

# CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 4 JUNE 2021

Launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

## Background

Celebration of the UN's World environment day takes place every year on 5 June. It is United Nations' flagship day for promoting worldwide awareness and action for the environment. This year, the celebration is organized on Friday 4 June and fully online.

For too long, we have been exploiting and destroying our planet's ecosystems. Every three seconds, the world loses enough forest to cover a football pitch and over the last century we have destroyed half of our wetlands. As much as 50 per cent of our coral reefs have already been lost and up to 90 per cent of coral reefs could be lost by 2050.

Ecosystem restoration means preventing, halting and reversing this damage – to go from exploiting nature to healing it. This World Environment Day will kick off the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a global mission to revive billions of hectares, from forests to farmlands, from the top of mountains to the depth of the sea.

World Environment Day offers a global platform for inspiring positive change. It pushes for individuals to think about the way they consume; for businesses to develop greener models; for governments to invest in repairing the environment; and for youth to build a greener future.



**Register Here**

<https://bit.ly/3bR7HEG>

## Program

Moderated by **Benno Boer**, UNESCO

- 13:15-13:30 *Joining Zoom*
- 13:30-13:35 **Remarks** by **Eden Woon**  
*President of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)*
- 13:35-13:40 **Remarks** by **Shigeru Aoyagi**  
*Asia-Pacific Regional Director, UNESCO*
- 13:40-13:45 **Remarks** by **Dechen Tsering**  
*Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, UNEP*
- 13:45-13:50 **Remarks** by **Takayuki Hagiwara**  
*Regional Programme Leader, FAO-RAP*
- 13:50-13:55 **Remarks** by **H.E. Pirkka Tapiola**  
*Ambassador of the European Union to the Kingdom of Thailand*
- 13:55-14:00 **Remarks** by **Dindo Campilan**  
*Asia Regional Director and Oceania Hub Director, IUCN*
- 14:00-14:05 **Remarks** by **Rawin Raviwongse**  
*President of National Science Museum Thailand (NSM)*
- 14:05-14:10 **Message** from **H.E. Varawut Silpa-archa**  
*Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand*

## Panel Session

- 14:10-14:15 **Charlie Winston's "Summertime here all year"**  
*(illustrated by UNESCO)*
- 14:15-14:35 **Friedhelm Krupp**, *The Jubail Wildlife Sanctuary*  
**Restoring coastal and marine habitats following the largest oil spill in history**
- 14:35-14:50 **Siriporn Sriaram**, *Acting Head of Office, IUCN Thailand Programme*  
**Mangrove Restoration: Thailand Case Studies**
- 14:50-15:05 **Ben Hargraves** *Business Development, The Ocean Cleanup*  
**Cleaning up plastic pollution in rivers and oceans worldwide**
- 15:05-15:20 **James Scott** *Executive Director, TerraCycle Thailand*  
**Cleaning up canals in Bangkok**
- 15:20-15:35 **Gayatri Raghwa**, *Executive Director, Wildecologue*  
**Role of Science Education towards Ecosystem Restoration**
- 15:35-15:50 **Summary and announcing 2021 activities**  
by **Siriporn Sriaram**
- 15:50-15:55 Poem by **'Damage Control & Swordfish'**
- 15:55-16:00 **Closing**

