



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

Information Alert:

Nature's Role in Global Economy Often Overlooked & Undervalued
First of Its Kind 'Business & Biodiversity Assessment' Will Provide Authoritative Evidence to
Understand Dependencies & Impacts of Business on Nature

Report Launch: 1pm GMT/2pm CET on Monday, 9 February 2026

"Engaging with nature is not optional for business – it is a necessity. Businesses are both beneficiaries of nature, and major contributors to its decline – so they have a critical role in ensuring the wise stewardship of our environment. This is vital for their bottom line, long-term prosperity and the transformative change needed for more just and sustainable futures." - Professor Ximena Rueda Fajardo, School of Management at Universidad de los Andes, Co-chair of the IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment

- Categorizes dependencies and impacts of businesses & financial institutions on biodiversity & nature's contributions to people – offering three typologies to improve understanding & awareness
- Provides inventory of approaches to review and evaluate methods for measuring dependencies and impacts
- Assesses options for action by businesses of all sizes, across regions, sectors and activities
- Highlights collaborations needed for an enabling environment with specific focus on Governments, the financial sector, consumers, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and civil society
- Will strengthen efforts by businesses to achieve the goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework by 2030 and the global vision of a world living in harmony with nature by 2050
- First-ever IPBES 'fast-track' assessment, prepared by 80 international experts from 35 countries, from all regions of the world and diverse disciplines
- Draws on thousands of references, 3 years in development, at a total cost of more than \$1.5 million
- Builds directly on the IPBES Values Assessment and Transformative Change Assessment Reports
- Planned Media Launch: 9 February 2026 at 13:00 GMT/08:00 EST/14:00 CET/15:00 CAT/ 21:00 CST
- Social Media: @IPBES #BizBiodiversity

The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ([IPBES](#)) will launch its **first-ever 'fast-track' assessment report** on Monday, 9 February 2026 in Manchester, UK.

The IPBES methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (known as the "Business and Biodiversity Report") is **expected to be approved at the twelfth session of the IPBES Plenary (#IPBES12, 3-8 February 2026)** by representatives of the 150 member Governments of IPBES.

The culmination of almost three years of work by **80 of the world's leading experts** from science and the private sector, as well as from Indigenous Peoples and local communities – drawn from **35 countries** – the Report **aims to provide information and options that can be used by businesses and financial institutions to drive better outcomes for biodiversity and nature's contributions to people.**

What is a 'fast-track' assessment? One that has been completed in a shorter time than other IPBES assessments. Typically, this entails two years of work (compared to four), two meetings of all the authors (compared to three) and a single round of external expert review (compared to two).

Expected impacts

The IPBES Business and Biodiversity Report will:

- Provide decision-makers, including Governments, businesses and the financial sector with the critical information necessary to best measure the dependencies and impacts of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people
- Inform more integrated business and financial decisions and actions to simultaneously achieve the SDGs, the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Paris Agreement
- Recognize and emphasize the role different actors have in addressing these challenges

The **primary audience** of the Report includes **governments at all levels, businesses and financial institutions**. It will also have significant value to **consumers, civil society, Indigenous Peoples and local communities** in their interactions with businesses. The evidence and options highlighted by the Report will promote business accountability and transparency, improve producer and consumer knowledge of impacts and dependencies on nature, and will also inform finance and investment decisions.

A 'Summary for Policymakers' highlighting key messages, findings and options is scheduled for a hybrid (in-person and online) **media launch in Manchester, United Kingdom, on Monday, 9 February 2026 at 13:00 GMT/08:00 EST/14:00 CET/15:00 CAT/21:00 CST** – check for other times worldwide here: <https://bit.ly/BizBDTime> Live webcast streaming link: www.ipbes.net

Media accreditation for the launch will begin in November 2025. To receive the invitation to accredit, journalists and media organisations not yet on the IPBES media list should subscribe here: <https://bit.ly/IPBESMediaSub> (media only please). Non-media organizations (including businesses) wishing to receive the invitation to accredit should email: mea-ipbes-stakeholders@un.org

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. IPBES assessment reports **respond directly to requests from governments and decision-makers** – making them immediately relevant around the world.

Important aspects of the Business and Biodiversity Report

The conservation, restoration and sustainable use of nature is not just an environmental goal – it is an essential component of sustainable, successful business. Nature's economic contributions, though critical, are often overlooked and undervalued. The rapid expansion of economic activity, without proper attention to its negative side effects, has taken its toll on nature, which in turn poses serious threats to business.

Building on the work published by IPBES over the last decade, the Business and Biodiversity Report:

- **Categorizes the dependencies and impacts of businesses and financial institutions on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people** – offering typologies of the different business sectors, dependencies and impacts (both direct and indirect) of businesses and financial sectors
- **Highlights the collaborative actions with Governments at all levels, consumers, civil society, Indigenous Peoples and local communities** that are required to promote an enabling environment for business to address impacts and dependencies on nature
- **Evaluates approaches for measuring and reporting on these impacts and dependencies** – providing an inventory of methods across types and levels of decision-making for better decisions
- **Identifies actions that can be taken by businesses to directly support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

Structure of the Business and Biodiversity Report

In addition to a short Summary for Policymakers, the Business and Biodiversity Report comprises **six chapters**:

1. *Setting the scene*, including a typology of different business sectors that depend on and impact biodiversity (formal and informal)
2. *Business dependencies on biodiversity*, exploring a typology of the wide variety of methods and approaches to identify dependencies of businesses of different types and sizes – providing concrete examples and noting potential synergies and trade-offs with other societal goals
3. *Business impacts on biodiversity*, offering a typology of impacts across direct, value chain and indirect impacts, pathways of impacts, and estimates of the impact of different business sectors
4. *Measuring dependencies and impacts*, assessing approaches for measurement (including frameworks, metrics, indicators, models, data and tools- with an inventory of methods).
5. *Options for action for businesses*, describing potential options for ways businesses can use measurement of dependence and impact in their operations to improve social, economic and environmental performance, providing specific examples of collaboration within and across sectors
6. *Options for action for Governments, the financial sector and civil society*, in their interactions with business to create an enabling environment through, among others, policy, procurement, governance, lending and investment, insurance and monitoring

Reviewers

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

IPBES Podcast

To hear more about the scope, scale and significance of the Report, listen to Season 5 of the IPBES Podcast, *Nature Insight* – available from November 2025 [wherever you get your podcasts](#).

3-Year TIMELINE	
July 2022	The IPBES Plenary, comprising representatives of IPBES member Governments, approved the ' scoping report ' establishing the roadmap for the assessment.
Jul- Sep 2024	External experts reviewed the first draft of the report, with review comments addressed in the subsequent drafts by IPBES experts.
May - Jun 2025	Additional Government review of the summary for policymakers. These comments have been addressed in the final text by IPBES experts.
February 2026	Consideration by member Governments at #IPBES12 Plenary session of final text of the Summary for Policymakers in Manchester, UK, followed by the planned media launch scheduled for 9 February 2026.

Launch venue: #IPBES12, Manchester, UK, 9 February 2026

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

About IPBES

With 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 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 and 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. News release: <https://bit.ly/InvasiveMedia>

The IPBES Nexus and Transformative Change Assessment Report, released in 2024, were covered in 30 languages, by more than 1,000 different media outlets in more than 80 countries. News releases: <https://bit.ly/NexusEnglish> and <https://bit.ly/TransformativeChangeEnglish>

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