

Rethinking Biodiversity Governance for transformative change

Rio Conventions Pavilion, CBD COP 14, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

- **Partners:** IDDRI, FNI, PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, Strathclyde University, SwedBio/SRC, UN Environment, UNEP-WCMC, Agence Française pour la Biodiversité (AFB)
- **Focal Point:** Marcel Kok (PBL), Aleksandar Rankovic (IDDRI), Tristan Tyrrell (SwedBio/SRC)
- **Outputs:** The results will be summarised and published online on the Rio Conventions Pavilion website. The organisers will aim to publish a report of the day soon after. Outputs from the meeting will also be used in planning further follow-up activities.

Description:

While traditionally research around biodiversity governance has been concerned with multilateral and national policies to achieve biodiversity-objectives and the mechanisms supporting the implementation of the multilateral agreements, we now see a growing diversity of governance arrangements and actors engaged in governing nature. No longer is the governing of nature confined to governmental policies, rather an increasing number of state and non-state actors is concerned with conserving biodiversity and the sustainable use of nature in the broad sense. Furthermore, biodiversity governance is increasingly drawing linkages to other domains and agendas (e.g. agriculture and food systems, sustainable consumption and production, poverty), as now also called for by the SDGs. Related to this, there is a growing interest in the solutions that nature might provide in other domains, whether this be in terms of ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change, creating coastal resilience, or through 'nature based solutions' that provide multi-functional responses to complex sustainability challenges.

The governance of biodiversity nowadays can therefore probably be best characterised as a 'polycentric' or 'distributed' biodiversity governance landscape, as a collection of state and non-state actors, top-down and bottom initiatives for biodiversity, across all scales and regions. This growing diversity of actors, modes and narratives in the governance of nature and biodiversity of course raises questions about the design of international agreements and possible interventions aimed at achieving sustainability outcomes. It is necessary to think about the implications of these changes in the governance of biodiversity and the potential and challenges that this poses for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the transformative changes that are now being called for.

Taking account this background, the specific objectives of the day are:

- 1) To discuss the future of biodiversity governance, as part of the transformative change agenda, in supporting the achievement of the objectives of the CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD, other biodiversity-related conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- 2) To share knowledge, and exchange experiences, on improved biodiversity governance for transformative change by a variety of actors involved in biodiversity governance;
- 3) To discuss ways of improving biodiversity governance in the design and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The overall aim of the day is to consider the question of how biodiversity governance can become more transformative, and where biodiversity policy could improve, on which achievements of the CBD one can build and where changes are needed.

Focussing on the question of what would make biodiversity governance 'transformative', and what this would imply for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and its implementation, topics for the day include:

- What does a transformative change perspective imply for the international governance of biodiversity? What underlying structural drivers, often connected to institutional and legal frameworks, of biodiversity loss need to be addressed?
- How can various global environmental goal frameworks, such as biodiversity, climate change, sustainable land management, better support each other, including in the light of the Sustainable Development Goals?
- What can be the role of the Rio Conventions and the biodiversity-related convention in making the synergies agenda truly transformational?
How to move towards enhanced implementation of decision of Rio-Conventions, other biodiversity-related conventions and the SDGs? How to facilitate the contribution of non-state action to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- What measures and approaches are necessary to mainstream biodiversity in sectors with the highest impact and dependence on biodiversity? How can improved management, legal and regulatory systems help?
- What lessons regarding non-state action can be drawn from the Paris Agreement and other international conventions related to biodiversity and how to make the positive ones operational in context of CBD?
- Enhancing international funding to support national efforts to strengthen the rule of law and governance approaches to implement biodiversity goals.
- What would be options for a synergistic design of the next strategic plan? What has been achieved with the current Strategic Plan, the MDGs and SDGs, and what needs to be improved

Time	Event	Lead organisation
9:00-9:15	Welcome by the organizers	Marcel Kok
09:15-10:15	<p>Global changes and biodiversity governance</p> <p><i>A panel roundtable how a transformational governance agenda for biodiversity may be understood. What trends in governance need to be taken into account, for better or for worse? What would this mean for biodiversity governance in the coming years? What may be done differently in the post-2020 period and on what achievements of the CBD and other agreements one can build? What would be inspiring examples of new ways of governing nature?</i></p> <p>Concept This session sets the scene for next sessions, that will focus on various governance issues and actors and their contribution to a transformational post-2020 biodiversity framework.</p>	<p>PBL</p> <p>Facilitator: Aleksandar Rankovic (IDDRI)</p> <p>Marcel Kok (PBL): Welcome introduction on behalf of 'Rethinking Biodiversity Network'</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative CBD Secretariat (tbc) - Jonathan Pickering (Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, Canberra University) - Sylvia Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen (IPBES Scenarios and Modelling Task Force) - Trevor Sandwith (Director Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN) - Lin Li (Director Global Policy and Advocacy, WWF International)
10:15-10:30	<i>Drinks break</i>	
10:30-11:30	<p>The conventions landscape in a post-2020 context</p> <p><i>A panel will discuss the current international biodiversity governance landscape, in particular the regional and global multilateral environmental agreements and explores ways in which a post-2020 global biodiversity framework could help to strengthen global biodiversity governance and ultimately implementation. The panel will also explore the different goal and target systems and discuss how they could better support each other. What does transformational change mean when we talk about the convention landscape?</i></p> <p>Concept: Brief introductory presentation on the biodiversity governance landscape and how to make the synergies agenda transformational?</p>	<p>UN Environment, UNEP-WCMC.</p> <p>Facilitator: Niamh Brannigan (UN Environment)</p> <p>Presenter: Jerry Harrison (UNEP WCMC)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country representatives (tbc) - Christian Prip (Fridtjof Nansen Institute) - Sonia Peña Moreno (IUCN)

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	<p>Discussion of questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can biodiversity-related conventions benefit the most from the post-2020 global biodiversity framework? - What is the role of UNFCCC and UNCCD in delivering and benefiting from the post-2020 global biodiversity framework? - How can further synergies be achieved through development and implementation of the post-2020 framework? - How can the various sustainability goals, such as biodiversity conservation, climate change, and sustainable land management, and mechanisms within the Rio conventions, better support each other. - How can the synergies agenda be made truly transformational? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andreas Obrecht (UN Environment) - <i>Convention representative (tbc)</i>
11:40-12:40	<p>Human rights and biodiversity: how to design the post-2020 governance system</p> <p><i>The session will be introduced by presentations on the role of human rights for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and on the role of biodiversity for human rights, followed by a debate on how the CBD and other conventions can play a stronger role in linking biodiversity with human rights in the post-2020 framework.</i></p> <p>Concept: Better anchoring of biodiversity concerns in existing sustainability governance initiatives and the human rights agenda and the other way around.</p>	<p>SwedBio/SRC, Strathclyde</p> <p>Facilitator: Tristan Tyrrell (SwedBio/SRC)</p> <p>Presenters/Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mika Schröder (University of Strathclyde) - Claudia Ituarte-Lima (SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre) - Marie-May Jeremie-Muzungaile (Seychelles, tbc) - Philippe Puydarrieux (IUCN)
12:40-13:40	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:40-14:40	How to create an enabling environment to engage businesses in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?	

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	<p><i>This slot aims to identify the key success factors to mobilize the private sector in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The side event will consist of a round table to share feedback from Businesses initiatives under the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and lessons learned to improve Business involvement in the future global biodiversity framework. What kinds of initiatives have been implemented to engage and mobilize private sector in national biodiversity strategies and action plans (governance, scale, methodology)? How to encourage and increase business engagement in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and what is the most relevant level for action?</i></p> <p><i>The panel will also explore the legal and regulatory role of the biodiversity-related conventions and how to use biodiversity governance to create/ensure the level playing field for companies. The panel will also explore what role laws and regulations play, and how can the conventions trigger higher ambitions and help in addressing underlying causes of biodiversity loss.</i></p> <p>Concept: I. Introductory presentation: Yann Laurans (Iddri) The session will start with an introductory presentation of a practitioner who operates in a biodiversity - sensitive context. I would address issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved design of biodiversity management in those sectors that impact the most. (Focus on food industry) - What is required for and how to involve the private sector in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. - Enhancing international private funding to support national efforts to implement biodiversity goals. <p>II. Round table (35-40 min): Two main questions: 1) Feedback and lessons learned from Business initiatives under the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French lessons learned from its national non-state actor mobilization initiative under the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 => François Gauthiez (AFB) - Discuss the challenges faced by the private sector in aligning or using the existing biodiversity 2020 framework (including targets) => Jaco du Toit (WWF) + Rio Tinto (views from private sector representatives on the current 2020 biodiversity framework and lessons learned) - Improved design of biodiversity management in those sectors that impact the most with a value chain 	<p>French Agency for Biodiversity (AFB)</p> <p>Introductory presentation: Yann Laurans (IDDR)</p> <p>Facilitator: Niamh Brannigan (UN Environment)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - François Gauthiez (Dir. Appui aux politiques publiques de l'AFB) - Jaco du Toit (Senior Advocacy Adviser – Our Planet WWF UK) - <i>Theresia Ott (Chief advisor - Environment at Rio Tinto) tbc</i> - Jonathan Ekstrom (Chief Executive – The Biodiversity Consultancy) - Matt Jones (UNEP-WCMC)

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	<p>perspective. => Jonathan Ekstrom</p> <p>2) What is required for and how to encourage and increase business engagement in the post 2020 global biodiversity framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the most relevant scale to mobilize business (+ governance and methodology) => François Gauthiez (AFB) + Jaco du Toit (WWF) - About tools and targets => Jonathan Ekstrom (work on science-based targets SBTs have currently got much momentum, and SBTs are being developed for Biodiversity + derive sector-based targets could be used within a post-2020 context) + Rio Tinto - The legal and regulatory role of the biodiversity-related conventions and how to use biodiversity governance to create/ensure the level playing field for companies <p>III. Q&A with the audience & conclusion (15-20 min)</p>	
14:50-15:50	<p>The future of biodiversity governance for civil society</p> <p><i>Representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations and other civil society groups will debate how enhanced biodiversity governance can strengthen their standing and influence in a post-2020 context.</i></p> <p>Concept: The session will primarily address the question of how the CBD process can benefit and enhance the changing global governance context in which indigenous communities and civil society are increasingly involved in biodiversity governance.</p> <p>Civil society will get an opportunity to present their significant role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, as well as in monitoring. Also explored will be the question of how biodiversity governance can be improved to strengthen the position of civil society vis-à-vis other interests and big global debates, e.g. on security, migration, globalization, etc.</p> <p>In the end, the discussion has to be brought back to the conventions, organizations and governments which define and drive biodiversity governance.</p>	<p>SwedBio/SRC</p> <p>Facilitator: Tristan Tyrrell (SwedBio/SRC)</p> <p>Presentors/Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mika Schröder (Univeristy of Strathclyde) - Jinfeng Zhou (CBCGDF) - Florence Dagnilas (Tebtebba) - Kristina Raab (UFZ)
15:50-16:00	<i>Drinks break</i>	

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16:00-17:00	<p>Local governance – the key role of cities and other sub-national initiatives in transformative change for biodiversity</p> <p><i>In order to protect biodiversity worldwide, the engagement of all and at all levels is essential. Local governments have an important role in this respect. In order to contribute to the work on the drivers of the commitments of local governments and population, the question is how to engage local governments for Biodiversity.</i></p> <p><i>During this slot experts from Mexico, South Africa and France will be gathered to present case studies and lessons learned about the involvement of local governments for biodiversity in their respective countries. Among the questions that could be addressed by the speakers is how to scale-up from good practices.</i></p> <p>Concept: This session will address questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can the CBD process benefit from and enhance the changing global governance context in which cities and landscapes are increasingly involved in biodiversity governance? - What are the implications of this for development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework? 	<p>French Agency for Biodiversity</p> <p>Facilitator: Cyrille Barnerias (AFB)</p> <p>Introduction: Laura Tozer (Durham University)</p> <p>Panelists: - Hesiquio Benítez Díaz (CONABIO) - Ingrid Coetsee (ICLEI) - French Agency for Biodiversity</p>
17:10-18:10	<p>Post-2020 – Policy panel</p> <p><i>This last session would draw together some of the key messages from the previous sessions concerning options for a design of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that responds to the different biodiversity governance issues in a synergistic manner.</i></p> <p>This session could begin with a keynote presentation by the organizers, identifying the key messages and findings, followed by a high-level panel which would discuss these conclusions.</p>	<p>IDDDRI</p> <p>Introduction and facilitation: Aleksandar Rankovic (IDDDRI)</p> <p>Panelists (tbc): - Edda Fernandez (Mexico. tbc) - Basile van Havre (Canada) - Hamdallah Zedan (Egypt) - Anne Theo Seinen (European Commission) - Jing Xin (China, tbc) - Neville Ash (Director, UNEP-WCMC)</p>
18:10-19:00	Reception	