

Linking public health and ecosystem management: A One Health approach

Rio Conventions' Pavilion, CBD COP 13, Cancun, Mexico
Moon Palace Convention Center, Universal Building, Main Floor
Saturday 10 December 2016



-
- **Co-organizers and contributing partners:** EcoHealth Alliance, CBD Secretariat¹, WHO, GEO-BON, Future Earth, IUCN, Concordia University
 - **Focal points:** Catherine Machalaba (EcoHealth Alliance) and Cristina Romanelli (CBD Secretariat)
 - **Communication:** all co-organizers and partners will be invited to broadcast the event on their twitter streams, blogs and other communication channels. The results will be summarized in a report by ENB and published online on the CBD-WHO joint work programme website, the Conventions Pavilion website, as well as partner websites.

Description:

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

¹ Activities under the CBD-WHO joint work programme are supported by the European Union

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.

OBJECTIVES:

- 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

PROGRAMME

Time	Presentations	Organization
11:30-11:45	<i>Welcome and introductions with coffee, seasonal fruit and pastries</i>	
11:45-13:00	<p>Welcome address: Linking public health and ecosystems: A One Health approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Daniel Hougendobler</i>, Health Emergencies Programme, World Health Organization • <i>Cristina Romanelli</i>, Biodiversity and Human Health, CBD Secretariat <p>Keynote Presentation: Integrating health and biodiversity monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Laetitia Navarro</i>, Executive Director, GEO-BON <p>Tools and initiatives to assess ecosystem health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Carlos Zambrana-Torrel</i>, EcoHealth Alliance/IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management <p>Global governance of Invasive species: Addressing threats to ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Peter Stoett</i>, Concordia University <p>Working with other sectors for biodiversity, climate action and health synergies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Catherine Machalaba</i>, EcoHealth Alliance, Future Earth and IUCN SSC <p>Q&A and discussion</p>	<i>WHO, CBD, GEO-BON, EcoHealth Alliance, Concordia University, Future Earth, IUCN</i>