UN SCIENCE-POLICY-BUSINESS FORUM ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Third Global Session
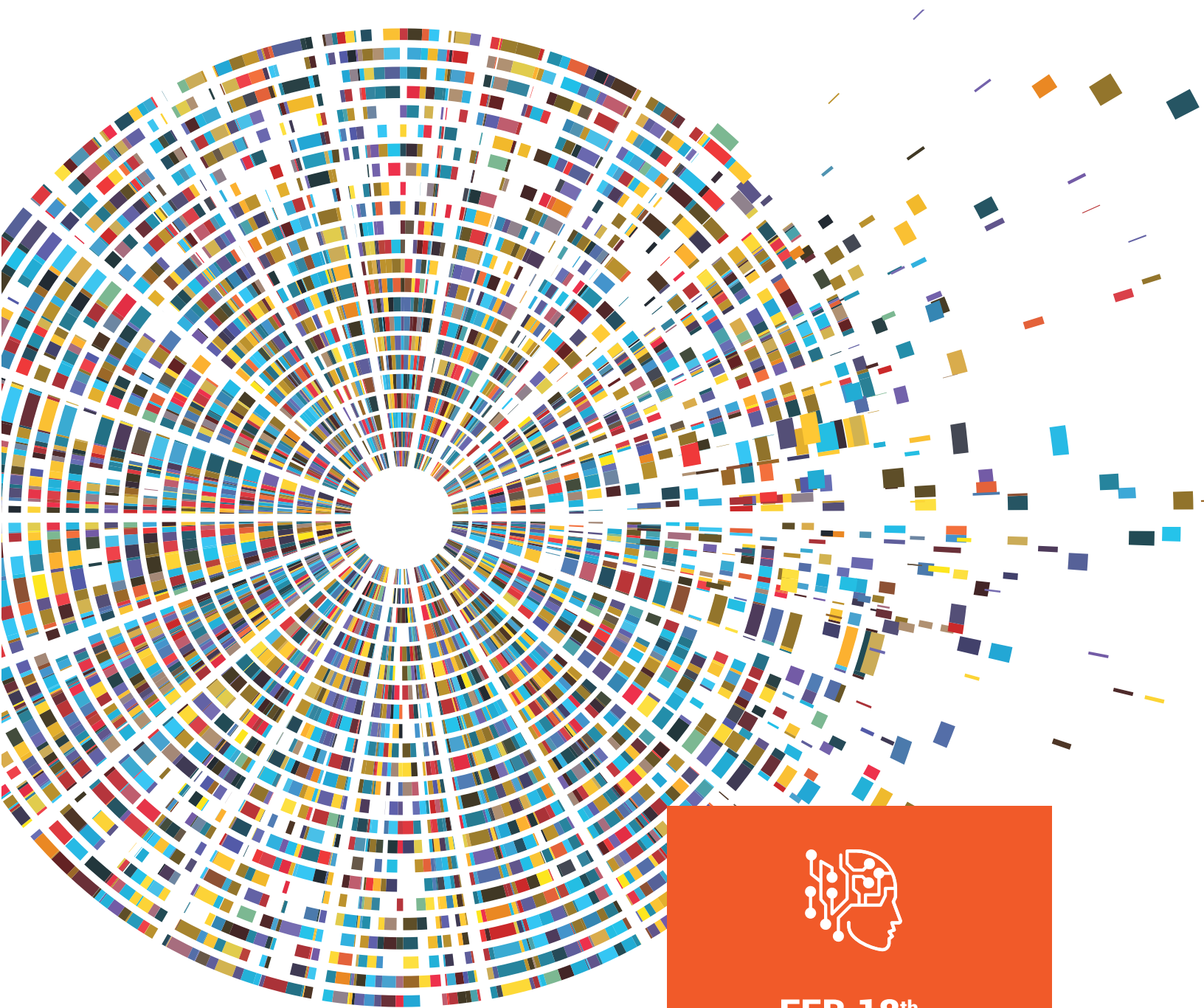18-20 February 2021

Integrated Solutions
#ForNature

UN environment programme

SCIENCE POLICY BUSINESS FORUM

Big Data and Frontier Tech: Powering the Transition to a Sustainable Future

FEB 18th

15.00 - 19.00 EAT
ONLINE

Co-convened by with The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and Technology Partners

DIGITAL PLANET SESSION

For 68% of the environment-related SDG indicators there is not enough data to assess progress, according to UNEP studies which also found that towards all 12 of the SDGs targets related to the state of the environment, there is either no data or no progress made.

To achieve the environmental dimension of the SDGs, it is essential to scale up environmental action that is backed by adequate knowledge. A task that is only achievable through the deployment of the latest technologies, including earth observations, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and the Internet of Things.

The Group on Earth Observations will report back on outcomes of the Earth Observations Indigenous Summit, with a focus on how satellite imagery can improve disaster risk management for indigenous communities. GEO will also provide an overview of its current work and future ambitions.

In cooperation with the European Parliament's special committee on AI and the Green Deal, the session will explore elements related to legislation, equity, democracy and transparency transparency related to the technology use and the equitable sharing of Big Data products and services.

To date, over 20 Member States have voiced their support to establish a Data for the Environment Alliance (DEAL). The session, for the first time, will present how this work is shaping up and the opportunities it presents.

Key technology partners (including IBM, Microsoft, Amazon, Huawei, Google Earth Engine, Dassault Systèmes) will provide an overview of how their technologies are transforming our understanding of and actions for the planet. New initiatives and collaborations will be launched that directly contribute to UNEP's work and the vision presented in its Medium-Term Strategy.
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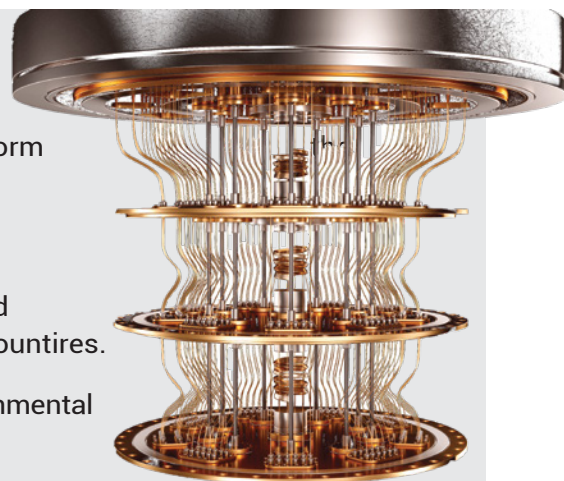**The session will examine the following key questions:**

The opportunities exponential technologies offer to transform industry towards a sustainable path.

How to manage AI's environmental footprint.

How Technology can better support access to big data and knowledge for decision making, especially in developing countires.

The power of partnership: a review of UNEP and GEO environmental in partnership with top technology partners and innovators opportunities these partnerships offer to achieve the SDGs.

Equity, ethics, transparency, diversity and inclusion as enablers for a fair digital future.

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Inger Andersen
Executive Director
UNEP

H.E. Hans Brattskar
Special Envoy, UNEA
Presidency
Ministry of Climate and
Environment, Norway

Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General
WMO

Munir Akram
President
Economic and Social Council

Juliet Kabera
Director General
Rwanda Environment
Management Authority

Laurent Durieux
Head of Mission AI, Big Earth Data
and SDGs
The French Public
Research Institute

Kathryn Guarini
Chief Operating Office & Vice
President Impact Science
IBM Research

David Jensen
Digital Transformation
Taskforce Coordinator
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Florence Verzelen
Executive Vice President,
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Sustainability
Dassault Systèmes SE

Yousef Al-Ghamdi
Head of Energy Sector
Saudi Authority for Data
and Artificial Intelligence
(SDAIA)

Adam Smith
Co-Founder and Head of
Strategy
Descartes Labs

Alessandro Curioni
Vice President Europe
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Ray Amani
Assistant Vice President
of Investment
Nasdaq

Tamar Eilam
IBM Fellow
IBM Research

Jesarela López
Director of Technical
Coordination of Vice Presidency
National Institute of Statistics
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Dilek Fraisl
Citizen Science Researcher
International Institute for
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Meelis Munt
Secretary General of the
Ministry of Environment
Estonia

Alexandre Caldas
Chief, Big Data Branch
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Pascal Peduzzi
Director
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Thuraya al Hashimi
Executive Director Digital
Data Enabling Sector
AE Federal Competitiveness &
Statistics Centre (FCSC)

Prof. Guo Huadong
Director, Institute of Remote
Sensing and Digital Earth
Chinese Academy of Science

Laurence Monnoyer Smith
Director of Sustainable
Development
Centre National d'Études
Spatiales

Charlotte Bishop
Senior Project Manager
Norway International
Climate and Forest
Initiative (NICFI)

Bonnie Lei
Head of Global Strategic
Partnerships AI
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Maria Cecilia Londoño Murcia
Researcher
Alexander von Humboldt
Biological Resources Research
Institute

Dr. Jonathan R. Everhart
Chairman & CEO
Global ReEnergy Holdings

Ana Pinheiro Privette
Lead
Amazon Sustainability
Data Initiative (ASDI)

Rebecca Moore
Director
Google Earth Engine

Heidi Savelli
Programme Management
Officer, Global Partnership
for Marine Litter
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Rafael Monge Vargas
Director
National Geoenvironmental
Information Center, Costa-Rica

Willem Clappaert
Government Industry
Solutions Leader
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IBM Cloud and Cognitive
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Kate Fickas
Founder
NASA Ladies of Landsat

Diana Mastracci Sánchez
Founder
GEO Indigenous Alliance

Ado Lohmus
Permanent
Representative to UNEP
and Initiative coordinator
Estonia

Dragoş Tudorache
Chair, Special Committee
on Artificial Intelligence
in a Digital Age
European Parliament

Jian Liu
Director Science Division
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Prof. Dr. Gilberto Camara
Director of the GEO
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