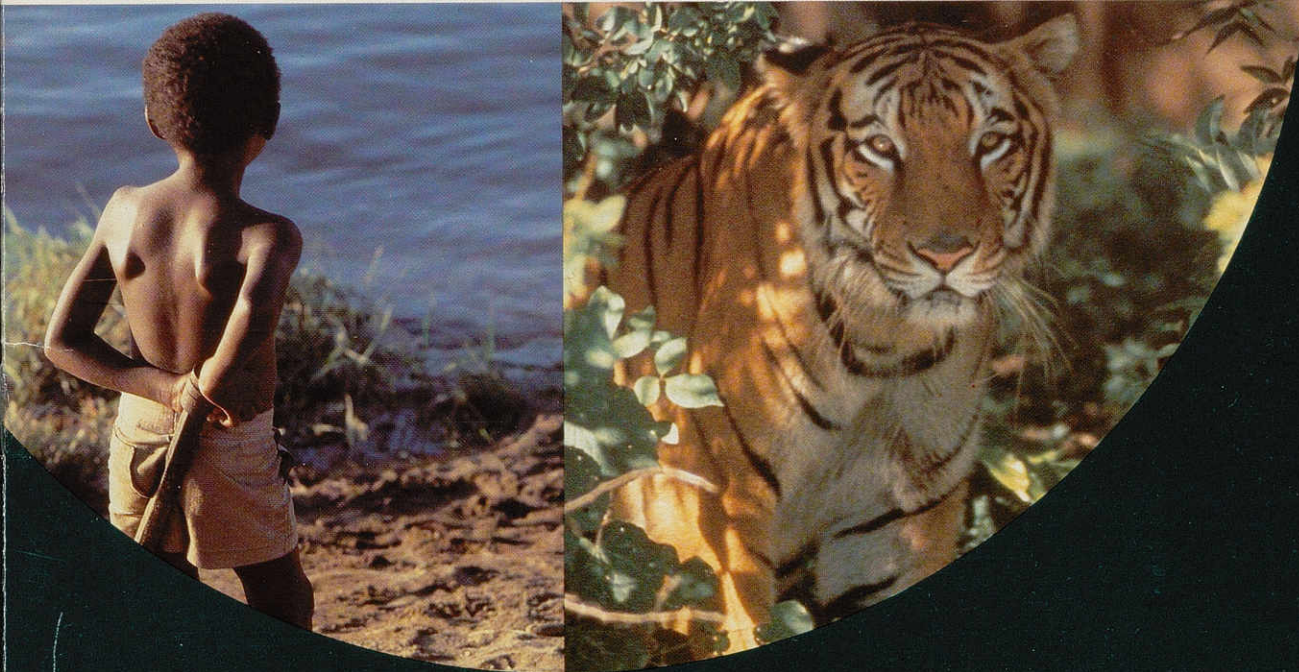


**IUCN - The World Conservation Union**





*We have to act together if we are to solve the great problems of the world. For the world environment is a unit. The atmosphere and oceans belong to no single nation and affect the lives of all. The world's climate is driven by Antarctica, the white hub of the southern hemisphere, where no nation has unchallenged jurisdiction. Pollution knows no national boundaries. Species migrations do not respect frontiers. The march of deserts takes no heed of political alliances.*



Inigo Everson

**IUCN - the World Conservation Union -  
provides a unique partnership for action**



## THE CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

**Are you worried about the state of our world** - the only known foothold of life in the universe? If so, you are in good company. The opinion polls show that over 70% of people in Europe, 55% of people in the United States and over 40% of people in Japan are seriously concerned about some aspect of their environment. Millions more people in the developing countries have even sharper worries about their natural resources. For many of them suffer from "the pollution of poverty", forced by the pressures of necessity to destroy the forests to create somewhere to grow food in, to cut the last trees to fuel tomorrow's cooking, or to eat the seed corn without which there will be no more harvests. And the pressures upon them are aggravated by the demands made by wasteful over-consumption of resources in the richer countries, by distortions in the world's economic and trading systems, and by inequities within their own countries.

**We all know about the problems.** The pollution that threatens the balance of the climate and has knocked a hole in the screen of ozone in the upper air. The fouling of rivers and acidification of lakes. The creeping deserts and receding woodlands. The depletion of fisheries. The impoverishment of the rich life of the earth, perhaps by as much as one species a day - most of them still undescribed by scientists.

*We literally do not know what we are losing.  
But we all want the destruction stopped.*

**How?** By taking action that will work. Not all at once: this is not an age of universal miracles. But step by step, so that the gains through wise management slowly come to outweigh the losses due to over-exploitation.

**That action** has to be fitted to the setting where the problem lies. This, in turn, demands understanding of environmental systems: of the complex web of nature that we call the biosphere. Only the best science will give us such understanding. But if we are to design appropriate actions, we also need to know about the human situation: about the needs of people, and about their traditional wisdom - for many so-called "primitive" people have a deep understanding of how nature works, and strong feelings about how they want to live.

*The solutions have to be put together from  
a blend of the insights provided by social  
and biological sciences and a sensitivity  
to human cultural values.*

That is what IUCN does for it is a **World Conservation Union** that seeks real solutions based on sound scientific principles - and gets them applied in sustainable development: in action that improves the human condition, brings people into balance with the environment on which they depend, and conserves the richness, beauty and wonder of nature.



## WHAT IS IUCN?

Founded in 1948 at an international conference at Fontainebleau, France, under the sponsorship of the Government of France, the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco).

IUCN is the largest professional body in the world that is working to care for the soils, lands, waters and airs of our planet and the life they support - essential natural resources without which there can be no human future.

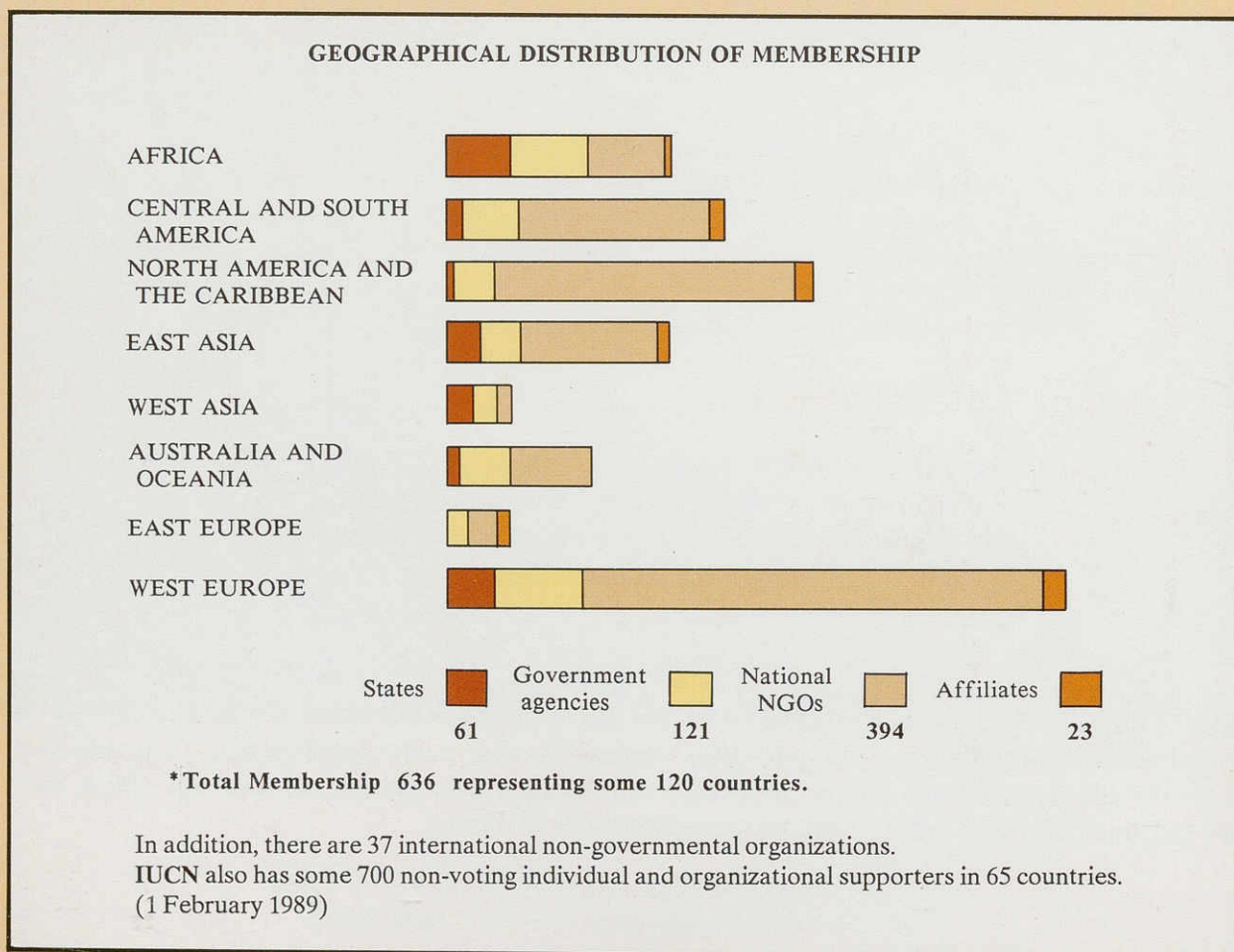
A body active in over 120 countries in the world.

A body whose members include 61 States and 121 government agencies - more than half of them in developing countries.

A body whose members also include most of the famous non-governmental conservation organizations - the national branches of the World Wide Fund for Nature (formerly the World Wildlife Fund), the Sierra Club, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Fédération française des Sociétés de protection de la nature, Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables, and over 400 others.

The only organization in the world in which States, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations participate equally in the cause of conservation.

### A Worldwide Union - The World Conservation Union





## HOW DOES IUCN WORK?

The Union's mission is to provide knowledge and leadership for the sustainable use of the planet's natural resources. It provides knowledge that is the intellectual base for conservation, and can be sharpened into the practical tools for sustainable development. It provides leadership that can guide governments, aid agencies, non-governmental organizations and local communities. It helps governments to develop international Conventions and national laws on conservation. IUCN initiative helped to create many well-known international measures like the Convention Concerning the Protection of The World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

*In all its actions, IUCN seeks to be:*

- *scientifically sound;*
- *economically realistic;*
- *socially constructive.*



Colin Welch



## THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY: THE BASIS FOR ACTION

In 1980 IUCN, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and in collaboration with Unesco and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), published the World Conservation Strategy. This has been hailed as the most important conservation manifesto of the 1980s. It re-states the intellectual base for conservation. Its central theme is that sustainable development - action that alters the environment so that it caters more effectively for human needs, without depleting renewable resources - is essential if the world is to be free from poverty and squalor, but that such development must be based on resources that regenerate naturally and can meet our needs indefinitely. Destruction of tomorrow's foundations in order to satisfy today's needs is self-evident folly.

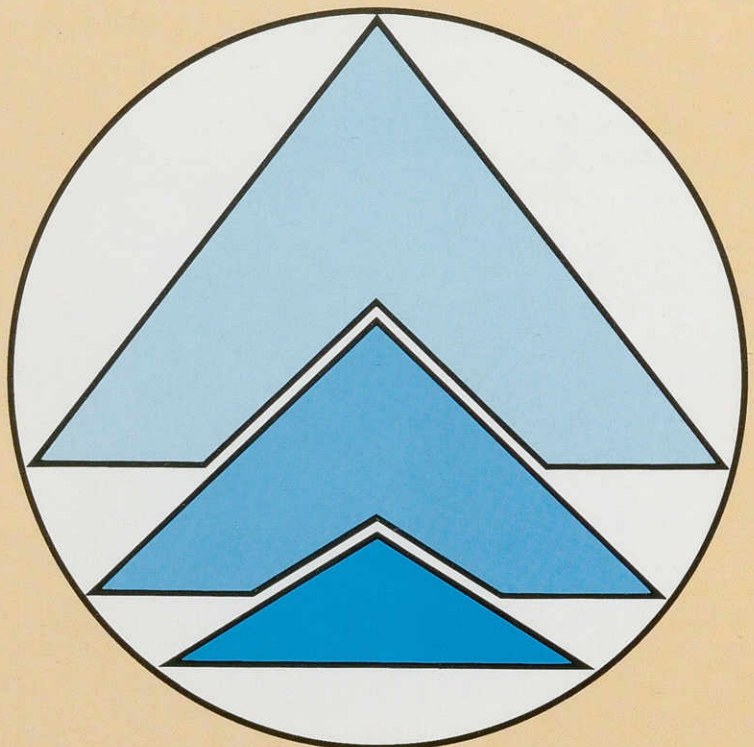
And within that development we have to find room for wild nature, which is a spiritual enrichment as well as, in a very practical sense, the foundation of our existence. It is the processes of wild nature that renew the oxygen in the air, maintain the cycles of essential elements, sustain the fertility of the land, and regulate the flow of rivers. We turn to wild nature for new crops and new drugs, as well as for the beauty that enriches our lives. The World Conservation Strategy emphasises that conservation and sustainable development are not enemies, but are inseparably one.

### *The World Conservation Strategy Symbol*

*The circle symbolizes the biosphere - the thin covering of the planet that contains and sustains life.*

*The three interlocking, overlapping arrows symbolize the three objectives of conservation:*

- *Maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems;*
- *preservation of genetic diversity;*
- *sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems.*







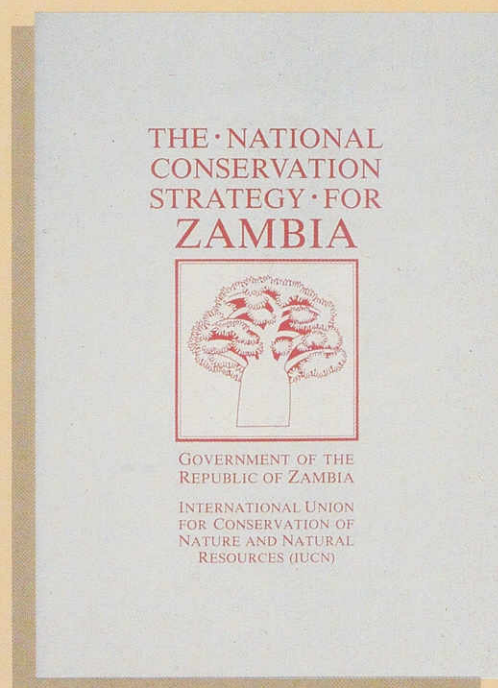
David Reed Impact Photos

## KEY CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The World Conservation Strategy (WCS) lays down three basic principles for conservation: that essential ecological processes and life-support systems must be maintained; that genetic diversity must be preserved; and that any use of species and ecosystems must be sustainable.

### The WCS:

- defines the objectives of living resource conservation;
- determines the priority requirements for achieving each of the objectives;
- proposes national conservation strategies to meet the priority requirements;
- recommends anticipatory environmental policies, a cross-sectoral conservation policy, and a broader system of national accounting;
- suggests ways of helping rural communities to conserve their living resources and advocates greater public participation in planning and decision-making concerning the use of living resources.





## A WORLD CONSERVATION

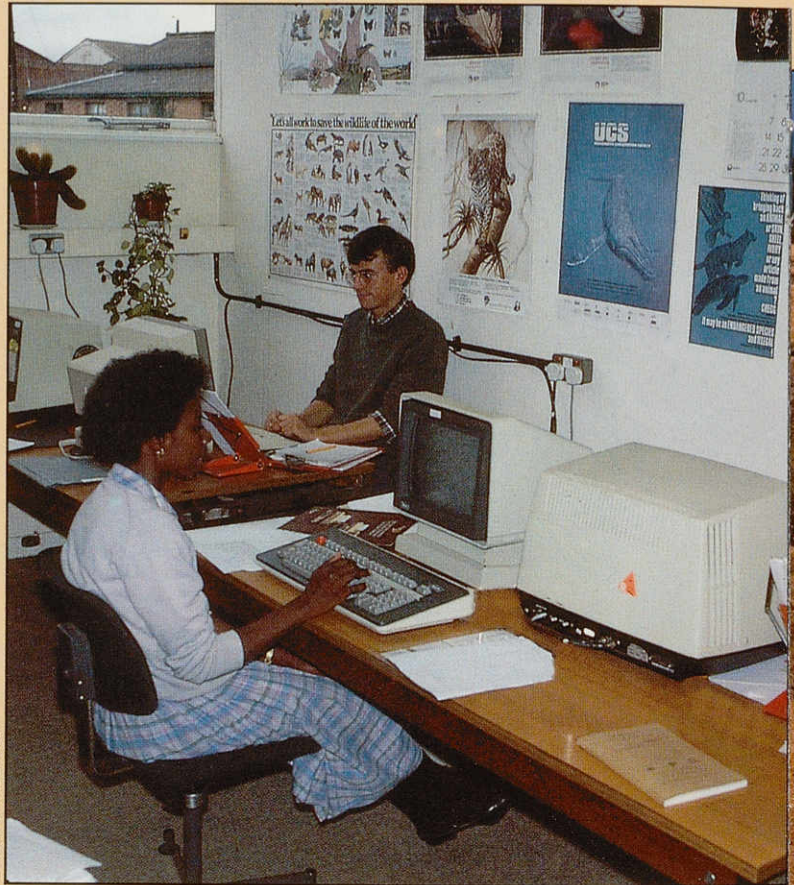
Strategies are useless unless they are applied. As a World Conservation Union, IUCN has developed the World Conservation Strategy, and much else besides, in four steps:

**Information** - The Union watches over - monitors - what is happening to the world's environment and collects scientifically-based data about species and ecosystems.

**Analysis** - It investigates the causes of environmental change and degradation in different places, assesses the seriousness of different problems, and determines options for solutions.

**Planning** - Drawing on information and analysis, specialists consider how to reverse destructive trends and set development on a path to sustainability which is appropriate to the local setting.

**Action** - The Union designs actions, provides advice and helps to carry both through to conclusions, working in close partnership with governments, aid agencies, non-governmental organizations and local groups and communities. All parts of the Union are involved: we have an integrated programme.



Mark Collins IUCN



WWF Michael Major

**The Membership, worldwide** contributes knowledge of problems, priorities and solutions.

**Individuals** from member organizations and the wider professional community serve in **Commissions** - voluntary task forces - that harness their expertise to address:

- the application of ecological science to conservation;
- the choice of areas for protection as national parks and reserves;
- tactics to ensure the survival of key or endangered species;
- the form of new conservation laws and approaches to management;
- patterns for environmental education and training;
- the practices of sustainable development.



## ATION UNION IN ACTION

The Secretariat of The Union undertakes special programmes that study the dynamics of key components of the living world, including tropical forests, arid lands, wetlands and coastal habitats (such as coral reefs or mangroves), and develops plans for their management in a sustainable way.



Michael Green IUCN

**Other Programmes** examine the crucial question of how human populations can be brought into sustainable balance with their environment - and how to ensure that Action Plans take proper note of the key role of women, as the people who grow most of the food, gather most of the fuel, and carry most of the water used in many parts of the world and play a central role in teaching the next generation how to respect their environment.

**Two special world information centres** - the **World Conservation Monitoring Centre** and the **Environmental Law Centre** - are the main repositories of information on the state of the earth's wildlife and protected areas, and the kinds of environmental law that are being adopted and implemented to deal with resource management challenges. The World Conservation Monitoring Centre is a joint venture, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

**The Field Operations Division** - has almost 60 staff, most of whom are outposted in six regional offices in the developing world in Africa, Central America, and Asia. They put the knowledge gathered and synthesised by the Membership, the Commissions, the Secretariat and the Centres into action. Over 2,300 specialists drawn from the Commissions and IUCN's Consultants Register are on hand to ensure that the best skills are deployed on every project. The projects are practical demonstrations that the concepts developed by the Union can be applied in the real world.



## WHAT IUCN HAS

Within the past few

### Helped more than 30 Governments

- prepare National Conservation Strategies
- plans that implement the principles of the World Conservation Strategy in their own countries.

### Pressed Governments for action on:

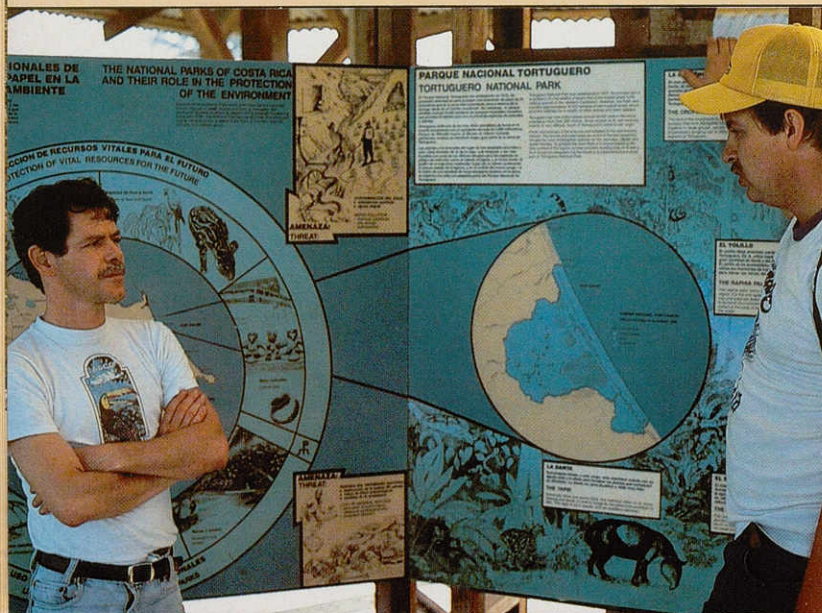
- establishing national policies to achieve a stable balance between population and natural resources, under conditions that enhance human dignity and the quality of life;
- providing incentives for natural resource management that is both economically profitable and durable in the long term;
- developing economic measures that put a proper value on irreplaceable resources and avoid the erosion of these values because of the burden of debt;
- improving the management of the living resources of the sea, including protecting marine mammals, through adopting a Global Plan of Action prepared in partnership by UNEP, FAO and IUCN;
- saving the dwindling herds of African elephants threatened by illegal trade in ivory, and of rhinos threatened by trade in their horns;
- observing the ban on commercial whaling, unanimously supported by the best scientific experts in the world;
- stopping the export of persistent pesticides from European countries which no longer use them at home, and have been dumping them in the developing world;
- ending the conflict between commercial logging and the rights and lives of village peoples in several parts of the developing world.

### Worked with governments to secure:

- better understanding of the environmental implications and components of development programmes in many countries including Botswana, Costa Rica, Pakistan, Zambia and Zimbabwe;
- inscription of sites of outstanding universal value on the World Heritage list;
- an Action Plan for the Alps, threatened by dying forests and excessive tourist development;
- action to conserve the coastal environments of the Red Sea, the Gulf, the Wadden Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea;
- improvements in the effectiveness of protected areas in tropical Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the islands of the Pacific;
- new management plans for important national parks in Cameroon, China, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Liberia, Oman, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Zaire.

### Worked with various agencies to design projects:

- to secure protected areas in Indonesia and Madagascar (World Bank), and improve management of Garamba National Park (Unesco/WWF/Frankfurt Zoological Society);
- to conserve the Giant Panda in China (WWF), to utilize wildlife in Tanzania (UNDP), to conserve gorillas in Zaire (WWF/Frankfurt Zoological Society) and dugongs in East Africa (UNEP), and to promote sustainable utilization of green iguanas in Costa Rica (NORAD) and tree ducks in El Salvador (SIDA);
- to develop practical plans for conservation including measures that will protect forests, water supplies, and other resources vital to the well being of rural communities in Tanzania in the Serengeti (NORAD); Ngorongoro (NORAD/EEC); the Usambaras (EEC/NORAD/FINNIDA); Mount Elgon in Uganda (NORAD); the Korangi Creek in Pakistan (UNEP/NORAD); Bocas del Toro in Panama (WWF/NORAD); Petén in Guatemala (NORAD/SIDA); Region II in Nicaragua (NORAD/SIDA); and the Belize Barrier Reef (CIDA).



Patrick Dugan IUCN



## ACCOMPLISHED

years, the Union has:

Published authoritative reviews of conservation policy including:

- "Red Data Books" on the status and urgent conservation needs of key mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, invertebrates and plants;
- directories of the protected areas of Africa and Latin America, of Neotropical and African wetlands, and of Biosphere Reserves (the latter in collaboration with Unesco) and, the United Nations List of National Parks and Protected Areas;
- handbooks on Managing Protected Areas in the Tropics and on Managing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, both in collaboration with UNEP;
- guides for conservation and development in a number of countries (including Madagascar, Pakistan and Zambia) and in the Sahel region, whose environment has been devastated by recent drought;
- reports on the conservation of a wide range of species, including marine turtles, polar bears, guanaco, crocodiles, African primates, and antelopes;
- guidelines for managing buffer zones around protected areas in tropical forests, for resettlement of transmigrants in Indonesia, for management of moist tropical forest lands, and decision-making in establishing environmental standards (in collaboration with WHO).

Helped to develop and operate conservation treaties and national legislation including:

- the Conventions on World Heritage, International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Conservation of Migratory Species (Bonn), Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar) and the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers);
- a draft global Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity;
- national legislation concerning the implementation of CITES in India, wildlife and habitat protection in Oman, and general environmental principles in Saudi Arabia;
- guidelines for the development of environmental standards and for legislation on the conservation of plant species.



Built up the World Conservation Monitoring Centre and the Environmental Law Centre as unique repositories of data in their field, including records of over:

- 15,000 protected areas;
- 80,000 species of plants and animals of conservation importance;
- 860,000 details of trade in wild species;
- 31,000 laws and administrative instruments.

Managed nearly 300 field projects which implement the principles of the World Conservation Strategy and demonstrate how they work on the ground.





## WORLD CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

The Conservation bodies of the world form a true partnership. IUCN is itself a partnership of its 600 member organizations. It works closely with:

- its various members, both governmental and non-governmental;
- the United Nations system - UNEP, FAO and Unesco;
- the World Wide Fund for Nature, together with the WWF national organizations, all of which are IUCN members;
- The Secretariats of International Conventions for Conservation;
- corporations such as British Petroleum, R.J.R. Nabisco and Citibank;
- foundations such as W. Alton Jones, Rockefeller Brothers, Ford, Andrew W. Mellon, Jessie Smith Noyes, Karl Schmidt Scholl Fonds, David Shepherd Charitable Foundation and Vanderbilt Trust;
- the World Bank and the regional banks of Asia, Africa and the Americas, and multilateral aid agencies like the United Nations Development Programme and the Commission of the European Communities;
- national aid agencies in Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, and many other countries;
- States - whether they are members or not.

### IUCN MEMBERSHIP WORLDWIDE

Total Membership 636 representing some 120 countries

State Member

Country with members



#### IUCN OFFICES ●

Nairobi, Kenya  
Harare, Zimbabwe  
Dakar, Sénégal  
Karachi, Pakistan  
San José, Costa Rica  
Washington, USA  
Cambridge, UK  
Kew, UK  
Bonn, FRG





## MUCH ACTION FROM A SMALL INVESTMENT

Despite its worldwide role, IUCN operates on a very slender budget:

- the membership dues amount to only US\$ 2.7 million, borne very largely by governments and official agencies in the richest countries;
- a further US\$ 1.4 million is given to the Union to support its central management;
- about US\$ 1.4 million is given by governments and others to pay for programmes of evaluation and assessment in particular habitats or themes;
- the rest - a total of US\$ 6.7 million is to pay for specific projects commissioned from the Union.

## IUCN - THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION





## SUPPORTING THE WORK OF IUCN

We could not function at all if it were not for the generous voluntary contribution of time and effort by members and by individuals who serve on the various Commissions without payment. As it is, this world conservation union cannot meet more than a fraction of the challenges before it. Significant additional funding will enable it to serve the world far more effectively.

Is your country - or your organization - a member? Are people from your University working with the IUCN Commissions? Could your government, agency, company or community benefit from IUCN's help?

### SCALE OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (1989)

States	From: SFR 7,909 (US\$ 5,300)	To: SFR 209,181 (US\$ 140,400)
Government Agencies	From: SFR 1,146 (US\$ 770)	To: SFR 52,295 (US\$ 35,100)
NGOs (National and International)	From: SFR 250 (US\$ 170)	To: SFR 12,000 (US\$ 8,000)
Affiliates	SFR 1,500 (US\$ 1,000)	

IUCN sends its dues invoices in Swiss francs; the dollar equivalent is only approximate.

IUCN's basic operating costs, its programmes and projects are paid for by its members, by development agencies, funds and foundations. But the demands for applying IUCN's clear guidance to the conservation challenges of today are always greater than the available funds will pay for. Our ability to carry out the additional work is dependent on other contributions.

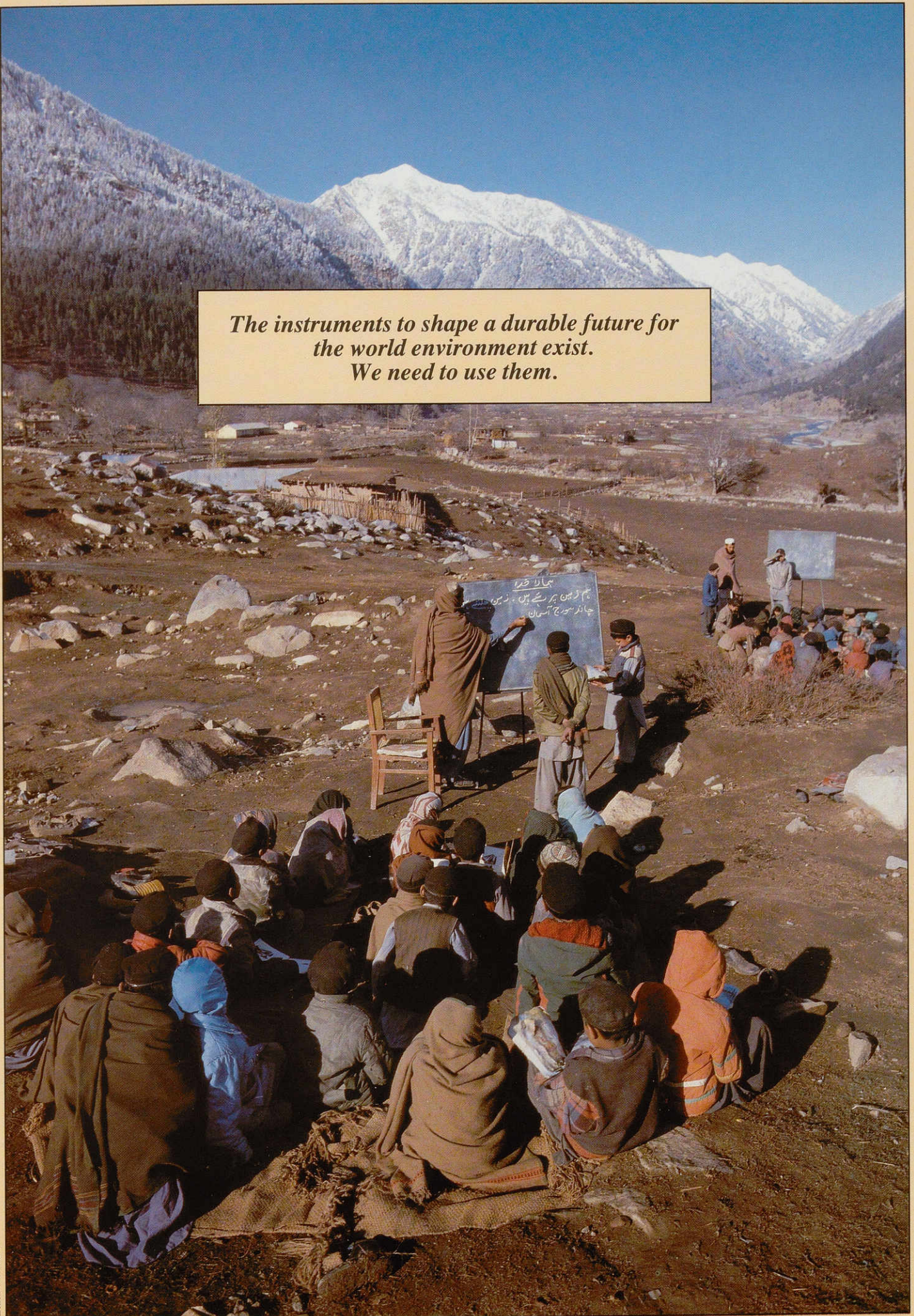
IUCN is grateful for all donations, whether for discrete activities or general use, whether in the form of single grants, annual contributions or legacies.

For more information on specific programmes or on the mechanisms for making donations and the ways of ensuring respective tax advantages, please write to:

**Fundraising Secretary**  
**International Union for Conservation of Nature**  
**and Natural Resources**  
**Avenue du Mont-Blanc**  
**CH-1196 Gland**  
**Switzerland**  
**Telephone: (41 22) 64 91 14**  
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*The instruments to shape a durable future for  
the world environment exist.  
We need to use them.*





**IUCN - THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION**

*Has a truly worldwide programme in the service of nations and nature.*

*If it is not active in your country, it will not be through lack of will.*

*It may be through lack of support –*

**YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE UNION AND ITS MEMBERS.**

**IUCN**  
**The World Conservation Union**  
**Avenue du Mont-Blanc**  
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**Switzerland**

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