

Proposal for an event on the Mitigation Hierarchy at the Rio Conventions Pavilion programme at UNFCCC COP24 in Katowice, Poland 6-7-8 December 2018

The Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (CSBI) and the Equator Principles Association (EPA) organized an event: “The Mitigation Hierarchy and Emerging Technologies” on 23 November, 2018 at the Rio Conventions Pavilion. This event took place at the margins of the 14th Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP14) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The event focused on reviewing industry practices, trends in host country laws and regulations, and supporting tools and technologies across the four stages of the mitigation hierarchy: avoidance, minimization, restoration and offsetting.

BirdLife, UNCCD, GEF and CSBI (TBC) propose to build on the discussions at COP14 and introduce the Mitigation Hierarchy to a wider audience at the Rio Conventions Pavilion Programme in Katowice, Poland, on 7 December, 13:00 – 14:30 pm. The event would take place in the Exhibits area of the meeting venue for the 24th Meeting of the Parties to the UN Framework Conventions for Climate Change (UNFCCC COP24).

In this proposed programme, speakers will:

- Introduce the Mitigation Hierarchy and its four stages;
- Provide a brief re-cap of the Mitigation Hierarchy discussions at COP14 and outcomes from CBD COP14 in Egypt;
- Discuss opportunities for strengthening the mitigation hierarchy for greater conservation gain;
- Provide an overview of experiences in implementation;
- Discuss the Mitigation Hierarchy from the perspective of Land Degradation Neutrality and a response hierarchy of Avoid > Reduce > Reverse land degradation and Counterbalance, a mechanism for neutrality
- Discuss the mitigation hierarchy from a financing perspective

Proposed speakers include: Ashton Berry (BirdLife), Gustavo Fonseca (GEF), Baron Orr (UNCCD) and Veronica Lo (TBC).

Information on the Rio Conventions Pavilion

The Rio Conventions Pavilion (RCP) is a collaborative capacity-building initiative of the Secretariats of the three Rio Conventions, the Global Environment Facility, and over thirty organizations. The objective of the Pavilion is to promote and strengthen synergies between the Rio Conventions at the implementation level, by providing a coordinated platform to enhance awareness-raising, information sharing and outreach within the framework of the Rio

Conventions. Events in the RCP will be designed around cross-cutting issues of relevance to the three Rio Conventions. In particular, topics could include synergies in a range of ecosystems, including protected areas, marine, coastal and island ecosystems, drylands and wetlands.

Venue, Facilities and Access

The RCP will be hosted within the GEF Partnership Pavilion (Exhibit #15) in the Exhibits area (Spodek Arena) of the UNFCCC COP24 Conference venue complex, next to the UNFCCC Momentum for Change Pavilion. It will feature a stage and seating for approximately 30 people plus standing room, in addition to a tables for small group discussions and socializing around smartphone docking stations.

International Congress Centre (PL: MCK), Plac Sławika i Antalla 1, 40-163 Katowice, Poland. More information on the venue is available [here](#).

