# Concept note: 4th pan-European stakeholders consultation for IPBES (PESC-4)

**Date and place:** 12-14 June 2017, Vácrátót, Hungary

**Duration:** 2 full days

## Objectives of PESC-4

1. **Promote stakeholders’ engagement in IPBES work**

* by building capacities to provide inputs to IPBES deliverables *(e.g. discussions between IPBES authors and stakeholders enabling learning from each other’s expectations and requirements; presentation of the ways to engage with IPBES)*
* by sharing experiences on how to coordinate national biodiversity work to promote it in the context of IPBES *(e.g. workshop with French-speaking African countries on governance led by FRB in September 2016 could provide useful perspectives for Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries’ participation to IPBES; network of European platforms engaging in IPBES)*

1. **Strengthen collaboration on biodiversity research at the pan-European level, including central Asia**

* by providing room for discussion, meeting and networking between all stakeholders
* by presenting and fostering research initiatives aiming to fill gaps identified in the scenarios and models and the pollination assessment
* by promoting the engagement of ILK and social science experts in IPBES work

**3. Contribute to the preparation of IPBES products and develop capacities on the review process of IPBES reports**

- by promoting dialogue on the second order draft (SOD) of the regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia to facilitate the provision of review comments by experts and governments during the external review phase

- by developing capacities related to IPBES assessment process and the process of approval and acceptance at IPBES-6

- by providing guidance to enhance stakeholders’ engagement in IPBES *(e.g. based on the survey on stakeholder needs)*

## Expected outputs

* Comments by IPBES member states and other stakeholders on the second order draft of the regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia and the first draft of the summary for policymakers, to be submitted to IPBES as a stakeholders’ review during the open review (1 May-26 June)
* Recommendations? for setting up a national coordination for IPBES (key stakeholders to be involved, communication plan…) in willing countries

**Target audience**

Knowledge holders from Pan-Europe (spanning Western and Eastern Europe as well as Central Asia, i.e. parts of the UN-regions WEOG, EEG, Asia-Pacific)

These knowledge holders may be affiliated to governmental and administrative bodies of IPBES member states or non-member states, IPBES subsidiary bodies, scientific institutions, non-governmental organisations, other civil-society organisations, or the business-sector, dealing with issues related to biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Enhanced efforts will be dedicated to the participation of social science and ILK experts, and of biodiversity practitioners.

Focal points of Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries will also be specifically targeted as relevant participants to achieve PESC-4 objectives.

It is expected that there will be about 20 participants of each of the three main groups: decision-makers/academics/stakeholders (NGOs, private sector, ILK holders…)

**Organisers**

PESC-4 is co-organised by the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB), the Institute of Ecology and Botany of the Hungarian Centre for Ecological Research (MTA-ÖK) and the German Network and Forum for Biodiversity Research (NeFo), in collaboration with the management Committee for the IPBES regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia, IPBES technical support unit for capacity-building and the Belgium Biodiversity Platform.

**Background information on the key topics**

**Capacity building**

Capacity building is one of the four core functions of IPBES and is therefore dedicated special attention in its work programme for 2014-2018. A task force on capacity building, consisting of experts from around the world and supported by the technical support unit (TSU) provided by Norway (Norwegian Environment Agency), has developed the [IPBES rolling plan for capacity building](http://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/downloads/pdf/ipbes_5-3-advance.pdf#page=7) which was adopted at IPBES 5th plenary session (IPBES-5) in March 2017. The plan aims to address the priority capacity building needs agreed in plenary (see doc [IPBES/3/18](http://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/downloads/Decision_IPBES_3_1_EN_0.pdf#page=8)), related to scientific capacity to conduct assessments on one hand, and decision-makers capacity to use the assessments on the other hand. Several actions of the rolling plan for capacity building are implemented by the IPBES Secretariat through IPBES trust fund, such as the fellowship programme and expert training, but many activities rely on contributions from partners supporting IPBES work.

PESC-4 is contributing to the general implementation of the plan, especially to Strategy 3: strengthening national and regional capacities and the promotion of national and regional platforms and networks on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**Stakeholders’ engagement**

IPBES is an intergovernmental initiative at the interface of science, policy and society. To ensure a larger engagement, It aimes to reach to a large panel of stakeholders, from local governments to research institutes to NGOs to businesses, among others. There are several entry points for stakeholders to engage in IPBES, such as (i) nominating experts when IPBES is forming an expert group (as agreed in the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables, 80% of experts are nominated by Governments and 20% of experts are nominated by stakeholders); (ii) send inputs and suggestions for IPBES programme of work; (iii) provide comments on IPBES products to be addressed by the expert group in charge of the product; and (iv) disseminate and use IPBES findings in one’s everyday activities.

However, several challenges remain for a meaningful participation of stakeholders in IPBES, such as constraints related to time availability, language or format of work. IPBES launched a first survey to identify stakeholders’ needs, whose results will be discussed at PESC-4 with the aim of finding solutions to address those needs.

**IPBES regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia**

The regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia (ECA assessment) was launched in 2015. A first draft was open for expert review in summer 2016, and subsequently the authors and review editors addressed the comments and started preparing a second order draft. One of the key issues identified in the first draft when examined by PESC-3 was the geographical imbalance between European Western countries and the rest of the region, including Eastern Europe and Central Asia. PESC-3 participants were able to point to useful sources and publications to try and address this lack of information on biodiversity and ecosystem services in these regions. The second order draft and the first draft of the summary for policymakers (SPM) will be open for review from 1 May to 26 June 2017. PESC-4 will look at this second draft and at the SPM and provide comments as an input to the review process.

**Draft programme**

#### Day 1: Monday 12 June

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| **Time** | **Session** | | | **Presenter** |
| 12.00-13.30 | Registration and buffet lunch | | |  |
| 13.30-14.00 | Welcome | | | MTA |
| 14.00-15.00 | Introductive session: IPBES functions, objectives, work programme, structures and ‘landscape’ (TSUs, Task Forces, MEP etc.); links to other relevant processes (CBD/SBSTTA, SDGs) | | | IPBES Secretariat |
| 15.00-15.30 | Coffee break | | |  |
| 15.30-16.15 | Introduction to the ECA assessment, the outcome of the first review process and what is expected from the 2nd review | | | Assessment co-chairs |
| 16.15-16.30 | Organization of work at PESC-4 for 2nd review  *Participants will be asked to bring their own paper copy if they want to use this format; organizers will be able to provide a digital copy only. Participants will be expected to have read the chapter(s) they want to work so that the groups can focus on discussions of issues.* | | | Organisers |
| 16.30-17.00  17.00-18.00 | Break-out into groups  Short introduction by the chapter CLAs of the chapter, its structure and potential pending issues. | | | CLAs |
| *Group 1*  Look at: SPM  Moderator: xxx  Participants: NFPs | *Group 2*  Look at: Chapters 1-3  Moderator: xxx  Participants: stakeholders | *Group 3*  Look at: Chapters 4-6  Moderator: xxx  Participants:  stakeholders |
| 18.30-20.00 | Dinner at a nearby restaurant | | |  |

#### Day 2: Tuesday 13 June

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| **Time** | **Session** | | | **Presenter** |
| 09.00-09.30 | Proceedings for Day 2 | | | Organisers |
| 09.30-11.00 | Break-out groups | | | CLAs |
| *Group 1*  Look at: SPM  Moderator: xxx  Participants: NFPs | *Group 2*  Look at: Chapters 1-3  Moderator: xxx  Participants: stakeholders | *Group 3*  Look at: Chapters 4-6  Moderator: xxx  Participants:  stakeholders |
| 11.00-11.30 | Coffee break | | |  |
| 11.30-13.00 | End of break-out groups. Comments to be inserted in the review template. | | | CLAs |
| *Group 1*  Look at: SPM  Moderator: xxx  Participants: NFPs | *Group 2*  Look at: Chapters 1-3  Moderator: xxx  Participants: stakeholders | *Group 3*  Look at: Chapters 4-6  Moderator: xxx  Participants:  stakeholders |  |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch | | |  |
| 14:00- 14:30 | Presentation on IPBES work on stakeholders’ engagement | | | Laurence Perianin |
| 14:30-15:30 | Discussion with participants on their needs, and guidance for IPBES work on stakeholders’ engagement, based on the existing material or material under development | | |  |
| 15:30-16:00 | Coffee break | | |  |
| 16.00-16:30 | Knowledge gaps and research opportunities for the pan-European region | | | KID task force |
| 16:30-17:00 | Main conclusions from the review exercise and close | | |  |
| 17:00-19:00 | Visit to Vác historic town | | |  |
| 19.00-21.00 | Dinner at Vác | | |  |

#### Day 3: Wednesday 14 June

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| **Time** | **Session** | **Presenter** |
| 09.00-09.30 | Recap of Day 1 & 2 and proceedings for Day 3 | Organisers |
| 09.30-10.15 | Work on national coordination for IPBES  (20 min presentation + 25 min discussion) | Morocco? (NB: English-speaking) |
| 10.15-11.00 | BES-net trialogue in Eastern Europe: facilitating the uptake of IPBES pollination assessment | TBD |
| 11.00-11.30 | Coffee break |  |
| 11.30-12.00 | Integrating local knowledge in IPBES assessments | TBD |
| 12.00-12.30 | The Nordic assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: a subregional assessment within the broader IPBES context | Cecilia Lindblad, TBC |
| 12.30-12.45 | AOB and wrap-up |  |
| 12.45-13.00 | Close and goodbye |  |
| 13:00-14:00 | Buffet lunch |  |

**Logistics**

* 60 participants expected (+ Hungarian participants). 25-30 participants from Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries could benefit from travel support if we raise 18000€.
* Meeting room: in-kind from Hungary
* Catering:
* coffee breaks, 2 lunches and 2 dinners in kind from Hungary
* 1 lunch on 13 June (buffet-like on the venue)
* Hotels are block-booked near the venue, with bus transportation arranged for participants
* transport from and to the airport will be provided upon request by the local organizers