

**Conference**  
**Soil, Climate Change and Biodiversity – Where do we stand?**  
**Brussels, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th September 2010**

**Draft Programme**  
as of 22/07/2010



Thursday 23rd September 2010

8.00 **Registration desk opens**

9.00 Welcome and Introduction by the Chair  
*Mr Karl Falkenberg, Director-General, Environment DG, European Commission*

***Key note addresses***

9.15 The links between soil, climate change and biodiversity  
*Mr Janez Potočnik, Environment Commissioner, European Commission*

9.30 The natural fix – The role of ecosystems in climate mitigation  
*Ms Angela Cropper, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi, Kenya*

10.00 Coffee break

***First session***

***What we know about carbon stocks in Europe and beyond?***

10.30 The projected effects of climate change on European carbon stocks  
*Professor Riccardo Valentini, Università della Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy*

11.00 Preliminary results of a Europe-wide survey on soil organic matter levels  
*Dr Roland Hiederer, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy*

11.30 Soil Organic Carbon - a Trigger in the Climate Change Process  
*Professor Franz Makeschin, Chairman of the Soil Conservation Commission, Umweltbundesamt, Dessau, Germany*

12.00 Questions and answers

12.30 Break for lunch

***Second session***

***The role of agriculture in providing ecosystem services***

Chair: *Professor L. Hordijk, Director, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy*

14.00 Soil ecosystem services and farmers economy: preliminary results of the SoilService research project  
*Professor Katarina Hedlund, Lund University, Lund, Sweden*

14.30 Agricultural practices that favour the increase of soil organic matter  
*Dr Philippe Ciais, Associate Director, Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement, Gif-sur-Yvette, France*

15.00 Questions and answers

15.30 Coffee break

***Fourth session***

***The contribution of soils to mitigation and adaptation***

Chair: *Mr Jos Delbeke, Director-General, Climate Action DG, European Commission*

16.00 Presentation of the Soil Atlas of the Circumpolar Region  
*Dr Luca Montanarella, Soil Action Leader, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy*

16.30 The conservation of peatlands: a win-win opportunity for fighting climate change, protecting water and maintaining biodiversity  
*Dr Matthias Drösler, Technische Universität München, Freising, Germany*

17.00 Questions and answers

17.30 Closing remarks  
*Mr Jos Delbeke, Director-General, Climate Action DG, European Commission*

17.45- **Cocktail reception**

19.15

Friday 24th September 2010

9.00 Welcome and Introduction by the Chair  
*Mr Ladislav Miko, Director for Nature, Environment DG, European Commission*

***Key note address***

9.15 Soils for food security, ecosystem services and climate change adaptation and mitigation  
*Dr Vandana Shiva, Founder of Navdanya (Earth Democracy), Director of the Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy, New Delhi, India*

***Fifth session***

***The life we walk on – The huge variety of biodiversity in soil***

9.45 Presentation of the Soil Biodiversity Atlas of the Joint Research Centre  
*Dr Ciro Gardi, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy*

10.15 The huge variety of life in soils  
*Professor Wim H. Van der Putten, Netherlands Institute of Ecology, The Netherlands*

10.45 Coffee break

11.10 The biological engine of the earth: the functional role of soil biodiversity  
*Professor Karl Ritz, Cranfield University, United Kingdom*

11.30 Soil biodiversity: an excellent way to raise soil awareness  
*Professor Gabriele Broll, University of Osnabrück, Germany*

11.50 Questions and answers

12.15 Break for lunch

### ***Sixth session***

#### ***The policy aspects of soil biodiversity protection***

Chair: *Professor L. Hordijk, Director, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy*

13.45 Soil biodiversity at the international level post 2010  
*Mr David Coates, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, Canada*

14.15 Making soil biodiversity work for ecosystem goods and services  
*Professor Lijbert Brussaard, Wageningen University, The Netherlands*

14.45 Questions and answers

15.00 Coffee break

15.30 ***Panel discussion***  
***Soil, climate change and biodiversity: synergies and opportunities***

Moderator: *Mr Landislav Miko, Director for Nature, Environment DG, European Commission*

Participants:

- *Ms Angela Cropper, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi, Kenya*
- *Mr Karl Falkenberg, Director-General, Environment DG, European Commission*
- *Representative of the Environment Committee, European Parliament*
- *Mrs Joke Schauvliege, Environment Minister of Flanders, Belgian Presidency of the Environment Council*
- *Dr Vandana Shiva, Founder of Navdanya (Earth Democracy), Director of the Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy, New Delhi, India*

17.30 **End of conference**