



# PLANET AT THE CROSSROADS

Come, define the path to a sustainable future



IUCN  
World  
Conservation  
Congress  
Hawai'i 2016

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1-10 September 2016  
Hawai'i, USA



© IUCN



**//** *This unique gathering of top minds holds the key to innovation, inspiration and, most importantly, action."*

Zhang Xinsheng, IUCN President

© IUCN



**//** *No IUCN Congress before has come at a more pivotal time for humanity's relationship with the environment."*

Inger Andersen, IUCN Director General

# JOIN US FOR THE

## OUR PLANET IS AT A CROSSROADS

The ecosystems that underpin our economies, well-being and survival are collapsing. Species are becoming extinct at unprecedented rates. Our climate is in crisis. And it's all happening on our watch.

## THIS IS THE MOMENT TO GET IT RIGHT

In 2015, almost 200 nations agreed on ambitious goals for sustainable development and achieving climate neutrality. These agreements represent an historic opportunity to improve the lives of billions of people around the globe and put nature at the heart of our decisions. It's time to move these agreements into action.

## OUR WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY IS CLOSING

Time is not on our side. The success of these agreements depends on how quickly we turn them into sustainable action.

Business as usual is not an option.

**We must take action now.**



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# HAWAI'I, A NATURAL CHOICE

Hawai'i, USA, is hosting the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016, having received strong endorsement from President Barack Obama, his administration and the State of Hawai'i.

The State of Hawai'i has shown conservation leadership through its Aloha+ Challenge sustainability targets. Hawai'i offers an exceptional and green venue, and is working with IUCN to set a new standard for sustainable events.

The IUCN Congress in Hawai'i brings attention to islands, the oft-forgotten frontlines of climate change. We can learn from island-scale initiatives to help us meet larger-scale conservation goals.

**//** *"You're going to find these islands to be a showcase of diversity."*

David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i



©Hawai'i Office of the Governor



**2** WORLD  
HERITAGE  
SITES

**7** OVER  
380  
NATIONAL  
PARKS THREATENED  
SPECIES

**18,000** OF WHICH  
NATIVE SPECIES >50%  
ARE ENDEMIC

IN 2016  
WE ARE  
CELEBRATING  
THE 100<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF HAWAI'I  
VOLCANOES  
NATIONAL PARK



© Eric Mathon, Palais Princier



*"The IUCN Congress will enable all those concerned with the preservation of our planet to make their voices heard, and I will add mine with enthusiasm and determination."*

H.S.H. Prince Albert of Monaco

© GEF



*"The tragedy of our global environmental commons, from land degradation to climate change, pollution, overfishing or biodiversity loss, is playing out before our eyes. We can address it if we work together, and the IUCN Congress is a great place to engage on this critical priority for people and the planet."*

Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility

© CO State photo-UN Foundation



*"This World Conservation Congress will address the greatest challenge facing life on Earth since the asteroid hastened the demise of the dinosaurs."*

Thomas E. Lovejoy, Senior Fellow, United Nations Foundation and Professor, George Mason University



© N. Okonjo-Iweala

*"We're all in this together. It's time to be bold. It's time to take action. There's no time to lose, so let's make it count in Hawai'i."*

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Former Minister of Finance, Nigeria



© WBCSD

*"The IUCN Congress is a major opportunity to demonstrate leadership in implementing the SDGs and shaping the decisions that will determine the conservation agenda and its outcomes for business."*

Peter Bakker, President & CEO, World Business Council on Sustainable Development

## 68 years of vision and impact

Throughout its history, IUCN has brought the expertise and influence of its membership to bear on pressing issues, often ahead of their time and with results that steer the course of humanity's relationship with our planet.

1948

Fontainebleau, France  
Established the International Union for the Protection of Nature

1954

Copenhagen, Denmark  
Flagged the effects of insecticides on mammals, birds and insects

1960

Warsaw, Poland  
Called attention to climate change and its impacts

1963

Nairobi, Kenya  
Led to the 1974 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

1964

Published the first IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

1966

Lucerne, Switzerland  
First use of the term 'World Heritage'; led to the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention

1971

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands entered into force; IUCN has been integral to Ramsar's development and implementation

1975

Kinshasa, Congo (DRC)  
Laid the foundation for the 1982 World Charter for Nature

1978

Ashkhabad, Turkmenistan (USSR)  
Agreed to produce the World Conservation Strategy (WCS), published in 1980 with UNEP and WWF; first articulation of the concept of 'sustainable development'

1981

Christchurch, New Zealand  
Called for governments to integrate traditional knowledge into policies and actions

1988

San José, Costa Rica  
Called for governments to create national conservation strategies; dozens were subsequently produced

1993

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) entered into force; IUCN drafted the CBD and shepherded it through the review and approval process from 1981 to 1992

1996

Montreal, Canada  
Mandated gender equality within the Union; led to IUCN's 1998 Gender Equality and Equity Policy

2004

Bangkok, Thailand  
Passed resolutions on food security, human rights and the role of conservation in poverty reduction and development

2008

Barcelona, Spain  
Committed to implementing the 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in conservation work

2012

Jeju, Korea (RoK)  
Pioneered the idea of nature-based solutions to environmental and development challenges



2016  
Hawai'i, USA

Join us this September!

# A NEW ERA FOR HUMANITY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR PLANET

## FINANCING NATURE AND NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

**Nature and economic growth are inextricably linked.** How do we account for nature's value? What are the economic risks of business as usual? What investments can we make to better manage natural resources?

## ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

**Nature has a critical role to play in the fight against climate change.** How do we mobilise our most powerful ally?

## BUILDING OCEAN RESILIENCE

**Our oceans are in trouble.** How do we build ocean resilience to pressures from warming and fishing? How can we prevent plastics from harming marine life and entering our food chain?

## YOUTH AND SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

**Youth and faith have deep connections to nature.** How do we better represent these connections and the intrinsic value of nature? How do we mobilise the creativity, energy and innovation of younger generations for conservation?

## COMBATTING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

**Wildlife crime is fuel for conflict, a threat to global security, and it's driving species to extinction.** How can we mobilise national action and international cooperation at all levels of government, business, judiciary and civil society?

# HELP DEFINE THE PATH TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Every four years, the IUCN Congress brings top scientists and academics together with world leaders and decision makers from governments, civil society, Indigenous peoples and business. They share, debate and act on the latest in conservation and sustainable development, from deep analysis to high-level policy.

## THE FORUM

The Forum is the largest knowledge marketplace for conservation and sustainable development science, practice and innovation. Over 600 sessions address the economic, social, scientific and technical aspects of issues ranging from wildlife to oceans, protected areas to sustainable business, and climate change to human rights.

## THE MEMBERS' ASSEMBLY

IUCN's 1,300+ Member organisations collectively decide on actions to address the most pressing and often controversial conservation and sustainable development challenges. IUCN's membership includes some of the most influential government and civil society organisations from more than 160 countries, giving the decisions taken at the IUCN Congress a powerful mandate.

© UNEP



*"The decisions and resolutions from IUCN's World Congresses have served as vital touchstones for conservation science and practice worldwide."*

Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UNEP

© Chris Jackson, Getty Images



*"The illegal wildlife trade is pushing iconic species to extinction while threatening the wellbeing of local communities. The IUCN World Conservation Congress has the power to bring all the necessary components together in search of solutions that benefit wildlife and people."*

HRH The Duke of Cambridge

© World Bank Group



*"The IUCN Congress will set the course for using nature-based solutions to help move millions out of poverty, creating a more sustainable economy and restoring a healthier relationship with our planet."*

Jim Kim, President, World Bank Group

© IUCN



*"The IUCN World Conservation Congress is an exceptional event of great importance to our Island Earth."*

Sir David Attenborough

© National Geographic



*"The IUCN Congress in Hawai'i in 2016 is a moment when actions can be taken at a time when options are closing and closing fast."*

Sylvia Earle, oceanographer and National Geographic Society Explorer-in-Residence

© Josh Hiner The NY Times



*"I wouldn't miss the IUCN World Conservation Congress. If we don't now take the decisions we need to protect these ecosystems for the future, it will be an unforgivable sin to our children and to our children's children. So I can't think of anything more important to be doing with my time."*

Thomas Friedman, New York Times



# HOW TO PARTICIPATE

## Be a part of the action

**Share** your latest conservation work and gain institutional visibility with the media and with the Congress' influential participants. **Learn** from technical and scientific experts, **network** and build global partnerships, and **influence** the decisions that will impact your work. You can register, reserve an exhibition booth and become a sponsor on the IUCN Congress website:

[www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org](http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org)



iucn.org



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#IUCNcongress

**Questions?** [congress@iucn.org](mailto:congress@iucn.org)

## Become an IUCN Congress partner

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016 is a unique platform to connect with and invest in conservation and sustainability initiatives. Powerful marketing and partnership opportunities abound before, during and through the Congress until 2020.

# ABOUT IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union composed of both government and civil society organisations. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its 1,300 Member organisations and the input of some 15,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.



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Hosted by the United States Government and the State of Hawai'i

