



Biodiversity and Business
Convention for Biological Diversity
Third Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge Conference
In Conjunction with the
UNEP Business and Industry Global Dialogue
Jakarta, Indonesia

DAY 2 - Session 5.D – Tuesday 1 December 2009 16:15-18:00 – Parallel session
PARTNERSHIPS

BACKGROUND

Over the past few decades, there has been a significant growth of partnerships involving the private sector and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) in regards to environmental and sustainable development issues. Biodiversity has not been considered a key issue in the majority of these partnerships until recently, in part due to increased awareness in business and the general public from the launching of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in 2005.

A quick overview of these partnerships reflects that they are varied, some focus on philanthropic efforts and others are more holistic and integrative in their approach. Not surprisingly, there is no roadmap that determines what a successful business and biodiversity partnership entails. Motivations for both the private sector and environmental NGOs are numerous and not necessarily as simple as improved public relations or increased access to resources. For the private sector, a motivational factor for engaging might be a strong business case that can lead to the development of a biodiversity strategy. For NGOs, the ability to influence a corporation from the inside could be the primary motivational factor.

PURPOSE AND ISSUES TO ADDRESS

The workshop will discuss key findings that underpin successful business-NGO partnerships that deliver both biodiversity outcomes and benefits to the private sector.

The idea is to draw on each experience, so that both business and NGO panelists, plus the German and Canadian Initiatives can discuss the rationale, i.e. the business case, for engaging in partnerships. Panelists will also be invited to explain how these partnership relationships are managed, both on a daily basis and in the longer term. Participants are asked to focus their discussions on responding to the following issues:



- What makes a successful Business and Biodiversity Partnership?
- How can Business and Biodiversity partnerships better help conserve the world's biodiversity?
- How can we facilitate complete integration of Biodiversity considerations into business and management and operations?
- How to give a sense of urgency to biodiversity so it does not remain an issue to be addressed only in the long-term?
- How to scale up good biodiversity practice within companies?
- And finally, what needs to improve in general within partnerships? (What is actually not working?)

MODERATOR

- Juan Marco Alvarez, Director of the Economy and Environmental Governance Group and Head of the Business and Biodiversity Programme, IUCN, Switzerland

PANELISTS

- Monica Barcellos Harris, Head of Business, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
- Santosh Kumar Mohapatra, CEO Dhamra Port, Dhamra Port Company Limited, India
- Edgar Endrukaitis, Coordinator, German Business and Biodiversity Initiative, Germany
- Marcus Gilleard, Head of Corporate Affairs, Earthwatch Institute, United Kingdom
- Reg Melanson, Head of Canadian Business and Biodiversity Partnership Secretariat, Canada and Francis Vorhies, Chief Executive, Earthmind, Switzerland
- Francis Vorhies, Danone Fund for Nature, Switzerland

RAPPORTEUR

- Sylvie Nuria Noguier, Senior Manager, Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Services, Deloitte, Canada

CONTACT

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