

Title

Participation in 3rd author meeting of the IPBES Nexus assessment (Kathmandu, Nepal), 5-9 February 2024

Overview

The IPBES work program for 2019-2030 includes an assessment of thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (nexus assessment), which examines the interlinkages among the sustainable development goals related to food and water security, health for all, protecting biodiversity on land and in the oceans and combating climate change. The assessment has included two review periods (1st and 2nd draft) by registered experts, the second of which was completed in late January 2024. Additionally, IPBES conducted three Indigenous and local knowledge dialogues (the one in November 2024 was attended by Metaxas) to ensure their perspectives are reflected in the assessment. During the 3rd author meeting, authors assembled to address the outcome of the most recent ILK dialogue as well as the reviews and move towards finalizing the third order draft and the summary for policy-makers. After another round of review by member states, a version of the assessment (and the summary for policy-makers) will be presented at IPBES 11 Plenary, in Windhoek, Namibia, between 10 and 16 December 2024. At that Plenary, governments will work to finalize approval of the assessment.

Throughout the assessment process, Metaxas has been active in promoting content relating to the ocean and, where information is available, the deep ocean. She is a lead author in Chapter 3 of the Assessment on “Future Nexus Interactions” where she, along with other marine colleagues, were successful in including relevant studies. She is not directly involved in other chapters, but is a member of a small group of marine scientists (~10/160 authors) pushing for ocean content. We have been relatively successful, particularly in comparison with other assessments. To ensure greater content, we must engage both in the reviewing of the assessments (any individual can register as a reviewer, but an organization such as DOSI cannot), and in lobbying our governments to nominate us as experts in future assessments. The request for reviewers was circulated with the Biodiversity Conservation Task Force, but there was little response. An information seminar after the assessment is complete may prove helpful in the future.

Participants

Anna Metaxas

DOSI Actions

This event involved participation in the writing and editing of Chapter 3 of the Nexus Assessment. There were no specific DOSI actions, but Metaxas continues to promote that the ocean, including the deep ocean, are included in the assessment.

Annexes

Unfortunately, the document cannot be shared at this point; it is only accessible during specific periods and only by registered reviewers (of which Dr Elva Escobar is one). I do attach some photographs though.

