



PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF DENMARK TO UNESCO

25 OCT 2024

UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVES

Addressing the Triple Planetary Crisis through Science, Journalism, and the Arts



COP 16 SIDE-EVENT, CALI, COLOMBIA

25 OCTOBER - 18:00-19:20

PARAMOS NGO'S MEETING ROOM

As the international community is set to meet at COP 16 in Cali, Colombia, momentum is building for the biodiversity crisis to take centre stage, alongside the escalating climate crisis. Efforts to protect the natural world and critical ecosystems are crucial for tackling the triple planetary crisis. Directing more attention to the biodiversity aspects of environmental work is a crucial step. It is a pre-requisite for multiple stakeholders to understand the specific challenges and to amplify responses. However, massive spread of mis- and disinformation is creating confusion and harming progress on many aspects of environmental work. To counter this, it has proved extraordinarily important to seek new ways to ensure that scientifically established facts are readily available for decision-makers, nature site managers, local communities and the public at large.

As the UN agency with the mandate to promote the free flow of ideas and protect nature sites, UNESCO has a rich tool box, including:

- A global network of 759 Biosphere Reserves, shedding light on environmental issues and demonstrating solutions in 136 countries
- A series of normative instruments, outlining obligations to guarantee enabling environments for scientist, journalists and artists to inform the public.

The pooling of tools and resources provides new opportunities for building strong information ecosystems, raising public awareness about facts and knowledge on risks and opportunities related to biodiversity.

During CBD COP 16, the Permanent Delegation of Denmark to UNESCO is organizing a side-event in Cali, Colombia, in cooperation with UNESCO. This event explores existing tools and efforts to build a strong information ecosystem in support of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Taking as point of departure the critical role of scientists, journalists and artists in covering biodiversity issues, the side-event will zoom in on how to ensure enabling work environments for scientific communities, and professionals from the media and culture sector.

The objective is to find ways to enhance information and communication about biodiversity, including the issues and solutions that are present in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves across the world. The side-event provides a multi-stakeholder platform for member states, civil society actors and UN entities. We will invite participants to point out issues; propose strategic directions; identify entry points for multi-stakeholder collaboration; and highlight opportunities for joint endeavors.

AGENDA

Welcome

By moderator, Mads R. Wolff, Danish Member of the Man and the Biosphere Council

Setting the Scene

By moderator, Malene Nielsen Mansour, Permanent Delegation of Denmark to UNESCO

Opening remarks

By UNESCO Director Antonio Abreu

Message

From Museum for the United Nations, UN Live Director Katja Iversen

Snapshot

UN/Spotify 'Sounds Right' initiative by Gabriel Smales, Global Programme Director, Museum for the United Nations

Cases from UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in LAC

By Juan Criado and Serena Heckler, MAB Secretariat.

- Mis- and Disinformation
- Collaborations
- Covering stories
- Partnerships

Q&A

Ask questions and suggest actions

Listening remarks

By Mads R. Wolff, Danish Member of the Man and the Biosphere Council

Closing remarks

Next steps by Moderator, Malene Nielsen Mansour, Permanent Delegation of Denmark to UNESCO

CONTACT

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