

22 May 2012

International Day for Biological Diversity focuses on oceans

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Marine life

Resources found in oceans are important for millions of people around the world.

That's the message of the Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, Braulio Ferreira, to mark the [International Day for Biological Diversity](#) on 22 May.

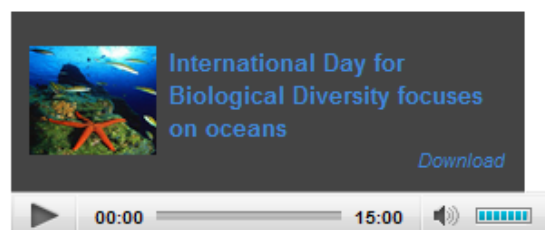
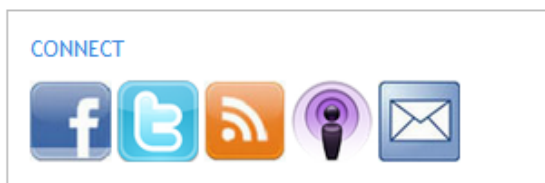
The body overseeing the convention warns that overfishing, pollution and run-off from farming are among the major threats to the survival of marine and coastal ecosystems.

Mr. Ferreira says that millions of people who may not think they have any strong reliance on the oceans receive all kinds of benefits from marine ecosystems and wildlife.

"Fisheries provide over 15 per cent of the dietary intake of animal protein globally. Many coastal environments provide protection to those further inland from the

natural disasters coming from the sea. Substance derived from sea weeds stabilize and thicken creams, sauces and paste, are mixed into the paints and used to make paper and even skin lotion and tooth paste."
(Duration: 26")

Mr. Ferreira says many marine plants and animals also contain a multitude of substance being used or identified as being of potential use in medicine.



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UN body calls for a sea change in policies to protect marine biodiversity

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International Day for Biological Diversity logo: UNEP

Human activity is wreaking havoc on the world's oceans, according to the UN body overseeing a global treaty on biodiversity.

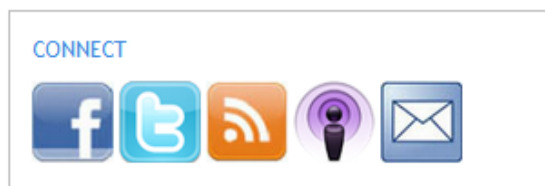
Overfishing, toxic pollution from chemical compounds and heavy metals, and run-off from farming and sewage are already pressuring marine eco-systems, while climate change could increase sea temperatures and ocean acidity.

Tuesday, 22 May, is the [International Day for Biological Diversity](#) and this year's focus is on the oceans, home to the largest animal on the planet—the blue whale—but also microscopic life forms such as phytoplankton, responsible for half the oxygen on Earth.

Dianne Penn spoke to David Ainsworth, information officer at the Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in

Montréal, Canada who says the oceans are under attack.

Duration: 5'00"



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2012年5月22日

"生物多样性国际日": 联合国呼吁重视保护海洋生物多样性 (3:08)

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今年"生物多样性国际日"的主题是海洋生物多样性。蓝色的海洋覆盖着地球表面近四分之三的面积,生活在海洋中的浮游植物提供了地球上的一半以上的氧气。然而,由于过度捕捞、污染等原因,海洋的生物多样性却面临流失严重。在5月22日"生物多样性国际日"到来之际,联合国秘书长潘基文及《生物多样性公约》秘书处执行秘书布劳略·德索萨-迪亚斯发出呼吁,敦促世人认识到保护海洋及其生态环境的重要性,从而实现与自然共生的生物多样性的目标。请听肖凡的报道。

潘基文秘书长在为"生物多样性国际日"发表的致辞中指出,尽管海洋的生物多样性具有重要意义,但却面临着来自人类活动的种种威胁。世界很多鱼类"被捕捞得所剩无几,全球渔场一大半已经耗尽,另有三分之一已经枯竭",而包括例如海草、红树林和珊瑚礁在内的关键性海洋环境,约有30%至35%遭到毁坏。此外,塑料废弃物不断造成海洋生物死亡,来自陆地的污染导致大片近岸水体几乎无氧.....

生物多样性公约秘书处执行秘书布劳略·德索萨-迪亚斯 (Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias) 指出,数以百万计的人可能意识不到自己的日常生活是多么依赖海洋,多么受益于海洋生态系统及生活在其中的野生动物。

德索萨-迪亚斯:"(英文) 渔业提供的动物性蛋白摄入量超过全球的15%,许多沿海环境保护内陆地区免遭来自海上的自然灾害,从海藻中提取的物质能够对乳霜、酱汁和糊剂起到稳定和粘稠的作用,被用于制造涂料、纸张,乃至皮肤清洗剂和牙膏等。"

潘基文指出,尽管过去几个世纪以来,海洋野生生物和生境遭到了种种损害,但国际社会在保护海洋生物多样性方面已经取得了一些初步进展。2011年进行的一项科学调查表明,在人类威胁减少或消除的情况下,10%至50%的种群和生态系统已经显示出恢复迹象。

潘基文说,"值此生物多样性国际日,在期待6月份的联合国可持续发展大会(里约+20)之时,我们需要承诺巩固这些进展。"他就此呼吁各国通过采取改善海洋管理和保护,防止过度捕捞,扩大海洋保护区,减轻海洋污染和气候变化影响等措施,到2020年实现保护10%的海洋和沿海地区进行保护的目标。

肖凡, 联合国纽约总部报道。

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