

IPBES Fellowship Pilot Programme

Additional information and nomination process

Introduction

Following the IPBES 4 Plenary decision (IPBES-4/1 section 1, para 1), IPBES is continuing implementation of the IPBES fellowship pilot programme.

The pilot programme is targeting early career experts who wish to gain experience in contributing to an assessment, by participating in the development of the **global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services** (hereinafter referred to as the global assessment) (IPBES work programme deliverable 2c). The global assessment will involve a small group of fellows working *pro bono*, and starting with the first author meeting scheduled for 15-19 August 2016.

The IPBES fellowship pilot programme provides an exciting opportunity for individuals in the early stages of their careers in the area of social, economic and biological sciences, policy development and indigenous and local knowledge, related to biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Selected fellows will take part as authors to the chapter of the global assessment they are selected for. Fellows will attend two author meetings and receive training to gain an in-depth understanding of the IPBES assessment processes. Fellows will also be paired up with a mentor for the assessment period. Fellows from developing countries and countries with economies in transition will receive support to attend these meetings and training activities in accordance with UN rules.

The IPBES fellows for the global assessment will be selected by the management team, which includes the co-chairs of the assessment and members of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP).

Member States and Observers are invited to disseminate this call to relevant institutions and organisations for their direct nomination of candidates to this programme. Nominations from a broad range of organizations/institutions are encouraged. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Nominators are expected to give their consent to the time commitment required from the candidate.

For an effective implementation of all of these deliverables, it is critical to include a broad variety of fellows from various natural and social scientific disciplines and from different knowledge systems, including indigenous and local knowledge systems, as well as policy and technical experts and practitioners. Organisations and institutions nominating experts are therefore encouraged to promote this multidisciplinary approach, which is fundamental to the success of IPBES.

Nomination procedure

Organisations and institutions are invited to nominate fellows to participate in the IPBES fellowship pilot programme.

The nomination process will follow these steps:

- 1) Nominees will be invited to fill out an **application form** and attach their curricula vitae through the dedicated web portal (<http://www.ipbes.net/applicationform>).
- 2) The **application form** will automatically be sent to the candidate's organisation/institution (the nominator) indicated by the nominee with an email providing a link to a **nomination and consent form**. The nomination and consent form invites the nominators to approve and submit their nominations as well as approve the time commitment required from the candidate.

- 3) The nominator and nominee will receive an acknowledgement message once the **nomination and consent form** confirming the nomination is submitted.

Interested candidates (nominees) are requested to fill out their application form **no later than 05 May 2016**. Nominators (organisations/institutions) should submit nominations by **15 May 2016 at the latest**. Earlier nominations are strongly encouraged.

All candidates (nominees) should ensure that they:

- **Are available on the indicated meeting dates provided below**
- **Are able to make a commitment of *up to 15 percent* of their time in the assessment period**
- **Have discussed the nomination and nomination procedure with their organisation/institution before applying**

IPBES Fellowship Programme selection criteria

Candidates should:

1. Be in the early stages of their careers, indicatively not older than 35 years of age and 5-10 years of experience after obtaining their academic degree. They should be working in the area of social, economic and biological sciences, policy development and/or indigenous and local knowledge systems;
2. Be able to make a time commitment of *up to 15 percent* of their working time over the assessment period, including attending two one-week author meetings and training activities (see below for dates). This time commitment is agreed upon from the fellows themselves and officially from their current employer/institution;
3. Be willing to actively share their experience gained from the assessment process, e.g. within their home institutions;
4. Have excellent speaking, reading and writing skills in English;
5. Have good research and analytical skills in dealing with complex issues, the ability to comprehend and evaluate material from multiple disciplines and knowledge systems and in turn write their assessment concisely and accurately;
6. Have the ability to meet deadlines and be productive, which can be reflected in terms of their scientific or technical publication record;
7. Have demonstrated ability to interact with people from other disciplines and work effectively and efficiently as a team member;
8. Have access to a reliable internet connection in their home institution to allow free access to email and worldwide web resources.

Candidates will be selected based on their merit and academic qualifications and in their individual capacity as experts, taking into account geographical balance, disciplinary and gender. All nominated candidates will be informed of the outcome of the selection process in due course, and no later than 15 July 2016.

Meeting dates

Global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services	Tentative dates
Capacity-building day	14 August 2016
First author meeting, Bonn Germany	15-19 August 2016
Fellows training workshop	First quarter 2017
(Second author meeting)	(Early third quarter 2017)
Third author meeting	Second/early third quarter 2018

Please note that fellows will attend two of the three author meetings planned for the global assessment (in 2016 and 2018 respectively). Fellows will *not* attend the second meeting (2017).

Support

This is an unpaid fellowship scheme. Selected fellows are expected to work *pro bono*, as the rest of the experts, with all work provided in fulfilment of the assigned tasks considered as in-kind contribution and not remunerated. Expenses from attending the two author meetings and training workshop (travel costs and daily subsistence) will be covered for selected fellows from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in accordance with UN rules. Selected fellows from developed countries are expected to cover their own expenses; these fellows from countries not eligible for support are encouraged to seek support from their home institution/organisation or government

More information

For questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IPBES technical support unit on capacity building: tsu.capacitybuilding@ipbes.net