

2020
#GGSD
Forum

24 - 26 November

Securing natural capital:

Resilience, risk management and COVID-19

Annotated Agenda

2020
Green
Growth
and
Sustainable
Development
Forum

Agenda Overview

Day 1
Tuesday 24 November 2020

14:00 - 14:55 **High-Level Opening Session**

14:55 - 15:05 **Break**

15:05 - 16:15 **Session 1 - Securing natural capital on land**

Day 2
Wednesday 25 November 2020

14:00 - 15:10 **Session 2 - Securing ocean-based natural capital**

15:10 - 15:20 **Break**

15:20 - 16:30 **Session 3 - Financing natural capital**

Day 3
Thursday 26 November 2020

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15:00 - 15:10 **Break**

15:10 - 16:30 **Session 5 - Addressing climate and biodiversity challenges:
Nature-based solutions for risk management**

16:25 - 16:30 **Closing Remarks**

Background Documents



Land-use policies for sustainability

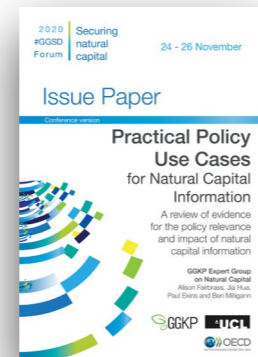
by Axelle Boulay, OECD Consultant

<https://bit.ly/3nAAalm>

Practical Policy Use Cases for Natural Capital Information: A review of evidence for the policy relevance and impact of natural capital information

by Alison Fairbrass, Jia Hua, Paul Ekis and Ben Milligann,
GGKP Expert Group on Natural Capital

<https://bit.ly/370tp7t>



New technologies and approaches to measure ecosystem services locally and to engage local stakeholders: From concepts to real-life applications of ecosystem services modelling and decision-support tools

by Peter van Bodegom and Roy Remme, Leiden University

<https://bit.ly/397hR3t>

Annotated Agenda

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerabilities of our socioeconomic systems globally, and exposed the risks that natural capital degradation imposes on human health, our economy and society. Yet, natural capital, in particular the biodiversity and ecosystem services upon which we depend, is rapidly deteriorating. Since 1970, one tenth of the world's terrestrial biodiversity and one third of freshwater biodiversity has been lost. Deforestation continues and land degradation has reduced productivity of the global terrestrial area by 23 per cent. Coastal waters are deteriorating due to pollution and coastal eutrophication is expected to increase by 20 percent in large marine ecosystems by 2050 (OECD, 2019; IPBES, 2019).

These trends of natural capital erosion can profoundly affect the resilience of our societies, with biodiversity loss among the top global risks. The deterioration of natural capital threatens the productivity of several economic sectors, ranging from agriculture and fisheries to tourism and industry. At the same time, the drivers of biodiversity loss, such as deforestation, land-use change, over-exploitation of natural resources, wildlife trade and climate change are helping to create the conditions for pathogens to leap from animals to humans. The recent spread of new diseases from livestock and the homogeneity of farmed species underline the importance of enhancing resilience and security of our food system.

How is the COVID-19 pandemic re-shaping the policy debate on biodiversity and natural capital protection? What best practices are emerging from sectors and policy areas with direct links to biodiversity? How can the global food system deliver the “triple challenge” of ensuring food security for all, promote rural development and use natural resources sustainably—in short a decent livelihood for all? What approaches can address both biodiversity and climate objectives? How can we measure progress towards securing life under water and on land under the SDGs 14 and 15, and how to better mobilise finance for achieving these goals?

As the international community strives to agree on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at COP15 and prepare for COP 26 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the 2020 OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum will focus on “*Securing natural capital: Resilience and risk management for green growth after Covid-19*”. The Forum will address the risks posed by unmitigated biodiversity loss and natural capital depletion for the resilience and sustainability of our economy and society, and discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic is re-shaping the policy responses to cope with these issues.

Day 1: Tuesday 24 November

14:00 - 14:55 High-Level Opening Session

Moderator:

[Rodolfo LACY](#), Director, Environment Directorate, OECD

Welcome Remark:

[Ángel GURRÍA](#), Secretary-General, OECD

Scene-setting presentation: The Economics of Biodiversity

[Partha DASGUPTA](#), Emeritus Professor, Frank Ramsey Professor Emeritus of Economics, Cambridge University, United Kingdom

Keynote addresses: Country perspectives

[Bérangère ABBA](#), Secretary of State for Biodiversity, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition, France

[LIU Ning](#), Deputy Director-General & Chief Negotiator for Convention on Biological Diversity, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, People's Republic of China

Keynote address: Securing natural capital - Sustainable agriculture

[Louise O. FRESCO](#), President Executive Board Wageningen University & Research, Strategic advisory board of the FAO

14:55 - 15:05 Break

15:05 - 16:15 Session 1 - Securing natural capital on land

A transformative change in land use is needed to end hunger (SDG 2), ensure clean water for all (SDG 6), mitigate greenhouse gas emissions (SDG 13), and protect life on land (SDG 15). Furthermore, the homogeneity of farmed crops and animal varieties increases the vulnerability of our food systems to shocks, such as new pathogens and invasive species imported through international trade. Human encroachment into natural habitats and the competition among different land uses are expected to increase due to world population growth, urbanisation and changing consumption and dietary patterns. This session will discuss the policies, business practices and political economy challenges to ensure a more sustainable use of natural capital on land. How can land use planning, payment for ecosystem services, sustainable agriculture, forestry and other policy measures help to manage the synergies and trade-offs among competing land uses? The sudden outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic also created additional stress on the global food system, requiring interventions by policymakers to guarantee the continued functioning of supply chains and to ensure access to food for vulnerable consumers. What are the distributional implications of such policies? The session will also explore the role of new technologies in addressing these long-standing challenges.

Moderator:

[Alon ZASK](#), Senior Deputy Director General for Natural Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Israel; Co-Chair of OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems (WPBWE)

Scene-setter:

[Anne LARIGAUDERIE](#), Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Panellists:

OECD country policy maker on agriculture policy reforms & payment for ecosystem services

[Julien HARDELIN](#), Head, Office of Foresight & Strategy, French Ministry of Agriculture

Private sector representative on new technologies for better application and reduction of pesticides

[Janet WILLIAMS](#), Head of Regulatory Science (UK & Ireland), Bayer Crop Science

NGO and developing country perspective

[Robin NAIDOO](#), Senior Conservation Scientist and Lead Wildlife Scientist, WWF

The use of data to engage local stakeholders

[Peter VAN BODEGOM](#), Professor of Environmental biology, Leiden University

Policy questions:

- How can the food system meet its triple challenge of ensuring food security, providing livelihoods to farmers, and ensuring environmental sustainability? What are the main progresses and key outstanding challenges?
- How can governments strengthen the coherence between policies for natural capital and land use sectors (e.g. forestry, agriculture), and policies for biodiversity conservation and climate action?
- How can science and innovation contribute to sustainable land use? How can new data sources and open science speed up innovation and adoption of sustainable land-use practices?
- To what extent have the Covid-19 health and economic crises influenced the policy debate on biodiversity and natural capital protection?

Day 2: Wednesday 25 November

14:00 - 15:10 Session 2 - Securing ocean-based natural capital

The ocean economy spans multiple sectors – including fishing, aquaculture, tourism, transport and extractives– and is valued at USD 1.5 trillion. Yet, marine and coastal ecosystems also provide invaluable – and in most cases under-recognised– services, such as climate regulation, pollution control, storm protection, shoreline stabilisation, and habitats for species, all of which are under severe pressure from economic activities. In addressing the economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, governments need to discourage practises that could further undermine the sustainability of the ocean economy, such as overfishing, uncontrolled development of coastal zones, and pollution. This session will focus on best practices, opportunities and challenges for the greening of the ocean economy. The session will discuss the role of integrated approach to ocean management, such as Integrated Coastal Zone Management or Marine Spatial Planning, to ensure that multiple uses of the ocean are well aligned with the SDGs. How can marine protected areas ensure the sustainable use of marine resources? The debate will also discuss the distributional impact of necessary policy reforms, how these could be addressed, and the role of new technologies for sustainable ocean use in the context of the upcoming UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).

Moderator:

[Don SYME](#), Counsellor, Primary Industries-Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand;
Chair of the OECD Fisheries committee

Scene-setter:

[Russell REICHELT](#), Australian Sherpa on the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy;
Board member of the Climate Change Authority

Panellists:

Tourism and sustainable ocean use

[Helena REY DE ASSIS](#), Programme Officer, Consumption and Production Unit, UN Environment

Policy maker on Maritime Spatial Planning

[Céline FRANK](#), Policy Officer, Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and Maritime Spatial Planning,
DG Mare, European Commission

Role of capacity building in the UN Decade for ocean science

[Ariel TROISI](#), Chairperson, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

NGO perspective

[Monica VERBEEK](#), Executive Director, Seas at Risk

Policy questions:

- How do challenges and opportunities for sustainable ocean management vary across sectors that rely on ocean-based natural capital? How can policy coherence across the different ocean uses be improved?
- What is the contribution of the ocean to human wellbeing? What is the relationship between sustainable ocean resources management and climate change mitigation and adaptation?
- How can new technologies support sustainable ocean management? What barriers could hinder their transfer internationally, including to developing countries?
- Are there any trade-offs between economic growth and sustainable ocean management? Do policies aimed at conserving and sustainably using ocean-based natural capital create winners and losers? How these can be managed?

15:10 - 15:20 Break

15:20 - 16:30 Session 3 - Financing for natural capital

Financial flows (both public and private) need to be diverted from unsustainable to “biodiversity- compatible” economic activities in order to achieve the SDG targets on biodiversity and increase the resilience of our societies. However, progress in integrating biodiversity in investment decisions, through practices such as impacts and dependencies assessment, risk management, due diligence and risk disclosure remains limited. This session will reflect on the global biodiversity finance flows, data gaps in biodiversity finance reporting, and how to scale up public and private finance for biodiversity and other natural capital. The debate will also explore the role of public and private initiatives to improve disclosure of biodiversity risk, and the role of multilateral development cooperation institutions and financial supervisors in mobilising private investments.

Moderator:

[Alexander BASSEN](#), Professor & Chair of Capital Markets and Management, University of Hamburg;
Member of German Council for Sustainable Development

Scene-setter:

[Katia KAROUSAKIS](#), Biodiversity Programme Leader, Climate, Biodiversity and Water Division,
Environment Directorate, OECD

Panellists:

International financial institution perspective on integration of green growth and natural capital in sovereign risk assessments

[Kevin URAMA](#), Senior Director, African Development Institute (ADI)

The EU taxonomy on sustainable finance

[Ladislav SMIA](#), Head of Sustainability, MIROVA

Financial institution representative on the risks connected to natural capital and biodiversity loss

[Marine DE BAZELAIRE](#), Head of Sustainability, Continental Europe, HSBC

The role of central banks and financial supervisors

[Katie KEDWARD](#), Policy Fellow, UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose

Policy questions:

- How can governments and multilateral financing institutions contribute to scaling up natural capital and biodiversity finance? What is the role of national taxonomies on sustainable finance? Is there a need for harmonisation across the national taxonomies?
- What opportunities do the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources generate for the financial sector? What are the financial and non-financial risks associated with unsustainable practices?
- What governance, risk management and due diligence practices can ensure that the impacts and risks connected to natural capital and biodiversity loss are successfully integrated in investment decisions?
- What data gaps and inconsistencies exist in public and private biodiversity finance reporting and tracking?

Day 3: Thursday 26 November

14:00 - 15:00 Session 4 - Measuring natural capital and biodiversity

This session will focus on the recent progresses, outstanding challenges and prospects for the natural capital and biodiversity measurement agenda in light of the targets to be agreed at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 to take place in 2021. A key challenge for measuring natural capital is that a suite of indicators on the condition and extent of ecosystems is required (e.g. forest loss, number of threatened species), as opposed to climate change where the metrics are more easily measured. The recent development in the accounting for ecosystems, or natural capital, as part of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and the opportunities for, and outstanding barriers to, its widespread adoption will be discussed. The session will also explore how the use of earth observation and big data could help to better measure changes in natural capital. Furthermore, the session will also discuss recent development in combining environmental data with socio-demographic data in the context of the strong emphasis of the UN Agenda 2030 on inclusiveness.

Moderator:

[Viveka PALM](#), Deputy Head, Regions and Environment at Statistics Sweden; Chair of the OECD Working Party on Environmental Information (WPEI)

Scene-setters:

[Paul EKINS](#), Professor, UCL Institute for Sustainable Resources, University College London (UCL); Co-Chair, GGKP Expert Working Group on Natural Capital

[Carl OBST](#), Director, Institute for the Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting (IDEEA), Melbourne, Australia

Panellists:

Measuring natural capital for national policymaking – The UK experience

[Joe GRICE](#), Chairman, UK Office for National Statistics Economic Experts

Measuring natural capital for national policymaking – Developing country experience

[Glenn-Marie LANGE](#), Senior Environmental Economist, World Bank

Policy questions:

- What are the main challenges in measuring natural capital or ecosystem assets and services? How can new technologies, including big data and earth observation, help?
- How can we further harmonise the measurement of natural capital and improve international comparability?
- How can we showcase the value added of data on natural capital? How can we ensure that these data are used for evidence-based policymaking and the monitoring of progress towards sustainable development, including the SDGs and the CBD objectives?

15:10 - 16:30 Session 5 - Addressing climate and biodiversity challenges: Nature-based solutions for risk management

The international community is increasingly recognising the potential of nature-based solutions to increase the society's resilience to the impacts of climate change, while maximising synergies between ecosystem stewardship and human wellbeing. For example, investing in the restoration of forests in upper catchment areas not only protects communities downstream from the risk of flooding; it can simultaneously increase carbon sequestration, while protecting species habitat. However, despite their recognised role and potential, the application of nature-based solutions continues to be limited in number and scale. Nature-based solutions can help to improve the resilience of our society to the impact of climate change, such as more intense rainfall, wildfires or heat waves, while simultaneously protecting biodiversity as well as mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. This session will discuss technical, institutional, and financial barriers to the adoption of nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, such as a perception of being "emerging technologies". How to improve the coherence between disaster risk reduction and climate-change adaptation policies, especially in relation to infrastructure planning, will also be discussed.

Moderator:

[Sandy SHEARD](#), Deputy Director, Economics of Biodiversity Review Team, HM Treasury, UK

Scene-setter:

Links between climate change, natural capital/biodiversity loss & role of nature-based solutions

[Valerie KAPOŠ](#), Head of Programme, Climate Change & Biodiversity at UNEP-WCMC

Panellists:

OECD country policymaker/expert on nature-based solutions to mitigate wildfire risk

[Tiago OLIVEIRA](#), Director, Agency Integrated Management of Rural Fires (AGIF), Portugal.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) perspective

[Basile VAN HAVRE](#), Co-Chair for the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Post-2020 Open Ended Working Group, Canada

The role of nature-based solutions in developing countries

[Cristina RODRÍGUEZ](#), Director of Climate Change Adaptation and Desertification, Ministry for Environment, Peru

Standards for nature-based solutions

[Stewart MAGINNIS](#), Global Director, Nature-based Solutions Group, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Questions for discussion:

- Where and how can nature-based solutions (NbS) complement traditional "grey" infrastructure? What key benefits and challenges characterise NbS compared to "grey" infrastructure, including for the firms that are ultimately tasked to build the planned infrastructure?
- What role do national and subnational governments play in facilitating a larger use of NbS? How could NbS be effectively promoted as part of countries' COVID-19 recovery efforts and contribute to an inclusive green transition, including for local and indigenous communities?
- How can we ensure that NbS contribute to achieving the multiple objectives of the UN 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development?
- What role do NbS play in climate mitigation and adaptation in cities, and what barriers exist to scale up their use?

Closing Remarks:

The Forum's key findings, identified knowledge gaps and future areas of work for the OECD will be provided by [Masamichi KONO](#), Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

15:00 - 15:10 Break

Relevant OECD Committees

The Forum's Agenda was developed in consultation with the Environment Policy Committee (EPOC)'s Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems (WPBWE), EPOC's Joint Working Party on Agriculture and Environment (JWPAE), Committee on Agriculture; Committee on Fisheries (COFI), Investment Committee's Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct (WPRBC), Working Party on Environmental Information (WPEI), Chemicals Committee, Committee on Tourism and the Development Assistance Committee's Environment and Development Network (DAC/ENVIRONET).

Also consulted were the "Core Committees" of the OECD's work on green growth: the Economic Policy Committee's Working Party 1 (EPC/WP1), Committee on Science and Technology Policy (CSTP) which oversees the Oceans Economy Programme, Committee on Industry, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE), Environment Policy Committee (EPOC), Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy (CSSP) and the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP)'s Expert Working Group on Natural Capital.

Relevant websites

- <http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/topics/agriculture-and-the-environment>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/cc>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/waste/recircle.htm>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/consumption-innovation>
- <http://www.oecd.org/economy/greeneco>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/tools-evaluation>
- <https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/topics/fisheries-and-aquaculture>
- <http://www.oecd.org/regional/greening-cities-regions>
- <https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org>
- <http://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/greening-energy>
- <http://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/greening-jobs-skills>
- <http://www.oecd.org/environment/greening-transport>
- <http://www.oecd.org/ocean>
- <http://www.oecd.org/dac/sustainable-development-goals.htm>
- <http://www.oecd.org/sd-roundtable>
- <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/en>
- <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/en/themes/green-recovery>



Background Publications

- DeBoe, G. (2020), "Economic and environmental sustainability performance of environmental policies in agriculture", *OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers*, No. 140, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/3d459f91-en>
- Delpuech, C. and B. Hutniczak (2019), "Encouraging policy change for sustainable and resilient fisheries", *OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers*, No. 127, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/31f15060-en>
- Sud, M. (2020), "Managing the biodiversity impacts of fertiliser and pesticide use: Overview and insights from trends and policies across selected OECD countries", *OECD Environment Working Papers*, No. 155, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/63942249-en>
- Martini, R. and J. Innes (2018), "Relative Effects of Fisheries Support Policies", *OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers*, No. 115, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/bd9b0dc3-en>
- Lankoski, J. (2016), "Alternative Payment Approaches for Biodiversity Conservation in Agriculture", *OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers*, No. 93, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/5jm22p4ptg33-en>
- OECD (2020), [A Comprehensive Overview of Global Biodiversity Finance](#)
- OECD (2020), [Biodiversity and the economic respond to COVID-19: Ensuring a green and resilient recovery](#)
- OECD (2020), [Building back better: A sustainable, resilient recovery after COVID-19](#)
- OECD (2020), "Nature-based solutions for adapting to water-related climate risks", *OECD Environment Policy Papers*, No. 21, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/2257873d-en>
- OECD (2020), "Reframing Financing and Investment for a Sustainable Ocean Economy", *OECD Environment Policy Papers*, No. 22, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/c59ce972-en>
- OECD (2020), *Sustainable Ocean for All: Harnessing the Benefits of Sustainable Ocean Economies for Developing Countries*, The Development Dimension, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/bede6513-en>
- OECD (2020), *Towards Sustainable Land Use: Aligning Biodiversity, Climate and Food Policies*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/3809b6a1-en>
- OECD (2019), [Analysing Data on Protected Areas](#)
- OECD (2019), *Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/a3147942-en>
 - » Related brochures: "[Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action. A report prepared by the OECD for the French G7 Presidency and the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, 5-6 May 2019](#)"; "[Tracking Economic Instruments and Finance for Biodiversity-2020](#)"
- OECD (2019), *Responding to Rising Seas: OECD Country Approaches to Tackling Coastal Risks*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264312487-en>
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- OECD (2018), *Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Sustainable Development*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264303201-en>
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