



Rights-based approaches to conservation

Date: 15 March 11:00 am CET

Title: Rights-based approaches to conservation

Subject: Key reasons why human rights are essential to the conversation of biodiversity

Organizer: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Venue: CICG, Room 10, 2nd floor

Live stream: cbd.int/live

Speaker: Dr. David R. Boyd, Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment

There are two key reasons why human rights are essential to the conversation of biodiversity. The first is that all human rights ultimately depend on [healthy ecosystems and biodiversity](#). Think of pollinators and the right to food, plants producing the oxygen essential for the right to life, and healthy forests protecting us from zoonotic diseases protecting the right to health.

The second reason is that too often conservation actions have violated human rights—evicting people from their homes and communities, criminalizing traditional lifestyles, even acts of violence against Indigenous peoples and local communities for trying to exercise and defend their rights. Surely, we can all agree that in the 21st century this is completely unacceptable.