

Business for Biodiversity and Climate: Leveraging Insights from IPCC and IPBES

Climate change and biodiversity loss are reshaping markets, regulations, supply chains, and investor expectations. Therefore, to thrive in a changing world, businesses need to take bold, science-based action to align with global goals, responding to climate change and biodiversity loss. The IPBES and IPCC assessments offer scientifically grounded information to understand risks, unlock innovation, and help businesses spot emerging opportunities, and lead the transition to a more sustainable and resilient economy.

Call for action

- **Integrate biodiversity and climate considerations into core business strategies** to support long-term business growth, sectoral resilience and economic sustainability.
- **Leverage knowledge assessed and synthesised by IPBES and IPCC** to reduce impact across operations and value chains, set scientifically robust targets and transparently disclose dependencies, impacts and progress on nature and climate.
- **Align business strategies and actions with global frameworks** such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Paris Agreement to maximise business contributions to tackling the interconnected crises of biodiversity loss and climate change.
- **Collectively take timely action** to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and reduce GHG emissions in line with the Paris Agreement goal.

What are IPCC and IPBES, and why are they important

- The [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) and the [Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#) (IPBES) are internationally recognised bodies that **provide authoritative, policy-relevant, and scientifically rigorous assessments** on climate change and biodiversity, respectively. Both are independent intergovernmental bodies supported by the United Nations system.
- Their **technical reports** are produced through a transparent and inclusive process that involves hundreds of volunteer experts globally assessing the latest scientific and grey literature. Drafts are publicly reviewed to ensure **rigour and scientific integrity**.
- A key strength of both platforms is their **intergovernmental nature, which ensures legitimacy and transparency, through processes such as approval** of the summary for policymakers by their members (governments) – 195 for the IPCC (as of 30/05/2025) and 150 for IPBES (as of 30/05/2025). Their assessment reports **inform international policy frameworks** such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- **Businesses are recognised by both platforms** as essential actors in responding to the climate and biodiversity crises. Their reports offer evidence, scenarios, and methodologies that businesses can use to align their strategies with science-based targets and global goals.

Why are IPCC and IPBES relevant to business?

- **Shaping policy and regulation:** The findings of the IPCC and IPBES reports can influence the development of new international and national policies and regulations that shape markets, such as carbon pricing mechanisms, stricter environmental regulations, and incentives for renewable energy and can identify and assess both risks and opportunities for businesses. For example, the IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services informed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the [EU's Nature Restoration Law](#). Similarly, the [European Climate Law \(EU's commitment to climate neutrality by 2050\)](#) is heavily based on information from IPCC reports.
- **Influencing investor behaviour:** With the rise of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing, the IPCC and IPBES reports provide key insights into climate- and nature-related risks and opportunities, guiding capital flows toward more sustainable business models (e.g., reports from [Network for Greening the Financial System](#) are often based on IPCC and IPBES reports and findings).
- **Guiding frameworks for business action and disclosure:** The scientific evidence provided by IPCC and IPBES informs key frameworks. For instance, the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), that guide businesses in identifying, assessing, disclosing, and acting on climate and nature-related risks, and aligning strategies with global sustainability goals. The ongoing IPBES methodological assessment of the impact and dependency of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (the "[IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment](#)"; see box 1) will further strengthen this knowledge base, offering tailored guidance for businesses to contribute to global biodiversity goals.

Box 1. Upcoming IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment

IPBES is currently undertaking a [methodological assessment of the impact and dependency of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people](#) (business and biodiversity assessment), which will be considered by the 12th meeting of the IPBES Plenary in February 2026. The assessment will categorise the dependencies and impacts of business and financial institutions on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, which incorporates ecosystem services and other analogous concepts, including in relation to Indigenous Peoples and local communities. It will assess methods for measuring direct dependencies and impacts and, where appropriate, indirect dependencies and impacts, and will assess options for actions by businesses and by others, including Governments, the financial sector, indigenous peoples and local communities, and civil society, that interact with business.