



WCEL

WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
COMMISSION MONDIALE DE DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
COMISION MUNDIAL DE DERECHO AMBIENTAL

IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) (Abu Dhabi, 9 – 15 October 2025)

List of IUCN WCEL events and events with WCEL participation.

(Please check the [Official IUCN Congress Program](#) for more events or changes)

Thursday 9th Oct:

17:00 – 17:45

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

“Earth Jurisprudence and the Rights of Nature: Transformative Solutions for Communities and Courts”

16:30 – 18:00

Governance of the Ocean: Understanding the High Seas Treaty with an IUCN Explanatory Guide

(IUCN Programme 2026-2029 Pavilion - R1)

Friday 10th Oct:

11:00 – 12:30

Thematic Session: **“The Model Forest Act Initiative: Modernising Law to Address the Global Forest Crisis”** (CR B: Forum - Session Room 9 , Hybrid)

13:00 – 13:45 (PROPOSED NEW TIME)

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

“The Rule of Law and Courts in Nature Protection”

14:00 – 15:30

Forum - Thematic Session: **“Conserving Nature Through Law: A Dialogue Among Judges and the Conservation Community”** (Hall 4A: Forum - Session Room 1 , Hybrid)

14:00 – 16:00

Forum - Learning Zone: Deep dive: "[Governance of the Ocean: Understanding the High Seas Treaty \(BBNJ\)](#)" (CR B: Forum - Session Room 9 , Onsite)

15:00 – 15:45

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

"From local to global action: Youth Leadership Across IUCN Commissions"

Saturday 11th Oct:

11:00 – 12:30

Thematic Session: "[IUCN and International Courts: Climate Change Advisory Opinions \(ICJ, ITLOS and IACtHR\)](#)" (Hall 4A: Forum - Session Room 1 , Hybrid)

11:00 – 12:30

Thematic Session: "[CAE and Nature Crime: A Cross-Sectoral Challenge for Conservation and the Future of IUCN's Mandate](#)" (CR A-A: Forum - Session Room 7 , Hybrid)

12:45 – 13:45

WCEL LUNCH (Location: TBC)

[Important: If you would like to attend this lunch, please let us know by sending an email to wcel@iucn.org no later than Tuesday 30th September]

14:00 – 14:45

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

"[Caring for the Earth's freshwater: a Manifesto for the freshwater rule of law](#)"

14:00 – 15:30

Forum - Thematic Session: "[Dams in a social-ecological ecosystem approach to freshwater conservation](#)" (CR A-D: Forum - Session Room 6 , Hybrid)

Sunday 12th Oct:

09:30 – 10:00

Speaker Pitch: Conservation Showcase: "[A set of tools, policy/legal guidance, analysis, and knowledge materials to support Plastics Treaty negotiations](#)"

14:00 – 15:00

Exhibition event: “[Strengthening governance under UNFCCC Article 6 - effective, equitable, and successful nature-based carbon projects](#)” (IUCN Programme 2026-2029 Pavilion - R1)

18:00 – 18:45

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):
“The Rule of Law and Courts in Nature Protection”

19:00 – 21:00

All Commissions Awards (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**)

Monday 13th Oct:

(Time TBD)

“From standard to practice: international standards on environmental and climate justice”
(Americas Pavilion)

13:00 – 13:45

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

“[Scaling conflict-sensitive conservation to benefit nature, people and peace: Understanding the challenges](#)”

16:00 – 17:00

Exhibitor Event (at **IUCN Commissions Knowledge Hub**):

“[Environmental Defenders](#)”