



Quick considerations on IPBES from a policy perspective

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IPBES: why do we need it?

- Peer review of existing literature with highest quality standards to provide assessment
- Biodiversity interlinked with issues dealt within
 - UNEP/UNESCO/FAO/UNDP
 - different MEAs
 - SDG's
- Independent intergovernmental body
 - Interface science/policy
 - Inclusive
 - Capacity building

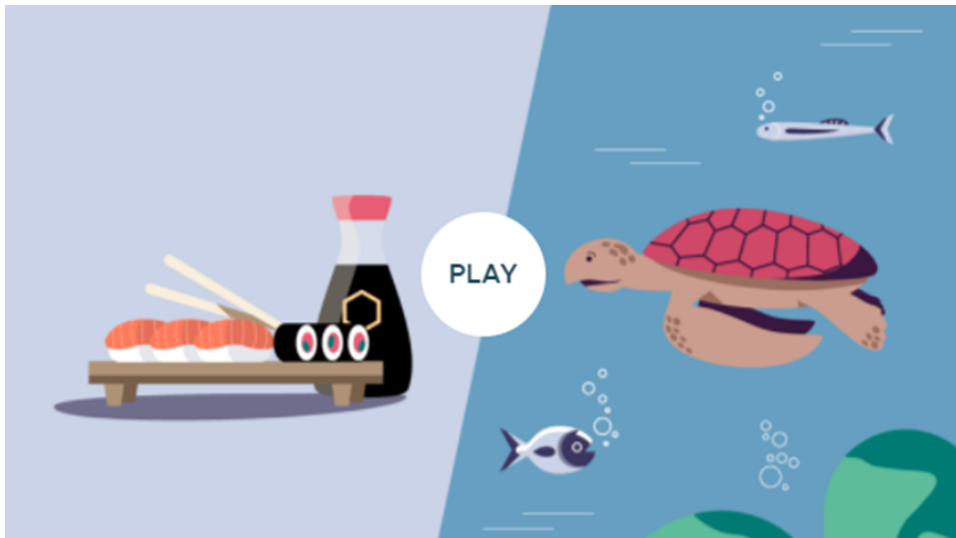


Priorities of Federal Minister Marghem

Put biodiversity higher on the political agenda

Put the conditions in place for a shift in production and consumption patterns

- **Consumer awareness raising** by BeBiodiversity campaign
- <https://bebiodiversity.be>



- **Private partnership** with front runners
- Development of webtools
 - A lot of concrete actions are feasible on grounds, buildings, processes and purchases → « BiodiversiTree » in collaboration with the Regions
 - Belgian biodiversity foot print is for 70% outside our country → “Sourcing while respecting biodiversity » project

Thematic assessment on pollination

- Issued in February 2016
- Uptake in the CBD context
 - COP13: CBD-FAO: commitment to collect information
 - COP14: CBD-FAO: proposition of Action Plan 2018-2030
- Uptake in the EU context
 - EU Pollinators Initiative
 - Coalition of the willing on pollinators
- Uptake in the Belgian context
 - Helpful to set priorities of the second Federal plan
 - Organization of a national Conference in 2017 highlighting the decline of the wild bees



Thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration

- Issued in March 2018
- *“Timely action to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation can increase food and water security, can contribute substantially to the adaptation and mitigation of climate change and could contribute to the avoidance of conflict and migration”.*
- Sourcing while respecting biodiversity project: how to help buyers of raw materials to evaluate the impacts of their sourcing ?
 - Results of preliminary studies released on March, 2018
 - Ongoing construction of an EU project with international partners

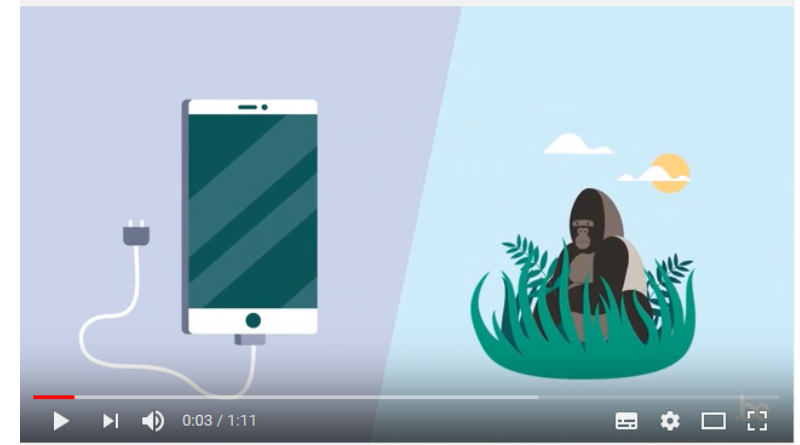
Thematic assessment on Invasive Alien Species

- Will start in 2019
- Belgium Forum on IAS
- EU regulation with regular updates of the list is already in place
- Cooperation agreement Federal, Regions with scientific and policy bodies



Thematic assessment on sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and strengthening capacities and tools

- To be issued in 2022.
- *“To address the ecological, economic, social and cultural importance, conservation status, drivers of change, of mainly harvested and traded biodiversity related products and wild species”*
- Need to address the demand side (consumer) and the supply side (enterprises)
 - Bebiodiversity campaign
 - Private partnership with front runners
- Opportunities to build capacity for IPBES eg the so-called “Europe and Central Asia network of Platforms engaging in IPBES”



Other assessments

- The **methodological assessment on models and scenarios** (2016) revealed knowledge gaps
 - New opportunities for the Belgian scientific community eg for the BiodivERsA partnership which includes federal and regional partners
- Communication on **IPBES Regional assessment** (2018) very useful to raise awareness on biodiversity
 - A lot of attention in the press
 - Call of 270 Belgian scientists
- Big expectations for the **Global assessment** to come in April 2019 in view of the CBD commitments post 2020
 - Biodiversity week between 18-22 March 2019
 - FCSD event on biodiversity and SDGs on 22 March

Added value of IPBES?

- Involvement of Belgian scientific community
 - Experts in the assessment
 - Opportunities for collaborative research
 - Opportunities towards capacity building
- Uses by policy makers on the field
 - Validated reference for supporting priorities
 - Recommendations framework for EU and international actions
 - Awareness raising on issues for uptake in the political agenda

Conclusions

- Quick considerations: good!
- Looking forward for next steps
 - Assessments to come
 - Improved use of the work already done
 - Collaborative definition for new priorities
 - Agriculture focused on some critical raw materials produced worldwide?
 - Biodiversity and health?
 - Specificities of marine biodiversity?
 - Wildlife trafficking?



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

