

**The Sixth Global Conference on
Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement
and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Unleashing synergies towards an equitable, climate-resilient and sustainable future

CONCEPT NOTE

(Draft as of 23 May 2025)

**Parallel Thematic Session 2.1 – Nature’s Connections:
Synergistic Approaches to Water, Food, and Biodiversity**

Date: Wednesday, 28 May 2025

Time: 13:00 – 14:30

Location: UN City, Auditorium 3

Context

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and meeting climate targets demands integrated solutions that reflect the deep interlinkages between water, food systems, and biodiversity. This panel explores how synergistic approaches—particularly those grounded in nature-based solutions—can accelerate progress across sectors while ensuring inclusive benefits and long-term resilience. Drawing on diverse experiences from community-led water-energy innovations to national environmental strategies, the session will highlight practical models, institutional pathways, and governance mechanisms that align sustainability goals. Panellists will also reflect on how such approaches can be scaled in ways that protect ecosystems, reduce emissions, and leave no one behind.

Guiding Questions

- How can synergistic approaches across agriculture, water, food, and rural development accelerate progress towards the SDGs, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance climate resilience?
- What kinds of institutional arrangements or governance structures enable the effective implementation of synergistic policies across sectors?
- Nature-based solutions often offer low-cost options for climate action. How can these approaches be scaled while ensuring stronger protection and restoration of ecosystems?
- How can Nature-based solutions be advanced in inclusive ways that ensure benefits for all stakeholders and avoid leaving vulnerable communities behind?

Agenda

13:00 – 13:05	Opening and Scene-Setting by Facilitator	Ms. Mercedes Bustamante , Professor, University of Brasilia; Member, Brazil Academy of Sciences; Member of the Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergies
13:05 – 13:12	Introductory Keynote <i>Nature-based Solutions and Protection of Biodiversity in Coastal Regions and Marine Parks</i>	Ms. Rosa Montañez Gallego , Executive Director, Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources, Panama
13:12 – 14:05	Facilitated Roundtable Discussion <i>2-3 interventions per each speaker 3-4 min per intervention</i>	<p>Ms. Pepetua Election Latasi, Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment, Tuvalu</p> <p>Mr. Hama Ichiro, Assistant Director International Strategy Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan</p> <p>Ms. Dipti Vaghela, Network Facilitator and Manager, Hydro Empowerment Network (HPNET)</p> <p>Ms. Jacqueline Hazbun, Executive Director, Association of Independent Cogenerators of Guatemala (ACI)</p> <p>Ms. Riham Helmy, Founder, EnviroX, Egypt; Youth Policy Board Member, World Food Forum</p>
14:05 – 14:25	Q&A and roundtable discussion	Open to all participants.
14:25 – 14:30	Closing by Facilitator	Ms. Mercedes Bustamante



Learn more about the Conference
<https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2025>

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