

Oliver Hillel

Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Oliver Hillel has been a Programme Officer at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD, administered by the United Nations Environment Programme) in Montreal, Canada, for the last 7 years. In the Division of Mainstreaming, Partnership and Outreach, he is responsible for stakeholder engagement, including on issues of sub-national implementation (involvement of States, Regions and cities), Sustainable Tourism, South-South cooperation and Island Biodiversity. A biologist with a Master's Degree in Environmental Education and MBAs on Managerial Accounting and Hotel Management, Oliver has over 25 years' experience



on international cooperation and negotiations on sustainable tourism, event organization, and training and capacity building programs across many themes and issues related to sustainable development. Previously, he was the team leader for a tourism development cooperation project in the Philippines, Tourism Programme Coordinator for UNEP's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics based in Paris, France, and Ecotourism Program director for Conservation International. He also worked for SENAC, a professional training institution in his home country Brazil, where he created and managed training and consulting services for hotels, restaurants, and theme parks.

Oliver has coordinated the SCBD's activities involving cities and subnational authorities since their inception, supporting negotiations that led to the adoption of a Plan of Action for Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities, and the Global Partnership for Subnational and Local Action for Biodiversity. He has also co-organized more than 25 meetings including three Cities and Biodiversity Summits parallel to meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and co-managed the production of the Cities and Biodiversity Outlook, a reference publication on the links between urbanization and biodiversity.