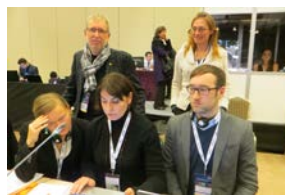


## CBD-COP 12 SIDE EVENT



### How can science really contribute to global biodiversity governance? –

### Discussing challenges of science policy-interfaces

TUESDAY, OCT 14TH, 18:15 - 19:45, HALL F, ROOM 3 - IGOS MEETING ROOM

#### *Organizing institutions*

#### **YOUNG SCIENTISTS @ BIODIVERSITY-RELATED SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACES NETWORK**

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#### *Background*

The mission statement of the newly established Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is 'to strengthen capacity for the effective use of science in decision-making at all levels', with one of its four functions being set as 'identifying and prioritizing key scientific information needed for policymakers on appropriate scales' (UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9).

According to this statement, IPBES is aiming at synthesizing the best possible knowledge to inform political decision-making. Besides scientific results on the status and trends of biodiversity, this also implies the scientific analysis of human-ecosystem interactions as well as of political processes and science-policy interfaces (SPIs) themselves. Most topics in IPBES already have, as a main guidance, a link to international policy processes, mainly the CBD strategic plan 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets. Additionally, SPIs help to develop formalised mechanisms or forms of communication to ensure appropriate interpretations of scientific knowledge for political decision-making. Thus, as an example for biodiversity-related SPIs, IPBES seeks to meet the key factors of an effective science-policy interface: being *relevant*, *credible* and *legitimate*.

#### *Objective of the side event*

In order to foster the bridging of different scientific disciplines and integration of different knowledges, a group of emerging scientists who are interested in international biodiversity-related SPIs (IPBES, CBD, SBSTTA, Future Earth, *inter alia*) established a new network to exchange views and findings and to deliver joint analyses about such SPIs. The network comprises i) researchers dealing with the issues relevant for biodiversity-related political decision-making, and ii) researchers analysing the structure, functionality and effectiveness of such SPIs.

Within the network we collected a number of pressing issues on the relevance of science for implementation. We would like to discuss a selection of these issues with members of the bodies of IPBES and the CBD, delegates from CBD Member States, as well as international scientists:

// A considerable body of knowledge relevant to global biodiversity governance already exists. However, looking at the latest Global Biodiversity Outlook Report (GBO-4), presented at CBD COP-12 in October 2014 in Korea, it seems unlikely to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as set by the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Insufficient knowledge is a possible cause for this failure. Looking at the diverse types of biodiversity-related knowledge, it remains to be discussed, what kind of scientific knowledge needs to be produced or prioritised to improve the performance in achieving the Aichi Targets.

// Complexity of scientific knowledge and different ways of interpretation can potentially delay pressing policy decisions. Furthermore, this complexity of science-policy communication can be used to cover interests of powerful stakeholder groups. Hence, what would be needed to transparently communicate scientific knowledge for political implementation? What factors hinder or support incorporation of scientific knowledge into political decision-making?

// Finally, we are interested on views how young scientists could contribute to these challenges of science-policy interfaces.

*Program: Tue Oct 14th, 18:15 – 19:45, Hall F, Room 3 - IGOs Meeting Room*

Session	Speaker
<p><b>Introduction to side event &amp; Young Scientist Network</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Side event concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Presentation, discussion, poster</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Young Scientists @ Biodiversity-Related Science-Policy Interfaces Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Description, objectives, status and outlook</li> <li>○ Overview of the scope of the scientific disciplines and research topics covered by the network</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Georg Barth</i></p>
<p><b>Presentation of results of survey on relevance of scientific knowledge for global biodiversity governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework (Aichi Biodiversity Targets)</li> <li>• Overview on biodiversity science and knowledge systems</li> <li>• Survey: questions/issues and results</li> </ul>	<p><i>Yves Zinngrebe</i></p>
<p><b>Open fishbowl discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge gaps regarding the achievement of the Aichi Targets &amp; the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020</li> <li>• Scientific communication with policy</li> <li>• Contribution of young scientists to science-policy interfaces</li> </ul>	<p><i>Dr. Katja Heubach (moderation)</i></p> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <p><b><i>Prof. Dr. Abdhul Hamid Zakri</i></b>, IPBES Chair</p> <p><b><i>Dr. Gemedo DalleTussie</i></b>, SBSTTA Chair</p> <p><b><i>Nicola Breier</i></b>, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, German CBD Focal Point</p> <p><b><i>Roxana Solis</i></b>, Peruvian Ministry for the Environment, Coordinator for Biodiversity Policy Instruments</p> <p><b><i>Dr. Hilde Eggermont</i></b>, Belgian Biodiversity Platform</p> <p><b><i>Melina Sakiyama</i></b>, Global Youth Biodiversity Network</p>