



→ Pre-forum Event Abstracts

The Pre-Forum events ahead of the African Conservation Forum are planned as independent workshops, intended to provide inputs into the discourse at the ACF. They are independently organised by various teams of IUCN staff, members, commissions and councillors and will deliberate on specific topics relevant to the ACF, pulling together key messages and insights that would inform the panels discussions on the first day of the Forum.

How do I register? Please get directly in touch with the organisers for the event(s) that you are interested in joining and discuss your participation with them. Events vary in length – from half day to 2 days – and participants are expected to self-fund their attendance (including any additional accommodation that may be needed). The cost for the Pre-Forum is not included in the sponsorship that IUCN is providing to members for the ACF and the Pre-Forum events are purely voluntary.

Space is limited and we suggest you contact the organisers sooner rather than later, to assess participation options. Please use the emails provided per event to get in touch and note the timings for the events. As these are workshops with a specific agenda and flow, we anticipate participants to attend the full length of the event. If you select a half day event, you may be able to attend 2 events, otherwise, it would be only one.

Event Name, Contact	Abstract/Expected Outcomes	Time
<p>1. AFRICA OCEAN FORUM</p> <p>Room: Almasi</p> <p>Contact: africaoceanforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>The African continent is home to over 30,000km of coastline, with areas of significant biological diversity and productivity, that not only contribute to global climate regulation, food systems and trade, but support the livelihoods of millions. In recognising these roles, the Africa Ocean Forum provides a space to consolidate African priorities for accelerated ocean conservation and marine biodiversity outcomes, which will feed into the Africa Conservation Forum, with a clear link to the 3rd UN Ocean Conference and beyond.</p> <p>The event brings forth the perspective of coastal states as well as African SIDS as large ocean states. It provides a continuation of the Moroni Process; it equally provides space for technical inputs for evidence-based consultations on the biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty, the regenerative blue economy framework development and other international processes.</p> <p>Expected outcomes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deep dives into unlocking a regenerative blue economy and effective ocean conservation in Africa; 2. Discussions on strengthened coherence across, and expansion of the Great Blue Wall Initiative across Africa and the global south; 3. Enhanced partnerships around ocean governance, conservation and ocean innovation; 4. Discussion of African priorities on the BBNJ treaty. 5. Increased visibility of Africa's marine Indigenous People and Local Community (IPLCs) in ocean leadership; <p>Consultations and dialogues on key international ocean processes, harnessing African priorities towards the 3rd UN Ocean Conference</p>	<p>2 days (Monday and Tuesday)</p>



Event Name, Contact	Abstract/Expected Outcomes	Time
<p>2. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES FORUM</p> <p>Room: Pride Contact: IPLCpreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>To build the momentum in profiling and raising the visibility of AICA across the continent and globally, and to contribute to the success of the IUCN Africa Regional Conservation Forum (ARCF) to be held in Nairobi from 24th to 28th June 2024, AICA has warmly received the invitation to send 50 delegates to the ARCF and also to organise a pre-event in preparation for the main ARCF events.</p> <p>Expected outcomes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased Membership and Support Base for AICA 2. Effective Participation in the ACF by AICA Members and IPLC 3. Strengthened Relationships between IPLC and donors, governments, and other IUCN Members 4. Enhanced Visibility for the work of AICA to solicit support and collaboration in the future. 5. Advocacy for IP&LCs Rights and Interests, potentially influencing policies and practices in the IUCN programme that affect them. 6. Feedback and Learning from these different stakeholders, which can inform AICA strategies and actions moving forward. 	<p>2 days (Monday and Tuesday)</p>
<p>3. IUCN YOUTH CONSERVATION FORUM FOR AFRICA (YCOFA)</p> <p>Theme: Amplifying Youth Voices and Solutions Towards Creating Transformative Responses to the Biodiversity and Climate Crisis in Africa</p> <p>Room: Eagles Contact: youthpreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>Africa is currently dealing with the unprecedented and disproportionate impacts of the three planetary emergencies - biodiversity loss, climate change, and pollution. Without being addressed adequately, this trend will continue to have serious consequences on Africa's development progress and the continent's ability to grow sustainably. African youth are key actors in the implementation of these two goals, and are critical to making transformative change on the ground.</p> <p>Although African youth make up more than half of Africa's population, youth's existential marginalization from most policy-making and governance structures remains. Youth must be recognised as effective agents of change in democratic systems and the environmental policy making processes. There is an urgent need for efficient and transformative frameworks that prioritize youth empowerment and meaningful participation in leadership and decision-making processes at the local, national, and global levels. These are critical components to ensuring inclusive, representative, and sustainable democratic societies. YCOFA is aimed at equipping young people in Africa with the necessary insights, knowledge, skills, and confidence to actively participate in the implementation of youth-led actions that address these challenges, while engaging IUCN Forum on potential avenues for collaboration and meaningful engagement.</p>	<p>2 days (Monday and Tuesday)</p>
<p>4. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, ECOSYSTEMS RESTORATION, AND NBS NEXUS IN AFRICA</p> <p>Room: Siana Contact: agriculturepreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>This pre-forum workshop will host presentations and discussions on how a sustainable agriculture context can be adopted at national, regional and Continental perspectives. It will present a platform for discussion on progress made in ecosystems restoration in Africa and opportunities for scaling up with special focus on Nature Based Solution. Recommendations are expected to feed into the agenda of the Africa Conservation Forum co-hosted by IUCN and the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, in collaboration with the National Committee of IUCN Members in Kenya which will seek to amplify African Voices and find solutions that will support the global sustainability agenda.</p>	<p>1 day (Tuesday)</p>



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<p>5. SUSTAINABLE FINANCE MECHANISMS FOR CONSERVATION</p> <p>Room: Loita</p> <p>Contact: Financepreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>This Pre-forum event will showcase and explain potential financing solutions for conservation, including leveraging climate and environment funds as well as private investments, using examples from the region to delve into details of how to implement these in various contexts. Practical hands-on break-out sessions (clinics) on individual solutions will allow participants to explore opportunities directly relevant in their own context.</p> <p>Expected outcomes of the event include roadmaps for implementation of various solutions in new contexts, new partnerships for implementation of sustainable finance solutions and inputs on how Africa can expand on and generate sustainable financing.</p>	<p>1 day (Tuesday)</p>
<p>6. LEVERAGING THE WILDLIFE ECONOMY</p> <p>Room: Talek</p> <p>Contact: wildlifeconomypreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>The wildlife economy provides an opportunity to sustainably align conservation and development in Africa. It is, however, largely not well understood and the opportunities related to it have not been unlocked. This session will be divided into two parts. The first part will provide a detailed overview/Masterclass of the wildlife economy in Africa - what is it, its conceptual foundations in property rights, markets, bottom up governance and adaptive management, why is it important, and how do we unlock the opportunities and address the challenges. The second part will be an interactive technical session to develop an action plan/framework for the wildlife economy in the region, and to develop a Theory of Change for the wildlife economy in Africa, including as an inputs to IUCN's process of developing a theory of change for Nature and 30x30. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of the wildlife economy, how to leverage it within their areas of influence to create sustainable economies in and around conservation areas, and an action plan for doing this. The target audience is IPLCs, local and national governments, the private sectors, and NGOs working in area-based conservation and community landscapes</p>	<p>1 day (Tuesday)</p>
<p>7. A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS FOR AFRICA</p> <p>Room : Kifaru (morning)</p> <p>Contact: energypreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>Event will provide practical solutions through which energy access, use and development will be undertaken for Africa now and in the future. This has strong links to reducing carbon footprint, tackling climate change, use of clean energy and mobilising financing for energy in Africa (This technical event will also feed into a high-level event in the Forum)</p>	<p>½ day (Tuesday morning)</p>
<p>8. WOMEN'S TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND CONFLICT PREVENTION IN A FRAGILE ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Room: Pride (morning)</p> <p>Contact: wtlcpreforum@iucn.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to natural resources is guaranteed to fragile communities in complete safety; • Improved resilience to the effects of climate change for women and their communities; • Resilient ecosystems driven by increased leadership from women in the PACO area; 	<p>½ day (Tuesday morning)</p>



Event Name, Contact	Abstract/Expected Outcomes	Time
<p>9. OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES (OECMS) WORKING GROUP IN AFRICA</p> <p>Room: Kifaru (afternoon)</p> <p>Contact: oeCMPreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>PACO (IUCN West and Central Africa), ESARO (IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) will introduce the OECM (Other Effective Area-based Conservation Mechanisms) Working Group for Africa, and invite members to join the group. WCPA will introduce the OECM framework and Case study OECMs will be presented from around Africa.</p>	<p>½ day (Tuesday afternoon)</p>
<p>10. IDENTIFYING SPECIES CONSERVATION PRIORITIES IN AFRICA: IMPROVING IUCN'S RESPONSE TO THE SPECIES EXTINCTION CRISIS</p> <p>Room: Kiboko</p> <p>Contact: scppreforum@iucn.org</p>	<p>While there is a recognition of the importance of addressing the emerging global environmental and development challenges, we should remain committed to strengthening the fundamentals of nature, that remain core to their effective functioning. Unfortunately, we are experiencing a general de-prioritization of species recovery – it is not a ‘hot topic’ and consequently, the funding landscape for species conservation remains challenging. There is a strong need to translate species recovery outcomes into the broader sustainable development agenda.</p> <p>This half day workshop through speaker presentations and discussions, aims to provide an opportunity for IUCN members to discuss improvements in the linkages between species recovery efforts and the broader conservation agenda in Africa with the goal of informing IUCN's continued response to the species extinction crisis.</p> <p>Expected outcomes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess IUCN member's needs related to species conservation by discussing how species assessments can inform transformational changes in an ever-evolving conservation landscape, the role of species planning towards responding to emerging conservation challenges and national prioritisation, and conservation action impact and sustainability – is it fit for purpose? 2. Identify opportunities for enhancing species conservation action in Africa through Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), the Global Biodiversity Forum, climate change mitigation and adaptation and multi-lateral funding. 3. Present recommendations for further discussion at the forum. 	<p>½ day (Tuesday morning)</p>

