

Landscape approaches in the Global Assessment report of IPBES

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What is the IPBES



- The **Intergovernmental Science Policy** Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services was set up under the umbrella of UN **agencies (UNEP, UNESCO, UNDP and FAO)** to provide clear science - based assessment reports on the state of the biodiversity and ecosystems and implications for human wellbeing.

The reports are made on various themes .

- - Pollination
- - Models and Scenarios
- - Regional Assessments on state of biodiversity and future scenarios in 4 regions of the world
- - Global Assessment on state of world's biodiversity, ecosystems and human wellbeing

How is it different from other assessments

- Is a collaborative effort between the scientific community and policymaking community
- Knowledge is considered to be held not just in mainstream science, but also across traditional communities and various stakeholder groups – whose perspectives too need to be accounted for
- Consideration to multiple values of biodiversity as held by different actor groups

Some key messages from different assessments relevant for landscape approaches

Pollination report

Highlights: alarming reduction in populations of pollinators due to multiple factors including pollution, habitat change, land use changes

Solutions suggested: A key option is to build on local practices that include:

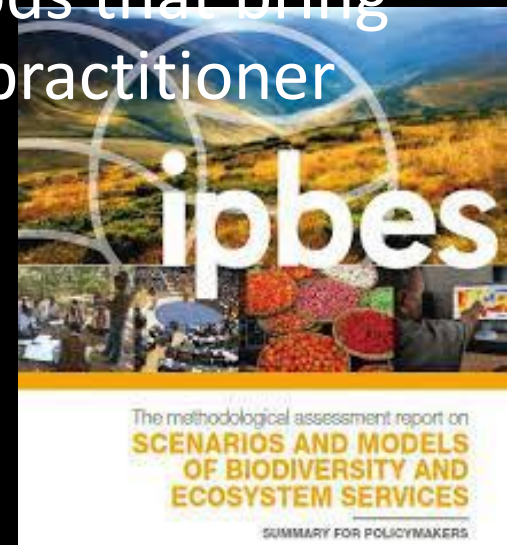
- Diverse farming systems;
- Favouring heterogeneity in landscapes and gardens;
- Kinship relationships that protect many specific pollinators;
- Using seasonal indicators (e.g., flowering) to trigger actions (e.g., planting);
- Distinguishing a wide range of pollinators; and tending to nest trees and floral and other pollinator resources.
- Knowledge co-production has led to improvements in hive design, new understanding of parasite impacts and the identification of stingless bees new to science.



Some key messages from different assessments relevant for landscape approaches

Modelling and Scenarios Report

Highlights- Makes a clear case for developing scenarios and pathways to achieve sustainability goals by including participatory methods that bring on board the visions of non-scientist, practitioner communities



Some key messages from different assessments relevant for landscape approaches

Regional Assessments

- In all 4 regions assessed, loss of biodiversity and consequent impacts to resilience (both ecological and social) identified.
- Bio-cultural priorities are high in the Americas, African and Asia-Pacific regions
- Solutions look at integrated approaches



Some key messages from different assessments relevant for landscape approaches

Global Assessment

- Clearly points out that in the last 50-60 yrs, loss of species had accelerated, with several local varieties and breeds becoming extinct *despite efforts of indigenous peoples and local communities who play a stewardship role in conserving resources*
- Homogenization of varieties in managed and unmanaged areas is on the rise – *affecting resilience and adaptation capacities*
- Major drivers – *Land use change, direct exploitation of resources for consumption – unsustainable production and consumption*
- Others include *Climate change, Pollution and spread of invasive species*
- *Economic incentives that encourage economic activity, often at the cost of environment. Global trade*

- **Nature is generally declining less rapidly in indigenous peoples' land than in other lands, but is nevertheless declining, as is the knowledge of how to manage it.**
 - *Led by resource extraction, commodity production, mining and transport and energy infrastructure, and some climate mitigation initiatives .*

Consequences –

- *Loss of subsistence and traditional livelihoods;*
- *Negative impacts on health and well-being;*
- *Challenge traditional management and traditional knowledge transfer and related potential benefits including the ability of such communities to manage wild and domesticated biodiversity of relevance to broader society*

Solutions suggested in the GA

- Transformative change required – *radical changes across technological, economic and social factors – shifts in paradigms, values and goals*
- *Foster and promote integrated landscape planning and management, emphasizing use of native species*
- *Integrated landscape approaches to management and governance seen as key option towards achieving sustainability that require cross sectoral approaches.*

Let's reflect

- Integrated land/sea scape approaches – is really a learning from our past and building on it
- Challenges us to be wiser – to synergize efforts and undertake solution - based planning and management
- Considering social and ecological parts as of a system
- Applicable in not just rural – but also urban planning contexts

Thank you for your attention