



INDIGENOUS INFORMATION NETWORK

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Summary Report

Staff Name:	Edna Kaptoyo
Event/Activity:	Inception workshop on Centres of Distinction 4 th Plenary Session of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services(IPBES-4)
Location:	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Date:	16 th February to 28 th February 2016

Summary:

Prior to IPBES-4, Forest Peoples Program (FPP) Inception Workshop on Centers of Distinction , which focused on organizations doing a min map of their work(Who we are; Expertise; Linkages/Networks; What we do?(Programs).Purpose of ILK centres of distinction(CoD) was defined, priorities areas to focus on was identified as; Inter-generational learning, Community Based Monitoring Information System(CBMIS), dialogue of different knowledge systems/Multiple Evidence base and strategies for mobilizing Indigenous and Local Knowledge(ILK).

A global coordinating committee for ILK CoD was set up comprising 5 members :

Coordinator- Joji Carino, Forest peoples Program (FPP) UK

Africa-Mr Simon Mitambo,Africa Biodiversity Network (ABN) Nairobi

Asia- Mr Prasert Trykansupahkon, IMPECT, Thailand

Latin America-Mr Onel Marsadule, FPCI, Panama

Russia- Ms Polina Shulbaeva, CSPAN), Russia



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Pacific- Ms Tui Shortlan, Tirairaka, New Zealand

North America- Mr Preston Hardison

A small working group committed to follow up IPBES matters was set up, and they comprise of Joji (FPP), June (TEBTEBBA), Edna (IIN), Gathuru (ICE) and Tui (Tirairaka)

Global process where to engage in were identified as CBD, UNFCCC and IPBES.

Capacity building needs were defined and priority areas chosen are: Enhance the capacity to participate effectively in implementing the IPBES work programme, develop capacity for effective participation in IPBES thematic assessments etc

It was discussed that there is need for an outreach strategy to: expand network of IIFBES/IPLC group; recognition of knowledge system/ILK; enhance understanding of IPLC distinction; resource mobilization and to ensure IPBES and other policy platforms and stakeholders engages IPLC adequately at different levels.

List serve for IIFBES was created and joint email for centers of distinction is to be created.

It was agreed that IIFBES as a forum needs a distinct logo (Tui agreed to help develop one)

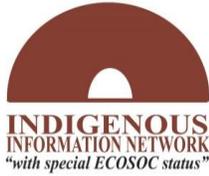
The Inter-governmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) held its 4th plenary session. IPBES is an independent body set up in 2012 under the auspices of four United Nations entities: UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP and administered by UNEP to assess the state of the planet's biodiversity, its ecosystems and the essential services they provide. It has current membership of 124 members (Governments).

IPBES mission is to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development.

In carrying out its work IPBES is guided by a number of operating principles like collaborating with existing initiatives on biodiversity and ecosystem services, including multilateral environment agreements, recognizing and respecting the contribution of indigenous and local knowledge to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems and integrating capacity-building into all relevant aspects of its work according to priorities decided by the Plenary among others

IPBES engages scientists and other knowledge holders around the world to review and assess the most recent scientific and technical information produced worldwide relevant to the understanding of biodiversity and ecosystem services. IPBES does not conduct any new research. The work of IPBES is centred around four complementary core functions:

- ✓ Capacity Building: Increase the capacity of the science policy community to perform and to use assessments and other products of IPBES
- ✓ Knowledge Generation Catalysis: Identify knowledge needs of policymakers, and catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge

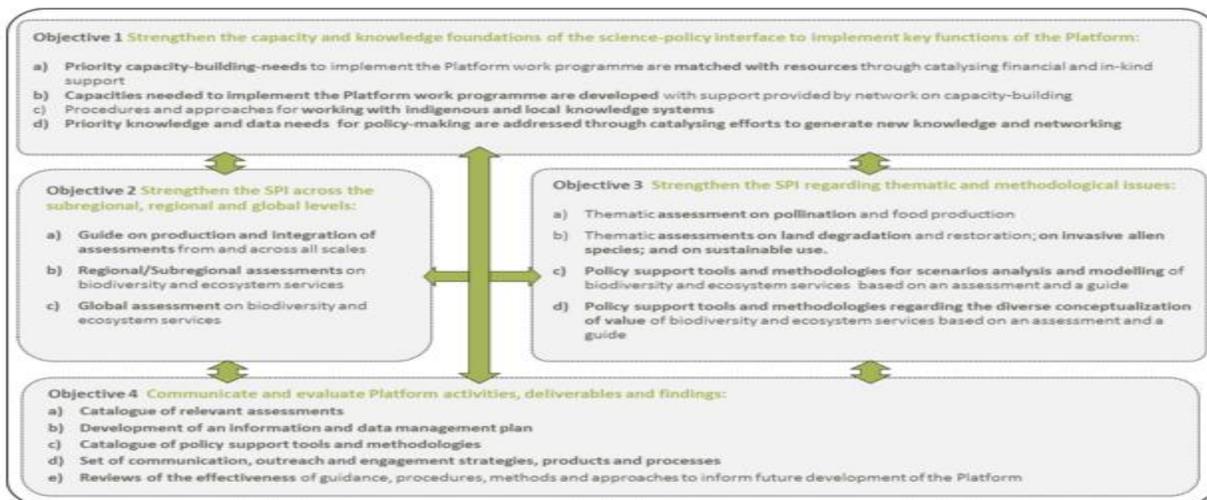


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- ✓ Assessment: Deliver global, regional and thematic assessments of knowledge regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services
- ✓ Policy Support: Identify policy relevant tools/methodologies, facilitate their use, and promote and catalyse their further development

The work programme of the Platform for the period 2014–2018 is designed to implement the goal, functions and operating principles of the Platform in a coherent and integrated manner. This work programme comprises a sequenced set of objectives, deliverables, actions and milestones for advancing the four functions of the Platform at relevant scales. It is structured along four cross-cutting objectives (see diagram below)



IPBES-4 main objectives were to: present results and summary for policy makers for the *thematic assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production* and scenario assessment; present progress report with regional assessments; paths for possible collaboration with stakeholders and discussions with open ended network.

The report on pollination has major implications for global food supply, agriculture industry and world economy. See link for the report (<http://www.ipbes.net/plenary/ipbes-4>)

Plenary also decided on future assessments on invasive alien species, valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services and sustainable use of biodiversity. It also discussed report from the taskforce on capacity building and taskforce on indigenous and local knowledge.

Outcome:

Indigenous Peoples engagement:



During discussion on IPBES partnership with open ended network of stakeholders. Indigenous peoples and local communities under its IPBES forum



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“International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and ecosystem Services(IIFBES) called for consideration of IIFBES as forum for indigenous peoples and local communities who are distinct group



IIFBES intervened on a number of agenda items particularly on the inclusion of indigenous and local knowledge and participation of IPLC in assessments and platform work. See statement made [..\..\Desktop\IIFBES Consolidated Statement to IPBES.docx](#)

IPBES Process:



During IPBES; Summary report for policy makers and Report on Pollinators and Scenarios was adopted



Assessment on Invasive Alien Species was approved to be undertaken



More scoping for the assessment on sustainable use of biodiversity was requested



Under Indigenous and Local Knowledge, it was agreed that the taskforce keep exploring options for enhancing engagement of ILK in platform work e.g. through workshops etc. IIFBES had proposed a workshop on cultural ecosystem services and IPBES capacity building and ILK taskforce taking advantage of regional capacity building initiatives for IPLCS by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Follow-up:

Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK) Centres of Distinction:



Identify which part of IPBES work programme we can contribute in(e.g. thematic or global assessments; knowledge mobilization or generation etc)



Our strengthens & network map-document distinct cases



Prepare organization communication strategy(1 page);communication with other IPLCS in the region



Share existing practice of information sharing at organizational and other levels(to share in next meeting)



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Linkages with IPBES country focal point

Opportunities to contribute to IPBES in 2016



Nominating experts for the assessments: Global Assessment, Assessment on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and Scoping for assessment on sustainable use of biodiversity



Peer reviewing of the 4 regional assessment opportunities. Check for call in IPBES website (online review)

Annex

INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS FORUM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT TO IPBES4

Delivered by Edna Kaptoyo

Opening Statement (delivered on 22nd February 2016)

The International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IIFBES), composed of indigenous peoples and local community participants at IPBES, considers IPBES4 as a critical point in guiding the work of IPBES towards becoming highly effective as a knowledge platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services

At this meeting,

We hope for the fullest and best possible engagements between IPBES members and its diverse stakeholders, which includes the distinct grouping of indigenous peoples and local communities,

Towards substantive guidance being made on the following agenda items:

- The approaches and mechanisms proposed on Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK);
- Examination of IPBES rules and procedures to address the challenges posed for the full consideration and inclusion of ILK in the over-all functions and work programme of the platform;
- Communications, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships.

We shall be making interventions during discussions on the specific agenda items of the work programme.

In closing, we would like to inform the meeting that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities have established a network of ILK Centres of Distinction composed of organizations that have had a long history of



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engaging within the United Nations system to deliver policy recommendations, implement projects and provide assessments, such as for biodiversity indicators and community-based monitoring systems.

Each Center has its own distinct activities and strengths which by working together can provide a more comprehensive set of inputs to assessments and support implementation of the decisions of this Platform. This network is a support mechanism for delivering inputs into IPBES by indigenous and local knowledge holders themselves, and can identify other relevant knowledge holders and experts in their regions and areas of expertise. The network is open-ended and will operate in a transparent manner to facilitate the contribution of diverse views and evidence from all regions.

Thank You

Comments on IPBES 4/7 - Work on indigenous and local knowledge systems (Deliberable1c)

Approaches for working with ILK in the Platform

The recognition of the collective nature of Indigenous and Local Knowledge in the introductory paragraph needs to be reflected in the proposed approaches, procedures and mechanisms proposed for working with ILK in the platform.

1. The current text (6) Respecting rights and interests is welcome, but it is too weak on the legal issues to reflect existing international and domestic legal obligations to protect ILK. An additional paragraph is needed to address “due diligence” or “duty of care” approaches by IPBES to safeguard the use of ILK in the course of its work. For example, the Nagoya Protocol preamble states 'that nothing in this Protocol shall be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the existing rights of indigenous and local communities'. A similar statement is needed for IPBES.
2. Proposed procedures for bringing ILK into the Platform’s assessments, which are in line with IPBES adopted procedures, do not capture the requirements for working directly with ILK holders in-situ, and respecting the collective character of ILK which is not held individually, but collectively by ILK holders. Therefore, care needs to be taken at all stages in the nomination and selection of experts to ensure that they are aware of and respect the legal and customary rights and interests of traditional knowledge holders with respect to the use of indigenous and local knowledge. In regards to the transmission of any primary indigenous and local knowledge, experts must ensure that prior informed consent of IPLCs who are the holders of knowledge is obtained.
3. IPBES must not engage in any systematic collection of indigenous and local knowledge. We do not believe that this is the competent body to do this. Any documentation of ILK must have in place substantial



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safeguards and protocols in place prior to collection. Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol have substantive obligations for obtaining prior informed consent. In negotiations on an instrument or instruments on traditional knowledge at WIPO, some members are proposing principles that likely contradict the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. In this context, the precautionary approach to the use of indigenous and local knowledge should be followed.

3bis. The reference to prior informed consent should be expanded and made explicit. What are the standards? Where are these drawn from? Were they developed with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples? IPBES authors, many of whom are far from the understanding of the customary laws and cultural issues of indigenous and local communities, should have explicit guidance in all of the working groups and processes of this process.

3ter. Related to the legal context of ILK, the sections that refer to “co-production”, “knowledge exchange” and similar concepts should be expanded to include other models for providing evidence to this platform. Assessments should concentrate on gathering sufficient information to make supportable claims related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Co-production through the exchange of traditional knowledge is only one model. Other models include the use of proxy measurements to indicate the effectiveness of the use of ILK rather than exchange of ILK. There are also conditions where ILK is effective without the need for co-production of knowledge with scientists.

4. The proposed Roster of Experts needs to accommodate the inclusion of centres, peoples, communities and organisations who are familiar with local contexts and procedures for mobilising ILK holders to contribute their knowledge for IPBES products, eg respect for community protocols. These groups can register their distinct contributions to IPBES work based on the IPBES work programme.
5. Calls for ILK contributions can be broader than for very specific IPBES deliverables but for a broader range of IPBES work streams.
6. The Participatory Mechanism for working with ILK in the Platform needs to be conceived strategically, in similar fashion to the broad Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, but suitable for supporting the full and effective participation Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and ILK holders in the platform. Firstly, IPLCs need to be recognized as a distinct grouping among the IPBES stakeholders, requiring their own engagement strategy. As currently operating, the coordinated stakeholders are composed of 2 groups informing and coordinating with each other: the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IIFBES) and the Stakeholders Network. IPBES4 needs to note and welcome this development and that its SES will adequately address the diversity of stakeholders engaged in IPBES structure and processes.
7. The IPBES participatory mechanism for ILK, as proposed, needs be enhanced, piloted and



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developed, building on already existing structures and networks of IPLCs and respecting their self-organisation.

8. Accordingly, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities with a long history of work on indigenous and local knowledge, have established a network of ILK Centres of Distinction composed of organizations with substantial experience in engaging within the United Nations system to deliver policy recommendations, implement projects and provide assessments, such as for biodiversity indicators and community-based monitoring systems. Each Center has its own distinct activities and strengths, which by working together can provide a more comprehensive contributions to the IPBES functions and work programme. (See information note on ILK Centres of Distinction).

Procedures for Bringing Indigenous and Local Knowledge Into The Platform's Assessments

IIFBES notes that the proposed procedures for bringing ILK into the platform's assessments mirror existing IPBES procedures and propose some enhancements but not any substantive changes.

There are also plans for further trialing of existing procedures and practices during the current work programme up to 2018. It is proposed that IPBES also collaborate with the SCBD in its planned regional capacity-building workshops planned for 2016 - Asia-Pacific and Latin American and COP13 in Mexico.

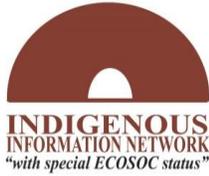
Further, IIFBES recommends that the planned IPBES evaluation includes consideration of the effectiveness of bringing ILK into IPBES into the Science-Policy platform. After 2018, the approaches and procedures of engaging ILK will be reviewed towards the revision and adoption of *sui generis* approaches and procedures relevant for ILK in the Platform.

Workshop on Cultural Ecosystem Services

The IIFBES proposes the holding of an open-ended workshop on cultural ecosystem services (CES) to assist in providing inputs into both regional assessments and the global assessment and other relevant IPBES products.

Although cultural ecosystem services are one of the four types of commonly accepted ecosystem services (production, regulation, support, cultural), they are one of the least well-characterized with reference to the values of indigenous and local communities. Most papers concern themselves with largely non-indigenous values (recreation, tourism and aesthetics), and where ILC values are covered, such as spirituality, they do not generally reflect the deeper range of meanings held by ILCs.

The way of framing cultural ecosystem services is also incomplete. CES are commonly seen as the cultural or social values that are simply attached to underlying natural ecosystem services. However, many ecosystems are co-generated through the interactions between humans and nature. This has been captured in concepts



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such as coupled human and natural systems, social-ecological systems, and biocultural landscapes. One example is the Amazonian dark earths, or terra preta soils. These soils are not natural, but characterized of low-temperature charcoal residues of human origin, such as pottery shards, animal and fish bones. Terra preta soils are pre-Columbian nature, created by human activities between 450 BCE and 950 CE. This increased charcoal content is a historical legacy from human activities that increases the level of carbon sequestration services of such soils.

The proposed workshop will engage ILK holders and other interested participants to better understand the diverse cultural values of ecosystem services, as well as increase an understanding of regional-scale and global-scale benefits that result from the positive interactions between humans and nature that can enhance ecosystem services.

Capacity building and Communications

Recognizing that capacity building is cross cutting work;

That there are imbalances in institutional capacities between scientists and ILK holders and that two-way capacity mobilization is needed;

That the contributions of ILK holders and experts in the current work plan has been limited:

The IIFBES recommends the following:

- A voluntary fund that supports the participation of ILK holders in IPBES meetings and work
- More in depth dialogues and face to face inter-cultural learning among knowledge systems
- Capacity building workshops with IPLCs about engagement with IPBES;
- Strategic partnership with ILK Centres of Distinction
- Increase in communications with IPLCs, including, using new information and communications platforms of BES-Net of the Secretariat and participation in face-to-face trainings.