Terms of Reference

Review: Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership across IUCN

June 23, 2020

Important: Please read these Terms of Reference in conjunction with the accompanying RfP requirements of IUCN.

Background

Meaningful, Union-wide youth engagement and intergenerational partnership in IUCN have long been discussed across the Commissions, the Secretariat, the Council, and Member Organizations of IUCN, and, to a certain extent, has been acted upon. In an effort to move to more sustained action, the new draft IUCN programme “Nature 2030,” includes youth and is for youth, calling for a Union-wide youth engagement and intergenerational strategy to be designed, implemented, and coordinated in order to deliver on:

- Resolution 4.098 from the Barcelona World Conservation Congress (2008)
- Resolution 5.008 from the Jeju World Conservation Congress (2012)
- The Promise of Sydney from the Sydney World Parks Congress, especially commitments to “Inspire a new generation to prioritise conservation.” (2014)
- The Hawaiʻi World Conservation Congress commitment: “The conservation community has a responsibility to help youth by inspiring those who have yet to care for nature, empowering young professionals already inspired to develop their capacities and networks, and by lending our time and experience as mentors -- recognizing that youth have as much to teach as they have to learn.” (2016)

A comprehensive review is being commissioned, on the previous and current state of youth engagement and intergenerational partnership across the IUCN (the Commissions, Secretariat, Council, and Member Organizations), which will:

- Define what meaningful youth engagement should be understood to include in IUCN, including through a review of leading literature, including effective engagement across the developmental stages of youth (i.e. children, teenagers, and young and emerging professionals);
- Summarize the full variety of relevant dialogues and collaborative efforts undertaken in IUCN since 2008;
- Highlight successful best practices, experiences and lessons learned, as well as entrenched challenges resulting from these past efforts, including lessons learned from other intersecting IUCN efforts on the inclusion of diversity – such as programmes related to gender and indigenous peoples;
• Compile a new set of recommendations for mainstreaming and institutionalizing youth engagement and intergenerational partnership effectively, and in ways that are realistic and can be sustained, at all levels of IUCN, including in terms of dialogue, collaborative initiatives, governance and accountability, and the results sought and priorities;
• Explore how the Union can support and empower the multitude of currently existing, effective conservation youth-led organizations and networks.

As such, the review will inform the development and implementation of meaningful and sustainable Union-wide youth engagement and intergenerational partnership, with the goal of integrating such an approach into the governance, policies, budgets, and, indeed, culture of the IUCN. The vision is that youth engagement and intergenerational partnership are valued to such an extent that they are institutionalized and funded as essential, cross-cutting approaches across the Union.

Task description
The person or team hired will produce the above review on the past and current situation, and offer advice and recommendations appropriate to different parts of the Union at all levels. The recommendations must address the goal of making IUCN a more youth-focused organisation that delivers on its vision of biodiversity conservation through intergenerational partnership, taking into consideration other dimensions of human diversity, such as gender, racial and ethnic identity, geographic location, economic background and other relevant issues that evidence diverse challenges and opportunities to thrive as youth in conservation actions, professional and academic careers. Youth is defined in IUCN as “35 years old and under”, recognising that this includes several distinct stages of life for young people.

This will include analysis of capacity building for as well as mainstreaming of youth into IUCN programs; enhancing work with emerging and young professionals; supporting youth engagement by the IUCN Commissions, Secretariat, and Members; integrating young professionals into governance, e.g. onto the Council and Commission Steering Committees; fundraising for youth engagement and intergenerational partnership; and how to work in effective intergenerational partnerships across all previously-mentioned areas.

Outputs from the assignment are a report of up to 30 pages (it is possible to also include annexes as required) and a short Executive Summary, in English. This should be produced as a result of desk research; consultation with young professionals in the IUCN Secretariat (HQ and regional offices) and Commissions; discussions with IUCN Member as well as non-member organisations that are youth led and/or have effective youth engagement strategies and demonstrated leadership working with youth; Commission Chairs, Steering Committee members, and Young Professionals Network members; selected programme and function leaders in the IUCN Secretariat; and members of the IUCN Task Force for Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability. The delivery of all requirements of the Terms of Reference is required not later than 15 December 2020.
The candidate(s) will receive logistical support and cooperation of IUCN to conduct relevant interviews.

**Specific tasks include:**

- Completion and documentation of desk research
- Consultation meetings with stakeholders
- Meetings with client group
- Draft Report
- Consultation on Draft Report (including through the Global Youth Summit) and receipt of feedback
- Revision of Draft Report
- Finalisation and design of Final Report
- Presentation of findings

**Consultant Requirements**

- Strong research and writing skills including experience writing studies and producing reports
- Experience working with youth/youth issues, and intergenerational partnership, and/or experience completing similar report for gender mainstreaming, Indigenous Peoples engagement, or other, ideally at the international organisation level
- Knowledge of and/or experience of working with IUCN
- Fluency in English; knowledge of French and Spanish, and other languages, an advantage
- Available to begin work July 22, and complete first draft of review by September 30, 2020
- Credibility in demonstrating commitment to youth leadership in implementing the assignment. If a team of two or more is applying (which is encouraged), preference may be given to a team including a member under 35 years of age.
- Gender and geographic diversity of the consulting team will also be considered an advantage.

**Budget**

Please include your budget proposal to properly carry out this research, its consultations, and writing. We anticipate a maximum budget of 20,000 – 25,000 Swiss Francs.

**Applications**

Please send your proposal, including a proposed research methodology, workplan, budget, and CVs of all team members, to Tim Badman (tim.badman@iucn.org) by July 15, 2020, 17h00 CET. Proposals should follow the requirements in the RfP to which this Terms of Reference is Annex A.