



IPBES e-news

13 September 2011

Dear Colleagues,

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), a new major international platform for scientists and policy makers, is now entering a very exciting phase. The design of IPBES and its detailed draft work programme will be discussed during a plenary meeting to be organised in two sessions.

The first session (3-7 October, Nairobi, Kenya) will discuss principles and procedures governing the work of IPBES, its governance structure, processes for nomination and selection of host institution(s) and host country, and initial elements of the work programme. The second session (to be held early 2012) will be in a position to determine these modalities and institutional arrangements, and consider the detailed draft work programme of IPBES.

This e-newsletter, which will appear when significant developments related to IPBES take place, is intended to provide information on IPBES to, and seek further involvement from, all interested individuals, and in particular, the scientific community. The scientific community has provided strong support to this initiative during its consultative phase, and intends to continue to do so, as IPBES starts being built. IPBES, once fully established, will represent a great opportunity for your scientific work to contribute to informing decision making. For this new assessment body to be able to truly reach out to policy and society, it will be crucial to better understand the causes of the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, including the role of humans and human well-being. It is thus particularly important for the success of IPBES to have the involvement of our community at large, including natural and social scientists.

Please note that all interested stakeholders participating in the first session will have the opportunity to exchange informally at an IPBES Stakeholder Day, organised by UNEP, in collaboration with UNESCO, UNDP and FAO, and facilitated by ICSU and IUCN, to be held on 2 October, immediately prior to the plenary meeting on IPBES.

We look forward to hearing from you, and to seeing some of you in Nairobi in October.

Anne Larigauderie

ICSU representative to IPBES
Executive Director DIVERSITAS



If you have a relevant information or publication that you would like to be featured in this newsletter, please send it to secretariat@diversitas-international.org www.ipbes.net

1- What is IPBES? See Frequently Asked Questions

2- Why is IPBES of interest to the scientific community?

3- How can scientists get involved in the IPBES process?

4- A short history of the IPBES process

5- Key official documents of the 3 consultative meetings

- > **First consultation**, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2008
- > **Second consultation**, Nairobi, Kenya 2009
- > **Third consultation**, Busan, Republic of Korea 2010
- > **The Busan outcome**

6- Some relevant scientific publications

7- Upcoming first session of a plenary meeting on IPBES (3-7 Oct 2011, Nairobi, Kenya)

- > **Official documents**
- > Preparatory meetings

The programme of work of IPBES will be considered in details at the second session (early 2012). Three informal meetings were organised earlier this year to start proposing options for three of the four functions of the programme of work of IPBES; they produced the following papers, which will be available to delegates in Nairobi as Information documents; it is expected that additional meetings will be convened between the two sessions to further discuss these key topics.

Capacity building (convened by Governments of Norway and Brazil)

Catalysing generation of new knowledge (convened by ICSU/DIVERSITAS/IHDP; supported by UNESCO)

Assessments (convened by Governments of Japan and South Africa; supported by UNU): to be posted soon **here** as UNEP/IPBES.MI/1/INF12.

8- IPBES stakeholder day, 2 October, Nairobi (UNEP headquarter); **EVERYONE IS INVITED!**