

# CONFERENCE

## „BUSINESS NEEDS NATURE – TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY“

Senckenberg Research Institute and  
Natural History Museum Frankfurt, Frankfurt a. M.  
November 29, 2022, 6pm-7:30pm, followed by a reception

With kind support from KfW Entwicklungsbank

### Program

18:00	<b>Welcome words and Introduction</b>	Moderation: <b>Jörg Thadeusz</b>
18:03	<b>Setting the Scene</b> The unprecedented erosion of biodiversity requires transformative actions to be agreed at COP15.	<b>Christof Schenck</b> (Director, Frankfurt Zoological Society)  <b>Klement Tockner</b> (Director General, Senckenberg – Leibniz Institution for Biodiversity and Earth System Research)
18:13	<b>Nature and the Economy</b> Accepting the simple truth: Our economies are dependent on and embedded in Nature, not extraneous to it. (followed by short video statements)	<b>Sylvie Goulard</b> (Deputy Governor, Banque de France)  Video Statements: <b>Achim Steiner</b> (UNDP Administrator), <b>Johan Rockström</b> (Director PIK), <b>Mia Amor Mottley</b> (Prime Minister of Barbados), <b>Stefan Wintels</b> (CEO KfW), <b>Nina Ruge</b> (Partner UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration)
18:28	<b>The Challenge for Business</b> What is needed from the business sector to become nature-positive by 2030?	<b>Christoph Heinrich</b> (Director, WWF Germany)  Video Statements: <b>Astrid Teckentrup</b> (CEO DACH Procter & Gamble), <b>Alexander Birken</b> (CEO Otto Group), <b>Rolf Buch</b> (CEO Vonovia SE), <b>Klaus Rosenfeld</b> (CEO Scheffler AG), <b>Walter Sinn</b> (Managing Partner DACH Bain & Company)
18:40	<b>Business and Biodiversity</b> How companies can tackle the biodiversity challenge and bring good practices to scale.	<b>Lutz Diederichs</b> (CEO Germany, BNP Paribas)  <b>Franziska Brantner</b> (Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection)  <b>Gabriele Hässig</b> (Managing Director Sustainability, Procter & Gamble)  <b>Christoph Heinrich</b> (Director, WWF Germany)
19:10	<b>The Political Perspective</b> How will Germany facilitate business action on biodiversity?	<b>Bettina Stark-Watzinger</b> (Federal Minister of Education and Research)
19:20	<b>The Frankfurt Declaration</b> A transformative collaboration is required to protect biodiversity and sustain human well-being.	<b>Tobias Raffel</b> (Executive Director, FUTURE Institute for Sustainable Transformation, ESMT, Berlin)  <b>Bernhard Misof</b> (Director General, The Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change)
19:25	<b>Conclusion and Outlook</b>	<b>Jan Pieter Krahen</b> (Director, Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE)

## Background

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Nature and its rich biodiversity form the foundation of prosperity and human well-being. At the same time, we are exploiting our natural capital in an unprecedented way. The crucial question for our future is therefore: How do we achieve a nature-based and nature-positive world? Otherwise, we are running out of time, and the Anthropocene will be the shortest epoch in the history of the Earth.

It is becoming ever more evident that a fundamental transformation of the relationship between business and nature is inevitable. Commercial activities, from resource extraction to agriculture, contribute substantially to the ongoing destruction of nature. At the same time, the decline and irreversible loss of biodiversity leads to significant business risks. An increasing number of companies and the financial sector are therefore implementing strategies to reduce both their own risks and negative impacts on nature. In doing so, they encounter data gaps, vague metrics, and a lack of coherent and effective regulatory frameworks and regulation.

In the spring of 2022, at a science conference in Berlin, we emphasized important policy actions that should be implemented nationally and internationally to sustain nature. More than 1700 scientists have signed our „Berlin Declaration“, demanding concrete political commitments ([www.berliner-erklarung.eu](http://www.berliner-erklarung.eu)).

The aim of our conference is to bring together high-level representatives from science, business, politics, and civil society to address the following key questions:

- > How are nature and the economy intertwined?
- > What does a nature-positive economy look like?
- > What does business need to do to make a positive contribution to nature by 2030?
- > What is needed to implement good business practices at scale?
- > How can science, politics, and civil society facilitate business action on biodiversity?

The conference, which is jointly organized by the German science organizations and NGOs listed below, takes place one week prior to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Part II CBD COP15) in Montreal, which aims to adopt a new policy framework for biodiversity. Our goal is to send a strong signal to Montreal that

successful, nature-positive business is possible and that leading representatives of the foremost German natural and economic science community intend to break new ground to jointly remove key obstacles.

Further details on this new cooperation will be announced in a „Frankfurt Declaration“ on the day of the conference.

## Target groups

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The conference has the following target groups:

- > Representatives of politics at the federal level
- > Scientific organizations and institutes
- > Representatives of the private and financial sectors
- > Foundations and Philanthropists
- > Nature conservation and development organizations
- > Media / Journalists

## Organizing team

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The conference is jointly organized by the following German science organizations and NGOs:

- > Senckenberg – Leibniz Institution for Biodiversity and Earth System Research
- > Natural History Museum Berlin
- > Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change
- > ESMT Berlin, FUTURE Institute for Sustainable Transformation
- > Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE
- > Frankfurt Zoological Society
- > Campaign for Nature

There will be live streaming of the event at [www.senckenberg.de/live](http://www.senckenberg.de/live).

The event will take place at the Senckenberg Research Institute and Natural History Museum Frankfurt, starting at 6:00 p.m. (admission from 17:30) in the ballroom of the Jügelhaus, Mertonstraße 21, 60325 Frankfurt am Main. The reception starting at 7:30 p.m. will take place afterwards in the Dinosaur Hall of our museum.

### Registration:

[www.senckenberg.de/de/business-needs-nature/](http://www.senckenberg.de/de/business-needs-nature/)