Charting our Carbon Future: Opportunities for Action

A series of online interactive events and activities starting April 21st 2020

During the ‘Virtual Workshop’ participants working on climate and sustainability from various businesses will meet with each other, and selected experts, to collaborate in:

1) Exploring the best knowledge and ideas for investments in nature-based solutions to help achieve ambitious mitigation goals
2) Comparing and developing strategic plans based on best practices/actions to achieve carbon commitments.

This ‘Virtual Workshop’ will involve both a series of online interactive sessions through Zoom with recognized experts and speakers. These events will be complemented by an online workspace in Slack, to share background documents and provide space for follow up discussions. Each of the online interactive sessions will build on the insights and outcomes of the former one, so we invite you to be part of the whole cumulative process.

Online interactive sessions, 16:30 CEST (10:30 EST)

Each of these sessions will involve:

- Pre-work, such as something to read,
- Presentations and
- Participant interaction (such as polling, small group work, Q&A, whole-group discussion).

21 April - Session 1:
Setting the Stage: nature-based solutions – what to expect? – Introduction to the series (90 minutes)
The session will have two parts:
The first will introduce the content and structure of the series with a summary description of main topics to be covered in each session.
The second part will discuss the likely impact of Covid-19 on the nature agenda for 2020 and 2021. There will be a panel with renowned speakers to discuss what to expect in terms of political will, public pressure for climate change action and COP-26 (now delayed to 2021). An interactive discussion will follow.

Presenters:
28 April – Session 2:
Opportunities in Nature-Based Solutions – Science-based targets, ambitions and carbon disclosure (90 minutes)
The session will present an overview of existing and emerging opportunities (types and profile of investments) in Green (REDD+ including forest ecosystem restoration) and Brown (regenerative and low carbon agriculture). The overview will highlight challenges and opportunities from different types of investments, their fitness with science-based targets and carbon disclosure.
Presenters:
Stephen Donofrio (Forest Trends); Alberto Carrillo (Science-based Target Initiative); UN-REDD.

5 May – Session 3:
Accounting for reductions in a Paris-era world – (90 minutes)
The session will present key issues on accounting for carbon reductions post 2020. The session will benefit from the presence of recognized experts to discuss current situation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the challenges posed for proper carbon accounting and adjustments when investing in NBS. The discussion will include linkages to carbon reporting.
Presenters:
TBC (UNDP’s Climate Promise; FAO; CDP; UN-REDD)

12 May – Session 4:
Validation, verification and benefits (90 minutes)
The session will go over the range of validation and verification schemes using REDD+ as a model but also including applications to “brown” interventions. The session will include a discussion on key issues related to the application of different schemes in national and subnational jurisdictions, including benefits beyond carbon.
Presenters:
TBC (Verra; American Carbon Registry; Winrock; Gold Standard; WCMC; UN-REDD)

19 May – Session 5:
Pricing of emission reductions (90 minutes)
This session will provide an overview of current and expected price of offsets in voluntary and formal markets and the effect of uncertainty and buffers on net prices. The session will
include a review of opportunity and implementation costs in REDD+ interventions and their significance for “fair” prices.

Presenters:
TBC (UN-REDD; WWF Landscape Lab; South Pole; Ecosystem Marketplace).

26 May – Session 6:
Where do We Go from Here? Increasing ambitions - developing Strategic Carbon Plans (90 minutes)

Based on the results of a survey sent to participants before the event, this session will facilitate a discussion to explore the question: “How do we companies can develop/refine their strategic frameworks to guide corporate investments in offsetting/insetting opportunities”? The session will present 2-3 speakers from private sector presenting plans to reduce Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions followed by a plenary discussion.

Facilitators:
UNEP; Kering