

COP 12 of CBD in October 2014

The 194 member states of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held their 12th Conference of the Parties (COP 12) in Pyeongchang, Korea, from October 6th -17th, 2014. At the same time, the Nagoya-Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing entered into force and held its first official meeting.

The fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 4) was presented as a midterm evaluation on the way to reach the CBD 2020-targets. GBO 4 concludes that there is slight progress in implementation but that most of the 20 targets will be missed unless much stronger actions is taken by states and societies immediately. The target to safe coral reefs until 2015 will be missed entirely.

COP 12 formulated a set of decisions, including on:

- doubling the resources for implementing the CBD from 2015 onwards until 2020 (based on an average of the resources spent 2006-2010)
- an action plan on coral reefs as especially endangered ecosystems
- a list of about 150 marine areas that meet the criteria for being of ecological and biological significance (and therefore a basis for a future system of marine protected areas)
- the need to better understand the chances and risks of living organisms created through synthetic biology.

The Institute for Biodiversity Network (ibn) used the opportunity of COP 12 to perform two side events in cooperation with four different regional projects (SURUMER, LEGATO, INNOVATE, COMTESS), where project scientists related their results to the Strategic Plan and the 2020-Targets of the CBD.

Dr. Cornelia Paulsch,
Institute for Biodiversity - Network e.V.
07.11.2014



#

Abb. 1: COP 12 participants in Pyeongchang (Korea)

Left to right : Dr. Martin Maier (Comtess); Drs. Axel and Cornelia Paulsch (ibn); Prof. Dr. Arne Cierjacks (Innovate); Dr. Mark Cotter (Surumer); Dr. Stefan Hotes (Legato/Jaguar).