

Proteus Annual Meeting 2021

UNEP-WCMC Participant List

Chairs



Corli Pretorius
Deputy Director, UNEP-WCMC

Corli Pretorius is Deputy Director of the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). She brings 20 years of experience in global public policy on environment and development, including the last 10 years with the UN Environment Programme – first at its headquarters in Nairobi, then in New York and now Cambridge, UK. Enabling governments and business to better integrate biodiversity and ecosystem knowledge in decision-making is a key component of her work. Earlier, she was IUCN’s head of global communications, based in Gland, Switzerland. She started her international career with the Secretariat of the World Commission on Dams, based in Cape Town, South Africa. She has degrees in planning, agricultural development and agricultural economics.



Jonathan Hughes
WCMC Chief Executive Officer, UNEP-WCMC


Jonathan ‘Jonny’ Hughes has overall leadership responsibility for WCMC whilst fostering seamless collaboration between the charity and the UN Environment Programme as UNEP-WCMC (known collectively as the Centre). As leader of WCMC, Jonny is responsible for building a high-performance culture that ensures quality outputs and measurable impact for UNEP-WCMC as it strives towards its vision for a ‘sustainable world for biodiversity and people’. Before joining WCMC Jonny was the CEO of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, Scotland’s leading environmental charity, and had previously worked for the Woodland Trust and Westminster City Council. Jonny has been an elected global Councillor of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 2012, spending four of those years as chair of the Council’s Policy and Programme Committee. He is also a non-Executive Director of Corrou Estate, a large upland estate in Scotland, and a trustee at the People’s Postcode Lottery. He holds a B.A in Geography and Biology from Keele University, an MSc in Ecology from the University of Florence which he completed on an Erasmus scholarship, and an Honorary Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh.





Matt Jones
Head of Programme, Business and Biodiversity, UNEP-WCMC

Matt leads a team working with businesses and their influencers to embed natural capital within private sector decisions. The Business and Biodiversity Programme ensures that businesses have the incentives, capacity, knowledge and data necessary to take well informed decisions which might impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Matt joined UNEP-WCMC in 2010 to work with private sector partners. Prior to his current role, he was responsible for leading the Proteus Partnership, engagement with the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool, and delivering projects with companies to improve their approaches to biodiversity management. Before joining UNEP-WCMC Matt worked as a consultant to the energy, infrastructure, transport and finance sectors. He began his career working in East Africa on projects aimed at finding solutions to human wildlife conflict. He has an MA and MPhil in Land Economy from the University of Cambridge.







	<p>Neville Ash <i>Director, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Neville is the Director of the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, where he represents UNEP in the collaboration between UN Environment and WCMC at the Centre, and represents UN Environment in the United Kingdom. He provides overall leadership to the Centre and the Senior Management Team, including ensuring a clear strategy is in place towards the achievement of the Centre’s vision and mission. Neville has been with UN Environment since 2010, most recently as Deputy Director of UN Environment’s Division of Environmental Policy Implementation. Neville led UN Environment’s work on biodiversity, including the process to establish the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), and UN Environment’s work to address illegal wildlife trade. Previously he was Head of IUCN’s Ecosystem Management Programme. Neville was also Head of Ecosystem Assessment at UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, overseeing a range of international monitoring and assessment initiatives. He has spent time researching and managing conservation initiatives in Asia and Africa, and has considerable experience working with a range of international policy processes.</p>
---	---

Presenters and Facilitators	
	<p>Aime Rankin <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>As an Associate Programme Officer, Aime supports a wide range of projects that strengthen the role of biodiversity-based evidence in public and private sector decision making. A key part of Aime’s role involves carrying out background research and data analysis to develop high quality outputs for a range of audiences, including the Proteus Partnership. Prior to joining the Centre, Aime completed a PhD at the University of Cambridge, which focused on the information content of fossilizable data and the role of the Asian continent in mammal evolution.</p>
	<p>Alex Ross <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Alex’s role involves day-to-day operational management of the Proteus Partnership – a unique collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and leading companies dedicated to improving the quality of global biodiversity data and the capacity of businesses to use it in decision making.</p> <p>Alex also fulfils development, management and technical delivery roles across a range of other projects aiming to strengthen consideration of natural capital in private sector decision making. For example he is a co-lead for UNEP-WCMC’s contribution to the Science Based Target Network’s toolkit development workstream, and was the lead author for the ‘Frame’ and ‘Value’ components of the recently published Biodiversity Guidance to accompany the Natural Capital Protocol.</p>







	<p>Claire Brown <i>Principal Technical Specialist, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Claire has worked with UNEP-WCMC since 2004 and oversees a portfolio of projects on ecosystem services and assessment, most notably the Sub-global Assessment Network, the UK National Ecosystem Assessment and its follow on, the development of ecosystem service indicators and tools for measuring and monitoring ecosystem services. Claire also supports the IPBES Secretariat on assessment issues and is coordinating the IPBES Guide for Assessments. Claire is also a member of the Steering Group for Action 5 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2011-2020.</p>
	<p>Cristina Telhado <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Cristina contributes to a portfolio of projects that investigate the interconnection between climate change mitigation/adaptation and biodiversity conservation. In these projects, Cristina supports assessments that aim to evaluate the benefits that restoration actions can bring to biodiversity, or estimate the potential reduction in carbon emissions from achieving biodiversity conservation targets.</p>
	<p>Daniela Guarás <i>Senior Technical Specialist, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Daniela leads and contributes to the work of the Centre on intergovernmental processes such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Daniela uses her prior experience working in national government to ensure the Centre's science and expertise is directly relevant to supporting decision makers at both global and national levels. Daniela also lectures on environmental governance (MPhil of Conservation Leadership, University of Cambridge).</p>
	<p>Emily Howland <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Emily provides administrative, organisational and technical support for the maintenance of the World Database on Protected Areas and Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness, alongside broader Protected Planet Initiative and associated projects.</p>
	<p>Hannah Braithwaite <i>Head of External Affairs, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Hannah's role is to oversee UNEP-WCMC's external engagement with a particular emphasis on new partnership development. Hannah leads the Development and Communications team which works to secure funding for the delivery of UNEP-WCMC's strategy and ensure this is supported through the delivery of compelling external communications, media messaging, branding and marketing. Before joining UNEP-WCMC Hannah was Head of Trusts and Foundations at Fauna & Flora International (FFI). Hannah led on the development and delivery of FFI's global strategy to develop funding relationships with trusts and foundations. Hannah graduated with a BSc in Zoology from Sheffield University, and for 10 years has been dedicated to using her expertise and passion for the natural world to secure resources for its conservation.</p>






	<p>Hazel Thornton <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Hazel provides technical support to a range of projects and activities in the Marine Programme, contributing to research and analysis elements with a primary focus on digital products. Prior to this, Hazel's previous role in the Species Programme focused on species-related Conventions and Agreements, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations, and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).</p>
	<p>Jake Bedford <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Jacob provides technical insights to a range of projects at UNEP-WCMC, primarily in the fields of corporate biodiversity measurement and natural capital. This work aims to strengthen the role of business and finance in meeting global policy goals for biodiversity. He has a background in developing biodiversity indicators for marine ecosystem assessments.</p>
	<p>Jasmine Upton <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Jasmin works across multiple projects within the Conserving Land and Seascapes team. Primarily she works with national partners and site custodians to gather and report data on territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) for the ICCA Registry, which aims to provide statistics and analysis on ICCAs around the world. Jasmin is working to support the development of the Ocean+ initiative, bringing together global marine data and mapping ecologically important ocean habitats, to enable effective decision making regarding the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity. Jasmin also supports the work of the Protected Planet initiative which is working to consolidate information and knowledge on the worlds protected and conserved areas as well as tracking progress towards international environmental targets.</p>
	<p>Jessica Stewart <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Jess leads UNEP-WCMC's work on territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs). She works with national partners to support the documentation of ICCAs in the Global ICCA Registry and Protected Planet Databases. Jess works on the Protected Planet Initiative, which is the global authority on protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures data. Her focus is on Southern and Eastern Africa, leading UNEP-WCMC's work in this region through the BIOPAMA programme. Jessica joined UNEP-WCMC after graduating with an MSc in Conservation Biology from DICE at the University of Kent in September 2017. Prior to this, she was managing an overseas research project in South Africa where she explored behaviour and cognition in Cape Ground Squirrels. She has also investigated the factors contributing to the increase in migration of Maasai into the city of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, and has a background in both physical and human geography.</p>







	<p>Joe Turner <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Joe's role within the Business and Biodiversity Programme involves supporting public and private partners in accessing, interpreting and applying biodiversity data for decision-making. This includes elements of geospatial analysis and capacity building of technical skills. Prior to joining the Centre, Joe completed his PhD at the University of Western Australia which focused on habitat mapping, species distribution modelling, and biological characterisation of the mesophotic reefs in the Ningaloo Marine Park. He has a wealth of experience in spatial ecology and managing and processing geospatial data through his time working within environmental consultancies as well as his PhD research.</p>
	<p>Luca Körner <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Luca supports a variety of projects within the Business and Biodiversity Programme with background research and data analysis. He contributes to the overall aim of the programme to enhance the evidence-base for biodiversity's importance to public and private sector decision making. Prior to joining UNEP-WCMC, Luca graduated in a M.Sc. in Natural Resources Management at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences. His dissertation focused on the Environmental Hazard Potentials of copper mining in fragile ecosystems in Ecuador in the context of an increased mineral demand for a low carbon future. During his masters, Luca worked in German development cooperation, focusing on extractives sector governance. He has previous experience in working with private sector companies on identifying and engaging their environmental risks and opportunities.</p>
	<p>Katie Dawkins <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Katie brings her experience of ecology and working in the commercial sector to UNEP-WCMC's Business and Biodiversity Programme. Her role involves synthesising technical and scientific information into accessible briefing notes and liaising with internal and external project partners. She also provides input into marketing materials, workshop organisation and developing new proposals. Katie joined UNEP-WCMC in September 2017. Prior to this, she was a Principal Ecologist working as a consultant to the UK construction industry. A key part of her role was working with stakeholders to identify and manage ecological risks and opportunities relating to development and infrastructure projects.</p>
	<p>Miriam Guth <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Miriam supports the implementation of a range of projects undertaken by the Programme, especially those relating to REDD+ and to management of ecosystems other than forests to address climate change and support biodiversity conservation. Her work includes reviewing literature, sourcing data and preparing draft text for information outputs, including technical syntheses, publications and reports.</p>







	<p>Naomi Kingston <i>Head of Operations, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>As Head of Operations, Naomi is responsible for delivering excellence in all aspects of the operations management across UNEP-WCMC, ensuring we are operating effectively and efficiently in all aspects of our business. Her responsibilities include: programmatic oversight, performance management, compliance, and oversight of human resources.</p> <p>Naomi was previously Head of the Conserved Land and Seascapes Programme for 7 years, leading UNEP-WCMC's work on protected and conserved areas, the marine environment, and knowledge management. Following a PhD in Conservation Biology from Trinity College, Dublin, Naomi worked as a post-doctoral research fellow and as an environmental consultant, before spending nearly ten years as a Conservation Scientist with the Irish government's nature conservation agency. She has extensive experience of working on the interface between ecological studies and information management, promoting the open sharing of biodiversity data to improve conservation decision making.</p>
	<p>Neil Burgess <i>Chief Scientist, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Neil's primary role as Chief Scientist is to oversee the scientific and technical work of UNEP-WCMC, to work to develop our profile and collaborations with external partners interested in the conservation of nature, and to promote the role data and analysis plays in effective conservation delivery. He also helps to publish leading scientific work at the science-policy interface, mentors staff in scientific delivery and ensures overall quality and scientific credibility of outputs across UNEP-WCMC. Neil has been working in conservation science and practice for more than 20 years, in the UK, Denmark and tropical Africa, especially eastern Africa. Much of his earlier work focused on habitat conservation and protected area development and management in Europe and Africa through partnerships with non-governmental organisations, private foundations, state and community-based organisations. Neil's long term involvement in practical, field-based conservation in Africa has also led to the discovery of many species new to science, the creation of state and community managed reserves, and the development of conservation plans and capacity building programmes with African states NGOs and Universities. The interface between field conservation, developing country capacity building, and the delivery of science at the global level and together with policy makers, means that Neil is well placed to develop conservation science that is aimed at international conservation policy targets, such as those agreed under the Convention on Biological Diversity, CITES and the UNFCCC, and the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>
	<p>Raquel Agra <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Raquel contributes to the work of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Programme using her experience in the integration of ecosystem services into policy, planning, and practice. She works on projects that explore the relationship between biodiversity and climate change to support management decisions with effects in both biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation/adaptation. This includes work on ecosystem assessment for peatlands, on information to support decision-making on ecosystem restoration, and on nature-based solutions for sustainable development. Evaluating the impacts of climate-related policies on biodiversity and ecosystem services in order to enhance biodiversity benefits from their implementation is another focus.</p>



	<p>Sara Pruckner <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Sara supports the centre's Healthy Ocean Strategy, primarily working to build the Ocean+ initiative, utilising her technical data and GIS skillset. Working closely with UNEP-WCMC's data manager, she is exploring new pathways of gathering and disseminating biodiversity data. She also carries out spatial analysis for the MERCES project, supporting innovative ways of displaying the results and data gathered throughout the project. Sara has a BSc degree in Environment and Natural resource management from the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna, Austria, and a Joint Erasmus Mundus M.Sc. degree in Environmental Sciences Policy and Management (MESPOM) from Central European University (Budapest), the University of Manchester, and the University of the Aegean (Mytilini). She gained previous work experience with the Poverty-Environment Initiative of UN Environment in Nairobi, and the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen, where she conducted research on Biodiversity and landscape fragmentation indicators, among other things.</p>
	<p>Sebastian Bekker <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Sebastian has over five years' experience working at the interface of business, finance and biodiversity. His expertise is in the development of analyses, tools and products related to natural capital, including biodiversity, for audiences within the business and finance sectors. At UNEP-WCMC he manages the development of the ENCORE tool (Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities, Risks and Exposure) and related projects, as part of which he has worked with a range of partners from the finance sector, NGOs, UN agencies, and public sector. Sebastian has also supported Proteus, particularly on technical aspects of the Partnership, including data delivery and support, as well as training.</p>
	<p>Stacey Baggaley <i>Senior Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Stacey oversees the management of UNEP-WCMC's Proteus Partnership. A collaboration designed to support companies in the understanding and effective mitigation of impact on biodiversity. Her role in the Business and Biodiversity Programme also involves supporting the development and implementation of training approaches that build capacity and lead to improved biodiversity management. Stacey was previously a Senior Programme Manager at Earthwatch Europe, where she supported the development and implementation of the sustainable agriculture strategy, looking at citizen science and engagement methods working with agri-businesses and farmers. Alongside this, she managed a number of environmental engagement programmes designed to support both the private and conservation sectors to take action towards a sustainable environment. She gained a Masters degree in International Corporate Law from the University of Nottingham in 2011 and thereafter spent two years working in the insurance sector.</p>
	<p>Valerie Kapos <i>Head of Programme, Climate Change and Biodiversity, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Valerie leads on our work on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and the role of ecosystems in climate change mitigation and adaptation - nature-based solutions. In addition to overseeing and managing the work of the large Climate Change and Biodiversity team, her role includes overseeing the development of new projects and ideas, and liaising with counterparts in national governments, and with key collaborators, partners and funders. Val holds a PhD in tropical forest ecology and has nearly two decades of field research and other experience in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has authored over 60 journal articles and many other publications.</p>



Events Team	
	<p>Laura Mack <i>Events Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Laura is responsible for coordinating the centre's attendance and engagement at a variety of events across the world, managing the logistics and overseeing event communication with both internal and external colleagues. After completing a BSc in Bio-Veterinary Science at the University of Lincoln, studying the nesting behaviours of sea turtles in Mexico, Laura continued her studies at the University of Exeter undertaking a Master's degree in Evolutionary and Behavioural Ecology, submitting a thesis investigating the effect of environmental factors on mating behaviour in <i>Drosophila</i>. Since finishing her studies, Laura has gained experience and skills in the events sector, which she continues to develop in her role at UNEP-WCMC.</p>
	<p>Jasmine Salvati <i>Administrator, UNEP-WCMC</i></p>

Participants	
	<p>Ben Tregenna <i>Head Informatics, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Ben is an experienced software manager and CTO who has been working, primarily with tech start-ups, in London and Cambridge for the past fifteen years. He leads the informatics team at UNEP-WCMC.</p>
	<p>Clementine Fournier <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Clementine's role as an Associate Programme Officer in the Business and Biodiversity team involves working on a range of projects to help the private sector include nature into its decision-making. A key part of her role is to provide support to businesses and public sector partners on biodiversity measurement and analysis, using science and the latest research to inform their strategy.</p>
	<p>Hamza Butt <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Positioned with the Nature Economy team, I am closely working on a number of projects in the sustainable infrastructure, green financing and business space.</p>



	<p>Russell Gardiner <i>Marketing Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Russell joined UNEP-WCMC as Marketing Officer in August 2020 as part of the Development and Communications Team. His role involves developing UNEP-WCMC’s marketing activities and strategy for 2021 and beyond – with a particular focus on increasing the centre’s brand resonance and exploring new partnerships and opportunities for organisational growth and biodiversity impact. Russell worked in the private sector as a Marketing Manager for the last 3 years, collaborating with governmental and industry leaders to deliver health technology events. Having graduated with a B.A. in Politics from the University of York back in 2017, Russell has built a strong track record of conceptualising and implementing successful marketing campaigns. His passion is engrained in delivering positive environmental change.</p>
	<p>Sylvaine Rols <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Sylvaine Rols oversees UNEP-WCMC’s support to the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures and the Science-based Target Network, leveraging the Centre’s expertise to develop ambitious corporate targets and disclosure practices for a nature positive future. Sylvaine previously managed the Oil for Development programme, in collaboration with the Norwegian Environment Agency, strengthening capacity of governmental institutions and private partners in accessing, interpreting, and applying biodiversity data for decision-making. Prior to joining UNEP-WCMC, Sylvaine worked as an environmental specialist with the European Investment Bank, appraising and monitoring environmental impacts of investment projects in Europe, Africa and Central America.</p>
	<p>Julie Dimitrijevic <i>Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Julie is a biologist with research and field skills assessing biodiversity and impacts. Julie specialises in corporate biodiversity measurement, and natural capital assessment by creating fit-for-purpose tools for businesses and financial institutions. Julie was acting technical lead for the Measurement Guidance and Navigation Tool to the Natural Capital Protocol and is currently the biodiversity measurement lead of the Aligning Accounting Approaches for Nature (Align) project. Prior to her MSc, Julie worked as an environmental consultant where she assessed marine and terrestrial habitats at risk from proposed development projects across Canada.</p>
	<p>Kiran Sehra <i>Associate Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC</i></p> <p>Kiran Sehra is Project Lead on the identification of nature impacts and dependencies within the pharmaceuticals and consumer healthcare sector and providing technical support to projects within the agricultural and land use finance space; focusing on deforestation and natural capital risk, E&S Key Performance Indicators for impact investment funds/facilities and nature-based solutions opportunities within the banking sector. Kiran also supports the Horizon Scan Webinars for the Proteus Partnership and has previously supported projects on biodiversity indicators for agricultural supply chains, biodiversity target setting for companies and the financial sector.</p>