

Regional Youth Workshop on IPBES for Europe and Central Asia

Report of the workshop from 06.-10.11.2023 International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm

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Regional Youth Workshop on IPBES for Europe and Central Asia

Report on the workshop held 6-10 November 2023 at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, Germany

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Cover image: A workshop participant taking a photo on the Isle of Vilm (Photo: T. Schmitt)

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Summary

The Regional Youth Workshop on IPBES for Europe and Central Asia was organized by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) at its International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm. The workshop aimed to engage early-career professionals and young conservationists actively involved in work on biodiversity and ecosystem services, representing youth organizations or networks, into processes of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), as well as promoting a greater understanding and utilization of IPBES assessments.

Through lectures, discussions, and interactive exercises, participants explored the role of IP-BES in global sustainability efforts. Key topics included learning about IPBES assessments, potential options for engagement, and the Nature Futures Framework (NFF) — a flexible tool for the development of positive future scenarios for nature and people. Participants engaged in reflective exercises to assess their connection to nature and collaborated to develop visions of positive futures for nature and people. The workshop emphasized the importance of youth's voice and leadership in shaping policy and addressing environmental challenges. Discussions highlighted the need for greater collaboration, structural changes, and cultural exchange to achieve the envisioned futures. Practical sessions on stakeholder engagement provided insights into contributing to IPBES assessments and dissemination efforts. To keep the momentum going, participants proposed various outputs, including publications, creative artwork, and a regional network. The workshop fostered a sense of empowerment and collaboration among participants, providing a platform for ongoing engagement in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region.

Zusammenfassung

Der regionale IPBES Jugendworkshop für Europa und Zentralasien, organisiert vom Bundesamt für Naturschutz (BfN) an der Internationalen Naturschutzakademie Insel Vilm, hatte zum Ziel, Berufseinsteiger*innen und Naturschützer*innen, die im Bereich Biodiversität und Ökosystemleistungen arbeiten und Jugendorganisationen oder -netzwerke repräsentieren, in die Prozesse des Weltbiodiversitätsrates (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES) einzubeziehen sowie ein besseres Verständnis für und eine bessere Nutzung von IPBES-Assessments zu fördern.

Durch Vorträge, Diskussionen und interaktive Übungen betrachteten die Teilnehmer*innen die Rolle von IPBES in globalen Nachhaltigkeitsbestrebungen. Schwerpunkte des Workshops bildeten das Kennenlernen der IPBES-Assessments, potenzielle Möglichkeiten der Beteiligung sowie das Nature Futures Framework (NFF), ein flexibles Tool zur Entwicklung positiver Zukunftsszenarien für Mensch und Natur. Die Teilnehmenden beteiligten sich an reflektierenden Übungen zu ihrer Verbindung zur Natur und arbeiteten zusammen an Visionen und Narrativen für eine positive Zukunft für Menschen und Natur. Der Workshop betonte die Bedeutung der Beteiligung junger Menschen an der Gestaltung von Biodiversitätspolitik und der Bewältigung von Umweltproblemen. Diskussionen hoben die Notwendigkeit einer stärkeren Zusammenarbeit, struktureller Veränderungen und kulturellen Austauschs hervor, um die angestrebten Zukunftsvisionen zu erreichen. Praxisrelevante Einheiten zur Stakeholder-Einbindung gaben den Teilnehmer*innen Einblicke in potentielle Mitwirkungsmöglichkeiten an IPBES-Assessments und Maßnahmen zur Kommunikation von Ergebnissen.

Die Teilnehmenden erarbeiteten verschiedene Möglichkeiten, die Workshopergebnisse zu verbreiten, darunter Publikationen, künstlerische Ausdrucksformen sowie die Bildung eines regionalen Netzwerks. Der Workshop förderte ein Gefühl des Zusammenhalts unter den Teilnehmer*innen und bot eine Plattform für kontinuierliches Engagement im Bereich des Naturschutzes und der nachhaltigen Entwicklung in der Region Europa und Zentralasien (ECA).

1 Introduction

The mandate of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 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. To support the uptake of assessments among young people, other individuals, and organizations, the engagement of young people in the work of IPBES is very relevant (IPBES 2017).

The Regional Youth Workshop on IPBES for Europe and Central Asia was organized by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with support from the IPBES Technical Support Unit (TSU) on capacity-building and contributions from members of the IPBES fellowship programme in the task force on scenarios and models, and other experts. The workshop, including travel, meals, and accommodation, was funded by the Government of Germany. It specifically targeted participants from European countries (including the CEE region) and Central Asia.

2 Objectives of the workshop

The Regional Youth Workshop 2023 on IPBES for Europe and Central Asia aimed at young people from this region to learn about IPBES and its processes and products, and explore options for engagement in IPBES activities. Special emphasis was given to introducing the participants to the Nature Futures Framework (NFF), developed by the IPBES task force on scenarios and models in response to the recommendation in the IPBES Methodological Assessment of Scenarios and Models of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (see section 6). Participants were also encouraged to engage in networking activities and to commit themselves to explore further ways to disseminate the workshop outcomes.

3 Participants of the workshop

Participants of the workshop were early career professionals and young conservationists actively engaged in work on biodiversity and ecosystem services (including climate change issues or transformative change processes) and representing a youth organization/network from Europe and Central Asia. A list of participants can be found in Appendix A.

Each applicant had to submit a personal statement of motivation and needed to be nominated by a government or their organization/network. The process of selecting candidates was carried out by an independent selection committee, with the aim to achieve disciplinary, gender and geographic balance. The selection process was supported by members of the IPBES task force on capacity-building.

4 Opening Sessions

Jutta Stadler (BfN) introduced practicalities of the stay on the Isle of Vilm and facilitated a team-building game. In the game, participants envisioned a perfect island and were challenged to draw a picture or map of such an island in an interactive way. The participants were

also provided with an overview of the workshop agenda and were introduced to the facilitators and presenters.

To clarify expectations of the workshop, an interactive online tool was used. The participants mainly expressed interest to learn about IPBES and to get to know each other. To achieve the latter, the participants were encouraged to exchange with each other during the breaks and time off on the island. The participants further discussed rules for the workshop, including building an open space for everyone to share their opinions, respect each other, and identified several hand signs to use during the sessions. The opening session finished up with an icebreaking activity that allowed participants and facilitators to get to know each other on a more personal level.

Prior to the workshop, the participants were asked to prepare presentations of themselves and the organizations/networks they represent. These presentations were split throughout the evening sessions of the workshops and revealed the heterogeneity of participants with different career situations (from Bachelor students to PhD students), different types of work ranging from academia to NGOs, the diverse voluntary engagement of the young people, and cultural backgrounds. The participants were predominantly young adults up to 30 years old.

A guided tour around the Isle of Vilm led by Jutta Stadler allowed participants to discover the different faces of the island and illustrated the value of pristine nature, providing a perfect starting ground for the workshop.

5 Introduction to IPBES

5.1 Introduction to IPBES and its role in the global science-policy interface

Adla Kahric (IPBES fellow and assistant focal point in Bosnia and Herzegovina) gave a general background and introduction to IPBES. This included its history, overall aims, governing structure, the role of various parties, stakeholders, observers, national focal points, activities of the Bureau, and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP). She also introduced the IPBES fellowship programme and advertised two currently open calls. The presentation also provided a broad overview about the different kinds of assessments IPBES has been producing and about the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030, including its objectives. The participants also got introduced to the outputs that IPBES produces, exemplified by the 1st Thematic Assessment on Pollinators, Pollination & Food Production.

Following the presentation, participants engaged in a lively discussion regarding the involvement and role of youth in IPBES procedures and broader sustainability efforts. They highlighted disparities in IPBES awareness among youth across different countries, noting the importance of communication in order to enhance public knowledge about IPBES. Discussions also touched on the necessity to address the balance between quality of life and sustainability, the need for intergenerational dialogue, and the burden put on youth emerging from depressing climate scenarios for the future. Participants emphasized the significance of youth contribution to policymaking and the importance of retaining young talents within their countries. Additionally, they highlighted challenges such as language barriers in accessing biodiversity information and the need for a more inclusive approach that values Indigenous and local knowledge, including young people, alongside scientific perspectives.

The discussion outlined some major challenges perceived by young people across Europe and Central Asia concerning the work for a more sustainable future. While looking into the future might be depressing at times, the participants agreed that it is important to also have positive future visions for humans and nature, which was one of the goals of the workshop.

5.2 IPBES assessments and processes

Adla provided a comprehensive overview of IPBES assessments, guiding participants through the assessment process and detailing the various types of assessment. This included outlining the timelines of assessments and the various roles of people involved. She shared practical insights on initiating assessments, managing references, and drew from personal experiences as a fellow in the Transformative Change Assessment. A role-playing exercise was conducted, simulating a negotiation in the IPBES Plenary for the Invasive Alien Species Assessment, which underscored the complexity of the science-policy process. The discussion also delved into the relationship between IPBES products and UN conventions, such as the Ramsar Convention (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and explored the operationalization of scientific findings. Participants engaged in fruitful discussions, particularly on the interlinkage between the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and IPBES, and the inclusion of Indigenous and local knowledge.

6 The Nature Futures Framework

A focus of the workshop was placed on the Nature Futures Framework (NFF) (see Box 1 and Fig. 1) that included a participatory process to explore positive future scenarios for nature and society, split into four visioning sessions. This part of the workshop built on the two global IPBES Youth workshops (2018 and 2020) that had also applied the NFF to develop visions (Rana et al. 2020) and transformative pathways (Schmitt et al. submitted; IPBES 2022) of youth for nature and people.

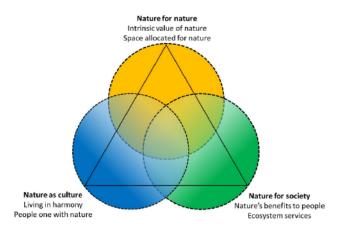


Fig. 1. The Nature Futures Framework triangle (Pereira et al. 2020)

Box 1. The Nature Futures Framework (NFF): a flexible tool to support the development of scenarios and models of desirable futures for people, nature and Mother Earth

Nature Futures Framework (NFF) — A heuristic that captures diverse, positive values for human—nature relationships in a triangular space (see Fig. 1.). We consider three main ways of valuing nature at each of the vertices (nature for nature, nature for society and nature as culture). The NFF builds on the three values of nature (intrinsic, instrumental and relational values, respectively) identified by IPBES and repurposes it to make it actionable for the modelling and scenarios community. The NFF triangle illustrates how it is possible to emphasize a complex mixture of values for appreciating nature depending where in the triangle you are situated and thus allows for a plurality of perspectives to be held in different times, contexts and spaces. As such, the NFF approach and the triangle can be used both as a boundary object for continuously opening up more plural perspectives in the creation of nature scenarios (when referring just to the NFF triangle) and as an actionable framework for developing consistent scenarios and models across multiple scales and levels (Pereira et al. 2020, Durán et al. 2023, Kim et al. 2023)

6.1 Visioning Session 1: Nature Futures Framework and the "Seeds of good Anthropocene"

At the start of the session, participants engaged in a reflective exercise using an interactive online tool, to assess their current level of connection to nature in their daily lives. The responses varied, ranging from feeling very connected to nature to feeling disconnected entirely. Additionally, participants were asked to express their emotions regarding the future, with anxiety emerging as the most prominent sentiment. To stimulate the participants' imagination and inspire them to envision a better future, a short documentary about transitioning to a sustainable economic system was presented. The video encouraged participants to visualize possibilities beyond their current circumstances. It was emphasized that, beyond assessing Europe and Central Asia, it is important to keep potential implications of other parts of the world in mind.

HyeJin Kim (former IPBES fellow on scenarios and models) then introduced the NFF and set the scene for the coming visioning exercise by emphasizing current discourses on living in harmony with nature, as well as referencing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD 2024) and the pluralism of values associated with nature as embraced by IPBES and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The development of the NFF stemmed from the scarcity of positive future scenarios outlined in the IPBES Methodological Assessment Report on Scenarios and Models (IPBES 2016). HyeJin explained the diverse values of nature highlighted in both IPBES and the NFF and demonstrated how the NFF serves as a flexible tool for developing scenarios and models of desirable futures for people, nature, and the planet.

HyeJin introduced the concept of "Seeds of good Anthropocene", which represent marginal ideas, actions, institutions, or technologies, contributing to a sustainable future but are not yet mainstreamed (Bennett et al. 2016). Prior to the workshop, seeds from participants, fellows, and facilitators were harvested, which enabled cross-regional seed fertilization in a novel way. These seeds served as the foundation for envisioning emergent futures during the workshop. Next, the potential outcomes of the workshop were outlined, including the generation of creative artworks, communication pieces, or scientific publications. The "rules of the game" were established to encourage participants to think radically and from their perspective, particularly representing youth and countries from Europe and Central Asia (ECA region), or anywhere else they feel close affinity to. Motivational quotes were shared to inspire participants to explore innovative visions of the future and engage actively in the visioning process.

A "triangle exercise" aimed to deepen the understanding of NFF values and build groups for the following sessions. Firstly, the facilitators outlined the purpose of the exercise and reiterated that each corner of the triangle represented one value perspective (Nature for Nature, Nature as Culture, Nature for Society; see Fig. 2.). The facilitators shared personal positive nature experiences and placed themselves on the triangle according to the respective value perspective. In different rounds, participants then recalled own positive nature experiences and positioned themselves



Fig. 2. Photo of the "triangle exercise" during the explanation of the corners by the facilitators (Photo: T. Schmitt)

on the triangle accordingly. They engaged in discussions with nearby participants, sharing their experiences and reasons for their chosen position. They repeated the process, considering interactions that might position them differently within the triangle. Finally, five groups emerged from the exercise with participants that shared a similar value perspective, assisted by a facilitator. The groups then chose a maximum of 3 seeds from the seeds wall which were close to their value perspective.

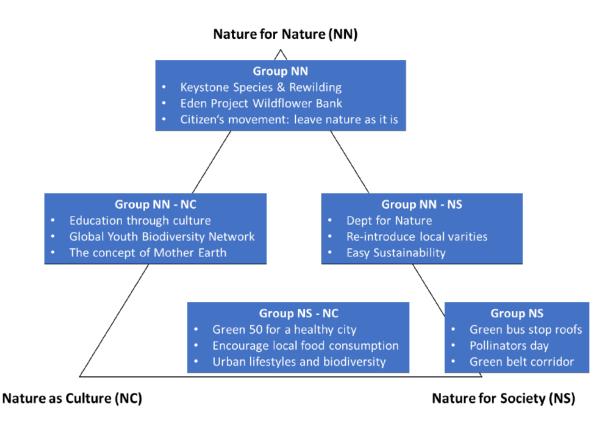


Fig. 3. Illustration of the groups within the NFF triangle including the chosen seeds. (Figure: T. Schmitt)

6.2 Visioning Session 2: Maturing and connecting "Seeds" using "Future Wheels"

In the plenary, an introduction to the concepts of "maturing seeds" and the next steps of the exercise were outlined. The subsequent session in the break-out groups encouraged collabo-



Fig. 4. An exemplary "Future Wheel" for a matured seed (white sticky note) of Group NS-NC. Orange sticky notes present first-order implications; green sticky notes present second-order implications (Photo: T. Schmitt).

rative thinking to identify common implications of the seeds using "Future Wheels", so building the implications around a seed as an individual event. Firstly, the groups identified what a seed could look like in a matured state, so when the initial seed has become mainstream (see Table 1. for examples of each group). The groups then explored firstorder implications, but also second- and third-order implications for each of their three seeds. Emphasis was placed on considering all STEEP-V (socio-cultural, technological, economic, ecological, political, values) implications (see Table 1. for examples of each group).

Tab. 1: Matured seeds and implications developed by the groups. One example per group is displayed. NS = Nature for Society; NC = Nature as Culture; NN = Nature for Nature.

Group: Matured seed	1 st order implications	2 nd order implications	3 rd order implications
NS-NC: More than 80 percent of all food consumed is lo- cal, seasonal, and pro- duced sustainably	- Cultural connection to food and food produc- tion - Community organiza- tions around food, inter- cultural exchange, and solidarity	- Education system ena- bles more local and sea- sonal food system - No/low emissions in food supply and distribu- tion - Improved human health and biodiversity	
NN-NS: Urban areas reintroduce local plants and animals and have ecosystem services units to maintain them in a safe and sustainable way	- A new economic mar- ket is developed based on the sustainable use of these re-introduced re- sources - Every urban area has a specific monitoring sys- tem and agency to coor- dinate the successful re- introduction	 Urban farming is promoted and used widely Improved soil quality Better scientific knowledge on past and present local species and invasive species 	- Increased harvest
NN-NC: The Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) Europe chapter has 2000 members (). GYBN is a party and not an observer in international fora; it actively engages in negotiations and adds its interest ().	- Youth is being heard and recognized (Their well-being is also recognized) - United communities where everybody is held accountable and responsible () more active youth members are working together to share the workload and reduce stress.	- New policies for youth and youth interests - Youth is able to partici- pate in the decision- making processes and not only the implemen- tation of actions - Increased knowledge and awareness of nature and each other	
NS: Green bus stop roofs: All (or as much as possible) buildings in urban areas have green roofs with evergreen plants, flowers that attract pollinators, and vegetables for residents ()	 Clean air, high air quality and water Water storage Higher urban biodiversity Insulation of buildings Urban garden on rooftops Aesthetical and recreational value Education (by doing) 	 Urban heat island effect mitigated Less flood risks Local composting and food recycling Community engagement New work opportunities (green jobs in city) Well-being and mental health enhanced 	- Lower CO2 - Native species and seed sovereignty

Group:	1 st order	2 nd order	3 rd order implications
Matured seed	implications	implications	
NN: The reintroduced species are part of self-sufficient ecosystem without inhibiting ecological barriers.	- Awareness about biodiversity policy increases among the general public Grasslands don't have to be managed as herbivores will do it Social acceptance for hunting decreases, since natural predators ensure population control.	 Global ecosystems more self-sustainable due to return of natural predators and prey. Conflict between the hunters and predators reduces. People, every individual has an opportunity to see wild animals in their natural habitats. 	- Improved cross-border cooperation - Establishment of com- mon geoparks between neighboring countries

The process outlined above created three specific future wheels (see e.g., Fig. 4) in each group, one for each matured seed. Following this step, the participants used threads to connect the implications of the three future wheels in their group to identify conflicting and reinforcing loops across future wheels. The outcome of this exercise provided a more pronounced picture of synergies and trade-offs between the implications of the matured seeds within each group. For instance, a prominent synergy that arose in multiple groups was on the themes of research, knowledge, and education. In Group "NS", the green belt (research and literature) could be related to the pollinator day (gamification, awareness raising) as well as roof-top green bus stop roof tops (green infrastructure, education). In Group "NN-NC", increased knowledge and awareness of nature (matured seed of an enhanced Global Youth Biodiversity Network) is linked with society being more self-aware and empathetic to each other and other living beings (matured seed of "Education through Culture"). In Group "NS-NC", education and awareness around biodiversity were linked to education of enabling local and seasonal food to the seed "Green 50 for a healthy city" (which aims to gather many students to encourage and motivate the residents of Kragujevac to green the city and to educate the population about the importance of green space).

6.3 Visioning Session 3: Developing narratives using Verge

Building on the maturing and connecting seeds exercise, participants engaged in developing skeleton narratives using Verge (see Lum 2014). Verge is an ethnographic future framework that aims to characterize a future scenario on how it differs from today and what changes might occur between now and then. Facilitators firstly asked the participants to envision the world in 2050, prompting participants to close their eyes and imagine the achieved vision, considering various aspects such as societal dynamics, landscapes, and changes observed. This imaginative exercise served as a foundation for enriching the discussion. Participants reflected on the work done so far, identifying commonalities and differences in the developed visions. They revisited the NFF triangle to ensure the alignment with shared values and to address any blind spots. Questions were prompted using Verge categories tailored for ECA youth, encouraging detailed discussions, which included values and worldviews, governance structures, technological integration, manufacturing processes, consumption patterns, destruction (e.g., killing, violence, waste, underlying rules and norms), and the relationship between people and nature (e.g., what do landscapes look like, what do people look like, status of biodiversity).

The groups shared several common themes in envisioning a desirable future, emphasizing environmental consciousness, advocating for circular economies, reduced waste, and a strong integration with nature in both urban and rural settings. There was a focus on community-centric living, with shared resources, communal activities, and localized decision-making being central elements. Technological integration was also a common theme, with technology used to enhance sustainability and reduce labor while maintaining careful management to avoid overreliance.

In terms of economic and governance systems, Group "NS-NC" envisioned a system with distributed power and direct democracy, whereas "NN-NS" and "NS" emphasized highly localized decision-making with a focus on inclusiveness and scientific basis. Economic models also varied in focus, with "NS-NC" proposing a basic income, a happiness-focused economy, and being paid for voluntary work to prevent overworking as it is currently often the case, while "NN-NS" and "NC-NN" leaned towards circular and localized economies without significant wealth disparity. Group "NN" suggested a collective responsibility approach with a bottom-up governance structure and emphasized minimizing resource extraction through a circular economy. In terms of social systems and communities, all groups highlighted the importance of communal living and shared resources. Groups "NS-NC" and "NS" proposed particular changes linked to intergenerational households and modular housing, while "NN-NS" and "NC-NN" focused on enhancing existing community structures with stronger local ties and more inclusive governance. Group "NN" envisioned a future where collective responsibility is key, with a focus on minimizing urban-rural imbalances and ensuring diverse voices be heard.

All groups envisioned a future where nature is deeply integrated into daily life. Group "NS-NC" emphasized vertical gardening and sustainable urban agriculture, while "NN-NS" and "NC-NN" focused on bringing nature back to urban spaces and maintaining reciprocal relationships with nature. Group "NS" envisioned a future with less urban areas, complete harmony with nature, and high technological efficiency to support sustainability. Group "NN" proposed a future where nature is valued instinctively, sustainable practices are second nature, and there is a strong connection between people and nature facilitated by education and community norms. The groups varied in their approaches to balancing technological advancements with nature conservation, but all agreed on the need for ecological education and strong community involvement in preserving biodiversity.

6.4 Visioning Session 4: Presentation of visions and on the Way Forward

After the exercise, the participants were asked to prepare a creative presentation of their major results, which led to very engaging presentations from every group, for instance an interactive exhibition in an imaginative museum in which the main elements of the group's vision were portrayed through a short video, a poetry, and artwork. Other presentations included a self-written song performed by the team with piano and visual representations, a guided city tour of Berlin in 2100, an innovative 'Create and Destroy' talk, and a fairy tale graphic novel on "The Adventures of Elya".

After these, a discussion on the results revealed several barriers and opportunities regarding achieving the envisioned futures in the ECA region across the different groups and their value perspectives. One key point was the need for greater synergy between different societal movements to address both crises (climate change and biodiversity loss) and environmental concerns comprehensively. Participants highlighted the stark inequalities in health

distribution, emphasizing the importance of improving access to healthcare services. Politics emerged as a significant obstacle, with the current political system in many countries often prioritizing economic principles over environmental and societal concerns. Participants stressed the importance of collaborative efforts and shared visions to overcome these political barriers. Structural changes were deemed necessary to address challenges such as carbon emissions, with a focus on powerful collaborations, such as communal living or community-based food production in urban areas, rather than solely individual behavior change.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of learning from indigenous groups and youth movements who offer valuable perspectives and solutions for creating futures that work for everyone. Indigenous stories and perspectives on nature were seen as inspiring, suggesting the need for a stronger connection with nature. Intercultural communication was identified as crucial for leveraging the positive aspects of globalization while addressing its challenges. Additionally, there was recognition of the need for better representation from diverse regions in IPBES processes, including under-represented or disconnected sub-regions, with a call for workshops like this one to foster regional collaboration and cultural exchange. Overall, the discussion underscored the importance of collaboration, structural change, and cultural exchange in realizing the envisioned futures in the ECA region. This collaborative group work illustrated the possibilities of such workshops to build capacity of the young leaders of today in prospecting, designing, preparing, anticipating, and realizing more desirable futures.

7 Stakeholder engagement in IPBES

The workshop also included a hybrid presentation by Laure Denos (officer for stakeholder engagement at the IPBES Secretariat) that focused on stakeholder engagement in IPBES processes. Laure first clarified the concept of stakeholders and highlighted the importance of their involvement in IPBES assessments. Participants actively engaged in defining stakeholders and shared examples, demonstrating prior knowledge on the topic. Laure introduced the major products of IPBES, emphasizing IPBES' impact on governments, businesses, and society.

The discussion covered stakeholder engagement of academic and non-academic stakeholders in IPBES processes. Laure showcased examples of how scientists, including young researchers, can participate in the review process of IPBES assessments, encouraging participants to contribute their expertise. She also discussed opportunities for engagement as non-academic stakeholders, such as through ONet (Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders), which provides resources for involvement, including translating IPBES materials into non-UN languages and organizing events to disseminate IPBES work. During the question session, participants inquired about specific events like the Pan-European Stakeholder consultations (PESC) and how IPBES engages with young non-academics. Laure highlighted IPBES' openness to diverse backgrounds and expertise, including social sciences, and outlined opportunities for youth involvement through fellowship programmes and review processes.

Engagement in IPBES can be grouped into broader categories as outlined in https://youtu.be/JoidcmZzJrM and IPBES (2023):

- Generally being informed about IPBES work and communicating and disseminating it. This does not require any formal association with IPBES, and anyone can do.

- Getting engaged in stakeholder consultations. This requires registering as a stakeholder with networks such as Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders (ONet; see registration process at ONet webspace https://onet.ipbes.net/) and International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IIFBES). They can be contacted for further details (<u>stakeholders@ipbes.net</u>). This process requires registering on the IPBES website.
- Participating as a delegate or observer at IPBES plenaries which occur annually. This process requires one to be affiliated with an institution, on whose behalf they are attending the plenary. This process requires registering on the IPBES website.
- Getting involved as a reviewer on one or all chapters of the ongoing assessments.
- Participating as an IPBES expert as a fellow, a lead author, a coordinating lead author, contributing author and other roles.
- Other roles include establishment of national or regional IPBES platforms (such as Brazilian Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, BPBES) or hosting the plenary

 these roles are not at the individual level.

8 How to keep the momentum going

To keep the momentum going after the very successful and motivating workshop, the participants got introduced to different outputs that could be resulting from the workshop. Following a short presentation on these, the participants split into four groups in a rotational system and worked on potential ways forward for (a) publications, (b) creative artwork, (c) regional network for ECA on positive future visioning. The participants agreed on a set of action points to get these moving and signed up for working groups to further work on the projects beyond the workshop.

9 Evaluation and feedback

Overall, the feedback of the participants on the workshop was highly positive. Particularly noteworthy was positive feedback about the organization of the workshop and the safe space it provided to the participants, including the location, logistics, and availability of equipment. The participants also highlighted positively the respectful atmosphere as everyone was included in discussions and had the possibility to be heard. The workshop was perceived by the participants to be very inspiring, to be "a good flow", and nicely facilitated. The participants' main feedback to improve the workshop was the limited time available to explore the island and to have more flexible time that can be used individually and to network with each other, suggesting an extra day for the workshop. Afterwards, the workshop ended with a joint farewell party with food that the participants brought along from their home region.

10 Acknowledgements

The participants/authors would like to particularly thank the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) for the initiation and the good organization of this workshop. We also would like to thank the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) for providing the funding.

Furthermore, we thank the very engaged IPBES fellows and members of the task force on Scenarios and Models for the preparation of the NFF exercise as well as the IPBES task force on capacity-building and the technical support unit on capacity-building for their assistance in the preparations of the workshop. We also thank the knowledgeable presenters (including from the IPBES Secretariat) and excellent external facilitators who guided the participants on-site through the content and exercises. Finally, the authors would like to express their gratitude to all participants for their interest in the topic, the lively discussions and their creativity throughout the workshop (see Appendix A for a list of all participants, presenters, and facilitators).

11 Interesting links and further reading

<u>Literature that describes or applies methods (seeds, Future Wheels, STEEP-V, Verge)</u>

- Bright spots: seeds of a good Anthropocene https://eprints.soton.ac.uk/401154/1/fee1309.pdf
- Manoa: The future is not binary https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275338406 Manoa The fu-ture_is_not_binary
- Scenarios: A Hero's Journey across Turbulent Systems https://jfsdigital.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/171-S04.pdf
- Seeds of a better future https://www.resilience.org/stories/2022-12-07/seeds-of-a-better-future/
- Developing multiscale and integrative nature—people scenarios using the Nature Futures Framework
 - https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/pan3.10146
- Using futures methods to create transformative spaces: visions of a good Anthropocene in southern Africa https://www.jstor.org/stable/26799045
- Seeds of good anthropocenes: developing sustainability scenarios for Northern Europe
 - https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11625-019-00714-8
- Quality criteria for visions and visioning in sustainability science https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11625-013-0208-6
- Visions of the Arctic Future: Blending Computational Text Analysis and Structured Futuring to Create Story-Based Scenarios
 https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2021EF002206

Video on outgrowing the system

• https://rafilm.se/outgrow-the-system

Previous IPBES Youth Workshops - reports and publications

2019 IPBES Youth Workshop with a summer school resulting in a special issue

- Workshop report: https://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/2020-05/Report%20IP-BES%20youth%20workshop%20Brazil%202019 final.pdf
- Publication:
 - https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/26395916.2020.1821095
- Special issue: https://www.scielo.br/j/bn/i/2020.v20suppl1/

2022 IPBES Youth Workshop focused on the 3-Horizons (pathways):

- Workshop report: www.ipbes.net/resource-file/104669
- Video on engagement in IPBES: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JoidcmZzJrM
- Illustrative storybook:
 https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d07cde0701969000168c986/t/64c775e1146
 67209f180d0af/1690793499937/2022 GR IPBES Booklet Draft V03.pdf

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A Annex: List of participants

Tab. 2: 1 List of presenters and facilitators

Role	Name	Organization
Head	Jutta Stadler	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
Other organizers	Lennart Kümper-Schlake	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
Lead Facilitator	HyeJin Kim	UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Group Facilitator	Sanha Kim	Biodiversity Foundation, Korea
Group Facilitator	Anita Lazurko	UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Group Facilitator	Mara de Pater	DRIFT, The Netherlands
Group Facilitator	Hannah Thiel	Stockholm Resilience Centre, Sweden
Group Facilitator	Laura Quintero Uribe	German Centre for Integrative Bi- odiversity Research (iDiv) Halle- Jena-Leipzig
Preparation	Diem Hong Thi Tran	IPBES Technical support unit on capacity-building
Preparation	Brian Miller	U.S. Geological Survey
Preparation	Jan Kuiper	Stockholm Resilience Centre, Sweden
Preparation	Laura Pereira	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
Presenter	Adla Kahric	Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Bosnia and Herze- govina
Presenter	Laure Denos	IPBES secretariat
Presenter / Report	Thomas Schmitt	Karlsruhe Institute of Technology IMK-IFU, Germany

Tab. 3: 2 List of participants

First name	Last name	Nationality	Country of residence	Institutional affiliation
Abu Bakar	Ali	UK	Denmark	Global Youth Bio- diversity Network
Vanik	Arakelyan	Armenian	Armenia	United Evergreens - Unity for Nature, NGO
Igli	Balla	Albanian	Albania	Polytechnic Univer- sity of Tirana - Fac- ulty of Civil Engi- neering - Depart- ment of Environ- mental Engineering
Naomi	Bi	German	Germany	Youth ES Specialists (YESS), Research Training Group "Fixing Futures", Institute for Sociology, Goethe-University Frankfurt
Nynke	Blömer	Netherlands	UK	GYBN Europe, Polli- nator Ambassadors
Nino	Bregadze	Georgian	Georgia	CENN - Caucasus Environmental NGO Network
Nika	Budagashvili	Georgian	Georgia	Conservation of- ficer at SABUKO - Society for Nature
Marija	Chobanova	Macedonian	Germany / North Macedonia	Ss.Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Institute of Biology, Macedonian Ecological Society
Aikaterini	Christopoulou	Greek	Greece	Harokopio Univer- sity of Athens, Young ES Special- ists (YESS)
Glorija	Cirkovic	Serbian	Serbia	Faculty of Science, University of Kra- gujevac
Yeliz	Ergöl	Turkish	Türkiye	Istanbul Technical University/Master student

First name	Last name	Nationality	Country of residence	Institutional affiliation
Axel	Eriksson	Sweden	Sweden	Global Youth Biodiversity Network
Alfredo	Fernández Alías	Spanish	Spain	University of Murcia
Borbála	Györfy	Hungarian	Romania	Pando Association
Doruk	Karalar	Turkish	Switzerland	Roots & Shoots Türkiye
Vera	Kaunath	German	Germany	NAJU Naturschutz- jugend im NABU
Gor	Khachatryan	Armenian	Armenia	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Arme- nia, Scientific Cen- ter of Zoology and Hydroecology
Simon	Landauer	Austrian	Switzerland	University of Zurich - Department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies University Research Priority Program - Global Change and Biodiversity, Forum Biodiversity SCNAT
Mane	Mkrtchyan	Armenian	Armenia	"Public Awareness and Monitoring Centre" (PAMC), non-governmental organization
Alexandra	Mussina	Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan	KIMEP University Graduate Lawyer Wild Nature Volun- teers Activist Youth4ClimateKZ manager Green Ranger Pro- gramme partici- pant
Alina	Reize	German	Germany	Young Friends of the Earth Ger- many/BUNDjugend
Michael	Ruggeri	Italian	UK	Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)

First name	Last name	Nationality	Country of residence	Institutional affiliation
Marie	Touchon	French	UK	Bangor University, Women in ocean science
Gabriel	Vieira	Brazilian	Portugal	Forestis - Associ- ação Florestal de Portugal
Emina	Zecic	Bosnian	Bosnia and Herze- govina	

B Annex: Workshop agenda

Monday, 06.11.2023		
02:00 pm	Chartered bus departure from BER Airport, central tour bus parking lot	
Arrival	Ferry crossings from port Lauterbach/Mole at 04:10, 05:10 and 06:10 pm (last possibility at 08:10 pm)	
06:30 pm	Dinner	
07:30 pm	Welcome and practicalities Jutta Stadler (BfN) Short round of introduction (all participants)	

Tuesday, 07	7.11.2023
From 07:30	Breakfast
09:00 am	Introduction to the workshop Jutta Stadler and facilitators
09:30 am	Getting to know each other, Icebreaker Jutta Stadler + all
	Introduction of projects/organisations (slides, part 1) Participants
10:30 am	Break
I Introduction	n to IPBES
11:00 am	Introduction to IPBES and its role in the global science-policy interface Adla Kahric
12:30 pm	Lunch
01:30 pm	Guided tour around the Isle of Vilm Meeting point: main entrance of the conference building
03:30 pm	Break
04:00 pm	IPBES assessments and processes Adla Kahric
06:00 pm	Dinner
07:45 pm	Introduction of projects/organisations (slides, part 2) Participants

Wednesda	Wednesday, 08.11.2023		
From 07:30 d	am Breakfast		
II The Nature	e Futures Framework		
09:00 am	Recap on yesterday and work for today Jutta Stadler		
09:15 am	Visioning Session 1: Nature Futures Framework and the Seeds of Good Anthropocene HyeJin Kim and other facilitators		
10:15 am	Visioning Session 2: Maturing and Connecting Seeds using Future Wheels HyeJin Kim and other facilitators		
<i>10:30</i> am	Break		
11:00 am	Visioning Session 2: Maturing and Connecting Seeds using Future Wheels (cont.) HyeJin Kim and other facilitators		
12:30 pm	Lunch		
01:45 pm	Happy start of the afternoon Jutta Stadler		
02:00 pm	Visioning Session 2: Maturing and Connecting Seeds using Future Wheels (cont.) HyeJin Kim and other facilitators		
03:30 pm	Break		

Thursday, 09.11.2023			
From 07:30	am Breakfast		
II The Natur	e Futures Framework (cont.)		
09:00 am Recap on yesterday and work for today HyeJin Kim			
09:15 am	Visioning Session 4: Presentation of Visions and On the Way Forward HyeJin Kim and other facilitators		

Visioning Session 3: Developing Narratives using VERGE

Introduction of projects/organisations (slides, part 3)

HyeJin Kim and other facilitators

04:00 pm

06:00 pm

07:45 pm

Dinner

Participants

<i>11:00</i> am	Break
11:30 am	Plenary discussion
12:30 pm	Lunch
01:45 pm	Happy start of the afternoon Jutta Stadler
III Stakeholde	er Engagement in IPBES
02:00 pm	How to take part in and support IPBES work? Laure Denos (IPBES Secretariat)
03:30 pm	Break
04:00 pm	How to keep the momentum going forward? Thomas Schmitt + all
05:00 pm	Evaluation and closure of the event Jutta Stadler
06:00 pm	Dinner
07:45 pm	Joint farewell party

Friday, 10.11.2023	
07:25 am	Departure boat 1 (from Vilm) Packed breakfast will be provided Departure of the chartered bus: 07:45 from Lauterbach harbor Departure of train at 08:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg
08:25 am	Departure boat 2 Departure of train at 09:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg
09:20 am	Departure boat 3 Departure of train at 11:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg

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