



Current Themes in Ecology

Biodiversity in Crisis

Perspectives on how to bend the curve

Wednesday 13 November 2019

Hotel and Congress Centre De Reehorst, Ede, the Netherlands

ORGANISERS:

Liesje Mommer (Wageningen University)
Dedmer van de Waal (Netherlands Institute of Ecology)
Claudius van de Vijver (NERN)
Lennart Suselbeek (NERN)



Programme

- 09:30 – 10:00** **Registration & Coffee / Tea**
- 10:00 – 10:20** **Welcome by the Chair of the Day**
Annemarie van Wezel, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 10:20 – 11:00** **Current state of biodiversity: insights from the IPBES Report**
Esther Turnhout, Wageningen University, the Netherlands
In this talk I will present the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). I will then zoom in on the process of developing the Global Assessment report that was launched in May 2019 and the main findings of the report. Using these findings, I will argue that to safeguard the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, we need to go beyond conservation, we need to reconceptualize biodiversity and we need to change biodiversity science.
- 11:00 – 11:30** **Coffee / Tea**
- 11:30 – 12:10** **Functional biodiversity: recent advances in biodiversity research**
Jasper van Ruijven, Wageningen University, the Netherlands
Since its emergence in the 1990s, the field of biodiversity-ecosystem functioning (BD-EF) research has seen intense debate, methodological progress and advances of scientific knowledge. In this talk, I will provide an overview of the scientific progress made, from the first experimental approaches to the latest insights into the ecological mechanisms underlying BD-EF relationships.
- 12:10 – 12:50** **Biodiversity to feed the world: the role of biodiversity for humanity**
Pablo Tittone, Argentina's National Council for Science and Technology (CONICET), Argentina /University of Groningen, the Netherlands
- 12:50 – 14:00** **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 14:40** **The interactive effects of biodiversity and climate change**
Hans ter Steege, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, the Netherlands
Tropical forests have enormous importance for the preservation of diversity and regulation of global and local climate. While deforestation and climate change lead to losses of forest and its diversity. Loss of forest leads to local and global climate change. Re-afforestation may be one of the solutions to mitigate climate change but it may not be the silver bullet.
- 14:40 – 15:20** **What works to save biodiversity? Practical ways to prevent extinctions**
Stuart Pimm, Duke University, United States of America
Most threatened species occur in a limited number of places in the world's tropics. We have not merely destroyed so much of the key habitats, but what we have left is badly fragmented. A highly cost-effective solution is to help local conservation organisations in these places acquire land, reforest it, and reconnect the once isolated habitat fragments. This rescue foundering populations and can allow species to move upslope as the climate heats up. The science behind where the key areas are, how we set tactical priorities within them, and the practice of connecting isolated habitat fragments will be the focus of my talk. Stuart Pimm will be represented digitally by Clinton Jenkins. Clinton Jenkins is a Professor at the IPÊ-Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (Institute for Ecological Research) in Brazil, where he studies the conservation of biological diversity and efforts to reduce tropical deforestation. In this he collaborates closely with Stuart Pimm.
- 15:20 – 15:50** **Coffee / Tea**
- 15:50 – 16:30** **Integrative animal and biodiversity governance**
Ingrid Visseren-Hamakers, Radboud University, the Netherlands
This presentation discusses the concept of Integrative Governance and highlights the need to integrate the thinking on biodiversity conservation and attention to the individual animal.
- 16:30 – 17:00** **Plenary discussion followed by a wrap-up of the day**
- 17:00 – 18:00** **Farewell drinks in the bar**