

Making biodiversity matter
Knowledge and know-how for the post-2020 global
biodiversity framework

The Ninth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity

Trondheim, Norway, 2 – 5 July 2019

CONFERENCE FOCUS

- Understanding some of the latest available knowledge relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services
- Considering implications of this knowledge for development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework



PARTICIPATION

- Around 450 participants from almost 120 countries
- Participation from governments, IPLCs, UN entities, international organizations, NGOs, private sector, youth and academia
- Key aim – to encourage knowledge sharing and discussion amongst participants
- Strong focus on interactive sessions – building knowledge and resources valuable for the post-2020 process

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Conference programme encouraged participation through:



- plenary presentations and discussion
- moderated panel discussions
- roundtable discussions
- open space agenda
- online and interactive polls
- communal meals and social events
- live streaming

CONFERENCE REPORTING

- Conference outcomes are set out in the report of the co-chairs, Dr. Nina Vik and Mr. Finn Katerås



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Report of the Co-Chairs

The primary purpose of the Trondheim Conference is the conversations amongst participants, supported by the many inputs made. The intention was that the exchanges at this conference would provide participants, and in particular negotiators, with increased understanding of a range of issues relevant to the upcoming negotiations on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. These exchanges were about exploring and testing ideas, not about coming to final solutions. This co-chairs' report has been prepared as a means of conveying the key messages from a diverse range of presentations and discussions, and from the very active panel discussions and round tables that allowed every participant the opportunity to make input. The report can in no way capture all of the conversations, and the many inputs made, and it is not intended to do so. However, all presentations and records of discussion made on paper or through electronic means are available from the conference website www.trondheimconference.org, as well as being summarised in this report. Throughout the conference participants were encouraged to make comments and ask questions, and a number of quotes have been shared throughout the text of this report. Such quotes are, of course, personal opinions.

UNDERSTANDING WHERE WE ARE HEADING AND WHAT THIS IMPLIES

There are very real concerns over the impacts of loss of biodiversity, and such concerns are increasing. Meanwhile both biodiversity loss and climate change are accelerating due to human expansion, with

- The report was prepared with support from a 'Friends of the Co-Chairs' group and offered to participants for review.
- More outputs from interactive sessions available at <https://trondheimconference.org/outputs-from-interactive-sessions-and-elements>

SETTING THE STAGE

Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- ADVANCE UNEDITED VERSION -
4 May 2019

ipbes
RESTORATION IN PROGRESS
The assessment report on **LAND DEGRADATION AND RESTORATION**

ipbes
The First Global Integrated Marine Assessment
World Ocean Assessment I
by
the Group of Experts of the Regular Process
(Luisa Levin and Alan Simcock (Joint Coordinators))
Amanuel Hailemariam, Angel C. Alcala, Patricia Bernat, Wiltonda P. Calumpang,
Phayon Eghtessami Angh, Sean D. Green, Peter Harris, Oshon Keh Kamara, Kurio Kufuola,
Ezequiel Macchioli, Gong Minyi, Rocío Padilla-Fernández, Chai Park, Inga Andriane Papp,
Jaka Rasi, Andrew Rosenberg, Remon Rozsa, Joshua T. Tuhumawa, Sabika Van Gaver, Jinying Wang,
Jan March Wegmann

under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly and
its Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment,
including Socioeconomic Aspects.

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ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Global Warming of 1.5°C
An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C
above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways,
in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change,
sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty

Summary for Policymakers

ipcc
The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate

Report

GLOBAL RESOURCES OUTLOOK 2019
NATURAL RESOURCES FC

UN environment
HEALTHY PLANET HEALTHY PEOPLE
UN environment
Global Environment Outlook

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Status of the World's Soil Resources
Main Report

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015
How are the world's forests changing?
Second edition.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Global Land Outlook
First Edition

United Nations
Convention to Combat
Corruption

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
THE STATE OF WORLD FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
MEETING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SETTING THE STAGE

- There is a good knowledge base on which to build, both from science and the wealth of experiences in addressing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets



UNDERSTANDING WHERE WE ARE HEADING AND WHAT THIS IMPLIES

- There are very real concerns over the impacts of loss of biodiversity, and such concerns are increasing
- The cost of inaction makes biodiversity loss an issue of importance to all sectors and stakeholders
- Action requires better understanding of the direct and indirect drivers of change, and of how to respond to them
- Understanding interlinkages is critical to being able to respond to environmental change
- Effective action requires full and effective engagement with stakeholders at all levels and in all relevant sectors

UNDERSTANDING WHERE WE ARE HEADING AND WHAT THIS IMPLIES

- While all assessments show benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services, and impacts on them, benefits and impacts are not distributed evenly
- There is a range of options already available for implementing sustainable pathways to achieving the 2050 Vision
- For example, use of management practices and approaches favourable to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity for food and agriculture is increasing
- There is an increasing recognition of the importance of “nature-based solutions” that address needs across sectors

FURTHER DEVELOPING THE VISION OF WHERE WE NEED TO BE

First interactive session focused on the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity of “Living in harmony with nature”

Encouraged participants to consider the future that they want to see, and the changes necessary to achieve this

Participants identified a broad range of possible pathways, showing a multifaceted and interlinked the approach to 2050 (*Annex 1 of the report*)

Participants wrote short stories to describe one potential pathway for achieving the 2050 vision (*Annex 2 of the report*)



FURTHER DEVELOPING THE VISION OF WHERE WE NEED TO BE

Possible pathways were clustered under the following headings:

- Educate, communicate
- Change human behaviour, perceptions, commitment
- Change food systems
- Increased participation and ownership
- Increased knowledge
- Rights, including human rights
- Transition into green economy and technological development
- Valuation, risk-assessment, accounting
- Local level/IPLCs
- Change production and consumption
- Mainstreaming
- Human well-being
- Fair and equitable sharing
- Transformative change
- Sustainable use and nature management
- Governance, policy and legal frameworks and financial resources
- Monitoring, reporting, compliance
- Lessons learned and solutions

MOVING AWAY FROM BUSINESS AS USUAL

- It is already recognised that transformative change is needed
- There are already examples of actions planned and taken at all levels to try to move away from ‘business as usual’
 - *Change through mainstreaming is already embraced by CBD Parties*
 - *Restoration is already being promoted, and this will be scaled up with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030*
 - *Nature-based solutions are being increasingly promoted for action addressing multiple agendas*
 - *Initiatives and increasing interest from the private sector to reverse the loss of biodiversity and reduce environmental impact*

MOVING AWAY FROM BUSINESS AS USUAL

- Important to think about biodiversity as a solution, rather than to only focus on biodiversity loss
- Sustainability rests on environmental, social and economic pillars, and is not simply an ecological issue
- Important to find the levers for change for taking positive and reducing negative action
- Workable solutions are required that meet multiple aims, recognising and involving key players and building partnerships for addressing shared solutions

DRAWING ON EXPERIENCE TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOES NOT

Second interactive session focused on lessons learned of actions, tactics and approaches for pathways to achieve the 2050 Vision

Session run as an 'open space agenda' – participants themselves identified the experiences that they wanted to discuss

Participants 'followed their feet' to join the conversations that they felt they could contribute to best

Outcomes of conversations – *Annex 4 of the report*



DRAWING ON EXPERIENCE TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOES NOT

The experiences discussed related to:

- Monitoring and compliance
- Participatory process, increase empowerment and ownership
- Beyond country level
- Shared and actionable vision, goals and targets
- Global exchange, sharing, empowerment and learning
- Implementation, coordination and collaboration
- Trust and communication
- Costs, values, financing and trade

BUILDING ON THE EXPERIENCE SINCE COP10 IN NAGOYA

- It is important draw on the experience of Parties in interpreting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for national use
- Lessons learnt from assessment processes are important as are recommendations from the scientific community
- It is essential to be able to track implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework from day one
- Addressing equity and imbalances will be critical to a successful post-2020 global biodiversity framework

RESPONDING TO SOCIETY NEEDS

- There is willingness across all conventions to engage and to be mutually supportive in the context of their mandates
- There is need to increase coherence in implementation of the Rio Conventions at the national level, and to build support in doing so
- Perceptions on environment-related risks have increased significantly in recent years, influencing the way in which governments and private sector think
- Need to address interlinkages with strategies and strategy processes in other sectors where there are biodiversity-related impacts and dependencies

IDENTIFYING WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE 2050 VISION FOR BIODIVERSITY

Third interactive session focused on what needs to be included in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to deliver the 2050 Vision

Participants considered in more detail a range of elements that could be included in the post-2020 framework

Outcomes of the discussions – *Annex 5 of the report*



IDENTIFYING WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE 2050 VISION FOR BIODIVERSITY

The discussions covered:

- Vision and mission
- Review and accountability
- Implementation/enabling
- Integrating agendas
- Structure
- Target(s) for consumption and production patterns
- Target(s) for mainstreaming
- Target(s) for sustainable use
- Target(s) for food and agriculture
- Target(s) for protected areas

IDENTIFYING WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE 2050 VISION FOR BIODIVERSITY

RESULTS FROM THE DISCUSSIONS – VISION AND MISSION

- (Re-)connecting people and nature
- Inclusive and holistic approach needed
- 2050 Vision remains relevant – Flexible / adaptable 2050 Vision
- Health & nature
- Nature-based solutions
- How to address/engage stakeholders
- Recognize indigenous culture and knowledge
- Examples of proposals for updated 2030/2040 mission
 - *2030 Mission: Ensure no net-loss of biodiversity and ecosystems services to deliver benefits essential for all people- some degraded ecosystems restored- most genetic resources are equitably shared- essential ecosystems are valued and conserved- species extinction rate reduced*
 - *2040 Mission: By 2040, net-gain in biodiversity and ecosystems services- most biodiversity and ecosystem services valued, conserved, wisely used- most benefits equitably shared*

IDENTIFYING WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE 2050 VISION FOR BIODIVERSITY

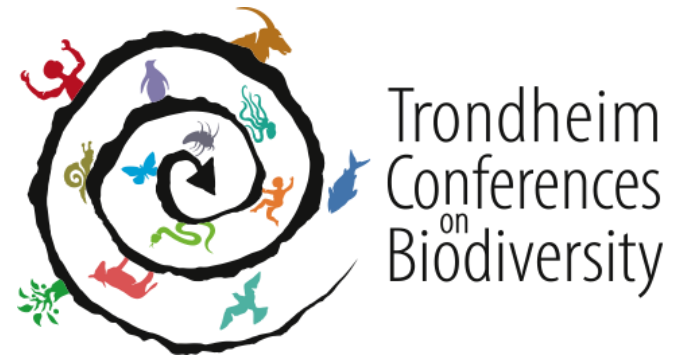
RESULTS FROM THE DISCUSSIONS – SUGGESTED ‘STRUCTURES’

- Broad structure with three components:
 - (i) central component – 2050 Vision 2050 and 2030 Mission 2030 with global strategic/aspirational goals reflecting desired status of biodiversity clearly expressed, 2030 SMART goals; (ii) Accountability framework (review, monitoring, reporting, assessment utilizing indicators); (iii) Enabling conditions (resource mobilization, capacity building, knowledge management, technology transfer, communication, legal instrument, etc.)
- Structure with four pillars:
 - (i) mission, vision, targets; (ii) implementation and drivers, (iii) enabling tools/elements, and (iv) Action Agenda, Non-state Actors, mainstreaming. Each pillar with targets which can be organized/prioritized based on country specific conditions. Subset of these targets will be selected for communication as prioritized by country.
 - Start from 2050 vision, with milestones to be achieved by 2040 and 2030 (by 2030 stop the net loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services and by 2050 restore biodiversity and ecosystem services).
- Structure as the SDGs with just a heading followed by sub-targets and then indicators
 - The scope of the framework should include enabling conditions (implementation mechanism, reviews, etc.)

PROMOTING AND FACILITATION ACTION

- The focus of the conference was on the knowledge base for developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework
- However, a constant message was the critical need for capacity and resources without which success is compromised
- Significant effort will need to be put into resource mobilization from all sources, recognising fully the real values of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Enhanced capacity will be needed to address the growing problems and at the same time scale up existing good practice

MAKING BIODIVERSITY MATTER



- Over four days, a broad range of views were expressed on form and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework
- Participants had opportunities to share knowledge and views outside of the negotiations
- Overall message – Urgent action is required for many reasons; success is possible, but action to date has been insufficient
- The post-2020 global biodiversity framework must promote and facilitate a step change in action on the ground
- The conference produced a wealth of ideas included in the report, and in particular in the annexes



Trondheim
Conferences
on
Biodiversity

Conference website: <https://trondheimconference.org/>

Co-chairs' report: <https://trondheimconference.org/conference-reports>

IISD/ENB coverage: <https://enb.iisd.org/biodiv/trondheimconference/9/>

The Ninth Trondheim Conference was organized with the support of:



Photos by IISD/ENB | Mike Muzurakis