

Nature in the service of climate policy and bioeconomy?

The CBD and the future of land use and biological diversity

From 4 to 17 December, the conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 13) will take place. While the CBD overshadowed by the climate convention in the public eye, it is of major importance for the discussion about the maintenance and sustainable use of biological diversity as well as the connected question of land use, and will be followed intensively by the large environmental organizations.

Yet the CBD is much more than an environmental and conservationist convention, because topics and processes related to developmental policy in the context of land use, climate policy, trade policy and bioeconomy (and in this sense economic and research policy) are also on its agenda. The CBD deals with questions connected to these issues under the specific consideration of danger and risks for biodiversity and thus represents a counterweight to purely economic and one-dimensional approaches motivated by climate policy.

In the past, the CBD was a space for important debates and decisions in which critical voices have gained influence in view of the effects of new technologies relating to biodiversity and food sovereignty. Due to the CBD, moratoriums have even been imposed on some dangerous technologies, which has in fact shown results: This is the case both for certain methods of green genetic engineering (GURT - genetic use restriction technology; commonly known as "terminator technologies") as well as for so-called geoengineering, which also includes BECCS (bio-energy with carbon capture and storage) - or the combination of CO₂ storage and "bioenergy".

These and a number of further strategic topics will be on the agenda of the CBD in Mexico. These include among others new tendencies in genetic engineering (synthetic biology) and in this context the possible and necessary regulation of new processes relating to genetic breeding processes, the creation of genetic databases and the dematerialization of genetic resources.

The CBD, furthermore, offers the chance to discuss the consequences of climate policy and decarbonisation strategies within a framework which goes beyond the question of the reduction of CO₂ emissions and also broaches the topic of possible conflicts of interest between climate strategies and the maintenance of biodiversity as well as the rights of indigenous peoples and traditional communities.

Critical voices from both the Global South and the Global North see in the CBD a real chance to at least make possible approaches geared toward regulating these new technologies. The conference will concentrate on this topic area and attempt to analyse the associated new tendencies of land use and use of biological diversity, also endeavoring to take a look at their developmental dimension and make this dimension accessible to a larger public interested in developmental policy.



Time and Place

16 November 2016

10:00 am – 18:00 pm

Bread for the World –
Evangelischer
Entwicklungsdienst
Caroline-Michaelis-
Straße 1
10115 Berlin

Room:

Amalie Sieveking

Invalidenstraße,
S-Bahn 1, 2 or 25
Nordbahnhof
or U6
Naturkundemuseum

Registration is kindly
requested before **3rd of
November** by e-mail to
info@fdcl.org

Organizers

Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service
Center for Research and Documentation Chile-Latin America (FDCL)
in cooperation with **Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung**

Gefördert von Engagement Global im
Auftrag des BMZ und mit finanzieller
Unterstützung der EU.



Brot
für die Welt

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- 10:00 am** **Greeting**
Dr Klaus Seitz, *Head of the Policy Department, Bread for the World*
Jan Dunkhorst, *FDCL*
- 10:15 am** **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), climate policy and bioeconomy - “missing links”**
CBD in the conflict of interests: What will be debated in Cancún?
Dr Thomas Fatheuer, *FDCL*
- The “new and emerging issues” of CBD: Positioning of civil society in Latin America**
André Dallagnol, *terra de direitos / Brasil*
- 11:30 am** Coffee break
- 11:45 am** **Climate neutrality and decarbonisation: Compensation via land use**
Reforestation, negative emissions and geoengineering: Dangerous paths in climate policy
Almuth Ernsting, *Co-director of Biofuelwatch / UK*
- Tradable nature: Biodiversity offsetting**
Jutta Kill, *Biologist, author, activist and campaigner*
- ‘Flex crops’ in the service of climate policy and bioeconomy: Palm oil production in Latin America**
Dr Maria Backhouse, *Researcher at the Institute of Sociology and Scientific director of the Research Group ‘Postwachstumsgesellschaften’ (Post-Growth Societies), Friedrich-Schiller-University (FSU) Jena*
- 13:15 pm** Lunch break
- Moderation
Jan Dunkhorst,
FDCL
- Moderation
Eike Zaumseil,
Advisor for Climate and Agriculture, Bread for the World

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14:15 pm

The new world of agro-genetic engineering - what role should the CBD play?

Introduction: Explanatory film on synthetic biology

Synthetic Biology, CRISPR & Co: More and more new technologies, less and less regulation?

Dr Eva Gelinsky, *Interest group for seed cultivation without genetic manipulation, IG Seeds*

Who will dominate the future of “genetic resources”: Big data, mega-mergers, seed banks and patents

Dr Angelika Hilbeck, *Department of Environmental Systems Science (ETH Zurich), Institute for Integrative Biology*

Moderation
Stig Tanzmann,
Advisor for Agriculture, Bread for the World

15:45 pm

Coffee break

16:00 pm

Looking toward Cancún: What does the CBD mean for the future of land use and biological diversity?

Ulrike Haupt, *Head of Division - Environment, Sustainable use of Natural Resources, Marine Conservation and Biodiversity, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, tbc*

Dr Horst Korn, *Federal Agency for Nature Conservation; Head of Biodiversity Unit; German National CBD-SBSTTA Focal Point*

Christine von Weizsäcker, *Biologist, author, researcher / activist / President of Ecoropa; Board member of the Federation of German Scientists and of the CBD-Alliance, tbc*

Dr Angelika Hilbeck, *Department of Environmental Systems Science (ETH Zurich), Institute for Integrative Biology*

André Dallagnol, *terra de direitos / Brasil*

Moderation
Dagmar Dehmer,
Tagesspiegel