

1.2.2024 | 13:00
ESMT Berlin
Schlossplatz 1
10178 Berlin
Germany

The very essence of our existence is intertwined with the preservation of biodiversity and the sustainability of ecosystems. Currently, we stand at a critical juncture.

On a global scale, terrestrial and marine biodiversity are rapidly decreasing, surpassing the rate of decline seen at any point in human history. Human activities have been responsible for the disappearance of 83% of all wild mammals and half of all plant species. This loss poses a direct threat to nature's resilience and, in turn, to our economic well-being, as approximately half of the global GDP relies on the services offered by nature.

It is vital to recognize that biodiversity and climate are deeply interconnected and of equal importance. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that only 5% of Fortune 500 companies have established specific biodiversity objectives, in stark contrast to the 83% that have committed to fighting climate change.

We cordially invite you to engage in a dialogue with leading experts from policy, business, academia, and civil society, as we discuss the following questions:

What is at stake for both you and your organization given the biodiversity crisis?

How can you set yourself and your organization apart when it comes to addressing this critical issue?

How can you shape your career, your organization, and, ultimately, yourself to contribute to the preservation of biodiversity?

13:00 Arrival Light Lunch

14:00 Welcome and Introduction
Michael Schwarz, Managing Director, Baden-Badener Unternehmer Gespräche e.V.

Prof. Jörg Rocholl, PhD, President and Deutsche Bank Professor in Sustainable Finance, ESMT Berlin

14:15 The Media Perspective
Christian Schwägerl, Journalist and Co-founder RiffReporter eG
Moderated by: **Alexander Bonde**, Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt

14:45 Call for Action
Dr. Christof Schenck, Executive Director, Frankfurt Zoological Society

15:15 Panel Discussion: What can business do? Best practices and the way forward
Joachim Goldbeck, CEO, Goldbeck Solar GmbH

Katrin Habenschaden, Head of Sustainability and Environment, Deutsche Bahn AG

Eva Meyer, Chief Sustainability Manager and Head of Company Engagement, BNP Paribas

Markus Müller, Chief Investment Officer ESG & Global Head of Chief Investment Office at Deutsche Bank Private Bank

Moderated by: **Veronica Veneziano**, CEO, Biodiversity in Good Company

16:15 Networking Coffee Break

16:45 Application Workshop: What Can I Do? Your Role in Shaping a Nature-positive Future
Myriam Rapior, Vice President, Friends of the Earth; Member of the German Council for Sustainable Development

Dr. Tim Steinecke, Director, Germany for Conservation International

Dr. Frauke Fischer, Department of Animal Biology and Tropical Biology, Universität Würzburg

Moderated by: **Dr. Henrik Pontzen**, Head of ESG, Union Investment

17:45 Keynote: Interdependencies between Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss
Prof. Johannes Vogel, PhD, Director General, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin; Professor of Biodiversity and Public Science, Humboldt University

Followed by Networking Reception