

**Joint meeting of the United Nations General Assembly Second Committee and the
Economic and Social Council on**

Ecosystem Approaches for shifting the world onto a sustainable pathway

15 October 2019, Conference Room 2
United Nations Headquarters, New York

Biographies

Dr. Sandeep Sengupta

Dr. Sandeep Sengupta is the global coordinator for climate change at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Switzerland, where he leads the organization's engagement on the topic. Sandeep has previously worked on a wide range of environment and development issues, both within and outside the government in India, and in international organizations abroad. Sandeep holds a doctorate in International Relations from the University of Oxford and a master's degree from the London School of Economics.

Ms. Siobhan McQuaid

Ms. Siobhan McQuaid is an Innovation Catalyst, Head of Innovation and Principal Investigator on Resilience and Sustainability at the Centre for Social Innovation in Trinity College Dublin. Siobhan is joint coordinator of Connecting Nature, a large-scale research and innovation action involving 16 European countries in the roll-out of urban nature-based solutions. Connecting Nature has regional Hubs in China, Brazil, South Korea and the Caucuses. Siobhan is a founding partner of the EC Task Force on Financing, Business Models and Governance of Nature-Based Solutions and a council member of the SURE Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure. Siobhan is also the founder and director of Horizon Nua, a not-for-profit foundation, translating research into practice for cities planning nature-based solutions. Prior to moving into academia, for 15 years, Siobhan was Head of International Development for EBN, an international network of innovation centres, incubators and accelerators in 40 countries worldwide

Dr. Ben Guillon

Dr. Ben Guillon, CFA is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Conservation Investment Management (CIM), the only registered investment advisor in the U.S. specialized in conservation investments. CIM creates investment opportunities that deliver positive environmental impacts and competitive financial returns, as well as economic development for the local community. CIM's clients range from families, companies, and foundations to public agencies and governments. In addition, we recently started a germinator to spark new conservation investment businesses that solve specific ecological problems, and then provides grants and technical assistance to those businesses as they grow. Dr. Guillon earned a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine with a specialty in wildlife management, as well as master's degrees in environmental economics, environmental anthropology, and public policy. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst. Before starting CIM,

Dr. Guillon worked at the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, and one of the first sustainable land investment organizations, New Forests. He then became a partner and chairman of the board at WRA Inc., a consulting group specialized in nature-based solutions.