



Input into 2013-2016 IUCN draft Program Review Process

*Report on Cross-Commission Survey
Highlighting Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership*



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**Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**

October 2011

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

IUCN, the world's oldest and largest global environmental network, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environmental and development challenges. It supports scientific research, manages field projects all over the world and brings governments, non-government organizations, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice. www.iucn.org

IUCN Commissions

The six IUCN Commissions are global professional networks consisting of some 10,000 volunteers. Commissions research the state of the world's natural resources, provide policy advice on the intersection of environmental and social systems, and engage in advocacy and action. www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/

Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability

Inspired by IUCN Resolution 4.098 on Intergenerational Partnership, members of young professionals groups across Commissions formed the Task Force in September 2011 to promote youth engagement and intergenerational partnership in service of the IUCN's vision of a just world that values and conserves biodiversity. www.intergenerationalpartnership.wikispace.com

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Cover Photo

Bruno Monteferri, "Gaviotas," Playa Grande, Peru, April 2008.

Report Design

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	5
Executive Summary:Recommendations for IUCN Core and Thematic Program Areas .	6
<i>Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Sharing Nature's Benefits Fairly and Equitably</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Nature-based Solutions to Climate Change.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Managing Ecosystems to Improve Food Security Valuing.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Greening the Economy</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Youth and Intergenerational Partnership as Cross-cutting Themes</i>	<i>8</i>
Part 1: An Intergenerational and Cross-Commission Approach	9
1.1 <i>Survey Background.....</i>	<i>9</i>
1.2 <i>Survey Methodology and Participants.....</i>	<i>9</i>
Part 2: Responses to draft IUCN Program, 2013-2016	12
2.1 <i>Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity</i>	<i>12</i>
2.2 <i>Sharing nature's benefits fairly and equitably.....</i>	<i>13</i>
2.3 <i>Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change.....</i>	<i>14</i>
2.4 <i>Managing Ecosystems to Improve Food Security Valuing</i>	<i>16</i>
2.5. <i>Greening the Economy</i>	<i>17</i>
Part 3: Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership in Pursuing IUCN's Vision.....	19
3.1 <i>Obstacles and Solutions for Young Peoples' Engagement in the IUCN.....</i>	<i>19</i>
3.2 <i>Opportunities for Young Peoples' Engagement in the IUCN.....</i>	<i>20</i>
Conclusion	22
Annex: List of Survey Participants.....	23

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We also extend our appreciation to the members of the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability for their input in designing the survey as well as the Commission Chairs and Staff for helping disseminate it through their networks.

Executive Summary:

Recommendations for IUCN Core and Thematic Program Areas

This report synthesizes survey responses on the draft IUCN Program - the Union's policy and action framework for 2013-2016 - from 257 people of all ages, representing all IUCN Commissions and Regions. It was a project undertaken by the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability as a contribution to policy development, including a special emphasis on youth engagement.¹ Please find a summary of recommendations below for each Core and Thematic area of the IUCN Program:

Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity

Situation Analysis should:

- Explain more specifically the range of management interventions that help biodiversity conservation, i.e., “what works;”
- Include a reference to actions that can reduce dependence on fossil fuels and energy efficiency; and
- Include the impacts on conservation from emerging technologies such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, information technology and cognitive science (NBIC).

The main recommendation for the IUCN Approach is to:

- Address and implement issues of equitable management, in addition to placing more emphasis and empirical research on species and habitats assessment, Antarctic conservation, climate change, agro-forestry and hands-on approaches to conservation programs.

Global Results should:

- Identify the specific context of biodiversity conservation interventions;
- Recognize the different value global/regional/local stakeholder groups put on biodiversity; and
- Focus on the roles of learning, capacity building, and strategic communication for conservation.

Sharing Nature's Benefits Fairly and Equitably

Situation Analysis should:

- Define ‘strengthening governance arrangements’ and how it would be implemented; and
- List tools and approaches that link conservation and sustainable development in an appendix.

IUCN Approach should:

- Develop sound methods for ensuring that the implementation of this approach is fair, just and equitable;
- Develop methods to evaluate outcomes on the ground in terms of achievement of conservation objectives and fair, just and equitable social outcomes; and

¹ The terms ‘young people,’ ‘youth,’ and ‘young professionals’ are used interchangeably in this report, referring to professionals, practitioners, university students, and indigenous people aged approximately 35 and under.

- Provide a space for addressing infringements and lack of compliance.
- Encourage the widespread practice and application of systems thinking in IUCN, coupled with a commitment to intergenerational equity, to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the whole system and extend time horizons.

Global Results should:

- Include local and indigenous representatives in the actual creation of these methods/ approaches; and
- Develop a clear method to assess the implementation and outcomes of these approaches.

Nature-based Solutions to Climate Change

Situation Analysis should:

- Define 'nature-based approaches to climate change;'
- Discuss REDD's ability to proceed in an equitable and just way to address mitigation;
- Include more of an emphasis on adaptation;
- Share successful examples; and
- Specify how a diversity of voices will be included.

IUCN Approach should:

- Include specific reference to the implementation of this thematic area;
- Use ideas from resilience and social-ecological systems; and
- Promote research on ecosystem-based mitigation and adaptation strategies, and the implementation of projects in different areas that emphasize youth leadership.

Global Results should:

- Include more specific targets and dates; and
- Recognize the need to strike a balance between standardized approaches and the specificity of local places.

Managing Ecosystems to Improve Food Security Valuing

Situation Analysis should:

- Include reference to drivers that lead to food insecurity (production, distribution and consumption, GMOs, chemical use, land grabbing, agro-industries, climate change, and governance issues).

IUCN Approach should:

- Include specific reference to indigenous and local knowledge;
- Improve knowledge of food production and sustainability in general and across generations;
- Clarify the unequal relation between smallholder farming and fishing systems and industrial large-scale food producers;
- Emphasize partnerships with local level groups and initiatives alongside mainstream food security constituencies; and
- Adopt the more robust framework of food sovereignty rather than food security.

Global Results should:

- Make more explicit the role protected areas can play in providing for food security; and
- Address more squarely the impacts of industrial agriculture on small-scale food production systems.

Greening the Economy

Situation Analysis should:

- Share successful examples; and
- Include a broader discussion on the social impacts of the Green Economy.

IUCN Approach should:

- Identify how non-economic values should be mainstreamed within national accounting systems.

Global Results should:

- Develop sound methods and mechanisms for evaluating the impacts of these initiatives on livelihood and conservation outcomes.

Youth and Intergenerational Partnership as Cross-cutting Themes

The role of youth and intergenerational partnership should be recognized as essential for achieving IUCN's core program areas of valuing and conserving biodiversity, and sharing nature's benefits fairly and equitably, yet these are largely absent from the IUCN draft Program.

Youth have a great deal to offer in terms of understanding local contexts, transmitting innovative ideas through creative communication, familiarity with the most recent literature in the field, and contributing to policy development.

The Program should serve as a platform for youth engagement *within* and *through* the IUCN. Here are some initial recommendations to help achieve this goal:

- Youth should have a secure place on each IUCN Council and each Commission's Steering Committee;
- Youth should be provided with resources to participate in policy development and decision-making processes across the IUCN family, especially at key international events;
- Capacity building and intergenerational learning opportunities should be developed from the local to the international level as a way to facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience, and developing intergenerational networks; and
- Youth-led research, community engagement, and conservation projects should be supported through a standing 'Youth Engagement Fund,' administered through Commission Young Professionals Groups.

See sections 3.1 and 3.2 for further recommendations and opportunity areas for engaging young people and collaborating across generations.

Part 1: An Intergenerational and Cross-Commission Approach

1.1 Survey Background

The Commission on Education and Communication's (CEC's) Young Professional Leadership Team (YPLT) noticed that young professionals are largely absent from the IUCN draft Program. The YPLT convened the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability - including members of all Commissions' young professionals groups - to design, disseminate, and synthesize results from an intergenerational survey on the draft Program. Realizing that Commissions already collect input from members on their respective areas of focus, the Task Force decided to add two missing cross-cutting themes to its survey: youth engagement and collaboration across generations. The results are synthesized here as a contribution to the IUCN draft Program review process. Young Councilor, Grace Mwaura of Kenya, plans to present the report to Council in November 2011, when the draft will be finalized for consideration by the IUCN Membership at the World Conservation Congress in Jeju, South Korea in September 2012.

1.2 Survey Methodology and Participants

The survey was designed by young professionals from across all IUCN Commissions and conducted via a web-based, open-ended questionnaire in September 2011. The objective of the survey was to collect opinions and knowledge on the draft IUCN Program, the Union's policy and action framework for 2013-2016, with a special emphasis on youth engagement and intergenerational partnership.

Participants in the survey were both Commission members and those interested in joining, representing all IUCN regions (see Figure 1). This approach was considered appropriate so that both members and interested non-members could provide their opinions, offering 'insider' and 'outsider' viewpoints. As such, the survey was used as a tool to raise awareness of the IUCN and open a door for new people to get involved leading up to the World Conservation Congress in 2012 and beyond, when the Program will be implemented.

The online survey was disseminated through Commissions' e-mail list services, newsletters, and Facebook Groups. The purpose of the survey was explained to the respondents in the questionnaire prior to its commencement, and promised that results would be synthesized in a report for submission to the draft IUCN Program review process.

Respondents were asked about the role of youth engagement and intergenerational partnership across the following IUCN program's two core and three thematic program areas covered in the draft IUCN Program document. They were also asked about the strengths and weakness of each section, in addition to changes they would make to the document.

1. Core program area 1 (CPA1): Valuing and conserving biodiversity
2. Core program area 2 (CPA2): Sharing nature's benefits fairly and equitably
3. Thematic program area 1 (TPA1): Nature-based solutions to climate change
4. Thematic program area 2 (TPA2): Managing ecosystems to improve food security
5. Thematic program area 3 (TPA3): Greening the economy

In this way, respondents were encouraged to read each of the sections within the draft IUCN Program thoroughly and consider their respective Commission's expertise prior to responding.

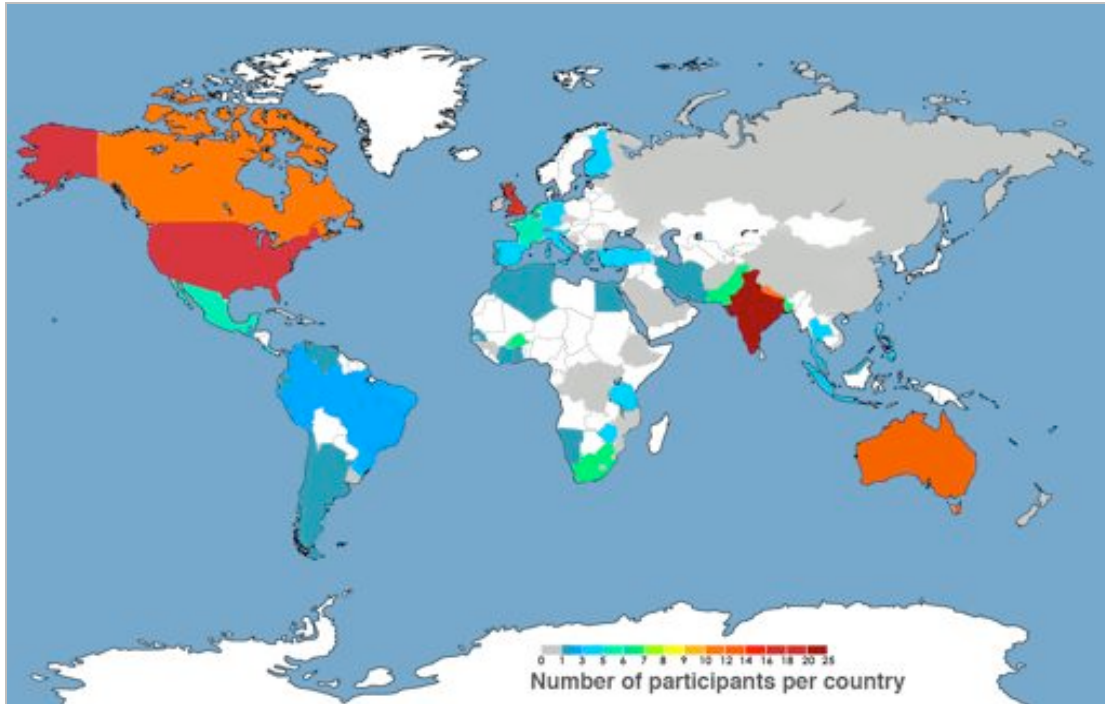


Figure 1. Number of Survey Participants by Country of Origin

Overall, 257 people participated in the survey from all the Commissions (see Figure 2). In order to collect the most informed input, open-ended questions were made optional, with 50 people completing the entire survey. In addition to the 43 people not yet in a Commission, 145 expressed interest in joining a second (or third) Commission. Their contact information, when provided, has been forwarded to the appropriate Commission Chairs.

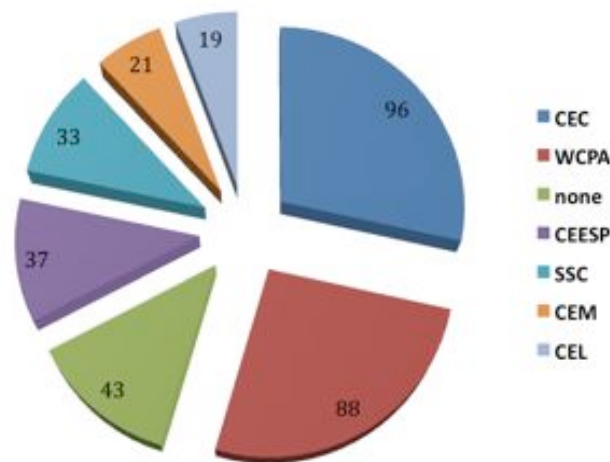


Figure 2. Number of Survey Participants by Commission Membership

Young professionals aged 35 and under made up 45% of respondents; 33% were 36-50; 16% were 51-65; 5% were 66-80; and 1% were 81 or over (see Figure 3). The average age of respondents was

39, and approximately 38% were women and 62% men. See a full list of survey participants in Annex 1.

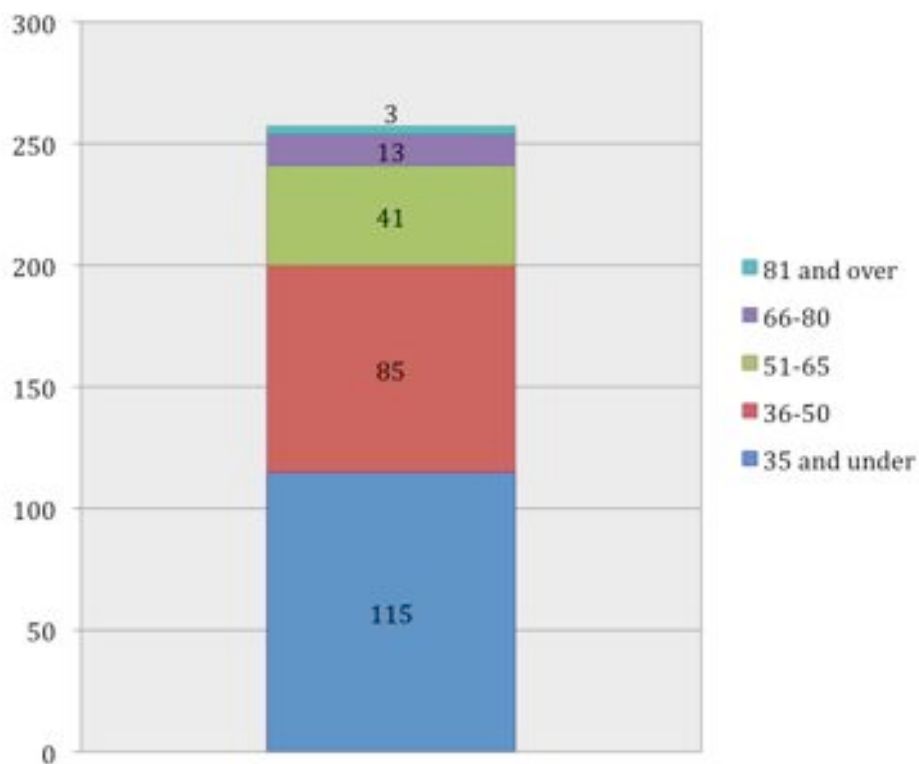


Figure 3. Number of Survey Participants by Age

The results obtained from the survey were analysed qualitatively to identify strengths, challenges, and recommendations for the draft IUCN Program’s Situation Analyses, Approaches, and Global Results under each core and thematic program area. As IUCN’s core policy and action framework for 2013-2016, the findings presented in this survey are also an important step in understanding the current state and potential for engaging youth and collaborating across generations for biodiversity conservation.

Part 2: Responses to draft IUCN Program, 2013-2016

2.1 Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity

Strengths

Overall, respondents stated that the background information was clear and accessible, and were positive that the Situation Analysis for Core Program Area #1 (CPA1) provided a good overview of the current status of biodiversity conservation. Specific strengths included linking biodiversity to human wellbeing, and presenting a realistic assessment of conservation progress—namely that there has been relatively little success in halting biodiversity loss and that we need to build upon successful strategies. Cited strengths also included acknowledging the urgency with which key drivers of biodiversity loss need to be dealt with, and recognizing both tangible and intangible values of biodiversity and alternative valuation systems.

“The mention of many non-market and intangible biodiversity values remains essentially invisible from an economic perspective [and therefore, reference to it] addresses a crucial problem, which I believe was underestimated previously.

The IUCN Approach for CPA1 was recognized to depend upon important strengths, both through the well-established network of experts in all IUCN Commissions, and the global presence of IUCN. These factors enable the IUCN to carry out work effectively via means of consultation and participation—an approach that was widely welcomed. Overall, most respondents felt that the Global Results were possible based on the IUCN Approach.

“IUCN has been working in this area for a long time, and IUCN’s flagship knowledge tools generate knowledge to form the basis for conservation planning and policy.

Challenges

A number of respondents felt that the Situation Analysis was poorly constructed given a more prominent focus on economic valuation, without specifying how economic valuation would account for existence and bequest values of preserving biodiversity for future generations. The Situation Analysis did not clarify what ‘national accounting’ and ‘reporting systems’ mean, and there was little discussion on the implications of accounting and reporting systems for local level development initiatives. Some respondents highlighted the lack of reference to indirect drivers that lead to biodiversity loss, such as land grabs and climate change. Some respondents felt that institutional frameworks for protected areas and sustainable development need more attention.

Challenges with the IUCN Approach included the reliance on voluntary contributions of expertise through the Commissions, as well as the mismatch between policy-drivers and policy interventions that conservationists feel are important (i.e. trusted and credible knowledge may be ineffective given that much conservation follows utilitarian imperatives). Another cited challenge was the potential for Western approaches to dominate in cultural contexts where these might not always be appropriate.

“This is a western-based approach and strong scientific principles. The targets are useful but it is important that the issues of equitable management are implemented in the process.

For Global Results to lead to the IUCN's vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature," the IUCN should recognize the specific context for conservation initiatives; the development of regional targets; the valuation of biodiversity at different scales and by different groups (e.g. global assessment versus local needs); and, the fact that not everything can be measured and quantified. The core importance of learning was also highlighted in order for conservation to work.

"Results are case by case only. It will vary from developed to developing countries.

"Sometimes the particular biodiversity of an area is not overwhelming (compared to other areas, it may not be noted as important...) but the community of people living around this particular ecosystem may depend on its biodiversity in many ways. ...sometimes it seems easy to address 'important' areas for conservation but as each natural area is important in some way or another, to decide which is worthy to protect is not a simple work.

2.2 Sharing nature's benefits fairly and equitably

Strengths

The Core Program Area 2 (CPA2) is a new addition to the core focus of the IUCN on conserving biological diversity (CPA1). Respondents recognized that CPA2 offers tremendous potential for the development of an IUCN conservation agenda that is relevant to the aspirations and needs of people on the ground.

Strengths identified in the Situation Analysis included a good overview of the issues at stake. Respondents applauded the recognition of the linkage between biodiversity and livelihoods; that benefits are not equally shared; and that local people (in developing countries, but not exclusively) are usually the ones that are more directly affected by industrial development and conservation policies. Also deemed positive was the emphasis on more marginalized groups and the importance of gender. Respondents also appreciated the cited need to share power; strengthen governance arrangements (i.e. participatory processes could be a metric for successful conservation approaches); include traditional and local ecological knowledge; and emphasize the role of learning, capacity building, and strategic communication. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples was recognized as a powerful mechanism for stimulating government commitments.

Strengths of the IUCN Approach included the fact that it ensures that access, benefits, and sharing tools for nature-based goods and services are documented and shared. This would provide a space for linking lessons learnt to conservation and sustainable development, as well as to use them to test new approaches. Finally, the strength of this approach comes from collaboration within the IUCN network: the capacity to bring a diversity of people together, as well as foster the involvement of all IUCN Commissions.

"IUCN's approach is well framed, and moves forward the attention of IUCN practitioners to the importance of 'sharing resources' and conducting due process in the implementation of conservation.

Most respondents supported the inclusion of CPA2 in IUCN's program, pointing out that:

"This is a good start towards a more accountable IUCN at the local level.

"I think that Result 2.2 is very important, and needs to be highlighted, celebrated and implemented.

Challenges

The Situation Analysis should take into account the need to involve vulnerable groups of society collaboratively in the planning and management of protected areas, to ensure conservation of biodiversity at the local and landscape levels. Attention should be paid to the ways in which “sharing responsibilities” helps to involve communities in the management and decision-making processes of protected areas, without simply offloading the costs of protected areas – which are often money losing entities - onto local communities. This section should also clarify what “strengthening governance arrangements” means and how it could be implemented. Realistic tools and approaches designed to better link conservation and sustainable development should be elaborated and listed in an appendix.

In response to the IUCN Approach, respondents suggested that the assumptions about how inequity leads to biodiversity loss should be tested, and that a pragmatic approach should be developed. Given its combined expertise, Commissions such as CEESP and CEL could develop sound methods to ensure that the implementation of this approach is fair, just, and equitable, to evaluate outcomes, and to provide a space for addressing lack of compliance with the international standards developed.

“IUCN should play a key role in providing a place for addressing (the lack of) compliance and grievances from affected communities and peoples, and focus on an implementation framework at international, national, and regional levels.

Suggestions were made to include in Results 2.1 key stakeholders (including local and indigenous people who are not often present in IUCN’s decision-making structures) in the “creation” of these approaches, and not just their “testing and refinement.” There is a need to spell out how vulnerable groups could be better involved without participation becoming tokenistic. Finally, these results need to focus on a clear link between implementation of approaches and outcomes on the ground, and focus on how locally appropriate roadmaps can be developed from standardized approaches.

“They need to be ground tested with case studies to see if the approaches will assist in creating a just world.

2.3 Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change

Strengths

Overall, respondents felt that the Situation Analysis provided a good overview of the key issues and efforts surrounding climate change science and policy. The analysis was said to offer timely information, and to make direct linkages between the various issues on the current climate change agenda, including those under discussion at Rio+20.

“It clearly links different concerns and issues which normally are left out or not properly linked. The opening statements are also well crafted giving one direct access to the follow-up issues. The analysis makes direct linkages or assessment of current issues, especially with regards to climate change and the green economy.

The main strengths of the IUCN Approach included an ability to mobilize and convene people, provide case studies and examples from around the world, and widely share as well as disseminate information through the IUCN’s global networks and outreach.

Finally, most respondents thought that the Global Results followed from the IUCN Approach and that the Results would help move toward IUCN's vision of “a just world that values and conserves nature.”

Challenges

In the Situation Analysis respondents stressed the need to define ‘nature-based solutions’ to climate change, and to include a discussion on adaptation. It was also suggested that more emphasis should be placed on the potential of REDD to proceed in a just and equitable way, and as a mitigation tool.

“The analysis fails to address this aspect of REDD’s ability to deliver as a mitigation tool. Very little on adaptation is included in the analysis and attention should also be [focused on] how youth and elders, for example, would be addressing climate change.”

It was suggested that the institutional frameworks for sustainable development should not be ignored or left to public institutions alone, but rather developed collaboratively across a range of stakeholders to ensure fair outcomes of biodiversity conservation at the local and landscape levels. Discussion should also occur with regards to improving information-sharing about nature-based solutions to climate change, including successful examples, and to particularly make sure that a diversity of voices (e.g., youth, elders, women, men and indigenous peoples) are heard at the local level.

With regards to the IUCN Approach, several respondents felt that a plausible argument as to how the IUCN will implement this thematic approach should be provided, rather than offering a summary of the key issues in this area.

“Whom will the IUCN work with? How will they disseminate knowledge? How exactly will they help to further involve indigenous people, women, youth and elders?”

Others argued that there was a need to study, in more practical and local terms, whether REDD is actually going to work, who will benefit from the initiative, and with which organizations and NGOs the IUCN should collaborate in this regard. There is a clear need to ensure that perverse incentives of one program on mitigation are not doing more damage in terms of increasing GHGs than they offset—especially with energy intensive developments, and to look at the cumulative effects exacerbating climate change.

Further, respondents called for approaches that are more geared at promoting governance in support of local adaptation and mitigation effort; ensuring conservation and sustainability; and building interconnectedness, diversity, and resilience. It was argued that resilience thinking in social-ecological systems can provide a way to visualize nature-based solutions, which are premised upon the recognition that humans need to support the natural resilience of systems, since once systems are tipped, there are fewer options for reversing this.

While most respondents were positive about the “Global Results,” some respondents felt that resilience should be more clearly addressed as the link between social-ecological systems, that the specificity of places needed to be further considered, and that it would be helpful to establish more specific targets and dates for achieving IUCN objectives. More critical perspectives were generally explained by a lack of clarity or detail about the implementation of this thematic plan.

“I feel that there is nothing new here. The IUCN has always supported, raised awareness, advocated, etc. Things really need to be shaken up for change to occur.”

2.4 Managing Ecosystems to Improve Food Security Valuing

Strengths

This was considered a welcome thematic program area within the work of IUCN. The strengths of the Situation Analysis include valuing wild species, which has major implications for the management of protected areas and biodiversity as it grants a place for linking protected areas management to local use. Another strength was the discussion on land tenure—as rights to land and its resources—which is particularly critical given foreign land grabs for food production in developing countries. Respondents also applauded the mention of the development of non-resilient supply systems (e.g. apples from Chile in the winter) in many developed countries.

Strengths of the IUCN Approach included the ability to collate expertise from different IUCN groups/ Commissions for a cross-disciplinary approach to tackle food security issues, as well as to enable the development of knowledge-based networks and agricultural/ wild foods research.

Challenges

Limitations in the Situation Analysis included the lack of references to important drivers that lead to food insecurity, including the actual patterns of production, distribution, and consumption; reference to agro-industrial monopolies; land grabbing; incentives and impacts of biofuels; the very substantial impacts of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) on local food production systems; and the use of specific pesticides that threaten the viability of traditional and indigenous and wild plants in proximity to industrial agriculture and other farms growing genetically modified crops. Finally, there is need to link climate change, loss of biodiversity, and food shortages, as well as focus further attention to governance and issues of equitable and just social institutions.

With regard to the IUCN Approach, respondents identified limitations linked to the focus on science-based approaches—with little acknowledgement for traditional and local knowledge of heirloom seeds and wild resources. Respondents argued in favor of alternative food production systems and approaches to security and food sovereignty, with a focus on resilience. Another limitation was the lack of willingness to engage with the ‘elephant in the room,’ large-scale industrial production. For example, one respondent asked to clarify what it means to “advocate for increased equity in the use of natural resources between smallholder farming and fishing systems and industrial, large-scale food producers”—since this would entail a much clearer position on the role of chemicals, GMOs, biofuels, and their impacts on small farmers.

“IUCN should advocate for the development of policies which will prevent large industrial agriculture from harming adjacent small scale farming, and remove subsidies, incentives and policies which foster the development of harmful practices.”

It was suggested that this section should also be clearer regarding the need to build strategic partnerships not only with mainstream food security constituencies such as the FAO, but also with regional and local level initiatives sensitive to the local drivers of food (in)security.

With regards to the “Global Results,” one respondent asked this section to acknowledge that the conservation community has not only developed 'tenuous links' with the food security community, but has actually ostracized the use of wild foods or local livelihood agriculture in strict protected areas. IUCN should be clear about how it intends to redress this legacy and make a more explicit link between protected areas and their role in providing for food security. Finally, in order to move

towards a 'just world that values and conserves nature,' IUCN should engage with the reality of industrial agriculture, and address more squarely its impacts on small-scale food productions.

2.5. Greening the Economy

Strengths

Respondents highlighted the strengths of the Situation Analysis as providing timely information that responds to ongoing discussions such as those around Rio+20; clearly showing the links between biodiversity, ecosystem services and the economy; raising relevant issues and concerns from a critical perspective on the paradigm of infinite economic growth; and calling to ensure that greening sustainable development is really an important step that considers low carbon emission technologies and paths toward development. Opening statements are well crafted giving one direct access (information access) to the follow-up issues.

The main strengths of the IUCN Approach included the possibility to provide case studies and examples from around the world, based on local knowledge and cross-disciplinary approaches facilitated by IUCN networks; the ability to include timely information because IUCN members are part of relevant ongoing discussions and debate; and promoting major awareness towards low carbon emission scenarios.

“The emphasis on making explicit the links between nature and the economy, recognizing the links of nature to people’s livelihoods and everyday activities, and pushing for economic valuations by governments globally of their environmental resources [are important contributions].”

Challenges

Challenges with the Situation Analysis included its premises on economic growth—with the risk of using the green economy trend simply as a way to make slight changes that allow the system to continue without dealing with more deep-rooted structural problems. Examples given were market-based mechanisms like certification, without due consideration for the social and environmental impacts of these mechanisms. This approach might also lead to some countries becoming dependent upon outside experts to advise them on environmental measures. Finally, the term 'green economy' itself has generated controversy, and may just be a way to supplant sustainable development, which, despite its limitations, is well endorsed by countries in the Global South.

Some respondents emphasized the importance in this section of sharing successful examples and methodologies; as well as making it clear that through greening the economy it is possible to strengthen the conservation, resilience, and sustainability dimensions.

One of the main challenges mentioned in the IUCN Approach was how to address non-economic values, which, according to some participants, were not adequately considered in this section.

“How do we value aesthetics of the environment which can then be used in Government national accounting? How do we value spiritual connectedness to the environment [which can then] be used in Government national accounting?”

Some respondents were also critical of the link between nature and economic policies.

“Linking nature and economic policies will not change the financial system. It “feels” like finding ways to make nature fit into our system not the other way round.”

A weak understanding of the ecological underpinnings of financial and social systems was cited as a core problem to the environment-development nexus.

“Until financial systems learn about the lack of exponential growth in the real world, we have a problem.

It was emphasized that relationships with industries and corporations should be cautious, making sure that IUCN can maintain its role as an ‘honest broker’ and use its position to leverage positive environmental outcomes.

Overall, the majority of participants who responded to this question were optimistic that the Global Results would move us towards a “just world that values and conserves nature.” However, it was pointed out that there should be clear mechanisms in place to evaluate the impacts of these initiatives on the ground; in improved livelihood situations and improved conservation; and in strengthened local tenure and governance systems.

“The green economy may give a dollar value to biodiversity, but the objective in this section clearly avoids talking about the ways in which the dollar value will enhance sharing nature's benefits. Indeed, these Results bypass the role of local communities, NGOs, and conservation itself. Conservation simply becomes a way to guide investment (i.e. carbon economy), and as stated in the Situation Analysis, it is time “for IUCN to accelerate its efforts.” While it is important to create a vision for people to strive towards, greater realism may be needed to avoid frustrated over-expectations.

Part 3: Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership in Pursuing IUCN's Vision

Respondents to this survey recognized the value of youth and intergenerational partnership in the core and thematic programs of the IUCN. Young people are seen as being flexible, and having solution-oriented approaches and close ties with community conservation issues. However, their engagement, representation, and responsibility are limited across IUCN programs. Youth are more likely to be involved in conservation if programs perceive their role as important and recognize their knowledge as a valuable contribution.

3.1 Obstacles and Solutions for Young Peoples' Engagement in the IUCN

This section discusses the key challenges, as identified in our survey, shaping the participation of youth within the overall vision and programs of the IUCN, while offering recommended solutions. A discussion on opportunities for youth engagement follows.

Regarding the Core Program Area (CPA1) of valuing and conserving nature, socio-economic challenges, including lack of access to healthcare, poor quality education, and urban poverty, constrain youth involvement in conservation programs. Marginalized youth, for example those who are unemployed, from indigenous communities, and/or Sub-Saharan Africa, face a greater risk of non-representation.

“I realize youth aren't homogenous, but what is it that youth want to see in the future? How do indigenous youth for example have a voice? How can elders and youth work together to create futures that are healthy and positive? How do parents support children's vision for the future when they do not see the value of nature?”

→ We encourage IUCN, across its Commissions, Council, and Secretariat to track members by age and key social groups, conduct periodic gap analyses, and make a special effort to reach out to those generations and social groupings that are underrepresented. This would compliment the efforts currently made to achieve a balance between men and women, and represent a diversity of regions.

On the issue of benefit sharing (CPA2), recognition of the knowledge and experience of those closer to their environment should be more valued. Given that elders are, in some contexts, the stewards of natural resources, sharing of benefits should include sharing their knowledge and experiences with younger generations, who, in turn, are seen to offer energy and fresh ideas to relevant programs and projects.

→ We encourage IUCN to promote mutual learning and collaboration between elders and youth, especially to bring about meaningful knowledge transfer on plant and animal species, ecosystems, and practices for finding balance between humans and nature.

In recognition of the challenges associated with climate change and greening the economy (TPA1 and TPA3), survey respondents recognized that young people have the most at stake when it comes to their right to a clean environment and future economic opportunities.

“Have the youth and intergenerational partnerships as the spokespeople for climate change. The layman is sick of hearing about climate change from scientists and suits. This attitude can change if the young are showing their support for the cause and highlighting that it is their futures that will be impacted based on today's actions by older generations.

→ IUCN should recognize and involve young people as major stakeholders in addressing issues of climate change.

Survey participants identified the impact of industrial agriculture on local, sustainable food systems and wild food systems in both developing and developed countries as a persistent problem for food security (TPA2). Such trends impact across generations, whereas greater intergenerational partnership and mutual learning would promote more ethical food production. A lack of recognition of these trends and impacts undermines progress towards achieving IUCN's vision of managing ecosystems to improve food security.

“There is more to food security than agriculture. Do young people know where food comes from and the ethics of that production? Education may be useful. Who provides the food in different societies would also provide a better pathway to understanding stronger links for youth and intergenerational partnerships. “

→ IUCN's efforts to improve food security should promote sustainable agriculture and the protection of wild food systems, integrating collaboration across generations throughout.

3.2 Opportunities for Young Peoples' Engagement in the IUCN

Based on survey responses, the following areas emerged as opportunities for better engaging youth in the IUCN.

“Young professionals by their experiences.... have a natural understanding of solutions. So, combined with experts and an honest sight of the future, the solutions will be more available and achievable.

Capacity Building with and for Youth

Younger members should not only receive mentoring, but also **be treated as colleagues who can engage and support the work that the Commissions put on its volunteers.** Young people are capable of community engagement by linking local schools to tertiary education; interpreting policies on biodiversity conservation for local communities; and working in park management structures and conservation initiatives. Youth can often relate to everyday conservation challenges and translate complex concepts in simple ways. Those engaged in graduate studies may decide to focus their thesis and projects on IUCN thematic research areas, eventually publishing in these areas. Key opportunities for learning and capacity building include internship programs, on-the-job training, direct engagement in project implementation, and increasing grants for young conservationists.

“It would be useful to count on a direct way to contact with experts, I mean, the books and meetings are useful, but in my case I have scarce opportunities to travel to the meetings and contact with other IUCN experts, and books are a good general guide but they usually do not respond to specific questions. A network, or some kind of expert advisors electronic site, where to aim specific questions on particular urgent situations, would be absolutely useful.

Representation and Activation of Youth

The presence and visibility of IUCN on the ground is limited, which weakens its ability to engage with various stakeholders. Carefully prepared programs are frequently not understood well by

communities. Given their local knowledge and strength in community engagement, there is a need to **improve the representation of different generations within IUCN structures and meetings, and to foster communication between IUCN experts and youth members.** In this regard, it should be remembered that solutions that work for one community may not be applicable in others.

Youth can **help tackle climate change by both leading policy formulation and facilitating adaptation and mitigation projects at the community level.** Identified opportunities included advocating for nature-based solutions within social networks; creating mass campaigns like ‘turn off the lights for an hour;’ enabling on-the-ground efforts and awareness; participating in UNFCCC COP process; integrating climate change in the primary and secondary school curricula; and generating dedicated youth movements that are open to all age groups. The need for more green jobs amongst all levels of IUCN work was seen as vital for representation as well as for dealing with the youth bulge’s socio-economic challenges.

Grounded Policy Development

Given their comparative advantages, **youth should be given more opportunities to participate meaningfully in international policy platforms such as UNFCCC, CBD COP and IUCN meetings and workshops.** An action plan for the **young people of Africa** was particularly seen as necessary.

“Youth and younger generations should have a larger presence at all IUCN meetings, workshops and decision-making initiatives. Currently they are too top heavy with people in suits, usually of the senior generations who are not in touch with the on ground realities. The young groovers and shakers (as I call them) not only present the positive stories, but represent the hardships of getting environmental programs off the ground. They are usually in touch with the global communities, and preaching to the non-converted.

Creative and Online Communication

Youth can provide **creative forms of communication** such as dramas, plays, and music festivals, not only to transmit key IUCN messages, but also to mobilise traditional values towards sustainable lifestyles. Young people have the potential to share stories from their life and practical work, and can relate social values with regards to the importance of biodiversity conservation to local communities.

Young people are typically more involved in online social networks than their senior counterparts, and **able to share information quickly and effectively.** This can facilitate learning about the value of biodiversity conservation among key stakeholders, as well as communicate the opportunities and risks of action and inaction.

Mobilization of IUCN Member Organizations

The role of grassroots organizations, including gender- and youth-focused organizations, as IUCN members has not been fully leveraged. Respondents identified a range of options in which young people can make a difference for sharing nature’s benefits. These included: bridging relevant proposals from the global to the local levels; setting up schools in relevant locations; mobilizing young people from different regions; strengthening networks at all levels of governance; connecting with local nature managers; and establishing partnerships.

“Mobilization of youth who are bearing the costs to the next generation is a powerful tool of re-shaping policy.

“It will make a great difference when youth [are] able to take advantage of the experiences of the older persons and visa-versa.

Conclusion

An emerging issue of this report is the potential young people hold to contribute in meaningful ways to the IUCN, its Commissions, and networks vis-à-vis conservation and socio-environmental challenges from the local to the international level. Young survey participants demonstrated that they want to contribute in tangible and creative ways to the realization of IUCN's vision of a 'just world that values and conserves nature,' and more senior participants welcomed such contribution.

However, the participation, involvement and representation of young people across IUCN programs, policy making structures, and on-the-ground initiatives is limited, and their absence from the IUCN draft Program for 2013-2016 will not help reverse this trend. Youth engagement is further constrained by the lack of funding, as well as limited opportunities for capacity and skills building. The persistence of these challenges highlights the need to empower young people within Commission programs and structures and support their aspirations for a sustainable future.

Many Commission members of all ages recognize that new ideas and conservation outcomes can result through mutual learning and collaboration, drawing on the strengths of each generation. Young professionals make up a significant and active percentage of Commission membership and want to make a positive difference. They are more likely to show an interest in the IUCN global agenda and use it as a tool for managing local environments when they are fully involved in the Commission processes and perceive membership as a benefit. IUCN has an important opportunity to tap into this resource by integrating youth engagement and intergenerational partnership throughout the IUCN Program for 2013-2016 and beyond.

Annex: List of Survey Participants

	Given Name	Family Name	Country	Commission Membership					
1	Abdallah	Khazene	Algeria	CEC					WCPA
2	Abdullah	Ahmad	Bangladesh						WCPA
3	Adelaide	Sallemma	Tanzania						WCPA
4	Adriana	Suarez	Chile	CEC					
5	Alana	Jute	Trinidad and Tobago	CEC				SSC	WCPA
6	Alicia	Hayman	United States						WCPA
7	Alok Kumar	Mishra	India	CEC					
8	Alvin	Chandra	Fiji Islands / Australia	CEC			CEM		
9	Aman ul	Haq	Pakistan						WCPA
10	Amara	Ouattara	Ivory Coast						WCPA
11	Amita	Saxena	India	CEC	CEESP	CEL	CEM	SSC	WCPA
12	Ana Laura	Montserrat	Argentina						WCPA
13	Anal	Dhungana	Nepal						
14	Andrew	Read	Australia						WCPA
15	Andrew Boku	Dibo	Kenya		CEESP				
16	Angie	Stringer	Australia						WCPA
17	Apolinario	Carino	Philippines		CEESP				
18	Aroha	Mead	New Zealand		CEESP				WCPA
19	Augusta	Almeida	Ecuador						WCPA
20	Az	Dipu	Bangladesh	CEC					
21	Aziz Ali	Khan	Pakistan / Afghanistan					SSC	WCPA
22	Babagana	Abubakar	Nigeria						
23	Barrie	Cooper	United Kingdom	CEC					
24	Basak	Avcioglu	Turkey						WCPA
25	Bertha Cecilia	Garcia Cienfuegos	Peru	CEC					
26	Bindu Kennedy	Kihangi	Democratic Republic of Congo						
27	Boyana	Vasileva	Bulgaria		CEESP				
28	Brahim	Haddane	Morocco	CEC			CEM	SSC	
29	Bram	Buscher	Netherlands		CEESP				
30	Burcu Meltem	Arik Akyuz	Turkey	CEC					
31	Carina	Wyborn	Australia						WCPA
32	Carolee	Buckler	Canada	CEC					
33	Catharina Any	Sulistyowati	Indonesia	CEC					
34	Cecilia	Saura Drago	Spain	CEC					
35	Cecilia	Nizzola	Switzerland	CEC					
36	Cheryl	Chetkiewicz	Canada		CEESP				
37	Chikosa	Banda	Malawi			CEL			
38	Chittaranjan	Baruah	India	CEC				SSC	
39	Chris	Maas Geesteranus	St. Maarten	CEC					
40	Clive	Wicks	United Kingdom		CEESP				
41	Colleen	Corrigan	United States		CEESP				WCPA
42	Cristina	Fiol	Venezuela						
43	David	Hoffman	United States						
44	Deepesh Raj	Sharma	Nepal						
45	Diogo	Verissimo	Portugal	CEC					
46	Djah	Malan	Ivory Coast						WCPA
47	Dominic	Stucker	Germany, United States	CEC					

48	Dominique	Nosso	Congo				SSC	WCPA
49	Dominique	Kande Vita	Mozambique	CEC		CEM		WCPA
50	Edem	Eniang	Nigeria		CEESP		SSC	WCPA
51	Eduard	Muller	Costa Rica	CEC				WCPA
52	Eduardo González	Eduardo González	Venezuela					WCPA
53	Eglantine	Ntibareha	Burundi	CEC				
54	Ehab	Eid	Jordan					WCPA
55	Elery	Hamilton-Smith	Australia		CEESP			WCPA
56	Elgidius	Ichumbaki	Tanzania					WCPA
57	Elizabeth	Reichel	Switzerland		CEESP			
58	Elizabeth	Olson	United States					
59	Emily	Loose	United States					WCPA
60	Estefany	López	Mexico	CEC				
61	Esther	Agbarakwe	Nigeria	CEC				
62	Euren	Cuevas	Dominican Republic			CEL		
63	Evangelos	Tsakalos	Greece					WCPA
64	Faiza	Abbasi	India	CEC				
65	Faryal	Gohar	Pakistan					
66	Gabriel	Eckstein	United States			CEL		
67	Gillian	Harding	United Kingdom	CEC				
68	Gisela	Paredes Leguizamón	Colombia					WCPA
69	Giuliano	Tallone	Italy				SSC	WCPA
70	Grace	Mwaura	Kenya / United Kingdom	CEC				
71	Graham	Bearden	United States					
72	Grahame	Webb	Australia				SSC	
73	Guillermo	Rodríguez-Navarro	Colombia		CEESP			WCPA
74	Harley	Spence	New Zealand	CEC				
75	Hasan	M. M. Mahbub	Bangladesh	CEC				
76	Imed	Essetti	Tunisia				SSC	WCPA
77	Imke	Gilsing	Netherlands	CEC				
78	Isabel	Li	Hong Kong / China	CEC				
79	Itala	Yepez	Ecuador					
80	Ivana	Savic	Serbia	CEC				
81	J. Rodney	Allen	Switzerland			CEL		
82	Jacob Kow	Mensah	Ghana					WCPA
83	Jana	Dlouhá	Czech Republic	CEC				
84	Jesse	Ayivor	Ghana					
85	Jibankumar	Khuraijam	India	CEC	CEESP	CEM		
86	Jinie	Dela	Sri Lanka	CEC				
87	John	Marsh	Canada					WCPA
88	John	Burton	United Kingdom					WCPA
89	Jorge	Grandini	Mexico					
90	Jose L.	Gerhartz	Cuba					WCPA
91	Juan	Martinez	Uruguay			CEL		
92	Justin	Gerlach	Seychelles				SSC	
93	Kadri	Kalle	Estonia	CEC				
94	Kashinath	Vajpai	India		CEESP	CEM		
95	Kemo	De Leut	Bosnia and Herzegovina / Croatia			CEL		
96	Leba Halofaki	Mataitini	Fiji	CEC				
97	Linda	Siegele	United Kingdom			CEL		
98	Lize	von Staden	South Africa				SSC	
99	Lucy	Harrison	Canada				SSC	
100	Luke	Harrison	Canada					WCPA

101	M.	Castelo	Uruguay / Argentina / Brazil		CEESP			WCPA
102	M. Ismail	Khan	Pakistan	CEC				WCPA
103	Mamady		Guinea					WCPA
104	Manfred	Meiners	Mexico	CEC				
105	Manoj	Kumar	India			CEM		WCPA
106	Marc	Dourojeanni	Peru					WCPA
107	Marc	Stern	United States	CEC				WCPA
108	Marco	Festa-Bianchet	Canada				SSC	
109	Maria	Moate	South Africa	CEC				
110	Mariella	Superina	Argentina				SSC	
111	Mark	McGinley	United States	CEC				
112	Martha Talamondjila	Mwandingi	Namibia	CEC				
113	Martial	Kiki	Benin					WCPA
114	Maurice	Rawlins	Trinidad and Tobago	CEC		CEM		
115	Maximin	Djondo	Benin	CEC				
116	Mazolo	Dube	South Africa	CEC				
117	Md. Biozid	Jessorey	Bangladesh	CEC				
118	Medani	Bhandari	Nepal / United States	CEC	CEESP		SSC	
119	Mendes	Nicolau	Guinea-Bissau	CEC				
120	Michael Anjello Jothi Rajan	Jayaseelan	India	CEC				
121	Michèle	Sato	Brazil	CEC				
122	Mike	Ferguson	Canada / Norway		CEESP		SSC	WCPA
123	Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman	Masum	United States	CEC				
124	Mohinder Kumar	Slariya	India	CEC				
125	Moi Khim	Tan	Malaysia					WCPA
126	Mourad	Ahmin	Algeria	CEC				
127	Mowdudur	Rahman	Bangladesh	CEC				
128	Mrinalini	Rai	Thailand		CEESP			WCPA
129	Muhammad Ali	Imron	Indonesia					
130	Munir	Zia	Pakistan	CEC				
131	Nagarathinam	Swaminathan	India	CEC				
132	Nastaran	Moossavi	Iran		CEESP			
133	Ndey	Bakurin	Gambia	CEC				
134	Ndoye	Aminata	Senegal					WCPA
135	Ngozi	Stewar	Nigeria			CEL		
136	Nicole	Baker	Australia		CEESP			WCPA
137	Nidhi	Nagabhatla	India			CEM		
138	Noor	Mohammad	Bangladesh	CEC	CEESP	CEL	CEM	WCPA
139	Norbert	Trehoux	France		CEESP			
140	Nthapeliseng	Nthama	Lesotho					
141	Odile	Lim Tung	Mauritius			CEL		
142	Olaf	Kooijmans	Netherlands					WCPA
143	Olais	Mollet	Tanzania					WCPA
144	Oluwaseyi	Alabi	Nigeria	CEC				
145	Patrick Brandful	Cobbina	Ghana					
146	Petri	Viljoen	South Africa					
147	Pieter	Wit	Netherlands			CEM	SSC	
148	Pragati	Shahi	Nepal					WCPA
149	Prajal	Pradhan	Nepal / Germany					
150	Pranab J	Patar	India	CEC				WCPA
151	Rahimatsah	Amat	Malaysia					WCPA
152	Raju	Gyawali	Nepal					

153	Ram	Subedi	Nepal	CEC				
154	Ravikiran	Kulloli	India					
155	Raymond Erick	Zvavanange	Taiwan	CEC			CEM	
156	Raziq	Kakar	Pakistan		CEESP			
157	Rebecca	Koss	United Kingdom		CEESP			WCPA
158	Riccardo	Sedola	Italy					WCPA
159	Richard	Smith	Brazil					WCPA
160	Richard	Richard	Uganda					
161	Richard	Ottinger	United States			CEL		
162	Robbie	Robinson	South Africa					WCPA
163	Rocio	Rodriguez Granados Hogan	Colombia					
164	Rose		Ireland / Tanzania / Uganda / Kenya					
165	Rossana	Berrini	Uruguay				CEM	WCPA
166	Rukh NgOra	Gurung	Nepal					SSC
167	Sarah	Dalrymple	United Kingdom	CEC				SSC
168	Satya Prakash	Mehra	India	CEC				
169	Sauli	Ramatla	Lesotho					
170	Serigne Modou	Sarr	Senegal				CEM	WCPA
171	Sethumadhavan	Taliyil Poduval	India	CEC				
172	Séverin	Tchiboza	Benin	CEC				SSC
173	Shalini Misra	Dhyani	India		CEESP		CEM	SSC
174	Shashi Kumar	Kumar	India	CEC				
175	Shekhar	Upadhyay	India					
176	Simon Kihara	Kairu	Kenya	CEC				
177	Sira	Engelbertz	Germany	CEC				
178	Soumen	Dey	India	CEC				
179	Stefan	Avramov	Bulgaria					WCPA
180	Sudeep	Manandhar	Nepal					
181	Suman	Udas	Nepal					
182	Sunil	Prasad	Fiji / United States	CEC				
183	Sunita	Pradhan	India					
184	Syed Ainul	Hussain	India					SSC WCPA
185	Tamer	Khafaga	Egypt / United Arab Emirates					
186	Tanya	Sinha	India / Australia					
187	Tawee	Nootong	Thailand					WCPA
188	Thales	do Carmo	Brazil					WCPA
189	Thomas	Loquang	Uganda					
190	Thor	Morales	Mexico					
191	Togarasei	Fakarayi	Zimbabwe	CEC				
192	Usama	Mohammed Ghazali	Egypt					SSC WCPA
193	Vilma	Peña	Costa Rica	CEC				
194	Vivienne	Solis-Rivera	Costa Rica	CEC	CEESP			WCPA
195	Wael	Hefny	Egypt / Saudi Arabia					WCPA
196	Willemien	Du Plessis	South Africa				CEL	
197	Wondmagegne	Daniel	Ethiopia	CEC				
198	Yvonne	Otieno	Nepal	CEC				
199	Zaid	Shopeju	Nigeria	CEC				
200	Zeineb	Esseghairi	Tunisia					WCPA
201			Australia					WCPA
202			Australia					
203			Australia					
204			Australia					

205		Australia					
206		Australia / Thailand					
207		Belgium	CEC				
208		Bhutan	CEC				
209		Canada		CEESP			
210		Canada		CEESP	CEM		WCPA
211		Canada					
212		Canada					WCPA
213		Chile	CEC				
214		Cook Islands			CEM		WCPA
215		Costa Rica	CEC				
216		Fiji	CEC	CEESP			WCPA
217		Finland	CEC				WCPA
218		Finland	CEC				
219		France					WCPA
220		France					
221		France		CEESP	CEL		
222		France					SSC
223		Germany	CEC				
224		Greece					
225		Guatemala		CEESP			
226		Iran					WCPA
227		Ireland					WCPA
228		Jamaica	CEC				WCPA
229		Kenya					
230		Namibia	CEC				
231		Netherlands	CEC				
232		New Zealand		CEESP			WCPA
233		Philippines					WCPA
234		Portugal / Switzerland		CEESP			SSC
235		Russia			CEL		
236		Singapore / United Kingdom	CEC	CEESP	CEM		
237		Slovenia / Italy			CEL		
238		South Africa					WCPA
239		Switzerland					
240		Thailand			CEL		
241		United Kingdom					
242		United Kingdom					WCPA
243		United Kingdom	CEC				
244		United Kingdom		CEESP	CEM		
245		United Kingdom	CEC				
246		United States					SSC
247		United States					SSC
248		United States					SSC
249		United States	CEC		CEL	CEM	WCPA
250		United States					WCPA
251		United States					WCPA
252		United States			CEM		WCPA
253		United States					SSC
254		United States		CEESP			
255		United States			CEL		
256		Vietnam	CEC				
257		Zimbabwe					SSC

Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

