

RCF ASIA

Reimagining Conservation in Asia: A Nature Positive Future

8th IUCN Asia Regional Conservation Forum

Delegates' Handbook

About the theme

Reimagining Conservation in Asia: A Nature-Positive Future

As our world continues to grapple with the triple planetary crisis – climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution – IUCN faces a critical moment to shape its strategic agenda and direction for the next decades. In gearing up for the next World Conservation Congress in 2025, this year IUCN in Asia steps back from business as usual to reflect on our achievements and contributions toward a world that values and conserves nature. We ask ourselves: ***What changes are necessary for maintaining relevance and influence in a landscape that is completely different from the one when IUCN was established more than 75 years ago?***

The 8th IUCN Asia Regional Conservation Forum presents a timely and critical opportunity to come together as a Union in reimagining conservation, where we must encourage ourselves to take stock and transform, to reconceptualise and recalibrate, and to think outside and anew. The Forum will provide an open, interactive and neutral space for us to critically reflect on our past and future in conserving the region's biodiversity for sustainable development. This encompasses a 'reimagining' of IUCN's mission and roles, tools, frameworks, and approaches, as well as partnerships and resources.

Thankfully, through the power of the Union, it has been and will continue to be a shared journey by Members, Commissions and the Secretariat along with our partners and supporters from both public and private sectors. Since its post-war beginnings, IUCN's mandate has evolved and expanded from nature protection to conservation, to sustainable use of natural resources and now to broader societal challenges. In Asia, we have seen how nature conservation has underpinned the region-wide agenda and action – from mitigating negative impact through the 3Rs (reuse, reduce, recycle), to embracing net zero and neutrality targets, and now to pursuing biodiversity net gain and nature positive.

And while IUCN was born as the first global environmental Union in 1948, the world's conservation community has rapidly grown ever since, becoming more dynamic and complex. We welcome this growth of the environmental community. Yet there is still much to be done by IUCN as the global authority on the status of the natural world and the necessary measures to safeguard it. Among the challenges is better aligning its work to the new global goals and targets – for biodiversity, climate and the environment – and in better enabling countries in Asia to meet these commitments in the next decades.

Most importantly, IUCN recognises that it cannot tackle these challenges alone. That is why the 8th IUCN Asia RCF seeks to be genuinely inclusive, by providing an open forum for our Members, Commissions, youths, women, indigenous peoples and local communities, international and regional organisations, academia, the private sector, among others.

We look forward to welcoming you all to this year's home of the Union in the region. Let's start reimagining.





Let's imagine our evolving relationship with nature in the next twenty years. From the Mekong River to Coral Triangle and Himalayas, what nature-positive vision should IUCN build to foster a more resilient, sustainable and prosperous Asia? In the shorter term, let's consider the outcomes for conservation and development by the end of this decade. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, what regional agenda and strategy should IUCN craft to keep us on track to achieve the 2030 targets?

Through the power of the Union, IUCN has made significant strides in conserving nature and biodiversity over the past 76 years. Yet the endless news of vanishing species, rising sea levels, and melting glaciers serves as a stark reminder: we have simply not yet done enough. The 8th IUCN Asia Regional Conservation Forum is convened at this critical juncture. Now, more than ever, we are called to 'Reimagine Conservation'—not just for ourselves, but for the generations who will inherit Asia by mid-century.

A Forum to reimagine conservation requires reimagining the event itself. Therefore, the 2024 iteration offers many "firsts" in the history of Asia RCFs. Engage in the plenary session's combined agenda for IUCN 20-Year Vision and Four-Year Programme, listen to the next-gen voices in the Youth Leaders Forum, pick up new skills at the Learning Zone, and renew ties with the most diverse RCF participants ever, both within and beyond the Union.

We are honoured to hold this Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, a city that has been the heart of IUCN's region-wide efforts for over 20 years. We extend sincere gratitude to the National Committee of IUCN Members in Thailand for co-organising, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Government of Thailand for co-hosting, and Toyota Motor Asia (Thailand) Co. Ltd. for being our Forum Partner.

Welcome to RCF reimagined!

Dindo Campilan

Regional Director for Asia and Hub Director for Oceania





Looking back, the year 2023 was special because we had the chance to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Union across the globe, including in Asia. While the occasion allowed us to reminisce about all that we've accomplished, we cannot help but turn our heads to see the challenges and opportunities ahead.

As we reach the mid-point of attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and embark on a new journey to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as making joint efforts in mitigating climate change, we must be cognizant that time is now against us. As the Chair of the Asia Regional Members Committee, which represents the membership in the region, I can assure you that the Members stand ready to engage with new partners to expedite our conservation work, in addition to all the valuable efforts they've already made, in line with the work programme Nature 2030 and associated policy documents.

Engaging IUCN Members with the Union's One Programme Charter to achieve a nature-positive future in Asia and beyond is both a challenging and urgent task. I am looking forward to this exciting gathering and to influencing positive outcomes for nature and people.

Prof Ma Keping

Chair of the IUCN Asia Regional Members Committee and Councillor

Tuesday, 3 September

DAY 1

Time	Session	
8:00-8:50	Registration	
8:50-9:00	Security and protocol briefing	
	BALLROOM	
9:00-10:15	I. Inaugural Session	
	BALLROOM	
10:15-11:30	Networking Break Inauguration of Exhibition and launch of Learning Zone	
11:30-12:45	II-a. Reimagining Conservation in Asia	
	BALLROOM	
12:45-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-16:40	II-b. IUCN 20-year Strategic Vision for the Union and Programme 2026-29	
	BALLROOM	
16:40-17:00	Networking Break	
17:00-18:00	Youth Leaders Forum (Part I)	
	BALLROOM	
18:00-19:00	Youth Leaders Forum (Part II, -18:30)	Learning Zone
	RIVERSIDE I AND II	POMPADOUR, VANDA
19:00-21:00	Welcome Dinner / Reception	
	BALLROOM	

Wednesday, 4 September

DAY 2

Time	Session	
9:00-10:15	III-a. Nature 2030 Programme Areas: progress towards impact targets and continuing strategic relevance Parallel session 1: Water and Wetlands BALLROOM 1 Parallel session 3: Species Actions BALLROOM 3	III-b. Emerging Programme Priorities in Asia for 2026-29 Parallel session 2: Financing Conservation BALLROOM 2 Parallel session 4: Reimagining Asian Cities RIVERSIDE VI AND VII
10:15-10:45	Networking Break	
10:45-12:00	Parallel session 5: Healthy Lands BALLROOM 1 Parallel session 7: Healthy Ocean BALLROOM 3	Parallel session 6: NbS for Climate Action BALLROOM 2 Parallel session 8: Transforming Agri-food Systems RIVERSIDE VI AND VII
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:15-15:00	IV-a. Members Session BALLROOM	
15:00-15:30	Networking Break	
15:30-16:45	IV-b. IUCN Commissions in Action BALLROOM	

Time	Session		
16:45-18:00	Side events Part I		
	SEE SEPARATE FULL AGENDA		Learning Zone
18:15-19:30	Side Events Part II		POMPADOUR , VANDA
	SEE SEPARATE FULL AGENDA		
19:30-20:30	Dinner - Celebrating nature and the Union in Asia		
	BALLROOM		

Thursday, 5 September

DAY 3

Time	Session		
9:00-10:30	IV-c. Members Session		
	BALLROOM		
10:30-11:15	IV-d. Road to Abu Dhabi		
	BALLROOM		
11:15-11:45	Networking Break		
11:45-13:00	Side events Part III	Youth Leaders Forum (Part III)	Learning Zone
	SEE SEPARATE FULL AGENDA	RIVERSIDE I AND II	POMPADOUR, VANDA
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-15:30	Closing Session		
	BALLROOM		

RCF key partners and sponsors



TOYOTA



Organisers and sponsors (Side events, Youth Leaders Forum and other activities)

- Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
- Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation
- Asia Protected Areas Partnership
- Asia Regional Members Committee
- CEESP-CEM Natural Capital Task Force
- Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry
- Coorg Wildlife Society
- Coral Triangle Center
- Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Environmental Systems Research Institute
- EarthRanger
- Foundation for Ecological Security
- Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme
- International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity
- IUCN Commission on Education and Communication
- IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas
- Korea National Park Service
- Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
- Landscape Partnership Asia
- Ministry of the Environment of Japan
- Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries, Republic of Korea
- National Committee of IUCN Members in Japan
- National Committee of IUCN Members in the Republic of Korea
- National Committee of IUCN Members in Nepal
- Nature Conservation Society of Japan
- NbS Asian Hub
- Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- WildTeam Bangladesh
- Wildlife Conservation Society Indonesia
- WWF Coral Triangle Programme

**RCF
ASIA**

Participating organisations

IUCN Statutory Countries in South and East Asia

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association
Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad
Biozid Climate Institute
Bolipara Nari Kalyan Somity
BRAC
Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
Center for Natural Resource Studies
Coastal Area Resource Development and Management Association
Community Development Centre
Department of Fisheries
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Environment and Social Development Organization
Forest Department
FRIENDSHIP
Gram Unnayan Sangathan
Innovative and Coordinated Social Advancement
Jiban Bikash Karjocrom
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Nature Conservation Management
Social Economic Development Society
University of Chittagong
Unnayan Onneshan
US Forest Service, International Programs
WildTeam Bangladesh

Bhutan

Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources
Royal Society for Protection of Nature

Cambodia

Action For Development
Culture and Environment Preservation Association
Ministry of Environment
Mlup Baitong

China

ADM Capital Foundation
All-China Environment Federation
Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation
Beijing Forestry Society
Beijing Greenovation Institute for Public Welfare Development
Beijing Sunny Green Environmental Protection Foundation
Beijing Xicheng District Evergreen Center For Sustainable Development
Biodiversity Committee, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Chengdu Bird Watching Society
China Association for NGO Cooperation
China Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine
China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation
China Environmental Protection Foundation
China Green Carbon Foundation
China Green Foundation
China Mangrove Conservation Network
China Wild Plant Conservation Association
China Wildlife Conservation Association
Chinese Society of Forestry
Cloud Mountain Conservation
Eco Foundation Global
Friends of Nature
Green Hunan
Green Pine Care Foundation
Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association
Guangzhou Green City Environmental and Cultural Development Center
Hainan Institute of National Park
Hainan Tianxiang Magnolia Plant Conservation Research Center
Hong Kong Bird Watching Society
Information and Technology Service Center for Dynamic Monitoring on Modern TCM Resources
JD.com Group
Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden
Land Consolidation & Rehabilitation Center, MNR
Ministry of Natural Resources
Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences, MEE
National Marine Data and Information Service
Northwest A&F University
OIC
Qingdao Marine Conservation Society
Shan Shui Conservation Center
Shanghai Daorong Conservation and Sustainable Development Center
Shenzhen Dapeng Coral Conservation Volunteer Federation
Society of Entrepreneurs & Ecology
The Jane Goodall Institute China
WWF-China
WWF-Hong Kong
Xizijiang Conservation Center
Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation

India

Aaranyak
All India Disaster Mitigation Institute
Applied Environmental Research Foundation
Balipara Tract and Frontier Foundation
Botanical Survey of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Centre for Environment Communication
Centre for Media Studies
Centre for Wildlife Studies
Coorg Wildlife Society
Department of Fisheries, Kerala
Development Alternatives
Environmental Resources Foundation
Foundation for Ecological Security
Government of West Bengal, Department of Forests
Green Future Foundation
Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation
Gujarat Ecology Society
Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology

ICLEI South Asia
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
India Water Foundation
IORA Ecological Trust
Isha Outreach
Kerala Forest Research Institute
Keystone Foundation
Law Linkers and Company
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
MKCL Knowledge Foundation
National Committee of IUCN Members in India
Nature Environment and Wildlife Society
Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests
North-East Affected Area Development Society
OMCAR Foundation
The Corbett Foundation
Trust Legal
Urban Biodiversity Hub
Vinayaka Mission's Law School, Vinayaka Missions Research Foundation (Deemed University)
Wildlife Conservation Trust
Wildlife Institute of India
Wildlife Protection Society of India
Wildlife Trust of India
WWF-India
YOUNGO
Zoo Outreach Organisation Trust
Zoological Survey of India

Indonesia

Center for International Forestry Research
Coral Triangle Center
Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security Regional Secretariat
Directorate General of Natural Resources and Ecosystem Conservation
Embassy of Indonesia in Thailand
Grow Asia
Institut Pertanian Bogor
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
National Geographic Society
Rekam Nusantara Foundation
Tanah Air Beta
The Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation
The Samdhana Institute Incorporated
Vale Indonesia
Wildlife Conservation Society
WWF-Indonesia

Japan

Akita International University
Change Our Next Decade
Embassy of Japan in Thailand
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Ministry of the Environment of Japan
NACS-J
National Committee of IUCN Members in Japan
Nature Conservation Society of Japan
Seibutsu Tayosei Japan (Biodiversity Network Japan)
UMITO Partners
University of Tsukuba

Lao PDR

Department of Forestry
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Malaysia

Asia for Animals Coalition
Department of Wildlife and National Parks - Peninsular Malaysia
Embassy of Malaysia in Thailand
Marine Research Foundation
Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd
The Sabah Parks Board of Trustees
University of Malaysia, Sarawak
WWF-Malaysia
Addu Nature Park
Baa Atoll Biosphere Reserve
Fuvahmulah City Council (Fuvahmulah Nature Park)

Maldives

Maldives Environmental Protection Agency
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology

Mongolia

Hustai National Park Trust

Myanmar

Biodiversity And Nature Conservation Association
Forest Resources Environment Development and Conservation Association
Friends of Wildlife
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Nature Conservation Society-Myanmar

Nepal

Bagmati UNESCO Club
Batabaraniya Susan Karya Samuha Nepal
Bird Conservation Nepal//Nepal Panchhi Samrakchyan Sangh
Bright Nepal
Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
Digo Bikash Aviyan Kendra, Nepal
Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness
Greenhood Nepal
Himalayan Nature
Hoste Hainse
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
Kalpavaatika Society Nepal
Leadership and Sustainable Development Goals Nepal
National Trust for Nature Conservation

Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists
Prakritikaa saathiharu
Relief Fund for Wildlife Victims
SAVE THE PLANET Mission2020 NEPAL
Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation
Tribhuvan University
Watawaranka Lagi Yuwa Sanjal
Wildlife Conservation Nepal
Women for Conservation, Nepal
Women in Environment/Mahila Batabaran Samooaha

Pakistan

Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
AWAZ Foundation Pakistan: Center for Development Services
Azat Foundation
Baanhn Beli
Balochistan Rural Support Programme
College Education Department, Government of Sindh
Embassy of Pakistan in Thailand
Forest Wildlife & Environment Department, Government of Gilgit Baltistan
Health and Nutrition Development Society
Human Resource Development Network
Khwendo Kor
Lok Sanjh Foundation
Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro
Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan
New World Hope Organization
Research and Development Foundation
Rural Aid Pakistan
SACAN Foundation
Shehri: Citizens for a Better Environment
Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam
Sindh Higher Education Commission
Snow Leopard Foundation
South Asia Partnership - Pakistan
Strengthening Participatory Organization
Sungi Development Foundation
Taaleem Foundation
Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources
University of Sindh, Jamshoro
Water, Environment and Sanitation Society
World Pheasant Association
WWF-Pakistan

Philippines

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Asian Development Bank
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Forest Foundation Philippines
Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources
Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc.
Municipality of Paranas, Samar
Non-Timber Forest Products - Exchange Programme Asia
Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture

Republic of Korea

Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
DaeJayon
ECONOW
Hanns Seidel Foundation
Korea Association of Waste to Energy Technology
National Committee of IUCN Members in the Republic of Korea
Korea National Park Service
Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea
National Institute of Ecology
National Nature Trust
STGD
World Heritage Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flats

Singapore

Asian Species Action Partnership
Conservation International
Mandai Nature Fund Ltd
National Parks Board
Nature Society (Singapore)
National University of Singapore (NUS), Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions
Rainforest Trust

Sri Lanka

CuteFela
Department of National Zoological Gardens
Department of Wildlife Conservation

Thailand

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
Asian Elephant Foundation of Thailand
BeDataDriven
Blue Renaissance
Department of Climate Change and Environment
Department of Marine and Coastal Resources
Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
Department of Water Resources
EGCO Group
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Forest House Sdn Bhd
Foundation of Environmental Education for Sustainable Development
Freeland Foundation
Global Youth Biodiversity Network
International College for Sustainability Studies, Srinakharinwirot University
International Network of Engaged Buddhists
King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi
Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage
Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation
NatureMind-ED
Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning
Regional Community Forestry Training Center
Royal Forest Department
TCP Group
Thai Conservation of Forest Foundation
Thai Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Thai Youth Conservation of Forest Network
Thailand Environment Institute
The Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia
Toyota Motor Asia (Thailand)
Toyota Motor Thailand
Trip.com Group
United Nations Economic and Social for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Environment Programme
Urban Design and Development Center
USAID End Wildlife Crime
WildAid
World Organisation for Animal Health Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia
WWF-Thailand

Viet Nam

Center for Environment and Community Research
Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environment Studies
Centre for Marinelifelife Conservation and Community Development
Centre for Supporting Green Development
Centre for Sustainable Rural Development
Centre of Live and Learn for Environment and Community
Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Department of Water Resources Management, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Greenviet Biodiversity Conservation Centre
Indo-Myanmar Conservation
Institute of Constructions and Urban Economics
Save Vietnam's Wildlife
TRAFFIC International
Viên Kinh tế sinh thái
Vietnam Psychotherapy Association

Other Countries / Regions

Australia

Fish Matter
New South Wales Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
University of Queensland

European Union

Delegation of the European Union in Thailand

France

The French Embassy in Thailand

Germany

Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau

Iran

Arak University of Medical Sciences

Luxembourg

Embassy of Luxembourg in Thailand

Morocco

Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc

Nigeria

Trip 2 Country Travels and Tour Ltd

Sweden

Embassy of Sweden in Thailand

United Arab Emirates

Environment Agency Abu Dhabi
Panthera

United Kingdom

Maldives Biodiversity Youth Network

United States of America

Embassy of the United States of America in Thailand
Environmental Systems Research Institute
Goldman Environmental Prize
Morton Arboretum
US Department of the Interior (National Park Service)

List as of 25 August. Country based on location of participant or organisation.



Floor map



1st Floor

- 1 Panisea 1
- 2 Panisea 2
- 3 Panisea 3
- 4 Panisea Lounge
- 5 Business Centre 1
- 6 Business Centre 2

Chao Phraya River



2nd Floor

- B1 Ballroom 1
- B2 Ballroom 2
- B3 Ballroom 3

- A1 Cattleya
- A2 Ayaret
- A3 Pompadour
- A4 Vanda
- A5 Calanthe

- R1 Riverside 1
- R2 Riverside 2
- R3 Riverside 3
- R4 Riverside 4
- R5 Riverside 5
- R6 Riverside 6
- R7 Riverside 7

Scan to join

RCF Agenda summary



Technical sessions



Side events and poster exhibitions



Learning Zone activities



RCF Asia 2024 Advisory Committee

Dr Dindo Campilan, IUCN Asia Regional Office

Prof Ma Keping, IUCN Asia Regional Members Committee

Mr Sean Southey, IUCN Commission on Education and Communication

Mr Iain Stewart, IUCN Global Membership & Commission Support and Communications

Ms Kristen Walker Painemilla, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

Dr Tejpal Singh, IUCN Asia Regional Office

Mr Raj Kumar, IUCN Asia Regional Office

