

Nature+ life

Background

Biological diversity is essential for human well-being—it provides food security, human health, clean air and water. Biodiversity contributes directly to local livelihoods and economic development. We need to do better at proving that conserving biodiversity is not a sacrifice, but an opportunity that brings many benefits. The value of nature is irreplaceable and essential to human wellbeing. The 2012 World Conservation Congress will help show the world that conservation action works—whether it's through enacting laws and policies, implementing species recovery programmes, establishing protected areas or restoring ecosystems—Congress will showcase examples and provide momentum for further action.

At the 2012 World Conservation Congress in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, IUCN will be urging decision-makers to invest in nature—in the way we protect it, manage it and govern it—and thus increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of people to the impacts of climate change. The Congress will bring together the world's leading environmental and development experts working to improve the way we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development.

Key events at Congress

- Nature+: Saving nature, why bother? World Leaders Dialogues/Closing of the Forum, 11 Sep, 17:00-18:30, Tamna Hall
- Putting Natural Solutions to Work: Mainstreaming protected areas into climate change responses. Workshop, 7 Sep, 11:00-13:00, Halla Hall A
- Ensuring Ecosystem Resilience & Services: Addressing Biological Invasions in Protected Areas & World Heritage Sites. Knowledge Cafe, 8 Sep, 14:30-16:30, Yeongju Hall B
- Our Protected Planet: Achieving Aichi biodiversity targets through constituency building, science and action. Workshop, 8 Sep, 19:00-21:00, Halla Hall B
- IUCN's Flagship Knowledge Products: working towards technical and operational linkages. Conservation Campus, 9 Sep, 14:00-18:00, Pearl Room
- Actions for Biodiversity: global implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Aichi Targets. Workshop, 10 Sep, 19:00-21:00, Yeongju Hall A

Spokespeople

Jane Smart, IUCN Global Director Biodiversity Conservation Group, Species Programme, e.

jane.smart@iucn.org

Trevor Sandwith, Director, IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme, e. trevor.sandwith@iucn.org

Related Publications

- New programme document: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/iucn_programme_2013_16_third_draft_january_2012.pdf
- More about conserving biodiversity: <http://www.iucn.org/what/tpas/biodiversity/>
- Natural Solutions - Protected Areas: Helping people cope with climate change: <http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/?4345/Natural-Solutions---Protected-Areas-Helping-people-cope-with-climate-change>
- Wildlife in a Changing World: <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/RL-2009-001.pdf>
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- IUCN World Conservation Congress: <http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/>

Media contact

Borjana Pervan, IUCN Media Relations, m +41 79 857 4072, e borjana.pervan@iucn.org

Maggie Roth, IUCN Media Relations, m +1 202 262 5313, e maggie.roth@iucn.org