

Speakers at the Informal exchange sessions on trade and biodiversity

24 October 2024, 9 – 17:30 (COT) - UN Hub, Place Quebec (Blue Zone)

Connecting the Dots: How international cooperation on trade and trade policies can support action on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)



H.E. Anna Chrisp, Ambassador, Embassy of the Commonwealth of Australia to the Republic of Colombia

Ms Chrisp is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and was most recently Director, Pacific Regional Organisations and Governance Section. Ms Chrisp speaks Spanish, French and Arabic and holds a Master of International Security from Sciences Po Paris and a Bachelor of Economics and Social Sciences from University of Sydney.



Daniel Mukubi, Head of Biodiversity Office, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Mr Mukubi is responsible for developing policies and strategies relating to biodiversity in general and wildlife in particular. He also ensures the interface between science and policy, so that decisions relating to biodiversity and ecosystem services are based on research results and scientific evidence. He is specializing in community governance of resources and sustainable financing of biodiversity. He is interested in the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the management of forest resources. He is the Democratic

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Republic of the Congo negotiator for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). He is also a member of the Panel of Experts for the validation of Environmental and Social Impact Studies at the Congolese Environment Agency (ACE), and a member of the Group of Experts for the evaluation of the Green List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (EAGL/IUCN).



Olivia Carolina Bonner, Policy Advisor - Plastics Treaty and MEAs, Forum on Trade, Environment & the SDGs (TESS)

Olivia is an international environmental and human rights lawyer with experience in international law, multilateral engagement, and policymaking. Olivia specializes in the development and implementation of international environmental law in accordance with cross-cutting international obligations, and the promotion of environmental rule of law. Olivia has experience in policymaking at the international, regional, and national/state levels, previously working as a Legal Officer with the UN Environment Programme and as a Teaching Fellow for Stanford Law School and the Climate and Energy Policy Program. She is based in Amsterdam.

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Pallavi Kalita, Asia Lead, Business for Nature

Pallavi is the Asia Lead at Business for Nature, where she is spearheading the organization's advocacy efforts to step up business action on nature and partnership development across Asia. Prior to that, she worked as a Trade Policy Analyst for the Delegation of the European Union to India, where she focused on international trade policy research and advocacy to further the commercial and economic policy interests of the EU in India. She also served as a Trade Policy Advisor to the British High Commission, New Delhi, where she provided trade-related analysis and policy support to the UK Government in line with its trade-related objectives in India. She is currently based in Singapore.

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Chantal Line Carpentier, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Branch, UN Trade and Development

Dr. Carpentier is Head, Trade, Environment, and Climate Change Branch of the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) following 8 years as Chief of its New York Office. She co-chairs the UN Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy as part of her advocacy for new economic models for sustainable development and to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and entrepreneurs, especially women.

She served as policy analyst and researcher for UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and Major Groups (of non-State actors) Coordinator in the SDGs negotiations and the UN Rio+20 Conference, Director at North American Free Trade Agreement Commission for Environmental Cooperation, policy analyst at Winrock International, and the International Food Policy Research Institute.

She is a 2006 Yale World Fellow and Schwab Foundation intrapreneur of the year 2023. She obtained a PhD. in Agro-Environmental Economics from Virginia Technology and MSc. and BSc. from McGill University and is an ironman and ultramarathoner.

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Trade to promote sustainable agriculture supply chains



Vincent Gitz, Director, CIFOR-ICRAF

Vincent Gitz director, Program and Platforms and Director for Latin America at Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry(CIFOR-ICRAF). He was director of the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA, 2017-2021), that has now given birth to the FTA Partnership. Vincent graduated from Ecole Polytechnique in France, and holds a Ph.D. from AgroParisTech on land use and global climate policies, awarded the Le Monde prize for academic research. He has a background in earth sciences and natural resources and development economics. Vincent has experience in research, prior to CIFOR-ICRAF with the Center for International Research on Environment and Development (CIRED) and the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD); in policymaking (at the French ministry of Agriculture: as advisor for sustainable development and research to the French agriculture and fisheries minister, Michel Barnier, and as head of the food policy department); and at the interface between research and policymaking as coordinator of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE), the science-policy interface of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS). He has published research in several fields related to sustainable development issues, from energy and development economics to earth and environmental sciences to nutrition.

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Amadou Bamba Diop, Principal Environmental Specialist, African Development Bank (AfDB)

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Melissa De Kock, Deputy Director of the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

With 20 years of experience in conservation and environmental management, Melissa previously led UNEP's Biodiversity, People and Landscapes Unit in Nairobi. Her background spans climate change, biodiversity conservation, nature-based solutions, and policy interventions, working with governments, NGOs, and Indigenous communities. She holds an MSc in Environmental Management and an MPhil in Community and Development.

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Implementing the GBF: Fostering private sector engagement through trade



Maritza López, CEO, Ecohome Colombia

Maritza is a passionate entrepreneur with over 20 years of executive leadership experience in Latin America, specializing in business development and social impact. Her current focus is on creating sustainable value chains that protect Colombia's forests while developing high-value bioingredients for global markets. Committed to biotechnology and regeneration, she aims to demonstrate that aligning economic growth with ecosystem restoration is both achievable and essential. She believes that transforming our social and economic models is the foremost ethical responsibility of our time.



Owen Bethell, Environmental Impact Lead Global Public Affairs, Nestlé

Owen Bethell leads Nestlé's global climate change and nature related advocacy, communications and stakeholder engagement activities. In this role, Owen shapes Nestlé's interactions with multilateral institutions, national governments, business associations and other coalitions of action on the environmental agenda – supporting the company's aim to advance regenerative food systems at scale. Prior to taking on this role, Owen headed up Nestlé's global issue and crisis management function.

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Michel Mane, President MANE Americas, Mane et fils

A native from Nice France, Michel spent his childhood in Grasse in the middle of aromatic plants fields. He was educated in Paris, earned his chemical engineering degree from INSCIR and holds a Master's degree in Organic Chemistry from Duke University, NC.

He started his professional career in 1982 at Mane's International Headquarters in France as a research chemist; he was then trained as a Perfumer, and became Director of the Fragrance Division in 1989.

He then moved with his family to the United States of America in 1994 as President of the US affiliate and took the position of President of MANE Americas in 1999. As of July 2024 he is now a member of the supervisory board of the Mane group of companies and its ESG committee. Michel has been attending the CBD COPs since 2010 and continues to spearhead biodiversity-based innovation programs partnering with IPLCs, local research institutions and governmental organizations in the development of ABS compliant natural ingredients value chains.

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Melanie Heath, Senior Director of Global Programme Office, TRAFFIC **Melanie Heath** is the Senior Director - Global Programme Office of TRAFFIC.

She is a conservation leader with 30 years' experience in international conservation and sustainable development. She is working to ensure that trade in wild species is legal and sustainable, for the benefit of the planet and people. As part of TRAFFIC's senior leadership team, she plays a leading role in the development and promotion of the work of the Global Programme Office, with special attention to global and multi-regional programmes, partnerships and policy dialogue. TRAFFIC has recently launched its 2030 Strategy with a significant focus on five priority areas: strengthening global policy frameworks; improving effectiveness of national policies and regulations; empowering communities; enabling responsible supply chains; and catalysing responsible consumption. Before joining TRAFFIC, Melanie was the Global Director for Science and Policy with BirdLife International.



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her advocacy for new economic models for sustainable development and to support MSMEs and entrepreneurs, especially women.

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Consumers and Nature: Making Trade Work for Biodiversity and Development



María Carolina Ramírez García, Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Protection, Superintendence of Industry and Commerce, Government of Colombia

María Carolina is a lawyer from the Externado University of Colombia, with a specialization in Regulation and Management of Telecommunications and New Technologies and another in State Contracting. She has more than 18 years of experience in the public sector, where she has held various positions, including deputy attorney of the Disciplinary Chamber of the Attorney General's Office, advisor to the Elite Group of Disciplinary Investigations, and has also been an official of the Council of State. She currently holds the position of Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Protection at the Superintendence of Industry and Commerce. Her career has focused on sanctioning and administrative law, leading high-profile cases, supervising disciplinary investigations and participating in the resolution of appeals related to administrative sanctions. Her professional qualities include a deep knowledge of sanctions law, analytical capacity for complex cases, legal research skills, effective coordination of multidisciplinary teams and excellent communication and legal argumentation skills.

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Camila Cosse Braslavsky, Sustainable Consumption Specialist, Consumers International

Camila Cosse Braslavsky is a dedicated Sustainable Consumption Specialist at Consumers International (CI) and a key contributor to the Coordination Desk of the Consumer Information Programme at the One Planet Network, where she represents Consumers International, institutional Co-lead of the programme with the German Ministry of Environment (BMUV) and the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She is also deeply involved in the creation and execution of effective policies that promote sustainable consumption, with a particular emphasis on biodiversity, plastics pollution, and the Global Biological Framework targets 15 and 16. Beyond her primary duties, Camila plays a vital role in the development and implementation of the CI Sustainable Consumption Strategy. She is an active advocate for CI's influence at the highest political forums and serves as the head of the delegation in negotiations to develop an international legally binding instrument to combat plastic pollution and for the Convention for Biological Diversity and COP16. Prior to her role at Consumers International, Camila worked with UNEP, where she contributed to the Consumer Information Programme and supported other projects on eco-labeling and policy for member states. Before that, she provided substantive and secretariat support as project manager for the 20th International Congress on education and sustainable development of the World Association for Educational Research and served two terms as a Professor Assistant in the Ecosystem Management course of the Environmental Governance master's program at Albert-Ludwigs-University, Germany. Before her international career and relocation to Germany, Camila was involved with the IIEP-UNESCO Latam office, conducting research on policy architectures. She also served as a project manager for the U.S.-based educational program International Studies Abroad Inc., where she was instrumental in establishing a service-learning program in partnership with local non-profits focused on sustainability and recycling. Camila's background is in civil society and organizational management. She holds an MSc in Environmental Governance and is particularly dedicated to the conservation of biodiversity and mitigating the impact of human-environment interactions and consumption on ecosystems and wildlife.

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Ivana Padierna Domínguez, Biodiversity and Trade Specialist, UN Trade and Development

Ivana Padierna is an international communications and trade and biodiversity specialist, currently serving at the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)'s BioTrade Initiative. In her role at UN Trade and Development, Ivana focuses on promoting sustainable and inclusive development, with a particular emphasis on trade-related aspects of the sustainable use of biodiversity. She has played a key role in advancing initiatives that support biodiversity conservation and generation of livelihoods through trade, including by leading the development and implementation of diverse knowledge management and communication activities. Ivana also provides a major contribution to the Working Group 4 on Biodiversity and Consumption (WG4) of the One Planet Network's Consumer Information Programme, where she represents UN Trade and Development as a co-lead together with the Forest Stewardship Council.

Ivana's academic background is rooted in journalism and international relations. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) from Ramon Llull University in Barcelona, Spain, and graduated summa cum laude with a Master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from the International University in Geneva (IUG), in Geneva, Switzerland. A native of Barcelona, Ivana draws on her Mediterranean heritage and global perspective to foster sustainable and inclusive economies that help people and the planet thrive together.

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Jan Christian Polanía Giese, Lead Sustainable Consumption, Adelphi

Jan Christian Polanía Giese is a Senior Manager and heads the Sustainable Consumption team at Berlin-based Think-Do-Tank AClick [here to enter text.delphi](#). His work enables scientifically sound consumption policy and supports this through specific implementation projects involving a wide range of stakeholder groups. For Jan Christian, the design and application of effective instruments to inform consumers about sustainable consumption patterns and lifestyles is critical, particularly in the field of biodiversity. His geographical scope is national as well as global. Jan Christian is a degreed engineer in Environmental Engineering from the Technical University in Berlin, Germany.

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Trade-related standards for sustainable production



Caroline Lhuillery, Biodiversity/Soil quality Committee Manager, International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

Caroline Lhuillery is a standardization project manager on soil quality and air quality since May 2015 at AFNOR Standardization. In 2020 she was appointed Committee Manager of the new international Technical committee ISO/TC 331 on biodiversity.

Caroline is an Agricultural engineer (SupAgro Montpellier, AgroParisTech 1999), AgroParisTech Executive 2014: Public policies and strategies for the environment. With 20 years of experience, including 9 years abroad she has worked in the economic services of the French Embassy (Argentina, Thailand), at the French development agency (AFD), for the CIRAD in Madagascar (the French agricultural research and international cooperation organisation - sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions), for the CESA in Ecuador as well as in a consulting firm on environmental labels (A Good for Good).

Since 2015, within the Department of the Environment (AFNOR standardization), I have been developing standards in the field of soil quality, biodiversity and air quality, at the 3 levels, French (standards NF), European (EN standards) and international (ISO standards).

Steering and management of working groups and decision-making bodies in the field of standardization, leading the various interested parties towards consensus; Representation of French positions at European (CEN) and international (ISO) levels.

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Preshanthie Naicker, Director, Biodiversity and Conservation Branch, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, South Africa

Preshanthie Naicker is a respected leader and Natural Scientist serving the South African Public Sector by using her experience in sustainable business development, strategic policy development, innovation integration, and strategic insights. She guarantees local sustainable development strategies that align with current global trends while identifying opportunities, building partnerships, and driving growth in water, biodiversity, and socio-economic sectors to unearth long-term value.

The Nation Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment recognized her action-oriented, quality driven and resilient trademark, leading to her current role as the Project Manager/Director for a full-sized UNDP/GEF 6 international project. Ms Naicker's career in National Government has focused on the implementation of the Convention of Biological Diversity and related Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing and recent KM-Global Biodiversity Framework. Ms Naicker's multi-skilled capability has also positioned her to serve as a Specialist Contributor at the Sustainable Finance Coalition.

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Joanna Nowakowska, System Performance Director, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Dr Joanna Nowakowska] is co-leading the FSC Performance and Standard Unit responsible for the normative requirements of FSC. She is a forestry and management professional with extensive experience in managing global projects and multicultural teams. In FSC she oversees the development of standards for responsible forest management, as well as risk assessments for sustainability in ca 80 countries. Additionally, she oversees standard setting processes applicable internationally, as well as the monitoring and evaluation program at FSC to advance FSC outcome-orientation. In this work, she and her colleagues champion integration of scientific methods to objectively assess the effects of FSC requirements on the ground.

In the last 1.5 years she has been leading the adjustments of the FSC requirements to important regulatory changes under EU's Green Deal, i.e. EUDR, which has been successfully approved at the beginning of June 2024.

She is also a former GIS practitioner and trainer excited about taking the advantage of technology acting in service of sustainability.

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Svetlana Chobanova, Trade Policy Analyst, WTO

Svetlana Chobanova is a Trade Policy Analyst in the WTO's Trade and Environment Division. In this role, she supports WTO members by conducting in-depth analysis on critical issues at the intersection of trade and the environment, such as the just and sustainable energy transition, carbon pricing, fossil fuel subsidy reform, and biodiversity conservation. She also advises dispute settlement panels and delivers training to government officials and students.

Before joining the Trade and Environment Division, Svetlana served as a dispute settlement lawyer at the WTO Appellate Body, where she advised Members in complex legal proceedings. Her previous experience includes consulting on international economic law, competition law, and regulatory matters at Brussels-based law firms, as well as teaching at the College of Europe in Bruges.

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Trade, biodiversity and circular economy



Jeet Kar, World Economic Forum

Jeet Kar leads sustainable trade and global plastics policy at the World Economic Forum, also coordinating the Forum's engagement on cross-border circularity. He has a background in sustainable trade and development, having previously worked at the United Nations and OECD. He holds a Grande Ecole master's in economics from France and speaks English, French and Spanish.



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Marianne Kettunen, Policy and Institutions Operations Lead, Ellen MacArthur Foundation

[Marianne Kettunen](#) is a Policy and Institutions Operations Lead at the [Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#) (EMF), with her work focused on integrating circular economy across policy areas such as biodiversity, bioeconomy and trade.

Marianne is a senior policy expert and advisor currently with 20 years of experience on the science-policy interface for environment and sustainable development, working with think tanks and international institutions in Brussels, London and Geneva. She is an experienced speaker, convener and facilitator, and an author of numerous policy-oriented publications. She regularly mentors the next generations of environmental sustainability experts.

In addition to her role at EMF, Marianne is a member of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) providing expertise on the socio-economic benefits of biodiversity, including links with trade and trade policy. She is a member of the Board of Trustees for two not-for-profit organisations, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) in Brussels and the Thin Green Line Foundation UK in London. She is also an advisor to TULIP Consulting, a bespoke consultancy focused on sustainable trade law and policy based in Geneva.

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Financing sustainable trade to accelerate KMGBF goals



Lionelle Ngo-Samnack, Agro-economist and programme specialist, International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF)

Lionelle NGO-SAMNICK, engineer in agricultural economics, also holds a master's degree in human and social sciences. She is an experienced and versatile professional with over 20 years' experience in the field of sustainable development policy and programs. She has worked as project coordinator in dozens of development programs funded by many international institutions (FAO, World Bank, SNV, DFID, OIF and EU) in Africa and elaborate well-known initiatives on capacity building, knowledge management and sharing. Presently, she coordinates the environment and climate change project of the International Organization of "La Francophonie".

She is socially committed to improving livelihoods, employment access, resilience of agricultural smallholders and biodiversity conservation. She is well versed in project cycle management, partnership development and research-based development. She has been deeply involved in multi-stakeholder sustainable development processes mainly 2030 development agenda. Ms Ngo-Samnack has proven skills on social communication, knowledge and know-how processes on sustainable development.

Social editor, Lionelle has published more than 30 free access books on the environment and agricultural development. Her publications attracted interest within the media and development communities. In 2005, she was honored with the "African Young Scientist in Agriculture Award" and "Knight of the Order of Merit of Cameroon" for her action in sustainable development and rural employment field in Africa.

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Arend Kulenkampff, Director, Sustainability Linked Debt Hub, NatureFinance

Arend Kulenkampff is the Director of the NatureFinance convened Sustainability-linked Sovereign Debt Hub and leads the work on sovereign financing. He has 15 years of experience in sovereign debt, spanning from credit trading, risk management, economic research, credit ratings, and debt advisory at Citibank, BFA Global, Fitch Ratings, Swiss Re, and Standard Bank Group. He holds a B.A. from McGill University in Montreal, and a M.Sc. from The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He is based in Zurich, Switzerland.



Juan José Guzmán Ayala, Senior Advisor, Adaptation Policy and Finance - Atlantic Council Climate Resilience Center

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Julie McCarthy, Co-CEO, NatureFinance

Julie McCarthy is currently co-CEO of NatureFinance. Prior to NatureFinance, McCarthy was founding co-director of the Open Society Foundations' (OSF) Economic Justice Program, a \$100 million per annum global grantmaking and impact investment program focused on issues of fiscal justice, workers' rights, and corporate governance. Previous roles include serving as the founding director of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), and as a Franklin Fellow and peacebuilding adviser at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, focused on Liberia. Prior to this, McCarthy co-founded the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), serving as its deputy director until 2009. She is a Brookings non-resident fellow in the Center for Sustainable Development, and an Aspen Civil Society Fellow.

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Trade, biodiversity and access and benefit sharing



Natalie Feltman, Director, Bioprospecting and Biodiversity Economy within the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa

In the position of Director: Bioprospecting and Biodiversity Economy within the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa, Ms Natalie Feltman is responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of ABS legislation, policies, strategies, norms and standards promulgated in terms of the South African National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) and the Bioprospecting, Access and Benefit-Sharing Amendment (BABS) Regulations for the sustainable utilization of indigenous biological resources. She further plays a lead role in developing and implementing mechanisms to promote the South African Biodiversity Economy which includes the valorisation of indigenous biological resources with the key aim to optimising the total economic benefits of South Africa's bioprospecting and biotrade industries. Ms Feltman is also the Focal point to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation.



Cecil le Fleur, Chairperson, National Khoi and San Council (NKSC)

Mr. Cecil le Fleur is an Indigenous leader and the Chairperson of the National Khoi-San Council (NKSC). The NKSC was established in 1999 by South Africa's former president Nelson Mandela. It is a national, non-statutory negotiating body for the Khoikhoi and San peoples of South Africa to represent their

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constitutional interests and to accommodate the Khoikhoi and San mandates within government departments. In this capacity, it serves as a body that advocates for the realisation of the Indigenous rights of Khoikhoi and San peoples as contained in international policies, treaties, and conventions. The NKSC is also responsible for negotiating, in partnership with the South African San Council, Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) agreements for the Khoikhoi communities around key plant species, such as Rooibos, Buchu, and Honeybush.

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Bringing trade and biodiversity data to support biodiversity and the GBF



Gemma Harper OBE, Chief Executive, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)

Dr Gemma Harper OBE is Chief Executive of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) – the UK’s statutory advisor on nature conservation and recovery. Prior to joining JNCC, Gemma was Deputy Director of Marine policy and Deputy Race Champion in Defra. She was awarded an OBE for services to the marine environment in the New Year Honours 2021. In March 2020, Gemma was temporarily promoted to director to co-lead Defra’s Food Vulnerability directorate, as part of the Government’s COVID-19 response. She co-led the directorate to win the Civil Service Diversity and Inclusion ‘Impact on the Citizen’ award.

From 2010 to 2017, Gemma was Defra’s Chief Social Scientist and, during this time, a member of the British Academy Public Policy Committee, the Social Research Association Strategy Group and the Government Social Research Leadership Board. In 2020, Gemma was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences for her contribution to social science.

Gemma was awarded the Defra Leadership Award twice, graduated from the Civil Service Senior Leaders Scheme, and is a University of Cambridge Centre for Science and Policy Fellow. Gemma recently completed the Leadership Centre’s Future Vision leadership programme.

In 2023, Gemma was appointed by Defra’s Secretary of State to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Conservation Board. She is advisor to the European Centre for Environment and Human Health (ECEHH) and the UCL-led Capabilities in Academic Policy Engagement (CAPE). Gemma founded and co-chairs the Civil Service Network for Nature, whose mission is to connect civil and public servants to celebrate nature.

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Jonathan Green, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute

Jonathan Green is a Senior Research Fellow at the Stockholm Environment Institute and University of York. With a background in conservation science, Jon has over 15 years of expertise in understanding the costs and benefits of biodiversity conservation, and accounting for biodiversity and natural capital impacts. Jon works within the Sustainable Consumption and Production group, developing tools, such as the Global Environmental Indicators of Consumption (GEIC), to monitor and track the impacts of consumption on biodiversity, via often-complex chains of trade in agricultural commodities. Gaining insight into how trade in agricultural commodities drives biodiversity loss and the key actors in those supply chains is a starting point to identify opportunities to avert future losses of habitat and species.



Lorena Jaramillo, Economic Affairs Officer, UN Trade and Development

Lorena has been working in the area of BioTrade since 2001, internationally with UN Trade and Development and also in her native country, Ecuador. Lorena is currently responsible for the UN Trade and Development BioTrade Initiative, which is being implemented jointly with partners in more than 80 countries. Additionally, she has worked in the development and implementation of sustainable development projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America in relation to biodiversity, sustainable trade, business development, sustainable sourcing and climate change.

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During her career of more than 20 years, Lorena has written several publications, for instance related to sustainable development, sustainable trade and biodiversity, value chains and sustainable sourcing, peace-building, among others.

She is an economist specialized in sustainable development from the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador and has an MBA from the University of Geneva, Switzerland.



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Socio-bioeconomy, small businesses and trade: opportunities to advance biodiversity action



Álvaro Martínez De La Vega, Co-Founder and Executive Director, PAÍS 21

An Agroforestry Engineer, Álvaro has served as an advisor, entrepreneur, businessman, negotiator, researcher, consultant, and international speaker, leading environmental, social, and economic initiatives in Colombia, Latin America, and the United States. His work focuses on improving the sustainability of underserved families globally. He currently engages major companies in developing business strategies with significant environmental, nutritional, and clean water impacts, aligned with blue and circular economy principles. He has also led projects at PAIS21 in collaboration with organizations like the World Food Program, Action Against Hunger, Compartamos con Colombia, the Green Chamber of Commerce, IFAD, and the UN's Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). He was awarded the Alexander Von Humboldt Decoration on Environment in Colombia.



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Mirna Fernández, Policy Researcher, Third World Network and Global Youth Biodiversity Network

Mirna Inés Fernández is a Researcher at the biodiversity programme of Third World Network. She is an environmental engineer from Bolivia with a M.Sc. in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems. She is a founding member and a former global policy coordinator of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the youth constituency to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. At the national level, Mirna is a co-founder of the GYBN Bolivian chapter and of Reacción Climática, a citizen collective promoting action to address sustainability in Bolivia. Her work experience goes through environmental impact assessments, education and capacity development, environmental advocacy and policy research.



Ana Batalhone, Programme Officer, International Trade Centre (ITC)

Ana is a Programme Officer at the Trade and Environment of the International Trade Centre (ITC). She has over 10 years' experience working in the intersection of private sector development and green transition. At ITC, she spearheads initiatives to bolster small business transitions towards a just, low-carbon and nature-positive economy. She is an international development professional from Brazil, holding a Master's degree in International Affairs and executive training in Business and Climate Change (Univ. of Cambridge), Nature-Based Solutions to Global Challenges (Univ. of Oxford), The Global Biodiversity Framework, Sustainable Development and the Law (Univ. of Cambridge), as well as a Diploma of Advanced Studies in CSR (Univ. of Geneva).

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Newman Costa, National Agribusiness Coordinator, Sebrae (Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service)

Newman is a bachelor of Business Administration, MBA in Project Management, MBA Agribusiness, Specialist in local and territorial development, specialist in entrepreneurship. She has vast experience in project management for 29 years, as a project analyst at Sebrae Nacional. She coordinated structuring projects such as: Pacto do Cariri, Programa Araripe, Água nas Escolas and Structuring da Amazonia (Pirarucu) Structuring Aquinordeste, coordinates strategic partnerships with: EMBRAPA, CONAB and Aquaculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Regional Development, FAO, with relevant projects: Sustainable Aquaculture, Produce Brazil- settlements, Rural Women-agribusinesses. She represents Sebrae in the sectoral chambers of the Ministry of Agriculture and supply.

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Women in biodiversity: cultivating better opportunities in trade



Sandra Moreno Cadena, Executive Secretary, RIPESS (Intercontinental network for the promotion of social solidarity economy)

Born in Bogota, Colombia, lives in La Alpujarra, Granada. She has advanced studies in Biodynamic Agriculture in Spain, Development Studies in Geneva (IUED) and Architecture and Urbanism in Bogota (National University of Colombia). Visiting scholar of the International Law Associates Program (Apintlaw) in Indonesia. Between 2013 and 2017, Sandra Moreno represented La Via Campesina at UN negotiations on the Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP) at the Human Rights Council. Speaker at several international seminars on the UNDROP process and the rights of women in rural areas, she has written a number of articles on women's issues and the rights of peasants. She's a member of the Alpujarra Agroecological Network, and her expertise lies on feminist economy and SSE, gender/rural women rights and food sovereignty. Since 2023, she works as Executive Secretary of RIPESS Intercontinental.



Céline Papin, Deputy Mayor of Bordeaux, responsible for territorial, European and international cooperation, higher education and research Céline Papin, municipal councilor

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and deputy mayor of Bordeaux, is a political figure committed to the ecological transition and social justice. A graduate of Sciences Po Bordeaux with a master's degree in international affairs, she worked in international organizations and private companies before entering politics.



Lola Blanc, Consultant, UN Trade and Development

Lola Blanc is an international consultant on development and social and solidarity economy, currently serving at the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE).

Graduate of psychology and the HEC business school in Entrepreneurship and Social business, Lola worked first for the Boston Consulting Group, as head of the Social Entrepreneur Prize, in partnership with the Schwab Foundation.

She then worked at the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs in the Sustainable Development department, in charge of monitoring public development aid operators and then for the department of innovation and partnership policies, in particular to implement the Social and Solidarity Economy portfolio.

She then worked for the French Development Agency in the Entrepreneurship and Inclusive Economy department, then for the Innovation unit.

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Natalia Aguilar Delgado, Associate Professor in International Business, HEC Montreal;
Associate director of Ideos - Social Impact Hub

Natalia Aguilar Delgado is an associate Professor at HEC Montreal, in the International Business Department. She earned a PhD in Strategy and Organization at McGill University, where she completed her thesis about the inclusion of Indigenous peoples' voices in the Nagoya Protocol negotiations. Her main current research interests lie in the intersection of international development, gender studies and regenerative value chains. She is currently the associate director of Pole Ideos, a Social Impact research hub focused on producing knowledge about, among other things, gender inclusion through social innovations.

Natalia Aguilar Delgado, Ph. D. Associate Professor in International Business at HEC Montreal and Associate director of Ideos - Social Impact Hub.
