



IUCN Climate Crisis Commission Work Plan 2023-2024

(Approved by the IUCN Council, decision C/VII, 9 March 2023)

1- Introduction

The resolution (WCC-2020-Res-044-EN) defines that the '*The Climate Crisis Commission*' **aim is to mobilize and coordinate the Union and engaging with Regional and National IUCN Committees and broader civil society efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change based on the best available science coming from the IPCC and taking into account the actions and initiatives that are developed in the UNFCCC through the Global Climate Action Agenda.** It mentions that “**transformative change for a system-wide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is necessary.**”

Based on this, the Climate Crisis Commission vision is ***a world in which global warming is limited to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels and society is adapting to manage climate risks in ways that enhance socio-ecological resilience, are Nature Positive, and promote just outcomes for all.***

For this, it must lead and support implementation of solutions proposed by all forms of science with a main focus on just decarbonization, synergies between climate and biodiversity, and addressing vulnerable nature and human sectors. To realize this vision, the Climate Crisis Commission must help consolidate IUCN's extensive climate-related policy as articulated through Congress resolutions, connect with existing efforts and synergies and build new ones, promote productive and constructive partnerships and leverage IUCN's convening power. Actions guided by principles including equity, social and climate justice, ecosystem integrity, environmental safeguards and a rights based approach, will be essential for rapid and sustainable transformations. It will also be important to engage all sectors in society, working with women and youth as key parts of the equation. It will also be important that new Commission's work recognizes the sustainable nature conservation practices of Indigenous Peoples, respects, protects and uphold their rights including to their lands, territories and resources, and ensures the application of Free Prior and Informed Consent.

In addition to assisting IUCN's engagement with the formal intergovernmental processes addressing the climate and biodiversity crises, the Climate Crisis Commission recognizes the necessarily ambitious transformational change that must now occur; percolate the economic, political, cultural and social dimensions across multiple fronts; and be implemented by different actors at many-levels.

Neither climate nor nature goals will be achieved without fundamental reforms of our financial and economic architecture and a well planned systems transition, shaped through a convergence approach. This will undoubtedly require addressing real concerns such as the credibility and validity of “NetZero” approaches, and the further development of the “Nature Positive” concept and actions.

2- Goal

By 2025, IUCN CCC will have been effective in bringing a more holistic, integrated and just approach to the development and implementation of IUCN climate policy and programs and to IUCN’s engagement with international and regional processes, effectively contributing to the efforts of the world community in limiting warming to below 1.5°C and enabling the necessary adaptation and resilience.

3- Objectives

- Develop and promote holistic policies and guidelines that facilitate the rapid transition away from fossil fuel to clean energy sources, climate and nature convergence and the enabling conditions to effectively address both challenges.
- Through strong collaboration with other Commissions and the Secretariat, promote synergistic policies and approaches with relevant multilateral processes in addition to the UNFCCC and CBD including UNCCD, RAMSAR, CITES, UNEA, SDGs and those related oceans, food and materials management. Help mobilize, coordinate and collaborate with all components of the Union and external partners under a “One Union”, “whole of society approach”, leveraging IUCN convening power and knowledge.
- Promote and implement solutions that advance synergistic climate-biodiversity outcomes, including by integrating science, Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge systems, and local community knowledge in this effort.
- Address the controversies that limit the climate and nature convergence.
- Promote the use of accurate data and appropriate technology to bring solutions to address the climate and nature crises, whilst preventing, warning and limiting its use if it is contrary to climate, nature and sustainability objectives.
- Promote innovative solutions and develop innovative tools/mechanisms, to address the climate and nature crises, through addressing the four climate transitions suggested by IPCC and the 5 key drivers of nature loss identified by IPBES.
- Promote inclusiveness by working with and for local communities, Indigenous Peoples, women and youth.
- Raise public awareness and capacity building under a coherent action plan for an effective impact of the commission's measurements.
- Develop the IUCN Climate Crisis Commission mandate for the IUCN 2025 World Conservation Congress based in the CCC Terms of Reference.
- Secure resources for running the Climate Crisis Commission by developing a strategic plan for resource mobilization.

- Promote science, technology, data and planning for integrated nature and climate strategies, as well as methodologies and indicators to measure progress towards the Commission's climate objectives.

4- Work Plan 2023-2024 objective

Based in an active and tenacious membership, in robust external partnerships, and strongly developing visibility and positioning actions; being recognized as key contributors to addressing the climate and nature crises.

5- Workstreams

5.1. Thematic focus

1. Policy

- Participate in and organize events related to the priorities of the IUCN and CCC; contribute to the development and promotion of evidence-based policies and programs, building upon and critiquing as needed, decisions made in the global multilateral political processes.
- Address contentious topics with rights-based approaches that promote ecosystem integrity;
- Convene dialogues and advocate evidence-based recommendations for the Global Stocktake process that help to raise climate ambition on NDC's and Long Term Strategies, working with IUCN regional and national offices;
- Convene dialogues and advocate recommendations to the Global Goal on Adaptation process that strengthen and prioritize adaptation strategies at the national level that promote justice, ecosystem integrity and resilience.
- Working through collaborations with the Secretariat, regional and national committees, and across Commissions, and building upon multilateral decisions, create the enabling conditions for high quality implementation of Nature based Solutions.
- Work to address the lack of integrity in many carbon offset projects and develop principles and guidelines that will address deficiencies and prioritize the protection and restoration of biodiverse, carbon rich ecosystems
- Document and effectively communicate the role of protecting and restoring ecosystems in contributing to limiting global warming to below 1.5 degrees as part of comprehensive approach to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.
- Begin development of frameworks for evaluating how the clean energy infrastructure needed for the rapid transition away from fossil fuels can be rolled out in ways that protect nature and be just for all;
- Strongly advocate for the strengthening of Commitments by UNFCCC Parties at COP28 for the rapid phasing out of fossil fuels (oil, coal and gas);

- Develop a high level engagement strategy with key actors at COP28.

2. Solutions and innovative tools

- Explore a strong collaboration between the Climate Action Agenda and the CBD Action Agenda, to develop tools and mechanisms to put nature/nature's role as a key enabler to achieve climate objectives.
- Develop frameworks for supporting the rapid decarbonization of economies and transition away from fossil fuel to clean energy sources in ways that protect nature and promotes social justice.

3. Finance

- Engage and contribute, by submitting recommendations, to the development of the Loss and Damage Fund.
- Support COP2COP multi-stakeholder initiative on resource mobilization which seeks to address the key nature and climate challenge on the reform of the financial architecture: How do we collectively raise ambition on public finance and incentives, which in turn, can catalyze and incentivize private sector investment into the protection, restoration and conservation of intact and existing ecosystems?

4. Technology and data

- Draft position papers on the implications for to the global warming target, and biodiversity and human well-being of certain climate technologies such as carbon dioxide removal (CDR) and bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS).

4.2. Cross-cutting areas

1. Communications and outreach

- Communicate the vision, mission and narrative of the CCC in support of outreach activities.
- Develop a brief document to communicate the purpose, goals and plans of the Climate Crisis Commission.

2. Partnerships

- Design and develop a strategic plan to identify and develop innovative partnerships that contribute to the CCC strategy and Work Plan, as well as helping position its work in the international climate space.
- Strategically partnering and working, from a “whole of society” and rights based approach with non-state actors, drive implementation through the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Agenda / Marrakech Partnership and the CBD Sharm-EI Sheikh to Kunming and Montreal Action Agenda for Nature and People. These are vehicles to raise ambition, drive implementation and bring coherence between both climate and nature agendas.

3. Flagship projects/products

- Develop a CCC flagship project and product that positions the Commission, conveys the value add of the CCC, supports the decision making process, focuses on the climate and nature convergence and brings solutions that contribute to scaling up, socially just and Nature positive actions (e.g. Climate solutions evaluation framework).

4.3. Internal organization and structure

1. Membership

Identify and convene members under the structure and Work Plan of the Commission, guided by principles of inclusion, including youth and Indigenous Peoples, gender, geographic balance, and intergenerational balance.

2. Resource mobilization

- Secure new resources for the Climate Crisis Commission by developing a strategic plan for resource mobilization.
- Design and develop a flagship project with IUCN Secretariat to elevate and mainstream the CCC work, whilst accessing additional resources.

3. Cross commission collaboration

- Work across Commissions to promote synergies and collaborations.
- Define focal points within the Commission Steering and Working groups and create mechanisms for collaboration.

4. IUCN Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) role at UNFCCC

- Leverage IUCN's IGO role at UNFCCC process to strengthen the organization and CCC's advocacy, increase our influence and visibility, and improve our position as a trusted, knowledgeable, solutions-oriented and progressive thinking peak global organization in the ongoing climate deliberations.

5- Organizing the work

While the IUCN CCC Steering Committee organizes the dedicated teams for each Workstream and appoints the regional vice chairs, the Steering Committee members will play a "working team" role to further develop and implement the actions proposed in this Work Plan.