

# WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2022

**TOWARDS A RESILIENT PLANET:  
ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE**

February 16-18, 2022 (Virtual)



## The role of nature in the “Decade of Action” of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development

18th February 2022 (Friday)

2:45 PM to 4:15 PM (IST) | Duration: 90 minutes

### About the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)

The **World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)** is the annual flagship Track II initiative of **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**. Instituted in 2001, in 2021, the Summit series marked 20 years in its journey of making ‘sustainable development’ a globally shared goal. Over the past two decades, the Summit platform has pioneered conversations by bringing together governments, scholars, corporates, youth groups, thought leaders, and civil society representatives from across the world. The present state of planetary health and humanitarian crises calls for revisiting the agenda around global action and equity. The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the WSDS is being held under the umbrella theme of ‘**Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future**’ from **16th to 18th February 2022** in a virtual format.

### Background

With only 8 years left, the world is not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. In particular, the insufficient progress on environmental SDGs such as sustainable production and consumption, climate action, biodiversity and marine protection is concerning. This event seeks to explore how we got, here and more importantly how the way forward can look like. Specifically, it will explore policy approaches in Germany and India and discuss the role of international cooperation. As the pandemic once again illustrates the interconnectedness of environmental, animal and human health, the event will put a special emphasis on calls for restoring, protecting and enhancing ecosystems and

ecosystem services, or in short, improving biodiversity conservation as a way of accelerating the implementation of the SDGs.

## **Format**

**Welcome remarks:** Nivedita Cholayil, TERI (02 min)

**Introduction by Chair/Moderator:** Nandan Nawn, TERI SAS (05 min)

Moderator will pose the question to the respective speaker. The speakers may address matters beyond the question but within the scope of the sessions, within the time indicated.

The session will be divided into two segments:

*Segment 1 To deliberate on the need for accelerating the SDG agenda*

1. In the experience of BMUV, what are the key challenges and opportunities to implement the SDGs by 2030? (Keynote address by Stephan Contius, BMUV; 15 min)
2. What are the key challenges in making commercially attractive biodiversity conservation efforts that also enhance the well-being of local populations, given that these people are closest to the resource? (Special address by Simon Zadek, Finance for Biodiversity Initiative; 15 min)

*Segment 2 To explore the opportunities of a nature-positive green recovery from the pandemic as a way of accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a holistic and timely manner*

1. You have been working on reporting on SDG indicators. Reporting and monitoring SDGs is extremely crucial to inform wider implementation efforts. What has been your experience in terms of reporting on biodiversity-related SDG targets and indicators? (Anshu Singh, MOEFCC, GoI; 10 min)
2. What are key challenges to a true nature-positive green recovery? And what are promising ways to upscale biodiversity conservation as an accelerator for SDG implementation? (Elke Steinmetz, International Cooperation on Biodiversity; 10 min)
3. Do you find valuing biodiversity by people closer to the bio-resource in their own terms as a necessary requirement for augmenting biodiversity? (Vinod Mathur, National Biodiversity Authority, GoI; 10 min)
4. In your experience, what is the role of businesses in communicating responsible and credible environmental information, especially on biodiversity to all consumers and all stakeholders? (Raelene Martin, International Chamber of Commerce; 10 min)

A Q&A session, with questions from the audience, will take place but subject to availability of time.