
SCIENTIST #2

PROFILE

A scientist and world leading biodiversity expert. He is worried about what is happening but uncertain about the future and needs more facts to make clear suggestions to policy makers.

VALUES

Research focussed and not political or action-orientated.

SPEECH

The Amazon rainforest is, or rather was, the Earth's last great repository of biodiversity. The greatest and most diverse tropical rainforest left in the world. Over 390 billion individual trees of 16000 different species, home to 2.5 million insect species, more than 2,000 species of birds and mammals. Why such abundance? Because all these plants and animals thrived thanks to their consistent access to energy, carbon, water - the stuff of life! "... We have been assessing and monitoring the Amazon rainforest's vulnerability to man-made climate change for decades. We have been conducting regular bio-diversity surveys which consistently document rapid biodiversity decline. We have been modelling the collapse of the entire eco-system. How it affects global species..." What happens in the Amazon doesn't stay in the Amazon. All natural systems are interconnected. The effect of the fires in the Amazon may well lead to mass species extinctions on our planet a scale not seen since the carboniferous period when the dinosaurs died out.

FACTS TO COMMUNICATE CREATIVELY

Biodiversity is about all living things. The Amazon is one of the most important stores of biodiversity on our planet. Science understands the detrimental impacts of human induced climate change on biodiversity. What happens in the Amazon doesn't stay in the Amazon. All natural systems are interconnected.

Script your ending plea to Planet Parliament and write your main demand on a placard.

RESEARCH

Relevant blogs and science briefs (under Resources) on www.planetparliamentnow.org