

Pavan Sukhdev to visit Australia in August

What is the world worth?

Invest in nature now, save trillions later

Pavan Sukhdev - pioneering economist and head of the Green Economy Initiative at the United Nations Environment Program - will visit Australia in August 2010 as the guest of the Centre for Policy Development.

Pavan's work on a major study 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity' has been described as 'doing for nature what Sir Nicholas Stern did for climate change - valuing it'. The study hosted by UNEP makes a compelling economic case for the conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity.

Pavan Sukhdev's speaking tour will provide business, government and community leaders with insights into the work of the UN Green Economy Initiative, updates on the latest international developments in measuring the value of the natural world, and a chance to discuss the ideas in the upcoming UN Green Economy Report (due for release in September) on the future of sustainable industries.

CPD's Executive Director, Miriam Lyons says, "While progress on climate change has ground to a halt in Australia, we need to recognise that carbon pricing is just the beginning. Soon we will be putting a price on all kinds of damage to the natural world and this pricing will see the beginnings of a green industrial revolution."

Itinerary:

Major Lecture: What is the world worth? Putting nature on the balance sheet

Panelists: Jennifer Westacott (KPMG), Peter Cosier (Wentworth Group), Paul Gilding (Environmental consultant & author). Chaired by Miriam Lyons (The Centre for Policy Development)

6:30pm Tuesday 3 August, Sydney Opera House

5pm Wednesday 4 August, Australian National University

5:30pm Thursday 5 August, Melbourne University

Media Enquiries:

Pavan Sukhdev, Study Leader – TEEB and Special Advisor & Head - Green Economy Initiative, UNEP can be available for interviews prior to and during his visit to Australia.

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Further reading on Pavan Sukhdev:

'Putting a value on nature could set scene for true green economy', The Guardian 10 February 2010 by Pavan Sukhdev: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cif-green/2010/feb/10/pavan-sukhdev-natures-economic-model>

Annual Earthwatch Oxford lecture on 10 February, Pavan Sukhdev on 'Can economics really save wild nature?':

http://www.earthwatch.org/europe/newsroom/news_events/news-5-sukhdev.html

UN Green Economy Initiative: <http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/>