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SDC Network **RésEAU**
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**Climate Change &
Environment Network**

Thematic Event on Exploring the Potential of Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Development

21st November, [Berner Bildungszentrum Pflege](#), Freiburgstrasse 133, Bern



Background

Everyone seems to be talking about Nature-based Solutions (NBS) these days. A silver bullet for fostering sustainable development and to tackle pressing global challenges – or rather (another) passing hype with limited practical potential for development cooperation?

This year's Swiss thematic network event jointly organized by the Global Programme Climate Change and Environment (GPCCE) and the Global Programme Water (GPW) of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) will provide a floor for discussing and learning more about the topic of 'Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Development' - and sounding the true potential of this new kid on the block from a perspective of climate change, environment and water.

Aims of the event

The main objective of the one-day event is to embark on a joint learning journey and to foster a shared understanding of the development relevance and potential of the NBS concepts - and to work out the areas of tension and trade-offs that these concepts inevitably inherit. What is working, what is not and why?

This shall be achieved by sharing approaches and concrete positive and negative experiences about the application of NBS for sustainable development – with a particular focus on the fields related to climate change, environment and water. Of course, the event aims also at connecting those interested in the specific topic and at promoting networking in general.

Participants and involvement

The invitation for this thematic event is addressed primarily to Swiss-based members of the two co-organizing networks Climate Change and Environment and Water. However, the event is also open to others who either take a special interest in the topic of NBS in support of sustainable development or are simply curious to discover the potential benefits of such approaches.

PROGRAMME

- 8:30-09:00** **Registration with coffee and tea**
- 9:00-09:20** **Welcome and introduction**
- Janine Kuriger, Head of Global Programme Climate Change and Environment, SDC
- 9:20-10:20** **Setting the scene**
- Nature Based Solutions - a concept with many different approaches, James Dalton, IUCN
 - A perspective on the NBS journey, David Nabarro, 4SD
 - The Action Agenda for People and Nature, opportunities for growing the movement in 2020, Elise Buckle, SDG Lab, UN Office in Geneva
- 10:20-10:50** **Coffee break**
- 10:50-12:10** **Break-out session on project deep dive**
- **Learning watersheds in Ethiopia** - solving the degradation problem, Isabelle Providoli, CDE
 - **MiParamo** – mobilising investments to preserve high Andes wetlands, Erika Zarate, Good Stuff International
 - **Meeting the degradation challenge in Tajikistan** – letting the vegetation return, Boris Orlovsky, Caritas
 - **Sempre Viva** - flower picker communities become first Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System in Brazil, Judith Macchi, HEKS
- 12:10-12:30** **Plenum on key learnings**
- 12:30-14:00** **Lunch break**
- 14:00-14:30** **Financing NBS and accelerating the uptake**
- Scoping the landscape of financing Nature Based Solutions, Alexandra Frank, South Pole
 - Meeting the challenges of upscaling NBS, Nina Saalismaa, ZÖI Environment Network
- 14:30-16:50** **Break-out sessions**
- **Financing Nature Based Solutions**
Global Fund for Forests and Nature, Preeti Sinha, FFD Ventures
 - **Financing Nature Based Solution**
South Pole on Land-Use Impact Funds, Urs Dieterich, South Pole
 - **How to accelerate the uptake of NBS?**
Scaling up implementation of NBS, Radhika Murti, IUCN
 - **How to accelerate the uptake of NBS?**
Policy influence and relevance of upscaling NBS, Sandeep Sengupta, IUCN
- 16:50-17:00** **Closing**
- Johan Gély, Head of Global Programme Water, SDC

Contacts / organizers

For further information or questions, please contact either of the two network focal points: for the 'Climate Change and Environment' Network patrick.sieber@eda.admin.ch and for the 'Water/RésEAU' Network daniel.maselli@eda.admin.ch.