

A VIRTUAL EVENT

NATURE FOR LIFE

24-25
28-29
09

Putting Nature at the Heart of Sustainable Development and Green Recovery



9.24: SDG DAY

9.25: BUSINESS & FINANCE DAY

9.28: GLOBAL AMBITION DAY

9.29: LOCAL ACTION DAY

Meet the Speakers

Session 3.0 | MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020, 8 AM - 8:55 AM EDT
NATURE FINANCE FORUM



HOST & MODERATOR

TOURÉ

WRITER AND JOURNALIST

Touré is an American writer, music journalist, cultural critic, podcaster, and television personality. He was a co-host of the TV show *The Cycle* on MSNBC. He was also a contributor to MSNBC's *The Dylan Ratigan Show*, and the host of Fuse's *Hiphop Shop* and *On the Record*. He serves on the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Nominating Committee. He taught a course on the history of hip hop at the Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, part of the Tisch School of the Arts in New York. Touré is the author of several books, including *The Portable Promised Land* (2003), *Soul City* (2005), *Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness? What It Means To Be Black Now* (2011) and *I Would Die 4 U: Why Prince Became an Icon* (2013). He is also a frequent contributor at *The Daily Beast*.



SPEAKER

ELIZABETH MREMA

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema is the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. She has worked with the UN Environment Programme for over two decades and was the Director of the Law Division at UNEP. Prior to joining the Law Division, she was Deputy Director of the Ecosystems Division, in charge of coordination, operations and programme delivery. Prior to these duties, she also served as Executive Secretary of the UNEP/Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. Her work at UNEP has focused on development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, including multilateral environmental agreements at national, regional and international levels.



SPEAKER

FRANS TIMMERMANS

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

After 25 years of different political positions, Mr Timmermans became Minister of Foreign Affairs in the second Rutte government in the Netherlands in 2012. Two years later, in 2014, he became First Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for better regulation, interinstitutional relations, sustainable development, the rule of law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights. Since 2019, he is the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for the European Green Deal.



SPEAKER

GERD MÜLLER

**FEDERAL MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT,
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

Gerd Müller is a German politician and member of the Christian Social Union in Bavaria. He is the Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development. In October 2014, Müller co-chaired the Berlin Conference on the Syrian Refugee Situation along with Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres. In November 2014, he and German Environment Minister Barbara Hendricks hosted a conference which raised \$10 billion for the Green Climate Fund's projects to fight global warming.



SPEAKER

ANDREA MEZA MURILLO

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COSTA RICA

Andrea Meza is the current Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica, and an expert in sustainable development with more than 20 years of experience in formulating public policies and executing projects. She has worked in more than 15 Latin American countries in multidisciplinary projects financed by various multilateral organizations (IDB, World Bank, CAF, European Union, UNDP), bilateral (AECID, GIZ) and National governments.



SPEAKER

SVEINUNG ROTEVATN

MINISTER OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT NORWAY

Sveinung Rotevatn has served as Norway's Minister of Climate and the Environment since 2020. Prior to that, he served as a state secretary at the same department from 2018 to 2020 under then minister [Ola Elvestuen](#). Rotevatn became the president of the [Young Liberals of Norway](#) in 2010 and was elected MP in the [2013 Norwegian parliamentary election](#). He was later appointed State Secretary to the Department of Justice and Public Security in 2018. In 2020, he was also designated deputy leader of the Progress Party, unanimously by the party's election committee. Rotevatn has a master's degree in law from the [University of Bergen](#)



SPEAKER

ZAC GOLDSMITH

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR PACIFIC AND THE ENVIRONMENT
UK GOVERNMENT**

Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park is the Minister for Pacific and the Environment at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. He was first appointed as a Minister of State in the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Department for International Development and Defra on 13 February 2020. He was previously Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and at the Department for International Development from September 2019 to February 2020 and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and at the Department for International Development on July 2019 and September 2019.



SPEAKER

HANSJÖRG WYSS

FOUNDER WYSS FOUNDATION

A native of Switzerland who now lives in Wilson, Wyoming, Mr. Wyss' first experiences in the West drew him back to the United States to attend the Harvard Business School, from which he graduated in 1965. With his American education and passion for discovery, he started a successful medical research and design company, headquartered in West Chester, Pennsylvania, whose products have helped millions of patients recover from skeletal and soft tissue trauma and injuries. Practical and innovative by nature, Mr. Wyss' philanthropy fosters new ideas, new tools, and new collaborations in areas from medicine, education and the arts to economic opportunity, conflict resolution, and land conservation.



SPEAKER

MELANIE AND ROB WALTON

ROB AND MELANIE FOUNDATION

As the co-founder of the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation, Melani is committed to supporting philanthropic impact on a local, national, and global scale. Through her studies in art history and background as a K-12 educator, real estate agent, human performance trainer, multi-sport clinician and coach, and Collegiate All-American in academics and athletics, she brings a diverse set of skills to helping people solve problems and improve lives. Melani is passionate about supporting research and innovation in education, arts and humanities, brain health and consciousness studies, human performance and well-being, and conservation and sustainability.

Rob Walton is a co-founder of the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation. He is also a member of the Environment Program Committee of the Walton Family Foundation. Rob serves on the board of directors of Conservation International and is co-chairman of the Arizona State University Global Institute of Sustainability. Rob is also a member of the Mayo Clinic Arizona Leadership Council and is an emeritus life trustee of The College of Wooster. Rob Walton is the retired chairman of the board of Walmart. Rob joined Walmart in 1969, where he held a variety of positions, including senior vice president, corporate secretary, general counsel and vice chairman. He is a member of the board of directors at Walmart and served as chairman from 1992 to 2015.



SPEAKER

JULIE PACKARD

VICE CHAIRMAN PACKARD FOUNDATION

Julie Packard is the executive director of the Monterey Bay Aquarium and has served in that position since the Aquarium opened in 1984. With a mission to inspire conservation of the oceans, the Monterey Bay Aquarium is widely acknowledged as a leader among aquariums worldwide and has been instrumental in engaging the public to become involved in ocean conservation and redefining aquariums as a force for conservation. She has served on many other boards and committees related to conservation, including the California Nature Conservancy and World Wildlife Fund. She also served as a member of the Pew Oceans Commission; a group of U.S. leaders charged with developing recommendations to improve ocean resource management.



SPEAKER

AILEEN LEE

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
THE GORDON & BETTY MOORE FOUNDATION**

Aileen Lee is the Chief Program Officer for the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation's Environmental Conservation program. She was previously an Associate Principal at McKinsey & Company, serves on the board of the Biodiversity Funders Group, and previously served as the Chair of the board of the Environmental Grantmakers Association.



SPEAKER

FRANK BROWN

Frank Brown is a member of the Heiltsuk Nation from Bella Bella. Brown is an adjunct professor at Simon Fraser University's Resource and Environmental Management Department with an Honorary Doctorate from Vancouver Island University. Brown is a leader in the Pacific coast-wide ocean-going Indigenous canoe resurgence and served as initiator and events planner for the Tribal Journeys to Bella Bella in 1993 and 2014. Brown was the founding director of the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Department and director of Land and Marine Stewardship for the Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative. He co-developed and is implementing an Aboriginal Eco-Tourism training program with the Heiltsuk Tribal Council, Vancouver Island University and North Island College. He also supported the development of an Indigenous Guardians training program with Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative and Vancouver Island University. Brown is also an entrepreneur involved in fisheries, forestry and tourism.



SPEAKER

PAUL POLMAN

CO-FOUNDER OF IMAGINE

Paul Polman is Co-founder of IMAGINE, a benefit corporation and foundation accelerating business leadership to achieve the Global Goals. He also serves as Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce, The B Team and Oxford Said Business School, is Vice-Chair of the UN Global Compact, and remains a UN-appointed SDG Advocate. He was CEO of Unilever for 10 years where he demonstrated that a long-term, multi-stakeholder model goes hand-in-hand with good financial performance. During his tenure, Unilever was one of the best-performing companies in its sector, delivering ten years of consistent top and bottom-line growth.



SPEAKER

MARC ENGEL

CHIEF SUPPLY CHAIN OFFICER UNILEVER

In his 20+ year career with Unilever, Marc has worked in the Netherlands, Singapore, UK, Brazil, Switzerland and Kenya. He has experience in supply-chain operations, covering procurement, logistics, finance and strategy development. Prior to this, Marc had an executive leadership role in Unilever's East Africa business where he was responsible for laying the foundations for accelerated growth. He was Unilever's Chief Procurement Officer, in charge of the worldwide procurement of third-party goods and services. During this time, he was responsible for establishing the Partner to Win program, to transform supplier relationships and to deliver on Unilever Sustainable Living Plan ambitions.



SPEAKER

ANNE-LAURENCE ROUCHER

DEPUTY CEO, HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE, AND CORPORATE SECRETARIAT MIROVA

Anne-Laurence began her career in 1999 in a company aiming to help get people out of work for a long period back into employment. In 2000, she joined the management consulting firm AT Kearney as a Business Analyst and then as a Senior Associate with financial institutions. Anne-Laurence joined Natixis in 2005 before becoming Head of Strategic Planning at Ostrum Asset Management in 2007. While in this position Anne-Laurence played a pivotal role in highlighting the importance of responsible financing. This strategic priority led to the creation of a business unit within Ostrum Asset Management dedicated to responsible investment. This unit later developed into Mirova.



SPEAKER

JEREMY DARROCH

CEO SKY GROUP

Jeremy joined Sky plc as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in 2004 and was appointed CEO in December 2007. He became Group CEO following the acquisition of Sky Italia and Sky Deutschland in 2014. He has extensive experience in the retailing and fast-moving consumer goods sectors. Prior to joining Sky, Jeremy was Group Finance Director of DSG International plc (DSG), formerly Dixons Group plc and prior to DSG, he spent 12 years at Procter & Gamble in a variety of roles in the UK and Europe. Jeremy is a Non-Executive Director of Burberry Group plc and an Ambassador of WWF.



SPEAKER

ANTOINE SIRE

HEAD OF COMPANY ENGAGEMENT BNP PARIBAS

Antoine Sire graduated from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris and holds a doctorate (DEA) in public law. After working at the French bankers' Association and at Crédit Mutuel, he became Communications Director of BNP in 1997 and BNP Paribas in 2000. He is credited with designing the bank's starred logo and creating the communication codes for the new group after its merger in 2000. He developed the brand worldwide and strengthened the bank's social commitments. In 2003, he broadcast a programme on France's main business radio, BFM, dedicated to new technologies in digital technologies and by extension to green technologies. In September 2017 he was appointed as a Member of the Executive Committee and Head of Company Engagement at BNP Paribas.

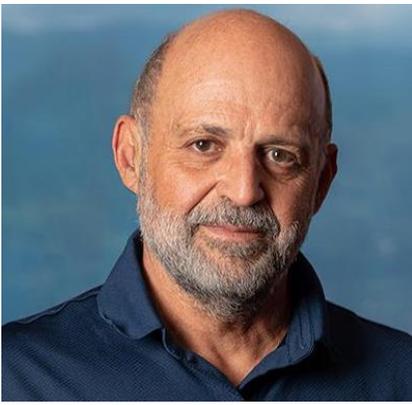


SPEAKER

ACHIM STEINER

ADMINISTRATOR UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Achim Steiner is the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme. Before joining UNDP, he was Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, director of the Oxford Martin School, Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Secretary General of the World Commission on Dams.



SPEAKER

CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ

CEO THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FUND

Lawyer by profession, politician by choice, and conservationist at heart, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez was elected as CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility by its governing body, the GEF Council, in June 2020. The Costa Rican Environment and Energy Minister was a pioneer in the development of Payment for Ecosystem Services initiatives and strategies for forest restoration, ocean conservation, decarbonization, and is an expert on environmental policy, multilateral environmental negotiations, and financing for nature conservation. His positions over the past 30 years include: Director of Costa Rica's National Parks Service, founder of many environmental NGOs, expert negotiator in UNFCCC, CBD, and UNCCD, and participant in negotiations for the creation and implementation of the GEF and Green Climate Fund.

SPEAKER

CHRISTIANA FIGUERES

VICE CHAIR GLOBAL COVENANT OF MAYORS



Ms. Figueres is an internationally recognized leader on global climate change. She was Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2010-2016. Assuming responsibility for the international climate change negotiations after the failed Copenhagen conference of 2009. Building toward that goal, she directed the successful Conferences of the Parties in Cancun 2010, Durban 2011, Doha 2012, Warsaw 2013, and Lima 2014, and culminated her efforts in the historical Paris Agreement of 2015. Since then Ms. Figueres has continued to accelerate the global response to climate change. Together with Tom Carnac she founded Global Optimism Ltd., a purpose driven enterprise focused on social and environmental change, under which run various initiatives including the podcast Outrage and Optimism.



SPEAKER

EDWARD NORTON

ACTOR

Acclaimed actor and two-time Academy Award nominee Edward Norton is the first Goodwill Ambassador to be appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General. As a Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity, Mr. Norton works closely with the Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity to help spotlight the importance of biodiversity to human well-being and to ensure world leaders take appropriate measures to protect the environment. Mr. Norton is a committed social and environmental activist. He is the President of the Board of the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, a community conservation organization that partners with traditional communities in East Africa to conserve key ecosystems by developing sustainable, natural resource-based economic revenues. Mr. Norton also serves on the Board of Trustees of Enterprise, which works to move families up and out of poverty and transform low-income communities across the US through the development of decent affordable housing and social service networks.