



Newsletter September 2019: Plenary speakers, Sessions and workshops & Call for abstracts.

Join us for the World Biodiversity Forum 2020, taking place the 23 – 28 February in Davos, and explore the future of biodiversity.

Meet our plenary speakers

We are very fortunate to welcome an amazing array of plenary speakers, covering a broad range of disciplines and expertise. Our speakers are:

Emma Archer, University of Pretoria	Eduardo S. Brondizio, Indiana University Bloomington
Odette Curtis, Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust	Sandra M. Diaz, Cordoba National University
Benis Egoh, University of California Irvine	Lenore Fahrig, Carleton University Ottawa
Workineh Kelbessa, Addis Ababa University	Andrew Light, George Mason University & World Resources Institute
Markku Oksanen, University of Turku	Unai Pascual, Basque Centre for Climate Change
Pragati Sahni, University of Delhi	Fabio Rubio Scarano, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Rashid Sumaila, University of British Columbia	Jens-Christian Svenning, Aarhus University
Gary Varner, Texas A&M University	Emily Yeh, University of Colorado Boulder
Barend Erasmus, University of Witwatersrand	Andy Purvis, Natural History Museum London
David Tilman, University of Minnesota	Greg Asner, Arizona State University

Learn more about the plenary speakers on our [website](#).

Sessions and Workshops

We have received high quality proposals for sessions and workshops. Those that we were able to accept cover a diversity of perspectives and visions and address current topics in novel ways. We are pleased to announce 30 **thematic sessions** that set the scene for innovative and timely questions, and bring together researchers and practitioners from a variety of disciplines. **Interactive workshops** offer the opportunity to discuss current topics in more detail and for in-depth interactions with other Forum participants. Lunchtime **debates and events** complete the programme.

Call for abstract for oral and poster contributions now open

We accept proposals for oral and poster contributions for the World Biodiversity Forum. Contributions should fit the **conference themes**, and may either be presented as part of a **thematic session** or **workshop** (see the specific session for more information), or in open sessions. Poster or oral contributions are considered as being equal, and will have the same status at the conference. **Submit your contribution** using the **dedicated website**.

Deadline for submissions is the 10 November 2019. We look forward to receiving your contributions!

For more information on the World Biodiversity Forum, visit www.worldbiodiversityforum.org or contact info@worldbiodiversityforum.org or biodiscovery@futureearth.org

Cornelia Krug

on behalf of the Scientific Organisation Committee of the World Biodiversity Forum

Michael Schaepman, Jeannine Cavender-Bares, Lynne Shannon, Anna Deplazes-Zemp, Gabriela Schaepman-Strub, Maria Joao Santos, Owen Petchey, Rees Kassen, Craig Starger, Eva Spehn and Debra Zuppinger-Dingley