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Countdown to CBD COP15: Landmark Leaders Event for a Nature Positive World

Securing an agreement to save our life support systems

CONCEPT NOTE

Tentative date: 20 September 2022, **Time:** 18.45 (EST) **Location:** WCS's Central Park Zoo & Livestreamed

The High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC for N&P), the Global Ocean Alliance (GOA), the Leaders' Pledge for Nature (LPN) are organising a high-level event in the margins of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly. Government leaders and partners will present a refreshed ambition for nature and people on ocean and land and showcase key actions in support of a comprehensive approach to finance, including resource mobilization from all sources in order to achieve an equitable and Nature Positive world by 2030. The ambition and announcements will demonstrate the highest level of commitment from leaders to secure an ambitious global biodiversity framework (GBF) at COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to take place in December 2022 in Montreal under the China Presidency and ensure its immediate, inclusive and effective implementation.

Event Objectives

- To build momentum ahead of CBD COP15 on the importance of securing an ambitious and transformative Post 2020 GBF that commits to reversing biodiversity loss to secure a nature positive world by 2030, including the adoption of the target to conserve and protect at least 30% of the planet's land and ocean by 2030, transforming the economy and key productive sectors currently destroying nature.
- To demonstrate progress and take stock of previous commitments take on achievements and progress on delivering past announcements
- To renew commitments from leaders by pledging new actions to deliver on the objectives of the LPN, HAC for N&P and GOA, in particular around finance for nature and people, including resource mobilization from all sources, in support of impactful implementation of the GBF.

Hosts and co-sponsors: The event is led by a cross regional group of **countries** including Bhutan, Colombia, Costa Rica, European Union, France, Gabon, Germany, Nigeria, United Kingdom, United States of America as well as their **partners:** BirdLife International, Business for Nature, Capitals Coalition, Club of Rome, Conservation International (CI), Enduring Earth, Finance for Biodiversity Pledge, Global Commons Alliance, Global Environment Facility (GEF), International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), National Geographic & Campaign for Nature, Nature 4 Life Hub, Nature Positive by 2030 Campaign, Planetary Emergency Partnership, The Pew Charitable Trusts, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Participants

Heads of State and Government representing a diverse range of regions will be the primary participants, and Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Environment, Finance will be welcomed. The UN Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly as well as the current and incoming CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD COP Presidencies will be invited, as well as representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), youth-focused organizations, businesses, as well as from civil society organizations. Heads of UN entities, High-level representatives from multilateral development banks, financial institutions and foundations, are also invited.

Format of the event

The event will be in person in New York with a webcast option for viewers. It will take place on Tuesday 20 September 2022 from 7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m. (tbc). In person participation in New York is foreseen. The event will be moderated by a High-Level leader and Heads of State and Government and partners will give short statements or take part in live panels focused on significant, concrete and ambitious actions and announcements to achieve and finance an equitable and nature positive world by 2030 and support the effective implementation of the CBD post-2020 GBF. The event will also include an interactive segment as well as statements/interventions from the private sector, financial institutions, and other non-state actors. Videos showcasing significant nature positive actions will be included.

Background

This High Level event comes at a key moment when the world is faced with multiple crises, including biodiversity loss, climate change, pollution, food insecurity and recovering from COVID-19. Failing to deliver these ambitious decisions is simply not an option. UNGA-77 is a key milestone ahead of CBD COP15 to build upon the compelling evidence¹ and accelerate efforts, including as part of: the Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and high level commitments made over the past years such as the 2020 UN Summit on Biodiversity, the Kunming CBD COP15.1.

This event seeks to build on previous LPN/HAC/GOA events such as the LPN event hosted in association with Stockholm +50 “Financing the transition to a Nature Positive Future”² as well as the event co-hosted by the GOA and HAC at the UN Ocean Conference, titled “Driving Positive Ocean Action: The Challenges and Opportunities of Sustainable Finance for 30by30 and Blue Economies and the recent joint statement to step up global ambition to address the interdependent crises of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change, on the occasion of the High-Level Meeting “Moment for Nature”³.

¹ [Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#); [IPBES Assessment Report on Sustainable Use of Wild Species](#); [IPBES Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature](#); [Special report on Climate Change and Land](#); [UNEP 2021 Report – Making Peace with Nature](#); [IPBES #PandemicsReport: Escaping the 'Era of Pandemics](#); [IPBES-IPCC CO-Sponsored Workshop Biodiversity And Climate Change Workshop Report](#); [UN Oceans Conference political declaration](#)

² [Financing the transition to a Nature Positive Future Co-hosts summary](#)

³ [Joint statement on global ambition to address the interdependent crises of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change, on the occasion of the High-Level Meeting “Moment for Nature”](#)

Despite ambitious high-level commitments including through the LPN, HAC and GOA, more is needed to translate them into key decisions for nature, including the negotiations of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be adopted at the CBD COP15 in Montreal under the Presidency of China.

The stakes could not be higher, and the current decade is decisive. Failure for nature will mean failure for multiple agendas from climate to security and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and failure to secure continuity of all life on earth. In view of the urgency, leaders' continued ambition and resolve to accelerate efforts is key to success.

Types of significant announcements and actions to be showcased

Event organizers are seeking in particular significant and action-oriented announcements and actions in the areas of domestic financing, international financing and private/blended and innovative financing, including blue finance, in line with equitably transitioning to a nature-positive economy and world, as well as progress on delivering past commitments. These will need to directly demonstrate how they will support the implementation of an ambitious and transformational global biodiversity framework.

Contact us

If you are interested in showcasing significant, concrete and ambitious actions and announcements to finance an equitable and Nature Positive world by 2030, please email – ritazaghloul@cambioclimatico.go.cr and cblanchard@wwfint.org

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