



IUCN
World
Conservation
Congress
Hawai'i 2016

1-10 September 2016
Hawai'i, USA

PLANET AT THE CROSSROADS





Sylvia Earle
Founder, Mission Blue
and IUCN Patron of Nature

Planet at the Crossroads

"Imagine if those in the future could look back at this as the turning point, that this was truly the crossroads when we chose to go in the direction of a better world."

"Nothing is more important than the topic before this World Conservation Congress, the Planet at a Crossroads."

Sally Jewell
US Secretary of the Interior



Our planet is at a crossroads.

The natural systems that underpin our economies, well-being and survival are collapsing, and the world is looking for a clear path to a sustainable future.

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016 could not have come at a more pivotal time.

From 1-10 September 2016, the IUCN Congress brought top scientists and academics together with world leaders and decision makers from governments, civil society, indigenous peoples and business.

Together, they shared the latest in conservation science, launched new initiatives and decided actions to address pressing conservation and sustainable development challenges.

The knowledge shared and the decisions taken over those ten days helped define the path to a sustainable future and move 2015's historic climate and sustainable development agreements into action.

10,000+
participants

from

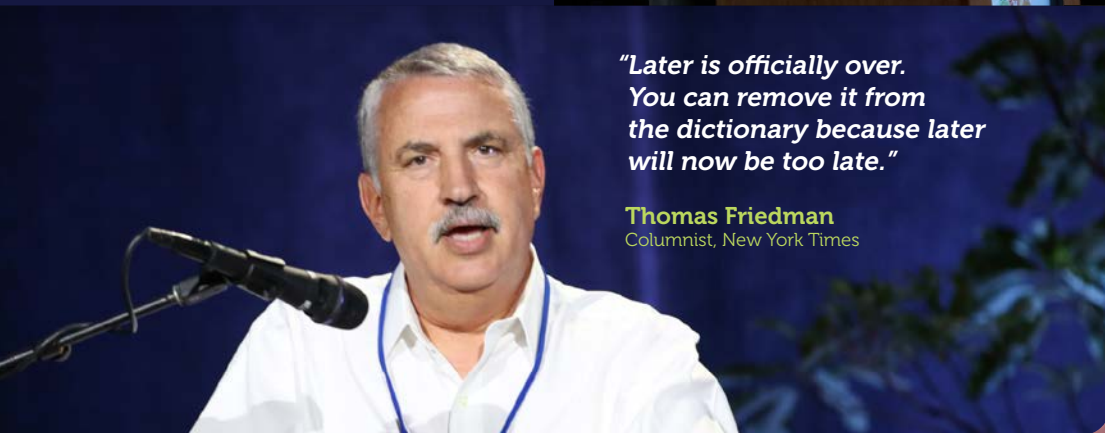
180
countries



6 Heads of Government
8 Heads of International Organisations and conventions
35 National Ministers and Heads of national agencies



21,000+
news media articles



*"Later is officially over.
You can remove it from
the dictionary because later
will now be too late."*

Thomas Friedman
Columnist, New York Times



75
MILLION
people reached through
social media



1,380
sessions
121
Resolutions,
recommendations
and decisions



#IUCNcongress
trended on Twitter
in at least
5 countries



Major outcomes and announcements

Each day at Congress saw new announcements for conservation knowledge and action from governments, business, civil society and academia.

New partnerships

Business, academic and civil society organisations launched the Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (CPIC) to help fund conservation.

Eleven leading conservation organisations announced a new partnership with more than US\$15 million in commitments to identify, map, monitor and conserve Key Biodiversity Areas.

"Don't lose time. Fifteen years of the SDGs is a blink of the eye. It will be gone before we know it, and if we are not careful, so too will be nature."

Jeffrey Sachs
Director, The Earth Institute



New commitments for on-the-ground action

- › Mexico announced it will make all of its islands protected areas by 2020.
- › National Geographic Society announced a US\$10 million grant for conservation work in the Okavango Delta.
- › New commitments to the Bonn Challenge brought the world closer to its goal of restoring 150 million hectares of degraded forest lands by 2020 and 350 million by 2030.
- › IUCN, Hawai'i and multiple other organisations launched the Honolulu Challenge on Invasive Alien Species to mobilise action to protect against biological invasions.

New science to drive conservation

- › A new report explained the causes, scale, effects and consequences of a warming ocean.
- › A high-profile update of The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ showed improvement in Giant Panda numbers and increased risk for the Eastern Gorilla.



For information on more of the outcomes, visit
www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org



An inclusive and powerful Union

During the Members' Assembly, IUCN's Member organisations debate and vote on global conservation policy and action, setting a clear path for the union and decision-makers worldwide. IUCN's inclusive and diverse membership includes some of the most influential government and civil society organisations from over 160 countries, giving the decisions taken at IUCN Congress a powerful mandate.

"The path we take as a global community, and how we choose to walk down that path in the next few years, will define Humanity's opportunities for generations to come."

Zhang Xinsheng
IUCN President



Setting the global conservation agenda

IUCN Members approved 121 motions directing the Union and calling on third parties to take action on a wide range of urgent conservation issues including motions directly addressing the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

121 Resolutions, recommendations and decisions

- › Elevating efforts to combat wildlife trafficking
- › Adopting an official IUCN policy on biodiversity offsets
- › Increasing protection for the high seas and primary forests
- › Creating a new category of membership for indigenous peoples' organisations
- › Calling for the development of an IUCN policy on biodiversity conservation and synthetic biology
- › Recognising protected areas as no-go zones for industrial activities
- › Approving the 2017-2020 IUCN Programme
- › Electing a new Council for the period 2017-2020



For more information including a complete list of the decisions taken at the Members' Assembly, please visit www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/members-assembly



"Witnessing enormous support in this room today and at Congress, I can see we are truly paddling in the same direction."

President Tommy Remengesau
Palau

Engaging the next generation in conservation

The Congress inspired students of all ages through a special Students' Day, numerous hands-on activities and interactions with popular role models such as Jane Goodall, Jack Johnson and Alison Sudol. Congress pavilions welcomed hundreds of students to learn and get excited about nature, and IUCN launched the #NatureForAll coalition to share best practices and tools to connect people to nature.

"Loving nature and wanting to learn about nature somehow has gotten this air of homework and it's not okay with me because nature is the coolest thing in the whole world."

Alison Sudol
actress, musician and IUCN Goodwill Ambassador

1,500+ participants
took part in youth activities at Congress

1,000+ students
from 54 schools participated in Students' Day



"You are the change makers. You are the future."

Paul Rose
Explorer and TV host,
National Geographic Society

Engaging next generations is about more than educating and inspiring youth. The Congress highlighted how the next generation of conservation leaders are already making a difference. Events such as the High-level Dialogue Conservation 2.0: Empowering Next Generations, professional development workshops and a lunch to build intergenerational partnerships worked to empower young conservation professionals.



110 partners joined forces behind
#NatureForAll

IUCN Members approved
motions promoting environmental
education and supporting
#NatureForAll

IUCN released a new
Conservation Curriculum Sourcebook
for teachers



Empowering young professionals

1,300+ registered participants
under 35 years old

80 sessions
dedicated to or organised
by young professionals

US Department of Interior
announced a partnership to
provide mentorship, advice
and expertise to young
conservation professionals
around the world.

The Forum at the IUCN Congress is the largest knowledge marketplace for conservation and sustainable development science, practice and innovation. Over 1,300 sessions, 88 exhibits and nine pavilions engaged participants over the first four days of the Congress, providing them with tools, knowledge and inspiration for protecting and valuing nature.

"The more we know about what is going on in the world, the more we are able to find better ways to solve the problems."

Jane Goodall
Founder, Jane Goodall Institute
and IUCN Patron of Nature

Inspiring and informing conservation action



6 High-level dialogues on urgent issues

A Changing Climate: Championing Nature-Based Solutions
Private Finance for Public Good
Conservation 2.0: Empowering Next Generations
Everybody's Business: Ending Wildlife Trafficking
Actions for a Sustainable Ocean
Connections: Spirituality and Conservation

The latest in conservation and sustainable development

200+
interactive sessions

providing in-depth knowledge and practical solutions

372
pavilion events
focused on specific
conservation themes

2,400+
people trained
at 57 capacity-building
Conservation Campuses



For more information about
the Forum and its outcomes, please visit
www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/programme



New tools for engaging business

From debates on valuing nature, mitigating biodiversity impacts and deploying nature-based solutions, the IUCN Congress focused on how the conservation community can work better with business to address the challenges facing our planet. Discussions and decisions included best practices and tools for business and where and how to develop to minimise biodiversity loss.

*"We are making great progress.
Business is clearly engaged more than ever before."*

Peter Bakker
President of the World Business
Council for Sustainable
Development (WBCSD)



New strategies for key issues

During the Members' Assembly, IUCN Members engaged with panels of experts to assess the paths forward and identify potential opportunities for IUCN to play a leadership role in three weighty topics for the future of the planet.

New constituencies for conservation

To succeed at the scale necessary, conservation must reach new audiences and engage with cities, students, indigenous peoples, and health and faith-based communities.

Agriculture and biodiversity

The world needs more organised understanding, better metrics, and clear action plans for sustainable development.

Oceans and islands

It is essential to combine economic, social and environmental knowledge to rid the oceans of plastics and micro-plastics, combat illegal fishing and protect and value undersea life.

"It's encouraging and significant that IUCN has shown a commitment to engaging the membership and scanning the horizon for strategic and emerging opportunities."

Ruth Richardson
Executive Director, Global Alliance
for the Future of Food, Canada



"IUCN has been such a strong proponent of climate science and environmental science and conservation science for 60 years."

Erik Solheim
Executive Director,
United Nations Environment Programme

For more information about the Hawai'i Commitments, please visit
www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/hawaii-commitments



A continuing legacy of impact

The 2016 Congress continued IUCN's 68-year legacy of using the expertise and influence of its membership to steer the course of humanity's relationship with the planet. From spotlighting climate change in 1960 to articulating the concept of sustainable development in 1980, IUCN resolutions and actions have addressed some of the world's most pressing issues, often ahead of their time.



"Nature conservation and human progress are not mutually exclusive but can be essential partners in achieving sustainable development."

The Hawai'i Commitments

The Hawai'i Commitments

The Hawai'i Commitments capture the main messages and ideas from the Congress in a set of global opportunities to help the world meet key conservation challenges. Shaped by insights from Congress participants and events, the Hawai'i Commitments address sustaining world food supplies, ocean health, combatting wildlife trafficking, building climate resilience and engaging with the private sector, next generations, and religious, spiritual and cultural constituencies. Their insights will be a guide to conservation and policy action as the world increasingly depends on nature in achieving 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
Through new tools, alliances, knowledge and direction, the 2016 Congress made significant contributions to moving 2015's sustainable development and climate agreements into action. IUCN Members also created a new category of membership for indigenous peoples organisations

Hawai'i's conservation action

Hawai'i Governor David Ige made six commitments to conservation and sustainable development, showing Hawai'i's conservation leadership and the lasting impacts of the IUCN Congress in the state.

Protecting 30%
of Hawai'i's **highest priority watersheds** by 2030

Effectively **managing 30%**
of **nearshore ocean waters** by 2030

Doubling
Hawai'i's **food production**
by 2020

Making 100%
of Hawai'i's **electricity** from
renewable energy by the year 2045

Joining the
Global Island Partnership
to develop and scale locally and culturally appropriate models for sustainability

Creating the first-ever
Hawai'i Interagency
Biosecurity Plan
to prevent, detect and control invasive species

*"We are one canoe,
one island, one planet.
We cannot afford
to mess this up."*

Governor David Ige
State of Hawai'i



A Green Congress

IUCN followed through on ambitious goals for making the Congress as sustainable an event as possible. The goal was to walk the talk for conservation, set an example for other events of its size and leave a lasting legacy of sustainability in Hawai'i.

The Congress earned ISO20121 sustainable event certification and was the largest conference ever to earn the highest level of Hawai'i Green Business certification.

100% of
carbon emissions
onsite and from IUCN-
paid travel mitigated

0% of
food service containers
and utensils made from
single-use plastic

50% of waste
recycled or composted

62% of all food
(and 90% of vegetarian options)
sourced locally

100%
recyclable
exhibitions, and
pavilions reused by
local schools or composted
by local farms

72% of
official Congress hotels
certified by the **Hawai'i Green**
Business Program



*"We want the initiatives we
are putting in place to set
a new standard for event
sustainability and to continue to
generate economic, social and
environmental benefits for Hawai'i
well beyond the Congress."*

Enrique Lahmann
Director, IUCN World Conservation Congress



"Our planet is at a crossroads, but if we work together, I believe this could be our finest hour."

Brooke Runnette
Executive Vice President,
National Geographic Society



"The health of the global commons – our oceans, forests, land – is essential for our future prosperity."

Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson,
Global Environment Facility

"Together, through conservation and nature-based solutions, we can harness the natural ability of the planet and use it to bring a brighter, more sustainable future for every species on Earth, including our own."

Patricia Espinosa
Executive Secretary, United Nations
Framework Convention on Climate Change



"The United States is proud to host the IUCN Congress for the first time."

President Barack Obama



"There is increasing interest of investors in investments in nature that generate returns for both the environment and the economy."

Fabian Huwyler
Vice President, Global Sustainability Group,
Credit Suisse



"These figures that I've just been describing to you would not be easily at anybody's fingertips if it were not for IUCN."

Edward O. Wilson
Professor Emeritus, Harvard University



"Congress has given me opportunities to build collaborations but also to bridge the trust gap for both conservation and the private sector."

Tom Butler
President and CEO, International Council
on Mining and Metals (ICMM), UK

"Nature is survival. Nature is our food. It is our medicine, our doctor. Nature is also our economy. So when we protect nature, we have the future."

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim
Coordinator, Association for Indigenous
Women and Peoples of Chad (AIPAT)



The world was watching

21,000+
global news articles

39 press
conferences

388 registered
journalists
on site

13,000 people
used the #IUCNcongress
hashtag over **27,000 times**
during Congress, dramatically
expanding that reach

75 million
people potentially reached by
IUCN social media
during Congress

3 million views
and **100,000**
likes and shares
of the National Geographic Society
Planet at the Crossroads video
series on National Geographic and
IUCN Facebook channels



"We make a mighty noise because we are that big tent of scientists, of NGOs, of activists, of indigenous people, of youth, of government, of policy makers, of media people and of private sector businesses that have stepped forward."

Inger Andersen
Director General, IUCN

The Congress generated unprecedented media coverage and social media buzz. With more than 21,000 news articles in multiple languages and tens of millions of people reached through social media, the Congress brought the messages of conservation action to new audiences around the world.



As IUCN's creative content partner for the Congress, National Geographic Society had a strong presence at the event to showcase its research and exploration work and used its unparalleled storytelling abilities to motivate a wide audience to take bold steps in conservation.

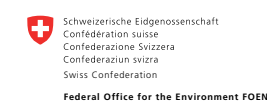
Become an IUCN Congress partner

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



Please contact congress@iucn.org to enquire about how your organisation can benefit from becoming an IUCN Congress partner.

2016 Sponsors and partners





About IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union composed of government, civil society and indigenous peoples organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

IUCN harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its 1,300+ Member organisations and the input of some 16,000 experts. It is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

About the IUCN World Conservation Congress

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is the world's largest and most inclusive environmental decision-making forum. IUCN convenes the Congress every four years, and since 1996, it has had both Members' Assembly and Forum components. The Members' Assembly is IUCN's highest decision-making body and a unique global environmental parliament where IUCN Members debate, establish and guide environmental policy. The Forum is a hub of public debate with a variety of sessions and events which allow the global community to share ideas and inform the decisions taken by IUCN Members. IUCN Congresses draw thousands of participants and focus the world's attention on conservation and sustainable development efforts both in the host country and around the globe.


www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org



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Questions? congress@iucn.org

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*"We know that our planet is at the crossroads,
that it is our generation that needs to make
a change. And we know that we can do it."*

Inger Andersen
Director General, IUCN