



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

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

### **'Transformative Change Assessment': Focus on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Crisis, Obstacles and Options for Just & Sustainable World**

### **'Strategies & Actions to Enable Fundamental System-Wide Reorganization'**

**Report Scheduled for Launch at 1pm GMT on Wednesday, 18 December 2024**

*"The IPBES [Global Assessment](#) made it clear: the only way to achieve our shared development goals is through transformative change – fundamental system-wide reorganization across technology, economy & society. To do this, we need to better understand the obstacles, but even more importantly the options for action that will bring about a more just and sustainable world." - Professor Arun Agrawal, University of Michigan, Co-chair of the IPBES Transformative change assessment Report*

- Highlights underlying causes & their impacts on the direct drivers of the biodiversity crisis
- Assesses & compares visions, scenarios & pathways for a more just and sustainable world
- Identifies most important barriers to transformative change
- Offers strategies & actions with greatest potential for transformative change and just transitions
- Prepared by 101 leading international experts from 42 countries, from all regions of the world
- Draws on 7,000 references, 3 years in development, at a total cost of more than \$1.5 million
- Will inform decisions & actions by Governments, civil society, Indigenous Peoples & local communities, business etc. to achieve the SDGs and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity
- Planned Media Launch: 18 December 2024 at 13:00 GMT/08:00 EDT/14:00 CET/15:00 CAT
- Social Media: @IPBES #TransformativeChange

On Wednesday, 18 December 2024, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ([IPBES](#)) plans to launch its **Assessment Report on the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity** (known as the "Transformative Change Report").

**The Report assesses the determinants of transformative change, the biggest obstacles it faces and how it occurs. It also identifies achievable options to foster, accelerate and maintain transformative change towards a sustainable world, and the steps to achieve global visions for transformative change.**

The Report is **expected to be discussed and approved in the third week of December 2024 by the Plenary of IPBES. The Plenary represents nearly 150 Governments** and seeks to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The Report has been **three years in development, at a total cost of more than US\$1.5 million**. It has been prepared by **101 top international experts (including 12 Fellows) from 42 countries, from all regions of the world**, led by three co-chairs: Prof. Arun Agrawal (India & USA), University of Michigan; Prof. Lucas Garibaldi (Argentina), National University of Río Negro; and Prof. Karen O'Brien (Norway/USA), University of Oslo. It draws on roughly 7,000 references that capture the diversity of existing knowledge on underlying causes of biodiversity loss, determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 vision for

biodiversity, including scientific articles, governmental reports, and Indigenous and local knowledge products and consultations.

The report will be considered at the eleventh session of the IPBES Plenary (#IPBES11, 10-16 December 2024). A 'Summary for Policymakers', highlighting key messages, findings and options is **scheduled for a hybrid (in-person and online) media launch in Windhoek, Namibia, on Wednesday, 18 December 2024 at 13:00 UK GMT/14:00 CET/08:00 EST – check for other times worldwide here: <https://bit.ly/46dvEAZ>**. Live webcast streaming link: [www.ipbes.net](http://www.ipbes.net)

**Media accreditation for the launch will begin in October. 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](https://www.ipcc.ch/) for Biodiversity', IPBES is the global science-policy body tasked with providing the best-available evidence to decision-makers, for people and nature.

### Questions to be Answered by the Transformative Change Report

To ensure direct relevance to policy and actions for transformative change to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, the SDGs and other vital global development objectives, the Transformative Change Report addresses a range of questions, including:

- What are transformative changes, and how do they relate to managing biodiversity and nature's contributions to people?
- How do transformative changes link to the relationship between indirect and direct drivers of biodiversity loss and degradation?
- How do different groups envision a sustainable world and what do these visions, and their underlying values imply for transformative changes across sectors and systems?
- What enables and accelerates transformative change? Which obstacles and challenges impede such change and how might these change over time, scale and context, and how can they be overcome?
- Which options and roles do policymakers, decision-makers, managers, stakeholders, citizens, businesses and organizations have, how might these change and how they can be achieved

### Structure of the Transformative Change Report

The Transformative Change Report comprises **five chapters**. These chapters provide the scientific basis for the key messages of the report. The chapters are:

1. Introducing transformative change, exploring consequences of inaction, and strategies to reverse biodiversity loss within production and consumption systems
2. Integrating science and indigenous knowledge with ethics and diverse worldviews to envision a sustainable world
3. Analyzing theories, frameworks, historical cases, research and actions that lead to transformative change
4. Overcoming the challenges of achieving transformative change towards a sustainable world
5. Synthesizing strategies, methods, instruments, options and actions for realizing a sustainable world for nature and people

## Expected impacts

The IPBES Transformative Change Report will:

- Provide decision-makers, including policymakers and a large diversity of stakeholders, with the best-available evidence, analysis and options for actions leading to transformative change
- Build an understanding of the implications of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss for achieving the Paris Climate Agreement, global biodiversity targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other major international development objectives
- Explore pathways for achieving the 2050 Vision of living in harmony with nature.

## Reviewers and audiences

To ensure the highest-possible levels of accuracy, credibility and policy-relevance, the IPBES Transformative Change 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 Transformative Change 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 more about the scope, scale and significance of the Assessment, listen to Season 4 of the IPBES Podcast, *Nature Insight* – available from late November 2024 wherever you get your podcasts.

3-Year TIMELINE	
<i>June 2021</i>	The IPBES Plenary, comprising representatives of IPBES member States, approved the ' <a href="#">scoping report</a> ' establishing the roadmap for the assessment.
<i>March 2023</i>	External experts reviewed first draft of the chapters, with review comments addressed in the subsequent drafts by IPBES experts.
<i>January 2024</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>December 2024</i>	Consideration by member States at #IPBES11 Plenary session of final text of the Summary for Policymakers in Windhoek, Namibia, followed by the planned media launch scheduled for 18 December 2024.

**Launch venue: #IPBES11, Windhoek, Namibia, 18 December 2024**

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

## About IPBES

With nearly 150 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. News release: <http://bit.ly/2sq6qbQ>*

*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. News releases: <http://bit.ly/2C0tnNu> and <http://bit.ly/2ylipy0>*

*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. News release: <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. News releases: [https://bit.ly/IPBES\\_SUA](https://bit.ly/IPBES_SUA) and [https://bit.ly/IPBES\\_VA](https://bit.ly/IPBES_VA).*

*The IPBES Invasive Alien Species Assessment Report, released in 2023, was covered in 44 languages, by more than 2,400 different media outlets in more than 105 countries. New release: <https://bit.ly/InvasiveMedia>*

For more information contact: [media@ipbes.net](mailto:media@ipbes.net) [www.ipbes.net](http://www.ipbes.net)

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