

ENRTP STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS
ANNEX 4 – PROGRESS PROJECT REPORT

Reporting Period	01/01/2012 – 31/12/2012
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DESCRIPTION

ENRTP Priority	Indicate relevant ENRTP SCAs Priority	EC Directorate General	ENV
Programme of Work	Ecosystem management		
Project's Title	EC Support to IPBES 2012-2014		
Location	Global		
Total duration	12 months (36 months originally)		

Responsible Entity	DEPI Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Branch
UNEP/MEA Project Manager	Neville Ash
EC Project Manager	Anne Teller

Date of EC Approval:	27/03/2012		
EC Allocation (EUR):	600,000		
Date of Allocation/Transfer:	Refer to date funds were allocated or transferred at project level		
Amount (USD)	800,00	Exchange Rate:	0.75
Total Expenditures (USD)	800,000	Total Expenditures (EUR)	600,000

SUMMARY PROJECT STATUS

Summarize: i) the status of implementation of the project at the time of reporting (global overview on the project implementation since its start); ii) progress towards achieving the project's objectives; iii) performance remarks and highlights.

Following from the First session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, 3 - 7 October 2011, Nairobi, Kenya, and an intersessional process agreed at that time, the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama. Key achievements of this meeting included the establishment of the Platform, agreement on its rules of procedure, and agreement on the establishment of two subsidiary bodies for the Platform – a Bureau to oversee the administrative and other functions of the Platform, and a Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to oversee the scientific and technical functions of the Platform. However, a number of issues remained unresolved from this session, including on the membership of the platform, and the admission of observers.

During 2012 a range of intersessional activities were held to prepare for the first session of the platform's plenary, which was subsequently held from 21 – 26 January 2013, Bonn, Germany. By the end of this reporting period, all preparations were in place for the first session of the Platform's plenary, and all documentation available on the IPBES website at www.ipbes.net

Due to the unresolved nature of the European Union in IPBES membership, Euro 900,000 of the original ENRTP contribution to UNEP for IPBES was also reallocated during this period.

CHALLENGES, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, RISK MITIGATION PLAN:

Summarize main implementing challenges, if any, and strategy/actions which have been adopted to address them. List potential risks (internal and external) that may jeopardize the implementation of activities and/or the achievement of outputs and outcomes; please explain which actions have been planned to mitigate the identified risks.

Although there have not been any significant direct challenges and required management actions for the implementation of the project specifically the reallocation of Euro 900,000 resulted in the reduced overall budget for IPBES implementation going forwards. The first session of the plenary meeting in January 2013 also did not resolve issues relating to the membership of Regional Economic Integration Organizations, and this issue is being encouraged to be resolved intersessionally between interested and affected parties, with a view to IPBES-2 (anticipated for December 2013) fully resolving the issue.

OUTCOME SUMMARY

Provide for each outcome listed in the project document the description, the indicator, progress made/result achieved (focus on the current reporting period only).

The outcome of the project during 2012 was achieved through the establishment of the independent body known as the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, by 94 governments at the the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama, and the next steps and preparation for the first plenary meeting of the Platform held early in 2013.

The report of the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama (attached) included:

- (i) Annex I: Resolution on the establishment of IPBES
- (ii) Annex 1, Appendix I: The functions and operating principles and insitutional arrangements of the Platform (which relates to the project indicator to provide independent, scientifically credible, policy relevant information feeding into policy-making processes)
- (iii) Annex I, Appendix II: Rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform
- (iv) Annex II: Intersessional work to prepare for the first session of the Platform's Plenary.

Means of verification:

1. The above Resolution establishing the platform and the associated decisions from the Panama meeting.
2. IPBES documents to the (i) second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama; and (ii) first session of the Plenary of the Platform (held in January 2013, but the result of the preparatory work undertaken during 2012).

OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

Provide for each output listed in the project document the description, indicators and progress made/any result achieved (focus on the current reporting period only)

Provide brief information on main activities undertaken; reason for modifications of planned activities (if applicable) and list of activities which were planned but not implemented, explaining the reasons.

Kindly include as annexes, any supporting documents which can be provided to the donor as means of verification for each of the outputs achieved and other relevant activities' documentation (if files can be downloaded, please provide below the link).

2.1. Technical support is provided to government representatives in the form of official documentation to enable their decision making and agreement on rules of procedure, governance structure, work programme and budget of IPBES.

All working documents were made available 6 weeks prior to the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama in all 6 UN languages to enable decision making and agreement on the various elements to be considered at the meeting by government representatives (see www.ipbes.net for all meeting documentation).

In addition, regional consultations were held prior to the second session of the plenary meeting in Panama City, Panama as follows: (i) Africa: 14 – 15 April 2012; (ii) Asia-Pacific: 15 April 2012; (iii) Eastern Europe: 15 April 2012; (iv) Latin America and the Caribbean: 15 April 2012; and (v) Western Europe and Others: 15 April 2012. The aim of these regional consultations was to facilitate discussion and common positions of the regional groups on the agenda items of the meeting.

2.2 The 2nd Session of the Plenary Meeting is held in April 2012, with participation of representatives from developing countries, during which modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES are determined.

The second session of the plenary meeting was held in April 2012, in Panama, with representatives of over 100 governments, and around 40 stakeholder organisations. During this meeting, the modalities and institutional arrangements for the platform were determined, and resulted in the establishment of the Platform as an independent intergovernmental organisation by the intergovernmental meeting in Panama. The meeting report is contained in document IPBES-MI-2-9, as an annex to this report.

2.3. IPBES becomes fully operational through the organization of a full plenary meeting, which puts in place appropriate procedures for, and makes progress on, the IPBES work programme.

Further intersessional work was agreed in Panama to ensure the operationalization of the Platform as soon as possible, including to ensure progress on the IPBES work programme, the first deliverable of the platform (an online catalogue of assessments), and the development of ideas relating to a conceptual framework expert for the platform. The full plenary meeting was organized to be held in Panama in January 2013, and all documentation for the meeting was made available online in all 6 UN languages in December 2012.

2.4 IPBES work programme is implemented, based on requests made to the IPBES plenary.

This output falls after the 2012 period covered in this report, although progress has been made in ensuring that the second full plenary meeting of the Platform will be in a position to agree on the initial work programme of the Platform, and for its implementation to begin thereafter.

1. Project Outcome = EA/PoW Output	Indicators ²	Means of Verification	
The science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services is strengthened through the operationalization of IPBES.	IPBES is established and operationalized to provide independent, scientifically credible, policy relevant information feeding into policy-making processes.	- Decisions and reports from IPBES Plenary, UNEP Governing Council, UNGA, and CoPs/subsidiary bodies of MEAs - IPBES publications and reports.	
2. Project Outputs:	Indicators	Means of Verification	PoW-EA Output ³
2.1. Technical support is provided to government representatives in the form of official documentation to enable their decision making and agreement on rules of procedure, governance structure, work programme and budget of IPBES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents are available for the 2nd session of the plenary meeting in all UN languages six weeks in advance of the meeting. • Agreement is reached by representatives at the 2nd session of the plenary on the modalities and institutional arrangements of IPBES based on the documentation provided. 	Documentation available on IBPES website. Proceedings of the IPBES meetings and the IPBES official documentation.	355
2.2 The 2 nd Session of the Plenary Meeting is held in April 2012, with participation of representatives from developing countries, during which modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES are determined.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held with participation of over 60 developing countries. • The legal basis for IPBES is determined. • The structures and functions of bodies established under IPBES are determined. • Host institutions(s) and location of Secretariat is determined. 	Participants list and decisions from the 2 nd session of the plenary.	355
2.3. IPBES becomes fully operational through the organization of a full plenary meeting, which puts in place appropriate procedures for, and makes progress on, the IPBES work programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full plenary meeting held as decided by the 2nd session of the plenary meeting. • Procedures for the implementation of the IPBES work programme adopted and initial requests from Governments, MEAs and other input considered by the IPBES Plenary 	Decisions of the full plenary meeting	355
2.4 IPBES work programme is implemented, based on requests made to the IPBES plenary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work programme agreed by IPBES Plenary, based on requests received from Governments, including through MEAs. • Work programme implemented and initial outputs approved by IPBES plenary 	Decisions of the full plenary meeting and outputs of the work programme.	355
3. Project Milestones during 20124:			Milestone Delivery Date
M1: 2 nd Session of Plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an IPBES is held.			April 2012
M2: Preparation and organization of first full plenary meeting is completed.			December 2012

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

Provide: i) any remark on the overall budget based on the financial report for the current reporting period; ii) indicate if there is a delay in spending the funds, please clarify reasons; iii) mention resources to be mobilized yet, if any; ii) additional resources leveraged by UNEP and/or partners as a result of the project

The full budget was expended during 2012 (with a balance of Euros 179), in support of the 2nd session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES and the intersessional work to prepare for the first full plenary meeting of the Platform.

WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

Summarize: i) activities scheduled – including any key milestones*¹ and lead responsibilities; ii) main outputs to be achieved in the upcoming reporting period and iii) forecast of expected expenditures.

Not applicable due to reallocation of budget.

VISIBILITY:

Describe communication, visibility and outreach activities undertaken at project level, if any.

The following branded communication and outreach materials were made available to the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held from 16 – 21 April 2012, Panama City, Panama.

1. IPBES banners, pull-up posters and drop down posters, which were made available on the meeting podium and at the entrance of the meeting room;
2. An IPBES web banner for the website was produced with an updated logo for the Platform;
3. A number of leaflets on IPBES, showcasing the 4 work programme elements of IPBES. These leaflets were made available in all 6 UN languages and also available for download on the IPBES website.
4. IPBES delegate packs comprising a note pad, a folder, as well as branded USB sticks (with all IPBES meeting documentation uploaded), pens and lanyards.

In addition, UNEP contracted IUCN and the International Council for Science (ICSU) to support the stakeholder engagement in preparation for second session of the plenary meeting in Panama. Specific activities included:

1. Putting in place multi stakeholders processes to provide input and feedback to UNEP on various aspects of the full implementation of the platform (IPBES Rules and Procedures, governance structure, basis for the IPBES work programme), including through providing feedback on meeting documents. IUCN drafted a major legal contribution to inform on the different options for civil society engagement. Drawn on a comparative analysis of existing processes and bodies, this paper described several models of involvement and detailed the modalities. Produced by the Environmental Law Centre of IUCN, located in Bonn, Germany, this paper was updated from earlier discussions and made available to the Panama meeting as Information Document UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/INF/6.
2. Supporting outreach efforts related to IPBES in the run up to the plenary with relevant constituencies. IUCN was able to send a number of participants to the two plenary meetings and to several expert workshops and outreach sessions during the whole period (see full report from IUCN for further details).
3. Raising awareness of civil society on the implications of IPBES' establishment among IUCN Members and Commissions and ICSU constituents, as well as to the broader civil society including NGOs, private sector and scientific communities. An internet-based campaign on IPBES was conducted. Significant results on internet-based communication were achieved, including news stories added on a weekly basis on the web site www.iucn.org/ipbes and a high rate of communication was maintained during the plenary meetings. Detailed reports of communication impacts, including audience and qualitative

¹ A milestone is not equal to a summation of tasks or activities. Rather it represents the achievement of a feasible project management stage and be strictly answerable as yes or no answer.

analysis, are provided. IUCN has also coordinated a special outreach event at the European Parliament. Finally, IUCN set up a communication facility for stakeholders enabling them to share their views and receive frequent update on the process or information relevant to science-policy interface at the global scale. This “IPBES Stakeholders Forum” is growing gradually, and has now 200 members, and growing.

4. Setting-up up a World Business Council for Sustainable Development-IUCN joint communication service to WBCSD members with additional initiatives to raise companies’ awareness of the future benefits provided by IPBES in regard to business sectors needs, such as the organisation of a joint IUCN-WBCSD workshop on IPBES & the private sector. IUCN drafted an issue paper to highlight the potential benefits of IPBES for business actors. This paper was used to prepare a briefing on IPBES to the WBCSD Delegates Annual Liaison meeting, held in Montreux, Switzerland on 26 April 2012 and held back to back with a workshop coordinated by the IUCN Business and Biodiversity Programme.
5. IUCN and ICSU co-moderated preparatory meetings dedicated to non-governmental stakeholders before the opening of the plenary meetings. These meetings referred to as “Stakeholders’ Days”, were deemed as very beneficial by the participating organisations/stakeholders. Reports of these meetings are provided and were published on the official IPBES website. These preparatory meetings are a good basis for the forthcoming stakeholders’ engagement processes that might be decided upon by the Platform’s decision body and implemented by the IPBES Secretariat.

FINAL REMARKS:

Describe: i) lessons learned during project design and implementation; ii) stakeholder participation and level of engagement/satisfaction; iii) where applicable, outline any links and synergies developed with other projects; i) main issues and recommendations for the attention of the donor; iv) overall observations on project performance and whether the projects has had any unforeseen positive or negative results.

The year 2012 is marked by the establishment of the Platform, and the transition from discussions on the potential value of a platform, to its operationalization. The intersessional work during 2012 paved the way for the full operationalization of the Platform, including the selection of the IPBES Chair and Bureau, and members of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP). Although some issues remain to be resolved, such as the membership status of REIOs, it is anticipated that the Platform will become fully operational during the course of the next year, and all such issues will be resolved at the second plenary meeting of the Platform later in 2013.

ANNEXES:

Please list supporting documents included as annexes, if any.

1. IPBES-MI-2-9: Report of the 2nd session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES
2. IPBES-1-12: Report of the first session of the IPBES Plenary
3. UNGA A/C.2/67/L58: Draft resolution on the CBD submitted and adopted by the UN General Assembly, welcoming the establishment of IPBES
4. CBD SBSTTA 16 L6: Ways and means to strengthen the CBD SBSTTA, decision adopted on IPBES.
5. Ramsar Resolution Xi/6, adopted on IPBES at Ramsar CoP 11.
6. Report of the IUCN contract in support of IPBES stakeholder engagement
7. Report of the ICSU contract in support of IPBES stakeholder engagement

UNEP/MEA Project Manager: _____

Signature: _____

Date of Submission: _____