



CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



the Jane Goodall Institute



The Nature
Conservancy



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

SPEAKER SERIES GUIDELINES

Context

ABCG works to promote integrated conservation and development programming to protect biodiversity in sub-Saharan Africa. A key strategy for achieving this objective is fostering information exchange and sharing lessons from field activities through networking. The ABCG speaker series provides a platform for bringing together cross-sector actors to learn, dialogue and establish connections. The events are comprised of an informal presentation and discussion by international conservation and development practitioners relating to ABCG thematic working areas and other critical conservation issues in Africa.

Objectives of ABCG speaker series

- 1) Highlight conservation issues in Africa or global issues in the context of Africa
- 2) Promote best practices, tools, success stories with applicability to ABCG thematic areas past and present or conservation/international development in general
- 3) Raise awareness of ABCG, the coalition's collective activities, and priority themes
- 4) Convene conservation/international development actors, catalyze discussion, grow community of practice

Presentation and topic guidelines

- 1) Presentation/discussion topics, which relate to emerging and high priority conservation issues presently affecting Africa. Preference for topics relating to ABCG thematic activities (past or present), and countries or regions of operation within sub-Saharan Africa;
- 2) Actionable topics, such as new tools, methodologies, lessons learned, best practices, recommendations for future work, or new findings to inform decision-making;

- 3) Presentations are live webcast and recordings of the event are made available to participants who are not able to attend. Presenter must be willing to share PDF of presentations for sharing event resources.

In its current phase from 2015-2018, ABCG members are focusing on four critical issues that strongly influence the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation.

1. Land and resource tenure rights
2. Land use management
3. Managing global climate change impacts on biodiversity
4. Linkages between global health and biodiversity

Submission

Please submit presentation details as guided by ABCG to include an upcoming event invitation in the ABCG newsletter a minimum of **15 days** in advance of the event date so an announcement can be disseminated two weeks before the event to give potential participants adequate notice.

Send submissions to Evelyn Namvua, Communications and Engagement Officer, at enamvua@abcg.org and Rebecca Goodman, Coordinator, at rgoodman@abcg.org

For the event announcement, please provide:

- Presenter biographical sketch
- Presenter photo (headshot) in high resolution
- Title of presentation—make it catchy!
- Brief summary/abstract of presentation
- Striking image(s) for flyer (with credit/caption)
- Targeted invitees, such as:
 - USAID, USFWS, WB, etc.
 - Embassies
 - Civil society groups
 - Conservation NGOs
 - Development NGOs?
- Provide presentation slides prior to event and/or on flash drive
- Provide consent to post presentation to ABCG website
- Provide Twitter & Facebook posts as needed

Additional Recommendations

- Please arrive 20 minutes before the event begins, with your presentation on a flash drive if you have not already sent it to Rebecca. There are sometimes problems with Mac-formatted presentations, so a PC formatted PowerPoint is preferable.
- Know your audience—the ABCG community is primarily composed of the DC conservation community. This includes policy specialists, donors, scientists, program officers and graduate students, among others. Many are interested in how to share the latest conservation information from the field with decision makers to help influence policy and spending.
- Tell stories—the information you are sharing was developed by people—include them in your presentation. Share cool maps, charts and images!
- Focus on lessons learned and how those lessons can be applied—if you started out with one approach to your project, but had to redirect in some way, talk about how you made that discovery and how you recalibrated your work. How is the project or product better than it would have been otherwise?
- Allocate about 1 minute per slide. Even better for a 20 minute talk is to plan for 17 minutes—that will ensure that you aren't rushed at the end.
- Use a big enough font size for text on your slides for legibility. Avoid slides with too much written information on them.
- Follow up—include a slide towards the end that includes a link to further information and/or your contact information; finally, we're all about sharing knowledge—consider giving your consent to post your slides and talk on our website; include other publications and resource links to enrich the web post.