



**Science Association,
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“Dr. APIS” SCIENCE LEAFLET

**International Day for Biological Diversity:
Water and Biodiversity : 22 May, 2013**



The International Day for Biological Diversity (or World Biodiversity Day) is a United Nations–sanctioned international day for the promotion of biodiversity issues. It is currently held on May 22.

From its creation by the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly in 1993 until 2000, it was held on December 29 to celebrate the day the Convention on Biological Diversity went into effect. On December 20, 2000, the date was shifted to commemorate the adoption of the Convention on May 22, 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit, and partly to avoid the many other holidays that occur in late December.

The term biological diversity, or biodiversity, is given to the variety of plant and animal life, and micro-organisms, on Earth and the different ecosystems in which they live. The biodiversity we see today is the result of the natural process that has taken place over many years and which has caused changes, such as weathering and adaptation of the landscape and its inhabitants.

The rate at which this natural process takes place is increased by human activities and it is this unnatural increase that can have harmful effects on our biophysical environment. There has been an increase in the loss of the Earth's biological diversity and this day has been set aside to increase public awareness of the importance and value of biological diversity.

Biodiversity also includes genetic differences within each species – for example, between varieties of crops or breeds of livestock. Another aspect of biodiversity is the variety of ecosystems that occur in mountains, forests, lakes, rivers, deserts and other biomes. Within each ecosystem the abiotic (non-living) elements and the biotic (living) organisms, including people, interact within a complex community.

To date, 1.78 million species have been identified, although the total number of species is unknown and is probably between 5 and 30 million. It is the combination of these species and their interactions with each other and the environment that has made the Earth a uniquely habitable place. Biodiversity provides a sustainable lifestyle for all inhabitants if the Earth's natural resources are utilised wisely.

Activities:

Coincided with the observance of International Day for Biological Diversity, on May 2011 Indonesian Forestry Minister inaugurated the Ciwalen Canopy Trail that is 120 meters long and 60 meters wide at an elevation of 30–40 meters above the ground at GunungGedePangrango National Park, West Java to accommodate 5 to 10 people in one trip.^[4]

References:

1. "Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) page for IBD". Retrieved 2011-04-21.
2. Victor Giurgiu (Sep 2011). "Simpozionul „Biodiversitateapădurilor din România”, dedicat „Zilei Internaționale a Biodiversității”" (HTML). *Rev. pădur.* (in(Romanian)) 126 (3–4): 104–106. ISSN 1583-7890. 16753. Retrieved 2012-05-30.(webpage has a translation button)
3. "The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment". Retrieved 2011-04-21.
4. <http://www.antaraneews.com/en/news/71957/forestry-minister-inaugurates-ciwalen-canopy-trail>



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हे त्रिशूलि पर अमुने मंत्र हा महान

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