

Nature + people and governance

Background

People everywhere depend on nature for their well-being. From food, fuel and freshwater, to crop pollination, flood protection and climate regulation, nature provides the fundamental infrastructure needed for societies to survive and prosper.

But decisions on nature management and use are not always fair and appropriate, and nature's benefits are not equitably shared. Richer countries and social elites are better placed to reap the benefits while poorer nations and communities bear the cost of biodiversity loss and get little or no benefit. How to strike a better balance?

The 2012 IUCN Congress will showcase ways to share power, responsibility and benefits with respect to natural resources, as well as to make laws and regulations more transparent and inclusive. It will highlight how the rights of indigenous and other vulnerable peoples and communities can be supported. And it will identify changes we can make in our current system so that nature's benefits are properly reflected in national economies and individual incomes.

Key events at Congress

- World Leaders Dialogue: Nature + people & governance: Can conservation tackle poverty? 10 September, 17.00-18:30, Tamna Hall
- Advocating for Indigenous Rights: From Local Indigenous Communities to Global Action; 10 September, 14.30-16.30 Knowledge Café, Yeongju Hall (B)
- Towards Greater Equity and Sustainability: Building the Union's Capacity and Knowledge for Natural Resource Governance, 9 September, 09.00-18.00, Conservation Campus, Crystal Ballroom 2
- How to develop national ABS frameworks: implementing the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing, 7 September, 09:00-18:00, Conservation Campus, Charlotte Room

Spokespeople

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Related Publications

- Conservation with justice: a rights-based approach;
www.iucn.org/what/tpas/livelihoods/resources/publications/?uPubslD=3911

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