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UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Investing in biodiversity for people and planet



COP 14 - CP/MOP9 - NP/MOP3
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 2018

CBD Press Brief

Business and Biodiversity

The activities of business have a significant impact on biodiversity. Many businesses are also highly dependent on biodiversity. Businesses should be aware of these symbioses in order to avoid risks. These risks include: resource dependency and scarcity, loss of investment, brand reputation and governmental regulation. Acknowledging and promoting the sustainable use of biodiversity represents an opportunity for business: increased market share, better relationships with stakeholders, long-term viability of business, attraction and enhanced loyalty of employees and more. Properly managing biodiversity is a way to make a positive change and to avoid risk.

The general public is growing more responsive towards environmental issues. Surveys by organizations such as the Union for Ethical Bio Trade have shown that consumers are looking for more sustainable products. Thus businesses are gradually being pushed to think about the issue in their business models, decision-making, sourcing and production methods.



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Business at the UN Biodiversity Conference¹

These issues will be discussed at the UN Biodiversity Conference at the Global Business and Biodiversity Forum, scheduled for 14-15 November in Sharm El Sheik. The Forum's programme will have a focus on mainstreaming biodiversity into the work of the sectors of energy and mining, infrastructure and manufacturing and processing. This discussion will be based on the draft decision on mainstreaming of biodiversity from the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the Convention, and will focus on business disclosure and reporting². Other key topics include finance, access and benefit sharing, eco-innovation, partnerships and effective business engagement. Designed to encourage open and lively discussions in interactive sessions, the Forum will enable an exchange of experiences and good practices in mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem considerations in business models and operations. It will offer a unique opportunity to bring together corporate and businesses leaders, together with Ministers and other high-level representatives from civil society, academia and indigenous peoples and local communities to discuss and share insights on key biodiversity related issues for business.

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Important links

- Global Platform on Business and Biodiversity: www.cbd.int/business
- Business Case for Biodiversity: www.cbd.int/business/info.shtml
- Risks and Opportunities: www.cbd.int/business/info/case.shtml
- 2018 COP 14 Business and Biodiversity Forum: www.cbd.int/business/meetings-events/2018.shtml

¹ Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity; Ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing; 17-29 November 2018

² www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbi-02/sbi-02-rec-03-en.pdf

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