

# ***THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY***

## **Information Newsletter – Volume 2, Issue III – September 2014**

Here's hoping everyone had a great summer. The arrival of fall brings with it a flurry of activity, not least of which is the Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12), being held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, and the associated Business and Biodiversity Forum (12-14 October). Details on the Forum, including a speakers' list, can be found at: [www.cbd.int/business/bc/cop12.shtml](http://www.cbd.int/business/bc/cop12.shtml).

Within this event, we will hold two meetings related to the Global Partnership. The first, on 12 October, will be an open discussion session investigating different aspects of the Partnership. The second, on 14 October, will be a closed administrative session designed to discuss specific Partnership activities and issues. Draft agendas for both meetings are included below. We look forward to seeing many of you at COP.

I would also like to welcome two new members to the Global Partnership:

- ***Finland (Corporate Responsibility Network FIBS)***
- ***Japan (Japan Business Initiative for Biodiversity (JBIB))***

*In this edition:*

- Executive Committee Corner
- Agendas for Global Partnership meetings at COP 12
- Updates from National/Regional Initiatives (*European Union, Germany, Hungary (Eastern Europe), India, Peru, and Spain*).

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### **Executive Committee Corner**

#### **Message from the Chair**

It has been a very productive year (post-Montreal) for the Global Partnership. The Partnership has become a reality, with the current membership consisting of 17 members with several more perspective members in process. It is anticipated that by COP 12, or shortly thereafter, membership will reach 20 or more members. The interim Executive Committee struck at the Montreal meeting has been active throughout the year. One of the tasks assigned to this group at the Montreal meeting was to make recommendations for the make-up of the inaugural Executive Committee. In early September a request went out to the current membership seeking members who would be interested in becoming members of the Executive Committee. We have received an overwhelming response with 80% of the membership expressing interest in serving on the Executive Committee. The Interim Committee will be making recommendations on the make-up of the inaugural Executive Committee at the closed meeting of the Global Partnership on 14 October during the COP 12 meetings in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. The Committee will also be revealing the new Partnership logo at the October closed meeting.

At the 2013 Montreal meeting it was decided that in COP off years the Partnership would host a global conference promoting the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. In response to an email requesting “expressions of interest” in hosting the 2015 meeting, we have several countries willing to organize and host the meeting. We need to make a decision on the location of the 2015 meeting in October, as it is a long and arduous task to plan and implement this meeting.

I would like to thank everyone for their interest and dedication over the past year in helping make the Partnership a global success. The stage is now set for the support and success of the incoming inaugural Executive Committee.

## COP 12 Preparations

The information note for participants to COP 12 can be found here: [www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/other/cop-12-info-note-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/other/cop-12-info-note-en.pdf). Note that hotel space is limited and if you have not already done so, please reserve your room. The WGRI 5 draft recommendations for business engagement can be found here: [www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/official/cop-12-01-add2-rev1-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/official/cop-12-01-add2-rev1-en.pdf) -- see pages 171-173. These will form the basis of the COP 12 negotiations on this topic.



Please also remember to register for the COP if you are planning to attend...

## Global Partnership Agendas

(as of 25 September 2014)

### Parallel Event: The Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity

Open Session: 12 October, 2014

- 10:00 **Opening of Global Partnership Meeting: Status of the Partnership**
- David Steuerman, Programme Officer, SCBD
  - Reg Melanson, Chair, Global Partnership Interim Executive Committee (Executive Director, Canadian Business and Biodiversity Council)
- 10:20 **GP Panel #1: What are the Opportunities and Challenges for Initiatives and the Global Partnership**
- Moderator:**
- Ciprian Ionescu, Association Orée (France)
- Panelists:**
- Kristiina Niikonen, Senior Environmental Adviser, Department of the Natural Environment (Finland)
  - Seema Arora, Executive Director, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (India)
  - Naoya Furuta, Senior Project Officer, Global Policy Unit, IUCN Japan Project Office (Japan)
- 11:40 **GP Panel #2: What are some of the Outreach Models to Businesses and other Stakeholders**
- Moderator:**
- Daan Wensing, Manager Leaders for Nature, Leaders for Nature (IUCN Netherlands)
- Panelists:**
- Carolin Bossmeyer, Managing Director, Biodiversity In Good Company (Germany)
  - Kiruben Naicker, Director: Science Policy Interface, Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa)
  - R. M. Harshini de Silva, Coordinator – Sri Lanka B&B Platform (Sri Lanka)
- 13:00 **Lunch (Plenary)**
- 15:00 **GP Panel #3: How the Partnership can Contribute to the Mainstreaming of Biodiversity by Business**
- Moderator:**
- Richard Spencer, Head of Sustainability, Technical Strategy Department, The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) (UK)
- Panelists:**
- Elisa Romano, Policy and Industry Specialist, CNI (Brazil)
  - Maria Luisa del Rio Mispireta, Advisor to Vice Minister, Strategic Development of Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment (Peru)
  - Jung Jun Park, Deputy Director, Biodiversity Division, Ministry of Environment (Republic of Korea)
- 16:20 **GP Panel #4: How to Expand Membership of the Partnership and Future Projects**
- Moderator:**
- Anne Theo Seinen, Biodiversity, DG Environment, European Commission (EU)
- Panelists:**
- (speaker tbc) China
  - Eduard Muller, Rector, Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional, Biodiversity Partnership MesoAmerica
  - (speaker tbc) ASEAN
- 17:40 **Concluding Remarks**
- Reg Melanson, Chair, Global Partnership Interim Executive Committee (Executive Director, Canadian Business and Biodiversity Council)
- 17:50 **Session Finishes---Plenary Networking Event**
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## **Fourth Meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity**

**Closed Session, 14 October 2014**

- 14:30 Welcome: Reg Melanson, Canadian Business and Biodiversity Council (CBBC)  
14:35 Introductory Remarks: David Steuerman, SCBD  
14:40 Approval of Agenda / New Business  
14:45 Introductions
- Initiatives will be restricted to a maximum of **1 Minute** for their introduction. Initiatives are requested supply a one page brief on their organization prior to the meeting so attendees will be versed on the initiative prior to the meeting.
- 15:00 Structure and Members of the First Executive Committee
- Presentation of the members of the First Executive Committee
  - Roles and responsibilities
- 15:20 Results of COP 12 negotiations/decisions on Global Partnership (i.e. framework, reporting etc)
- David Steuerman, SCBD
- 15:45 Unveiling of new GP logo and ongoing expansion of the Partnership  
16:00 Presentation by UEBT (Rik Kutsch Lojenga, Executive Director) on Biodiversity Barometer  
16:20 Upcoming Events
- World Parks Congress
  - 2015 5<sup>th</sup> GP Meeting (nomination of host)
  - Other events
- 16:40 Other Business  
16:55 Handing over the reins to the First Executive Committee  
17:00 Closing
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### **Updates from Initiatives**

*(We invite submissions from all members and those developing national initiatives)*

#### **European Union**



#### ***SAVE THE DATE - First Annual EU Business and Biodiversity Conference, 21 November 2014***

The first Annual EU Business and Biodiversity Conference is scheduled to take place in Brussels on 21 November 2014. All B@B members are welcome to attend. The outputs from year 1 of the different work-streams will be presented and representatives from businesses, NGOs, Member States and the Commission will be invited to present case studies identified in the work-streams. National platforms will also be welcomed to showcase their work and participate in the discussions. Several high-level participants will also be invited to share their views. For more information, visit:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/biodiversity/business/>

#### **Germany**



#### ***Launch of a New Discussion Forum on Ecosystem Services and Valuing Nature – High-Level Kick-Off Event with Klaus Töpfer on 24 September in Berlin***

The “Diskussionsforum Ökosystemleistungen” (Discussion Forum Ecosystem Services) is a new series of events launched in Germany by the environmental NGO Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH), ‘Biodiversity in Good Company’ and two partners from academia, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv). The new series provides an open discussion forum where interested stakeholders from business, politics and society are invited to debate the opportunities and risks of the ecosystem services and approach and of valuing natural capital. For the first meeting on 24

September, Biodiversity In Good Company is pleased to welcome two renowned speakers with different



views on this topic: Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director IASS Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e. V. and former Executive Director of UNEP, and Barbara Unmüßig, President Heinrich Böll Foundation. The initiative hopes to achieve better clarity on where the economic valuation of nature, ecosystems and their services make sense and where it has its limits or would even be counterproductive and dangerous. The follow-up events will each have a thematic focus. The programme and invitation, with further information, is available in German only on the Biodiversity in Good Company website.

### ***'Biodiversity in Good Company' and Members Active at COP 12***

The team of the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' office in Berlin and several member companies will engage actively in the COP 12 Business and Biodiversity Forum, the embedded meeting of the CBD Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity as well as in additional side events to the conference. Companies showcasing their activities include Aleph, Beraca, Fujitsu, GIZ, Mars and Saraya. Please refer to the side events list on the CBD COP 12 website and the events taking place in the Rio Pavilion for additional information. Contact: Carolin Boßmeyer, Managing Director 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative, [carolin.bossmeyer@business-and-biodiversity.de](mailto:carolin.bossmeyer@business-and-biodiversity.de). Register for the initiative's newsletter at: [www.business-and-biodiversity.de/?65&L=1](http://www.business-and-biodiversity.de/?65&L=1)

### ***13th Steering Committee Meeting of German Platform "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020" on 15 September 2014 in Berlin***

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy hosted the 13th meeting the German Platform "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020" ("Enterprise Biological Diversity 2020") on 15 September 2014. The Federal Ministry for the Environment initiated the platform for business federations, nature conservation organisations and government in early 2013 to foster dialogue and action in favour of the CBD and the German national biodiversity strategy. The approach has proven to be very successful. The regular full-day meetings of the steering committee, which take place three to four times annually, are well-attended and are hosted by one of the supporters in rotation. With various focus topics, the meetings offer a unique opportunity to reflect upon important developments ranging from the European No-net-loss Initiative to questions regarding biodiversity communications. The steering committee also reviews new projects and activities that apply for being showcased on the so-called action platform. The platform presents best practices, which have to meet certain criteria, in seven fields of action:

- *Targeted information on biological diversity for companies*
- *Biodiversity in corporate environmental/sustainability management*
- *Biodiversity and regulation*
- *Credible communication and public relations*
- *Financing of nature conservation in cooperation with business*
- *Markets and opportunities, develop business cases*
- *Networking*

Currently, the website is in German only: [www.biologischevielfalt.de/UBi\\_2020.html](http://www.biologischevielfalt.de/UBi_2020.html)

### ***Global Nature Fund Publishes New Study on Valuing Natural Capital***

A new study "How business values natural capital" published by the Global Nature Fund (GNF) shows that companies increasingly consider including natural capital into their accounts. Driven by internal sustainability and risk management, more and more businesses review and value their environmental impacts. Among other things, the study demonstrates that for companies, risk management and reputation are the key drivers in the assessment of corporate environmental costs. The GNF is a supporter of the German "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020" and runs the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign. For further information please visit [www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=49&News=1622](http://www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=49&News=1622).

### ***Markets for Natural Capital – Status Quo and Prospects***

The Global Nature Fund (GNF), together with the organisation German Environmental Aid (DUH) published a brochure that reveals the possibilities and limits of two models for compensating environmental impacts: Biodiversity-Offsets and Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES). GNF and DUH show how the protection and sustainable use of nature can be optimized by considering nature also as an economic factor – as "natural capital". For further information and download please visit [www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=8&News=1666](http://www.business-biodiversity.eu/default.asp?Menu=8&News=1666).

### **Hungary**



CEEweb for Biodiversity is organizing the event CEEweb Academy on Green Infrastructure – Preserving our Natural Capital: Policy and Practice on 6-7 October 2014 in Budapest, Hungary. The Academy aims to bring together public officers, policy makers, non-governmental organizations and personalities from the academic world to share and discuss experiences and inspire new ways of thinking for a more efficient preservation of our natural capital in Central and Eastern Europe in light of the most recent EU initiatives. The conference will consist of two blocks of presentations on key topics (GI spatial integration and GI sectorial integration) followed by both group and panel discussion. Green Infrastructure is a holistic tool to tackle biodiversity loss while contributing to smart and sustainable socio-economic growth. It provides us with solutions for a better quality environment, a healthier society and a more prosperous economy. Green Infrastructure is especially important to the EU due to its potential to help us preserve and enhance ecosystem services and adapt to climate change in a multi-stakeholder setting. Under Target 2 of the 2020 Biodiversity Strategy, the EU committed itself to deploy green infrastructure and restore a minimum of 15% of Europe's degraded ecosystems. With this year's CEEweb Academy we would like to draw attention to GI policy, its implementation and the possibilities for cross-sectorial cooperation. Please contact Ms Malgorzata Siuta ([siuta@ceeweb.org](mailto:siuta@ceeweb.org)) for questions related to content and Mr Attila Szlavik ([szlavik@ceeweb.org](mailto:szlavik@ceeweb.org)) for any questions related to logistics.



### **India**



### ***Update from the India Business & Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI)***

Since the launch of the India Business & Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI) in May 2014, 17 companies have become signatories to the IBBI Declaration, demonstrating their commitment towards conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The signatories range from Indian conglomerates like ITC, Mahindra and Wipro to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) such as Paharpur Business Centre. They represent a variety of industries, including cement, steel, chemicals, vehicles, power, information technology and consumer products among others. Besides business



members, several public and non-governmental organisations are part of the initiative. The National Biodiversity Authority, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) are some of the stakeholder organisations present on the IBBI platform. The IBBI has launched a dedicated website

[www.BusinessBiodiversity.in](http://www.BusinessBiodiversity.in). The website features both the role models – companies that demonstrate leadership in preserving biodiversity, and also serves as a one-stop knowledge resource destination on biodiversity management. Herein, companies will gain access to case studies on good business practices in biodiversity being initiated by Indian businesses. It is envisaged that over the next year CREM and ARCADIS will work closely with IBBI member companies for conceptualising, designing and implementing capacity development measures for IBBI, with a focus on the following:

- *Awareness and understanding of business and biodiversity inter-relationship*
- *Practical tools and instruments to help member companies to identify and plan biodiversity management measures*
- *Training and mentoring support to companies for preparing and implementing their own biodiversity management plans*
- *Demonstrated examples of companies mainstreaming biodiversity into businesses.*

## Peru



The Peruvian Initiative “Business and Biodiversity” supported by the Ministry of Environment (MINAM) is making progress in uniting the public and business sector in order to promote programs, projects and the application of tools to encourage the

conservation and sustainable use of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. In April 2014, after the “Biodiversity and International Business Forum” where the CBD Executive Secretary, as well as international guests and Peruvian companies’ managers had participated, “Business and Biodiversity” was recognized as part of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity. This initiative seeks to become a space for interaction

and the exchange of information, knowledge and experience between the business sector and the MINAM in order to contribute with the conservation and the sustainable use of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. By 4 July, “Business and Biodiversity” had formed a Leading Group. The Deputy Minister of Strategic Development of Natural Resources of the Ministry of Environment, Gabriel Quijandría, considered relevant the importance of the work between business and biodiversity, “*Peru has a lot of*



*sustainable economic activity in the use of biodiversity.*

*Therefore, we must be proactive and have proposals that combine economic growth and social inclusion, but in a sustainable way”.* The Peruvian Initiative “Business and Biodiversity” is supported by the Deputy Minister of Strategic

Development of Natural Resources, the Directorate General for Biological Diversity, and the Directorate General for Evaluation, Valuation and Financing of the Natural Heritage and representatives from the following companies: Peru LNG, Antamina, Inkaterra, Rainforest Expeditions, Pluspetrol, Hunt



Oil Company Peru and National Petroleum Group. It also has the support of the Technical Assistance Program-USAID PAT / MINAM, the Contribution to the environmental objectives of Peru- GIZ/Peru, the Development Bank of Latin America, and the Canadian Business and Biodiversity Council. José Alvarez Alonso, General Director of Biodiversity (MINAM) stated that, “*Someday you will be recognized for being the pioneers and leaders in this initiative”.*

## Spain



The most recent incorporation into the Spanish Initiative is Yves Rocher Spain. The Yves Rocher brand was born 50 years ago of the vision of botanical-based cosmetics. Nowadays the group operates over 80 countries with more than 15.000 professionals. Yves Rocher was established in Spain 35 years ago. The company pays attention on controlling every step of the production cycle in order to guarantee quality and safety of all products for a respectful and accessible brand. With the inclusion of Yves Rocher, 9 economic sectors are involved in the conservation of Spain's natural capital through the Initiative: 5 companies in the field of energy (CEPSA, Endesa, Gas Natural Fenosa, IBERDROLA and Red Eléctrica de España), 4 in construction (CEMEX, Ferrovial, FCC and Holcim), 2 in food and drink (Grupo Mahou-San Miguel and HEINEKEN), 2 in innovation and technology (ABB and Altran), 1 in facility management (ISS), 1 in Biopharmacy (Grupo Zeltia), 1 in home appliances (BSH) and 1 in cosmetics (Yves Rocher).

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