
Scoping report for a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

- advance unedited version -

I. Scope and rationale, geographical coverage, temporal coverage and methodological approach

A. Scope and rationale

1. The overall objective of the second IPBES global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (referred to hereafter as “the second global assessment”) is to assess relevant knowledge that has become available since the publication of *The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*¹ and assess progress towards achieving the goals of sustainability and living in harmony with nature. The second global assessment will strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people on a range of spatial scales, from the local to the global, by providing the knowledge and the policy support tools needed for informed decision-making. The second global assessment will be delivered in 2028.
2. The specific objectives of the second global assessment are:
 - (a) To support Governments and other actors in implementing the objectives of relevant multilateral environmental agreements and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (b) To support the assessment of progress towards the achievement of the global targets for 2030 and the global goals for 2050 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework² and of relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets;
 - (c) To assess the scientific and technical basis as well as different knowledge systems and policy-relevant information for the additional efforts needed in the current and subsequent decades to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.
3. Prior assessments have highlighted the multiple direct and underlying drivers that are leading to the decline of nature; complex and intersecting response pathways; and the essential role of justice and equity in transforming societal actions across the planet to halt and reverse the decline of nature and to increase nature’s contributions to people. The second global assessment will build on these findings by critically reviewing new evidence relating to the status and trends of the loss of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people, the causation in relation with multiple drivers, and the consequences for people and nature. It will evaluate new information on the urgency of action and consequences of delayed action, and on the experiences of effecting transformative change and further options to achieve the sustainable development goals and living in harmony with nature.
4. The second global assessment will incorporate and build on completed IPBES assessments and the findings of other science-policy panels, identifying policy-relevant information for achieving the global goals referred to in paragraph 2 above. Countries have faced immense challenges in achieving some of the objectives and targets agreed to date. The second global assessment will reflect on these challenges and also highlight positive examples, showing enabling conditions for success and indicating ways to address challenges and barriers so that successful and effective approaches could be extended and replicated on a variety of scales to add up to the desired outcomes at the global scale outlined in paragraph 2.
5. It will also address critical gaps in the first Global Assessment as well as emerging issues. These gaps and issues include the need for more comprehensive attention to oceans. It will also consider neglected components of biodiversity; multiple worldviews and different knowledge systems; and relevant social issues and different social groups. The second global assessment will assess the different challenges, lessons learned and potential solutions within and among regions in a scientific

¹ IPBES (2019): *The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Brondizio, E. S., Settele, J., Díaz, S. and Ngo, H. T. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3831673>.

² Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in decision CBD/COP/DEC/15/4

and balanced manner. The issues related to Indigenous Peoples and local communities will be comprehensively addressed, including multiple worldviews and values.

6. The second global assessment will highlight and synthesize the findings of prior assessments relating to the differing roles of actors such as Governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the private sector and civil society, women and youth, and their value systems, in delivering the building blocks for transformative change. A dedicated chapter on multiple knowledge systems, with a focus on Indigenous and local knowledge, will provide for greater inclusion, introducing content that will be woven through all the chapters of the assessment. Consistent with all IPBES assessments, the second global assessment will provide a technically and scientifically balanced evaluation of global biodiversity and ecosystem services being scientifically independent and unbiased as well as remaining neutral with respect to policy.

B. Geographical coverage

7. The second global assessment will cover both regional and global dimensions. It will provide information relevant to all biogeographic and oceanographic zones from the regional to the global level, including terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems.

C. Temporal coverage

8. In line with the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the assessment will prioritize the period 2011 to 2020 as the reference period for monitoring and reporting progress.

9. The analyses will consider trends up to 2025, focusing primarily on the past 50 years, and where information is available looking back prior to the industrial revolution or as far back as is clearly relevant. The analyses will also consider future pathways up to 2100, or as far forward as relevant, with a focus on the period 2030 to 2050. Long-term historical data will be used as an information source for possible baselines and contemporary reference states that could be considered for various national, regional or global indicator comparisons.

D. Methodological approach

10. The assessment will consist of a summary for policymakers and five chapters, each with an executive summary of the key findings of that chapter. The assessment will also include a cross-chapter synthesis of the findings on oceans. The length of the summary for policymakers should remain within a limit of approximately 10,000 words. Indicative word limits are also provided in the chapter outline below.

11. The assessment will apply the IPBES conceptual framework.³

12. The assessment will draw on scientific literature, Indigenous and local knowledge and grey literature, in different languages, in line with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables.⁴

13. The assessment will focus on new evidence that has emerged since the publication of *The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*⁵ and will build on other recently completed IPBES assessment reports, such as *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature*,⁶ the *Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of*

³ Decision IPBES-2/4, annex I, and decision IPBES-5/1, sect. III, paras. 8 and 9.

⁴ Decision IPBES-3/3, annex I.

⁵ IPBES (2019): *The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Brondizio, E. S., Settele, J., Díaz, S. and Ngo, H. T. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3831673>.

⁶ IPBES (2022). *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Balvanera, P., Pascual, U., Christie, M., Baptiste, B., and González-Jiménez, D. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6522522>.

*Wild Species*⁷ and *The Thematic Assessment Report on Invasive Alien Species and their Control*.⁸ The second global assessment will also draw on any assessment reports published during its development, including *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health*,⁹ *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss, Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity*,¹⁰ and those on the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people; and on the monitoring of biodiversity and nature's contributions to people. It will also make use of other relevant assessments. The second global assessment will build on the approach developed in the first Global Assessment, emphasizing new information, but striving to keep the two assessments comparable.

14. The assessment will identify key gaps in relevant knowledge and data and establish priorities among these gaps.

15. The assessment will be conducted by an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary team of experts with experience in the conduct of regional and global analyses relating to nature and nature's contributions to people in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. The expert team will represent a diverse range of backgrounds, disciplines and knowledge systems, including Indigenous and local knowledge systems, and have regional and gender balance.

16. The following objectives of the rolling work programme up to 2030 of IPBES¹¹ will be implemented in the context of the assessment through collaboration among the experts conducting the assessment and the relevant task forces and technical support units: objective 2 on building capacity; objective 3 on strengthening the knowledge foundations, including objective 3 a) on advanced knowledge and data and objective 3 (b) on enhanced recognition of and work with Indigenous and local knowledge systems; and objective 4 on supporting policy, including objective 4 (a) on advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies and objective 4 (b) on advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.

II. Chapter outline

17. **Chapter 1: Setting the scene** (indicative length: 15,000 words). This chapter will comprise sections on how the assessment applies the IPBES conceptual framework; how the global context relating to biodiversity and nature's contributions to people has changed since the *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*; and the structure of the assessment in terms of chapters:

18. **The IPBES conceptual framework and associated terminology, classifications and typologies.** The chapter will set out the IPBES conceptual framework and its different elements, placing particular emphasis on the connections among them. It will present the classifications and typologies related to units of analysis, nature's contributions to people, direct and indirect drivers, good quality of life, multiple values, and scenarios. It will explain how the IPBES conceptual framework allows for different world views and different epistemological and methodological approaches to the core elements and connections, and how the framework uses different but closely related terms for key concepts, such as "nature's contributions to people", "ecosystem goods and services" and "nature's gifts". It will present how the assessment will incorporate different disciplines

⁷ IPBES (2022). *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Fromentin, J. M., Emery, M. R., Donaldson, J., Danner, M. C., Hallosserie, A., and Kielling, D. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6448567>.

⁸ IPBES (2023). *The Thematic Assessment Report on Invasive Alien Species and their Control of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Roy, H. E., Pauchard, A., Stoett, P., and Renard Truong, T. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7430682>.

⁹ IPBES (2024). *Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Harrison, P. A., McElwee, P. D., and van Huysen, T. L. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. DOI

¹⁰ IPBES (2024). *Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. O'Brien, K., Garibaldi, L., and Agrawal, A. (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. DOI

¹¹ Decision IPBES-7/1, annex I.

and different knowledge systems, worldviews and values. It will also present how the assessment will consider a variety of perspectives, including those of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

19. **A changing context.** The chapter will also explain the evolving context of international policy on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. It will highlight areas that will be more prominent in the second global assessment than in the first.

20. **The roadmap.** The chapter will lay out the narrative thread of the assessment, presenting the chapters and describing the connections between them. It will introduce cross-cutting themes.

21. **Chapter 2: Different knowledge systems and the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities** (indicative length: 20,000 words). The second global assessment as a whole will implement the IPBES approach to recognizing and working with Indigenous and local knowledge. This individual chapter will explore the diverse and plural values and world views of Indigenous Peoples and local communities all over the world, drawing out common themes. This chapter will assess diverse knowledge systems in accordance with the IPBES conceptual framework, including "Living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth", and integrating the holistic, biocentric, ecocentric, and cosmocentric worldviews and related values of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. It will also assess their relevance from the local to the global scale for driving a transformative change towards a just and sustainable world.

22. The chapter will assess the ways in which Indigenous Peoples and local communities interact with their environment and the reciprocal relationships between nature, including Mother Earth and systems of life, and people. It will examine the roles of social relationships, kinship, caring and the guardianship of nature and how these are supported by the knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. This includes values, practices, management, technologies and institutions for environmental and territorial governance in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems, considering the importance of supporting their livelihoods and alternative sources of income to achieve sustainable biodiversity outcomes. Responses of these knowledge systems to changing social, cultural, economic and environmental conditions will also be examined.

23. The chapter will inform other chapters on how to weave together diverse worldviews, including Indigenous and local knowledge systems. It will draw out common themes and crosscutting elements to be considered and further elaborated in the following chapters. It will document how such views offer ways of approaching the relations between nature and people and their relevance from the regional to the global scale as well as ways of managing conflicts between different value systems.

24. **Chapter 3: Status and trends** (indicative length: 60,000 words). This chapter will consist of introduction and summary sections and four interrelated subchapters (the sequence of which may be different from that listed below) that describe the status of and trends relating to the main elements of the IPBES conceptual framework (good quality of life; direct and indirect drivers; nature; and nature's contributions to people) and the key connections among them. The subchapters will outline the connections among the components and elaborate on the causes and consequences of changes to those components. Each subchapter will use a range of indicators to present the trends, preferably, but not limited to the indicators adopted under relevant multilateral environmental agreements, in particular under the Convention on Biological Diversity. In doing so, the chapter will contribute to assessing trends relevant to progress against globally agreed goals, particularly of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,¹² and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, where possible, avoiding potential duplication with work undertaken by other processes, such as those under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The chapter will focus primarily on the global level but will also present regional status and trends.

25. The final section will provide a summary of the major themes in terms of changes in direct and indirect drivers, nature, nature's contributions to people and good quality of life across terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. The summary will address the specific objective of the second global assessment in subparagraph 2 (b), above, including the degree to which the status and trends in good quality of life, direct and indirect drivers, nature, and nature's contributions to people are consistent with the achievement of international policy goals and targets, including those mentioned in the specific objective in subparagraph 2 (a).

26. The chapter will examine new evidence related to Indigenous and local knowledge since the publication of the subchapters on nature, nature's contributions to people and drivers of change in the

¹² Including its goals, targets and means of implementation.

first Global Assessment. In line with chapter 2, it will provide an updated assessment of the evidence on the role and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to biodiversity and nature's contributions to people and of the changes affecting the relationships among them. The assessment of these findings should be included, where relevant, in each of the subchapters.

27. **Good quality of life.** This subchapter will build on the material contained in chapter 1 regarding conceptions of good quality of life and assess the status of and trends in good quality of life, with attention to justice and inequities in the distribution of benefits. It will discuss the connection between nature and good quality of life through nature's contributions to people including the potential to alleviate poverty and improve health outcomes. It will also discuss how conceptions of good quality of life help shape indirect drivers. The chapter will consider appropriate indicators to assess status and trends in quality of life relevant to Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their territories.

28. **Direct and indirect drivers.** This subchapter will describe indicators that measure direct and indirect drivers in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. It will summarize trends in demographics, sociocultural values, economic and market forces, technological change, institutions and governance, and other indirect drivers. It will also summarize trends in direct drivers of changes in nature. It will discuss how changes in indirect drivers are related to changes in direct drivers and how they have evolved since the first Global Assessment. The chapter will assess the impact of direct and indirect drivers on nature and nature's contribution to people including in relation to territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

29. **Nature.** This subchapter will describe indicators that measure aspects related to nature, such as genetic diversity, the number of species and their extinction risk, distribution and abundance, and ecological processes, ecosystem integrity and connectivity, across the range of taxonomic groups and terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems and provide evidence regarding the status of and trends in these indicators. The subchapter will also present evidence of the impact of drivers on nature and will assess the impacts of conservation, restoration and sustainable use. It will explore how changes in biodiversity are causing changes in the functioning, integrity and stability of ecosystems. The chapter will provide an analysis of the status and trends of nature within and around the territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including compiling published evidence and indicators of trends in nature as observed by Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

30. **Nature's contributions to people.** This subchapter will provide evidence regarding the status of and trends in regulating, material and non-material nature's contributions to people from terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. As part of the analysis, this subchapter will consider the distribution of the contributions across different groups, for example, by region, ethnicity, gender or income class. It will build on completed IPBES assessments to present evidence of the value of nature's contributions to people, the trade-offs and co-benefits among contributions. The chapter will assess status and trends in nature's contributions to people within and around territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

31. **Chapter 4: Future pathways** (indicative length: 25,000 words). The chapter will consider a variety of future pathways and highlight the actions needed as well as the challenges and opportunities in light of the transformative pathways needed to meet globally agreed goals.

32. **Setting the stage regarding future pathways.** In setting the stage regarding future pathways, the chapter will build on information from *The Methodological Assessment Report on Scenarios and Models of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*,¹³ including the importance of assessing a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods. It will highlight progress made since the first Global Assessment, including greater synergies between climate and biodiversity knowledge communities, work on the Nature Futures Framework, a flexible tool to support the development of scenarios and models of desirable futures for people, nature and Mother Earth¹⁴ and work on multiscale scenarios and models. It will consider various uses of analysis of future pathways including exploratory, target-seeking, policy-screening and retrospective policy evaluation. It will assess the uptake and evaluation of future

¹³ IPBES (2016): *The Methodological Assessment Report on Scenarios and Models of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. Ferrier, S., Ninan, K. N., Leadley, P., Alkamade, R., Acosta, L. A., Akçakaya, H. R., Brotons, L., Cheung, W. W. L., Christensen, V., Harhash, K. A., Kabubo-Mariara, J., Lundquist, C., Obersteiner, M., Pereira, H. M., Peterson, G., Pichs-Madruga, R., Ravindranath N., Rondinini, C. and B. A. Wintle (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3235428>.

¹⁴ While the phrase "a flexible tool to support the development of scenarios and models of desirable futures for people, nature and Mother Earth" does not appear after each mention of the Nature Futures Framework in the present document, it is understood that any mention of the Framework implicitly includes this subtitle.

pathways in policymaking and decision-making regarding nature and nature's contributions to people. The chapter will assess works that represent the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their issues of concern regarding future pathways. It will also underscore the issues that need to be given greater emphasis than in the first Global Assessment. Finally, this section will outline how scenarios and models are relevant to the implementation of the policy frameworks as laid-out in paragraph 2.

33. ***Urgency of action.*** The chapter will focus on the insights that scenarios and models provide concerning the pace of action needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. It will also highlight the pace and magnitude of the transformative change required to achieve the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature and the sustainable development goals. It will review business-as-usual pathways and will explore potential surprises and critical thresholds in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. It will identify significant uncertainties in these scenarios and explain what those uncertainties mean for decision makers. It will place special emphasis on how these pathways can result in an uneven distribution of impacts, costs and benefits for various regions and social groups, including for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their territories and future generations.

34. ***Transformative pathways.*** The chapter will also focus on transformative pathways for terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems. This will start with a detailed description of the elements of transformative change and how transformative pathways and visions can be explored using different methods. It will mobilize a wide range of work on pathways, including applications of the Nature Futures Framework and sustainability-oriented shared socioeconomic pathways, and use real-world examples to illustrate pathways. Examples will include cases led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities from different regions. Based on the work of chapter 2, the chapter will explore the elements for addressing future pathways for a just and sustainable world for people and nature, and living in balance and harmony with Mother Earth. The chapter will examine synergies and trade-offs in transformative pathways, from a nexus perspective and across social groups and sectors. Finally, it will assess how different drivers and combinations of drivers contribute to achieving biodiversity and sustainability goals on the basis of policy and management intervention scenarios.

35. This chapter will end with a section that summarizes the consequences of following business-as-usual as compared to transformative pathways for nature, nature's contributions to people and good quality of life across terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems.

36. **Chapter 5: Options for action** (indicative length: 25,000 words). This chapter will consider options for action, by all actors at all levels, which will generally focus on timescales of up to 2050, but may consider longer timescales as appropriate. This analysis will consider the implications of multilateral environmental agreements and other multilateral processes for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their territorial and resource rights, as appropriate.

37. ***Learning from past action.*** The chapter will critically review evidence of why previous biodiversity goals under multilateral environmental agreements have not yet been achieved or, on the other hand, why they have promoted positive outcomes at larger scales. Building on the first Global Assessment, it will consider lessons learned from the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and early information on progress in the implementation and monitoring of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The chapter will critically evaluate the literature on the impact of biodiversity-related policies and biodiversity mainstreaming into sectors and measures on biodiversity and different groups of people, particularly those in poverty. It will also look at the impact on Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The chapter will identify gaps, conflicts and mismatches among policy instruments, regulations and financial and other incentives and consider implications for action at the local, national, regional and international levels and by different groups of stakeholders.

38. ***Building on successful examples.*** Recognizing that there are examples of success at all levels, the chapter will identify promising options for actions and synthesize evidence regarding the factors and enabling conditions that allow actions and innovations to be sustained and disseminated to promote transformative change. It will examine cases where synergies among actions and productive collaborations between the community, municipal, state, national and international levels have emerged. The chapter will present successful cases and examples including, but not limited to, initiatives developed and led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in different regions.

39. ***A portfolio of options for action.*** The chapter will employ an inclusive understanding of the term "options" that includes policy, economic and financial instruments; information and education; direct intervention and infrastructure development, market creation and enhancement; and voluntary and collaborative approaches, sectoral and cross-sectoral approaches, and individual and collective action initiatives. The chapter will consider options for action and where the options may be targeted

by an array of stakeholders in urban and rural areas, including actions that involve and affect Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The chapter will examine realistic options for strengthening the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It will examine how different groups of stakeholders can contribute to environmental governance at different levels. The chapter will also consider the role of customary institutions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the governance of nature and nature's contributions to people, and options that stem from ecocentric worldviews that can be applied at regional and global scales. The chapter will consider options for action based on evidence using criteria such as effectiveness, efficiency, equity, inclusiveness, feasibility, flexibility, transparency and accountability. In identifying and prioritizing options for action, the chapter will build on the work of the IPBES monitoring assessment due to be delivered in 2026 and will consider how to improve the monitoring of changes in nature, nature's contributions to people and good quality of life and of the drivers of biodiversity change.

40. **Financing.** In identifying and prioritizing options for action, the chapter will consider the challenges faced by countries, in particular developing countries, and other actors in leveraging resources to support the implementation of the objectives set out in paragraph 2, above, as well as evaluate the effectiveness of various types of financial instruments. In doing so, the chapter may compile examples of successful experiences. The chapter will compile relevant data on the costs and investments needed to support the implementation of conservation, restoration and sustainable use interventions, and include data on the costs of delayed action. The chapter will also evaluate enabling factors and barriers to action in relation to achievement of the objectives of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

III. Timetable

<i>Date</i>	<i>Actions and institutional arrangements</i>
2025	
First quarter	The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the secretariat, requests nominations, by Governments and other stakeholders, of experts to produce the assessment
Second quarter	The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel selects the assessment co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors, in line with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables, including by implementing the procedure for filling gaps in expertise, in line with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables set out in decision IPBES 3/3
Third/fourth quarter	First author meeting with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, review editors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment
2026	
Second/third quarter	First external review (eight weeks): draft chapters are made available for review by experts
Third quarter	Second author meeting with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, review editors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment Back to back with the second author meeting: first meeting to advance the preparation of the summary for policymakers with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment
Fourth quarter/first quarter of 2027	Second meeting to advance the preparation of the summary for policymakers with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment
2027	
Second quarter	Second external review (eight weeks): draft chapters and draft of the summary for policymakers are made available for review by Governments and experts. The start date of the second external review corresponds to the cut-off date beyond which no citation of new scientific literature can be added, unless triggered by a comment from the second external review
Third quarter	Third author meeting with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors, lead authors, review editors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment Back to back with the third author meeting: third meeting to advance the preparation of the summary for policymakers with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors and

<i>Date</i>	<i>Actions and institutional arrangements</i>
	members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment
2028	
First quarter	Additional review of the summary for policymakers by Governments (six weeks)
Second quarter	Fourth meeting, held online, to advance the preparation of the summary for policymakers with the co-chairs, coordinating lead authors and members of the Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel that are part of the management committee for the assessment
Third/fourth quarter	Final review (six weeks): final draft of the chapters and draft of the summary for policymakers are made available for review by Governments
Fourth quarter	Consideration by the Plenary, at its fifteenth session, of the summary for policymakers for approval and of the chapters for acceptance
	Communication activities in relation to the assessment