

Wyss Academy for Nature Symposium

Pathways to a Just and Sustainable Future for all

Date	August 24 th , 2022
Time	9:00 to 18:00 (CEST)
Location	Kursaal Bern, Switzerland
Convener	Tatjana von Steiger , Wyss Academy for Nature

Objectives

Our planet and humanity are facing existential challenges such as the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, poverty and inequality. Current approaches to solving these issues are neither effective nor timely enough. In an increasingly hyperconnected world, these challenges cannot be addressed separately, but rather form “wicked problems”: in real world situations, issues are interconnected, have multiple causes and consequences, and lead to dilemmas and trade-offs. One person’s solution can be another person’s problem. Simply producing more knowledge will not suffice to initiate change. We will always face surprises and unintended side-effects.

Against this backdrop, the Wyss Academy for Nature pursues a novel approach to overcome the growing gap between understanding problems and concrete action. In four regions around the world, we address nine concrete nature-people dilemmas by means of a living lab approach – the so-called solutionscapes. They bring together researchers and other knowledge bearers with multiple stakeholders around a shared challenge to co-design, test, and scale-out solutions that facilitate systemic change.

Agenda

Time	Content
07:30	Doors open: Check-in / Welcome Coffee
09:00	Welcome and framing - Tatjana von Steiger, Head Global Policy Outreach Wyss Academy for Nature
09:10	Opening - Prof. Dr. Peter Messerli, Director Wyss Academy for Nature and Marie-Claire Graf, Swiss-Based Youth Advocate
09:30	Three parallel working sessions (Language: EN)

Session 1: Embracing complexity towards transformative change

Speakers:
Prof. Dr. Adrienne Grêt-Regamey, ETHZ
Dr. Norman Kearney, CDE, University of Bern
Dr. Jean-Christophe Castella, IRD
Dr. Fritz Kleinschroth, ETHZ

Session 2: Identifying and amplifying co-benefits between nature stewardship and human well-being

Speakers:
Prof. Dr. Thomas Stocker, University of Bern
Prof. Dr. Detlef van Vuuren, University of Utrecht
Prof. Dr. Johanna Jacobi, ETHZ
Dr. Lukas Fesenfeld, University of Bern

Session 3: Living labs as catalysts for pathways to transformative change

Speakers:
Dr. Katharina Lima de Miranda / Johannes Zieseniss, SAGE-Framework, The New Institute
Carlos Alvarez Pereira, The Club of Rome
Prof. Dr. David Nabarro CBE, 4SD
Dr. Sabin Bieri, CDE, University of Bern

11:45 **Reporting back**

12:15 **Break**

Ideathon (Language of breakout groups: EN / ES, Language of plenary: EN)

13:30 *Challenge 1: Preventing Deforestation*
Challenge 2: Semi-Arid Areas
Challenge 3: Reconnecting Food Producers, Consumers and Nature

Closing Panel

17:00 **Panelists:**
Prof. Dr. Maja Göpel, University of Lüneburg
Prof. Dr. Adrienne Grêt-Regamey, ETH Zürich
Prof. Dr. Nathalie de-Noblet, Climate and Environmental Sciences Laboratory
Dr. Youba Sokona, Vice Chair IPCC
Brian O'Donnell, Wyss Campaign for Nature

18:00 **End of the Symposium**

Open-ended **Apéro**