



The Green Deal for a Sustainable Future

15-16 June 2021

Proceedings

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Special Events

Opening Ceremony

Moderators:

- Dave KEATING, Brussels Correspondent, France 24
- Valérie THYS, Presenter and sustainability expert

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k34u9TvkYLC&t=1299s>

The European Development Days 2021 brought together leaders, practitioners, policy and decision-makers, to share analysis, shape best practices and map priorities for the future. “The Green Deal for a Sustainable Future” was the focus of the EDD 2021 which was held digitally for the first time.

The Opening Ceremony was at the forefront of the forum, laying the foundations for powerful and inspiring debates. This special session set the objectives, dynamics, and tone of the event. After the opening remarks of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, the EDD Young Leaders presented their views for the future in their own respective topics.

Forging a Women’s Alliance for Cross-Continental Climate Leadership

Organised by Africa Europe Foundation Women Leaders Network

Speakers

- Chebet LESAN, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, BrightGreen Renewable Energy
- Sheila OPARAOCHA, International Coordinator and Programme Manager, Energia International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy
- Dymphna VAN DER LANS, Chief Executive Officer, Clean Cooking Alliance

Moderator: Kandeh YUMKELLA, Co-Chair of the Africa Europe Foundation Strategy Group on Energy and former Chief Executive Officer of Sustainable Energy for All

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKoFFf5Wj1E>

Synopsis

It’s the final decade to get traction to achieve the 2030 Agenda and transform our world. 2021 is a crucial year, despite the global lockdowns, climate change is not on pause. The unique constellation of strategic milestones such as the UN Food Systems Summit, the UN High-Level Political Dialogue on Energy, the UN Conference on Biodiversity, COP26 and next year, COP27 in an African nation, make it imperative that Africa and Europe join forces to achieve impact on global climate commitments. As the clock ticks, women are bearing the brunt of this crisis, but they are also the world’s best bet to fight for a sustainable planet. Now, more than

ever, women can drive the sustainable agenda at all levels and are critical to enabling a green and just transition for all.

The session explored how partners can work together to protect coastal communities, support sustainable oceans, fisheries, and other maritime sectors, and better align economic and environmental goals to build long-term prosperity.

Youth Action on Biodiversity: Priorities, Narratives and Accelerating Impact

Organised by the European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Speakers

- Jutta URPIILAINEN, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Cristián SAMPER, President and CEO, Wildlife Conservation Society
- Melina SAKIYAMA, Founding member and Coordinator for Youth Voices capacity building and empowerment programme, Global Youth Biodiversity Network
- Swetha STOTRABHASHYAM, Global South Focal Point, Global Youth Biodiversity Network
- Simangele MSWELI, Senior Manager, Youth Leadership Program, African Wildlife Foundation
- Hamid ARRUM HARAHAAP, EDD Young Leader, Indonesia

Moderator: Dharmendra KANANI, Director of Strategy, Friends of Europe

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpFxz-YNxVA>

Synopsis

The health of ecosystems on which we and all species depend is deteriorating more rapidly than ever. We are eroding the very foundations of our economies, livelihoods, food security, health and quality of life worldwide. Yet a different future is possible, the solutions to reversing these trends lie notably among those who will be most affected by them – young people. A new generation of young people and ecopreneurs has emerged and is putting the planet's health first.

This session explored youth's engagement and expectations on biodiversity and climate change. It features a high-level panel comprising the EU Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen and the President and CEO of Wildlife Conservation Society Cristián Samper.

Healthy planet, healthy people

Organised by European Commission

Speakers

- Michael KRAKE, Director General "Global health, private sector; trade; rural development", Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)
- Pascal CANFIN, Chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, European Parliament
- Martin SEYCHELL, Deputy Director-General, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Ahmed OUMA, Deputy Director, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
- Tedros ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS, Director-General, World Health Organization

Moderator: Dave KEATING, Brussels Correspondent, France 24

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SULiAp3YDaY>

Synopsis

The COVID pandemic has reconfirmed the close link between human health and healthy ecosystems. Biodiversity loss is a key driver of emerging infectious diseases. Changes in land use, the expansion and intensification of agriculture and the trade and consumption of wildlife, disruption of ecosystems, promote proximity between humans, livestock and wildlife, and thus with the pathogens they carry. These practices together with inadequate water and sanitation practices, air pollution, low investment in disaster risk prevention and in health systems including access to sanitation and clean water, have further weakened the resilience of our societies.

The EU is a driving force in the ongoing discussions for establishing an international treaty on pandemics. This Treaty should include a recognition of a One Health approach that connects the health of humans, animals and our planet. This special event discussed the threats and opportunities linked to these subjects.

Climate action matters: from diplomacy to cooperation, support, and security

Organised by Climate Action Network Europe

Speakers

- Helena KÖNIG, Deputy Secretary General, European External Action Service
- Wendel TRIO, Director, Climate Action Network Europe
- Selwin HART, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team, United Nations
- Elmansour VETEN, Executive Secretary, Issoufou Mahamadou Foundation

Moderator: Léonie JOUBERT, Presenter

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=baXnf4kHhBU>

Synopsis

After the postponement of COP26, 2021 is a crucial year to advance the Paris Agreement and raise global ambition. National and international recovery efforts must also align to these goals. This panel explored climate diplomacy, the Green Deal, key multilateral events, and how the EU and partners' climate action can contribute to peace.

Representatives of civil society and multilateral organisations joined the European Union to discuss climate diplomacy and how the EU can push partners to raise ambition, including through building alliances and/or provision of support to mitigate emissions, adapt, address impacts and support green recovery. Panellists also explored the interplay of climate action, peace and stability in fragile countries.

Conservation in a fragile context: protect people and nature in Virunga National Park

Organised by Virunga Foundation and the European Commission – Directorate-general for international partnerships

Speakers

- H.E. Eve BAZAÏBA MASUDI, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ben AFFLECK, Actor and co-founder of the Eastern Congo Initiative (ECI)
- Jutta URPILAINEN, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Emmanuel DE MERODE, Director, Virunga National Park

Moderator: Phil GAYLE, International News Anchor

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYiO5wFF7w>

Synopsis

The Virunga National Park is an example of an integrated approach linking nature conservation with economic development and better living conditions. With a huge potential for hydroelectricity and an exceptional tourism offer, niche value chains are becoming possible. All are community-based small farms and cooperatives, and deforestation free. In a region where militias have murdered hundreds of people in the past few months alone, communities are mobilizing to protect themselves and continue to develop new ventures. The Virunga team has stepped up once again in the wake of the Nyiragongo eruption working with private sector operators, local associations and government to bring back electricity and water to Goma's people as well as provide first aid to the displaced.

This panel discussed the potential of initiatives such as Virunga to contribute to the stabilisation of regions and to halt biodiversity loss, and the need to involve the population in their planning. During the panel, the Commission revealed the disposal of additional funding for the Virunga foundation.

Closing Ceremony

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Jutta URPILAINEN, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Ambassador Tosi MPANU MPANU, Lead Climate Specialist
- Christian SCHWARZER, Founding member, Global Youth Biodiversity Network
- Robert NASI, Director General, Centre for International Forestry Research
- Bart VANDEWAETERE, Vice President Corporate Communications and Government Relations, Nestlé Europe, Middle East and North Africa
- Idris ELBA, Actor and Member of the Board, Conservation International
- Inna MODJA, Artist
- Suneha JAGANNATHAN, EDD Young Leader, India

Moderator: Sam FLEMING, FT Journalist

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJUxHVwaKds>

Synopsis

With the focus on the Green Deal and the upcoming climate and biodiversity COPs, the Closing Ceremony played an important role in raising the momentum and positioning the EU and its partners as key players.

The closing ceremony was part of the contribution from the Commission and its services towards the biodiversity COP15 in Kunming.

The High-Level Group on Biodiversity shared officially its recommendations to the European Commission. The discussions established a link between the recommendations, the Commission's ambitions and approach for biodiversity and mobilisation for an ambitious Global Biodiversity Framework.

A Green Economy for People and Nature

Green and circular economy

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Fast Forward: New Business models for a green and circular recovery

Organised by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)

Speakers

- Marjeta JAGER, Deputy Director-General, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Pamela COKE-HAMILTON, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Sheila AGGARWAL-KHAN, Director of Economy Division, UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
- Daniel VILLAMAR, EDD Young Leader, Ecuador
- Carin JÄMTIN, Director General Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Moderator: Carolyn DEERE BIRBECK, Director of the Forum on Trade, Environment and the SDGs at the Graduate Institute's Global Governance Centre

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gq-TBR_DQsw

Synopsis

This high-level panel debated the urgent action needed to fine-tune and scale-up new patterns of consumption and production. Topics included the role of sustainable consumption in the new European Green Deal, highlighting the impact of purchasing decisions of EU citizens on the environment and on the livelihoods of individuals in third countries. Information on innovative initiatives at the EU level – such as the EU Cities for Fair and Ethical Trade Award (focusing on the role of cities as global sustainable trade and consumption centres) – fed the discussion, as will other essential ingredients for sustainable trade such as traceability, transparency, and the climate resilience of value chains. Achieving progress in these areas is a major challenge – especially for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in third countries – and the aim of this panel was to propose specific solutions to deliver successfully on the European Green Deal and Sustainable Development Goal 12.

LAB DEBATE: Addressing the challenges in taxation of minerals, to ensure that the Global South will benefit from the energy transition.

Organised by ActionAid

Speakers

- Sophie KWIZERA, Co-Head Policy and Programmes / Advisor Natural Resources and Just Transition
- Mae BUENAVENTURA, Senior Policy Staff, Development Finance Program, Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development
- Erica GERRETSEN, Acting Director, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Moderator: Christian HALLUM, Tax Policy Lead, Oxfam

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrvVCjWanHk>

Synopsis

The panel discussed how energy transition will lead to a new demand for minerals as the demand for fossil fuels declines. Countries in the global South have already missed out on significant amounts of potential revenue from extractive companies due to gaps in tax systems and harmful tax incentives. Tax havens, tax treaties and a lack of transparency exacerbate these challenges. Countries must strengthen their tax policies to improve domestic resource mobilisation, finance the SDGs, ensure a just transition, and costing-in of externalities. At the same time, EU Member States must ensure their policies are not enabling tax avoidance and evasion. As the energy transition increases demand for minerals, these issues must be urgently addressed to ensure the global South does not miss out yet again.

PROJECT LAB: Building new partnerships to globally support EU priorities on the circular economy

Organised by Switch 2 Green

Speakers

- Carla MONTESI, Director, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Jana ZILKOVA, Head of Mission, Caritas Czech Republic
- Vivian AHAYIBR, Managing Director, City Waste Recycling Ltd
- Houda and Saif MIROUCHE EDDINE LAALAJ, Founders Zelij Invent
- Nilgun TAS, Deputy Director, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Moderator: Jens Kristian NOERGAARD, Key Expert, SWITCH to Green Facility

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_FvpOfTPMw

Synopsis

The session showcased circular business models supported by the EU in partner countries through the SWITCH programmes. It highlighted how SMEs develop and contribute to decent jobs while addressing environmental impacts. It focused on priority value chains such as construction, electronics and plastics, where the SWITCH experience demonstrates the opportunities associated to circular economy practices. Participants fed into the debate their experiences on the policies, resources and investments needed to make circularity work for people, regions and cities, as envisioned under the EU Circular Economy Action Plan.

AGORA: Sharing and Circular Economy: Introducing E-Mobility Business Models for Sub-Sahara Africa

Organised by Siemens Stiftung

Speakers

- Marah KOEBERLE, Head E-Mobility, Siemens Stiftung
- Alexander KOERNER, Programme Officer Sustainable Mobility Unit, UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)

Moderator: Thibaut PORTEVIN, Thematic Moderator, Green and Circular Economy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3pGgqO1x0I>

Synopsis

Siemens Stiftung (Foundation) and UNEP presented learnings and failures from introducing 2-wheelers (e-cargo bikes, e-motorbikes) and e-outboard engines to Kenya and Uganda.

Participants learned about sharing economy business models (leasing, swapping, charging station model, battery leasing model etc.), financing approaches (PAYGO; CO2 compensation etc.) and other important factors (gender, policy etc.) to have success with e-mobility at Base of Pyramid markets in Sub Saharan Africa. Participants also learned how development partners are using lessons learned from EV pilots to support governments in the development of coherent policy frameworks to see to a sustainable transition from internal combustion engine to electric mobility.

STAND INTERVIEW: Safe Trade Emergency Facility

Organised by Trade Market Est Africa

Speakers

- Frank MATSAERT, Chief Executive Officer, TradeMark East Africa

Moderator: Thibaut PORTEVIN, Thematic Moderator, Green and Circular Economy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmTwSF-qSIY>

Synopsis

As Covid-19 infection cases continue to increase, East Africa, home to 177 million people with a combined GDP of \$194 billion, is vulnerable to further damage from the pandemic. The virus has forced countries in the region to take severe measures, including partial and complete lockdowns, to limit its impact. A significant consequence of these governmental measures has been a sharp reduction in trade as well as an increase in the time and cost of trading across borders.

The interview presented the \$23 million Emergency Facility (Safe Trade) package, being implemented by TMEA, and supported by Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom for East Africa.

Sustainable Blue Economy

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Transparency and inclusive management for sustainable fisheries in Africa

Organised by the Environmental Justice Foundation

Speakers

- Alice RUHWEZA, Africa Regional Director, WWF
- Jojo SOLOMON, President, Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council
- Jobst Von KIRCHMANN, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Ivory Coast
- Suneha JAGANNATHAN, EDD Young Leader, India

Moderator: Steve TRENT, Director, Environmental Justice Foundation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sR7xxCJSpZM&t=454s>

Synopsis

Fisheries play a key role in many East and West African countries, providing livelihoods and food security. Yet these waters face unprecedented challenges: Decades of over-exploitation have pushed fish populations to the brink and illegal fishing is widespread, causing irreparable damage to the marine environment. Transparency and community co-management are both crucial tools in eradicating illegal fishing and setting fisheries on a sustainable path. Key

transparency measures are low-cost and within reach of all nations, and inclusive management is the only way to ensure long-term sustainability.

This panel discussed the implications of overexploitation and illegal fishing from the perspective of Ghana, Ivory Coast and India and how to work with local communities and international organisations towards establishing sustainable fishing.

LAB DEBATE: Harnessing the Blue Economy for Sustainable Economic Development of ACP States

Organised by TradeCom II Programme

Speakers

- Jacqueline EMMANUEL-FLOOD, Director of the Division of Economic Affairs and Regional Integration, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
- Salome TAUFA, Resource Economist, PIFS (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)
- Jean-Paul ADAM, Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources, United Nations

Moderator: Cristelle PRATT, Assistant Secretary General - Environment & Climate Action, Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8BImVl9KNQ>

Synopsis

Oceans cover 72% of the surface of our blue planet and constitute more than 95% of the biosphere. The world's oceans, seas, and coastal areas are vital to the livelihoods and food security of billions of people around the world, and to the economic prosperity of many nations.

The blue economy resource base in the ACP Group is more than twice of its land mass; three times larger than their land mass for the Caribbean ACP States, and over 40 times larger than the Pacific region's land mass. The panel explored ACP countries' potential to exploit the maritime resources and deep-sea minerals and pharmaceuticals, and alternative renewable energy resources for sustainable expansion and intensification of, inter alia, inshore and oceanic fish production, recreation, tourism, and transport sectors.

LAB DEBATE: Working together to build a Sustainable Ocean Economy

Organised by Mission of Canada to the European Union

Speakers

- Niall O'DEA, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Helena VIEIRA, Director General of Maritime Policy, Ministry of the Sea, Portugal

- Karin KEMPER, Global Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy, World Bank

Moderator: Kristian TELEKI, Global Director, Ocean Programme, World Resources Institute

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtbUPF2aKz0>

Synopsis

Ocean resources have vast potential to unlock economic growth, reduce poverty and improve lives, particularly in developing states and for women, youth and Indigenous peoples. Canada is a global leader in building a more sustainable ocean economy, having made oceans a top priority of its 2018 G7 Presidency, co-hosting the 2018 Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Kenya, and committing to develop a comprehensive blue economy strategy domestically. Canada and the EU collaborate closely on these issues, including via the 2019 Oceans Partnership.

The session explored how partners can work together to protect coastal communities, support sustainable oceans, fisheries and other maritime sectors, and better align economic and environmental goals to build long-term prosperity.

AGORA: Securing the oceans for the blue economy?

Organised by Expertise France

Speakers

- Sergio BRYTON, Former Portuguese Navy Commander
- Marianne PERON-DOISE, Associate Research Fellow, French Institute for International and strategic Affairs, IRIS

Moderator: Jennifer BAKER, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Blue Economy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILUU1--ZYfU>

Synopsis

While the threat of piracy is now deemed to be under control, countries need to be able to prevent its resurgence with their own resources and capable of tackling all forms of organised transnational criminality which threaten their maritime domain. There are also issues related to sustainable development and the blue economy, particularly the fight against illegal, undeclared and unregulated fishing, problems.

How to concretely improve the knowledge of activities at sea and promote blue economy development?

Experts fed the debate with solutions already implemented in the Gulf of Guinea (GoGIN project) and the Indo-Pacific region (CRIMARIO project), such as the sharing of information at the inter-administration and regional level and the development of specific maritime tools.

STAND INTERVIEW: The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA)

Organised by Ocean Risk Alliance

Speakers

- Karen SACK, CEO, Ocean Unite; Co-Chair, ORRAA, Ocean Risk Alliance

Moderator: Jennifer BAKER, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Blue Economy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JyQZueTG8bw>

Synopsis

The interview discussed the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), a unique multi-stakeholder alliance, convening collaborative action and capital to secure positive outcomes for the Ocean and the communities that depend on it. It brings together governments, the finance and insurance sectors, environmental organizations and stakeholders from the Global South to realise the value of the Ocean, Earth's greatest asset. It aims to drive \$500 million of investment into marine and coastal nature-based solutions by 2030, and to surface 15+ novel finance products by 2025. By catalysing, scaling, and accelerating investment into natural capital, ORRAA's work will help to improve ocean stewardship, resilience, and adaptation; achieve the UN SDGs; and reform capitalism through the impact economy.

Green Finance

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Transforming Climate Finance to Tackle the Climate Emergency & Drive Development

Organised by the African Climate Finance Hub

Speakers

- Amar BHATTACHARYA, Fellow, The Brookings Institution
- Nandin-Erdene ENKHTUVSHIN, EDD Young Leader, Mongolia
- Thomas FEKETE, Head of Sustainable Investment Solutions for EMEA, BlackRock
- Pierre HEILBRONN, Vice President for Policy and Partnerships, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- Amina J. MOHAMMED, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

Moderator: Richard CALLAND, Associate Professor, University of Cape Town

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjIFKJrNPKo>

Synopsis

The panel debated how next two decades will be decisive for the future of the planet. The strategies, policies and investments during this period, and the capital they lock in, will, in large measure, determine the future path of global emissions and thus climate change over this century. Following the release of an expert report commissioned by the UN Secretary General (“Delivering on the \$100 billion climate finance commitment and transforming climate finance”), this panel brought together key actors from across the global finance eco-system to debate how to unlock transformational climate finance: to turn the billions into the trillions and harness development finance to jointly enable a green socio-economic revolution.

LAB DEBATE: Using blended finance to mobilize capital for the \$1.8 Tn adaptation opportunity.

Organised by the The Dutch Development Bank

Speakers

- David KUIJPER, Manager Public Investment and Blended Finance FMO, Dutch Development Bank
- Tigere MUZENDA, Regional Investment Officer, SSA Dutch Fund for Climate and Development
- Arief RABIK, CEO and Founder, PT. Indobamboo Lestari

Moderator: Sinead CRANE, Communications manager, SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5inEkM0Ezpl>

Synopsis

Climate change poses an unprecedented threat to humanity in the 21st century and communities in the developing world are most at risk to be affected.

Funding that helps vulnerable populations and ecosystems adapt to climate change is urgently needed. Investing \$1.8 trillion in climate adaptation over the next decade is estimated to save \$7.1 trillion by 2030.

This interactive session aimed to inspire the creation of partnerships that mobilize investments for climate adaptation, using the Dutch Fund for Climate and Development (DFCD) as a case study for public-private sector collaboration.

Speakers discussed key challenges to making climate adaptation bankable and encouraged different development actors to collaboratively overcome these challenges using an integrated landscape approach.

PROJECT LAB: Facilitating access to climate finance through effective multilevel governance

Organised by the ICLEI (ICLEI-local governments for sustainability)

Speakers

- Sylvia KAWERA, Project Analysis Specialist at FONERWA
- Shishir SHRIVASTAVA, Deputy Commissioner, Gwalior Municipal Organisation
- Matthias WOHLFAHRT, Head, ProKlima Fund Hannover

Moderator: Giorgia RAMBELLI, Coordinator for Sustainable Resources & Climate Resilience, ICLEI (ICLEI-local governments for sustainability)

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0qb54KKhNo>

Synopsis

Most of the global population is forecast to live in urban areas. This puts city and local governments at the forefront of implementing the changes and actions necessary for transitioning towards a sustainable local future, meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement. With the global COVID19 pandemic further exacerbating social and economic challenges, realising this transition, and accelerating climate action hinges on the ability of all levels of government, financial institutions and stakeholders to identify and channel available funding opportunities by supporting and facilitating the development of bankable projects.

This session explored solutions for bridging the climate action finance gap via more effective multi-level governance. It also showcased examples of effective peer-learning on funding and implementing effective climate actions and strategies developed among cities from Africa, Asia and Europe.

AGORA: Financing Our Future – Financing A Global Green Deal

Organised by the GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

Speakers

- Diogo NOGUEIRA, Head of Deputy Governor's Office, Central Bank of Brazil
- Caroline WELLEMANS, Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission - DG for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union

Moderator: Klaus PROCHASKA, Head of Section, Financial System Development GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82akHFd2Cyg>

Synopsis

The session discussed the “International Platform on Sustainable Finance” (IPFS), the international outreach vehicle of the EU to coordinate joint actions to deliver a global green finance deal.

It presented the EU's sustainable finance ambition for international cooperation, indicated emerging market pioneers and showcased financial industry actions.

AGORA: Financing the transition to net zero: EDFI's commitments and impact *Organised by the European Development Finance Institutions*

Speakers

- Søren ANDREASEN, C.E.O, European Development Finance Institutions
- Christiane RUDOLPH, Director, Corporate Strategy, and Impact, Deginvest

Moderator: Cécile BILLAUX, Thematic Moderator, Green Finance

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVUwAVfrxXg>

Synopsis

The session provided an opportunity to spotlight European Development Finance Institutions' contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement climate goals, and the Green Deal.

Speakers presented the European DFI's strategy on how to channel private investment towards the transition to a climate-neutral economy in developing countries, while also meeting other development needs.

STAND INTERVIEW: European Development Finance Institutions *Organised by the European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI)*

Speakers

- Laure BLANCHARD-BRUNAC, Director of Policy & Partnerships, European Development Finance Institutions
- Bruno WENN, Chairman, European Development Finance Institutions

Moderator: Cécile BILLAUX, Thematic Moderator, Green Finance

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6IFPlxQHFI>

Synopsis

This interview showcased EDFI member institutions' investment in private sector projects in low and middle-income countries. They are mandated by their governments to contribute to the SDGs by creating jobs, boosting growth, fighting poverty and climate change.

Although EDFI members have slightly different mandates and strategies, they are guided by a common ambition: "To improve people's lives – for current and future generations – in countries where the need is the strongest, through the engine of private sector growth."

Sustainable Energy

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Healthy people & planet-the power of clean energy solutions for health & climate

Organised by the World Health Organization

Speakers

- Tedros ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS, Director-General, World Health Organization
- Francesco LA CAMERA, Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency
- Chibunna OGBONNA, EDD Young Leader, Nigeria
- Achim STEINER, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Moderator: Maria NEIRA, Director, Environment, Climate Change and Health, World Health Organization

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpJv-Jag87c>

Synopsis

The lack of clean and sustainable energy in homes and facilities causes tremendous health and climate hazards and serves as a barrier to achieving many SDGs including universal health coverage and universal access to energy. The session started with an overview of the current status of clean cooking and health care facility electrification in households and health facilities and its impacts on health, gender and climate. It then transitioned into an interactive discussion on how the newly formed High-Level Group can spur much needed political prioritization of energy for health, strengthen the cooperation between sectors, create an enabling policy environment, and scale up investments. The panel consisted of high-level government representatives and heads of organizations and institutions in health and energy sectors.

LAB DEBATE: Powering clean and affordable energy solutions for all

Organised by the European Investment Bank (EIB)

Speakers

- Thierry DEAU, CEO, Meridiam
- Ambroise FAYOLLE, Vice President, European Investment Bank
- Carla MONTESI, Director, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Moderator: Søren ANDREASEN, C.E.O, European Development Finance Institutions

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jduL4wZE>

Synopsis

Energy demand is high and increasing in Africa and will be an important enabling factor to power the continent's economic recovery. This lab debate discussed how we can put the recovery on a green energy path and ensure access to energy for all. It brought together key actors discussing investments in sustainable energy in Africa to promote the Green Deal and to further scaled-up solutions in future.

The audience heard from Ambroise Fayolle, the Vice-President of the European Investment Bank – the EU's climate bank, from Thierry Deau, CEO of Meridiam, a key investor in green energy in Africa, as well as Carla Montesi who spearheads the Green Deal and Digital Agenda at the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships.

PROJECT LAB: It's a match?! Linking Water, Energy and Food with the Private & Finance Sectors

Organised by Energypedia

Speakers

- Denis KAREMA, CEO, SokoFresh
- Sebastian LESCH, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)
- Carla MONTESI, Director, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Boniface MUTHUSI, Chief Credit & Risk Officer, Juhudi Kilimo

Moderator: Lucie PLUSCHKE, WE4F East Africa Hub Manager, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrPTnJ9kENw>

Synopsis

In Africa, there are about 33 million smallholder farmers who do not have access to Water-Energy-Food (WEF) innovations (e.g., Solar-Powered Irrigation Systems). Here, the local businesses and finance institutions are crucial in empowering farmers to access WEF solutions, not only to increase agricultural productivity, but also to promote gender equality and reduce rural poverty. However, what kind of business and financial models are needed to scale the solutions? How easy or difficult is it for businesses and finance institutions to develop customized solutions for smallholders? What are the hurdles and what is the path forward?

In this session by Energypedia and GIZ, representatives from the private & finance sector shared their experiences and recommendations for the future.

STAND INTERVIEW: Energy efficiency fund for Ukraine

Organised by the Energy Efficiency Fund of Ukraine

Speakers

- Katarína MATHERNOVÁ, Deputy Director-General, European Commission - DG for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

Moderator: Siobhan HALL, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Energy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4IEs3X0AHw>

Synopsis

The stand interview discussed the many reasons the Ukrainian government has to increase energy efficiency and energy saving, and the ways the European Union is helping them achieve their goals.

STAND INTERVIEW: Sustainable energy for green cities

Organised by the EU4Energy

Speakers

- Wolfgang DIERNHOFER, Head of Department, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH
- Norbert PEHERSTORFER, Project Manager, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrbnsF6xskU&t=146s>

Synopsis

The stand interview discussed the EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy initiative, which brings together thousands of local governments voluntarily committed to support implementation of the EU 40% CO2 reduction target, by the development and implementation of Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plans.

CoM-DeP bridges the gap between planning and practical implementation of the action plans through grant financing (approx. 25 million EUR) for 33 energy efficiency demonstration projects in the EaP region, as well as by providing professional support to the 34 signatory local governments during implementation of these projects.

Beneficiaries are citizens of 34 municipalities. Main beneficiaries are over 12.000 children and over 1.800 staff in 23 kindergartens and 12 schools, over 32.000 residents of apartment buildings, over 22.000 users and staff of public buildings and over 400.000 public services users.

YOUNG LEADER INTERVIEW: Bringing Solar Power to Healthcare in Africa

Organised by the European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Speaker

- Chibunna OGBONNA, EDD Young Leader, Nigeria

Moderator: Siobhan HALL, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Energy

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7H6R3ILE9so>

Synopsis

Achieving a green, healthy, and inclusive future for all is directly linked to achieving universal health care that leaves no one behind. This is possible when the most vulnerable communities are empowered to become resilient by equipping healthcare facilities with clean and reliable energy technologies. Lighting Up Nigeria Initiative (LUNI) is on a mission to power 10,000 primary healthcare facilities across Nigeria using solar energy by 2030.

Sustainable urbanisation

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: From rapid urbanization to the green shift. Are cities ready to walk the talk?

Organised by UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme)

Speakers

- Paa Kwesi ABAKAH BONNEY, EDD Young Leader Ghana
- Yvonne AKI-SAWYERR, Mayor of Freetown, Government of Sierra Leone

- Grete FAREMO, Executive Director United Nations Office for Project Services
- Maimunah MOHD SHARIF, Executive Director UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme)
- Ricardo RIO, Mayor of Braga, Portugal City of Braga
- Syamphone Sengchandala, Director General, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Laos

Moderator: Charles LANDRY, Author and international advisor on the future of cities Author / Writer

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sn2uGtda6RI&t=4s>

Synopsis

With a rapidly growing urban population, lower-income and middle-lower income countries requires key basic infrastructure including housing, transportation, energy systems, as well as social services. Large part of this infrastructure remains to be built, opening an opportunity to engage a debate on how this expansion will be designed, implemented and financed. Decisions taken in cities today will largely define the scope for moving towards more sustainable solutions.

Less-urbanized countries have an opportunity to leapfrog to urban infrastructure that is fit for a greener world. The panel explored how local and national leaders from the global South can be mobilised to achieve sustainable urbanization.

LAB DEBATE: Joining efforts and cooperating around Innovative and Sustainable Cities

Organised by United Cities and Local Governments of Africa

Speakers

- Carla MONTESI, Director European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Emil BOC, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca, Romania Cluj-Napoca City
- Andries GRYFFROY, Member of the Flemish Parliament, N-VA Group, Belgium Flemish Parliament
- Ishaku MAITUMBI, Senior Advisor in the Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme)
- Greg MUNRO, Director of Cities Alliance Cities Alliance - UNOPS
- Thembisile NKADIMENG, Co-President of the United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), President of the South Africa Local Government Association (SALGA), and Mayor of Polokwane Municipality in Limpopo Province United Cities and Local Governments
- Sherine OMONDO EDD, Young Leader, Kenya Young Leaders
- Mohamed SEFIANI, Mayor of Chefchaouen, Vice-President of Climate TaskForce of UCLG-Africa United Cities and Local Governments of Africa

Moderator: Jean-Pierre ELONG MBASSI, Secretary General United Cities and Local Governments of Africa

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNUKSYLVixA>

Synopsis

The SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda reaffirm the global commitment to sustainable urban development as a critical step for realising sustainable development in an integrated and coordinated manner at all levels of governance, with the participation of all relevant actors and stakeholders. To win the battle for sustainable cities, the concerned actors should not be tempted to play as a “single rider”. In addition to the promotion of a global solidarity on a planetary scale, the implementation of the global commitments calls today, more than ever, to invest, develop, implement and share innovative, smart, customised approaches, in particular regarding the territorial approach of urban local development, financing urban development, and building resilience. This is heightened by the needs to face the pandemic and its impact - in the spirit of the SDG 17.

At WUF 10, participants committed to join efforts and cooperate in order to learn from each other and insisted on the need to draw lessons from experiences already implemented.

The panel explored how cities, particularly in developing countries and in Africa, need to engage in City-to-City peer learning, learn and rely on a diversity of actors and stakeholders who have already implemented innovative and smart initiatives and methodologies to make cities smart, green, sustainable and resilient.

PROJECT LAB: Towards Resilient Cities and Territories - Taking local action to scale

Organised by United Cities and Local Governments

Speakers

- Sanjaya BHATIA, Head of UNDRR Office for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education and Training Institute (GETI), UNDRR
- Esteban LEON, Head of the City Resilience Global Programme of UN-Habitat
- Karen PORRAS ARGUEDAS, Executive Director, UNGL- United Cities and Local Governments
- Axel SCHMIDT GRAEL, Mayor of Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro Government

Moderator: Sara HOEFLICH, Head of Learning, United Cities and Local Governments

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFXuBCf6i7g>

Synopsis

Resilience ensures development progress is not lost at the first natural or manmade disaster and limits the impact of shocks and stresses on people, infrastructure and processes. Despite

numerous tools being available, many cities are still left behind and unable to access funding to conduct resilience analysis and act. To tackle this issue, UCLG, UN-Habitat, and UNDRR have joined forces to scale-up local resilience. The panel explored the new Resilience Learning Module which has been rolled out following a virtual training of trainers' format aiming to reach forgotten cities (intermediate, informal, island) by providing a flexible and adaptable resilience learning resource. The tool was built on peer learnings, existing publications, the SDG localization process, and UN-Habitat's resilience profiling approach.

AGORA: A Story of Scaling Success, the MobiliseYourCity Partnership

Organised by MobiliseYourCity

Speakers

- Eleonore FRANCOIS-JACOBS, Partnerships and Outreach Manager, MobiliseYourCity
- Maria Sheilah G. NAPALANG, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Project Development
- Prisca Lablonde TENE MBIMI OLINGA Coordinator of the Douala Urban Mobility Project

Moderator: Margherita SOLCA, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Urbanisation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qrhu2XizV24>

Synopsis

Urban mobility is a lever to address multiple development challenges: we need transport to reach work, schools and hospitals. Sustainable urban mobility helps shape green, smart and just cities. The MobiliseYourCity Partnership offers a scalable approach to deliver three key elements of externalizing the EU Green Deal: technical assistance, access to finance, capacity building for low-carbon inclusive urban mobility.

Prisca Lablonde Tene Mbimi, Coordinator of the Douala Urban Mobility Project at Communauté Urbaine de Douala, explained how sustainable urban mobility planning made her city greener, smarter, and more just through investment-ready plans and citizen engagement. Dr. Sheilah Gaabucayan-Napalang, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Project Development from the Department of Transportation of the Philippines, presented how a National Urban Mobility Program set up an enabling framework for cities to a transition to sustainable mobility.

STAND INTERVIEW: Pioneering Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Egypt

Organised by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Speakers

- Farida FARAG, Advisor Participatory Development Framework Unit / Climate Change Focal Point GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)
- Francois MENGUELE', Coordinator Urban Development Cluster, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

Moderator: Margherita SOLCA, Thematic Moderator, Sustainable Urbanisation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9CZSidxiHI>

Synopsis

The GIZ Urban Development Cluster in Egypt has worked towards improved living conditions in informal settlements since 2004, advocating for participatory approaches and inclusive urban prosperity for all. Egypt's cities are highly vulnerable to climate change, which is manifested in the rising frequency of phenomena such as urban heat islands and coastal flooding. To address these challenges, GIZ piloted a Climate Change Adaptation and Urban Resilience Portfolio, which focused on architectural adaptation measures, awareness raising, and the integration of climate change adaptation measures into governorate level planning. The panel explored Cluster's current work, which builds upon the Nexus concept - an integrated multi-sectoral approach to addressing the vulnerabilities of human and ecological systems.

Water and sanitation

HIGH LEVEL PANEL: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Innovations for Inclusive Growth

Organised by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)

Speakers

- Brian ARBOGAST, Director, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene/Global Growth & Opportunity Division, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Florika FINK-HOOIJER, Director-General for Environment European Commission
- Henrietta FORE, Executive Director, UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)
- HE Jakaya KIKWETE, Chair, Global Water Partnership Africa
- Carolina TORNESI MACKINNON, Water Youth Parliament
- Isabella VILLANUEVA-GARCÍA, EDD Young Leader, Chile

Moderator: Kalanithy VAIRAVAMOORTHY, Executive Director International Water Association

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-5o3IB_H7U

Synopsis

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are closely linked to the Green Deal, contributing to human development, climate resilience and economies. It is a human right and critical to preventing disease and death. Yet billions of people still do not have access to safe WASH.

This session explored how innovations – whether technology, business models or policy – can play a game changing role in the WASH sector to achieve SDG 6 targets, reach those left behind, and to meet future challenges with greater inclusion, resilience and sustainability.

High-Level panellists discussed how innovations like circular sanitation economies and climate resilient infrastructure, paired with governance, technology and investments, can reduce water scarcity, improve sanitation and build a more sustainable future.

LAB DEBATE: Pathways towards climate-resilient sanitation

Organised by WaterAid

Speakers

- Hossain ADIB, Director of Programmes, WaterAid Bangladesh
- Kasenga HARA, Senior Technical Expert National Water Supply and Sanitation Council, Zambia
- Antoinette KOME, Global Head of WASH, SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

Moderator: Henk OVINK, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs of the Netherlands

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ut_Pw7VDWMc

Synopsis

Extreme weather conditions, rising sea levels and droughts impact negatively on sanitation infrastructure, access and management. Safely managed sanitation services are the first line of defence against the impacts of climate change and are vital to strengthen the resilience of entire communities.

However, creating climate-resilient infrastructure requires to invest in appropriate technologies, early warning systems, adequate human resources, and operation & maintenance. So far, money for WASH adaptation accounts for just 1.6% of total climate finance.

With a focus on emerging cities, participants debated on the policies and investment choices that must be made to improve urban sanitation as a critical condition to cope with the impacts of climate change.

PROJECT LAB: To Solve Water Scarcity, Every Drop of Knowledge Matters

Organised by Festo Didactic SE

Speakers

- Muna AL BANNA, Regional Infrastructure Lead of UNOPS Middle East Regional Office
United Nations Office for Project Services
- Nader IMANI, Executive Vice President Global Education, Festo Didactic SE
- Abderrafii MARDI, Director of National Office of Electricity and Potable Water (ONEE),
Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau Potable

Moderator: Portia PERSLEY, Chief of the Global Strategy and Leadership Division in the Centre for Water Security, Sanitation, and Hygiene at USAID - United States Agency for International Development

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKALeKM2UEQ>

Synopsis

The world's most water-scarce region is the MENA region, where more than 60% of the population has little or no access to drinkable water. It faces the challenge of sustainably developing its infrastructure and managing water resources amidst growing scarcity, due to a rapidly growing population and urbanization. Effectively overcoming this challenge starts with ensuring a skilled workforce and resource-efficient water management. The panel presented experiences and best practices from across MENA, drawing on synergies between private and public sectors, to address this challenge using innovative technologies (VR) and develop necessary skill sets (incl. health and safety) for sustainable water management practices and resilient infrastructure while enhancing female participation.

AGORA: Integrated Water Resources Management to accelerate progress on the SDGs

Organised by Global Water Partnership

Speakers

- Colin HERRON, Global Coordinator, Water Solutions for the SDGs
- Gvantsa SIVSIVADZE, Senior Specialist at Water Division, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Moderator: Niclas GOTTMANN, Thematic Moderator, Water and Sanitation

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPEDcCd2Z_8

Synopsis

The session discussed the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), which is pivotal to achieving a host of SDG targets and climate-related goals. Yet SDG 6.5.1, the degree of implementation of IWRM, had a global average of 49% in 2017, jeopardising progress towards sustainable development, especially in the global south. The SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme assists countries in monitoring the implementation of IWRM, designing and accelerating implementation of national IWRM Action Plans, as highly bankable, strategic opportunities that place water at the heart of the response to sustainable development and move the needle on water-related SDGs. Working on the principle of "you manage what you measure", the Support Programme constitutes an attractive investment opportunity for different development finance mechanisms.

STAND INTERVIEW: Efficient water supply in Lebanon: service provision & resource management

Organised by We World - GVC

Speakers

- Inass EL-KADIRI, Social Communication Coordinator WeWorld
- Jawad TAHER, Water Adviser WeWorld

Moderator: Niclas GOTTMANN, Thematic Moderator, Water and Sanitation

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVRSXF6QA_0

Synopsis

Despite relatively abundant water resources, Lebanon suffers from water stress and insecurity. Non-revenue water -the water that is pumped and then lost or unaccounted for- is the result of protracted mismanagement of resources within a framework of institutional and policy fragmentation. Consequently, the breakdown of trust between users and utilities, and the rise of alternative, expensive, and often illegal and/or unregulated water sources keep Lebanon in a vicious circle of unsustainable water management.

The stand interview focused on MiyahCon's three-intervention pillar program of a) Infrastructure Improvement, b) Capacity Building, and c) Community Engagement to restore user-utility mutual accountability by strengthening infrastructural and managerial capacities of local Water Establishments.

STAND INTERVIEW: Art and Water - a fascination to live

Organised by Strumica Municipality

Speakers

- Dragan TOMOVSKI, Head of Project implementation units for infrastructure projects, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning,

Moderator: Niclas GOTTMANN, Thematic Moderator, Water and Sanitation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMXrvnLzb5o>

Synopsis

The interview revolved around the construction of the wastewater treatment plant in Strumica (5.85 MEUR), which was co-funded by the EU through the IPA Operational Programme for Regional Development (2007-2013) and its transformation into an artistic infrastructure.

Rural transformation and food systems

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Diverse, local, indigenous: Pathways for food security and conservation

Organised by the European Parliament

Speakers

- Jocelyn G. BROWN HALL, Deputy Representative for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- Charles GOERENS, Member of the Committee on Development, European Parliament
- Nachilala NKOMBO, WWF Zambia
- Sherine OMONDI, EDD Young Leader, Kenya
- Hindou OUMAROU IBRAHIM, President of the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad
- Marc TARABELLA, Member of the Committee on Development, European Parliament

Moderator: Susan DABBOUS, Freelance Journalist

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCbzufPgfaQ>

Synopsis

The panel discussed policies and good practices for conservation and the preservation of biodiversity while enhancing food security and nutritious and diverse diets in developing countries, based on local varieties and production. Special attention was given to inputs and the role of local communities and indigenous groups in this context. Panellists discussed how the pressure on land, from food production and other factors could be managed locally and supported by public policy and development cooperation.

LAB DEBATE: Affordable, healthy and sustainable food for all. Perspective from the South.

Organised by Enabel

Speakers

- Maryam ABEIDERRAHMANE, Administrator, Tiviski Dairy
- Christine KIRIA CHEGE, Researcher, International Centre for Tropical Agriculture
- Abouba A. SAIDOU, Advisor to the High Commissioner, Nigeriens Nourishing Nigeriens

Moderator: Hannelore BEERLANDT, CEO, AgriCord

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVfCVzRLN5Q>

Synopsis

Food is at the crossroads of some of the most critical issues of our time. Scientists and experts are calling for changes in the food-water-energy nexus to meet the SDGs and the terms of the Paris agreement on climate. But often, progress in one area, such as sustainability, is done at the expense of progress in another area, such as affordability and access to nutritious food. Systemic approaches help navigate these trade-offs and provide fertile ground for win-win solutions. In the Global South, some of these solutions are already in the making. In this session, we heard from a policymaker, a scientist, a farmer representative, and a young entrepreneur how they strive to navigate these trade-offs.

PROJECT LAB: Regreening Africa: restoring degraded lands for people and nature

Organised by World Agroforestry Centre

Speakers

- Mieke BOURNE, Programme Manager, World Agroforestry Centre
- Bernard CRABBÉ, Head of sector, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Hamed TCHIBOZO, Project Coordinator for Niger, Regreening Africa

Moderator: Leigh WINOWIECKI, Researcher, World Agroforestry Centre

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3DBYWD3aJw>

Synopsis

This session brought together key stakeholders to discuss practical steps to implement land restoration with examples from the EU-funded project, Regreening Africa, operating in 8 countries in the Sahel and East Africa. As the UN declared 2021-2030 the 'decade of ecosystem restoration', practical examples of where restoration is happening is urgently needed. The session discussed key approaches such selecting locally relevant options to suit agro-ecological niches, implementing farmer-centred approaches to encourage innovation to meet farmer needs; generating livelihood benefits; and innovative monitoring to track restoration over time. They discussed policy barriers and how they can be overcome to scale restoration to millions of smallholder farmers and reach global targets.

AGORA: Climate Resilient Food Value Chains in Sub-Saharan Africa

Organised by the Humana people to people

Speakers

- Bhahart MSUKU, Programme Coordinator, GIZ Malawi.
- Nervous NSANSAULA: Partnership Director and Head of Agriculture Development Aid People to People – Zambia

Moderator: Florence RANSON, Thematic Moderator, Rural Transformation and Food Systems

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dwRuDKU0Lg>

Synopsis

Extreme weather events and climate change at large are increasingly compromising humanity's ability to feed itself, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Resilient food value chains can mitigate the food system's roles as both a victim and driver of climate change. As such, it can offer food security and low-carbon development pathways out of poverty for millions of poor households. However, developing these complex systems calls for collaboration among the various stakeholders in the value chain, including farmers, agribusinesses, VET providers, governments, research institutions and CSOs.

This multi-stakeholder session explored the challenges and solutions to the many parts of the puzzle that constitute climate-resilient development for rural communities in SSA.

AGORA: Geographical Indications - An Opportunity for Biodiversity.

Organised by European Commission – Directorate-General for Agriculture

Speakers

- Mory HABA, Centre de recherche agronomique pour la Guinée forestière.
- Maimouna SAMBOU, President, GIE Casa Ecologie & APPIGMAC.

Moderator: Florence RANSON, Thematic Moderator, Rural Transformation and Food Systems

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCAc8KNLHk0>

Synopsis

Geographical Indications (GI) combine the market approach with the management and preservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage in a unique manner, particularly when developed together with local producers. The promotion of GI products benefits the local economy, while also preventing the disappearance of habitat and biodiversity resources, while often having a lesser environmental impact than industrial methods. This session presented two specific cases of GI closely linked with biodiversity preservation in Africa: Ziama Macenta coffee from Guinea and Madd from Casamance, a forest fruit from Senegal.

Pollution and chemicals

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: A zero-pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment

Organised by the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Speakers

- Philippe LACOSTE, Sustainable Development Director, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France
- Olivia LIVINGSTONE, EDD Young Leader, Liberia
- Rolph PAYET, Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- Jeremie PELLET, Director General of Expertise France, Expertise France
- Olivier POIVRE D'ARVOR, Ambassador for Polar and Maritime Issues, Government of France

Moderator: Alix LE BOURDON, Brussels Correspondent - Journalist

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5uEtV5D3-Cw&t=2647s>

Synopsis

This panel aimed at giving more visibility to the chemicals and waste cluster within the international community and particularly within the development community. It presented the main environmental issues linked to plastics and chemical and waste. It also underlined the fact that the EU has an essential role to play at the international level with the European Chemicals Agency and European regulations related to plastics, chemicals and waste as well as circular economy. The inclusion of these topics in the Green Deal is evidence of the importance of these subjects. This panel was an opportunity to present the stakes for the adoption of a new beyond-2022 framework for chemicals management and for the launch of international negotiations on a global agreement on plastics.

LAB DEBATE: Save Lives, Protect Food and Slow Climate Change – all at once

Organised by Climate and Clean Air Coalition

Speakers

- Bala BAPPA, SLCP Consultant.
- Maiha HAMEED, Air Quality Management Officer.
- Graciela RAGA, Senior Scientist and Professor.

Moderator: Drew SHINDELL, CCAC Special Representative for Action on Methane and Chair of Science Advisory Panel.

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjAjKrFS_fw

Synopsis

This panel debated how countries can help reduce the rate of global warming this decade by integrating action on climate change and air pollution, while also achieving quick development benefits in sectors such as health, energy, agriculture and transport.

The strategies to jointly address air pollution and climate change are cost-effective, can be implemented now, and importantly can yield results by 2030.

Plus connecting climate change and health can be an important driver for action and help attracting international support.

To date, 8 governments have taken this on board in their national climate and development plans. This session looked at the experiences of Kenya, Maldives and Nigeria – and discussed how other countries can take up this opportunity.

PROJECT LAB: Value what you wear!

Organised by SEQUA

Speakers

- Alexander CHARALAMBOUS, Coordinator SWITCH to Green Facility
- Min MON MYAT, Senior Technical Expert SMART Textile & Garments
- Dr. Zaw OO, Managing Director Centre for Economic and Social Development

Moderator: Andrea HENAO, Managing Director 360 Agency Berlin

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNkul_uKmRU

Synopsis

In Myanmar's garment and textile industry, over a half million new jobs have been created within the last five years. However, such rapid industrialization presents a host of challenges, e.g., regarding environmental impacts and working conditions.

The DG INTPA-funded SMART Textile & Garments project improve working conditions, promotes labour and environmental standards and reduces labour right abuses in the industry.

The session showcased how the project upscales, expands and strengthens compliance with social and environmental standards. In addition, the project brought together the key players of the Myanmar garment industry who discussed on the panel their views and experiences.

AGORA: People for Nature.

Organised by WWF Russia and Paris Peace Forum

Speakers

- Lioudmila AMETISTOVA, Lead coordinator of Green Economy Programme, WWF Russia
- Eleni VOSSOU, Programme Manager, EU Delegation to Russia

Moderator: Jack PARROCK, Thematic Moderator, Pollution and Chemicals

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvdnZpL5nXg&t=51s>

Synopsis

The struggle to restore economic growth in a post-pandemic world will also increase the threat of sacrificing the environmental protection in favour of the industrial recovery. An easing of the ecological restrictions may result in nature degradation, acceleration of climate change and deteriorating living conditions for thousands of people.

Intensifying public control over industrial activity and its impact on the environment is a key aspect of an empowered, sustainable, and fairer global governance.

The panel discussed the project People for Nature, which was launched in 2019 by WWF-Russia and EU to enable independent local NGOs and activists to contribute to environmental protection. The project offers training and expert support for NGOs and provides a platform for building synergies among actors.

AGORA: Boosting circularity in the global textile industry

Organised by Humana People to People

Speakers

- Kaj PIHL, Environment and Recycling Advisor Humana People to People
- María RINCÓN, Team Leader, Circular Economy European Commission DG for Environment

Moderator: Jack PARROCK, Thematic Moderator, Pollution and Chemicals

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIN7DZY9SVk>

Synopsis

With an annual production of 150 billion clothes for only 7 billion humans, textile is one of the most polluting and most a highly energy-intensive industry. Consequently, it has been identified as one of the target industries in the European Green Deal. Its transformation into a circular model would bring enormous benefits for the environment, by reducing CO2 emissions, and for vulnerable communities in developing countries, by creating jobs, providing affordable clothing, and raising funds that can be reinvested in sustainable development projects.

Participants discussed how the application of the EU waste hierarchy principles and circularity can transform textile management into a catalyst of the EU Green Deal, the European Consensus on Development and ultimately, the SDGs.

Green Economy-related education and training

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Human capital and mobility at the service of the green economy

Organised by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development

Speakers

- Michael SPINDELEGGGER, Director General, International Centre for Migration Policy Development

- Mohamed SADIKI, Mayor City of Rabat
- Fridah NTARANGWI, Managing Partner, Zidicircle
- Kishore GOPAL REDDY, EDD Young Leader, India

Moderator: Mariam ZAIDI, Independent presenter

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cc3VZYol3vE>

Synopsis

The transformation towards green and sustainable economies relies on the development of knowledge and skills as way to empower people. Much like the fourth industrial revolution, this transformation offers great potential for new activities and jobs and requires a more nuanced reflection about the development of skills, knowledge and competencies that will be in demand in the future and, in turn, on how this would affect human mobility. The session debated, among alia, the future skills needed, the implications for migration for the EU and for intra-EU mobility and how skills partnerships with third countries can be leveraged to support the EU Green Deal.

LAB DEBATE: Can the Future of Skills Be Green and Gender-Inclusive?

Organised by UNIDO

Speakers

- Bernardo CALZADILLA-SARMIENTO, Managing Director, Directorate of Digitalization, Technology and Agri-Business, and Director, Department of Digitalization, Technology and Innovation, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Cesare ONESTINI, Director, European Training Foundation
- Euphrasia MULENGA, WorldSkills Champions Trust Representative for Africa, WorldSkills
- LiiYONG, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Moderator: Chika ODUAH, International Journalist

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuBq8_OITxE

Synopsis

Women's ability to participate equally in markets boosts productivity, increases economic diversification and sustainable and inclusive growth. This starts with improving women's access to education and training to develop technical skills and provide knowledge to embrace digitalization and ease the transition to green economies and societies. However, cultural norms and lack of positive role models inhibit many young women from pursuing training in industrial fields. This session explored the effects of private-public partnerships in engaging

champions in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) on female participation in male-dominated sectors to explore the question: can the TVET system be the change-maker in providing industrial skills equally for a more sustainable future?

PROJECT LAB: Empowering African youth with digital skills to affect the Green Economy

Organised by the Camden Education Trust

Speakers

- Alexandra VAN DER PLOEG, Head of Global Corporate Social Responsibility, SAP SE
- Davide STORTI, Coordinator of the YouthMobile Initiative, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
- Donal CRONIN, Director, Multilateral Unit-EU, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

Moderator: Alia SAHALY, Program Manager Orange Digital Centre Deployment and Strategic Partnerships, Orange

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OwNz0YDDrY>

Synopsis

Spearheaded in 2015 by SAP's EMEA CSR department as part of its social investments to drive sustainable growth in Africa, Africa Code Week has introduced coding skills to more than 8 million young Africans so far.

This session addressed how the raising of digital skills for young people in Africa, especially girls, will positively affect the Green Economy, the background and scaling of the Africa Code Week program to 37 countries and the focus on Girls in technology in the Green Economy.

AGORA: The Missing Link: Teaching for Green Transformation

Organised by ETT-2030

Speakers

- Maud SEGHERS, Senior Education Advisor, WOB
- Satu HAPPAANEN, City Councillor, European Committee of the Regions
- Borhene CHAKRUN, Director, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

Moderator: Tamsin ROSE, Green Economy-related Education and Training

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhDhDFtI8Y&t=295s>

Synopsis

“The Green Deal for a Sustainable Future” critically depends on green skills - that is, skills for working in a green economy; and skills for helping to bring about a green, just economy - and on the teachers and trainers tasked with skilling youth for these transformations.

This session debated what “green skills” that current and future generations entering the world of work need to thrive in the green economy and handle the threat that climate change poses to economic stability and sustainability.

STAND INTERVIEW: International Trade Centre (ITC): Small businesses go green to compete

Organised by the International Trade Centre

Speakers

- Pamela COKE-HAMILTON, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Annegret BRAUSS, Coordinator GreenToCompete Initiative, International Trade Centre

Moderator: Tamsin ROSE, Thematic Moderator, Green Economy-related Education and Training

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwhuuzIUnnE>

Synopsis

The session focused on promoting ITC services to small businesses in developing countries, especially those led by women, young people and other vulnerable groups, who are hardest hit by economic effects of the pandemic.

Protecting Biodiversity and People

Forest and Landscape Management

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Forests are too precious to lose: halting deforestation & enhancing biodiversity

Organised by FAO

Speakers

- Maria-Helena SEMEDO, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Marjeta JAGER, Deputy Director-General, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Rosalie MATONDO, Minister of the Forest Economy, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Richard WAMBUA, EDD Young Leader, Kenya

Moderator: Mario BOCUCCI, Head, UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

Available at <https://youtu.be/N8XxqcgFU7k>

Synopsis

Deforestation and forest degradation are among the key contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity loss. Yet, the world continues to lose tropical forests at an alarming rate. Reversing this trend also requires taking actions outside the forest sector, notably by transforming food systems and agricultural practices.

Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry must be addressed together, otherwise the global agreements on sustainable development, climate change and biodiversity will not be met.

This event offered a dynamic debate around the key challenges and opportunities to turn the tide on deforestation and transform food systems so countries can feed the ever-growing populations without losing precious forests. The Speakers reflected on working with triggers for such win-win solutions and share lessons learnt from scaling up on-the-ground actions and modernizing policies and regulations.

LAB DEBATE: Guiana Shield: the essential role of nature in solving the global climate crisis

Organised by CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

Speakers

- John GOEDSHALK, Executive Director, Suriname, Conservation International
- Annette ARJOON-MARTINS, Founder, Guyana Marine Conservation Society
- Gwendolyn SMITH, Co-Founder & Chair, Green Growth Suriname Foundation

Moderator: Damien FERNANDES, Senior Advisor of Communication, Strategy and Development (Guyana), Conservation International

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VB_qiUFsnIY

Synopsis

The largest tract of primary tropical forest left on Earth, the Guiana Shield, plays a critical role in mitigating climate change and conserving globally important biodiversity and the livelihoods of culturally rich communities. The region contains the highest percentage of primary forest cover (>90% intact), one of the lowest human population densities and produces up to 15% of the world's freshwater.

But the forests of the Guiana Shield are under threat from logging, mining, agriculture and roads. Recent offshore oil finds will bring unprecedented revenue to the Guianas, but if not well managed, will further threaten the region's vast natural ecosystems.

This session took the audience on a visual journey of the Guianas and lead an interactive dialog on a plan to conserve the Guianas for all.

PROJECT LAB: Busting silos, embracing landscapes

Organised by The Netherlands Red Cross

Speakers

- Charles KARANGWA, Head of Forests, Landscapes and Livelihoods for Africa, International Union for the Conservation of Nature
- Iwan MEISTER, Advisor FMO, the Dutch Development Bank
- Wendeline VAN DER FELTZ, Business Developer, The Netherlands Red Cross

Moderator: Alberta OPOKU, Senior Press Relations Officer, The Netherlands Red Cross

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s10ZUYYHEQ>

Synopsis

The humanitarian, development, and nature conservation sectors have traditionally been independent in their efforts to bring positive change to the world. Often active in the same landscapes, they tend to stick to their own expertise and ways of working. But at a time where climate change is simultaneously affecting communities, economies, and ecosystems, bubbles need to be burst.

In this session, representatives from the IUCN, DFCD/FMO Dutch Development Bank, and the Netherlands Red Cross conversed on the hurdles impeding cooperation. The discussion focussed on the practical challenges and possible solutions when collaborating in shared landscapes.

AGORA: No people without forests – no forests without people

Organised by BMZ

Speakers

- Klothilde SIKUN, GIZ Advisor, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)
- Sebastian LESCH, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)

Moderator: Pablo VILLANUEVA HULLEBROECK, Thematic Moderator, Forest and Landscape Management

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ao7VmNwThZA>

Synopsis

Forests are instrumental in protecting biodiversity, fighting climate change, as well as securing people's livelihoods. However, forests are under severe pressure due to agricultural expansion. This Agora session linked deforestation and livelihoods by exploring how jurisdictional approaches can help to protect forests, while promoting living incomes and wages for smallholder farmers and workers across agricultural supply chains.

STAND INTERVIEW: Global Youth led re-greening projects network: on transition to carbon neutrality

Organised by CUNCR

Speakers

- Faranak PASHAEI, Associate Program Manager & Carbon Sequestration Analyst, Centre for United Nations Constitutional Research
- Ekaterina DIMITROVA, Youth Climate Ambassador
- Jean Felix EBO'O, Youth Climate Ambassador

Moderator: Pablo VILLANUEVA HULLEBROECK, Thematic Moderator, Forest and Landscape Management

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0NnCJLzFRQ>

Synopsis

On the way to decarbonisation, nature can support the 1/3 of the global climate change mitigation. Investing in forests, not only tackles climate change, but also addresses two other major challenges of our times, the rapid biodiversity loss and the extended degradation of our land.

The interview focused on CUNCR work on healthy forests and soils that can ensure food security, provide numerous ecosystem services and become for the first time, important economic factors for development.

Seascapes and Coastal Areas

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Are natural solutions fit for climate only?

Organised by the Wetlands International European Association

Speakers

- Alexander HADZHIVANOV, Associate Director and Green Economy Specialist in the Environment and Sustainability Department's Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership, EBRD
- Ritesh KUMAR, Executive Director, Wetlands International South Asia
- Mami MIZUTORI, Special Representative of the SG for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Joan TONUI, EDD Young Leader, Kenya

Moderator: Chika ODUAH, International Journalist

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZsYheCwQn0>

Synopsis

Well-managed ecosystems, such as wetlands, forests, and coastal systems act as natural infrastructure, reducing physical exposure to many hazards and increasing socio-economic resilience of people and communities by sustaining local livelihoods and providing essential natural resources such as food, water and building materials.

Panellists shared community -based eco-DRR examples and raised awareness on the need to scale up investments in NBS. They pinpointed that avoiding further degradation of ecosystems and integrating nature into the design of infrastructure and development projects is a key and cost-effective way to achieve not only climate goals but also the Agenda 2030.

LAB DEBATE: Mangrove Contributions to People (included local communities)

Organised by the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)

Speakers

- Marie-Christine CORMIER-SALEM, Senior researcher, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)
- Dorothy Wanja NYINGI, Head of Ichthyology, National Museums of Kenya
- Tri VAN, Lecturer, Can Tho University

Moderator: Dorothee FISCHER, Senior Communication Expert, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXZndLWiSow>

Synopsis

To cope with the dramatic loss of the mangrove areas (more than 30% between 1970s and 1990s), protection or restoration incentives have been conducted. The last decade's political agenda put the mangrove in the spotlight because of its function in climate Change mitigation.

This session questioned the legitimacy of mangrove conservation policies. Particular attention was given to the feasibility (design, timeframe, and execution) of financial mechanisms and their effects on people's livelihood.

PROJECT LAB: The role of rural youth in the protection of marine and coastal ecosystems

Organised by the We Effect

Speakers

- Lina EVARISTO DA SILVA, Programme Officer for Environment and Climate Change in We Effect Mozambique
- Paulo JÚNIOR, National Programme Officer for Environment and Climate Change in Embassy of Sweden in Mozambique
- Abu JÚNIOR ISIDRO, Programme officer for Environment and Climate Change in AENA

Moderator: Paola FERRARA, Director of Coopermondo & Sustainability Manager in Confcooperative

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqtD8SwMU7g>

Synopsis

This project lab showcased what cooperatives in collaboration with other CSOs and the Swedish Development Agency are doing in order to empower young people to be at the forefront of marine and coastal ecosystems protection in Mozambique. The project started with the creation of a natural resource management committees, formed by young women and men. The objective was to ensure that degraded and unprotected coastal areas in Nampula are restocked and that crabs, shrimps and other species that nest in the mangrove are reproduced in addition to avoiding erosion. About 210 young women and men were trained in mangrove management and advocacy in order to increase their capacity to act and demand environmental rights through engagement with other members of the community. With this action, about 90,000 square meters of mangroves with *Cerips Tagal* and *Rhizophora mucronata* were reforested and at the moment the coastal erosion is reduced.

AGORA: Science-Policy Interface in Ocean Governance

Organised by the UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)

Speakers

- Balakrishna PISUPATI, Programme Manager, United Nations

Moderator: Filip VAN DEN ABEELE, Thematic Moderator, Seascapes and Coastal Areas

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUNuM6xr9QI>

Synopsis

The intervention was meant to be focused on how science-policy-practice interface is supporting actions under the Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) Programme funded by EU to strengthen issues of ocean governance. Key lessons and approaches were to be discussed.

Unfortunately, and despite several attempts, the speaker did not manage to connect. The thematic moderator wrapped up the topic by highlighting the main takes of the morning.

STAND INTERVIEW: The Newton Fund: Science partnerships for green and sustainable innovation

Organised by the British Council

Speakers

- Richard HAIGH, Professor of Disaster Resilience, University of Huddersfield
- Stephanie RENFORTH, Senior Consultant, British Council

Moderator: Filip VAN DEN ABEELE, Thematic Moderator, Seascapes and Coastal Areas

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aBBz-VUlt4&t=9s>

Synopsis

Under the Newton Fund, the British Council encourages researchers from around the world to work together across borders, to contribute to the socio-economic development of communities and find sustainable solutions to global challenges. The stand interview showcased award-winning projects that have already had impact on the ground; including a project in Indonesia that helps vulnerable coastal communities to adapt to climate change.

STAND INTERVIEW: The role of AICS in the protection of coastal and marine Habitats in the QNP

Organised by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

Speakers

- Tania MIORIN, Project Head, Instituto Oikos
- Leone TARABUSI, Team Leader, Environment AICS Maputo

Moderator: Filip VAN DEN ABEELE, Thematic Moderator, Seascapes and Coastal Areas

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnDiaz_lDtc

Synopsis

The interview aimed at promoting the AICS role, through project Pharo, in the conservation of the biodiversity and the economic, cultural and social development of the populations living in the coastal area of the Quirimbas Park through an integrated approach that included four main components: improvement of the management of QNP coastal area; improvement of fishing practices in order to preserve and maintain marine resources and improve food security of local population; support to small local entrepreneurial activities through training and financial support; construction of the Quirimbas Ecolodge, a place of hospitality, training for local communities and students, and a place of cultural exchange between visitors, students and communities.

Wildlife, Security and Development

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Will the Green Deal save Wildlife from trafficking?

Organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - Brussels Liaison Office

Speakers

- Jutta URPILAINEN, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Emmanuel DE MERODE, Director, Virunga National Park
- Ghada Fathi WALY, Executive Director, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- Koen DOENS, Director-General, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Nomsa Betty KAMANGA, EDD Young Leader, Zambia
- Jorge RÍOS, Chief of UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- Cristián SAMPER, President and CEO, Wildlife Conservation Society

Moderator: HRH The Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OUX46ysMZQ>

Synopsis

The planet's wildlife is under intense pressure from human activity and over-exploitation. Illegality, crime, and corruption have a dire impact on deforestation and the loss of multiple wild species, affecting whole ecosystems, contributing to climate change, and negatively impacting trade, economic development and security. The weak governance and lack of adequate responses have exacerbated the poaching crises in many biodiversity hotspots affecting both wildlife and communities dependent on natural resources. This debate set to discuss real on the ground impact of wildlife trafficking, the links to security, the latest trafficking trends (to release for the first time at EDDs), the challenges in Asia to curb wildlife crime and the role of the Green Deal in addressing these threats to biodiversity through integrated responses.

LAB DEBATE: Conservation in Fragile States: myths, realities and opportunities

Organised by EuropeAid

Speakers

- Thierry AEBISCHER, Head of Conservation and Biodiversity, Conservation Area
- Antonio BOVEDA, Country Director, Central African Republic Wildlife Conservation Society

- Ulrich Frederic LOMBE-ZANZA, National Expert, Chinko Natural Park

Moderator: Didier NILS, Manager, Fonds Bêkou

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tEMK7TFqR8Y>

Synopsis

Beyond the traditional challenge of raising - in an extremely fragile context, communities' awareness on conservation actions, the Natural Parks operators in CAR are facing specific security issues: poaching from armed groups, presence of IDPs, armed transhumance...

Speakers discussed how to balance and integrate security/development/conservation approaches. They addressed sensitive questions such as militarisation of eco-guards, recruitment in/outside local communities, difficulty of developing income-generating activities and lack of enforcement of regulations.

Speakers presented their innovative solutions: from park management models to cattle herders' trainings to monitor and educate transhumant herders, to valorisation of natural resources conservation and territorial planning.

LAB DEBATE: Strengthening global partnership to combat wildlife crime

Organised by the Wildlife Conservation Society

Speakers

- Tien Ming LEE, Professor of Sustainability, Ecology and Conservation, Schools of Life Sciences and Ecology, Sun Yat-sen University
- Yovana MURILLO, Program Manager - Counter Wildlife Trafficking, Andes-Amazon-Orinoco Wildlife Conservation Society
- Thuy TRAN LE, Director, Centre for Media and Development Initiatives

Moderator: Michel MASOZERA, Director of Policy and Institutional Partnerships for Africa, Wildlife Conservation Society

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lqi3hIMKEI>

Synopsis

Wildlife trafficking is devastating populations of many species across the globe; many species are now threatened primarily by poaching due to an international demand for their specimens, parts and products. It takes a network to defeat a network; combating wildlife crime requires unprecedented coordination and cooperation between civil society actors, law enforcement agencies and the private sector.

In this session, Speakers from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Sun Yat-sen University in China, and Centre for Media and Development Initiatives (MDI) in Vietnam

explored the challenges of those partnerships, highlighted case studies where this has worked and where this has failed and identified the conditions and changes, we need to make for future successful partnerships that will have impact on deterring wildlife criminals. A short video from Douyin in China was also featured highlighting how social media platforms tackle illegal online wildlife trade.

AGORA: Serious health & climate impacts of wildlife crime force transformative change

Organised by the Born Free Foundation

Speakers

- John SCANLON, Chair, Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime, ADM Capital Foundation
Moderator: Annelies BECK, Thematic Moderator, Wildlife, Security and Development

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0VOMTLTwP0>

Synopsis

This agora debates the impacts from the increase in illegal wildlife trade increases, including: global health and economic impacts of viruses (brought to attention by COVID-19); the climate crisis exacerbated by ecosystems degraded by the trade; declining biodiversity; and billions of dollars in lost tax revenues globally. Remarkably, there is no global legal agreement on wildlife crime, and CITES, a trade-related conservation convention is not designed for this purpose. The session proposed that transformative change in the form of an internationally agreed protocol under UNCTOC, is urgently needed to combat the organized, transnational illegal wildlife trade to address the unfolding crises, also recognizing the need for better managed biodiverse right places working with local communities.

STAND INTERVIEW: Championing change to more sustainable wildlife consumption in China

Organised by TRAFFIC (China)

Speakers

- Ling XU, China Office Director, TRAFFIC (China)
- Yuqi YANG, Programme Officer, TRAFFIC (China)

Moderator: Annelies BECK, Thematic Moderator, Wildlife, Security and Development

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cPNZLHbPgo>

Synopsis

The stand interview spotlighted the TRAFFIC-led “China Champions of Change” project to tackle illegal and unsustainable consumption of pangolins and rosewood.

The outputs of the project, including research studies, events, and targeted campaigns, had a significant impact on the Chinese government, on several industry sectors including timber, collection, e commerce and tourism, and on consumers of pangolin and rosewood products. For example, the national protection level for pangolins was upgraded from Class II to Class I (China) in 2020. Pangolin scales were removed from the Chinese Pharmacopoeia as a raw material for traditional medicine. Moreover, 13 leading timber companies signed an “Initiative Against Illegal Wildlife Trade” pledge.

Climate Change, natural Resources, Food and Mobility

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: How to achieve a Green Deal for Africa?

Organised by Practitioners Network for European Development

Speakers

- Mamadou MOUSSA DIAKHITÉÉ, Acting Head of Environmental Sustainability Division (ESD) African Union Development Agency
- Koen DOENS, Director-General European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships.
- Tanja GÖNNER, Chair of the Management Board GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)
- David WATSON MWABILA, EDD Young Leader, Zambia.

Moderator: Mikaela GAVAS, CO-Director & Senior Policy Fellow Centre for Global Development.

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01WPR4EHlrk>

Synopsis

Climate change shows how important it is to rethink the global economy and how it should function. Degradation of land and water resources, closely tied to climate change, is a critical issue that can be mitigated by a more sustainable approach to economic growth. African countries will continue to be particularly affected by these issues, amongst other challenges, such as rising youth unemployment and inequality within general populations.

How can a more sustainable and “green” organization of the economy offer long-term solutions to these challenges in Africa, and how should it be achieved? The panel explored the perspective and roles of different actors: European politicians and development cooperation agencies, as well as African youth, entrepreneurs, the private sector and academia.

LAB DEBATE: Promoting the role of social protection systems to help vulnerable people anticipate, absorb, and recover from climate-related shocks.

Organised by AFD

Speakers

- Guillaume BOUYEYRON, Global Lead - Disaster Risk Reduction Agence Française de Développement
- Jean-Louis LAMBEAU, social Protection Specialist International Labour Organization
- Jeremie PELLET, Director General of Expertise France Expertise France
- Carlos SOTO IGUARAN, TTL Social protection AFD
- Verhonica ZAMUDIO, Researcher Interamerican Social Security Conference

Moderator: Koen VLEMINCKX, Knowledge Development Coordinator / Director SOCIEUX+ EU Expertise on Social Protection, Labour and Employment

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRNREOhjLrU>

Synopsis

Adaptive social protection systems combine policies and techniques from social protection, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DDR). With this approach, social protection programs become more flexible, can quickly be extended to populations affected by shocks and reinforce households' resilience. Yet adaptive social protection is not systematically included in development strategies, be it in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), social protection or DDR strategies. This session brought together experts from these different fields to discuss how adaptive social protection can be put at the forefront of the policy agenda to help households and communities anticipate, absorb, and recover from climate shocks.

PROJECT LAB: What a changing climate means for human mobility in the Pacific

Organised by the International Displacement Monitoring Centre and the International Organisation for Migration

Speakers

- Mafua-'i-Vai'utukakau MAKA, Director, National Emergency Management Office – Tonga
- Teea TIRA, Project Coordinator, PIFS (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)
- Nacanieli BOLO SPEIGTH, Project Manager, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

Moderator: Erwan MARTEIL, Head of Sector, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JC4NcPd9SgA>

Synopsis

Climate change is influencing human mobility globally. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the Pacific, where the long-term effects of sea-level rise and unpredictable weather patterns threaten the livelihoods and culture of Pacific Islanders. In this session, local leaders and global experts provided insights into how human mobility is being impacted by climate change in the region.

Building on these realities, the session identified knowledge and evidence needs, as well as opportunities to strengthen the collation and analysis of displacement data and risks, build robust governance frameworks, and fortify operational capacities. Insights were shared by the Pacific Resilience Partnership Technical Working Group on Human Mobility, PRDD project, and MMICD project.

AGORA: The power of decentralised cooperation in fostering Sustainable Energy in Morocco

Organised by Platforma

Speakers

- Sidonie CAQUANT, Head of the International Relations Division, City of Lille
- Frédéric VALLIER, Secretary General Council of European Municipalities and Regions

Moderator: Beatriz RÍOS, Thematic Moderator, Climate Change, natural Resources, Food and Mobility.

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trecR0bcr20>

Synopsis

The Agora discussed the long-lasting successful partnership between Lille and Oujda which focuses on energy policies and strategies of the two cities. It aims to improve the energy efficiency of the two cities' buildings and promote the use of renewable energies. The two local authorities have developed a cross-sectoral approach that brings on board a wide range of actors (public structures, economic actors, academics, civil society).

Most of the actions carried out are based on exchanges and training between equivalent structures in France and Morocco.

The project has received the support of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Moroccan Ministry of the Interior within the framework of the joint support fund for Franco-Moroccan decentralised cooperation.

AGORA: Healthy nature for a good climate

Organised by Euroclima

Speaker

- Thora AMEND, WCPA vice-chair governance International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Moderator: Beatriz RÍOS, Thematic Moderator, Climate Change, natural Resources, Food and Mobility.

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beOYN2vg4-4>

Synopsis

Nature provides essential goods and services for development, such as carbon sequestration, water provision or the buffering of climate impacts. The conservation and management of ecosystems, but also the restoration of degraded areas is fundamental to secure “Nature-based Solutions” for manifold societal challenges. The recently published regional report for Latin America and the Caribbean “Larger than Jaguars” (by EU), identifies six thematic priority areas that need to be considered in policy, planning and decision-making processes. After a short videoclip on the report, EUROCLIMA+ projects in nine different countries illustrated how these priority areas can be addressed together with local partners on the ground.

Transboundary watersheds

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Transboundary watersheds: sharing basins for people, planet, prosperity and peace

Organised by UNECE

Speakers

- Olga ALGAYEROVA, Executive Secretary, UNECE
- Cecilia ABENA DAPAAH, Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Government of Ghana
- Phera RAMOELI, Executive Secretary, OKACOM
- Ricardo Andres PINEDA GUZMAN, EDD Young Leader, Honduras
- Jennifer SARA, Global Director, Water Global Practice, World Bank

Moderator: Tanja MISKOVA, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CcZsbbtuy4>

Synopsis

This session discussed how transboundary water cooperation, hydro-diplomacy and integrated basin management concretely help to address climate change, prevent conflicts and help achieve the SDGs and Green Deal. Transboundary cooperation, as required by SDG target 6.5, is one of the key means through which to tackle the global water crisis. Panellists debated how to strengthen transboundary cooperation, including the role of legal and institutional frameworks, such as the Water Convention. Examples of how basin agreements and institutions have promoted development and facilitated investments and peace will be shown and the role of various actors, including the EU, were discussed. Recommendations focused on how to integrate transboundary cooperation in external and development policies within the framework of the development-humanitarian-peace nexus.

LAB DEBATE: Nexus, Digitalisation and Human Capital for a Green-Deal in Transboundary Waters

Organised by the European Commission - Joint Research Centre

Speakers

- Abou AMANI, Director, Division of Water Sciences Secretary, Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme,
- Dinara ZIGANSHINA, Deputy Director, Scientific Information Centre of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination
- Maria Alexandra MOREIRA LOPEZ, Secretary General, Organizacion del Tratado de la Cuenca Amazonica

Moderator: Eric BUHL-NIELSEN, facilitator

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHVoqfSHp5s>

Synopsis

Transboundary Watersheds are key contexts for EU's Green Deal to protect the Environment, address Climate Change challenges and invest in R&D and human capital to promote sustainable youth employment. The Joint Research Centre (JRC) and transboundary river basin organisations address concrete development issues, the WEFE NEXUS approach to facilitate a multi-sectorial cooperation and policy dialogues, the decision support tools in the context of new technologies (i.e., Copernicus) and improved connectivity to facilitate sharing information and better data to support development policies, economic planning and youth

employment. This is underpinned by the work of UNESCO and the Centres of Excellence in Human Capacity Development in Africa by addressing gaps, updating education and training for a new management, better water supply and sanitation services and skills to match a green economy for a greener environment.

PROJECT LAB: Predicting conflicts: the Water, Peace & Security partnership Early Warning Tool

Organised by UNESCO IHE

Speakers

- Aaron WOLF, Professor of Water Cooperation and Diplomacy, IHE-Delft, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education
- Liz SACCOCCIA, Research Analyst, World Resources Institute
- Oumar ARBY, Programme Manager, International Alert

Moderator: Rolien SASSE Advisor to the Water, Peace & Security partnership

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kAvpXj_EAM

Synopsis

As linkages between water and conflict have received heightened attention, socio-technological advancements are increasingly seen as means to help relevant actors to identify, analyse and take steps to address water-related conflicts. In this session the Water, Peace and Security partnership presented its 'Global Early Warning Tool' to stimulate debate around Migration, Infrastructure, Community, Economy, Food, Governance, and Conflict. The Tool uses machine learning, remote sensing and multiple data sources to predict conflict events 12 months in advance. The session started with an analysis of the major issues in the transboundary watershed sector, presented the Tool and invited participants to share feedback on its functionality and features.

STAND INTERVIEW: Busting silos, embracing landscapes

Organised by Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute

Speakers

- Jafet ANDERSSON, Senior researcher and Scientific leader, Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute
- Aishatu TANI IBRAHIM, Director Engineering Hydrology

Moderator: Chris BURNS, Thematic Moderator, Transboundary Watersheds

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrrpG6wZmhl>

Synopsis

Flooding is a serious problem in West Africa. Several recent floods have affected millions of people through loss of lives, displacements and damaged infrastructure. Flooding is also projected to increase with climate change. Access to up-to-date forecasts is a critical component in addressing these challenges. FANFAR is an EU-financed project that co-creates an operational flood forecasting and alert pilot system together with 17 countries in the region. The system shows potential, and some countries already use it on a daily basis. Test the system live at www.fanfar.eu

AGORA: Setting up a water quality monitoring network in the Senegal River basin

Organised by the European Commission - Joint Research Centre

Speakers

- Amadou LAMINE NDIAYE, Organisation de Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal
- Gunther UMLAUF, Senior Environmental Scientist, European Commission - DG Joint Research Centre

Moderator: Chris BURNS, Thematic Moderator, Transboundary Watersheds

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmEw4sWRI0E>

Synopsis

The Senegal River basin is shared by Senegal, Mauritania, Mali and Guinea. The objective of the Organisation for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS) is to control the availability of water and to seek the means for a rational and coordinated exploitation of the basin's resources in order to support the development of the populations that share the basin while preserving the balance and strengthening the sustainability of the ecosystems.

Since 2020, OMVS, supported by the European Commission and the Italian Development Cooperation under the WEFE-SENEGAL programme, in collaboration with national water authorities, is implementing a basin-wide operational water quality monitoring programme, which will serve as a model for a permanent water quality observatory in the Senegal River Basin and beyond, to support future development strategies in the river basin.

YOUNG LEADER INTERVIEW: Youth-Led Research to promote Decarbonization

Organised by the European Commission – Directorate-General for International Partnership

Speaker

- Ricardo Andres PINEDA GUZMAN, EDD Young Leader, Honduras

Moderator: Chris BURNS, Thematic Moderator, Transboundary Watersheds

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4x54UbSPTg>

Synopsis

To promote green and economic development in multiple sectors of the society, Honduras, the most climate-vulnerable country in the world, aims at an economy-wide decarbonization before 2050. Insistingly, it is the youth of Honduras leading the efforts to promote decarbonization through a science-based approach to engage in innovative projects to find the best alternatives for a green deal.

Ricardo, along with a team of 20 young researchers in Sustenta Honduras, is developing research projects in the sectors of energy, transport, urbanism, agriculture, forests, waste management, and watersheds. He is involved in research projects to map the forests of the country in an effort to tackle deforestation, and map communities without electricity to create microgrids. Collectively, the youth has promoted alliances with 10 international universities, and is now working as volunteers to publish scientific reports to establish the foundations of a national decarbonization.

Indigenous peoples and local communities

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Creating a Sustainable Future – Voices of Indigenous Women

Organised by Oxfam IBIS

Speakers

- Chiara ADAMO, Head of Unit, European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Hamid ARRUM HARAHAAP, EDD Young Leader, Indonesia
- Hindou OUMAROU IBRAHIM, President of the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad
- Norka YANETH PAREJA ORTIZ, Fuerza de Mujeres Wayuu

Moderator: Joan CARLING, Co-Convenor, Indigenous Peoples Major Group

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6iSqkVz9mic>

Synopsis

Biodiversity and ecosystems can only be protected if local communities and CSOs are involved in the governance of resources, while their rights and wellbeing are protected. Inequality and climate change are interlinked with the increase of human rights violations in these communities.

This Panel amplified the voices of indigenous women who have personally experienced the impact of climate change. Their fight for climate justice has endangered their lives and communities, but they argued that indigenous peoples have an important role to play in the development of sustainable futures.

The European and national institutions are key partners in the protection of human rights. Panellists discussed how to ensure this role in the framework of the Green Deal and EC external actions.

LAB DEBATE: Partnering with indigenous communities to respect Human Rights in business

Organised by ZABALA Innovation Consulting

Speakers

- Lottie CUNNINGHAM, Lawyer and activist - Justice and Human Rights of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua, Justice and Human Rights of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua
- Sebastien PORTER, Programme Manager European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships
- Carlos Mario ZAPATA, Founder, MITOKWA Foundation

Moderator: SusanA GARAYOA, Communication Manager, ZABALA Innovation Consulting

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZIKoCzFJE4>

Synopsis

The session debated the instruments and processes to safeguard Indigenous Peoples (IP) Rights in the development of business activities in their lands. Speakers (IP representatives, experts in Business and HR and private and public sector representatives) showcased examples of good practices of IP and public and private sectors working together to build sustainable business projects, respecting Human Rights and protecting the environment. Beyond showcasing these good practices, the session presented and discussed practical guidelines to build relationships of mutual trust between the three actors, recognizing and ensuring IP rights and their role as environmental custodians and reinforcing national frameworks that guarantee respect of Human Rights.

LAB DEBATE: Rural and community-led initiatives by and for indigenous women

Organised by Policy Forum on Development

Speakers

- Lilian CELIBERTI, Co-founder Articulación Feminista Marcosur
- Sascha GABIZON, Director WECF
- Ernestine LEIKEKI, Board chair/women empowerment officer, Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch
- Dorothee LISENGA, Coordinator, Coalition des Femmes Leaders pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable

Moderator: Jeanette SEQUEIRA, Gender Programme Coordinator, Global Forest Coalition

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvDSXZWVq0>

Synopsis

This lab debate discussed community-led initiatives exploring the linkages among climate justice, biodiversity conservation and gender, specifically addressing those initiated by indigenous women. The debate would engage participants in understanding the aspects of a feminist approach to climate responses via case studies from Africa and Latin America.

AGORA: A one-health approach for pastoralism

Organised by Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International

Speakers

- Zuleka MADER, HEAL Regional Project Interim Manager

Moderator: Shada ISLAM, Thematic Moderator, Indigenous Peoples and local Communities

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfQLtJUQHvE&t=310s>

Synopsis

Pastoralists use with their livestock vast dry grasslands that can hardly be used for agriculture. Mobility and flexibility of most pastoralist communities allow to use natural resources sustainably, but population growth and climate change challenge these practices. Pastoralists face poor access to services (education, health, veterinary, environmental advisory) and land encroachment by farming, mining and other investments that block access to pasture and water. Interdisciplinary and multisectoral One Health approaches, based on a better understanding of the interlinkages between people, animals and the environment, lead to integrated service provision that foster economic growth and sustainable use of natural resources. Speakers presented examples and policy frameworks for implementation.

STAND INTERVIEW: Data by and for Indigenous Peoples

Organised by International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

Speakers

- Joji CARINO, Senior Policy Advisor at Forest Peoples Programme
- Joan CARLING, Co-Convenor Indigenous Peoples Major Group

Moderator: Shada ISLAM, Thematic Moderator, Indigenous Peoples and local Communities

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZbB2Aw93Jc>

Synopsis

The panel presented the Indigenous Navigator, an indigenous-led initiative covering 11 countries. The Navigator's framework focuses on rights promotion, monitoring the UNDRIP & safeguarding IP rights globally. 57 small grants are being implemented in 11 countries, focusing on a range of IPs priorities including protection & revitalisation of lands and safeguarding the environment. The Navigator framework is open to all, & capacity is built so that communities can continue to concretise their priorities after the projects end. Docip provides technical & advocacy support for IPs' participation in EU/UN mechanisms in line with EDD's commitment to "mainstream Indigenous Peoples throughout the EDD". Together these initiatives work to ensure Indigenous Peoples voices can be heard in these global spaces

Research, data and new technologies

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Earth observation: a game changer for the Green Deal

Organised by European Commission - Directorate-General for International Partnerships

Speakers

- Maurice BORGEAUD, Head of the ESA Earth Observation Department "Science, Applications and Climate"
- Monica LOPEZ, Spanish Delegate at ESA Earth Observation Programme Board/Spanish representative in the Copernicus Committee
- Ruvimbo SAMANGA, EDD Young Leader, Zimbabwe
- Luc VERON, Ambassador of the European Union to the Philippines

Moderator: Monika JONES, Presenter Deutsche Welle

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XQGqJAwaqA>

Synopsis

Specialists from leading space and earth observation agencies and organisations debated in this high-level panel about Earth Observation and its use and potential for the green development and Sustainable Goals Agenda for 2030.

The participants exchanged their experience on how to make the most of the data generated from earth observations and how to apply it in development cooperation. They showed case projects that have already benefited from Earth Observation and how they can be replicated and expanded in various sectors and across regions.

LAB DEBATE: When biodiversity meets public health: controlling diseases vectors

Organised by the Imperial College London

Speakers

- Yacine DJIBO, Executive Director of Speak Up Africa and Member of the Advisory Board of UNCDF, United Nations Capital Development Fund
- Brian TARIMO, Research Scientist, Ifakara Health Institute
- Talya HACKETT, Postdoctoral Researcher and Project Coordinator, University of Oxford

Moderator: Piero GENOVESI, Chair of IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group, Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inGlbzb5EY4>

Synopsis

This session explored a new type of nature-based solutions for vector-borne diseases control using a naturally occurring phenomenon called gene drive. Vector-borne diseases have a heavy burden on both public health (with over 700,000 deaths/year according to WHO) and biodiversity with numerous species threatened (e.g., Hawaiian birds threatened by avian malaria). The current methods for vector control are largely relying on insecticides. This has proved efficacious in the past and has allowed to saving millions of lives, but with growing insecticide-resistance and concerns about the scalability, there is a consensus that additional tools are required to reach the SDGs. Gene drive research can be a new avenue to explore at the crossroad of public health and biodiversity considerations.

PROJECT LAB: Opening access to biodiversity data for development

Organised by Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Speakers

- Benedictus FREEMAN, Liberia Technical Advisor US Forest Service
- Tim HIRSCH, DEPUTY Director Global Biodiversity Information Facility
- Laban MUSINGUZI, Research officer National Fisheries Research Institute
- Melanie RAYMOND, Senior Programme Officer for Node Development Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Moderator: Maheva BAGARD LAURSEN, Programme coordinator Global Biodiversity Information Facility.

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZ5xpu8pg0k>

Synopsis

While the need to integrate scientific knowledge about biodiversity into decision-making processes is widely recognized, the availability of open biodiversity data and the capacity to use it remain limited. This not only impacts conservation efforts, but also resource management and biodiversity-related intergovernmental processes. This session presented best practices identified within the Global Biodiversity Information facility (GBIF)-led Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) programme, funded by the European Union. The speaker shared how BID projects in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific are contributing to filling knowledge gaps to support decision-making and scientific research, and how BID is developing regional capacity to empower local communities of practice.

AGORA: How new technologies in social and health services can protect the most vulnerable people in Africa

Organised by Satec

Speakers

- David CORRALES, Business development Consultant, Specialist in E-Health
- Jose Ignacio VENCES, Operations deputy director

Moderator: Angela WEIS, Thematic Moderator, Research, Data and new Technologies

Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JiK_DyeMUQ

Synopsis

Supporting digital growth in Africa is one of SATEC's pillars, seeking to contribute to poverty reduction and quality of life, through digital transformation.

The agora presented SATEC's vision for e-health. The aim is to improve health assistance, decision-making, and monitoring of Public Health (e.g., response to Covid19, Malaria, etc.) by providing connectivity, automation, and IT solutions.

AGORA: The Copernicus global knowledge and information systems

Organised by European Commission - Joint Research Centre

Speakers

- Andreas BRINK, Scientists, Project leader
- Peter SALAMON, Scientists, Project leader

Moderator: Angela WEIS, Thematic Moderator, Research, Data and new Technologies

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPd43AKRzew>

Synopsis

The agora discussed Copernicus, the European Union's Earth Observation Programme. Copernicus offers information services based on satellite Earth Observation and in situ (non-space) data.

The Programme is coordinated and managed by the European Commission. It is implemented in partnership with the Member States, the European Space Agency (ESA), the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), EU Agencies and Mercator Océan.

AGORA: Addressing the global e-waste challenge

Organised by International Telecommunications Union

Speakers

- Vanessa GRAY, Head, Environment & Emergency Telecommunications Division
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Moderator: Angela WEIS, Thematic Moderator, Research, Data and new Technologies

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEZTMN1PP1k>

Synopsis

The Agora discussed e-waste, which refers to waste from electrical and electronic equipment. Research and data on e-waste are produced and used to assess and address the e-waste challenge and to identify policies to ensure that countries move towards a circular economy for this equipment. In this process new technologies can be used to monitor and track e-waste flows and the materials contained within. With better data and through the support of modern technology, actors across the electronics value chain can report on recycling, recovery and depollution activities.

Protected area management and species conservation

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: Increasing protected areas and mobilizing resources
Organised by European Commission – Directorate-General for Environment

Speakers

- Sandy ANDELMAN, Vice President, Conservation Strategy & Partnerships
- Rida BOUTROS, EDD Young Leader, Lebanon
- Humberto DELGRADO ROSA, Director - Natural Capital, DG Environment, European Commission
- Malta QWATHEKANA, Senior Policy Advisor, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, South Africa
- Virginijus SINKEVICIUS, EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, European Commission

Moderator: Sandra GATHMANN, Al Jazeera

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b8OFEV2BZM>

Synopsis

The session on Protected area management and species conservation looked at the pressures on biodiversity around the world and the role protected area and species management can play in ensuring habitats and species can survive and thrive. The session took place in the lead up to a key meeting in Kunming, China in October this year when over 190 countries are expected to agree a new and ambitious framework for global action on biodiversity protection.

LAB DEBATE: African Landscapes for People and Wildlife

Organised by African Wildlife Foundation

Speakers

- Simon MALETE, African Group of Negotiators to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Pauline NATONGO KALUNDA, Executive Director, ECOTRUST
- Harsen NYAMBE NYAMBE, Head of Division for Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management, DREA African Union
- Chrysoula ZACHAROPOULOU, Member of the Committee for Development, European Parliament

Moderator: Simangele MSWELI, Senior Manager, Youth Leadership Program, African Wildlife Foundation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pES4WCWbiU>

Synopsis

In a world where conservation and development are seen as competing objectives current biodiversity investments cannot counter mounting threats. This is a false choice. The services that ecological systems provide underpin our existence, political stability and economic prosperity, particularly in Africa. The world's youngest population needs jobs, development and growth but African biodiversity funding gaps are enormous. Continuing to invest in Africa as if conservation and development are competing objectives will simply lead to the continued loss of species and habitat degradation. This session debated the role Africa leaders play in shaping a more sustainable path by investing in wildlife economies that incentivise conservation and restoration while providing for people.

PROJECT LAB: Civil Society - A good deal for the Green Deal

Organised by Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Speakers

- Awatef ABIADH, Program Officer North Africa, Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux
- Trang LE THI, Founding member of GreenViet, Country coordinator of LVDI International Inc. GreenViet
- Santiago LEVY, Regional Coordinator Northern Ecuador, Southern Colombia ALTROPICO Foundation

Moderator: Nina MARSHALL, Senior Director, Monitoring, Evaluation and Outreach Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skIYSJImCJk>

Synopsis

How can grassroots organizations, indigenous peoples and other civil society groups in developing countries be supported to provide strong local conservation leadership, enduring solutions for biodiversity and sustainable development, and partnership with governments to achieve the Green Deal? How can these groups help facilitate the transformative change required to address the global biodiversity crisis? Grantees of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, which provides grants to civil society groups to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots, discussed how their organizations have strengthened their capacity, achieved conservation and development outcomes, and demonstrated solutions with potential for scaling up.

AGORA: Protection of natural World Heritage sites in the Congo Basin

Organised by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)

Speakers

- Tales CARVALHO RESENDE, Project Officer UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
- Emma STOKES, Regional Director, Central Africa, Wildlife Conservation Society

Moderator: Claire DOOLE, Thematic Moderator, Protected Area Management and Species Conservation

Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvL4F23Byww>

Synopsis

In Central Africa, the protection of the natural heritage constitutes an essential stake because of the capital importance of these forests which shelter an exceptional biodiversity characterized by a very high level of endemism, and directly ensure the survival of about 30 million people. In addition, these forests contribute to climate regulation via carbon sequestration. Their conservation is therefore fundamental.

This session aimed at presenting the role of the World Heritage Convention for the protection of biodiversity in the Congo Basin and how the World Heritage status strengthens the protection of sites in Central Africa. It analysed and showcased case studies and success stories in the region, such as the Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI).

AGORA: From conservation to transformative change for biodiversity

Organised by Post Biodiversity Framework

Speakers

- Meriem BOUAMRANE, Chief of Section Ecology and Biodiversity, UNESCO Man & the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
- Hugo René RIVERA MENDOZA, Deputy Team Leader, Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework – EU support, Environment Agency Austria

Moderator: Claire DOOLE, Thematic Moderator, Protected Area Management and Species Conservation

Available at <https://youtu.be/ZRoeyHLgfoC>

Synopsis

The momentum is growing to turn 2021 into a year for transformative action for Nature and People. While the targets related to conservation and protected areas set at COP10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity are some of the few with good hopes of being achieved, the question of their actual contribution to biodiversity governance remains.

Are protected areas enough to bend the curve of biodiversity loss? Which other mechanisms should be considered to ensure conservation and human wellbeing? How should these be enshrined in the frameworks of nature governance and sustainable development?

Meriem Bouamrane (UNESCO Man & the Biosphere Programme) and Hugo Rivera-Mendoza (Post-2020 Biodiversity – EU Support) discussed pathways to transformative biodiversity governance, from protected areas to nature's intricate links with all aspects of livelihoods and prosperity.