

Collaborative online international learning and biodiversity education across the Arctic Circle.

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Collaborative Online International Learning and Biodiversity Education across the Arctic Circle

Saturday 11:05-12 Björtuloft

University of Eastern Finland, Finland

University of Southern Maine, USA

Robert Gordon University, Scotland



Session Aims:

To promote and enable wider engagement with COIL as part of UArctic's future-focussed, globally connected, virtual learning strategy.

To highlight the importance of biodiversity for the well-being of the planet as well as for sustainable development.

To enhance student employability within the Arctic Circle through the promotion of future-focussed, inter-disciplinary, transversal skill development using COIL.

To democratise student mobility and strengthen internationalisation at home through the expansion of COIL knowledge and opportunities across the Arctic Circle.

What is Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)?

Globally networked learning
Internationalisation at home
Inter-disciplinary knowledge development
Transversal skill development
Global workplace preparation
Address global issues

Creating a COLL resource for the Arctic Circle

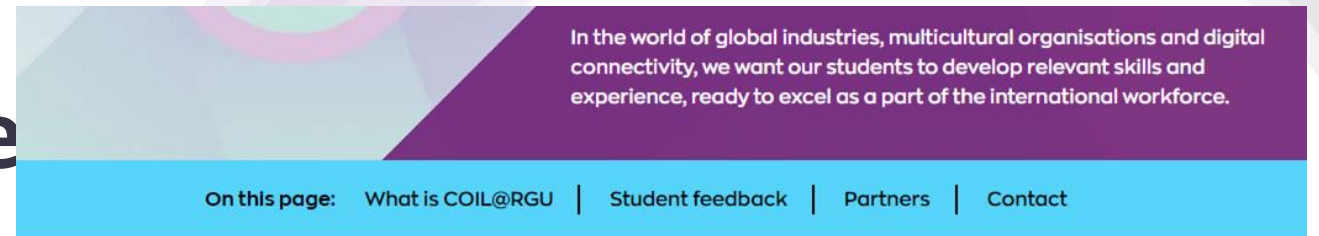
Izzy Crawford i.c.crawford@rgu.ac.uk

COIL@UArctic

- Virtual Workshop for UArctic Members
- COIL@UArctic Web Page
- COIL@UArctic Faculty/Student Toolkit
- Biodiversity education network

COIL Web Page Example

- For potential collaborators
<https://www.rgu.ac.uk/ccip/coil-rgu>
- 'Contact Us' email coil@rgu.ac.uk




What is COIL@RGU

COIL or **Collaborative Online International Learning** is an educational approach where groups or individual students from one institution collaborate with groups or individual students from another institution, in a different country and/or culture, on sustained and assessed projects or assignments, developed collaboratively by tutors from both partner institutions. The collaborative work takes place online, using freely available and commonly used communication technology.



COIL Tool Kit Example

COIL@RGU
COLLABORATIVE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING





Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)


This Moodle page provides information, tools, ideas, and examples for RGU staff interested in developing COIL projects, modules, and assignments. The page will be reviewed and updated periodically to include any new information available on the COIL subject.

COIL@RGU was developed as a part of the RGU Emerging Stronger project. The Emerging Stronger Enhancement Award fund aims to support colleagues and students seeking to enhance the future learning experience at RGU.

COIL@RGU is now a part of the Centre for Collaborative and Interprofessional Practice (CCIP) at RGU.

 [Emerging Stronger Enhancement Award](#)

 [Centre for Collaborative and Interprofessional Practice](#)

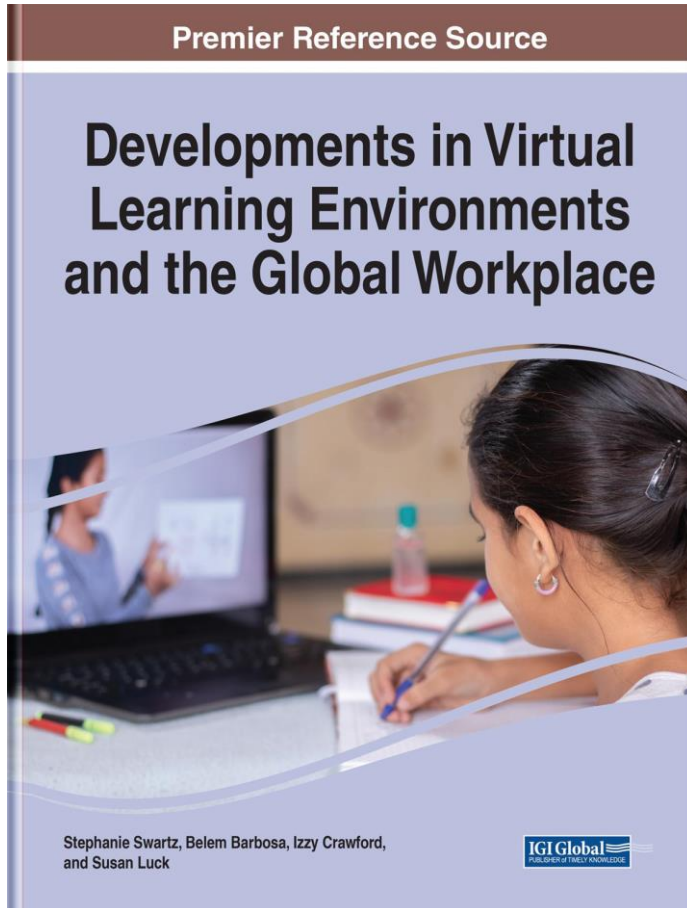
 To contact COIL@RGU support team with any queries, please email: coil@rgu.ac.uk

Quick Links

| | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| What is COIL? | Why COIL? | How to COIL? | Collaboration opportunities | Examples and case studies | Peer support |
| Digital skills support | Training opportunities | Academic resources | | | |

- Comprehensive resource for faculty and students
- Key steps to develop COIL projects
- Examples and peer support opportunities

<https://campusmoodle.rgu.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=101116>



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DEVELOPING CO-OPERATION IN BIODIVERSITY-RELATED EDUCATION

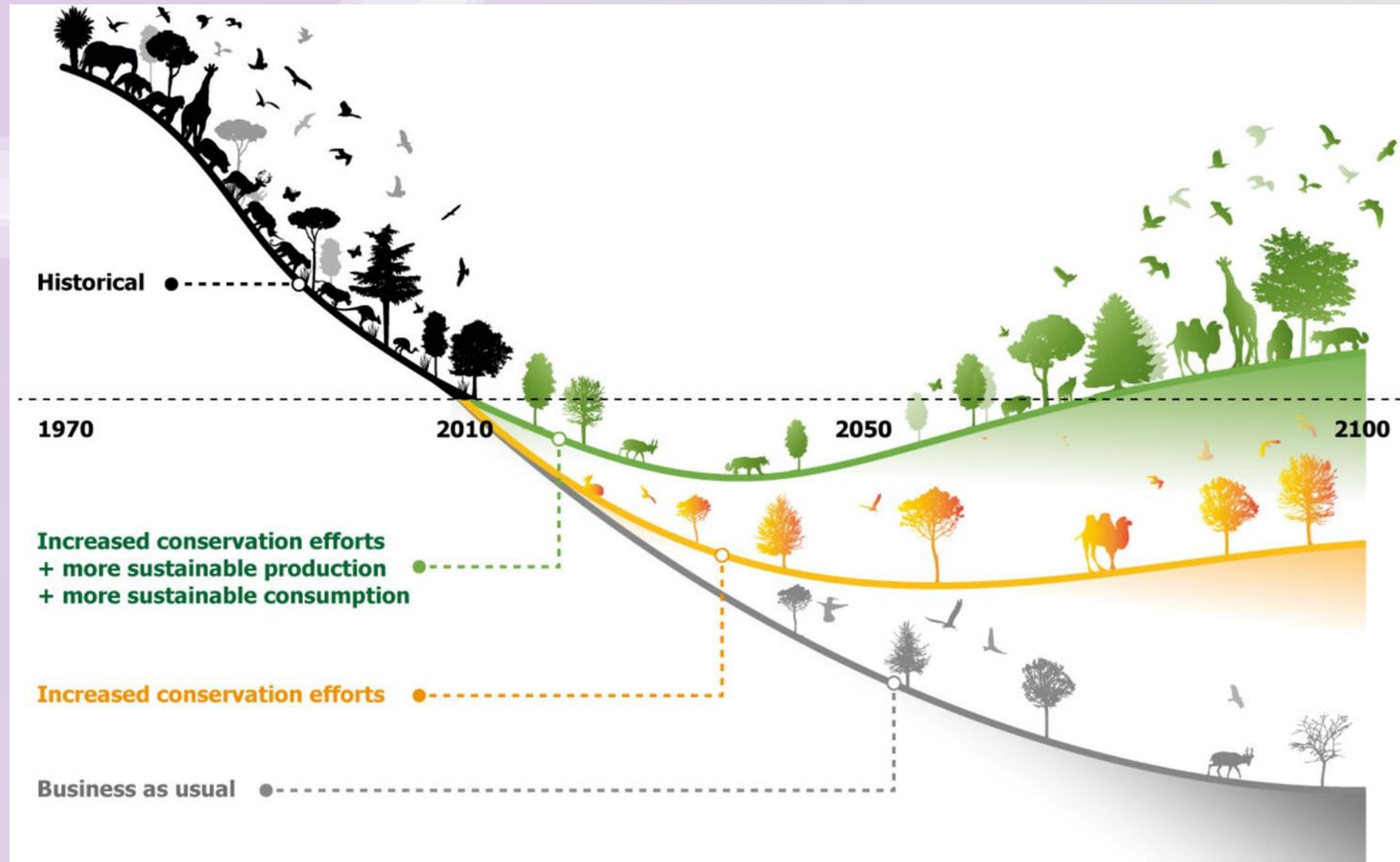
Professor Elina Oksanen elina.oksanen@uef.fi

Coordinator Elli Hämynen elli.hamynen@uef.fi

Ministry of Education
and Culture

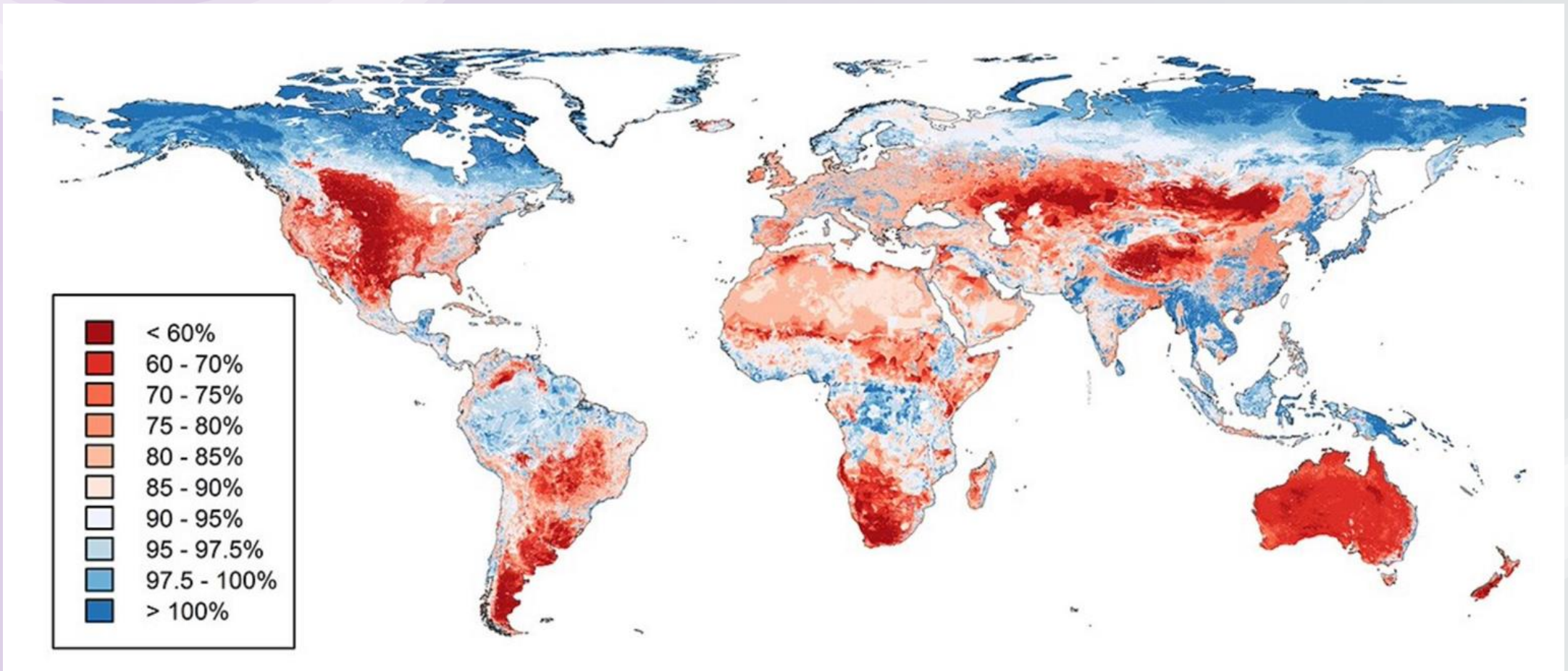


BIODIVERSITY LOSS – PROJECTIONS FOR RECOVERY

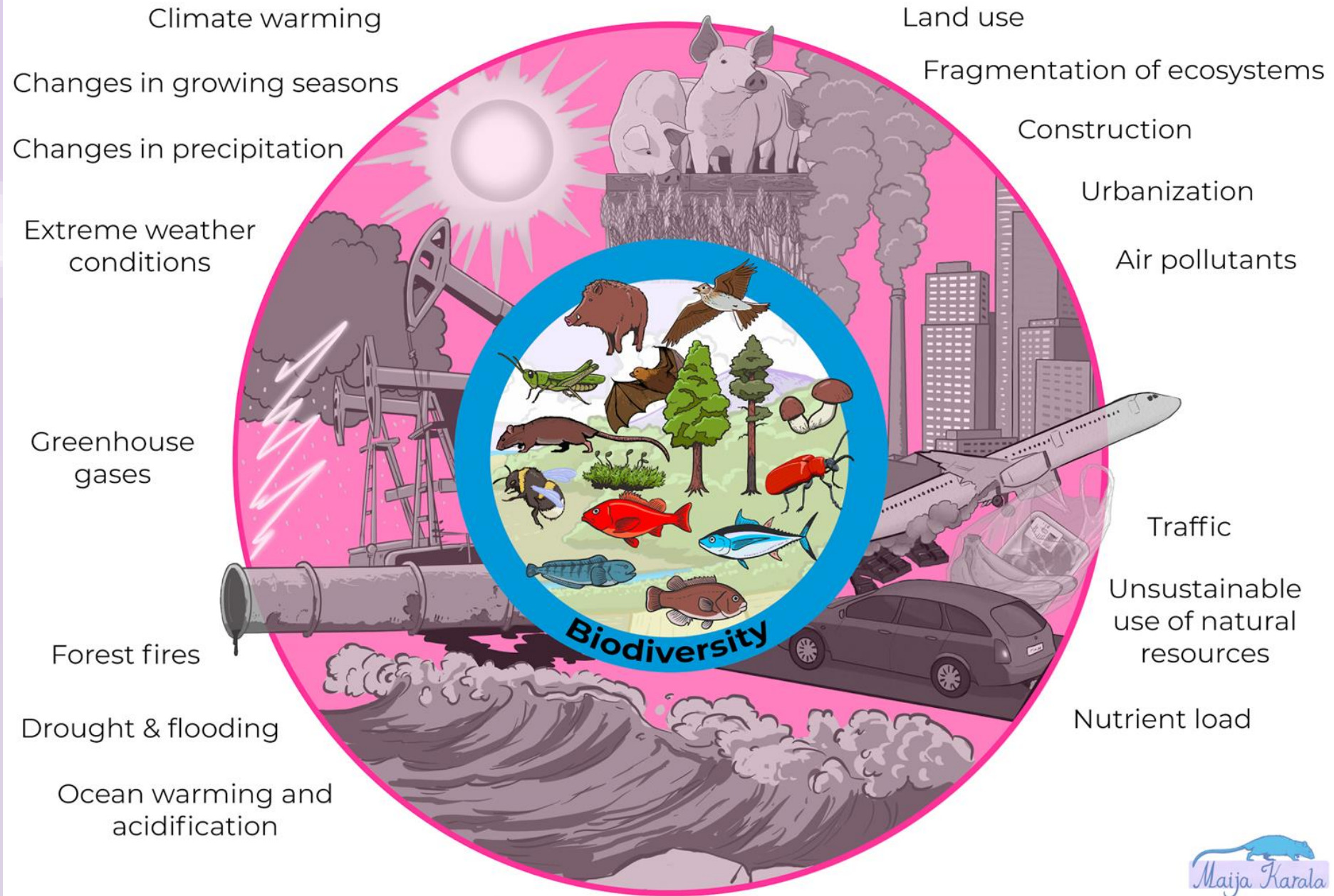


Source: <https://phys.org/news/2020-09-biodiversity-loss.html>

BIODIVERSITY LOSS: A GLOBAL MAP



(Biodiversity intactness)



WHY WE NEED MULTIDICIPLINARY AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN BIODIVERSITY ISSUES?

- Biodiversity loss can be mitigated by three levels (Mitigation hierarchy):
 - Avoid any damage to nature
 - Minimize any damage to nature
 - Do ecological compensations (Offset)
- No Net Loss > **Nature-positive solutions**
- However, ecological compensations (offset design) are very complex: Measurements, indicators, where and when, gain, effect, etc?
- Implementation of European Biodiversity Strategy and other Policy tools and actions is a challenge for all member states and internationally

NETWORK IN BIODIVERSITY-RELATED EDUCATION

- Funded by Ministry of Education and Culture over 2021-2022
- The Universities of Eastern Finland (UEF), Helsinki (UH), Oulu (OU), Turku (UTU) and Jyväskylä (JYU)
- Main idea: to create national cooperation and network in biodiversity-related education, available in a common platform for all students of the participating universities
- Motivation: Biodiversity aspects must be included in all decision-making of the society and have a cross-cutting impact on policy (similarly as climate issues)

Ministry of Education
and Culture

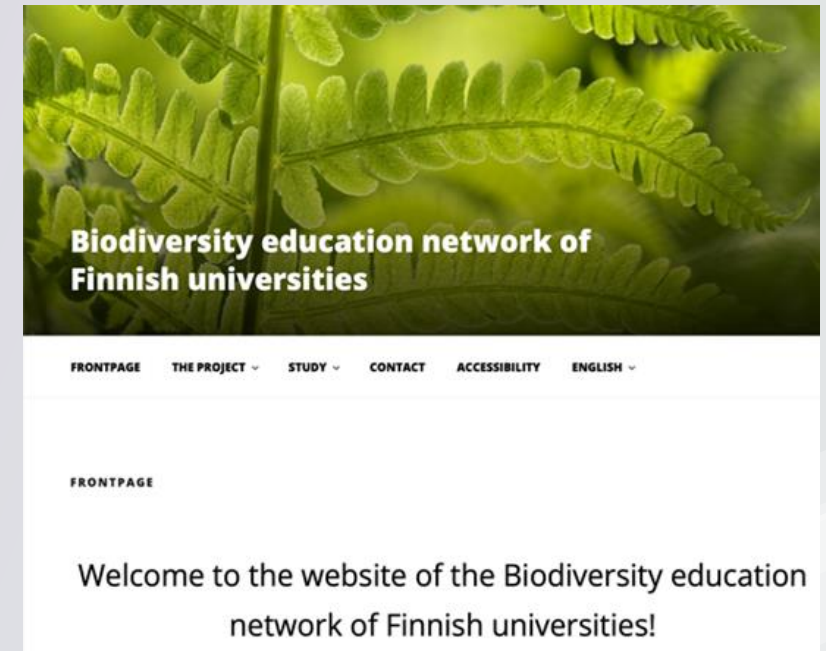


AIMS OF THE PROJECT

- DigiCampus-platform, collecting relevant courses from all participating universities (focus on Master level courses):
 - o Online (MOOC) courses
 - o Hybrid courses
 - o Field courses
- Combined and shared expertise from each university, e.g. peatland ecosystems (OU and UEF), aquatic ecosystems (UEF), tropical ecosystems (UTU), birds (OU), agriculture (UH), Arctic ecosystems, genetics (JyU, OU) etc.
- Inclusion of multi- and interdisciplinary aspects, including societal science, economics, law and politics.

FOUR WORKPACKAGES

1. Screening the availability of relevant existing courses and identifying the needs for new courses.
-> a common online platform
1. Developing online- and multimodal courses suitable for remote and hybrid teaching.
-> sharing expertise
1. Developing joint field courses.
-> supporting students' possibilities to learn by doing and in field
1. A model for the co-operation.
-> Good practices and connections for continuing co-operation in education



EXAMPLE OF THE NEW COURSES: BIODIVERSITY.NOW

- 2 etcs MOOC-course
- In collaboration with Biodiversity education network, Climate University and Una Europa
- Funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture Finland, Sitra ja Nordplus
- The course is part of the Climate University's catalogue of sustainability and responsibility courses and open for everyone interested





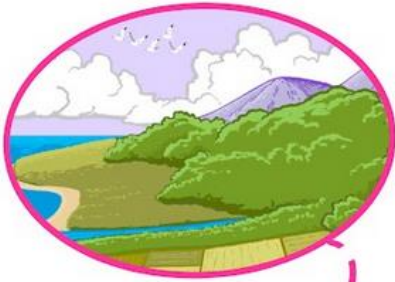
Learning objectives:

- After completing the course, the student should be able to:
 - recognize reasons for the ongoing biodiversity crisis and its consequences to the human society and personal life
 - explore own connection to nature and diverse values to assign to it
 - recognize a variety of approaches and tools to protect biodiversity, increase biodiversity and promote sustainable use of biodiversity
 - apply the issues to own field of studies/work and learn how to be part of the solution

THE STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

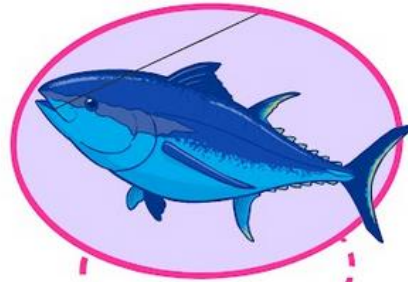
Module 1: Basic knowledge

Vocabulary, learning materials & quiz



Module 3: Threats and consequences

Learning materials, exercises & quiz



Module 5: Biodiversity here and now

Learning materials & exercises



Module 2: Biodiversity crisis

Learning materials, exercises & quiz



Module 4: Biodiversity conservation

Learning materials, exercises & quiz



Module 6: Reflection

Reflection exercises



**We are open
for new
collaborations!**



Establishing a COIL Network for the Arctic Circle

Dr. Judy Tupper judy.tupper@maine.edu



More than 200 member institutions and organizations
Over 50 Thematic Networks

We will propose the adoption and promotion of COIL as a
recognized teaching and learning approach across UArctic

A Thematic Network dedicated to the COIL approach
can connect faculty across disciplines and institutions
and promote training and best practices

We are exploring level of interest at Arctic Circle Assembly

Options:

New COIL Thematic Network
Join existing Thematic Network

Steps

- Representation from UArctic members from major northern regions
- Letter of Support from leaders' institutions
- Submit proposal to UArctic by February, 2023
- Review by UArctic Thematic Networks Leadership Team
- Final proposal due by April, 2023
- Present proposal at UArctic June, 2023 meeting for vote
- Provisional year
- Final Endorsement

How can you get involved?

Sign up for email to follow progress of COIL Network Development

Take a postcard with you and share with colleagues



University of Southern Maine Robert Gordon University COIL plans

COIL Project:

Faculty from Occupational Therapy and other Health-related disciplines from each university are preparing a mutual **Student Activity** on understanding and using research evidence. Students will work together online on specific assignments.



Thank you for your kind attention

Questions or Comments?