



How the Swiss scientific and policy communities can best contribute to and make use of the IPBES process

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IPBES CH meeting, 15. Nov. 2012



WELCOME IPBES!

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Swiss features

- Natural assets
- Financial and infrastructural assets
- Human assets, including ample experience in biodiversity research and policy, excellent scientists and diplomats
- High cultural diversity
- Longstanding know-how in managing complicated bottom-up processes in a direct democracy involving e.g. 26 partially sovereign cantons
- Mutual trust and understanding as key feature



Swiss Biodiversity Forum

History & organisation

- The Swiss Biodiversity Forum is based on an initiative of scientists (IPB 1993-2001)
- Since 1999
- Forms part of the Swiss Academy of Sciences SCNAT, Platform Science & Policy
- Finances by: **SCNAT**, **FOEN**, FOAG, others
- Organisation:
 - Plenary: think tank
 - Steering committee: decision-making body
 - Office: highly able and experienced work force

Swiss Biodiversity Forum: plenary

(> 30 excellent members from various disciplines,
practitioners, administration & academies)



Swiss Biodiversity Forum: Office



Daniela Pauli, Danièle Martinoli, Jodok Guntern, Thibault Lachat,
Maiann Suhner, Sylvia Martinez, Eva Spehn

Mission 2015

The Swiss Biodiversity Forum is the scientific competence center for biodiversity in Switzerland and contact point for all stakeholders.

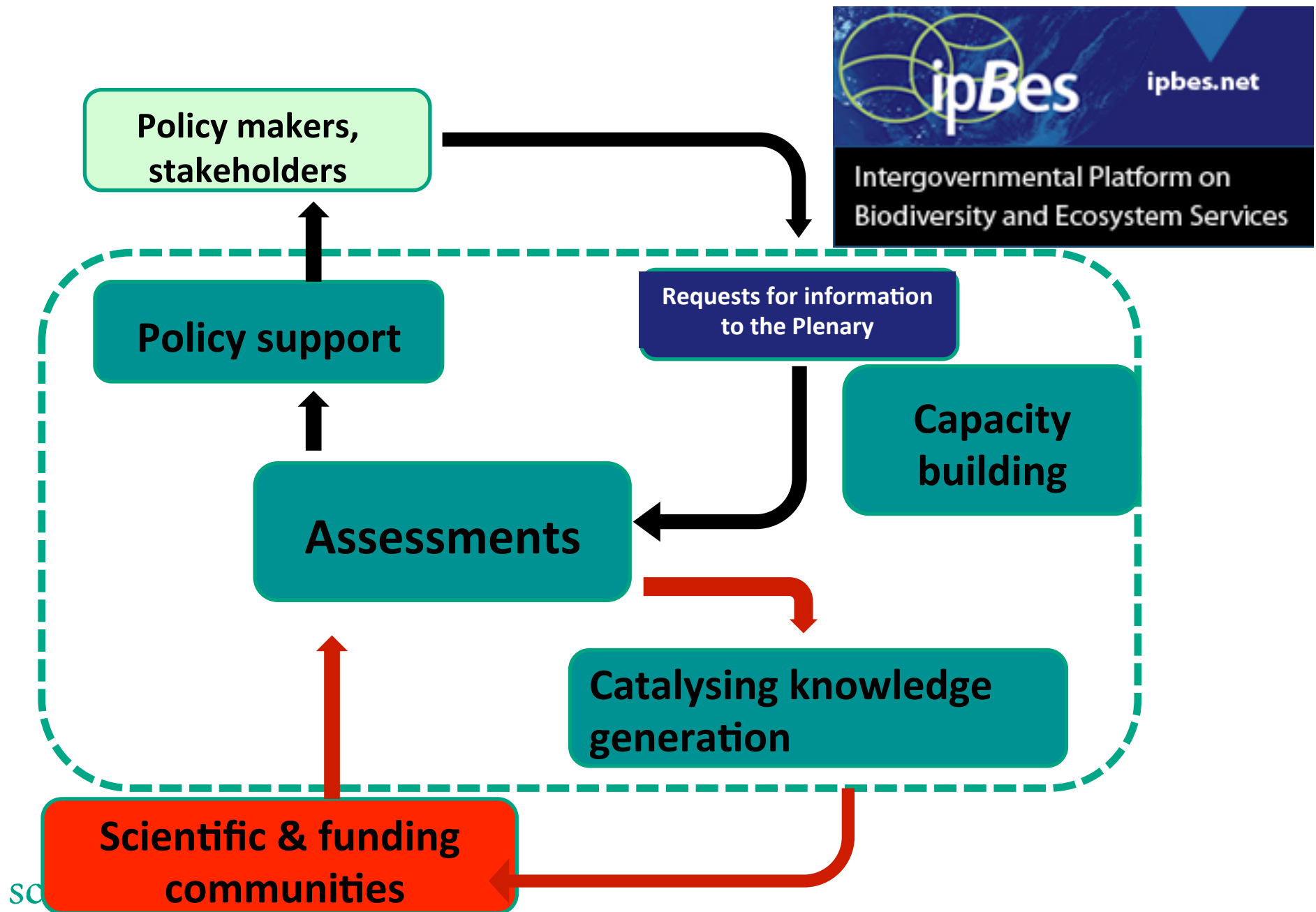
Based on the best available knowledge and expertise, the Forum contributes significantly to the implementation of the 2020 biodiversity targets and acts as an initiator and catalyzer to anchor biodiversity in all sectors of policy and society.

14 goals

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Goals of the Swiss Biodiversity Forum

Enlarging the **knowledge base** on biodiversity:

- Goal 1: Thematic competence in all disciplines of biodiversity research
- Goal 2: Excellency in biodiversity research in CH
- Goal 3: To provide analyses/syntheses for all key biodiversity themes

Goals of the Swiss Biodiversity Forum

Dialogue and transfer of knowledge in Switzerland:

- Goal 4: optimise dialogue with stakeholders
- Goal 5: Swiss Biodiversity Strategy is based on best available knowledge
- Goal 6: Biodiversity is present in all relevant national policy areas
- Goal 7: Policy and society are informed on the status & consequences of loss of biodiversity & on possible actions to conserve and foster its sustainable use

Goals of the Swiss Biodiversity Forum

Dialogue and transfer of knowledge internationally:

- Goal 8: Activities and contributions to CBD and other conventions relevant for biodiversity are based on best available knowledge
- Goal 9: Linking to and providing a node for IPBES
- Goal 10 & 11: Simplified access to genetic resources for academic, non-commercial research & awareness of the ABS Protocol and its implementation

Goals of the Swiss Biodiversity Forum

Strengthening biodiversity networks at national and international levels

- Goal 12: Providing a platform for all stakeholders: science, practitioners, society, media and the broad public
- Goal 13: thematic lead in CH for UN Decade of Biodiversity 2010-20
- Goal 14: national node for the international research community and international programs (such as DIVERSITAS, Future Earth) and other platforms

Products and Projects for scientific exchange

- **Databases** of biodiversity experts, research projects, events
- **Visions in Biodiversity Research (2002)**
- **ABS:** Brochure with Good Practice for Academic Research, Model Clauses
- **White Paper:** The future of Swiss Biodiversity Research (2010)
- **Proposal** for a National Competence Center in Research 2014-2026



Products and Projects for science and policy

- Magazine **HOTSPOT** (2x per year)
- **Synthesis: Biodiversity & climate** (2008)
- **SWIFCOB**: Swiss Forum on Conservation Biology, annual conference
- **IBS** Information Service Biodiversity Switzerland (1x per month)
- Position papers and statements
- Scientific support for CBD and others



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Products and Projects for politics and society

- **Traveling exhibition** «natürlich vernetzt» (2006-2010)
- Information events for members of the Swiss **parliament**

Books:

- «Biodiversity strategy for Switzerland: status, conservation, perspectives» (2004)
- «Evolution of Biodiversity in Switzerland since 1900» (2010/11)

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Continuity, stamina and highlights



Biodiversity in the media:
10 vor 10, in 2004



Book: “Evolution of BD in
Switzerland since 1900” in 2010

The Swiss Biodiversity Strategy has been adopted by the Federal Council in April 2012. An action plan has to be developed within 24 months.



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Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

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NPBES - national platform of IPBES

- FOEN with help of the Swiss Forum Biodiversity is organising an interface and platform for exchange between IPBES & the Swiss policy and science communities on biodiversity & the public
- Think globally - act locally

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NPBES - national platform of IPBES

- Coordination of IPBES activities in CH
- Expertise and administrative help
- Nomination of experts in IPBES as authors, reviewers
- Public relations, IPBES meetings & workshops

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NPBES - national platform of IPBES

- Preparation of Swiss position in IPBES
- Support of Swiss delegation in IPBES
- Position papers, statements, side-events, research needs...

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Switzerland and IPBES

- Switzerland welcomes IPBES
- Swiss scientific and policy communities related to biodiversity are well organised, their interaction is very fruitful, and they are ready to support IPBES and to receive inputs
- The Swiss Biodiversity Forum plays a central catalyzing role and supports the FOEN in NPBES – operational arm of IPBES in Switzerland