



Virtual Event

Biodiversity: a key factor for sustainable water and energy solutions, and for fighting climate change

**13 August 2021
10:00- 11:30 AM, New York time**

Draft Concept Note

Background

Forests play a very important role in climate regulation and water security and therefore are key for water and energy solutions.

Green infrastructures around bodies of water are essential to ensuring quantity and quality of water not only for wildlife conservation, but also for its multiple uses, such as energy generation, human consumption, agriculture, tourism and fish production.

Biodiversity conservation, for instance, goes beyond planting and protecting trees; it allows species of fauna to inhabit the natural landscape. By ensuring rich biodiversity, it is possible to get better results in terms of ecosystem services, such as climate regulation, water production, pollination, soil conservation, among others.

The promotion of biodiversity conservation supports water and energy solutions while contributing to SDGs 13 (climate) and 15 (life on land), strengthening the close interconnection between healthy ecosystems and water and energy infrastructures.

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals of UN DESA is conducting several initiatives and events designed to support the integrated implementation of SDG 6 (water) and SDG 7 (energy).

One of these initiatives is the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network, created in 2018 (<https://www.un.org/en/waterenergynetwork>).

This event, organized by this Network in cooperation with its founding members - ITAIU and UN DESA - will bring together multi-stakeholders to discuss and showcase existing initiatives and disseminate information on how biodiversity plays a key role in enabling sustainable water and energy solutions for fighting climate change.

Public and private institutions, businesses, agencies, civil society, and academia related to both water and energy sectors, as well as those involved in biodiversity and climate change are invited to take part in this discussion by participating in this event.

Objective

The objective of this event is to provide a virtual space for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experiences related to biodiversity conservation as an important factor to improve water and energy solutions for fighting climate change.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn and discuss the synergies that can be accomplished when integrated approaches are implemented.

PARTICIPANTS

Representatives from Member States and from public, private, and non-profit organizations, as well as international organizations, civil society and practitioners involved and interested in the research, development, management and implementation of integrated water and energy systems that impact SDGs 13 and 15.

TIME

This event will be held on 13 August 2021, as a virtual meeting, from 10:00 to 11:30, New York Time.