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# **DECENT WORK IN NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**

**4 MAY 2023 | 15:00 - 16:30 CEST | ONLINE**





## Technical Information

- Throughout the event, you may raise your questions in the Q&A box
- Automatically translated subtitles in many languages are available through the captions button on the bottom left of your screen
- The recording, summary and documents will be made available on the event's website

**DECENT WORK IN  
NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**





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**DECENT WORK IN  
NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**





# Geneva Nature-based Solutions Dialogues

APRIL TO DECEMBER 2021



Nature  
based  
Solutions

The nature of progress







**United Nations  
Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment  
Programme**

Distr.: General  
7 March 2022

Original: English

**United Nations Environment Assembly of the  
United Nations Environment Programme**

**Fifth session**

Nairobi (hybrid), 22 and 23 February 2021  
and 28 February–2 March 2022

**Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment  
Assembly on 2 March 2022**

**5/5. Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development**

*The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

*Underlining* the importance of strengthening actions for nature for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity-related conventions, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted thereunder, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 and the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development 2020–2030; looking forward to the adoption and implementation of an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective and robust post-2020 global biodiversity framework; and noting the Leaders' Pledge for Nature: United to Reverse Biodiversity Loss by 2030 for Sustainable Development,





# DECENT WORK IN NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

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## SPEAKERS

By order of intervention



**Moustapha  
Kamal GUEYE**



Director, ILO Priority Action Programme  
on Just Transitions, International Labour  
Organization | Moderator



**Maikel  
LIEUW-KIE-SONG**



Senior Employment Intensive Specialist,  
International Labour Organization



**Karin ZAUNBERGER**



Policy Officer, European Commission



**Leander RAES**



Economist, International Union for  
Conservation of Nature



**Barney DICKSON**



Senior Policy Officer, Nature for Climate  
Branch, United Nations Environment  
Programme



**Rachel TUSHABE**



Director, Advocacy and Multilateral  
Environmental Agreements Monitoring Unit,  
Rwanda Environment Management Authority







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**Moustapha Kamal GUEYE**



Director, ILO Priority Action Programme on Just Transitions,  
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**DECENT WORK IN  
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# Decent Work in Nature-based Solutions **2022**



## DECENT WORK IN NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

A report by ILO, UNEP and IUCN



»»» [tiny.cc/DecentWorkNbS](https://tiny.cc/DecentWorkNbS)





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# Panel Discussion



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**Leander RAES**



Economist, International Union  
for Conservation of Nature



**Maikel LIEUW-  
KIE-SONG**



International  
Labour  
Organization

Senior Employment Intensive Specialist,  
International Labour Organization



**Barney DICKSON**



Senior Programme Officer, Nature for  
Climate Branch, UNEP

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# Decent Work in Nature-based Solutions 2022



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Labour  
Organization



## Decent Work in Nature-based Solutions

A collaboration between  
ILO, UNEP and IUCN

Relevant findings from the 2022  
report and way forward for future  
reports

Maikel Lieuw-Kie-Song (ILO), Barney Dickson (UNEP)  
and Leander Raes (IUCN)



# Rationale for the collaboration



NbS have the potential to generate decent work outcomes, and decent work outcomes build support for NbS... but how?



No existing systematic effort to monitor the quantity and quality of jobs generated by investments in NbS

**Addressing knowledge gap can support governments and stakeholders** to develop **better, more coherent policies and strategies** related to NbS and decent work

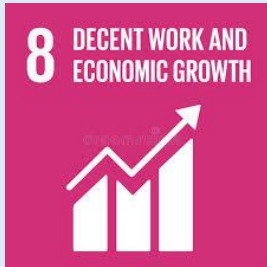


# Key concepts

## Decent Work

4 Pillars:

1. Employment Creation
2. Rights at Work
3. Social Protection
4. Social Dialogue



## Just Transition

Seize opportunities and mitigate risks of green transitions for decent work



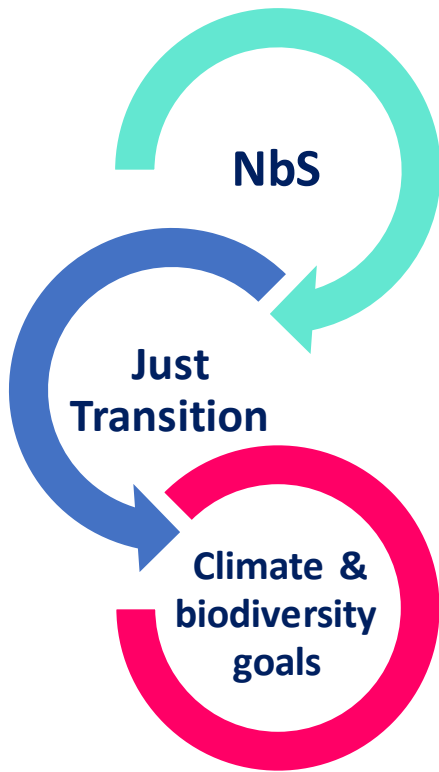
## Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

UNEA Resolution 2022- unemployment one of the socioeconomic challenges





# Just transition approach to promoting NbS: Supporting national climate and biodiversity targets



- NbS: A key building block for achieving the **global development, climate and biodiversity goals**
- Implementing **NbS in synergy with a just transition**: supporting **decent work** outcomes, **resilience** and achieving **national targets**



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# ILO Just Transition Guidelines and the IUCN Global Standard for NbS share common themes & objectives

*Can be leveraged to support decent work in NbS*



Planning NbS in Honduras

## Common themes and objectives :

1. **Evidence-based decision-making**
2. Inclusive and meaningful **stakeholder engagement**
3. **Policy coherence and tools** across portfolios to **maximize opportunities and mitigate risks**
4. **Upholding of rights** and **fostering empowerment**



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# Current Work in NbS: What does it look like?

Key challenge: how do we determine what current activities and employment can be classified as NbS? (“Application Problem”)

First report used “NbS proxies” where are people *protecting, conserving, restoring, sustainably using and managing ecosystems?*

- Agriculture sector,
- Infrastructure and Construction Sector,
- Private enterprises-including –“Nature-based Enterprises”
- Public Employment Programmes,
- Payment for Ecosystem Services Schemes and
- Volunteering for nature-related activities





# Important characteristics of Current Work in NbS

- **Part-time, seasonal or temporary** often deliberate as part of a strategy to combat poverty and complement existing livelihoods and/ or underemployment
- **Mostly rural** (agriculture and forestry) often informal, manual labour, and low-income
- **Professional, high skilled and urban work:** design, planning, management, monitoring, research and promotion of NbS, with new occupations emerging
- **“Hidden”**- part of other programmes and activities
- **“Atypical employment”**, variety arrangements such as household contracts to manage certain areas, or social protection linked payments.
- **Volunteering** is important and common across the world



Promoting NbS in Sierra Leone



# Case study 1

- **ReDuna project** in Alameda, Portugal
- Six months period, **restoration of dunes** along 1 kilometre of coastline, use of willow sand fences and 100,000 plants of native dune species
- Restored dunes for effective **storm protection**
- **104 NbS jobs**
- **64** related to **restoration, construction**
- **and maintenance of the ecosystem**
- **Twelve jobs** considered **permanent**
- Annual hiring of **consultants** (e.g. biologist)
- **1,040 volunteers** supported project through work on **restoration, maintenance** and **clearing** of invasive non-indigenous plants



Dune restoration in Portugal



## Case study 2

- “Scaling up Mountain Ecosystem-based Adaptation” project in Nor Yauyos Cochas Landscape Reserve (NYCLR), central Andes of Peru
- Improving water, grasslands and livestock management through strengthening **local capacities** and **knowledge, intercultural dialogue** between stakeholders, strengthening of **institutional** and **community organization**, and **restoration** of ancestral and natural infrastructure
- **105 people** worked on the project
- **89 indigenous peoples** who work through ***faenas*** (traditional form of communal unpaid work)
- **Rest** worked on **planning, project management and stakeholders facilitation**

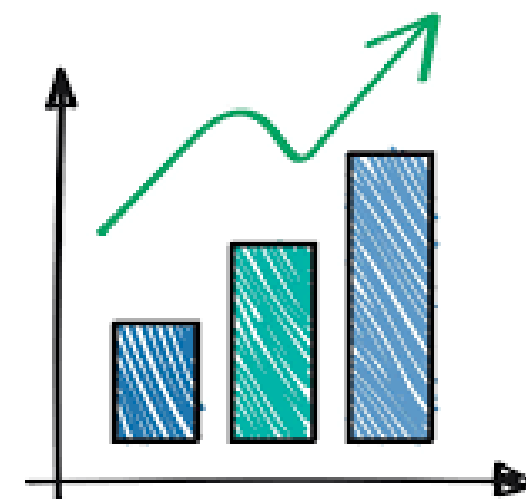


Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Peru



# Measurement challenges

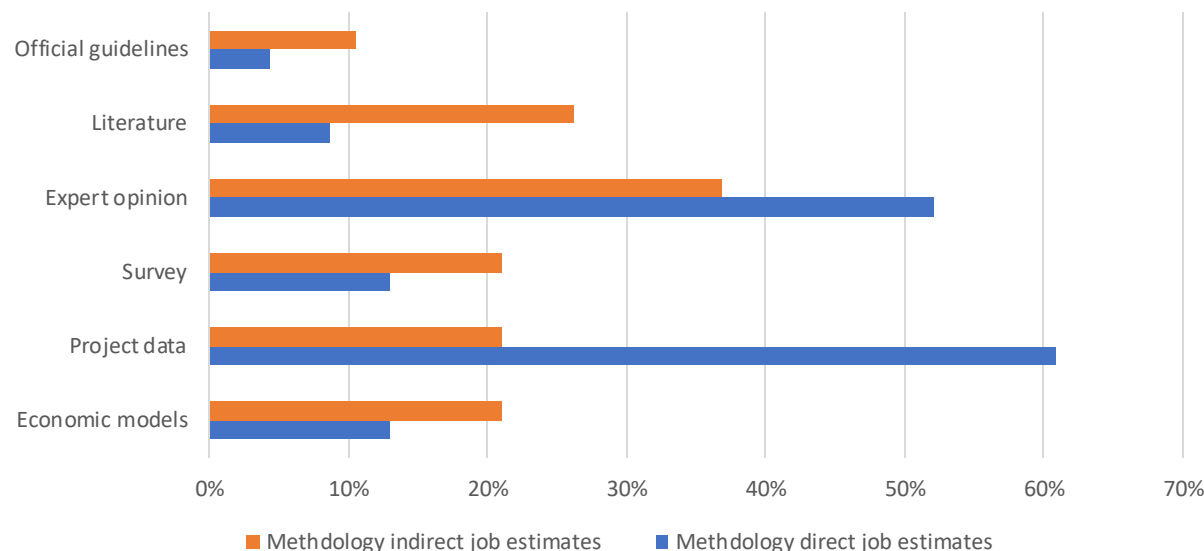
- Employment mostly measured based on industrial (sectoral) activities **but no definition/ data on what activities are NbS**
- Additional challenges for **measuring decent work**- framework exists but data lacking in various parts of the world
- Report proposes **a detailed framework aligned with SEEA and ICLS Standards for measurement of DW in NbS and informed by a global survey**- but not yet adopted or applied
- Employment estimation done based on **financial flows and economic modelling** aligned with ILO Green Jobs Assessment methodologies





# Case study: Methodologies and units used to estimate work in Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)

- **Survey** among submissions for FAO and UNEP World Restoration Flagships
- **Graph:** Percentage of respondents that applied a specific methodology to estimate direct and indirect jobs.
- **Use more than one methodology** by many respondents
- To **estimate direct jobs:** Project data and expert opinion most often applied
- To **estimate indirect jobs:** expert opinion and literature most commonly
- **Table:** different units used by the respondents to report job creation
- Most respondents only used **single unit**



Unit used	Percentage of respondents using unit for:	
	Direct jobs (%)	Indirect jobs (%)
Number of persons employed	47.8	31.6
FTE	21.7	15.8
Working days	17.4	31.6
Number of positions	8.7	10.5
Number jobs	8.7	21.1
Number of people benefited	4.3	5.3
Person-day in a year	4.3	5.3



## How many people are working in NbS?

First attempt to do a global estimation of its kind- with numerous challenges

Important caveats:

- Limited country coverage of both data and model,
- Based on reporting spending and estimation of that spending that is NbS
- Lots NbS work not related to reported spending
- Limited uses of NbS- focus on climate change mitigation and land degradation targets
- Likely to be large underestimation- but also depends on how **strictly we define NbS**
- Difficulty capturing any negative impacts (for example due changes in land use)

ILO Region	Total Employment	PEP and PES	Employed outside PEP and PES	Share of 15-29	Share of women	Estimated volunteers
Africa	1,919,000	1,598,000	322,000	29%	36%	166,000
Americas	756,000	456,000	300,000	19%	38%	5,460,000
Asia and the Pacific	71,693,000	69,324,000	2,369,000	14%	38%	2,435,000
Europe and Central Asia	420,000	0	420,000	15%	37%	7,971,000
World	<b>74,875,000</b>	71,393,000	3,482,000	16%	37%	<b>16,116,000</b>



# Estimates of future additional employment in NbS

- Estimation is based on tripling investment in NbS to approximately **USD 400 billion per annum by 2030** based on figures from 2021 UNEP State of Finance Report
- Increase investment in **reforestation, silvopasture, peatland restoration** and **mangrove restoration**.
- No full global coverage
- Projected to increase employment by **approximately 20 million jobs by 2030** five-fold increase- excluding PEP related employment
- Includes **economy wide employment** effects

Sectors	Persons employed
Agriculture and Forestry	13,904,000
Manufacturing	2,436,000
Construction	472,000
Distribution, retail, hotels and catering	528,000
Transport and Storage	161,000
Business Services	731,000
Public services	1,560,000
Other	30,000
Total	19,822,000



# Estimates of future employment in NbS

- Bulk of employment projected for middle-income countries!
- Most land to restore
- Resources and interest available to restore
- Use of labour-intensive methods generate more employment
- High-income countries: more capital intensive and less land
- Low-income countries: fewer resources available- more difficult political context (especially in fragile contexts) (even though need/ potential may be great!)
- Partial- driven by mitigation needs- not for example adaptation needs

<i>Income regions</i>	High-income	Upper-middle income	Lower middle-income	Low-income	World Total
Persons employed	418,000	<b>4,949,000</b>	<b>13,924,000</b>	466,000	19,822,000



# Looking ahead to future reports and activities



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**Karin ZAUNBERGER**



Policy Officer, European Commission

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# **Decent jobs in Nature-based Solutions**

**Karin Zaunberger**  
**DG ENV**

European Union

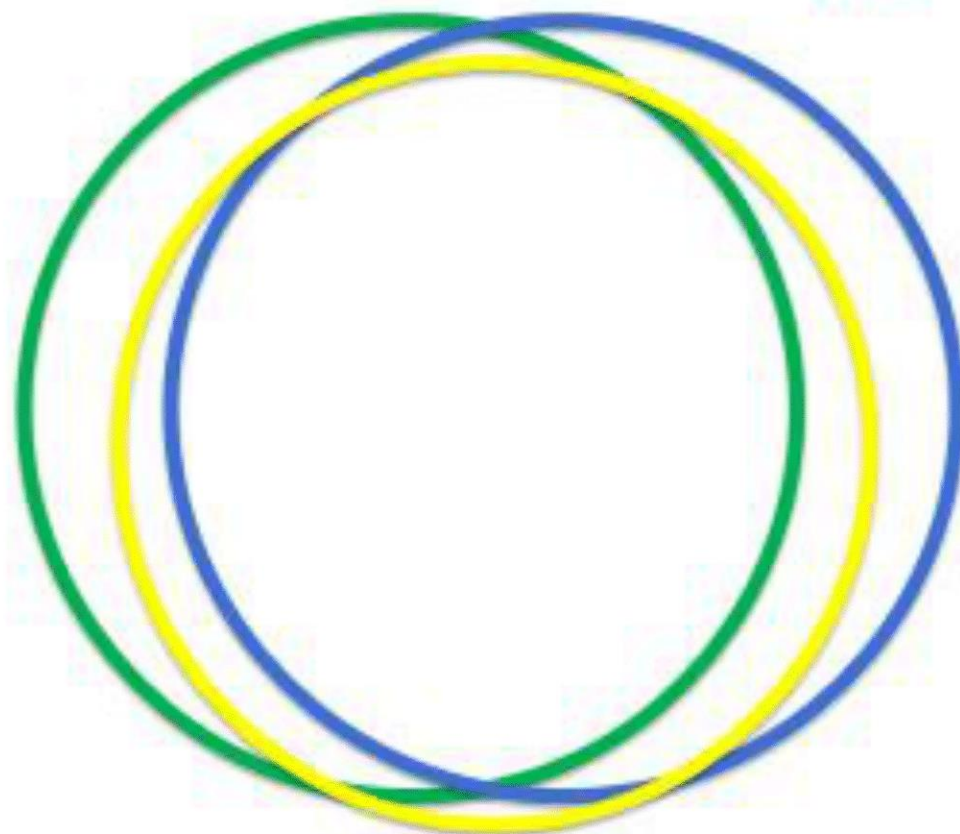




# The Rosetta Stone

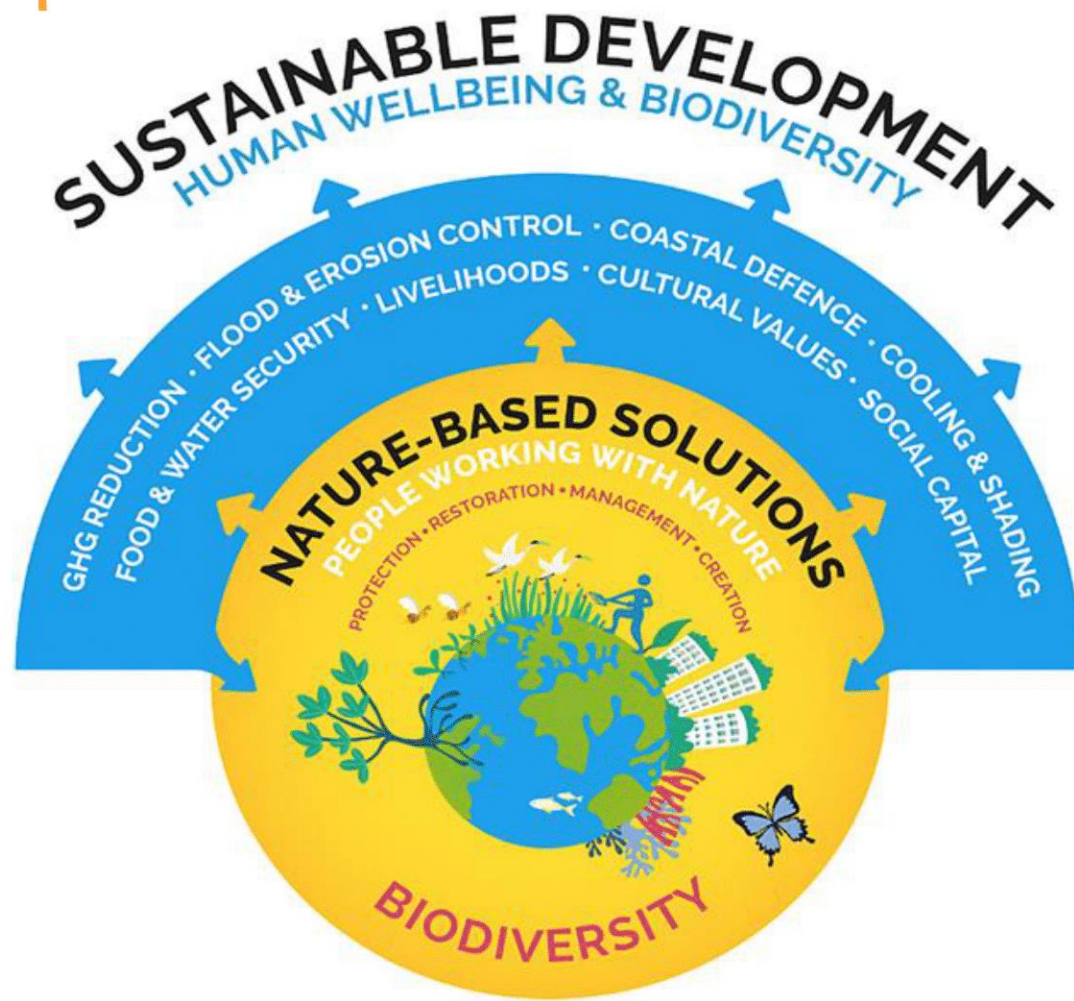
**EBA** – **NBS** – **GI**  
**eco-DRR** – **NWRM**

...



working with nature for people





Multilaterally agreed definition included in UNEP/EA.5/Res.5 :

*... nature-based solutions are actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits, ...*



# The European Green Deal

**EU Adaptation Strategy**

Increasing the EU's Climate ambition for 2030 and 2050

Transforming the EU's economy for a sustainable future

A zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment

**EU Biodiversity Strategy**

Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity

From 'Farm to Fork': a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system

Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility

**European Bauhaus Initiative**

A European Climate Pact

And leaving no one behind

Designing a set of deeply transformative policies, under the Do No Harm principle

The EU as a global leader

**EU Renovation Wave**

Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy

Supplying clean, affordable and secure energy

Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way

**The European Green Deal**



# COMMUNITY OF NATURE-BASED ENTERPRISES



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with buyers of  
nature

Nature-based  
enterprises with  
financing

Innovators with  
those seeking  
inspiration

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practitioners

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**Thank you for your attention**

[https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en)

European Union







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# Conclusion & Closing Remarks



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# **INNOVATING AND UNLOCKING FINANCE FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**

**11 MAY 2023 | 16:00 - 17:30 CEST | PALAIS DES NATIONS & ONLINE**



Launch of the ILO-Circle Economy-World Bank Initiative

# Understanding the circular economy

measuring, modelling and monitoring circular jobs

9 MAY 2023 | 13:30 - 15:00 CEST | ONLINE



[tiny.cc/GEN9May23](https://tiny.cc/GEN9May23)



International  
Labour  
Organization





## WHAT'S NEXT?

 [genevaenvironmentnetwork.org](https://genevaenvironmentnetwork.org)



### VIRTUAL

#### **Understanding the Circular Economy: Measuring, modelling, and monitoring circular jobs | Launch of the ILO-Circle Economy-World Bank Initiative**

**09 MAY 2023 13:30 – 15:00**

Online | Webex

ILO, World Bank Group, Circle Economy, GEN

🕒 Green Economy

🕒 SDG8



### CONFERENCE

#### **Innovating and Unlocking Finance for Nature-based Solutions**

**11 MAY 2023 16:00 – 17:30**

Palais des Nations | Room XXIV & Online  
EU, IUCN, GEN

🕒 Green Economy | Nature

🕒 SDG8 | SDG9





## GEN @ 2023 BRS COPS

[tiny.cc/GEN2023BRSCOPs](https://tiny.cc/GEN2023BRSCOPs)



### CONFERENCE

#### Advancing a Human Rights-based Approach to Pollution for People and the Planet | BRS COPS 2023 Side Event

10 MAY 2023 13:15 – 14:45

CICG | Room C & Online

OHCHR, UNEP, UNDP, ILO, UNECE, FAO, Minamata Convention on Mercury, UN EMG, GEN

- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution | Human Rights and Environment
- ⦿ SDG12



### CONFERENCE

#### Unlocking MEAs' Potential: Supporting Parties' Environmental Action through Data and Knowledge Management | BRS COPS 2023 Side Event

10 MAY 2023 18:15 – 19:45

CICG | Room 11-12 & Online

BRS, Minamata Convention on Mercury, CITES, InforMEA, GEN

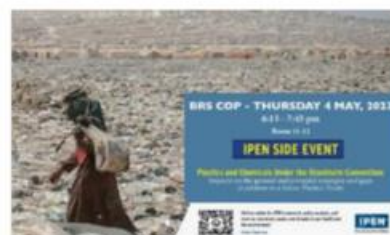
- ⦿ Chemicals and Pollution
- ⦿ SDG17





# GEN @ 2023 BRS COPS

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## CONFERENCE

**Plastics and chemicals under the Stockholm convention: Impact on the ground and potential synergies and gaps in relation to a future plastics treaty | BRS COPs 2023 Side Event**

**04 MAY 2023 18:15 - 19:45**  
CICG | Room 11-12 & Online | Webex  
IPEN

🌱 Chemicals and Pollution  
🌍 SDG3 | SDG12



## CONFERENCE

**PCB elimination by 2028: Potential of the non-combustion destruction technologies | BRS COPs 2023 Side Event**

**05 MAY 2023 13:15 - 14:45**  
CICG | Room 8 & Online | Webex  
IPEN

🌱 Chemicals and Pollution  
🌍 SDG3 | SDG12



## CONFERENCE

**Tackling the Hidden Basel Plastic Wastes | BRS COPs 2023 Side Event**

**08 MAY 2023 18:15 - 19:45**  
CICG | Room 14 & Online | Webex  
Basel Action Network, IPEN

🌱 Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics  
🌍 SDG3 | SDG12



## CONFERENCE

**Connecting the dots: Youth and the National Implementation Plans (NIPs) | BRS COPs 2023 Side Event**

**09 MAY 2023 18:15 - 19:45**  
CICG | Room 3 & Online  
IPEN

🌱 Chemicals and Pollution  
🌍 SDG3 | SDG12