

## WEBINAR ON TRADE, BIODIVERSITY AND BIOTRADE IN ASEAN

17 May 2023, 16:00 – 18:00 (GMT+7)

### CONCEPT NOTE

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), together with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and Helvetas, will organise a webinar with the title, ***Trade, Biodiversity and BioTrade in ASEAN*** on **17 May 2023 at 16:00 - 18:00 (GMT+7)**. The webinar aims to showcase the assessment to what extent and in what way biodiversity conservation is currently mainstreamed into trade in the ASEAN region, focusing on Indonesia, the Philippines, and Viet Nam.

The webinar is a follow-up on the [first webinar](#) held on 16 May 2022, which aimed to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of sustainable trade in biodiversity-based products, and particularly BioTrade in the ASEAN region, among the focal agencies of the ASEAN Working Groups (AWG), including the AWG on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity, AWG on Forest Products Development (AWG-FPD) and the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME), and their partners and stakeholders. This webinar is organised as part of the Global BioTrade Programme “Linking trade, biodiversity and sustainable development” with the financial support of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO. This is also being supported by the ACB, UNCTAD, and Helvetas. The video recording of the webinar may be viewed through this link: <https://fb.watch/d7vehkcC9Y/>

This second webinar will present the results of a study, ***Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Trade in ASEAN, How to turn the tide?*** The study was conducted in 2022 and focused on the three ASEAN countries—Indonesia, the Philippines, and Viet Nam. Based on this study, policy papers will be drafted by the ACB to pave the way to examine how BioTrade may be further adapted and/or integrated into these initiatives within the context of the ASEAN regional policy action. This may include identifying incentives to develop sustainable value chains and businesses and developing instruments to enhance the visibility of these products internationally. It features promoting sustainability standards and certification schemes, in Indonesia, either as mandatory national systems or voluntary market-based systems. In the Philippines, the incentives for biodiversity conservation into trade are also seen and a sustainable finance roadmap was developed for green and sustainable growth. Viet Nam’s incentives for biodiversity conservation concentrate on ascribing a value to the natural resources and ecosystem services, and several fees for the use of natural resources are in place.

Turning the tide in favor of biodiversity conservation in trade covers seven key actions that include the following: (i) systematisation of experiences and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned in policy dialogues; (ii) fostering the economic valorization of biodiversity; (iii) adaptation and monitoring of taxes; (iv) biodiversity-inclusive environmental impact assessments; (v) sharpening biodiversity in ESG frameworks and national standards; (vi) voluntary sustainability standards with biodiversity minimum criteria and meaningful actions supported by national policy frameworks; and (vii) increasing consumer awareness and visibility of biodiversity in trade.

Additionally, UNCTAD's trade and biodiversity (TraBio) statistical tool will be presented. This tool provides data on bilateral and global trade flows of biodiversity-based products, including economic indicators which could be useful to monitor such trade and also contribute to the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Agenda	Speaker
16:00 – 16:10	Opening Remarks	<b>Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim</b> Executive Director ACB  <b>H.E. Mr. Olivier Zehnder</b> Swiss Ambassador to ASEAN
16:10 – 16:25	Overview of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the ASEAN work	<b>Dr. Mary Kristerie A. Baleva</b> International Affairs and Treaties Division Director, ACB
16:25 – 16:45	Presentation of the findings of the study, Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Trade in ASEAN, How to turn the tide?	<b>Dr. Christine Woda</b> International Expert Helvetas
16:45 – 17:00	The Trade and Biodiversity Statistical Tool (TraBio) and the Global Biodiversity Framework	<b>Ms. Lorena Jaramillo</b> Economic Affairs Officer UNCTAD
17:00 – 17:25	Reflections/ comments	<b>Dr. Ekoningtyas Margu Wardani</b>
17:25 – 17:45	Q & A	
17:45 – 18:00	Closing Remarks	<b>Mr. Jos van der Zanden</b> Program Manager and Market Systems Advisor Regional BioTrade Program Vietnam – Laos - Myanmar  <b>Ms. Lorena Jaramillo Castro</b> Economic Affairs Officer UNCTAD