**Call 24 April 2017**

**CBD Follow ups**

**&**

**Outreach to Environmental NGOs**

**Attendees:**

* Delphine Thizy, Target Malaria
* Hapsa Dia, Emerging
* Jason Delborne, NCSU / GBird
* Karen Logan, Target Malaria
* Olivia Marjorin, Target Malaria
* Todd Kuiken, NCSU / GBird
* Scott Shore, Danforth Center
* Stephanie James, FNIH
* Sentelle Eubanks, Univeristy of California / TIGS
* Bob Friedman, J. V. Craig Center / TIGS
* Sara Kaiser Island Conservation / GBird

Isabelle welcomed Bob Friedman and Sentelle Eubanks as new participants in the call.

**Outreach to Environment experts**

Stephanie gave an update on the discussions that took place with Delphine and Todd. While there seem to be some convergence on the value of a follow up to the problem formulation workshop, in a format that would be focused on defining a research agenda, further discussions with other experts (including Charles Godfray at Oxford University) have raised concerns about the risk that such an engagement could raise. All agreed however that in view of CBD, it was important to reach to environment NGOs before CBD COP in 2018, as these would be important influencers.

**Action point: Isabelle to organise a call with all the participants in this conversation so that an agreement on a path forward can be reached.**

**CBD preparations**

Isabelle shared the tracking sheet for 'volunteer' recruitment for the online forum ahead of the call. She suggested it be placed in a shared folder accessible to all to facilitate progress tracking. The group reviewed the possible participants and agreed to delete some (shaded in grey) and assigned leads to contact each. Bob Friedman suggested the authors of the paper on synthetic biology and conservation should be added to the list. Delphine agreed to reach out to Target Malaria associated scientists, as well as others in the Africa region. Scott noted that Hector and him may be nominated also. Sentelle noted that Tony James had just sent in his nomination.

Isabelle reminded the group of the importance of good geographical diversity, noting that Asia and Latin America were under-represented. Stephanie suggested that through the TIGS link maybe other names could be added. Karen noted that John Mumford at Imperial College may have links to New Zealand.

The next step is now to reach out to all the contacts in the list and confirm whether they are willing to participate. A template nomination email is included in the second tab of the tracking sheet. All will update the tracking sheet or ask Ben Robinson to do so on their behalf.

The group also discussed the submissions. The deadline is 16 June. All agreed that it is not worth investing time in drafting tailored, new, submissions but that if material is already available it should be submitted. Submissions can be done simply by email the CBD secretariat at secretariat@cbd.int

**Action points:**

* **ALL who are listed as leads will contact the people they are assigned to in the next two weeks to confirm willingness to participate. Follow up to confirm registration should take place within 2 weeks of that,**
* **Ben will add the names from the paper to the tracking sheet and help add further tracking information on request**
* **Isabelle will follow up with Heath to check on some of the names listed**
* **Isabelle will organise two or three briefing calls for participants in the online forum once more information is available about the schedule on the online consultation. The time slots will be chosen to make participation in different time zones easier.**

**IUCN**

Todd noted that IUCN had been mandated to look into the issue of gene drive at last year's meeting and had developed a statement of work. They now need to fundraise for it and it is a significant sum. The IUCN process will be very important and influential but it is not yet clear who will lead or what the entry points will be for external experts.

**Action point: Isabelle will ask Heath to provide additional information either in writing or on the next call.**

**AOBs:**

Isabelle will send a Doodle poll to fix a time for the next call.