

# SAVE AND RESTORE OUR NATURAL CAPITAL!

**The value of biodiversity, as part of our natural capital, should be integrated into national and international accounting systems and into decision making and policy at all levels taking into consideration the findings of TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) <sup>(1)</sup>**

The most recent financial crisis has mobilized the world to fight against the risk of collapse of many national economies. Trillions of dollars have been injected into bank systems to save and restore financial capital.

However, currently we are losing from  $1,35 \times 10^{12}$  to  $3,1 \times 10^{12}$  dollars per year in natural capital, due to the destruction and degradation of ecosystem services and species globally <sup>(2)</sup>. These services are fundamental for life and long term sustainability of economies on Earth and without them many businesses and societies also risk to collapse.

The theme of your annual meeting this year is *Improve the State of the World: **Rethink, Redesign, Rebuild.***

We therefore urge you to:

**Rethink** about the real long term sustainability of our global economy;

**Redesign** the accounting systems and economic reports as so to integrate the value of biodiversity as part of our natural capital;

**Rebuild** and restore our natural capital, give back the world the basis of life, biodiversity.

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Sources:

(1) Quoting from the conclusions of the Informal Expert Workshop on the Updating of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the Post-2010 period, London, 18-20 January 2010, promoted by the Convention of the Biological Diversity Secretariat, Federal Government of Brasil/Ministry of Environment and DEFRA (UK)

(2) [www.teebweb.org](http://www.teebweb.org)

Signatory organizations:



CEEweb for Biodiversity – [www.ceeweb.org](http://www.ceeweb.org) (network of NGOs in Central and Eastern European region with 64 member organizations from 18 countries)

Latvian Fund for Nature - [www.ldf.lv](http://www.ldf.lv) (Latvia)

Pro Natura - [www.pronatura.ch](http://www.pronatura.ch) (Switzerland)

Quercus – National Association for Nature Conservation – [www.quercus.pt](http://www.quercus.pt) (Portugal)