

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network

BES-Net

Providing the catalytic **BES Solution Fund** and technical assistance to 18 countries to turn knowledge from IPBES and national ecosystem assessments into action.

Improving the national BES evidence base by coordinating the co-creation of **national ecosystem assessments**.

BES-Net works through four connected approaches

Strengthening the BES policy-science-practice network around the IPBES assessment themes through **Dialogues**, facilitated knowledge uptake and co-creation processes shaped by national and regional priorities.

Enhancing global BES **communication and knowledge-sharing** by connecting partners and promoting interaction through the BES-Net online platforms.

Gender equality

BES-Net is dedicated to fostering gender equality and uplifting the voices of women, girls and marginalized communities in biodiversity conservation, where gender roles and knowledge are shaped by deep-rooted social norms. BES-Net works to enhance representation, strengthen partnerships and awareness, and mainstream gender while addressing intersectional inequalities.

Indigenous and Local Knowledge

Indigenous Peoples steward at least a quarter of the world's land, including many of its remaining areas of high biodiversity, yet that contribution often goes unsupported. BES-Net recognizes and brings their knowledge, and that of local communities, into national ecosystem assessments, Dialogues and the BES Solution Fund. **As of 2025, over 3,000 community knowledge holders have directly contributed to BES-Net workstreams.**

BES Solution Fund

BES-Net's catalytic seed fund is being used strategically to upscale and implement findings and commensurations emerging from IPBES assessments and national ecosystem assessments in **18 countries between 2021 and 2028**. Aligning with national biodiversity strategies and action plans, these funds are helping to strengthen institutions, better engage science, policy and practice communities, improve data availability and use, and promote rigorous on-the-ground initiatives to conserve, protect and restore threatened ecosystems. **As of 2025, more than 110 assessment uptake actions had been reported across policy, science and research, and on-the-ground** implementation arenas.



[Learn more](#)

National ecosystem assessments

A national ecosystem assessment is a nationally driven process that builds an up-to-date synthesis of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services, shaped around national needs and specific policy questions. As part of the BES-Net consortium, the NEA Initiative at UNEP-WCMC has worked with **14 countries** so far to conduct or scope their national ecosystem assessments. **As of 2026, 12 countries have completed the assessment.**



[Learn more](#)

Dialogues

Dialogues are BES-Net's signature approach to knowledge uptake and multi-stakeholder engagement. They are facilitated processes that help contextualize assessment findings and other forms of knowledge around specific policy priorities at national and regional levels while strengthening dialogue within and among policy, science and practice communities. Across Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, Africa and Central Asia, Dialogues have supported over **400 practitioners, policymakers, scientists and knowledge holders from more than 30 countries** to collectively interpret, contextualize and apply key messages from IPBES assessments through dialogue, shared learning and co-creation across local, national and regional scales.



[Learn more](#)

Communication and knowledge-sharing

BES-Net acts as a "network of networks", **bringing together 130+ global organizations** and building on strong knowledge management practices. We facilitate BES content creation and promotion across our platforms, and we amplify the voices of our partners, experts, youth and early-career researchers.



Explore our work and join our network as an expert or partner at **www.besnet.world**

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