

## WHO IS INVOLVED?

The national assessments are being undertaken by expert local organisations:



Coordination and management at the global level is through a partnership between UNDP and UNEP-WCMC, leveraging their significant experience in assessments and communities of practice such as BES Net and the SGA Network

## CONTACT

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This project is undertaken via funding by the Government of Germany, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, International Climate Initiative (IKI)



[www.ecosystemassessments.net](http://www.ecosystemassessments.net)



[www.besnet.world](http://www.besnet.world)



[www.unep-wcmc.org](http://www.unep-wcmc.org)



Capacity development for the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES):

## Undertaking national ecosystem assessments in developing countries



Supported by:  
 Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

## AIM

- The aim of this project is to build the capacity of four developing countries to undertake a national ecosystem assessment using the guidance developed through the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- The project will leverage the advice and expertise of existing networks such as the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) and the Sub-Global Assessment Network (SGA Network) to develop communities of practice around ecosystem assessment and policy support tools at the national and regional level.

## WHY DO WE NEED THIS PROJECT?

- Many governments recognise that human well-being is dependent on healthy functioning ecosystems and the services they provide. Yet ecosystems continue to be significantly reduced in extent and threatened with loss of crucial functions. This puts ecosystem service delivery at risk. In many cases national decision making processes do not take full account of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services. National ecosystem assessments can deliver an evidence base that meets the needs of decision makers through a tried and tested stakeholder engagement process.
- In 2015 the IPBES Plenary approved a list of priority capacity building needs for developing countries, including 'enhancing the capacity to undertake, use and improve national assessments'. This project will directly support four developing countries to undertake a national ecosystem assessment and develop a set of policy support tools to integrate assessment findings into decision making. In addition, by using guidance on assessments developed for IPBES, the findings of these national ecosystem assessments can be more readily scaled-up to inform regional and global assessments in the future.

## WHERE WILL WE WORK?

- The project is taking place in four showcase countries: Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Viet Nam



## OUR APPROACH

### Global

- **Global Workshops** will bring together key project partners and national teams to share progress, experience and knowledge
- **An Expert Leadership Group** has been established to provide expert advice and support to the national assessments
- **Lesson sharing** via dissemination of materials on channels such as the **Sub-Global Assessment** and **BES-Net** websites, and side events at prominent international biodiversity conferences
- A programme of **capacity building**, including regular webinars, a help desk facility and dedicated team forum space

### National

- A set of four **Assessment Scoping Reports** including information on government priority questions and available biodiversity and ecosystem services data
- Four **National Assessment Reports** based on identified key policy questions, utilising existing data and information on biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Consistent **stakeholder engagement** throughout the process to ensure a relevant, credible and legitimate assessment report
- Integration of assessment findings into decision making through use of **innovative policy support tools**

