



# 2020 Annual Biodiversity Research and Evidence Indaba

## Programme 08-09 SEPTEMBER 2020 VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS

### **BRIEF BACKGROUND**

The Indaba is an annual event, convened within the frame of the National Biodiversity Research & Evidence Strategy (NBRES). The proceedings of the Indaba are used to update the annual implementation plan of this research strategy and inform the compilation of the Annual Biodiversity Research and Evidence Report. The 2020 Indaba is taking place in the super year for Biodiversity at the onset of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. This year's focus is on supporting the post 2020 Biodiversity framework, examining the scientific capacity which has been highlighted by the present global crisis of the corona virus pandemic, where the limited evidence base, data, information and knowledge, lack of capacity constrains the Biodiversity sector's potential to respond sufficiently to such crises and future crises, the theme therefore being:

### **“ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION AND SCIENTIFIC CAPACITY FOR THE POST 2020 AGENDA”.**

The Indaba is a two day event. The first day will focus on Ecological Restoration within the context of the UN decade on Ecosystem restoration and the post 2020 Agenda and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day on the scientific capacity needed and actions taken to implement the provisions of these two processes. The structure of the event takes the form of plenary sessions and panel discussions followed by sessions on key aspects of ecological restoration:

- Research
  - Monitoring, Evaluation, Impacts
  - Science Policy Interface (Scientific Capacity)
- } **1<sup>st</sup> day of the Indaba**
- } **2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Indaba**

Key stakeholders, researchers, scientists, practitioners, youth and policy makers are invited to

participate in an action oriented dialogue on ecological restoration and the scientific capacity needed for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the post 2020 Agenda.

## DAY 1 – TUESDAY, 08 SEPTEMBER 2020

Time	Event	Presenter/Chair/Facilitator
08:30-09:00	Online link open	BMSS Team/Communication
09:00-09:05	Welcome	Chief Director (Acting): Biodiversity Monitoring and Specialist Services (BMSS), Department of Environment, Forestry, and Fisheries (DEFF)
09:05-09:15	Opening Remarks	Mr Shonisani Munzhedzi, Deputy-Director General: Biodiversity and Conservation, Department of Environment, Forestry, and Fisheries (DEFF)
09:15-09:45	UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration	Tim Christophersen, Head, Nature for Climate Branch, UN Environment
09:45-10:00	Outline of the 2020 process and where we are now and a roadmap to Kunming	Mr Basile Van Havre (Canada) and Mr Francis Ogwal (Uganda) Co-chairs of the Global Biodiversity framework
10:00-10:15	Role of SBSTTA, as a scientific advisory body, in the process	Mr. Hesiquio Benitez, The Chair of SBSTTA
10:15-10:30	The Role of IPBES, providing guidance, evidence and knowledge for the post 2020 agenda.	Dr Anne Larigauderie , Executive Secretary, IPBES
10:30-10:45	South Africa's vision for Science and Innovation: White paper on Science & Innovation	Dr Phil Mjwara, Director General, Department of Science and Innovation
10:45-11:00	SanParks and its role in implementing the post 2020 agenda	Dr Luthando Dziba, Head Conservation Services, South African National Parks, SanParks & MEP, IPBES
11:15-	IPBES IAS Assessment – The First Order Draft – preliminary findings and implications for post 2020 agenda	Dr Sebataolo Rahlao, Acting Chief Director – Biodiversity Assessment and Knowledge Generation, SANBI
<b>11:15-13:15</b>		
<b>Panel Discussion 1</b>		
	Introduction to Session	Mr. Barney Kgope, DEFF

11:15-13:15	Governance and conceptual issues of Ecological restoration	Dr Paul Ouedraogo, Deputy Executive Secretary of CILSS
		Professor Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, COP Appointed Councillor for the CMS Scientific Council
		Professor Eureka Rosenberg, Chair of Environment and Sustainability Education, Rhodes University
		Dr Fernando Spina, Former Chair of the CMS Scientific Council and a COP Appointed Councillor for the CMS Scientific Council
		Professor James Gambiza, Head of Department, Rhodes University (TBC)
		Dr. Pamela McElwee, Associate Professor, The State University of New Jersey
13:15-13:45	Lunch Break	
13:45-15H55 Panel Discussion 2: Facilitator		
Practicalities, Lessons learned and Opportunities	Ms Cecilia Njenga, Head of the UN Environment, South Africa	
	Oceans & Coasts (TBC)	
	Dr Jean Harris, Executive Director: Wild Oceans, Wildtrust	
	Dr. Abel Ramoelo, SanParks	
	Mr. Mahlodi Tau, Director, Ecological Infrastructure, SANBI	
	Ms Margaret Wolff, Project Coordinator, Rhodes University	
15:55	Closing Remarks	Dr Kiruben Naicker, Director: Information Management & Science-Policy Interface, (DEFF)

## DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY, 09 SEPTEMBER 2020

Time	Event	Presenter/Chair/Facilitator
08:30- 11H00	Opening Session: Science & Capacity: Transforming our Future Outlook	Ms Mapula Tshangela, DEFF

	<b>Welcome &amp; Recap Day 1</b>	<b>Dr. Kiruben Naicker</b> , Director: Information Management & Science Policy Interface, DEFF
	<b>Global Transformative Change</b>	<b>Professor Karen O'Brien</b> , University of Oslo
	<b>Transformative institutions for responding to the challenges of the Anthropocene</b>	<b>Dr. Kaera Coetzer</b> , Global Change Institute, University of the Witwatersrand
	<b>The Global Change Research Programme: Alignment with the White Paper and Biodiversity Economy.</b>	<b>Prof Yonah Seleti, Chief Director</b> , Department of Science and Innovation
	<b>Scientific Capacity and Human Capital Development</b>	<b>Ms Carmel Mbizvo</b> , CEO of SANBI
	<b>Championing the Leave no one Behind Agenda: Global South Perspectives</b>	<b>Felix Kwabena Donkor</b> , Environmental Consultant
	<b>A community based approach to Science: the role of the community in advancing the science (TBC)</b>	<b>Monde Duma</b> , PhD student
	<b>Key findings emerging out of the Review of the National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Strategy</b>	<b>Dr. Kiruben Naicker</b> , DEFF
<b>11H00-13H00</b>	<b>Session 2: Scientific Capacity: Status Quo: Needs, opportunities and plans- Facilitator</b>	
	Each of the provinces, entities and research organisations will present a status quo of their scientific capacity, opportunities and actions to address their capacity issues to support the implementation of their overall mandate, including the post 2020 agenda	
<b>13H00- 14:00</b>	<b>Session 3: Progress on the science policy capacity of the sector – Ms Malta Qwathekana, DEFF</b>	
	<b>Narrative of emerging scientists within the Science Policy Interface</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ms Nosi Mtati</b>, Masters student</li> <li>2. <b>Dr Mamohloding Tihagale</b> , WRC</li> <li>3. <b>Reuben Thifhulufhelwi</b>, PhD student</li> <li>4. <b>Dr Mmoto Masubelele</b>, SanParks</li> </ol>	
<b>14H00-14:45</b>	<b>Address by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity</b> <b>Ms Elizabeth Maruma Mrema</b> ,	
<b>14:45-15:00</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>TBC</b>