



IUCN Membership Dues Guide



OCTOBER 2021

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Introduction

IUCN is a unique organisation – a democratic membership Union – composed of over 1,500 Members, some 18,000 scientific experts in our thematic Commissions and some 900 staff, who work together in more than 160 countries. By joining IUCN, Members benefit from IUCN's scientific credibility, its unsurpassed knowledge base and convening power, extensive networking opportunities and access to high-level political, economic and social decision making. More information on the benefits of IUCN membership is available [here](#).

The prompt payment of annual membership dues is essential to fund the work of IUCN, supporting the implementation of the Programme and governance of the Union, the facilitation of global networking and communications, and the sharing of knowledge and expertise.

Membership dues are payable in advance and payment shall be received by the 1st of January. Invoices, issued in Swiss Francs, are prepared and dispatched during the last quarter of the preceding year.

This Dues Guide provides information on the calculation and structure of dues for IUCN Members.

This Membership Dues Guide was approved by electronic vote of Members on 10 February 2021 ([WCC 2020 Dec 152](#))¹ and updated as a consequence of the inclusion of subnational governments in IUCN membership at the World Conservation Congress. The Membership Dues Guide was subsequently revised with a new methodology for the Membership dues of venue-based organisations in Category B and C.

¹ Council, at its 100th meeting in September 2020, had approved this revised version of the Guide. They clarified that following the postponement of the 2020 Congress to 2021, the Guide would apply for membership dues as from 2022, and that the 2017-2020 Membership Dues guide would remain applicable for the 2021 membership dues, to enable the Secretariat to timely invoice IUCN Members before 1 January 2021

Applicability of the Guide

This Membership Dues Guide is applicable for membership dues as from 2022 and will remain in force until a revised Guide is adopted by the next World Conservation Congress.

The amendment related to the calculation of the membership dues for venue-based organisations is effective from 13 December 2023 which is the close of the electronic vote at which the amendment was adopted.

Categories of membership

Membership of IUCN is divided into four categories, as defined in Articles 4 and 5 of the [IUCN Statutes](#).

- Category A: States, government agencies and Subnational governments;
Political and/or economic integration organisations;
- Category B: National non-governmental organisations;
International non-governmental organisations;
- Category C: Indigenous peoples' organisations; and
- Category D: Affiliates.

For each category, there is a corresponding dues scale. It is one of the functions of the IUCN World Conservation Congress to determine the dues of Members of IUCN (Article 20 (f) of the IUCN Statutes). More information on the calculation and structure of IUCN membership dues can be found in the sections below.

At the 2000 Congress (Amman), Members requested the IUCN Council to review the calculation of membership dues, linking them to a recognized published inflation index instead of the pre-defined percentage increase used since the 17th Session of the General Assembly (San José, 1988). In Bangkok, in 2004, the Members' Assembly approved Council's proposal to use the [Swiss Consumer Price Index](#)² (CPI), published annually by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office to index the membership dues, from 2006 onwards. No adjustments to the dues are made when the index is negative.

Membership dues

Category A: States, government agencies, subnational governments, and political and/or economic integration organisations

As per Regulation 22³ of the IUCN Statutes, the "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" is used as a basis to establish the membership dues groups for States, government agencies, subnational governments and political and/or economic integration organisations. The repartition of UN assessment percentages within the IUCN dues groups (Table 1) is decided by the IUCN Council, while the definition of the dues amounts (Tables 2, 3 and 4) is a Congress decision.

The latest "[UN scale of assessments for the period 2019-2021](#)"⁴ was published on 4 January 2019. Consequently, the IUCN Dues Guide has been updated to reflect the 2019–2021 UN Scale of assessments and it is valid from 2022.

In the calculation of membership dues for States, government agencies, subnational governments and political and/or economic integration organisations, IUCN does not apply the UN assessment percentages

²<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/prices/consumer-price-index.html>

³ Regulation 22 of the IUCN Statutes: "Dues for Members in Category A shall be established by the World Conservation Congress and be calculated for the period until the next World Congress on the basis of the latest available percentage assessed for States concerned in the budget of the United Nations. The Council may establish groups for the setting of dues..."

⁴ <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/271>

directly. Rather, IUCN has elaborated its own sliding scale to form the IUCN dues groups/levels by grouping the different countries according to their percentage contributions to the UN budget. Approved by the 2000 IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman), the present scale of percentage grouping, used to determine the IUCN Category A membership dues scale of 11 groups, ranging from “0” to 10, is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: IUCN sliding scale of State, government agency, subnational government and political and/or economic integration organisation Members and corresponding UN assessment percentages

IUCN CATEGORY A MEMBERS IN DUES GROUPS:	CORRESPOND TO STATES WITH A UN ASSESSMENT PERCENTAGE OF:	UN ASSESSMENT PERCENTAGES:			
0				Less than	0.01%
1		From	0.01%	up to & including	0.05%
2		More than	0.05%	up to & including	0.07%
3		More than	0.07%	up to & including	0.11%
4		More than	0.11%	up to & including	0.19%
5		More than	0.19%	up to & including	0.35%
6		More than	0.35%	up to & including	0.67%
7		More than	0.67%	up to & including	1.31%
8		More than	1.31%	up to & including	2.59%
9		More than	2.59%	up to & including	5.15%
10		More than	5.15%		

The membership dues scales for States (Table 2), Government agencies (Tables 3 & 4) and Subnational governments (Table 3), comprise 11 groups. For the composition of the 11 dues groups, please refer to the **IUCN dues groups for IUCN Members in Category A** at the end of this guide.

Category A: States

Table 2: States

Group	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	7,790	15,570	31,150	51,520	78,980	118,400	181,280	247,670	295,290	396,260	495,330

Membership dues are expressed in Swiss Francs (CHF) and include an increase corresponding to the average of the 2016 to 2019 Swiss Consumer Price Index (0.35%)⁵.

Category A: Government agencies and subnational governments

For a government agency and a subnational government, the dues group is the same as that of its State.

Government agencies are divided into two groups, A and B:

Group A: government agencies of a State where the State IS a Member of IUCN

Group B: government agencies of a State where the State IS NOT a Member of IUCN.

Dues for government agencies in Groups A and B are shown in Tables 3 and/or 4 respectively. Subnational governments dues are shown in Table 3.

Government agencies and subnational governments – Group A:

Table 3: Government agencies where the State is a Member of IUCN and subnational governments – Group A

Group	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	2,370	2,370	2,370	2,370	2,370	3,560	5,440	7,430	8,860	11,890	14,860

Membership dues are expressed in Swiss Francs (CHF) and include an increase corresponding to the average of the 2016 to 2019 Swiss Consumer Price Index (0.35%)⁶.

⁵ Decision from the Members' Assembly in 2004 (refer to page 2 for more information)

⁶ Decision from the Members' Assembly in 2004 (refer to page 2 for more information)

Membership dues for a government agency where the State IS a Member of IUCN are 3% of those of the State rate, except for government agencies of Groups “0” to 3 who pay the rate based on Group 4⁷. For the appropriate dues group of your agency please refer to the **IUCN dues groups for IUCN Members in Category A** at the end of this guide.

The membership dues for subnational governments are governed by the scale for “Government agencies where the State is a Member of IUCN”, irrespective of whether the State is a Member or not.

Government agencies – Group B:

Table 4: Government agencies where the State is not a Member of IUCN – Group B

Group	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	3,890	3,890	7,790	12,880	19,750	29,620	45,320	61,920	73,820	99,070	123,830

Membership dues are expressed in Swiss Francs (CHF) and include an increase corresponding to the average of the 2016 to 2019 Swiss Consumer Price Index (0.35%)⁵.

In a country where the State IS NOT a Member of IUCN, the government agency pays 25% of the amount of dues payable by the State if it were a Member, except for Group “0” for which the rate of dues is the same as in Group 1⁶. For the appropriate dues group of your agency, please refer to the **IUCN dues groups for IUCN Members in Category A** at the end of this guide.

Category A: Political and/or economic integration organisations

The amount of dues payable by political and/or economic integration organisations is the average amount obtained by adding up the dues payable by each of its State components, as if they were Members of IUCN, and dividing it by the number of States constituting the organisation concerned. Please refer to the **IUCN dues groups for IUCN Members in Category A** at the end of this guide.

Category B: National and international non-governmental organisations, and Category C: Indigenous peoples’ organisations

Dues for national and international non-governmental organisations and indigenous peoples’ organisations, shown in Table 5, were established according to Regulation 23⁸.

The dues scale for national and international non-governmental organisations and indigenous peoples’ organisations comprise ten different dues groups.

A lower group was set for lower indigenous peoples’ organisations and smaller civil societies.

Membership dues for national and international non-governmental organisations and indigenous peoples’ organisations are calculated on the basis of the organisation’s total expenditure (in US Dollars). **This is defined as all expenditure of the organisation during the year. Total expenditure includes expenditure funded by project restricted income and any other funding source. It also includes grants to third parties, interests and taxes. Total expenditure should agree with the organisation’s audited financial statements, or, in the absence of a formal audit, the financial statements approved by the organisation’s board or trustees⁹.**

Membership dues for national and international non-governmental organisations which can be considered as venue-based organisations¹⁰ are calculated on the basis of the organization’s conservation activities

⁷ Decision made by the 17th General Assembly of IUCN in San Jose, Costa Rica

⁸ Regulation 23: “Dues for Members in Categories B, C and D shall be established by the World Congress on the proposal of the Council”

⁹ This sentence was amended in October 2022 to clarify the definition of “total expenditure” for Members and applicants

¹⁰ Venue-based organizations are defined as those organisations which are characterised by major physical infrastructures that represent their primary annual expenditure. These venues serve large groups of members, users or visitors. The venue-based organization must be one of the following:

expenditure (instead of the total expenditure of the organisation). Specifically, expenditure on conservation activities is defined as:

- a. what the Member reports as conservation expenditure in their audited accounts, or
- b. if the Member's conservation expenditure is not included in, or reflected in their audited accounts, the Member must self-report its expenditure, such as on the following activities:
 - i. Direct Conservation Action (field work, species recovery, veterinary care, conservation assurance populations);
 - ii. Conservation research both inside and outside the institution;
 - iii. Field conservation education (awareness-building, education, training, capacity building);
 - iv. Conservation advocacy; and
 - v. Conservation fundraising and direct grants.

Applicant and Member organisations are requested to provide appropriate financial information including their latest annual audited financial statements together with a declaration of total expenditure or conservation expenditure for venue-based organisations. This will enable the IUCN Secretariat to determine the dues group an organisation should be in. If the organisation is not required to have a statutory audit, the latest annual financial statements approved by the Board or governing body can be provided.

-
- A university,
 - An aquarium or zoo (for the purpose of keeping land or sea animals within enclosures for public viewing and conservation purposes),
 - A botanical garden (for the purpose of having a documented collection of living plants for research, conservation, display and/or education),
 - A museum (for the purpose of displaying a collection of artifacts of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance), or
 - A sport organization.

Re-assessment of membership dues

Every four years, after the IUCN World Conservation Congress, the Secretariat undertakes a re-assessment of the dues groups for Members in Category B and C. In 2021, after the approval of the Dues Guide at the Congress, each Member will be required to submit to the Secretariat, a declaration of total expenditure for the last three years, together with their annual audited financial statements for those three years. This information will be used by the Secretariat to calculate the average total expenditure for that period and to determine their dues group for the next quadrennial or until a new Dues Guide is approved by Members. This exercise will be completed on time for the 2022 invoicing in November 2021.

If a Member does not submit the information required, the Secretariat will use the latest financial statements available from public sources to determine the level of total expenditure of the Member. Failing that, the organisation will be reclassified into the dues group immediately above the one it is currently in.

Table 5: National and international non-governmental organisations and Indigenous peoples' organisations

Group	Total Expenditure bands or total conservation expenditure for venue-based organisations (USD)		Membership dues scale (CHF)
	FROM (≥)	TO (<)	
1	-	100,000	300
2	100,000	500,000	480
3	500,000	900,000	770
4	900,000	1,620,000	1,230
5	1,620,000	2,916,000	1,970
6	2,916,000	5,248,800	3,150
7	5,248,800	9,447,840	5,030
8	9,447,840	17,006,112	8,050
9	17,006,112	30,611,002	12,885
10	30,611,002		20,620

Membership dues are expressed in Swiss Francs (CHF)

FROM: equal to or above the amount indicated; TO: below the amount indicated

Category D: Affiliates¹¹

Dues for Affiliate Members, shown in Table 6, were established according to Regulation 23^{12,13}.

All Affiliate Members pay the same rate as indicated below. Affiliate Members do not have the right to vote, nominate candidates or submit Motions to the World Conservation Congress (Article 12 (b) of the IUCN Statutes).

Table 6: Affiliates

Affiliates
3,150

Membership dues are expressed in Swiss Francs (CHF)

¹¹ Government agencies, subnational governments, Political and/or economic integration organizations and national & international non-governmental organizations can apply as Affiliates.

¹² Regulation 23: "Dues for Members in Categories B, C and D shall be established by the World Congress on the proposal of the Council".

¹³ Decision made by the 17th General Assembly of IUCN in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Payment of dues

When do dues become payable?

Membership dues are payable in advance and payment shall be received by the 1st of January. Invoices, issued in Swiss Francs, are prepared and dispatched during the last quarter of the preceding year, i.e. dues for 2022 should be received no later than 1 January 2022; dues for 2023 should be received no later than 1 January 2023, etc.

IUCN membership does not expire unless the IUCN Member is withdrawn or expelled from IUCN as detailed in Article 13 of the [IUCN Statutes](#), or unless the IUCN Member withdraws voluntarily by providing IUCN with written notification of its intention to withdraw its membership. Members withdrawing from the Union must ensure that all outstanding membership dues have been paid, up to and including the year of the notification of withdrawal.

With regards to withdrawal from the Union in relation to non-payment of membership dues, according to Article 13 (a) of the IUCN Statutes, *“The rights of a Member in connection with elections, voting and motions shall ipso facto be suspended when the dues of that Member are one year in arrears.*

If the dues of a Member are two years in arrears, the matter shall be referred to the World Congress¹⁴ which may rescind all the remaining rights of the Member concerned. Such rescission shall be on such terms as the World Congress may determine”;

and 13 (b) *“If, one year after the decision of the World Congress to rescind the remaining rights of a Member, the Member in question has not paid its arrears owed up until such rescission, that Member shall be deemed to have withdrawn from IUCN”.*

How can dues be paid?

Members

Dues shall be paid in Swiss Francs (CHF) or any other freely convertible currency. In countries where IUCN is represented by a Regional, Country or Project Office, payment of dues may be made to the IUCN Office in local currency, as per Regulation 25 of IUCN Statutes¹⁵.

For payments which are not made in CHF, Members are requested to use the same daily exchange rates as IUCN: <http://www.oanda.com/currency/live-exchange-rates/>, which will help to avoid major exchange rate differences when the payment is processed in IUCN accounts. Any exchange rate loss/gain or other difference in payment will be adjusted in the Member's next year's invoice.

In the case of outstanding dues from previous years, payments received will be first used to offset arrears before being allocated to the current year's dues. If amounts paid are higher than what is due, the extra amount will be credited to the next year's dues.

For payments by bank transfer, Members will bear all bank charges. Invoice number, Member ID and relevant contact details must be quoted when making payments. Secretariat/Membership Focal Points should be informed if the payment is made to the Regional Office directly or through a third party to help with the follow-up of payments.

For payments by credit card, membership dues of amounts up to 5,000 CHF can be settled by credit card* via the Member profile page on the [Union Portal](#)¹⁶. Only Visa and MasterCard payments are accepted. Transaction charges for credit card payments will be borne by IUCN.

Payment receipts can be downloaded from the individual Member organisational pages on the [Union Portal](#) (within a few weeks of receipt of funds by IUCN Headquarters).

Applicant Member organisations

¹⁴ Decision may be made during the World Conservation Congress or by electronic vote in-between Congresses.

¹⁵ Regulation 25 of IUCN Statutes: *“Dues shall be paid in Swiss francs or any other freely convertible currency according to the scales established by the World Congress, unless the Director General has agreed with the Member in question that payment in local currency or provision of facilities, goods and services in lieu of dues may be accepted because this will release for use by IUCN a sum equivalent to the assessed dues of the Member in question”.*

¹⁶ please refer to section 4.15 of the [Union Portal Guide](#)

A deposit equivalent to the entire current year of membership is payable at the time of submitting a membership application. However, once the new Member has been admitted, the membership dues for that year are calculated on a pro-rata basis of the total annual membership dues, starting from the month following admission. If the balance is then positive, it will be credited to the following year. If an application for IUCN membership is rejected, the deposit will be reimbursed less any administrative costs that may apply.

Adhesion of States

In accordance to Article 6 of the IUCN Statutes “*States or political and/or economic integration organisations shall become Members of IUCN by notifying the Director General of their adhesion to these Statutes, effective upon payment of the first year’s membership dues.*”, the payment equivalent to the first year of membership is payable at the time of submitting the letter of adhesion. The membership dues for that year are calculated on a pro-rata basis of the total annual membership dues, starting from the month following receipt of the letter of adhesion and payment of dues.

Payments details

Membership dues or deposit payments may be made to the following bank account:

Account name: **IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources**

Bank Address: UBS Switzerland AG
Place St. François 16
CH-1002 Lausanne
Switzerland

IBAN/Bank account IBAN CH23 0024 3243 3350 3501 W
Swift Code: UBSWCHZH80A
Currency: Swiss Francs

For any information regarding your payment, please contact your [Membership Focal Point](#).

May we kindly remind you to inform us of any important changes in your organisation that may affect your organisation’s membership of IUCN, such as the category of membership or the dues group.

If your Statutes and/or expenses have significantly changed since your organisation joined IUCN, please provide your [Membership Focal Point](#) with your organisation’s most recent Statutes and/or financial report, including the details of your organisation’s total expenditure.

IUCN dues groups for IUCN Members in Category A

(Based on the Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations 2019–2021)

GROUP "0"	North Macedonia	Libya	Romania
Afghanistan	Palau	Malta	South Africa
Albania	*Palestine	Mauritius	Thailand
Andorra	Republic of Moldova	Monaco	GROUP 6
Antigua and Barbuda	Rwanda	Myanmar	Chile
Armenia	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Panama	Denmark
Barbados	Saint Lucia	Papua New Guinea	Finland
Belize	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Paraguay	Greece
Benin	Samoa	Serbia	Indonesia
Bhutan	San Marino	Sri Lanka	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Burkina Faso	Sao Tome and Principe	Sudan	Ireland
Burundi	Senegal	Syrian Arab Republic	Israel
Cambodia	Seychelles	Trinidad and Tobago	Singapore
Cape Verde	Sierra Leone	Tunisia	United Arab Emirates
Central African Republic	Solomon Islands	Turkmenistan	
Chad	Somalia	United Republic of Tanzania	GROUP 7
Comoros	South Sudan	Uzbekistan	Austria
Congo	Suriname	Yemen	Argentina
*Cook Islands	Tajikistan	GROUP 2	Belgium
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Timor-Leste	Costa Rica	India
Djibouti	Togo	Dominican Republic	Mexico
Dominica	Tonga	Luxembourg	Norway
Eritrea	Tuvalu	Morocco	Poland
Eswatini	Uganda	Ukraine	Saudi Arabia
Fiji	Vanuatu	GROUP 3	Sweden
Gambia	Zambia	Croatia	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Georgia	Zimbabwe	Cuba	GROUP 8
Grenada	GROUP 1	Ecuador	Australia
Guinea	Angola	Lithuania	Netherlands
Guinea-Bissau	Azerbaijan	Slovenia	Republic of Korea
Guyana	Bahamas	Uruguay	Russian Federation
Haiti	Bahrain	Viet Nam	Spain
Honduras	Bangladesh	GROUP 4	Türkiye
Jamaica	Belarus	Algeria	GROUP 9
Kiribati	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Egypt	Brazil
*Kosovo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Iraq	Canada
Kyrgyzstan	Botswana	Kazakhstan	France
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Brunei Darussalam	Oman	Italy
Lesotho	Bulgaria	Pakistan	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Liberia	Cameroon	Peru	GROUP 10
Madagascar	Côte d'Ivoire	Slovakia	China
Malawi	Cyprus	GROUP 5	Germany
Maldives	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Colombia	Japan
Mali	El Salvador	Czech Republic	Switzerland
Marshall Islands	Equatorial Guinea	Hungary	United States of America
Mauritania	Estonia	Kuwait	
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Ethiopia	Malaysia	
Mongolia	Gabon	New Zealand	
Montenegro	Ghana	Nigeria	
Mozambique	Guatemala	Philippines	
Namibia	Iceland	Portugal	
Nauru	Jordan	Qatar	
Nepal	Kenya		
Nicaragua	Latvia		
Niger	Lebanon		
*Niue	Liechtenstein		

* is not or is not located in, a member of the United Nations. Refer to Regulation 22.



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FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE**

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