

WORLD WIDE VIEWS ON Biodiversity

On Saturday the 15th of September 2012, thousands of citizens around the world attended citizen consultations to express their views of global biodiversity policies and actions. The results will be presented at COP11 in India, October 2012.



Newsletter #7 October 2012 - UN call on future projects *such as the World Wide Views on Biodiversity*

COP11 has just finished and in this newsletter we give you news from World Wide Views on Biodiversity's participation in the COP. We have videos from some of the events, interviews with CBD's Executive Secretary, a citizen from France and photos from the COP.

COP11 finished successfully for World Wide Views on Biodiversity

The international negotiations at COP11 in Hyderabad, India came to a positive end this Friday. The formulations of the final resolution text is still in preparation but the existing draft of the Eleventh Meeting of Parties of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP11) calls on all countries to support projects such as the World Wide Views on

Biodiversity. In decision texts L28, section D about the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, paragraph no. 24, said that the Conference of the Parties:

“Encourages Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders to support and contribute to communication initiatives, such as the World Wide Views on Biodiversity, which combine the implementation of Strategic Goals A and E regarding mainstreaming of biodiversity, participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building”.

The WWViews citizen consultation model is getting acceptance in the UN system and it may be the beginning of the development of a more citizen involving approach to international decision-making processes. *This opens for the possibility to arrange more World Wide Views meetings in the future, hopefully again in connection with COP12 in South Korea in 2014.*



The WWViews delegation at COP11 participated at a Side Event on October 17 and a Special Event on October 18. At these events there was a panel debate with project managers, experts and citizens, showing of the documentary video about WWViews and questions from the audience. All this together spread a profound knowledge about the World Wide Views on Biodiversity project along with distribution of the Results Report.

Side Event and final resolution text



The World Wide Views on Biodiversity delegation filmed some of the events and made interviews with participants as well. One of the videos partly shows extracts from the Side Event and partly shows that the World Wide Views on Biodiversity

is as a part of the final resolution text as mentioned above. Finally Bjørn Bedsted, Global Coordinator of WWViews hands over the Results Report to Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of CBD.

See the video of the Side Event and the final resolution text [here](#)

Interview with CBD's Executive Secretary

Bjørn Bedsted, Global WWViews Coordinator, interviewed Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, CBD's Executive Secretary, on the importance of the World Wide Views on Biodiversity project as a citizen participation project. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias further elaborated on future use of integrating participatory projects like the World Wide Views in global policy making.



See the interview with Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias [here](#)

Rick Worthington at the Side Event



At the Side Event several speakers sat at the panel, Rick Worthington, Professor of Politics, USA, and partner of the WWViews in Phoenix/Arizona, USA, was among one of them. He shared his views on citizen involvement projects such as World Wide Views on Biodiversity, sustained engagement – more science museums was involved in WWViews on Biodiversity than WWViews on Global Warming in 2009 and he commented on some of the results from the citizen meetings.

See Rick Worthington at the Side Event [here](#)

Atul Pandya at the Side Event

Atul Pandya, Center for Environmental Education, Ahmedabad, India, was another panel member at the Side Event and a WWViews partner from India. He explained about the Indian citizens' seriousness and ownership of the process of the meetings and the results.



Listen to Atul Pandya's experiences [here](#)

Interview with a French citizen



At the Side Event citizen Cécile Orodé-Ugwumadu-Aubineau from France participated as a panel member, where she told about her experiences as a citizen during the World Wide Views meeting. She was also interviewed by the WWViews team and shared her concern for nature and its future and the gap between policy-makers and citizens.

Listen to Cécile Orodé-Ugwumadu-Aubineau's thoughts [here](#)

Documentary video about WWViews

The documentary video about World Wide Views premiered at the Side Event and was shown again at the Special Event. The documentary video shows the process of the citizen meetings worldwide with recordings from many of the participating countries. This is a short version of the documentary video a longer version will be available soon.



See the documentary video [here](#)

Photos from COP11

Go to our flickr set to see more photos of WWViews at COP11 in India [here](#). Among them are photos from the Side Event and the Special Event along with photos of Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias receiving and reading the Results Report.

Partner feature

In this last section of the newsletter we have gathered statements and photos from some of the World Wide Views on Biodiversity meetings.



La Reunion – France: In La Reunion the participants have a lot knowledge on biodiversity! 33.33% of the citizens participating at the meeting in La Reunion, France knew a lot about biodiversity before joining the WWViews, compared with only 19.12% of all the

participating citizens.

Denmark: The Danish citizens were very engaged in the debate. Most of them were positive towards this kind of method to include citizens in decision making. Some of them expressed an obligation towards participating in the meeting and giving their recommendations to policy makers.



Delhi – India: The project team with facilitators and volunteers. The participants at the Delhi meeting in India think less people in the world are seriously affected by the loss of biodiversity compared to all the participating citizens. 63% of the participants in Delhi voted most people, while 84.02% of all



participants voted the same.

Philippines: In the Philippines citizens from remote islands were flown to Manila to participate in the World Wide Views meeting.



Maldives: The citizens in the Maldives prefer to ensure protection of nature areas in their country by better enforce existing laws. 70.69% of the participating citizens in Maldives answered this while only 46.66% of all the citizens chose this answer.

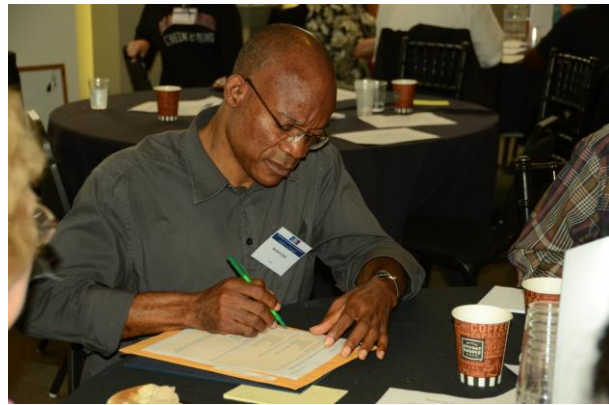
Nepal: The citizens of Nepal prefer to ensure protection of nature areas in their country by providing incentives to stakeholders (industry, farmers, NGOs, etc.) to engage in protection measures. 83.65% of the participants in Nepal chose this answer while 53.35% of the citizens in the whole world answered the same.





Nigeria: The participating citizens at the citizen meeting in Nigeria are gathered for a group photo.

Washington – USA: The voting process at the citizen meeting in Washington, USA. 50% of the citizens in Washington would chose to reduce the demand for more food, for example by eating more plants and less meat as the most promising general strategy in matching the future demand for food with the aim to protect biodiversity, while only 29.3% of the citizens of the world answered the same.



South Africa: At the citizen meeting in South Africa the citizens consisted of grade 11 learners, university students with interest in agriculture as well as environmental issues, Royal Haskonian, traditional healers, Sangomas, fishermen, farmers and other concerned citizens.

St. Vincent: All the participating citizens in St. Vincent and the Grenadines voted that users of existing species collections of animals, plants and microorganisms should share benefits with the countries of origin if the species were collected before the Nagoya Protocol enters into force. 80.83% of all the citizens in the world answered the same.



Boston – USA: A citizen is asking the WWViews staff questions on the material, while the other citizens at the table continue the discussion.

For more photos from the WWViews meetings visit our Flickr photo pool!

WWViews and Social Media

WWViews on Biodiversity and our partners are using Social Media.

You can find, follow and like us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#)

World Wide Views on Biodiversity is a global project from The Danish Board of Technology

Adress: Toldbodgade 12, 1253 Copenhagen K, DK-Denmark

Contact: t: +45 3332 0503 , e: contact@wwviews.org