



Side Events on Biodiversity and Health at CBD COP13*

Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Well-Being

4 to 17 December 2016, Moon Palace, Cancun, Mexico

Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 13:15 to 14:45

BRIDGING THE SCIENCE-POLICY GAP FOR BIODIVERSITY AND HUMAN HEALTH: FROM SCIENCE TO PRACTICE

Partners: Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat | World Health Organization | UN Environment | Ecohealth Alliance | BIOVERSITY INTERNATIONAL | Future Earth | United Nations University | IUCN | TRAFFIC International

The State of Knowledge Review Connecting Global Priorities, Biodiversity and Human Health, co-led by the World Health and the CBD Secretariat with contributions from numerous partners, has demonstrated the ways human health is intimately linked with the health of our planet and ecosystems, and the life supporting services they deliver. This timely event provides an unparalleled opportunity to explore how to translate these scientific findings into concrete, scalable and coherent policy action across scales of governance in ways that can tangibly contribute to achieving global commitments set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets, the Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The event is also intended to contribute to discussions arising from the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice considered the implications of the findings of the review at its nineteenth meeting in recommendation XIX/6 on biodiversity and Human Health, under consideration at COP 13. A light lunch will be served, courtesy of EcoHealth Alliance.

Side Events on Biodiversity and Health at CBD COP13 (continued)

Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 18:15 to 19:45

MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY FOR HEALTHY DIETS AND NUTRITION: RECIPES FOR SUCCESS

Partners: Bioversity International | Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat | UN Environment |

How can we ensure that 9 billion people will have access to a nutritious and healthy diet that is produced in a sustainable manner by 2050? Despite major advances, our global food system still fails to feed a significant part of humanity adequately. Diversifying food systems and diets to include nutrient-rich biodiversity can help reduce malnutrition while contributing other multiple benefits including healthy ecosystems. For the last 5 years Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey, under the umbrella of the Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition (BFN) project and CBD Cross-Cutting Initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition, have been working together to mainstream biodiversity for healthy diets and nutrition and have shown that by strategic interventions targeting policies, programmes and actions that significant progress can be made. This side event showcases how each country has achieved this by highlighting: a significant global research partnership that investigated the nutrient composition of over 150 biodiversity species; how this information has been made available to decision-makers, policy makers, researchers and the general public; how relevant public policies were strategically targeted including school feeding programmes and public food procurement; efforts to mainstream biodiversity for healthy diets into NBSAPs and other national instruments; best practices for mobilizing biodiversity for healthy diets; and innovative approaches to creating awareness of the role of biodiversity for healthy diets through school gardens and education, food fairs and festivals, alliances with chefs and restaurants and other communication events. The side event will conclude with a panel discussion on creating better enabling environments to promote biodiversity for healthier diets and the role of biodiversity for food and nutrition in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 18:15 to 19:45

STRENGTHENING AND ALIGNING POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN HEALTH AND BIODIVERSITY

UNU-IAS | UNU IIGH | Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat | UNDP | UN Environment |
Bioversity international | TRAFFIC | Ecohealth Alliance | FRLHT | RMIB-LAC | Kew Gardens | Future earth

The side event will highlight the experience of the partners of the Biodiversity and Community Health (BaCH) Initiative in making more visible the multiple contributions of biodiversity and ecosystems to the health and wellbeing of local communities, including indigenous peoples. Initiated in 2012, the BaCH initiative, through its partners, has been working closely with stakeholders at the community level, donor agencies and with policy bodies to raise awareness and identify opportunities that exist in the intersect between the various sectors (including food and nutrition, medicines, therapeutic landscapes, livelihood security, new product development), and their consequent implications for other cross cutting areas such as ABS. Focusing also on a novel approach to facilitate capacity development through peer learning exchanges of local community stakeholders, the event will highlight the need for greater reflexive capacity building activities involving field level actors.

Side Events on Biodiversity and Health at CBD COP13 (continued)

RIO CONVENTION PAVILION EVENTS

Saturday 10 December 2016 at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS FOR BIODIVERSITY, NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Partners: CBD Secretariat | International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) | The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)| FAO | UN Environment | UNU-IAS | WHO

Feeding the world sustainably while protecting biodiversity and promoting good nutrition is one of the main challenges of our time. Climate and environmental changes have further negative impacts on ecosystems' resilience, biodiversity, health and food security and nutrition of millions of the most vulnerable people – particularly children and future generations. Human health and nutrition security is intimately interconnected with biodiversity and the health of our ecosystems, with a growing understanding of their complex links, shared threats and joint opportunities. There are many co-benefits to the environment, biodiversity and health of sustainable and healthy food systems and diets that need to be further explored within the context of the SDGs and the post-2030 sustainable development framework. The event aims to provide a forum to:

- Explore co-benefits to environment, biodiversity and health of the promotion of sustainable and healthy food systems and diets.
- Discuss successful strategies (e.g. showcase regional/national/community initiatives) to promote sustainable food systems and healthy dietary patterns.
- Make recommendations on what governments, academia and social movements can do to contribute to the transition towards sustainable and healthy food systems within the climate change and 2030 Development frameworks.

Saturday 10 December 2016 at 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

LINKING PUBLIC HEALTH AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT: A ONE HEALTH APPROACH

Partners: EcoHealth Alliance | CBD Secretariat | WHO | GEO-BON | Future Earth | IUCN |Concordia University

Biodiversity plays a critical role in the provisioning of ecosystem services, many of which are appreciated to directly or indirectly promote health: maintenance of watersheds, systems that can mitigate natural disaster risks and provide economic benefits from pollination services. Avoiding or minimizing habitat conversion can also provide services to human health by, for example, minimizing disease emergence and spread. Altering ecosystems can thus have significant implications for the health of humans and other species, including wildlife.

Land use change and land degradation are among the leading drivers of infectious disease emergence and spread in humans and wildlife. The practices that are fundamentally changing ecological dynamics in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems - such as mining, timber logging, and other natural resource extraction including secondary effects such as fragmentation seen from agricultural expansion and road building, and the loss of carbon sinks as a contributing factor to climate change – are often also driving biodiversity loss. At the same time, other factors such as invasive species are contributing to biodiversity loss and are exacerbating pressures on human and wildlife health. Efforts like the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems can help advance a more holistic,

'One Health' approach to understanding the risk of collapse of ecosystems and the health-benefiting services that are derived from them.

This event will explore the links between forests and health, with a lens to infectious diseases. Content will cover risk factors as well as planning approaches and preventive measures for governments and the private sector that can help reduce vulnerability to infectious disease outbreaks while reducing threats to biodiversity and ecosystems. Intended to facilitate dialogue on key implementation strategies, the session also seeks to identify priorities for knowledge products that can be developed for the CBD community for health and forest ecosystem synergies under the 2015-2030 sustainable development agenda. The event aims to provide a forum to:

- Present concrete tools and initiatives to support joint actions on biodiversity, climate and health
- Explore novel opportunities for biodiversity monitoring to maximize co-benefits with health
- Identify biodiversity mainstreaming opportunities for coordinated action with other sectors

Wednesday 14th December 2016 from 13:30 to 19:30 (Full afternoon event and Cocktail)

PLANETARY HEALTH: STRENGTHENING THE SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Event co-organizers and sponsors: CBD Secretariat | Planetary Health Alliance | Loyola Sustainability Research Centre, Concordia University|

This full afternoon session will take an in-depth look at emerging partnerships, initiatives and opportunities for engagement for the implementation of integrated approaches to health in ways that maximize ecosystem and human health co-benefits. The event will provide an opportunity to meaningfully engage in dialogue between institutional partners and national governments representatives to discuss how scientific research can meaningfully inform policy and build communities of practice for Planetary Health and related integrated approaches in ways that are aligned with the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The event aims to provide a forum to:

- Expand the network and coalition of policy-makers, practitioners, researchers, and other stakeholders from diverse sectors committed to integrating health and nature approaches at both the policy and practical levels at local, national, regional and global scales.
- Contribute to a shared understanding of the critical global environmental change-human health linkages in sectors of key importance under the CBD-WHO joint work programme on biodiversity and human health, in line with the objectives of planetary health;
- Building on the findings of the Commission Report, the State of Knowledge Review and Healthy Environment, Healthy People, to showcase best practices built on interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration to inform parties on initiatives underway to jointly achieve co-benefits aimed at biodiversity conservation and human health;
- Contribute to the development of communities of practice on Planetary Health aimed at informing actionable policies and bridging the science-policy gap at appropriate scales.

The event will be followed by a cocktail and dinner courtesy of Planetary Health Alliance & Loyola Sustainability Research Centre, Concordia University.

Side Events on Biodiversity and Health at CBD COP13 (continued)

CEPA FAIR SIDE EVENTS

Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

EDUCATION THROUGH MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS IN IMPLEMENTING THE BIODIVERSITY AGENDA

Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 affirms the need for individual, institutional and societal transformation in addressing the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss. This primarily depends on the appreciation of diverse values of biodiversity, ecosystem services and associated cultural diversity informed by contextualized actions.

This forms an important dimension of the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) agenda. ESD aims at developing values, knowledge, attitudes and skills that facilitate transformation towards sustainable development while also promoting changes in educational systems. The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) Network of the United Nations University is actively engaged in promoting formal and informal educational strategies for this transformation. To date, there are 149 RCEs globally, with 60% of the RCEs focusing on the theme.

This side event highlights cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder partnerships, good practices and pilot models that successfully engage communities in the management of local biodiversity and ecosystem services. An array of contextualized development approaches makes the RCE network a unique space for showcasing how local stakeholders can synergize actions on a shared platform. The network also portrays the relevance of a local-global learning space for concerted strategies and understanding sustainable development beyond localized geographical boundaries.

During the side event case studies from various regions will demonstrate the relevance of RCE projects especially in relation to the specific mandates of effective implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Action Program (GAP) on Education for Sustainable Development.

Additional information is also available from: www.rce-network.org/portal

Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 13:00 – 18:00 (Workshop)

#NATUREFORALL: A MOVEMENT TO INSPIRE A LOVE OF NATURE

Partners: IUCN-Commission on Education and Communication (IUCN- CEC) | World Commission on Protected

Help to build constituencies for biodiversity conservation by participating in this interactive workshop. Share your views and agree to tangible actions for scaling up #NatureForall programming and informing policy to connect people from all walks of life with nature.

A key outcome of the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) was agreement that we need to dramatically scale up efforts to raise awareness of nature and its values and enable more people to experience and connect with nature. Doing so is fundamental to creating the amplified and sustained cross-societal awareness, support and action for biodiversity conservation that is required to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals.

During this workshop, participants will learn about the vision and strategies for #NatureForAll, help to shape future #NatureForAll programming, and become a part of the movement going forward. Following a short presentation session, leading experts will host discussion with participants to encourage sharing of knowledge and experiences and development of recommendations for, and commitments to specific actions that will take current #NatureForAll programming and related policy to greater impact and scale.

Breakout sessions will focus on partnerships, strategies, and commitments for influencing policy and scaling up on-the-ground action

The full programme for CEPA Fair at COP 13 is available from: <https://www.cbd.int/cepa/cepafair/2016/cepa-fair-2016-programme.pdf>

For further information on health and biodiversity events and COP 13 please contact: Cristina Romanelli, Biodiversity and Human Health Focal Point, at: cristina.romanelli@cbd.int

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