

## Programme Information Plenary Session

# The Great Escape

*There is No Planet B!*

*Biodiversity Conservation, a Natural Ally in Sustainable Poverty Reduction*

26 – 27 April 2010  
Natura Artis Magistra  
Amsterdam

### **Time for The Great Escape.**

In the next 50 years, planet earth will need to support more than nine billion inhabitants. Nine billion individuals need to eat, need to support their livelihood, and want to have a high quality of life. There is no Planet B! Ecosystems that have evolved over billions of years will be crucial partners in providing those needs.

### **The conference**

The international two-day conference 'The Great Escape' held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, aims to provide clarity amongst policy-makers on the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems to achieve economic development goals.

Participants from around the world are invited to debate the proposition above, as well as dilemmas in the following areas:



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## Programme Information Plenary Session

<b>Monday 26 April 2010 Session 1 (Koningszaal)</b>	
Moderator: Peter van der Geer	
09:15	<b>Welcome and Registration</b> (registration is possible throughout the day until 14:00)
10:00	<b>Opening</b> conference, with interview Dr. Ashok Khosla, Chairman Development Alternatives India and President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
10:30	<b>The Great Escape: An Exploration</b> Where or what do we need to escape from? During this session, the importance of ecosystems for human well-being will be explored. Participants will determine which escape route is the best. <sup>1</sup>
11:15	<b>Break (Flamingo Serre)</b>
11:45	<b>Roundtable discussion</b> with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ashok Khosla, president IUCN</li> <li>• Mr. Willem Ferwerda, director IUCN NL</li> <li>• Mr. Fokko Wientjes, director Sustainable Development DSM</li> <li>• Prof. Dr. Louise Vet, director Netherlands Institute for Ecology.</li> </ul>
12:45	Presenting <b>the remainder of the conference</b> : short introductions to the remaining themes of the conference
12:55	<b>Are you a great escaper</b>
13:00	<b>Lunch (Flamingo Serre)</b>

<sup>1</sup> 1) Economise or monetarise nature: The study 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity' informed us about the great costs associated with the loss of ecosystem services. Once society understands and incorporates the true financial losses incurred in its mainstream economic model will it escape unsustainable development?

2) Innovate: Biomimicry, using biological resources instead of fossil resources, increasing efficiency, or the cradle to cradle design offer exciting opportunities to minimise the impact of production and consumption patterns on ecosystems. Is this the route to take?

3) Regulate and protect: It's simple – we know that the degradation of ecosystems should be stopped. We know that species that are threatened should be protected. Make it illegal or certify and it will be stopped.

4) Change the behaviour of humankind: If people eat less meat, emit less CO<sub>2</sub>, pollute less, reduce their footprint, consume green... will The Great Escape become reality?



## Programme Information Plenary Session

Monday 26 April 2010 Session 2 (Koningszaal)	
Moderator Peter van der Geer	
14:00	<b><i>The Biobased Economy: Escaping the land-use realities?</i></b> Dutch industry is moving towards a biobased economy. Chemicals, energy, and synthetic materials will soon be partly based not on fossil resources but on biodegradable and bio-based resources. How to frame sustainable sourcing of biomass, and how to organize it, control it and promote it?
14:15:	<b><i>Dr. Johan Sanders</i></b> , will react and shortly sketch a picture of the basic characteristics of a sustainable biobased economy which will remain visible
14.25	<b><i>Roundtable discussion</i></b> with participation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Dorette Corbey, Chair Netherlands Commission Sustainability Issues Biomass</li> <li>• Mr. Hans Langeveld and Dr. Johan Sanders, Authors 'The Biobased Economy'</li> <li>• Mr. Fokko Wientjes, Director Sustainable Development DSM</li> <li>• Ms. Karin Kaechele, vice coordinator at ICV, Instituto Centro de Vida Brasil.</li> <li>• Dr. Ashok Khosla, President IUCN</li> </ul>
14:55	<b><i>First steps:</i></b> Roundtable participants and experts from the South take first steps towards a green biobased economy
15:00	<b><i>Break (Flamingo Serre)</i></b>
15.30	<b><i>Mapping the road:</i></b> All participants are asked to build a pathway towards a sustainable biobased economy.
16:45	<b><i>Ms. Dorette Corbey</i></b> receives the footsteps of all 4 directions as advice. This advice will form the basis of a closed expert-session that follows the next day.
17:00	<b><i>Reception</i></b> – all participants are invited to a reception closing off this first day of the conference. (Flamingo Serre)

## Programme Information Plenary Session

<b>Tuesday 27 april 2010 – Session 3 (Koningszaal).</b>	
Moderator Peter van der Geer	
09:15	Registration and welcome (registration is possible throughout the day until 14:00)
	<p><b><i>Emergency Aid and Ecosystems: Escaping the impact of emergency aid operations on long-term environmental security.</i></b></p> <p>Conflicts, drought, natural disasters all have the potential to place local societies on the verge of breakdown. Global society responds through emergency relief programmes. Such interventions are quickly organised, and will have to respond to the provision of urgently needed basic services to the affected communities: energy, shelter, food, and healthcare. Yet, after the first needs are met, affected people will need to have access to resources to rebuild their lives and livelihoods. The central question during this session will be how to integrate sustainable resource management in emergency aid operations.</p>
10:00	<b><i>Wake up Challenge:</i></b> participants are confronted with some dilemmas
10:10	<p><b><i>The Big Picture:</i></b> Discussion with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Tommy Garnett – Founder Environmental Foundation for Africa (Liberia/Sierra Leone)</li> <li>• Mr. Ben Wandago or Ms. Marta Monjane – IUCN East and Southern Africa</li> <li>• Mr. Eelko Brouwer – Netherlands Red Cross (to be confirmed)</li> <li>• Mr. Bert Koenders – Former minister of Development Cooperation, the Netherlands</li> <li>• Mr. René Grotenhuis – Director Cordaid, the Netherlands</li> </ul>
10:55	<b><i>Work session:</i></b> Small groups of participants work through specific cases. What's the best way out?
11:25	<b><i>Break (Flamingo Serre)</i></b>
11:50	<b><i>Discussion</i></b> – looking at the cases from different perspectives. How to work towards practical and realistic solutions – institutionally, financially and technically.
13:00	<b><i>Lunch (Flamingo Serre)</i></b>



## Programme Information Plenary Session

Tuesday 27 april 2010 – Session 4 (Koningszaal)	
Moderator Peter van der Geer	
14:00	<p><b><i>Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES): local ownership of REDD<sup>2</sup>, and other financial instruments that put a value on the protection of ecosystems.</i></b></p> <p>Regretfully the provision of clean air, water, food, carbon sequestration and materials is generally not priced, leading to their loss. PES instruments try to counter this apparent market failure by providing financial incentives for ecosystem management. This session will tackle a number of dilemma's encountered when setting up PES instruments that aim to serve the dual goals of preserving critical ecosystem services and the biodiversity upon which they depend, while also contributing to poverty reduction.</p>
14:10	Brief introduction by <b><i>Sven Wunder</i></b> (CIFOR): Can PES and related instruments serve the dual goals of preserving critical ecosystem services and the biodiversity upon which they depend, while also contributing to poverty reduction?
14:20	<p><b><i>From theory to practice:</i></b> Presenting practical experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Clovis Ricardo S. Borges, Executive Director Wildlife Research and Environmental Education Society (SPVS) Brazil.</li> <li>• Dr. John J. Mason, President Nature Conservation Research Centre, Ghana</li> <li>• Mr. Pacifique Mukumba Isumbisho, Director Support Centre for Indigenous Pygmies and Vulnerable Minorities (CAMV) Democratic Republic of Congo</li> <li>• Dr. Jean-Remy Makana, representative World Conservation Society (WCS) in the Democratic Republic of Congo</li> <li>• Ms. Maria Cristina Guerrero, Deputy Director Non Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme, The Philippines</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ashok Khosla, president IUCN</li> <li>• Ms. Danielle Hirsch, Director Both ENDS</li> </ul>
15:30	<b><i>Break (Flamingo Serre)</i></b>
16:00	<b><i>Audience participation:</i></b> Discussion in world café setting where experts present their cases in detail
16:40	<b><i>Wrap-up</i></b> & Reporting on break-out sessions

<sup>2</sup> REDD: Reducing Emissions from Forest Degradation and Deforestation.

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<b>Tuesday 27 april 2010 – Session 5 (Koningszaal)</b>	
Moderator Peter van der Geer	
17:00	<b><i>Closing of Conference</i></b> Speakers: Dr. Ashok Khosla, President of IUCN Mrs. Gerda Verburg, Minister for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality Mr. Roger van Boxtel, Chair IUCN NL
18:00	<b><i>Closing reception (Flamingo Serre)</i></b>

The conference is organised by the IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands. It is made possible with support from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Natura Artis Magistra, and the National Postcode Lottery. It is being organised as part of UN Year on Biodiversity 2010 and in close cooperation with the NatureandPoverty.net.



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