

CONCEPT NOTE:

Living in Harmony with Nature: Biodiversity, Climate and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Summary:

2023 represents the halfway point for the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets in the Paris Agreement on Climate: two landmark moments for people and planet which are, today, in need of urgent action and renewed ambition. One year after the adoption of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, could this historic agreement on nature help accelerate progress far beyond the biodiversity agenda? In a dynamic interactive panel session, speakers will show how this ambitious new plan for nature has scope and reach to re-energise the climate community, accelerate action, and supercharge progress towards all 17 SDGs.

Speakers:

David Cooper, Acting Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity

Manuel Pulgar Vidal, former Minister of Environment of Peru and Global Leader in Climate and Energy, WWF International

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, SDG advocate and President of the Association of Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad

Ayisha Siddiqa, Member of Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

Representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity

Moderated by Eva Kruse, Chief Global Engagement Officer at PANGAIA

Overall Concept:

The year 2023 marks the mid-way point towards achievement of both the Paris Agreement on Climate and the Sustainable Development Goals. Both of these landmark frameworks for action represent a strong international consensus on the need for positive action in support of people and planet. Yet, despite the initial hope, in both cases, action needs to be accelerated in order to achieve the agreed outcomes.

In December 2022, at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, Canada (COP 15), world governments demonstrated the power of multilateralism in their agreement of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (www.cbd.int/gbf). This powerful framework will use four goals and 23 action targets to mobilise action at global, regional, national and sub national levels to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity and achieve the 2050 Vision of the Convention – Living in Harmony with Nature. The framework is innovative and proposes a human-rights based approach that is gender sensitive and mobilises the whole of society and whole of government in support of this.

This new Global Biodiversity Plan is a powerful tool to support climate objectives. Protection and restoration of biodiversity is known to be able to contribute up to 30% of the needed climate mitigation action. *The sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem-based approaches can also be a powerful tool for adaptation to climate change, and disaster-risk reduction. In this way, implementation of the Plan will accelerate climate action.*

radical inclusion of all actors also allows nature and climate action to support the most vulnerable in the planet as we advance in these actions. Its provisions for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, also ensures that nature and climate solutions will respect the rights of these peoples as climate solutions are envisaged and carried out on traditional lands. The voice of Youth and women are also central to its implementation.

The Framework is also based around the activities of the Sharm-el-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People, that mobilises all non-state actions in a partnership with governments.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was developed to complement the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Action in the Framework directly supports SDGS 14 and 15, but also supports action in a number of other areas across the SDGs.

The panel discussion in this event will bring together voices that show these linkages and express the hopes and issues raised in bringing these issues together. Some of the questions that will be answered by the panel:

- How can Nature goals support the climate agenda?
- How does the human-rights based approach of the Framework provide a basis for action
- How are the rights of IPs and LCs protected under the framework and their participation ensured?
- How is Gender incorporated in the Framework?
- What does the climate community need to do to fully take advantage of the framework?
- What about the general public – can the GBF help bring together a more cohesive and accessible messaging around nature, climate and sustainable development