

# Press Release

Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Germany

Nature Conservation / Education / Children / NatureDetectives

## **Federal Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel: 20 plus 10 – Students plant Trees for the sake of Biological Diversity**

Unofficial Translation

**Berlin/Bonn, 7 May 2007:** Ten schools from ten different countries have set a very special goal for the International Day of Biological Diversity on 22 May 2007. This year's topic of the UN Day of Biological Diversity themed "Biodiversity and Climate Change". This week (7 to 11 May) at the same time and on the same day they are going to plant 20 indigenous trees each. Therewith they present the "20 plus 10 – Schools and Trees Campaign for Biological Diversity".

In this week the ten schools are presenting the campaign with pictures and short texts on a website at the youth multimedia project NatureDetectives of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) which especially has been set up for this occasion.

The whole campaign connects five campaign lines of the UN-Convention about Biological Diversity (CBD):

- 22 May as the International Day of Biological Diversity,
- "2010 Target" to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biological diversity worldwide,
- Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) of CBD,
- UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development" as well as
- "1 Billion Tree Campaign" of the United Nations Environment Program.

With its "decade-project" NatureDetectives the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) is part of the global alliance "Learning Sustainability". It actively promotes the realization of a global "Living Network" of the parties to the UN Convention of Biological Diversity. As patron of the NatureDetectives Federal Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel announces thereto: "With this campaign BfN managed to obtain a global alliance of schools for the combination of climate and biological diversity, which altogether completes the net of life in an impressive manner. Even though this is only a small campaign, it is a symbol. It would be great, if many schools and activists are encouraged to initiate their own campaigns around the Day of Biological Diversity, in order to densify the net of life."

Schools from Denmark, Palau, Micronesia, Ecuador, Russia, Mongolia, Canada, Iran, Kenya and Germany are participating in this campaign.

All information about the campaign you get under: [www.naturdetektive.de](http://www.naturdetektive.de)

Here you can participate in the global tree planting campaign:

<http://www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign>

The 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) takes place in Bonn from 19 to 30 May 2008.

The CBD follows three goals: Protection of biological diversity, sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources. This campaign supports the "Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness" (CEPA) of CBD.