



IUCN
WORLD PARKS
CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014

Parks, people, planet: inspiring solutions
www.worldparkscongress.org



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Capacity Development Theme

The IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 is the premier global event on protected areas. Building on the theme *Parks, People, Planet: Inspiring Solutions*, it will pave the way for a new era where protected areas are valued and conserved by all parts of society as natural solutions to global challenges.

Four cross-cutting themes will **incorporate relevant and innovative case studies, programmes, speakers and activities** into stream programmes; **distil technical and policy lessons learned** from discussions across the streams; and **propose practical recommendations** to be implemented by IUCN, the World Commission on Protected Areas and other Congress participants.

THEME FOCUS

The establishment of protected areas is not enough to protect biodiversity and maintain ecosystem services. To be effective, protected areas must also practice **good governance** and their **management should be effective and integrated across wider landscapes and seascapes**. However, a significant number of managers and agencies lack the capacity to achieve this, resulting in loss of natural and cultural values and resources.

The purpose of the Capacity Development theme is to **develop and implement a legacy of protected areas capacity development programmes and products** that will assist countries to more effectively and equitably manage their systems of protected areas and enhance their ability to meet their commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and Aichi Targets.



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DELIVERING GLOBAL ACTION

The Capacity Development theme will **highlight each streams' capacity development sessions and those implemented in a dedicated Capacity Development Hub**. It will also **promote new IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas publications**: five new **Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines** will be launched at the Congress and five others will be presented as drafts to solicit feedback from participants. The Congress also provides an opportunity to discuss and reach agreement and commitment on the Capacity Development Legacy. Actions promoted by this theme include **two days of Capacity Development workshops** prior to the Congress, on November 10 and 11, **field trips and public festival events**.

TOWARDS THE PROMISE OF SYDNEY: THE FUTURE OF PROTECTED AREAS

This theme will promote a **New Paradigm for Capacity Development** which will constitute the Capacity Development Legacy, an integral part of **The Promise of Sydney**.

The Capacity Development Legacy will provide a new and cutting edge Capacity Development Framework that includes the following key components: **(a) Global Partnership for Professionalizing Protected Areas Management; (b) Capacity development for Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas; (c) Global Competence Standards; (c) Body of Knowledge; (d) Curricula and courses, and; (d) Certification programme**. The Legacy will be built on input and recommendations from the streams and from discussions held in the Capacity Development Hub. Actions promoted by the Congress to build capacity at the societal, organisational and individual levels will continue well beyond the Congress as part of the implementation of this legacy.

WHY INVEST IN THE CONGRESS PROGRAMME?

Your contribution is essential to promote nature-based solutions to the most pressing environmental and sustainable development challenges humanity faces today. **Investing in the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 will support a unique event in convening a broad variety of actors interested and actively involved in protected areas and sustainable development**. The Congress provides an exceptional opportunity for different sectors to demonstrate commitment, share expertise and knowledge and take a responsible approach to shape the global agenda for protected areas in the next decade and beyond. **Be part of the solution!**



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Did you know?

IUCN implements Capacity Development activities across all regions and it is a recognized core business of the Union.

Leading IUCN Capacity Development Initiatives include the BIOPAMA Programme, the World Heritage Capacity Development Programme and the Environmental Law Centre Capacity Development Programme.

Best Practice Guidelines on Protected Areas are the result of joint work between IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme, the World Commission on Protected Areas and the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat.

CONTACT

IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Email Contact: WPCCapacity@iucn.org

Twitter: [@WPCSydney](#) [#WorldParksCongress](#) [#InspiringSolutions](#)