

The Rio Conventions side-event

Enhancing Synergies between the Rio Conventions at National and Global levels to deliver the Decade of Action

3 June 2022, 13:00 - 14:30 p.m. local time
Stockholm +50 - Stockholmsmässan - Room 4 - Stockholm - Sweden
www.riopavilion.org/rcp-stockholm50/

 **Live Webcast**

There is growing awareness of the urgency for strong actions to reverse climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation for a healthy planet and prosperity for all. The outcomes of the Glasgow Climate Conference, the ongoing negotiations of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the recent results of UNCCD COP15, each emphasizes the inseparable connections between these three global challenges and the importance of joined-up action to successfully address them.

The Rio Conventions Pavilion, a long-established joint communications platform of the Secretariats of the Rio Conventions and the GEF, contributes to strengthening political will and building global momentum on the importance of integrated action between the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD. It also plays a key role in facilitating knowledge-sharing on integrated approaches, including showcasing best practices, solutions, tools and guidance.

In Kunming for CBD COP15 Part 1, in Glasgow for UNFCCC COP26, and in Abidjan for UNCCD COP15, high-level events were convened under the Rio Conventions Pavilion to highlight the importance of tackling biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation together rather than in a siloed manner. Later in 2022, the Rio Conventions Pavilion will convene at CBD COP 15 Part 2 and at UNFCCC COP 27.

The outreach and momentum generated by these events is to be reinforced at Stockholm+50, which also coincides with the thirtieth anniversary of the birth of the Rio Conventions at the 1992 Earth Summit as global instruments of sustainable development. To emphasize the importance of the combined implementation of the three Conventions to the theme “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”, a high-level side event will be hosted by the heads of the Secretariats of the Rio Conventions and the GEF as well as Ministers representing the Presidencies of the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD.

Objectives

There are three key objectives for this event:

- Promote high-level political attention to synergies and complementarity in the implementation of the Rio Conventions.
- Emphasize the importance of integrated approaches in the implementation of the Rio Conventions towards their common objectives.
- Outline key areas for ambitious action under each Convention's process and the financing objectives of the GEF, providing messages of ambition.

Structure

The event will take place on 3 June 2022 from 13:00 to 14:30 (Stockholmsmässan, room 4), with a running time of 75 minutes. It will feature two interactive moderated panels. The event will be [live streamed](#) on social media platforms.

Panel One: Synergies in implementation of the Rio Conventions and the Global Environment Facility

Moderator: Ms. Pam Chasek, PhD

Panelists:

- Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC
- Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Executive Secretary, CBD
- Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary, UNCCD
- Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO and Chairperson, GEF

Panel Two: Political momentum in synergies

Moderator: Ms. Pam Chasek, PhD

Panelists:

- The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith, Minister of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Video Statement: His Excellency, Mr. Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment, President of CBD COP 15
- Her Excellency, Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Ministerial Coordinator and Envoy, President of CBD COP 14
- Mr Alain-Richard Donwahi, President of UNCCD COP 15