



IUCN
WORLD PARKS
CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014

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



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Respecting Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge and Culture

The IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 is the premier global event on protected areas held once every ten years. 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.

The programme streams are at the heart of delivering the Congress outcomes. The **complementary suite of eight streams will look ahead to anticipate and address prominent issues and challenges faced by protected areas**, which will be vital to positioning them firmly within the broader goals of sustainable development and community well-being through the next decade and beyond.

STREAM FOCUS

The theme is about **the role of traditional and indigenous knowledge and practices, as well as recognising cultural and spiritual values, in sustaining and enhancing the socio-environmental resilience of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and the lands and seas they care for.**

This stream will engage members of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, governments, non-governmental and international organisations, and the private sector to collaborate in recognising the role of indigenous and local communities in protected area management. Ultimately, this stream seeks to **build long-term partnerships to demonstrate how these management systems contribute to the achievement of conservation goals, as well as to the well-being of communities around the world.**



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DELIVERING GLOBAL ACTION

Before the Congress, the stream will **develop capacity-building initiatives and compile case-studies and good practices** relating to cultural landscapes, sacred sites, and traditional management systems.

At the Congress, the stream will promote a range of formats that support dialogue, interaction and participation, such as **keynote presentations, workshops, knowledge cafes, panel sessions, sharing existing toolkits and short training courses** on topics like indigenous knowledge and climate adaptation and mitigation in protected areas, and **building sustainable relationships with indigenous and local communities**. Media and innovative techniques will be used to share knowledge, stories and interests and include **film, images, digital, paper and art**.

TOWARDS THE PROMISE OF SYDNEY: THE FUTURE OF PROTECTED AREAS

As a Congress long-term outcome, the stream aims to address the need to deliver on-the-ground benefits to Indigenous Peoples and local communities managing their landscapes, seascapes and resources.

Aspects of these benefits will be highlighted in the **acceptance and recognition of multiple innovative culturally-driven approaches that contribute to conservation and livelihoods locally and globally**, and that will lead to increased understanding, respect and support for the role of traditional management systems in protected areas and beyond.

Securing **long-term international funding commitments** and **improving national and international policies to support Indigenous Peoples and local communities** in managing their landscapes and seascapes **will also be developed**.

Benefits will also be shown through the **creation of a capacity-building programme for Indigenous managers**, such as community exchange networks, as well as **invigorating pathways to engage two-way learning between scientists and traditional knowledge holders**.

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?

On Sibuyan Island, Philippines, the Mangyan Tagabukid communities living in Mt. Guiting-guiting have negotiated an agreement by which they receive payments for watershed management services.

The Shish Bayli, a Qashqai tribe of Iran is engaged in protecting the Chartang-Kushkizar wetland, crucial for their nomadic livelihoods as well as the survival of many birds that find there a unique resting place in their trans-continental migration.

The West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement project has been implemented successfully in the north of Australia by Indigenous ranger groups over **28,000 km²** and provides skills and employment opportunities and maintenance of culture and landscapes through traditional fire management practices that ultimately provide global benefits to mitigating climate change and protecting regionally rich biodiversity values.

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