends of invasive alien species around the world
- Outlines options for decision-makers to choose and design appropriate responses
- Will inform implementation of Target 6 of the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- Prepared by 86 leading international experts from 49 countries, from all regions of the world
- Draws on more than 13,000 references, 4 years in development, at a total cost of more than \$1,5 million
- Will inform decisions by Governments, civil society, Indigenous Peoples & local communities, business etc.
- Planned Media Launch: 4 September 2023 at 14:00 CEST/08:00 EDT/13:00 UK BST
- Social Media: @IPBES #InvasiveAlienSpecies Assessment

On Monday, 4 September 2023, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ([IPBES](#)) plans to launch its **Assessment Report on Invasive Alien Species and their Control** (known as the “Invasive Alien Species Report”).

**Invasive alien species are one of the five major direct drivers of biodiversity loss globally**, alongside land- and sea-use change, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, and pollution.<sup>1</sup> Target 6 of the recently adopted **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** is to “**eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services**”. The IPBES Invasive Alien Species Assessment **responds to the need to support decision-makers in understanding the current status and trends of invasive alien species, their impacts, their drivers, management, and options for policy that effectively deal with the challenges they pose.**

The Report is **expected to be discussed and approved in the last week of August by the Plenary of IPBES, which represents almost 140 Governments** seeking to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**The Assessment has been more than four years in development, at a total cost of more than US\$1.5 million.** It has been prepared by **86 top international experts from 49 countries, from all regions of the world**, led by three co-chairs: Prof. Helen Roy (UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, United Kingdom); Prof. Aníbal Pauchard (Faculty of Forestry Sciences, University of Concepción and Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity, Chile); and Prof. Peter Stoett (University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada). It draws on more than 13,000 references that capture the diversity of existing knowledge on invasive alien species, including scientific articles, governmental reports, and Indigenous and local knowledge.

<sup>1</sup> As identified in the 2019 [IPBES Global Assessment Report](#)

The report will be considered at the tenth session of the IPBES Plenary (#IPBES10, 28 August – 2 September 2023). A ‘Summary for Policymakers’ of the Report, highlighting key messages, findings and options is scheduled for a hybrid (in-person and online) media launch at IPBES headquarters, Bonn, Germany, Monday, 4 September 2023, to be webcast live (streaming link will be made available at [www.ipbes.net](http://www.ipbes.net)) at 14:00 CEST (08:00 US EDT/13:00 UK BST – check for other times worldwide here: <https://bit.ly/3LMACM9>).

Media accreditation for the launch will begin in July 2023. To receive the invitation to accredit, journalists and media organisations not yet on the IPBES media list should subscribe here: <http://eepurl.com/hxkQgn> (media only please).

Often described as the ‘IPCC for Biodiversity’, IPBES is the global science-policy body tasked with providing the best-available evidence to decision-makers, for people and nature.

### Important aspects of the Invasive Alien Species Assessment

In 2019, the IPBES [Global Assessment Report](#) found that invasive alien species are one of the five major direct drivers of biodiversity loss. Building on these findings, the Invasive Alien Species Assessment:

- Assesses the array of invasive alien species that affect biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Analyzes the extent of the threat posed by such species to various categories of biodiversity and ecosystem services, including impacts on agrobiodiversity and food, human health and livelihood security
- Identifies the major pathways for and drivers of the introduction and spread of such species between and within countries
- Highlights the global status of and trends in the impacts of invasive alien species and associated management interventions by region and subregion, taking into account various knowledge and value systems
- Assesses the effectiveness of current international, national and subnational control measures and associated policy options that could be employed to prevent, eradicate and control invasive alien species, with an emphasis on response options

### Structure of the Invasive Alien Species Report

The Invasive Alien Species Report comprises **six chapters**, which provide the scientific basis for the key messages of the report. The chapters are:

1. Setting Introducing biological invasions and the IPBES assessment: concepts, terminology and risks
2. Synthesis of past and future trends, and status of alien and invasive alien species
3. Direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity change affecting biological invasions across different stages: transport, introduction, establishment and spread of invasive alien species
4. Impacts of biological invasions on nature, nature’s contributions to people, and good quality of life
5. Managing biological invasions: approaches, effectiveness and constraints
6. Future options for the prevention and control of biological invasions: governance and policy instruments

## Expected impacts

The IPBES Invasive Alien Species Report will:

- Provide decision-makers, including policymakers and a large diversity of stakeholders, with the best-available evidence, analysis and options about invasive alien species and their control
- Build understanding of the implications of biological invasions for achieving the Paris Climate Agreement, global biodiversity targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other major international objectives
- Recognize and emphasize the role different actors have in preventing and mitigating the impacts of invasive alien species, and the importance of aligning efforts for their control

## Reviewers and audiences

To ensure the highest-possible levels of accuracy, credibility and policy-relevance, the IPBES Invasive Alien Species Report has been extensively reviewed through an open and transparent process, through thousands of external review comments, from scientists and decision-makers (including Governments), practitioners and the holders of Indigenous and local knowledge.

The Invasive Alien Species Report has been prepared for a wide spectrum of decision-makers, including government and business leaders, civil society groups, indigenous peoples and local communities.

## IPBES Podcast

To hear Prof. Helen Roy, one of the three Co-chairs, speak more about the scope, scale and significance of the Assessment, listen to episode 5 of Season 3 of the IPBES Podcast, *Nature Insight* – available soon wherever you get your podcasts.

### 4-Year TIMELINE

<i>March 2018</i>	The IPBES Plenary, comprising representatives of IPBES member States, approved the ' <a href="#">scoping report</a> ' establishing the roadmap for the assessment.
<i>Aug - Oct 2020</i>	External experts reviewed first draft of the chapters, with review comments addressed in the subsequent drafts by IPBES experts.
<i>Dec 2021 – Feb 2022</i>	Governments and experts reviewed the second draft of the chapters and first draft of the summary for policymakers. These comments have been addressed in the final text by IPBES experts.
<i>August 2023</i>	Consideration by member States at #IPBES10 Plenary session of final text of the Summary for Policymakers in Bonn, Germany, followed by the planned media launch scheduled for 4 September 2023.

**Launch venue: #IPBES10, Bonn, Germany, 4 September 2023**

**For breaking news, the latest announcements, calls for experts and more, [register today as an IPBES stakeholder: www.ipbes.net/stakeholders](http://www.ipbes.net/stakeholders) (non-media)**

## About IPBES

With almost 140 member Governments, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is the global body that assesses the state of biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, in response to requests from decision-makers, and outlines options for the future based on different socio-economic choices.

The mission of IPBES is to strengthen policy and decisions through science, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development.

The IPBES secretariat is hosted by the German Government and located on the UN campus in Bonn. Several thousand scientists worldwide contribute to the work of IPBES on a voluntary basis. They are nominated by their Governments or organisations and selected by the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.

*The IPBES Pollination Assessment Report, released in 2016, was covered in 18 languages by over 1,300 media outlets in more than 80 countries. For the news release see: <http://bit.ly/2sq6gbQ>*

*The IPBES Regional Assessment Reports and the thematic Assessment Report on Land degradation and Restoration, released in 2017, were covered in 37 languages by over 2,500 media outlets in more than 124 countries. For the news releases see: <http://bit.ly/2C0tnNu> and <http://bit.ly/2ylipyo>*

*The IPBES Global Assessment Report, released in 2019, was covered in 50 languages by more than 10,500 media outlets in more than 170 countries. For the news release see: <http://bit.ly/GlobalAssessment>*

*The IPBES Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the IPBES Values Assessment Reports, released in 2022, were covered in 36 languages by over 1,800 different media outlets in more than 100 countries. For the media releases see [https://bit.ly/IPBES\\_SUA](https://bit.ly/IPBES_SUA) and [https://bit.ly/IPBES\\_VA](https://bit.ly/IPBES_VA).*

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