

How to better integrate research and knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services?

Request: What needs to be done to better integrate research and knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services from the global to the European level, and vice versa?

Requester: European Commission

DG Research & Innovation,



Background:

The request is based on the need to translate the outcomes of global science-policy processes on biodiversity and ecosystem services into action at the European scale and, vice versa, to ensure that European science-policy processes contribute to the global debate.

Methodological Approach: Targeted consultation (questionnaire) and a workshop using three rounds of World Cafes.

The workshop looked at the methodologies used by others to interpret international assessments into prioritisation for their own needs, and considered how to facilitate a process for better linking European and Global science and policy on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Main findings by EKLIPSE

- From Global to EU and vice versa only considers two of the many levels. To understand how these levels interact and influence each other, it is important to look at the other levels (local, national, etc.).
- To improve the interaction between EU and Global will involve different issues, steps and levels and therefore different players in order to identify enabling actions to put in place.
- Any new coordinating body should not try to duplicate what is already existing, instead the existing bodies that already fulfil required functions could be reinforced.
- In order to prioritize global knowledge gaps for European research strategies, there is a need for a more formalized coordination and consensus at the EU level before engaging with the global level.



Figure 1: Advantages, Challenges & Opportunities resulting from the consultation

Advantages	Challenges	Opportunities
The EU as a global player	There isn't a one size fits all	Leading by example
Availability of funds and data	Some argue that data-science	Potential to shed light on European
	requires an interphase in the same	impacts elsewhere in the world
	way that science-policy does	
A "common" research agenda	A perception that the global scale	Embedding the outcomes of the
	has little additional to offer	IPBES assessments in EU policy
Formal mechanisms (Directives) vs	Institutional Knowledge ("grey	Global comparability, particularly
Informal mechanisms (Global	literature") versus Nominated	important under the 2030
Assessments)	Experts ("science and academics")	Sustainable Development Agenda





