



26 June 2025

EM/2025/31

Invitation to observer organizations to the twelfth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES 12)

Dear representatives of observer organizations and of other stakeholder organizations,

I have the honor to invite you to participate in the twelfth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES 12), which is planned to be held **from 3 to 8 February 2026 at Manchester Central, in Manchester, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**. It will be possible for duly registered members of delegations to view the proceedings online. A Stakeholder Day will be organized on **2 February 2026**.

The provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Plenary is available on the IPBES website at <https://www.ipbes.net/events/ipbes-12-plenary>.

Stakeholder participation in IPBES 12 is open only to delegates that are officially nominated by their organizations that have been accredited as observers to previous sessions of the Plenary (<https://ipbes.net/accredited-organisations>). Each nominated member of a delegation is required to complete the online registration form at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/plenary-registration> and upload official nomination letter at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/nomination-letters-and-credentials> **as soon as possible, and no later than 5 December 2025**. Registration will be confirmed upon receipt of formal nomination letter only. It will suffice if official communication is uploaded only once by one of the members of the delegation or by a nominator. Individual registration is necessary for granting access to in-session documents and sharing meeting connection details. Please kindly note that an IPBES user account is required to complete the registration form. A user account can be created at <https://ipbes.net/user/register>.

Considering visa processing time, and to ensure participation in the meeting, delegates who require entry visas to the United Kingdom are strongly encouraged to **upload their nomination letters and register as soon as possible**. Information about visa processing times can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/visa-processing-times-applications-outside-the-uk>. To determine whether you need a visa to travel to the United Kingdom, please contact the respective consulate or embassy in your country or visit the website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-visa-requirements-list-for-carriers/uk-visa-requirements-for-international-carriers>. Please note that a visa may also be required for transit through some countries.

Please note that a separate registration is required for the Stakeholder Day at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/stakeholder-day-registration>. Registration

for the Stakeholder Day does not grant access to the twelfth session of the IPBES Plenary. Registration for the Stakeholder Day should be done by 2 January 2026.

Information for organizations seeking accreditation

Any body, organization or agency, whether national or international, governmental, intergovernmental or non-governmental, including organizations of and representatives of Indigenous peoples and local communities, which is qualified in matters covered by IPBES can apply to be admitted as observer. The Plenary will decide on the admission of new observers in accordance with the interim procedure described in paragraph 22 of the report of the first session of the Plenary (IPBES/1/12, available at <https://ipbes.net/document-library-catalogue/ipbes112>). To apply for admission as an observer, a representative of the body, organization or agency seeking accreditation is required to submit a formal letter, signed by the head of the organization, informing the IPBES secretariat of its wish to be represented at the twelfth session of the Plenary, and providing relevant information through the online application form available at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/accreditation> by **6 p.m. Central European Time on 31 October 2025**.

The IPBES Bureau will communicate the list of new organizations which it recommends to the Plenary for admission as observers to the twelfth session of the Plenary by **14 November 2025**. Delegations from organizations recommended for admission as observers can thereafter proceed to upload official communication containing the names of the members of their delegations at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/nomination-letters-and-credentials> and register at <https://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=/ipbes12/plenary-registration> by **5 December 2025**. Registration for the session will be confirmed by the secretariat after receipt of official communication.

I thank you again for your continued support of IPBES.

Yours sincerely,



Neville Ash | Officer-in-Charge

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)