



## DR. CHRISTOPH SCHRÖTER-SCHLAACK

Christoph has more than 15 years of experience in environmental economics research and currently works as a science officer in the research field "Environment and Society" at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ in Leipzig. In his research at the UFZ, he focuses on environmental and institutional economics with an emphasis on environmental policy instruments and contributed to several international research projects and assessments on biodiversity, ecosystem services and sustainable land use, such as TEEB.

## SENSE, NECESSITY AND LIMITS OF AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE FOR BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES - THE TEEB STUDY

TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystem and Biodiversity) was an internationally funded assessment that used an economic perspective to draw attention to the global benefits of biodiversity and the social and economic costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. The basic idea is to reveal the often invisible importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being in order to better take them into account in private and societal decision-making processes. Parallel to the great international attention for the project, the TEEB initiative has also faced repeated criticism of an economic valuation of nature and its possible commodification. In the lecture, Christoph Schröter-Schlaack will present the approach of the TEEB study and selected results in order to explain the sense and necessity of an economic perspective on nature. However, he will also address the limits of economic analysis and show how valuation results can be meaningfully interpreted and used in policy processes.