

Lessons from the climate regime for the CBD



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Organised by: PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, with IDDRI, WWF International

Facilitator: Ingrid Visseren-Hamakers, George Mason University, US

Speakers: Yann Laurans - The Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) - France
Marcel Kok - PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

Adrian Dellecker - Director, Global Policy & Advocacy, WWF

Commentary: Hayo Haanstra - Government of The Netherlands

The Paris agreements on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals stand out as a major achievement for international diplomacy, in which the shift to a bottom-up, pledge based system is made. This session will explore lessons that can be learned from this agreement for future deliberations within the CBD on the next Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2020-2030 that will start soon. Some of the features of the Paris Agreement that stand out: it is a legally binding and universal instrument, that establishes obligations for all countries in a flexible manner. It establishes a long-term, architecture and institutionalizes an iterative process, in which parties come back to the table every five years to take stock of their collective progress and put forward emission reduction plans for the next five-year period. It recognises the importance of non-state actors in Very importantly it sets an expectation of progressively stronger action over time and establishes a common transparency and accountability framework.

The question that will be addressed by this panel of policy makers, analysts and NGOs is which of the ingredients of the Paris agreement have relevance for international biodiversity policies, how could this be operationalised in the context of the CBD and where critical differences between climate change and biodiversity need to be taken into account.