


BUSINESS UPTAKE OF BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE

This document presents preliminary findings on avenues to strengthen the business uptake of knowledge and insights from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). The findings are based on a workshop that took place in October 2025 in Helsinki, bringing together practitioners from international business sustainability platforms, companies, and representatives from science-policy interfaces. The event was co-organized by the EU-funded Respin and BioAgora projects. A public report with the full findings will be available in autumn 2026 on the Respin's project website.

USE OF IPCC AND IPBES KNOWLEDGE IN BUSINESS







While much of the use remains at a **communicative level**, recent regulatory pressures have pushed businesses to integrate **climate and biodiversity knowledge** at a **strategic level**, with climate leading in more concrete applications.

IPCC/IPBES products and knowledge are used for:

-  **Strategic agenda** or target setting, benchmarking;
-  **Scenario analyses** of physical and policy risks (primarily IPCC), datasets and metrics;
-  **Business case** examples, including dependencies and risks (especially IPBES);
-  **Client pitches and stakeholder dialogues** to frame megatrends;
-  **Authoritative referencing** in reports, events, and communications.

CHALLENGES TO THE UPTAKE OF IPCC AND IPBES KNOWLEDGE

Challenges to the uptake of IPCC and IPBES include the following:

-  **Businesses are not a primary audience** for IPCC/IPBES reports and are rarely addressed in national-level translations or dissemination events;
-  **Information overload** is compounded by limited in-house resources, especially in smaller companies;
-  **IPCC/IPBES products remain unknown** to many companies or staff beyond communication, compliance, or legal teams;
-  **Consultancies are relied on** to contextualize knowledge and crunch data, leading to an inflation of knowledge brokers;
-  **Biodiversity loss is less familiar** than climate change due to its complex, local nature and lack of clear universal metrics and targets, making operationalization harder;
-  **Inconsistent regulatory pressures**, combined with a lack of direct customer or financing pressures, significantly undermine the business case.






AVENUES TO STRENGTHEN THE UPTAKE OF CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE

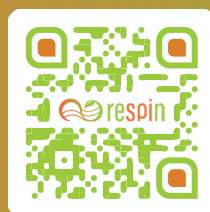
IPCC/IPBES summaries for policymakers are heavily negotiated with governments, which would make it difficult to also tailor versions for business audiences. However, providing **sector-level insights, methodological guidance, and actionable options** would improve visibility and reduce risks from multiple interpretations. Business-ready materials and improved data accessibility are essential for assessing company-level business cases and operational risks. Science translation must target diverse business roles – from SMEs to boards to operational – while clearly communicating knowledge gaps and uncertainties. This requires **concerted efforts** from business leadership, financiers, industry platforms, knowledge brokers, academia, governments, and media.

Avenues to improve the uptake of climate and biodiversity knowledge include the following:

-  **Ambitious and consistent policies**, including disclosure and regulatory requirements, are key catalysts to motivate companies beyond frontrunners;
-  **Finance and value-chain** expectations, such as clauses in project financing or procurement contracts, steer the behaviour of developers and suppliers;"
-  **Disclosure and target-setting frameworks**, voluntary and mandatory, make climate and biodiversity knowledge actionable;

-  **Industry platform, business coalitions and professional societies** play a critical role in brokering knowledge and building capacity at international and national level;
-  **IPCC/IPBES national working groups** and their hosting organizations can improve usability through communication and capacity-building involving business;
-  **Business-to-business sharing** of use cases supports sectoral uptake and action;
-  **Board members and leaders** can drive change by allocating ad hoc positions in the organization;
-  **Proactive individuals within companies** matter, but their impacts remains limited without organizational support;
-  **Scientists and knowledge holders** should strengthen interdisciplinarity and business-oriented communication capacities;
-  **Media** can help disseminate and contextualize IPCC/ IPBES knowledge.

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