



Society for Conservation Biology

A global community of conservation professionals

December 13, 2013

To:

Prof. Zakri Abdul Hamid,
Chair, Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Via e-mail to secretariat@ipbes.net

Re: In-kind support to IPBES from the Society for Conservation Biology

The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) is an international professional organization dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of biological diversity and ecosystem functions and services. With thousands of members worldwide, the Society's membership comprises a wide range of people, working in various sectors and sharing the mutual interest in the conservation and study of biological diversity.

IPBES's vision fully aligns with that of the SCB. We have therefore followed the establishment and early work of IPBES with great interest, sharing the hope that it will become a leading voice in providing policy-relevant knowledge to help securing biodiversity and ecosystem services. SCB wishes to express its commitment to IPBES by offering in-kind support:

- SCB has allocated resources to ensure the travel and participation of its members in consultation, intersessional meetings and Plenary meetings and hopes to find future funding to continue securing such contributions.
- SCB has a dual structure based on geographical (global, regional sections and local chapters) and thematic divisions (thematic working groups). This structure corresponds to objectives 2 and 3 of the IPBES Work Programme and therefore provides flexibility to respond to the needs and activities of IPBES and constitutes an already existing resource which we are keen to offer as in-kind support to IPBES.
- Aligned with the needs of IPBES, SCB has recently updated its expert database which includes Member-specific expertise of our world-wide membership base, which includes scientists, resource managers, government and private conservation workers, educators and students. This database may serve as a means to identify experts for IPBES processes such as membership in the MEP, report authors, reviewers and support to capacity building efforts.
- We are further willing to support IPBES by advertising the needs of IPBES in our international journals, the Society's newsletter, web pages, blogs, etc.



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- SCB would welcome scientific contributions based on the IPBES outcomes for consideration in its highly ranked international peer reviewed journals (*Conservation Biology*, *Conservation Letters*), and its regional journal (*Pacific Conservation Biology*). Publications in scientific peer reviewed journals would enhance the scientific visibility and dissemination of IPBES findings as well as providing a valuable incentive to contributing scientists.
- While SCB's contribution to IPBES will rest primarily on voluntary contributions, we strongly believe that through facilitating communication between IPBES and the scientific and conservation-practice community we can aid the identification of important resources to support IPBES's processes.

We hope that the IPBES will recognize the potential of the already existing resources that SCB offer as an in-kind support to IPBES.

Respectfully,

Dr. Rodrigo A. Medellin,

President, Society for Conservation Biology

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