

Appendix 3: Details of the regional approaches for scenario archetype assessments

Each of the IPBES regional assessments analysed the selected archetypes differently and to various extents (Biggs et al. 2018, Gundimeda et al. 2018, Harrison et al. 2018, Klatt et al. 2018). For instance, both the African and Europe and Central Asia assessments adjusted the global archetypes to create more regionally-specific versions, based on information from the respective regional reviews. Subsequently, both regional assessments qualitatively or semi-quantitatively assessed plausible trends in driving forces, impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being, as well as the likelihood of reaching various sustainability related goals for each archetype, along with these well as policy options and pathways related to them (Biggs et al. 2018, Harrison et al. 2018). The African assessment formulated the regional archetypes based on 26 scenarios taken from a selection of six “core studies” (Biggs et al. 2018), while the Europe and Central Asia and Asia-Pacific assessments categorized all reviewed studies into the archetypes, with the Europe and Central Asia assessment subsequently using the archetypes to formulate their regional versions (Harrison et al. 2018, Gundimeda et al. 2018). In contrast, the Americas regional assessment used scenario archetypes as a general lens for discussing the results of regional assessments (Klatt et al. 2018).

Most regional assessments except for Asia-Pacific decided to omit the “Breakdown” archetype (Table A3.1) as it assumes a large-scale societal collapse and does not provide information on constructive pathways for decision makers (Klatt et al. 2018). Unlike other regional assessments, the Europe and Central Asia regional assessment included an “Inequality” archetype (Harrison et al. 2018, Harrison et al. 2019) which was added to reflect “the growing importance of this archetype in the scenario literature” (e.g. Kok and Pedde 2016, Kok et al. 2019, O’Neill et al. 2017). The Europe and Central Asia Inequality archetype assumes increasing economic, political and social inequalities, fragmentation and tensions both across and within countries, and is characterized by power becoming more concentrated in a relatively small political and business elite across the globe. Furthermore, the Europe and Central Asia regional assessment omitted the Reformed Markets archetype as, at the regional level, it was mostly synonymous with a change to more sustainable policies, and therefore fell within the Global Sustainability Development archetype at the Europe and Central Asia scale (Table A3.1) (Harrison et al. 2018).

In some of the regional assessments (notably the Europe and Central Asia assessment and the Africa assessment), the scenario archetypes also served as a means to integrate insights from different parts of the chapter; for example, in the Europe and Central Asia assessment, the archetypes were used as storylines connecting and synthesizing information from three reviews: a review of potential future trends in indirect and direct drivers, a review of the impacts of drivers on nature, nature’s contributions to people and good quality of life, as well as a review of specific action pathways towards sustainable development (Harrison et al. 2018, 2019). The Africa regional assessment used a similar approach to integrate insights within the scenario chapter, but also used the archetypes to link findings in the scenario chapter with those of the policy-focused chapter (i.e. Chapter 6 in the IPBES assessment, which focused on policy and governance options under each of the scenario archetypes) (Biggs et al. 2018).

Table A3.1: Summary of scenario archetypes used in individual IPBES regional assessments and their correspondence to selected global scenario archetype studies. For details of the regional versions of the scenario archetypes, please see Biggs et al. 2018, Gundimeda et al. 2018, Harrison et al. 2018, 2019, Klatt et al. 2018)

Archetype categorization according to:		Scenario Archetypes							
Global archetype studies	Global Scenario Group (Gallopín and Rijsberman, 1997); Hunt et al. (2012)	Market Forces	Policy Reform	New Sustainability Paradigm	Eco-communalism	Fortress World	Breakdown	Muddling through	-
	Van Vuuren et al. (2012); IPBES Scenarios and Models (IPBES 2016)	Economic optimism	Reformed Markets	Global Sustainable Development	Regional Sustainability	Regional Competition	-	Business-as-Usual	-
IPBES Regional assessments	Africa	Market Forces	Policy Reform	Regional Sustainability	Local Sustainability	Fortress World	-	-	-
	Americas	Market Forces	Policy Reform	Great Transition		Fortress World	-	-	-
	Asia-Pacific	Market Forces	Policy Reform	New Sustainability Paradigm	Eco-communalism	Fortress World	Breakdown	-	-
IPBES Global assessment †	Europe and Central Asia	Economic Optimism	-	Global Sustainable Development	Regional Sustainability	Regional Competition	-	Business-as-Usual	Inequality
		Economic optimism	Reformed Markets	Global Sustainable Development	Regional Sustainability	Regional Competition	-	Business-as-Usual	-