



“Renewable Energy and Efficient Solutions for Addressing Climate and Development - the role of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves”

15 November 2017. 16h30-17h30 UNESCO COP23 Pavilion (Bonn zone, E09)

Speakers:

Ms Flavia Schlegel

Assistant Director-General, Natural Sciences, UNESCO

Mr Bertrand Piccard

Chairman, Solar Impulse Foundation, World Alliance for Efficient Solutions

Ms Amadea Kostrzewa

Communication and partnership manager, Energy Observer

Mr Gerhard Mörsch

Director, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Bliesgau, Germany

This side event will highlight the contributions of the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves** (699 sites in 120 countries) designated under the **UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserve (MAB) Programme** to promote climate mitigation and adaptation in an overall sustainable development context.

Notably, the side event will highlight progress in renewable energy applications and the search for solutions to help implement the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, and underline the benefits of international partnership cooperation among the UNESCO MAB Programme, the Solar Impulse Foundation / World Alliance for Efficient Solutions and the Energy Observer.

Following the success of the first solar flight around the World, the **Solar Impulse Foundation** has launched the **World Alliance for Efficient Solutions** as a second phase of action: selecting #1000 solutions that can protect the environment in a profitable way, and bring them to decision makers to encourage them to adopt much more ambitious environmental targets and energy policies.

The **Energy Observer** is the first self-sufficient energy vessel with zero greenhouse gas emissions that is powered by hydrogen and renewable energies, thanks to energy coupling. Energy Observer is an odyssey around the world (6 years, 50 countries, and 101 stopovers) on the search for innovative solutions for the environment. More than a vessel, Energy Observer is a media platform providing positive and inspiring content in favor of innovative solutions.