Regional and subregional assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services:
IPBES deliverable 2b

Background

- Deliverable 2b set out preparation of regional assessments as requested by IPBES-2

- Scoping meeting took place in Paris, 16-22 August with 25 experts from each of the 5 UN regions

- Scoping adopted by IPBES-3, January 2015 in Bonn, Germany

- Regional assessments to run 2015-2018

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4 regions were identified for the regional assessments, to be further divided into sub-regions:

– Africa

– Americas

– Asia-Pacific

– Europe and Central Asia

– Open Oceans: maybe later

ECA subregions

Subregions	Countries and territories
Central and Western Europe	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey (Central Europe) Andorra, Austria, Belgium,the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Western Europe)
Eastern Europe	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine
Central Asia	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Objective

Objective of the regional assessment process:

- to strengthen the science-policy interface at regional and subregional levels.

- analyse the state of knowledge on interactions between people and nature, including by highlighting potential tipping points, feedbacks and trade-offs.

- assess current status and trends (often going back in time several decades) and future projections (2020 to 2050)

- cover key target dates related to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity of the CBD and the ongoing process of developing the post-2015 development agenda.

- Guidance by the conceptual framework of the Platform

Key policy questions

1. How do biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services contribute to the economy, livelihoods, food security, and good quality of life in the regions, and what are the interdependences among them?

2. What are the status, trends and potential future dynamics of biodiversity, ecosystem functions and ecosystem services that affect the contribution to the economy, livelihoods and well-being in the regions?

3. What are the pressures driving the change in the status and trends of biodiversity, ecosystem functions, ecosystem services and good quality of life in the regions?

4. What are the actual and potential impacts of various policies and interventions on the contribution of biodiversity, ecosystem functions and ecosystem services to the sustainability of the economy, livelihoods, food security and good quality of life in the regions?

5. What gaps in knowledge need to be addressed in order to better understand and assess drivers, impacts and responses of biodiversity, ecosystem functions and services at the regional level ?

1. How can ecological infrastructures such as those sustaining ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change and nature based solutions to sustainable development best be secured through investments, species and habitat regulations and terrestrial, coastal and marine management regimes?

2. What are the effects of production, consumption and economic development on the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to human well-being, both within and outside the region, and how can they be managed?

European and Central Asian Assessment – specific questions

3. How can sector policies (such as in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, water, energy, infrastructure, tourism, nature conservation, coastal management) and new policy instruments (such as certification, labelling, NNL, offsetting, green infrastructure, national accounting, payment for ecosystem services, social valuation) best employ opportunities arising from the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to human well-being?

- What policy opportunities can common governance systems in the region offer in this respect?

- How can policies and instruments help the recovery of degraded ecosystems and trans-boundary ecosystems in Central Asia?

Chapter 1: Setting the Scene

- Regional specificities, including policy questions

Chapter 2: Nature's benefits to people

- Values of nature's benefits to people within the ECA region

- Aichi Targets 14 and 15

- Including for example food, water, energy security

Chapter 3: Status, trends and future dynamics of biodiversity and ecosystems underpinning nature's benefits to people

- Include issues related to Aichi Target 13 & 14, bio-cultural diversity, cultural landscapes, fragile habitats and species of special concern

Chapter 4: Direct and indirect drivers of change in the context of different perspectives of quality of life

- Present the direct drivers

- Indirect drivers addressed within direct drivers

- Aichi targets 5, 7,8,9 & 10

- Fire and GMOs included due to importance in the region

Chapter 5: Integrated cross scale analysis of interactions of the natural world and human society

- Contain a majority of the scenario work

- Include cross-scale analysis – feedbacks, trade-offs, tipping points and links to other regions
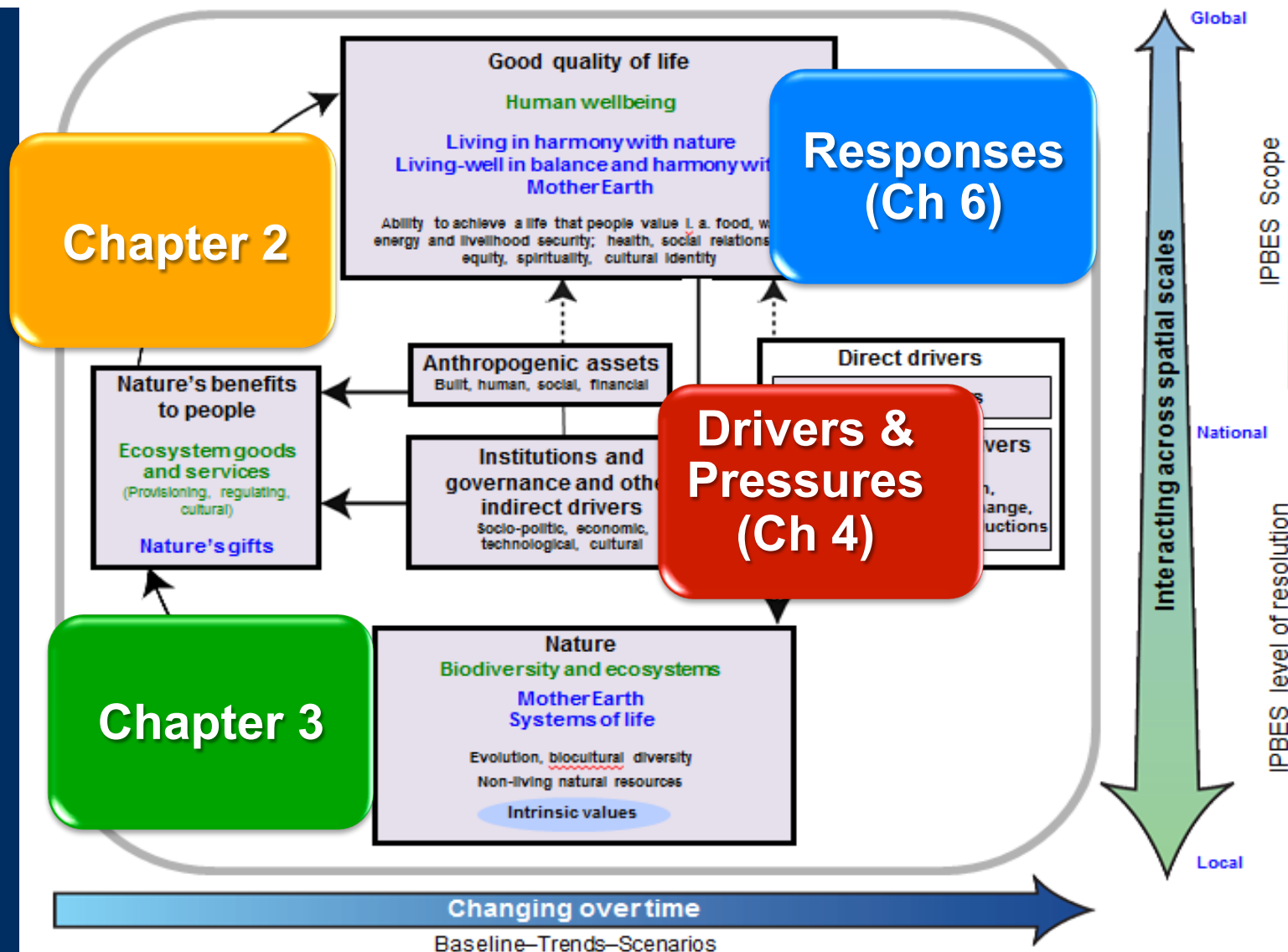
- Aichi Target 2

Chapter Outline

Chapter 6: Options for governance, institutional arrangements and private and public decision-making across scales and sectors

- Look at options at different hierarchal scales, temporal scales, policy mixes and alignments

- Effectiveness of policy combinations

- Future challenges for the sustainable use and conservation sector

- Key sectors include nature protection, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, water management, spatial planning, energy, tourism and infrastructure

Coordinated approach for the regional and thematic assessments, esp. for chapters 3-8

Conceptual Framework

Science and Policy for People and Nature

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Responses (Ch 6)

Drivers & Pressures (Ch 4)

Good quality of life

Human wellbeing

Living in harmony with nature
Living-well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth

Ability to achieve a life that people value i. a. food, w... energy and livelihood security; health, social relation... equity, spirituality, cultural identity

Nature's benefits to people

Ecosystem goods and services
(Provisioning, regulating, cultural)

Nature's gifts

Anthropogenic assets
Built, human, social, financial

Institutions and governance and othe... indirect drivers
Socio-politic, economic, technological, cultural

Direct drivers

...vers

...n, ...ange, ...uctions

Nature

Biodiversity and ecosystems

Mother Earth Systems of life

Evolution, biocultural diversity

Non-living natural resources

Intrinsic values

Changing over time
Baseline–Trends–Scenarios

Global

National

Local

Interacting across spatial scales

IPBES Scope

IPBES level of resolution

IPBES catalogue of assessments

IPBES common framework on data standards will be applied to all assessments in order to facilitate intra- and inter-regional and subregional comparisons.

IPBES task force on indigenous and local knowledge systems will provide guidance.

The capacity to perform these tasks will be strengthened through training, knowledge-sharing and collaborations between subregions and countries where needed.

Key data sets

Key task will be to identify relevant datasets, from a wide range of sources, including:

- global, regional and national institutions and organizations

- research projects

- analysis of the scientific literature

- indigenous and local knowledge

Key datasets in ECA

- European Union MAES initiative
- Data centres such as the European Environment Agency, Joint Research Centre, Eurostat, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Economic Cooperation Organization
- Relevant centres and research projects collecting earth observation data
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility GBIF
- Encyclopaedia of Life EoL
- Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network GEO BON
- International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN

Utility of the ECA assessment

- Building multiple evidence bases (academic, indigenous and local knowledge, citizen science, etc.) for the links between biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being.

- Explore options for effective management and policy interventions at appropriate levels of governance, including policy instruments (e.g. environmental accounting systems, payments for ecosystem services and measures of growth that account for natural capital).

- Help identify capacity-building needs across subregions.

- Support parties in implementing global, regional and subregional agreements.

- Support the implementation of national legislation and, at the national and subnational levels.

- Provide clear standards, methods and resources (data information and knowledge; strategic partner list; mechanisms for including indigenous and local knowledge) for governments

Next steps:

Start of the assessments in 2015:

- Call for nominations from Governments & stakeholders until 31 March 2015
- 100 experts for each region will be selected
- First author meeting will take place 31. August-4 September 2015

2016

- first drafts prepared (6-7 months), expert review (6 weeks), second author meeting, coupled with author meeting of regional assessment
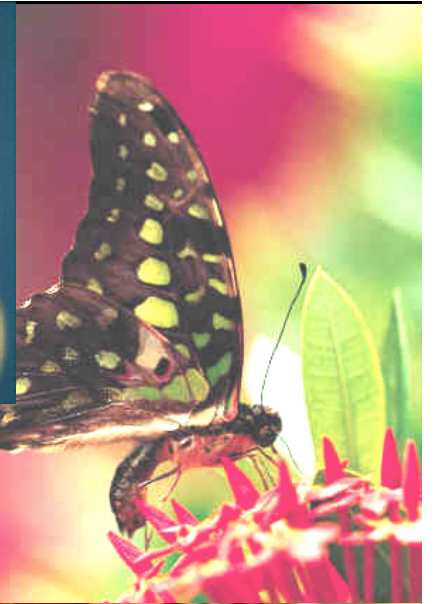
Coordination among assessments (thematic, regional)

50% of experts selected for the land degradation and restoration assessment perform their work as part of the regional and sub-regional assessments

Scoping for the assessments on invasive alien species (Deliverable 3bii) and on sustainable use of biodiversity (Deliverable 3biii) will be done by experts of the regional and subregional assessments

Experts on land degradation, invasive alien species, and on sustainable use of biodiversity needed for regional assessments!

Your potential next step:

- Nominate as an expert:
  www.ipbes.net/applicationform.html

- Choose deliverable 2b, and your preferred chapter(s).

Thank you!