



Webinar on

'South views on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework'

Theme: 'Building a shared future for all'

Tuesday, 24th May, 2022

@ 3:00 pm-5:00 pm PST (GMT+5)



The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets forth an ambitious plan of action and transformative goals to achieve inclusive growth and meet the three dimensions of sustainability – social, economic and environmental. Biodiversity and ecosystems have been featured as a matter of great significance for achieving socio-economic development in many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their associated targets, especially SDG 14 (life below water) and SDG 15 (life on land).

Biodiversity contributes directly to economic growth and social well-being as it is a key resource for many economic activities concerning agriculture, fisheries, livestock, and forestry hence providing livelihood, and ensuring food and water security. It also allows for natural interactions across all spheres resulting in a healthy and sustainable environment. Besides, ecosystems also provide essential services, including cycling of nutrients, dispersal of seeds, purification of water, control of pests, and regulation of climate.

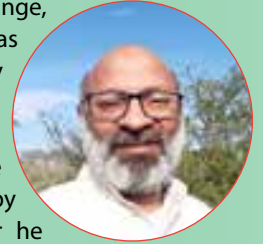
Despite advancements in science and technology, the importance of biodiversity cannot be overlooked since nearly half of the world's population is completely dependent on natural resources for its survival. Unfortunately, during 20th and 21st centuries, biodiversity has declined at an alarming rate mainly due to anthropogenic activities resulting in habitat loss, invasive species, pollution, and extreme climatic events.

In order to highlight the importance of biodiversity and its conservation, and to increase understanding and awareness to the issues of biodiversity in the global South, COMSATS Center for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS) in collaboration with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Pakistan, is organizing a webinar entitled 'South views on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework'. This webinar will be held to mark United Nations International Day for Biological Diversity that is being commemorated this year with the theme "Building a shared future for all life". The theme has been chosen considering Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted in Conference of the Parties (COP15) of UN Convention on Biodiversity in June 2022.

With the umbrella theme of Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land), this webinar would be among the series of webinars to be held throughout the year in order to commemorate United Nations international days falling within the mandate of CCCS.

SPEAKERS

Mr. Naeem Ashraf Raja is currently affiliated with Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan as Director Biodiversity Programme. He holds a Masters degree in Forestry and is looking after the global commitments made by Pakistan under CBD. Earlier he served as Assistant Inspector General of Forests with Ministry of Environment from 2005 to May 2011.



Mr. Raja has published many papers and reports and conducted a number of field surveys. He has participated in national, regional and international workshops and conferences dealing with moderating skills, project planning, monitoring and evaluation, participatory biodiversity conservation as well as conservation of natural resources.

Prof. Zhiyong Huang is the Coordinator of the Joint R&D Group on Bio-agriculture, COMSATS Joint Center for Industrial Biotechnology (CCIB), and the Executive Director of Tianjin Key laboratory of Industrial Biosystems and Processes Engineering. After many years' study and working in Japan and America, he has been a Professor in TIB since 2008. Prof. Huang kept focus on Resources of Microorganisms, Microbial Diversity, Microbial Ecology, and developed a series of engineered microbial techniques which have been widely used in the many fields. He has published more than 60 SCI papers and owns 44 patents. He has presided over and participated in more than 40 national, local and enterprise projects and got several prizes such as



Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/GlobalBioDiversity>

Meeting ID: 849 1923 6506

Passcode: Com@1995

For Information please contact

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Chinese Industry-University-Research Innovation Achievement Award.

Dr. Akwasi Duah-Gyamfi is a Senior Research Scientist and Head of the Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Services Division of the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR-FORIG). He obtained his PhD in Forest Science from the Michigan Technological University, U.S.A. His areas of research interests include biodiversity conservation in different land-uses, forest response to global change factors, forest community and stand dynamics, carbon and nutrient cycling. His long-term research goal is to understand the dynamics of carbon and biodiversity across the tropical forests, how these change with changing climate.



Dr. Khaled Abulaila Director of Biodiversity at National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC), Jordan, PhD in conservation biology. Dr Khaled is interested in wild flora native to the East Mediterranean with focus on Crop Wild Relatives and wild edible species native to the region. He is an expert in Floral survey, Identification of specimens collected, seed collection and conservation. Ex situ conservation, seed banking, species rehabilitation and habitat restoration. He is the National Focal Point for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, and Plant Genetic Resources at the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture/FAO. He is also the National coordinator of joint collaboration between NCARE and the Center of Genetic Resources at the Netherlands (CGN); Conservation and utilization of crop wild relatives of vegetables native to Jordan.



Ms. Hamera Aisha has been working for biodiversity and integrated community-based conservation for over a decade in Pakistan. Currently, she is working with WWF Pakistan and is developing and leading projects and research studies that support the protection of diminishing wildlife and their habitats in Pakistan, along with addressing key drivers of poverty affecting the lives of natural resource-dependent communities. Her work also includes demonstrating and experimenting with new approaches to support and strengthen biodiversity conservation.



03:00-03:05 Welcome Remarks by
Amb. Shahid Kamal
Founder COMSATS Center for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS)

03:05-03:10 Keynote Address by
Mr. Naeem Ashraf Raja,
Director, Biodiversity Program, Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan

Technical Session (10 min for each panelist)

03:10-03:20 Prof. Zhiyong Huang,
Coordinator COMSATS Center of Industrial Biotechnology, Tianjin Institute of Industrial Biotechnology (TIB), China

03:20-03:30 Dr. Akwasi Duah-Gyamfi,
Head of Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Services Division of the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana

03:30-03:40 Dr. Ghose Dipanker,
Director, Wildlife & Habitats Programme, WWF-India

03:40-03:50 Dr. Khaled Abulaila,
Director, National Agriculture Research Center, Jordan

03:50-04:00 Hamera Aisha,
Manager Conservation (Wildlife), WWF Pakistan

04:00-04:30 Panel Discussion / Q & A
(Moderated by Dr. Imran Khalid,
Director, Governance, WWF, Pakistan)

04:30-04:35 Closing Remarks by
Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan,
Director General - WWF