



NEWSLETTER

Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity

Issue 2
February 2018



SBSTTA 21 Summary



Global Partnership Meeting



South African Indaba



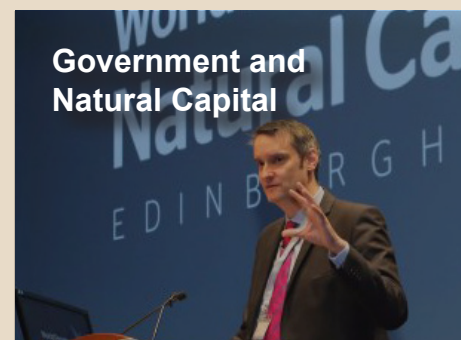
Yili Group



Spanish Biodiversity Conference



German Business Dialogue



Government and Natural Capital



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Summary of the twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

The twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 21) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) convened in Montreal, Canada, from 11-14 December 2017, in conjunction with the tenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, from 13-16 December.

The SBSTTA adopted seven recommendations on: scenarios for the 2050 vision for biodiversity and the links between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals; guidance for achieving a more sustainable wild meat sector; biodiversity and human health; biodiversity mainstreaming in the energy, mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing industries, and in the health sector; tools for evaluating the effectiveness of policy instruments for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 5); and, new and emerging issues.

[Read more >](#)



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The 7th meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity

The 7th meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity was co-organized by the CBD, ORÉE and hosted at the French National Museum of Natural History in Paris, France on 23-24 November 2017. The first day welcomed 14 out of the 21 national and regional initiatives and provided an opportunity for each initiative to share their experiences and practices over the past year, as well as their plans going forward.

It was also a chance for the partnership to hear first-hand about the activities of the secretariat, in particular plans for the next COP and Business Forum, other engagements regarding mainstreaming in the key sectors of energy and mining, infrastructure and manufacturing and processing and ongoing research on biodiversity reporting. The Global Partnership members identified areas for collaboration and were eager to share information going forward. The SCBD is working on a more user-friendly business website where more information can be accessed and shared from the Global Partnership and other related organizations.

The meeting elected a new Chair of the Executive Committee of the Global Partnership, with George Jaksch representing Mesoamerican taking over from Elisa Dezolt from Brazil. The Executive Committee will play an active role in reviewing the current status of the partnership and contributing



toward the planning of the Business Forum taking place at COP 14 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

[Read more >](#)

Day 2 of the meeting welcomed representations from government, NGOs and the business sector. Participants heard about the history of the Global Partnership, the French government's commitment to biodiversity and the current developments and preparations leading to the post 2020 global framework on biodiversity.

The meeting also addressed ongoing work by the Secretariat on business reporting on biodiversity and examples were given from French businesses such as EDF on what and how they report on biodiversity.

Information about the Business Pledge was shared as well as a session on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the links to biodiversity.

The focus then shifted to the mainstreaming in key sectors related to business planned for COP 14: energy and mining, infrastructure and manufacturing and processing. Examples of mainstreaming were given and challenges and opportunities addressed.

The meeting finished with speakers from related projects such as the Natural Capital Coalition and UN Environment.

Day 2: presentations and interviews (videos)



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South African National Biodiversity and Business Indaba

The South African National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN) presented its third annual National Biodiversity and Business Indaba (conference) in Johannesburg on 24-25 October 2017. Highlights of the event included an opening address from the Director-General of the Department of Environmental Affairs, and keynote addresses from the Senior Strategist with the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and the Environmental Manager at Eskom. The NBBN's annual indaba, the only event of its kind in southern Africa, has established itself as a much-anticipated highlight on the South African calendar of business and sustainability events.

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Highlights from the work of Yili Group, a member of the China Business and Biodiversity Partnership

Yili, one of the world's top dairy companies, is a member of the China Business and Biodiversity Partnership. Biodiversity protection is a key issue under their CSR Commitment of "Building a Healthy China". Yili also participated at the UN Biodiversity Conference (thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity) held in Mexico in 2016 and was one of the initial signatories to the Business and Biodiversity Pledge launched there.

The Yili "Green Industry Chain" strategy is being promoted to guarantee implementation of the concept of biodiversity conservation. For Yili, "green" represents the industrial ecology featuring sustained and sound development; "industrial chain" highlights the values and behavioral patterns of stakeholders upstream and downstream.

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Spanish Conference on Responsible Companies in Biodiversity

In June 2017, the Spanish Business and Biodiversity Initiative (SBBI) organized the 'Responsible Companies Leaders in Biodiversity' conference. With more than 100 people representing business, academia and conservation, the conference had two main objectives: to highlight innovative experiences from companies and business platforms leading the integration of biodiversity in their business models and to present the first results report of the Spanish Enterprise Initiative and Biodiversity (IEEB).

[Read more >](#)



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German 2018 Business Dialogue Forum on Biological Diversity

On 13 March 2018, representatives of companies, leading business associations, nature conservation organizations, government and authorities, academia and civil society will gather in Berlin for the 8th German Business Dialogue Forum on Biological Diversity. Led by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, the dialogue forum is the annual event of “Enterprise Biological Diversity 2020”, the dialogue and action platform for business federations, nature conservancy organizations and authorities. The conference, hosted by the Ministry, is organised by the business network ‘Biodiversity in Good Company’ Initiative.

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, CBD Executive Secretary, will speak via video message on “Engaging the Private Sector for Biodiversity“, followed by high-level speakers from the German government and the European Commission. Many organisations will present a range of best practices. Breakout sessions will focus on biodiversity in supply chains, partnerships between business and NGOs, as well as current issues pertaining to nature conservation regulation.

As part of Germany’s outreach strategy, the UBi 2020 platform has been significantly expanded in recent years, with 35 supporting organisations on board as of January 2018. Supporters have

the chance to meet regularly in three working meetings per year.

[Read more \(in German\) >](#)



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Government Dialogue on Natural Capital, Edinburgh, 27 November 2017

For the first time at the World Forum on Natural Capital, governments came together to discuss how they could jointly scale and speed up natural capital approaches. They identified key issues for collaboration, including: linking natural accounting at the national level (using the UN-SEEA framework) with the corporate level (using the Natural Capital Protocol); working with branches and sector organizations at sectoral levels, both nationally and internationally; using existing natural capital hubs to share best practices from governments and jointly develop a natural capital positive storyline that can be tabled at appropriate international fora. They will convene again next year.



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New EU Community of Practice Finance and Biodiversity

The financial sector is a strong enabling sector when it comes to integrating biodiversity profitably into business. It plays a key role when it comes to generating new financial arrangements to support innovative business models or integrate new risks in the assessment of existing practices. A series of initiatives have emerged in recent years in order to encourage financial institutions to integrate the risks associated with biodiversity and natural capital into their investment decisions. Building on these early calls, financial institutions are looking for next steps on how to integrate biodiversity into their risk assessment strategies and investment strategies.

[Read more >](#)



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Other News

Public Consultation on an EU initiative for Pollinators

On 1 December 2017 the European Commission published a Roadmap for the EU Pollinators Initiative. As one of the first steps forward, the Commission launched a public consultation on 11 January 2018 which will be open until 5 April. Contributions from all stakeholders are welcome.

[Read more >](#)

Biodiversity Indicators for Extractive Companies

A recent UNEP-WCMC report presents the results of a scoping study to understand how progress might be made within the extractive sector in creating effective indicators to establish corporate biodiversity performance. This project was funded by the Proteus Partnership, a unique collaboration between 12 leading extractives companies and UNEP-WCMC, which aims to provide companies with the biodiversity information needed for better informed decisions and to support the development and improvement of key global biodiversity resources.

[Read more >](#)

Wildlife Habitat Council Conference

The Conservation Conference took place 8-9 November at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, with corporate and conservation professionals coming together for a 2-day experience of learning, networking and celebrating corporate conservation achievements. Discussions focused on issues that are important for corporate conservation, employee engagement and community relations. [Read more >](#)

Upcoming Events

International Conference on Working Across Sectors to Halt Deforestation and Increase Forest Area: from Aspiration to Action

20-22 February 2018, Rome, Italy

Sourcing While Respecting Biodiversity: the Case of Food

1 March 2018, Brussels, Belgium

47th Session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 47)

13-16 March 2018, Paris, France

GLOBE Forum 2018: Leadership Summit for Sustainable Business

14-16 March 2018, Vancouver, Canada

8th World Water Forum

18-23 March 2018, Brasilia, Brazil



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