

IUCN 70 years

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR
CONSERVATION OF NATURE

EUROPEAN REGION

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



International Union for
Conservation of Nature

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FOREWORD

2018 was a special year for IUCN, in which it celebrated its 70th anniversary. Events in Sweden, The Netherlands, Finland, France, Belgium, Spain and others showcased the strong movement for nature that IUCN represents in Europe. As always, the IUCN European Regional Office (IUCN Europe) continued to work with its Members and partners to help Europe achieve its commitments and raise its ambition.

Although all reports on the state of the environment, climate and nature show that we need to act with more urgency and at a larger scale, we saw some steps towards a more sustainable future. The European Commission has enforced compliance with European Union (EU) laws and is driving protection of some of Europe's most precious natural areas, with specific cases on World Heritage sites such as the Białowieża forest and the Doñana wetlands. A European Pollinators Initiative was launched and the EU Single-Use Plastics Directive was adopted. IUCN Europe has been supporting these initiatives throughout by providing knowledge and mobilising its large network of governments and environmental organisations.

The IUCN European Red List continues to provide a better understanding of the state of nature in Europe and the efforts needed to overcome the major threats to European species.



Luc Bas
Director
IUCN European
Regional Office

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The total number of species assessed in the IUCN European Red List has now grown to over 11,500 species, with approximately a quarter of these species being considered threatened in Europe. We also adapted the IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard to the Natura 2000 sites, which clearly demonstrates that site managers, scientists and local communities can successfully work together for and with nature in Europe's most valuable protected areas.

With unsustainable farming practices identified as the most important driver of biodiversity loss, we have engaged in the process of rethinking Europe's agricultural system in a way that benefits both farmers and nature, here and abroad.

In addition, the world's oceans and European waters are being polluted with ever-increasing quantities of plastic, to the detriment of biodiversity and the medium and long-term



Red deers (*Cervus elaphus*) © delbars/AdobeStock

provision of ecosystem services. IUCN Europe engaged in discussions with the private sector, including the European Tyre Industry, to tackle the plastic challenge, focusing on microplastics.

IUCN Europe has also been deeply involved in the preparations for the future biodiversity policy after 2020. We supported the dialogue between different actors in the EU, including organising two receptions with the Bulgarian and Austrian EU Presidencies of the European Council, ensuring the voices of the EU institutions, EU Member States, environmental organisations and land users were heard.

In 2018, IUCN Europe helped to demonstrate the value of natural capital and integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services into urban planning and development. We need to build on this momentum to scale-up investments in nature-based solutions, which are integral to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in Europe and reaching the European Climate Targets, including the ambition to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. We strengthened the case for Forest Landscape Restoration commitments in Europe and promoted the Bonn Challenge for restoring 350 million hectares of land globally.

Promisingly, European youth and citizens, local authorities and non-state actors are demanding change, organising themselves to address climate change and engaging in projects that place sustainability at their core. Faced with a global tendency to put the economy ahead of nature and healthy ecosystems—our foundation of prosperity—and of

social justice, Europe must seek to move the restoration and protection of nature to the forefront of the political agenda, particularly in the 2019 European elections. The Regional Conservation Forum in Rotterdam from 1st to 3rd July 2019 and the World Congress in Marseille in 2020 are important landmark events to bring the IUCN movement to the European and world stage.

The combined efforts of the IUCN network—its Members, experts and national committees—are crucial if we are to continue to have a high impact on policy-making, set the agenda for environmental protection, and secure healthy ecosystems for citizens in Europe and beyond. This is only possible with support from our donors, whom we wish to thank wholeheartedly for their trust in IUCN's work. Together with the IUCN Europe team, we look forward to continuing to work with all of you towards a future that maximises the opportunities offered by nature-based solutions and healthy ecosystems both for people and nature. Together, we can ensure that Europe remains a beacon for environmental protection and can continue to chart the course towards sustainability.

Luc Bas



OVERVIEW OF IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,300 Member organisations and the input of 14,500 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. Its experts are organised into six Commissions dedicated to species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.

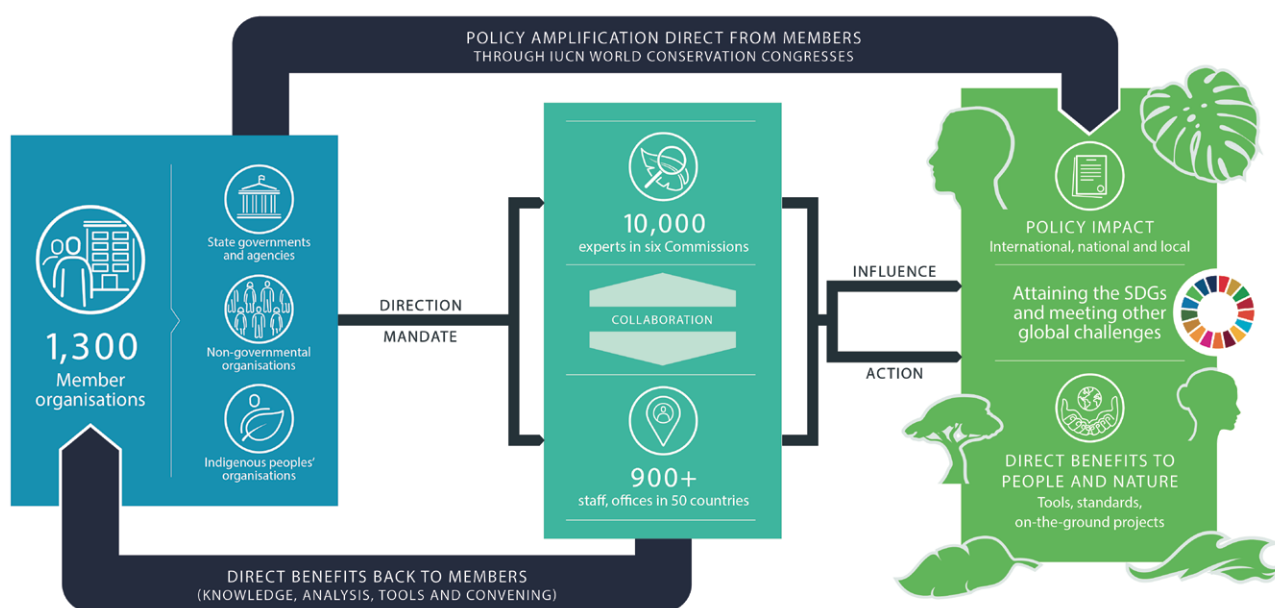
The ability to convene diverse stakeholders and provide the latest science, objective recommendations and on the ground expertise drives IUCN's mission of informing and empowering conservation efforts worldwide. IUCN provides

a neutral forum in which governments, non-governmental organisations, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples' groups, faith-based organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges.

By facilitating these solutions, IUCN provides governments and institutions at all levels with the impetus to achieve universal goals, including on biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development, which IUCN was instrumental in defining. Combined, its knowledge base and diverse membership make IUCN an incubator and trusted repository of best practices, conservation tools, and international guidelines and standards. With its official United Nations Observer Status, IUCN ensures that nature conservation



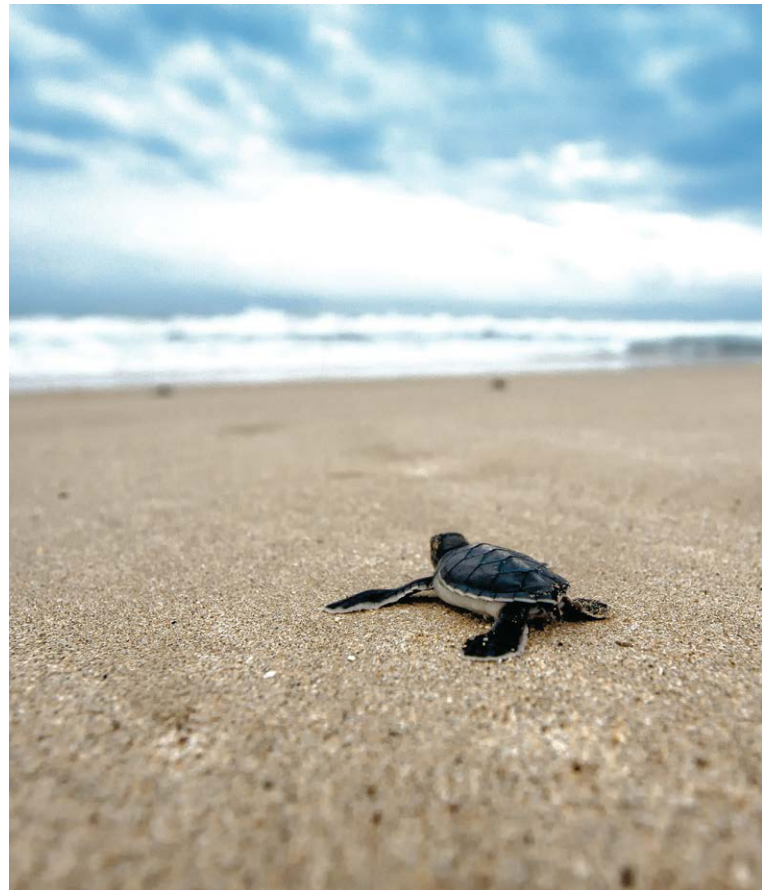
UNITED FOR LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS



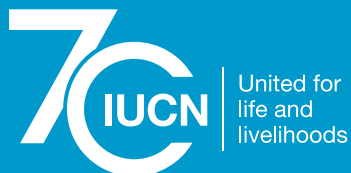
has a voice at the highest level of international governance. IUCN's expertise and extensive network provide a solid foundation for a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects around the world.

Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being. They also produce a wealth of data and information which feeds into IUCN's analytical capacity. Through their affiliation with IUCN, Member organisations are part of a democratic process, discussing and approving Resolutions, which lay the foundations for the global conservation agenda.

Members meet every four years at the IUCN World Conservation Congress to set priorities and agree on the Union's Work Programme. IUCN congresses have produced several key international environmental agreements including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the World Heritage Convention, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. IUCN continues to support these conventions as they grow stronger and evolve so that they can respond to emerging challenges. IUCN's Member organisations are represented by the IUCN Council – the governing body. Headquartered in Switzerland, the IUCN Secretariat comprises around 900 staff in more than 60 countries.



Baby green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) heading to the sea © Pixabay



IUCN celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2018. Through numerous events and commemorative materials, the Union reflected on its seven decades of vision and impact, and focused on how to apply that experience to the challenges of today and tomorrow.



“For the past 70 years, IUCN has been the indispensable ally of all those who are concerned about the state of our environment. IUCN has been able to work in a doubly positive dimension: positive for nature, and positive for humanity.”

(IUCN Patron of Nature His Serene Highness Prince Albert of Monaco)

STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

The IUCN European Region covers 38 countries, including all the countries of the European Union, representing around 345 Members in 2018. IUCN Europe represents IUCN and its diverse membership at the EU institutions by providing a policy platform and supporting resource mobilisation for the protection of nature and restoration of ecosystems. It also works closely with the European Commission, European Parliament and EU Member States to inform decision-making by providing IUCN's knowledge, programmes and tools while also creating opportunities for stakeholder engagement.



Bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) © Jesus/AdobeStock

EU-level decisions are not only important for Europe, but also have a global impact. In its work with Members and other stakeholders, IUCN aims to demonstrate the value of conserving and restoring ecosystems in Europe and abroad, and how these concerns can be mainstreamed within the various sectors of European policy action and EU development cooperation programmes.

The IUCN European Programme is fully aligned with the implementation of an ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Europe and globally.

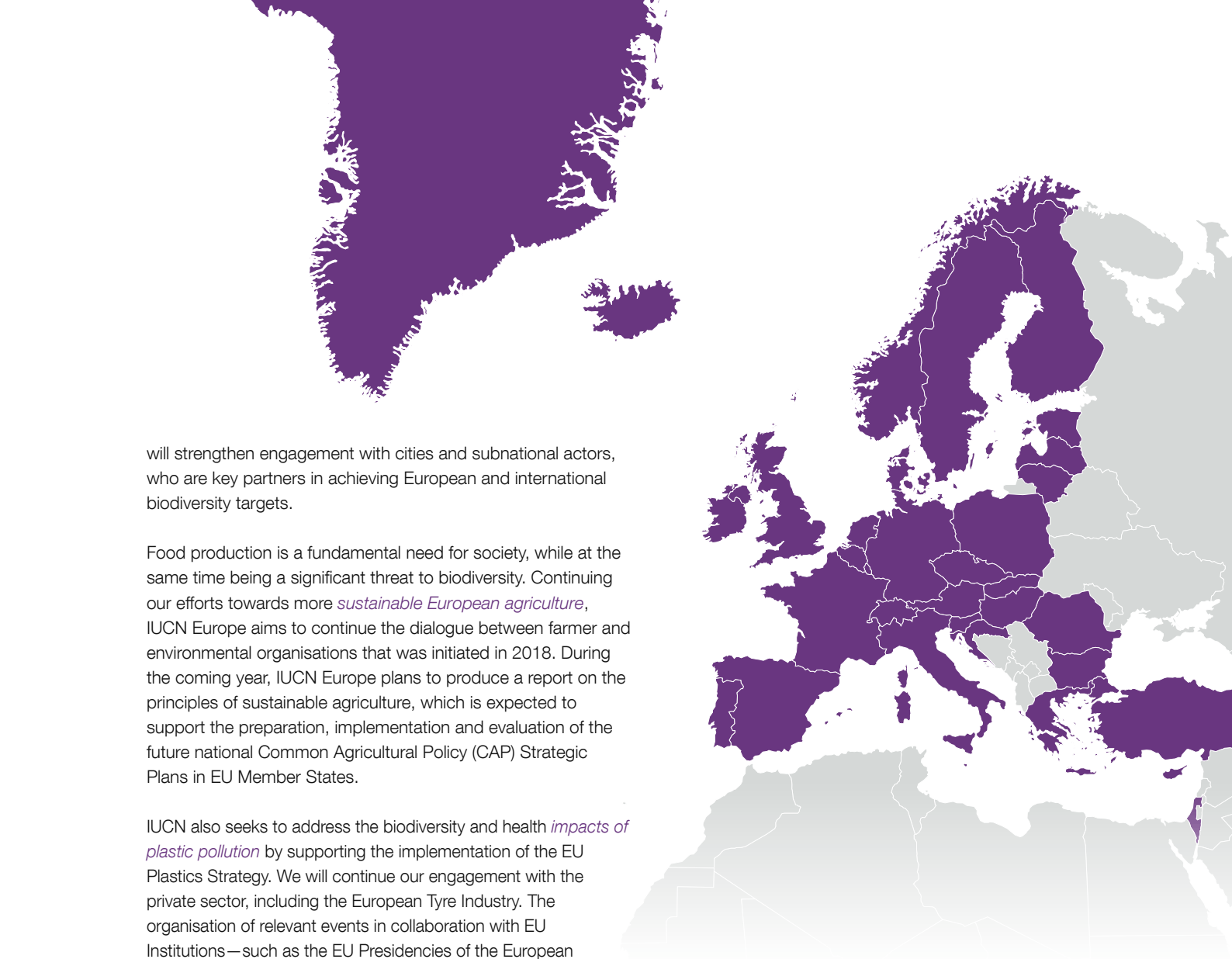
The IUCN European Work Programme 2017-2020—developed with IUCN's Members and Commission experts—sets the office's strategic orientation and priorities, defines the targets and guides IUCN's activities in the region. The Work Programme focuses on sustainable agriculture, tackling the plastics challenge within a circular economy framework, supporting ambitious biodiversity policies and implementing nature-based solutions for climate change action.

Healthy ecosystems are the foundation of our social and economic prosperity and IUCN will continue to demonstrate the importance of the protection and restoration of ecosystems.

OUR UPCOMING ACTIONS

The *IUCN Red List* work in Europe will continue in the coming years to include more invertebrate groups, including through the assessment of approximately 1,000 hoverfly species by 2021. IUCN will also provide technical support to the implementation of the EU Pollinators Initiative throughout 2019 and 2020. The office will continue the implementation of the *IUCN Green List* to strengthen the management and governance of the Natura 2000 network. At the moment, adapted indicators for the IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard for Natura 2000 are being tested through working closely with a selection of sites across Europe.

Demonstrating evidence on the effectiveness and multiple benefits of *nature-based solutions* for a range of societal challenges remains a priority for IUCN in Europe. In 2019, IUCN Europe will advance its involvement in Horizon 2020 projects on nature-based solutions, including organising a conference in Manchester in March to provide training, capacity building and networking opportunities for city representatives, investors and businesses on tackling the investment gap for nature-based solutions in cities. IUCN will continue its work campaigning for forest ecosystem services, as well as developing other capacity building activities. The *IUCN Urban Nature Alliance*—a global platform for raising awareness of the value of ecosystems in urban areas and how these ecosystems can help address urban challenges—



will strengthen engagement with cities and subnational actors, who are key partners in achieving European and international biodiversity targets.

Food production is a fundamental need for society, while at the same time being a significant threat to biodiversity. Continuing our efforts towards more *sustainable European agriculture*, IUCN Europe aims to continue the dialogue between farmer and environmental organisations that was initiated in 2018. During the coming year, IUCN Europe plans to produce a report on the principles of sustainable agriculture, which is expected to support the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the future national Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plans in EU Member States.

IUCN also seeks to address the biodiversity and health *impacts of plastic pollution* by supporting the implementation of the EU Plastics Strategy. We will continue our engagement with the private sector, including the European Tyre Industry. The organisation of relevant events in collaboration with EU Institutions—such as the EU Presidencies of the European Council or the European Parliament—is foreseen to support active engagement with actors after the EU elections in May 2019.

IUCN Europe will also be closely involved in the preparations for the *future biodiversity policy framework after 2020*. We will support the EU process already underway to evaluate the current Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, as well as the one to develop a post-2020 biodiversity policy framework. We also aim to enhance dialogue with the key sectors that have potential impacts on biodiversity, as they will be crucial if future targets to halt the loss of biodiversity after 2020 are to be achieved.

IUCN will continue to raise awareness of biodiversity in the *EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories*, promote collaboration and help implement projects in these regions, through new calls for proposals under the BEST (Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas) projects.

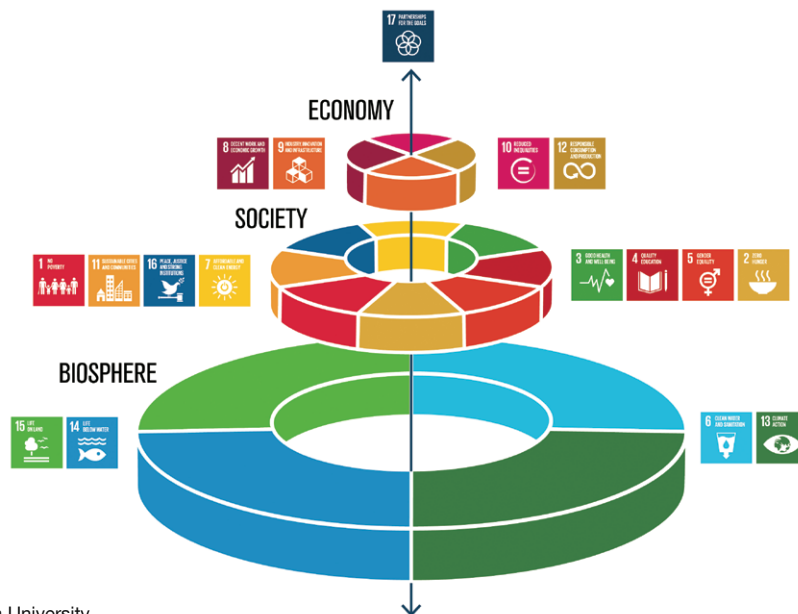
IUCN Europe will retain its role as an observer to the *multi-stakeholder platform on the Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) and will seek to contribute to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the European region, taking into account the impact of European lifestyles on other regions of the world.

The Regional Conservation Forum in 2019 and the World Conservation Congress in 2020 will set the future direction of IUCN and its Programme in contributing to the European and global goals and targets, building on IUCN's strengths and network.

IUCN EUROPEAN PROGRAMME AND MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

A healthy and thriving environment is the first step towards the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this context, IUCN Europe contributes to the delivery of the environmental targets of the SDGs through its 2017-2020 Programme. The European Work Programme is fully aligned with the SDGs, and IUCN Europe monitors and contributes to their implementation within European policies.

Illustration: Azote for Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University



VALUING AND CONSERVING NATURE



European green woodpecker (*Picus viridis*) © Pixabay

IUCN Europe works in partnership to safeguard species and build healthy protected area systems as a foundation for nature and human well-being. IUCN generates, integrates, and disseminates knowledge on the most appropriate responses to emerging conservation challenges, building individual and institutional capacity to plan and manage biodiversity in the most sustainable and effective ways. IUCN Europe works to improve policies, legal and institutional frameworks, and to mobilise resources for species conservation and protected area management both regionally and globally.

EUROPEAN RED LIST - NEARLY 12 000 SPECIES ASSESSED BY 2018



The IUCN European Red List provides a comprehensive overview of the extinction risk of European species and is a powerful tool to inform policy decisions on biodiversity conservation. In 2018, work has continued on the current LIFE-funded project, which is contributing to the assessments of underrepresented groups such as invertebrates and plants in Europe.

This year saw the publication of the 'European Red List of Saproxylic Beetles', which assessed an additional 257 species following the first assessment in 2008, amounting to a total of 693 native or naturalised species found in Europe assessed to date. Approximately a fifth of these species (17.9%) are considered threatened in Europe, making saproxylic beetles one of the most threatened insect groups in Europe assessed so far. However, for almost one quarter of the species in Europe (168 species – 24.4%), there was not enough scientific information to evaluate their risk of extinction, and so it is possible that the number of threatened species is even higher. This assessment brings the total number of species assessed in the IUCN European Red List to over 11,500 species. IUCN plans to complete all 1,821 assessments of European bryophytes, 576 vascular plants and 1,245 assessments of molluscs in order to publish the European Red Lists for these taxonomic groups. The Red List work in Europe will continue in the coming years to include more invertebrate groups, including through the assessment of approximately 1,000 hoverfly species by 2021, a project awarded at the end of 2018 by the European Commission.



Iphthiminus italicus © Hervé Bouyon

This saproxylic beetle has a small representation in Europe and is threatened by large-scale silvicultural activities and wildfires. It has been classified as Endangered by the IUCN European Red List.

HELPING POLLINATORS SURVIVE IN THE EU

IUCN Europe will provide technical support to the implementation of the EU Pollinators Initiative throughout 2019 and 2020 through a service contract awarded at the end of 2018 by the European Commission. The EU Pollinators Initiative was launched on 1st June 2018 and sets strategic objectives and a set of actions to be taken by the EU and its Member States to address the decline of pollinators in Europe and contribute to global conservation efforts.



European honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) © marcociannarel/AdobeStock

SUPPORTING THE EU REGULATION ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

In 2018, IUCN Europe completed the second year of the invasive alien species (IAS) project, and initiated the third and last year of the project. Through this initiative, IUCN provides scientific support and advice to the European Commission on the implementation of the EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species, which focuses on the prevention,

early detection, rapid eradication and management of IAS. This is achieved by mobilising knowledge on IAS through the involvement of a large group of experts, including the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Invasive Species Specialist Group (IUCN SSC ISSG).

PROMOTING SUCCESSFUL PROTECTED AREAS USING THE IUCN GREEN LIST STANDARD

The IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas (the 'IUCN Green List Programme') aims to encourage, achieve and promote effective, equitable and successful protected areas.



Capileira village, in the Sierra Nevada National and Nature Park in Spain. The park offers an example of successful cooperation between managers, scientists and local communities for enhanced protected area management. It received Green List status in 2014.

© José Miguel Barea-Azcón

The IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard was formally approved in 2017 by the IUCN Council – the principal governing body for the Union.

In 2018, IUCN Europe continued to implement the LIFE project entitled 'Green List for N2K', funded by the European Commission. This project aims to adapt the IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard to Natura 2000 sites by developing tailored indicators in line with the requirements of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives.



This year, an assessment workshop was organised in Malaga, Spain, on 21st to 23rd March, in which participants developed preliminary specific indicators aligned with the requirements of the EU Nature Directives. A public consultation was held on these specific indicators and the comments gathered were taken up at the final validation workshop, held

online on 28th May 2018. The resulting indicators are now being tested in more than 60 Natura 2000 sites during the testing phase of the project, which started in June 2018 and is ongoing.

'PEACE KEEPING' BETWEEN LARGE CARNIVORES AND PEOPLE

The Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) continued its collaboration with the European Commission in support of efforts to promote coexistence between large carnivores and humans by developing best practices and engaging with stakeholders. The LCIE participated in the activities of the stakeholder dialogue platform 'EU Platform on Coexistence

between People and Large Carnivores', launched by the European Commissioner for Environment in 2014, along with representatives of nature conservation, hunting, landowner and reindeer herding interests. The 2018 annual meeting of the LCIE was held in Brussels.



Brown bear (*Ursus arctos arctos*) © Martin/AdobeStock

BUILDING DIALOGUE AND KNOWLEDGE – EUROPEAN HABITATS FORUM

Throughout 2018, IUCN Europe continued its participation in the European Habitats Forum (EHF), which brings together 22 leading nature organisations. As secretariat, IUCN Europe facilitated the exchange of knowledge on EU biodiversity

policy among EHF members, promoted a common view on key policy issues, and provided a coordinated means of communication between EHF members and EU institutions.

TECHNOLOGY-BASED POLICY WORK IN WETLAND CONSERVATION



Great white egret (*Ardea alba*) © Pixabay



The European Commission-funded Horizon 2020 project Satellite-based Wetland Observation Service (SWOS), of

which IUCN Europe is a partner, was finalised in 2018 after three and a half years.

The project has developed an operational standardised monitoring service for wetland ecosystems, and aimed to promote and underpin the consideration of wetlands in the implementation of key policy areas. IUCN, as a potential user of the SWOS service, strengthened the project by providing expert advice regarding EU policies, IUCN knowledge products and general communication activities. IUCN Europe took the lead in organising the project's final policy conference, linking the results and findings of the project to EU policy debates.

UPCOMING WORK

IUCN Europe will continue to implement the LIFE projects for the European Red List and the Green List for Natura 2000. It will also be working towards promoting species reassessments in Europe, as a critical step to better understand changes in the status of European biodiversity. Birds are one of the first groups currently under reassessment through a project also funded by the European Commission and led by Stichting BirdLife Europe, with IUCN as a partner. This work will continue to increase knowledge of the distribution and extinction risk of these species, in order to guide policy decisions and conservation actions.

As part of the LIFE Green List project, adapted indicators for the IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard for Natura 2000 are being tested through working closely with selected sites across Europe. The project will come to an end in October 2019 but IUCN is committed to continue this work, of which the approval of Europe as a new jurisdiction by the Green List Management

Committee is an obvious reflection. The second phase of the project will likely entail the involvement of more Member States and the consolidation of the resource infrastructure necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of this tailored standard in Europe.

For the Invasive Alien Species project, IUCN will continue to work with a wide network of experts, including scientists from the IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission, to provide comprehensive and timely technical support to the European Commission for the implementation of the EU Regulation on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species (Regulation 1143/2014).

IUCN Europe will also continue to participate in the EHF, and look for future opportunities to guide and support species and protected area conservation efforts in Europe.

ADVANCING EFFECTIVE AND EQUITABLE GOVERNANCE OF THE USE OF NATURE IN EUROPE

IUCN is committed to protecting biodiversity, now and in the future, through working towards the implementation of Agenda 2030—the Sustainable Development Goals—in Europe. We convene key stakeholders, including the private sector, environmental organisations and public authorities, to focus on key threats to European biodiversity such as agriculture, to address the plastics challenge and support the transition to a circular economy, and to ensure that the future biodiversity policy after 2020 is ambitious and effective. We also focus on the European outermost regions and overseas countries and territories.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE THROUGH DIALOGUE

With the launch of the proposal for a future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) last year, the European Commission initiated the debate about the future of agriculture in the EU. But working towards sustainable agriculture is an ongoing discussion that will not be concluded with the approval of this EU policy. This is a crucial debate that needs to reconcile two societal priorities fundamental for human survival: the sustainable production of healthy food, and the protection of the environment we rely on.

In this context, IUCN Europe collaborated with Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) of the European Commission to initiate conversations about agriculture between farmer associations and environmental NGOs at European level. These so-called 'Round-tables on the Green Architecture of the CAP' took place in November and December 2018, and were a very positive experience for all participants. Throughout the year we participated in key debates, such as the [Forum for the Future of Agriculture](#) in February, where Cyriaque Sendashonga, IUCN's Global Director of the Policy and Programme Group, highlighted the potential of nature-based solutions to enhance agricultural activities.

Moreover, the paper '[Towards sustainable agriculture](#)' from IUCN's EU Policy Advisory Group (EUPAG) was prepared. This paper includes a compilation of key evidence on the issue, aiming to contribute to and inform the discussion about the future of agriculture – including a chapter on the EU CAP post-2020.

An important part of the activity under this area of work has been financed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Ministry of the Netherlands.



© Rawpixel

FIGHTING PLASTIC POLLUTION

2018 has been a very important year in the fight against plastics pollution in the EU: following the launch of the European Plastics Strategy in January, the European Commission launched the proposed Directive for Single-Use Plastics in May.

IUCN considers it crucial to engage in discussions with the private sector to tackle the plastic challenge. In this context, IUCN Europe is providing the environmental voice to the Tyre and Road Wear Platform launched in 2018 by the European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers Association (ETRMA). Furthermore, in 2018 IUCN Europe became a member of the Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), to which discussions IUCN Europe is now contributing actively.

IUCN Europe and the Austrian Presidency of the European Council organised the '[2nd Stakeholder Conference on Plastic and Micro Plastic Pollution](#)' in November, convening key industry actors to discuss the next steps for combatting plastics pollution in the EU. We also contributed to various panels and discussions organised by the [G7](#), the [EU Circular Economy Platform](#), and the [European Economic and Social Committee](#).

An important part of the activity under this area of work has been financed by the Principality of Monaco.



© Tina Nord

TOWARDS AN AMBITIOUS POST-2020 BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Biodiversity loss is one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time: therefore an ambitious 10-year Global Strategic Plan to solve this crisis was agreed in 2011. As this plan ends in 2020, discussions to prepare the next policy framework were launched at the [14th Conference of the Parties of the CBD](#) in Egypt in December 2018. This discussion is a global one, but the EU also needs to start to think about its future plans after 2020.

Understanding that this is a crucial discussion, IUCN Europe initiated this debate with key stakeholders in Europe in 2018. We have been supporting the dialogue between different actors in the EU, including organising two receptions with the Bulgarian and Austrian EU Presidencies of the European Council, ensuring the voices of the EU institutions, EU Member States, environmental organisations and land users were heard. We also contributed to the CBD 14th Conference of the Parties in Egypt through various side-events

INCLUSIVE CONSERVATION TO INCREASE STAKEHOLDER OWNERSHIP: THE ENVISION PROJECT

The implementation of the existing biodiversity-related policies is still one of the key challenges to achieve our goals, and this requires building ownership of protected area management across stakeholders. 'Inclusive Conservation' is a trans-disciplinary approach to balancing stakeholder visions, and promoting shared agreements for the future

management of protected areas. The [ENVISION BiodivERsA](#) project was awarded in 2018, and will start in 2019 with the involvement of IUCN Europe. It will explore approaches for engaging diverse interest groups and their visions, and how they influence protected areas and their management. Its products will also be tailored to inform post-2020 dialogues on biodiversity, ecosystem services and protected areas management.

ENVISION was funded through the 2017-2018 Belmont Forum and BiodivERsA joint call for research proposals, under the BiodivScen ERA-Net COFUND programme, and with FORMAS (Sweden), BMBF (Germany), NWO (Netherlands), NSF and NPS (USA) and MCIU (Spain).



Pack of Eurasian wolves (*Canis lupus lupus*) © photocech/AdobeStock

UPCOMING WORK

IUCN Europe will support the global debate through the regional CBD discussions and its contribution to IUCN's global positioning. Our main area of work will remain in the European arena, supporting the EU process to evaluate the current Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, as well as the one to develop a post-2020 biodiversity policy framework. We also aim to enhance the dialogue with the key sectors that have potential impacts on biodiversity, as they will be crucial if the future targets to halt the loss of biodiversity after 2020 are to be achieved.

The round-tables initiated between farmer and environmental organisations will continue in 2019, with a special focus on the final steps towards the adoption of the future EU Common Agricultural Policy, as well as with a broader view to more sustainable European agriculture in the future. In 2019, IUCN Europe also

plans to produce a report on the principles of sustainable agriculture, aiming to support the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the future national CAP Strategic Plans in EU Member States.

IUCN Europe will continue its work to tackle the plastic challenge and support the implementation of the EU Plastics Strategy, contributing to relevant debates such as the EU Circular Economy Platform or the Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter of the MSFD. We will continue our engagement with the private sector, participating in debates such as the Tyre and Road Wear Platform of the ETRMA. The organisation of relevant events with EU Institutions, such as the EU Presidencies of the European Council or the European Parliament, is also foreseen to support active engagement with actors after the EU elections in May 2019.

DEPLOYING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS SOCIETAL CHALLENGES

Europe faces enormous environmental and socio-economic challenges. Adapting to climate change and enhancing our resilience to natural disasters, increasing water and air quality, protecting biodiversity, improving health and well-being, tackling socio-economic inequality, and dealing with a rapidly expanding urban population are all hurdles that Europe will need to overcome in the upcoming years. Nature-based solutions are interventions that use nature and the natural functions of healthy ecosystems to tackle some of the most pressing challenges of our time. IUCN Europe works closely with EU institutions, EU Member States, cities, business partners and other key stakeholders to ensure that nature-based solutions are taken up to provide their multiple benefits to society and the economy. IUCN Europe is involved in the following projects that focus on putting nature-based solutions at the centre of European development.

WITH THE POWER OF SCIENCE FOR LIVING WATERS



2018 was the final year of the [AQUACROSS](#) (Knowledge, Assessment and Management for AQUatic Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services across EU Policies) project, funded by the European Union's Research and Innovation Framework Programme Horizon 2020, in which IUCN Europe was a partner. The project aimed to advance knowledge and application of ecosystem-based management in aquatic ecosystems (including rivers, lakes, coasts and seas) to support the achievement of the EU's 2020 Biodiversity Strategy.

It involved assessing the links between human activities, biodiversity and ecosystem services in case studies across Europe, as well as exploring potential management options. IUCN contributed to analyses of local and regional policy in one of the case studies, as well as to several communications activities. In particular, the project's [final conference](#), held in Brussels in October 2018, was a key opportunity to disseminate results to policy makers, practitioners, businesses and other stakeholders. IUCN produced a [video](#) introducing one of the AQUACROSS case studies—Lough Erne in Northern Ireland—and an infographic of the principles of ecosystem-based management of aquatic ecosystems. The final results of the project were summarised in a series of briefs for different audiences, to which IUCN contributed.

Donor: European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020

DEVELOPING HEALTHY AND LIVEABLE CITIES WITH THE HELP OF NATURE



IUCN Europe leads the communication, dissemination, capacity building and replication for the GrowGreen project, which aims to

create climate and water resilient, healthy and liveable cities by investing in nature-based solutions and embedding them in long-term city planning, development and management. To do this, GrowGreen works with its partner cities of Manchester (UK), Valencia (Spain), Wrocław (Poland), Wuhan (China), Brest (France), Modena (Italy) and Zadar (Croatia) to develop nature-based solutions demonstration projects and city-wide strategies for their deployment. In 2018, IUCN



Valencia (Spain), partner city in the GrowGreen project © Shutterstock

Europe continued to lead ongoing communications for the project, including maintaining its social media and [website](#), and producing periodic newsletters. To support cities in developing and implementing city-wide strategies for nature-based solutions, IUCN developed a concept for a training programme for cities and contributed to a programme to engage citizens in these issues in the GrowGreen cities. IUCN has also presented the project at various events and conferences across Europe, including at the Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties in Egypt in November.

Donor: European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020

WORKING WITH STAKEHOLDERS FOR EQUITABLE URBAN GREENING



In collaboration with ICLEI, IUCN is leading the communication and stakeholder engagement in [Enable](#), a project that seeks to advance the understanding of the

optimisation of the social and environmental benefits of green and blue infrastructure. Enable partners with the cities of Barcelona (Spain), Halle (Germany), Lodz (Poland), Stockholm (Sweden), Oslo (Norway) and New York (United States) to test possible solutions for green and blue infrastructure. IUCN organised several events to explore the topic of green and blue infrastructure with stakeholders. In March, the [project team discussed](#) the development of green and blue infrastructure with municipal and district representatives, citizens; and the university in Halle, Germany. In October, IUCN organised the [first Enable stakeholder dialogue](#) in Brussels, to discuss how to make cities more just, accessible and equitable. The dialogue was followed up in November with a [webinar](#) on the same topic, facilitated by IUCN. The [final event](#) of the year took place in Barcelona in December and tackled questions on integrating social justice and health equity in urban greening.

Donor: Biodiversa, European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020 ERA-NET COFUND scheme

SUPPORTING NATURE RESTORATION IN THE EU

In this project for the European Commission's DG Environment, a consortium of organisations including the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), UN

Environment World Conservation Monitoring Programme, Trinomics and IUCN Europe, provided technical support in relation to Target 2 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy – to maintain and restore ecosystems and their services. In 2018, the second year of the project, IUCN contributed to developing a set of case studies for guidance on EU-level green infrastructure and on integrating ecosystem services into decision making. IUCN also contributed to facilitating a stakeholder consultation workshop on the EU Pollinators Initiative and to summarising the outcomes in a workshop report.

Donor: European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment

RAISING AWARENESS OF FORESTS AND THEIR BENEFITS



The [SINCERE](#) (Spurring INnovations for Forest ECosystem SERVICES in Europe) project, launched in 2018, aims to advance innovative mechanisms,

such as novel policies and business models, that support the provision of forest ecosystem services across Europe and beyond. The intention is to align these mechanisms with a coordinated policy framework that works towards a Europe-wide incentive system for forest ecosystem services. In 2018, IUCN contributed to the development of early communications products, such as the project website and leaflet, led by the European Forest Institute and the Business Council for Sustainable Development of Portugal. IUCN also led the production of materials for a campaign to raise awareness of forest ecosystem services at the local scale in the project case studies.

Donor: European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020

COUNTING ON NATURAL CAPITAL IN BUSINESS



IUCN continued to strengthen its efforts to support the deployment of nature-based solutions in Europe. In addition to the ongoing projects,

a new project titled 'We Value Nature' was launched in late 2018, funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Programme for research and innovation. The We Value Nature project focuses on integrating the concept of natural capital into



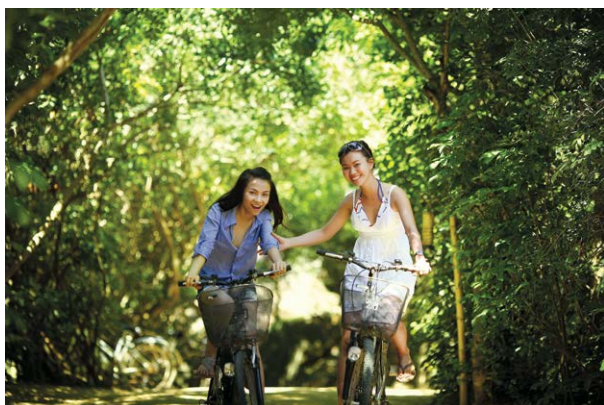
Reading in the shade of a tree © Soloviova Luidmyla/AdobeStock

business decision making. To achieve this, the project aims to establish and support a network of networks to enhance uptake of natural capital assessment, natural capital accounting, nature-based solutions and green infrastructure. As a partner in the project, IUCN Europe contributes to addressing the key barriers to business uptake of these concepts, as well as to the project communications. IUCN is one of the partners in this project, together with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), the Natural Capital Coalition, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and Oppla.

Donor: European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020

PROMOTING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

The IUCN Europe Nature-based Solutions team has presented its work at several events and conferences across Europe to communicate and raise awareness of nature-based solutions. For example, IUCN attended the Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties in Egypt in November, the European Green Week Conference in Brussels in May and the Eurocities Biodiversity Working Group meeting in Amsterdam in April. IUCN Europe's Chantal van Ham and Kate Reilly,



© Jess Foami/Pixabay

as well as Kathy MacKinnon, Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, contributed to 'Biodiversity and Health in the Face of Climate Change', a book published by Springer. Their chapter focused on nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation to improve biodiversity and health, and explored the role of protected and conserved areas in and around cities. An article published in [REVOLVE Magazine](#) explored the complex links between forests and water, with particular focus on how trees and forests can help cities tackle flooding and provide drinking water.

In 2018, the IUCN Urban Alliance was established with the Scottish Wildlife Trust, an IUCN Member, and with support from Arcadia, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin. This Alliance aims to create a platform for debate and advocacy on urban dimensions of nature conservation, to catalyse new partnerships and projects for greener cities, and to develop a 'City Nature Index' for monitoring the health of urban ecosystems. The IUCN Urban Nature Alliance will raise awareness of the value of ecosystems in urban areas, and of how these ecosystems can help address urban challenges including air pollution, flooding and health problems caused by lack of access to quality green spaces.

UPCOMING WORK

In 2019, IUCN Europe will continue to advance its Horizon 2020 projects on nature-based solutions. IUCN is organising a conference to provide training, capacity building and networking opportunities for city representatives, investors and businesses to tackle the investment gap for nature-based solutions in cities. The conference is part of the GrowGreen project and takes place in Manchester in March 2019.

In the final year of the Enable project, IUCN will contribute to producing factsheets, policy briefs, webinars, stakeholder meetings and a final conference to share the project outcomes. IUCN will continue work on the campaign to raise awareness of forest ecosystem services for the SINCERE project, and engage with the private sector through the We Value Nature project, as well as other capacity building activities.

New opportunities for partnerships to increase the use of nature-based solutions will be pursued to strengthen collaboration with regional and local governments, civil society and the private sector. IUCN Europe will continue to raise the profile of nature-based solutions and strengthen the evidence of the benefits, as well as promote their increased use across sectors.

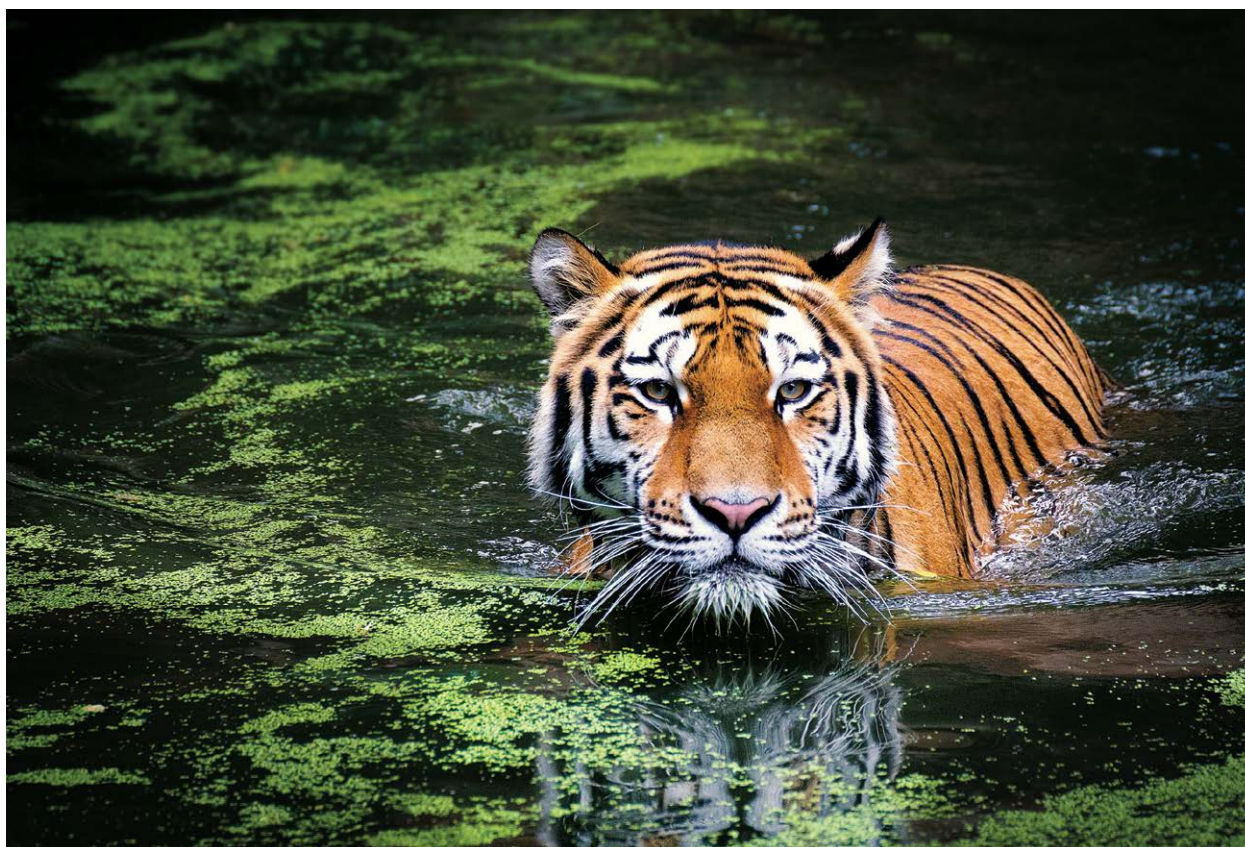
IUCN EUROPE ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

IUCN Europe works with Members, Commissions and partners in many regions of the world, reflecting the global influence of European policies and programmes. It also closely monitors and contributes to discussions and EU processes related to the implementation of international agreements on biodiversity (Convention on Biological Diversity), sustainable development (Agenda 2030) and climate change (Paris Agreement), both within the EU as well as through EU External Action programmes. IUCN implements a number of programmes and projects with the support of the European Union, making the EU IUCN's largest donor in 2018.

FACING THE CHALLENGES OF BIODIVERSITY IN ASIA

On 22nd May 2018, the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) and Sugoto Roy, IUCN Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme Coordinator, a panel member at the event, launched the '[Larger than Tigers](#)' report in Brussels, a major report that analyses Asia's natural capital and outlines a

strategic approach to halting environmental degradation and biodiversity decline in Asia. The report follows on from 'Larger than elephants' report focused in Africa; while now attention will turn to the 'Larger than ...?' report for South America. Anouska Plasmeijer also spoke about the report at an event in the European Parliament in October.



© Andreas Breitling/Pixabay

EMPOWERING WOMEN

On 5th-6th June 2018, the European Development Days (EDD) event took place in Brussels, organised by the European Commission. The event aimed to link the European Union's commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. IUCN had a role during the development process, co-organising the 'Putting Women and Girls at the heart of conservation and climate action' event. At this event Lorena Aguilar, IUCN's Global Senior Gender Advisor, reminded us that we must empower women through development and that "women should be seen as the agents of change".



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BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME



From Knowledge to Action for a Protected Planet

In 2018, with the generous contribution of the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of

States, IUCN launched the second phase of the Biodiversity and Protected Area Management Programme (BIOPAMA) at the regional level. In five regional workshops, four hundred stakeholders from 79 countries defined BIOPAMA's priorities for the next five years. BIOPAMA is a collaboration between IUCN and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission.



© Le Pupu Pue National Parc, Samoa © BIOPAMA

THE EU OUTERMOST REGIONS AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES PROGRAMME

BEST

VOLUNTARY SCHEME
FOR BIODIVERSITY AND
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES
IN TERRITORIES OF
EUROPEAN OVERSEAS

The EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories Programme, part of IUCN's Global Marine and Polar Programme, supports actions to protect and conserve the incredible biodiversity of the 25 European overseas

entities, promote sustainable development and implement ecosystem-based approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation. As part of the EU's Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas (BEST) Initiative, IUCN developed ecosystem profiles for the seven EU Overseas regions, identifying 367 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and other areas that require conservation action, totalling 3.5 million km². These form the basis of investment strategies identifying 400 potential conservation projects, amounting to more than €60 million.

Through a grant facility dedicated to French Outermost Regions ('Régions Ultrapériphériques', BEST RUP), 12 new BEST projects have been funded in 2018 for a total of €460,000. The projects are very diverse, dealing with species conservation, marine and terrestrial ecosystems protection, environmental awareness and education, as well as local knowledge in the French Outermost regions.

This brings the total number of BEST projects to 90 representing a European investment of more than €18 million. Under the BEST RUP Project, the French National Museum of Natural History completed an overview of the existing inventory of species and habitats in the six French outermost regions, which includes data on 600,000 species and 260 protected areas, to guide conservation efforts.



Sea life in French Polynesia © damedias/AdobeStock

UPCOMING WORK

In 2019, IUCN's collaboration with the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States on the framework of the BIOPAMA programme will continue. An important milestone will be the launch of the €20 million grant-making facility, the BIOPAMA action component (action.biopama.org), which will support activities on the ground for strengthening the management effectiveness and governance of protected and conserved areas.

In 2019 IUCN will continue to raise awareness of EU Overseas biodiversity and promote collaboration in the regions where they are located. Through new calls for proposals, IUCN will keep on supporting new ground action under the BEST 2.0, BEST RUP and BEST4LIFE facilities. IUCN will also prepare the World Conservation Congress 2020 and promote the establishment of a sustainable funding mechanism for biodiversity in the EU Overseas.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

On 20th February, IUCN participated in the '*Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform*', with Luc Bas, Director of IUCN Europe, speaking at the initial plenary discussion focused on the EU Plastics Strategy, after opening addresses by Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission, and other senior officials from the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). This was the first major EU public conference on plastics since the publication of the EU Plastics Strategy. Participants agreed that the EU Plastics Strategy is a step in the right direction with regards to tackling the problems associated with plastic, but IUCN stressed the need to also increase focus on the issue of total plastic consumption.

On 27th February, EUSTAFOR (the European State Forest Association) hosted the '*Value Forestry Values*' event which brought together experts, policymakers and representatives of the forest sector for an exchange on how to promote innovation and attract investments in forests, while optimising the multiple goods and services forests provide. During the panel discussion, Alberto Arroyo Schnell, Senior Policy Manager of IUCN Europe, highlighted the importance of forest restoration and the global initiative 'Bonn Challenge', calling on European actors to have a first restoration commitment for Europe, which was still missing at the time.



© EUSTAFOR

On 5th March, Luc Bas, Director of IUCN Europe, made the case for an EU-level framework for natural capital accounting at an *EIB (European Investment Bank) Lunch Dialogue* on biodiversity and economic growth. He focused on the need to make incorporating natural capital risks and opportunities standard practice in the financial sector. Further support is needed from the private sector to scale up pilot projects for natural capital and nature-based solutions, which would be assisted by an operational standard for nature-based solutions that provides investors with a means to assess project risks and viability.

On 12th April, the European Economic and Social Committee held a public hearing on the '*EU Plastics Strategy in a Circular*

Economy' in Brussels. Alberto Arroyo Schnell, Senior Policy Manager of IUCN Europe, called for rapid implementation of this "declaration of intentions" by harnessing the "tremendous popular support and economic potential" it had generated. The focus should not only be on recycling, but also on avoidance, i.e. on using less plastic. Furthermore, design for reuse had to have priority over recycling.

On 4th May the panel discussion '*Financing EU agriculture after 2020: What future for the CAP?*', took place in Brussels organised by the EurActiv news network. During the meeting Alberto Arroyo Schnell, Senior Policy Manager of IUCN Europe argued that the Future Payments System needs to better support farmers taking effective measures to support biodiversity, soil quality and reduce carbon emissions: "Unsustainable farming is the largest threat to Europe's unique biodiversity, and the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) makes up the largest part of the EU budget. That is why EU policymakers need to ensure that direct payments under the next CAP are awarded to farmers in exchange for environmental and social returns".

On 13th June, *IUCN and the Bulgarian EU Presidency hosted a reception at IUCN Europe* in Brussels focused on the future of nature protection after 2020. Representatives from the European Commission, the EU Presidency, Bulgaria and the Natura 2000 Users Forum delivered keynote speeches. Participants included representatives from EU Member States, members of land-owner organisations, land-users, hunting organisations, and environmental NGOs. "We are very happy at IUCN to convene this meeting, which shows that only with dialogue amongst the various stakeholders will we chart the way forward to a sustainable future for biodiversity in Europe and beyond," commented Luc Bas, Director of IUCN Europe.

IUCN Members from Western and Eastern Europe and North and Central Asia as well as representatives from the IUCN Secretariat, National Committees and Commissions met in Prague, Czechia, over an intensive two-day meeting on 24th and 25th September. The meeting was hosted by



© IUCN

the Ministry of Environment of Czechia, and chaired by the IUCN Councillor for Eastern Europe, North and Central Asia, Mr Michael Hošek. More than 30 participants from IUCN Member organisations, National Committees and three IUCN Commissions discussed key policy issues for the following year, and reviewed the Regional Programmes, Governance and Membership issues. They also discussed the value of setting up an Interregional Committee that would collectively serve the interests of Members in both European regions, as well as discussing the forthcoming European Regional Conservation Forum to be held in 2019.

On 4th October 2018, *IUCN Europe hosted a reception with the Austrian government on its environmental priorities* during its term in office as the presidency of the Council of the European Union. Speakers included Maria Patek, Director General for Forestry and Sustainability, Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability, Stefan Leiner, Head of the Biodiversity Unit at the Directorate-General for Environment (DG Environment) of the European Commission, and Patrick ten Brink, Director of EU Policy at the European Environmental Bureau. Luc Bas, Director, IUCN Europe, emphasised the need for the conservation community to focus more on the drivers of biodiversity loss, including unsustainable agriculture and land use.



Reception in the garden © IUCN

On 7th November, policy recommendations for better wetland management were presented at the final *conference of the EU H2020 funded project Satellite-Based Wetland Observation Service (SWOS)* in Brussels. The event, organised by IUCN Europe, marked the final phase of the project after 3.5 years of implementation. The recommendations were presented by Dr Dania Abdul Malak, Director of the European Topic Centre at the University of Malaga. The overall message emerging from the conference was that existing policies that impact wetlands need to be better implemented and coordinated.

On the 20th November, IUCN Europe together with the EU Austrian Presidency and the Network of European Environment Agencies organised the '*2nd Stakeholder Conference on Plastic and Micro Plastic Pollution*'. This event, which took place at the premises of the Permanent Representation of Estonia in Brussels, aimed to define the next steps to tackle the plastic pollution crisis in Europe. Over 80 participants representing a wide

diversity of stakeholders from the plastics industry, public administration, academia and NGOs, discussed the most urgent issues to be addressed, as well as actions to be taken. Amongst the speakers and panellists of the first panel were Director General Daniel Calleja-Crespo (DG Environment), Department Lead Lilian Busse (German Federal Environmental Agency), Executive Director Karl Föster (PlasticsEurope), Managing Director Virginia Janssens (European Organisation for Packaging and the Environment) and Director of EU Policy Patrick ten Brink (EEB). Luc Bas summarised the discussion saying "supporting the implementation of the Plastics Strategy and the proposal for the Single-use Plastic directive is a crucial action for the upcoming years".



Stakeholders from the first panel © IUCN

On 25th November, the event '*Local biodiversity actions towards implementing the subnational Plan of Action (2011 - 2020)*' took place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. This side-event of the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD organised by, among others, IUCN Europe, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and the Secretariat of the CBD, highlighted how the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (COP 10 Decision X/22) can support the goal of achieving national and international biodiversity targets. During the event, Chantal van Ham, EU Programme Manager of IUCN Europe, emphasised the importance of supporting subnational governments and cities to take action as we move towards the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.



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IUCN EUROPE'S NATIONAL COMMITTEES AND FOCAL POINT ACTIVITIES

BELGIUM

The Belgian IUCN National Focal Point is hosted by the Belgian Biodiversity Platform. As a science-policy interface with a focus on biodiversity, the Belgian Biodiversity Platform co-authored the IUCN assessment on synthetic biology and biodiversity conservation. Other key activities included the organisation of a Belgian Uptake event of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) assessment on Europe and Central Asia, to which the IUCN Brussels Office actively contributed; the organisation of several networking events with and for IUCN Members; the contribution to integrated policy actions on Biodiversity and Health; biodiversity data mobilisation and publication activities; and the active participation in the implementation of the EU legislation on Invasive Alien Species in Belgium. The organisation also supported regular interactions and exchanges of best practices among IUCN Members within the 'Working Group of Regional and National Committee Development', and to the process of setting up a possible 'Interregional Committee for Europe, North and Central Asia'. Finally, the Belgian Biodiversity Platform also actively engaged in the EU Policy Advisory Group (EUPAG) supporting IUCN Europe in Brussels on matters relating to EU policy, and kept the Belgian scientific community informed on IUCN's latest activities and publications.

FINLAND

The IUCN National Committee (NC) of Finland is an information exchange hub for IUCN matters in Finland. The NC includes seven IUCN Member organisations. Several biodiversity-related government organisations also work

within the NC under Finland's State membership. The NC meets several times a year to exchange information, organise competitions and seminars, and actively participate in social media, increasing the profile of IUCN in Finland and abroad. In January 2018, the NC organised a seminar in Helsinki to celebrate 50 years of Finland's State membership. The IUCN Director General Inger Andersen, the Finnish Minister of the Environment Kimmo Tiilikainen, Nordic IUCN colleagues and the Finnish nature conservation constituency were in attendance. Among the speakers was Harri Hölttä, the chair of the Finnish Association of Nature Conservation, one of the founding Members of IUCN in 1948. This seminar commenced the 70th anniversary celebrations of IUCN. The programme included the latest news on the Red List of threatened species and ecosystems, presentations on projects being undertaken by IUCN Member organisations in Finland, and a view into the history of IUCN work in Finland. Working in four-year terms, the NC was nominated in June 2018, including a first-time NGO Chair. In the autumn, the NC began seeking the winner of the 7th annual Biodiversity Award, 2017-2018, with the winner to be announced in early 2019.

ITALY

Established in 1999, the IUCN Italian National Committee directly contributes to IUCN's general mission and represents its focal point in Italy. The General Secretariat is managed by Federparchi - EUROPARC Italia, the Italian association of Protected Areas and the Italian EUROPARC Section. In 2018, the Italian NC was involved in the adaptation of the IUCN Green List methodology to a National and European context.



High Fens – Eifel Nature Park, Belgium - Germany © Pixabay

One of the first protected areas adjudged as meeting Green List Standards was the Italian Gran Paradiso National Park in the Western Alps in 2014. The methodology predicts the establishment of a local group of experts, the EAGL (Expert Assessment groups for the Green List). Over the last year, a skilled group of 14 experts were selected in Italy by IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), following a public call for interest. The first important task of the EAGL was successful - the adaptation of the IUCN Green List Standard indicators for the Italian context, which will soon be published for public consultation. Furthermore, since 2013 the National Committee has been engaged in the assessment and publication of National IUCN Red Lists (www.iucn.it). In 2018, bees and pollinators (Apoidea) were assessed, with results reporting a total of 151 native Italian species of wild bee showing some indication of decline.

THE NETHERLANDS

2018 was a special year for IUCN National Committee of The Netherlands, as it marked its 40th anniversary. This was celebrated with the conference 'Uniting Visions for Conservation', held on December 6th. Some 250 delegates from IUCN's 37 Netherlands-based Member organisations, government, science, business and other civil society partners came together to experience the variety of visions within the global union. There were several other occasions in 2018 where the NC brought Members together through facilitated knowledge exchanges between IUCN Members and other IUCN constituencies. For example, Members were introduced to the latest developments in the field of science-based targets for biodiversity and to the lessons learned regarding the generation of media attention for global environmental issues. The NC also supported Dutch Members in their advocacy work by hosting, for example, a roundtable discussion on aligning energy transition with conservation efforts, and by consulting Members on the draft position paper on the European agricultural policy, prepared by IUCN Europe. Finally, the NC hosted the annual meeting for the European Working Group on National Committee Development.



De Hoge Veluwe National Park, The Netherlands © Roman Boed/Flickr

SPAIN

2018 has been a year of consolidation and growth for the Spanish IUCN National Committee. For the first time, though the addition of official Members and observers, it has attained 40 entities, and the forecast for the near future is that this number will continue to rise. This year marks another particularly remarkable milestone. For the first time, the most important and relevant NC event, the Annual Forum, has left the continent and has taken place in the beautiful Canary Islands. Consequently, two objectives were achieved. First, internally giving visibility to the Members located in the islands and second, supporting the implementation of the IUCN Programme in EU extra-continental territories.



Teide National Park, Tenerife (Canary Islands, Spain) © Laura Rinke/Pixabay

This year the 2nd International Cooperation in Nature Conservation Workshop took place in Ávila. Three powerful publications in IUCN Red List, Climate Change and Nature-based Solutions are being finalised: the NC is reviewing the Red List species assessments that have become outdated in Spain, and compiling the actions and projects developed by its Members on Climate Change and in the application of Nature-based Solutions.

The growth of the NC has continued in online social networks, gaining capacity to reach citizens and make the work of NC Members visible. Another indication of the growth experienced by NC has been recouping the ability to attend international meetings, with presence at two important meetings with the Working Group for the Development of Committees in Europe, North and Central Asia and the IUCN EU Policy Advisory Group in Amsterdam and Prague. The Spanish Members of IUCN are fully committed to their NC, with the confidence that the work done to date and pending for 2019 will launch the NC, with all its energy and power, to the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020.

SWITZERLAND

As in previous years, the Swiss IUCN National Committee served as an important link and sounding board between the different IUCN Members in Switzerland, the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and IUCN Headquarters.

More generally speaking, it has linked global policies with national-level implementation. Notably, 2018 saw the continuation and intensification of work on protected areas by the two expert groups that were spawned in 2017.

The Expert Group on ecological infrastructure, consisting of science experts, cantonal authorities and non-governmental organisations, employed an external coordinator in March. After several sessions, it agreed on the purpose and definition of ecological infrastructure, followed by a background paper with more detailed explanations. The group discussed their suggestions in a workshop with the Environment Ministry in December and many of them were included in the official definition. Currently, the group is working on a map based on the criteria in the definition. The other expert group hosted by the NC, the national Expert Assessment group for the Green List (EAGL) for Switzerland, was constituted and trained in March-June 2018. It consists of 9 members with different backgrounds and is currently preparing the public

consultation for the Green List Standard. It has already begun requesting private actors and public authorities to submit their proposals for the Green List.

UK

The IUCN National Committee for the UK continues to successfully engage with Members and interested parties as displayed in 2018 through a meeting with Members of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) on 'Nature and Human Wellbeing', attended by the UK Environment Minister, Therese Coffey. The NC's main project focus is currently on River Restoration and Biodiversity. The UK representative is actively engaged in supporting national committee development activity in the Europe, North and Central Asia region and on the global stage.

List of IUCN Europe National Committees

Denmark
Finland
France
Hungary
Israel

Italy
Poland
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland

The Netherlands
Turkey
United Kingdom



IUCN Green List awarded Gran Paradiso National Park (GPNP), Italy © Dario de Siena/Courtesy of GPNP

IUCN COMMISSIONS' ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE



COMMISSION ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) has nearly three hundred members in Europe with valuable expertise. We reached out to each and every one of them in 2018. As a result, most if not all members joined our LinkedIn group, engaged in conversations and teamed up. We launched a series of webinars to share our expertise and learn from each other. Topics ranged from communication for behaviour change, framing nature to reach audiences, to increasing well-being by connecting with nature.

The CEC worked hard on the #NatureForAll movement in collaboration with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas. In Europe, sixty partners built support for conservation by facilitating experiences with nature. During relevant events throughout Europe and even in China, CEC members promoted the importance of connecting people with nature. The first UK partner meeting explored new ways of inspiring people from all walks of life to love, support and act for nature. In the Parks for the Planet Forum, hosted by Salzburg Global Seminar, CEC and #NatureForAll partners, played an active role. Furthermore, a keynote speech was delivered during EUROPARC Conference 2018, as well as several sessions in the context of the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Egypt, which notably asked the audience to explore how best to build a movement for nature. Exemplary cases and effective methods were published in a global research synthesis, available as the #NatureForAll publication 'Home to us All'.

CEC members participated in the PET Cup to collect plastic waste from the Tisza river in Hungary, in relation with UNEP's #BeatPlasticPollution for World Environment Day. Other examples include Action group 7 which aims to develop ecological connectivity in the whole EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) territory and the ELENA project, initiated by Bavarian Academy of Nature Conservation and Landscape Management with CEC members, which won the Success story and Good practice example awards.



COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY

The Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) is very active on many fronts, including in relation with the activity of indigenous peoples and local communities. As the steward of many crucial ecosystems, indigenous peoples and local communities, they are on the front lines of climate change and evidence has increasingly demonstrated the importance of their contribution to climate action. In the Paris Agreement, we see recognition of this fact, but considerable work is needed to better integrate their knowledge, best practices, and perspectives into climate decisions and actions at the national and international levels.

The decision on the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) was officially adopted by Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD on 13th December and is a major step forward in this recognition. The process that led to the draft decision was unique to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in that it directly engaged Indigenous Peoples in the negotiations and preparatory workshops. LCIPP will be comprised of equal representation of Parties and Indigenous Peoples Organizations and provides a space to fulfill LCIPP functions on knowledge exchange and sharing of best practices, capacity for engagement, and climate change policies and actions.

IUCN IPO members such as Fundación Para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena (FPCI), Asociación Ak' Tenamit, Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA), Indigenous Peoples Coordinating Committee of Africa (IPACC) have been actively engaged in the LCIPP ever since its inception. In addition, CEESP, through the Chair and the Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples, Customary, Environmental Law and Human Rights (SPICEH), as well as Conservation International through its role as a Global Executing Agency for the Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, have played both a strategic advisory role and have supported convening opportunities. The governments of Costa Rica, Canada, China, Bolivia, Ecuador (chair of G77), Japan, Norway, Finland, the US, Thailand and the EU were involved in the negotiations.



COMMISSION ON ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

European based members and groups of the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) had another busy year of activity which saw the continuation of several ongoing initiatives and the launch of some exciting new ones. One highlight was the work carried out by the Red List of Ecosystems Group who delivered an impressive range of outputs. One of these was the progress made with the considerable task of drafting descriptive profiles for roughly 100 ecosystem functional groups recognised in their global ecosystem typology. Draft profiles for the terrestrial realm are now with the terrestrial working group for input, and drafts are also complete for 90% of marine groups and 75% of freshwater realms.

The Thematic Group on Sustainable Use and Management of Ecosystems (SUME) also had a busy year developing a new global, multilingual hub in over 40 languages designed to help everyone whose work or recreation depends on nature. Named NatureAlliance (see naturalalliance.eu), it will help build up the knowledge practitioners require, in their own language, to improve local management decisions related to the restoration of land, water and wildlife. It will also record and report back on all the advancement which will hopefully arise from the initiative, enabling land managers and others to communicate and celebrate what they are achieving for nature across Europe.

The Eco-Disasters Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) group of the CEM successfully re-launched a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) entitled 'Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate' with an impressive 5,700 participants. The Eco-DRR and Ecosystem-based Adaptation guidelines have also now been finalised and published, thanks to insightful inputs from a number of Thematic group members.

The Fisheries group made important inputs into the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Egypt, particularly in relation to the mainstreaming of biodiversity considerations into fisheries management and the relevance of Other Effective Area Based Measures for sustainable fisheries management.

Furthermore, European members of the Peatland Group actively contributed to the UN-led Global Peatlands Initiative which secured the signing of the 'Brazzaville Declaration' in the Republic of Congo. This political commitment aims to protect the vast carbon and biodiversity resources found

within the peatland forests of the Congo basin. The group also continued its high activity in the UK working under the IUCN UK Committee Peatland Programme, which celebrated 10 years of scientific advances, positive policy developments and tens of thousands of hectares of restored peatlands as tangible outcomes from their endeavours.



SPECIES SURVIVAL COMMISSION

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), its network containing Specialist Groups (SGs), Task Forces (TFs) and Stand-alone Red List Authorities (RLAs), together with its partners, were active throughout 2018. Conservation issues requiring urgent attention by the SSC in 2018 included the need to support the European Sturgeon Action Plan, which was officially adopted in Strasbourg by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention. The IUCN SSG Cat Specialist Group has been notably involved in reintroductions of the Eurasian lynx in Switzerland, France, Germany and also in the reintroduction of and planning for the wild cat in Scotland. The Invasive Species Specialist Group continues to provide technical support to European institutions, states, and non-governmental organisations, on the implementation of the European Union Regulation 1143/2014 on invasive alien species. The Hoverfly, Bumblebee and Butterfly Specialist Groups, together with the Invertebrate Conservation Committee, will be supporting the technical implementation of the EU Pollinators Initiative until the end of 2020, as well as the development of the European Red List of Hoverflies.



Wadden Sea, UNESCO World Heritage Site © Pixabay

WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS

There were 646 European members of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) by the end of 2018. The Commission uses and offers the expertise of its members to provide advice to governments, agencies and organisations on protected area standards for sites, networks of sites (Natura 2000) and protected area systems.

IUCN, and the WCPA in particular, in close cooperation with IUCN World Heritage Programme, provides advice on World Heritage Sites. Throughout 2018, many efforts were invested to support the management of the serial World Heritage property 'Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe' in 12 European countries and the preparation for its extension. A conference

on the management of the buffer zones in World Heritage forests was co-organised by WCPA in July in Vienna and the World Heritage module was prepared for the 'European Parks Academy'. This WCPA co-organised high-profile training module for protected area professionals is becoming a centre of excellence on protected area management; courses there are given by leading WCPA experts. WCPA contributed to the development and re-launch of the Management of protected and conserved areas post graduate programme at the University of Klagenfurt.

WCPA members were engaged in several missions and participated in conservation events, presenting standards of protected area management in different European countries. In particular, forest biomes and agricultural landscapes in protected areas are often confronted with environmentally harmful practices. The IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved areas (GLPCA) is used as a standard of well-managed protected areas. WCPA supported the process of establishment of national GLPCA committees in different European countries (Switzerland, Georgia, Italy).

List of IUCN Commissions

Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)



European bison (*Bison bonasus*) © Wildlife Word/AdobeStock

IUCN EUROPE'S MEMBERS

Figure 1. Number and type of IUCN Members per country covered by the IUCN European Regional Office

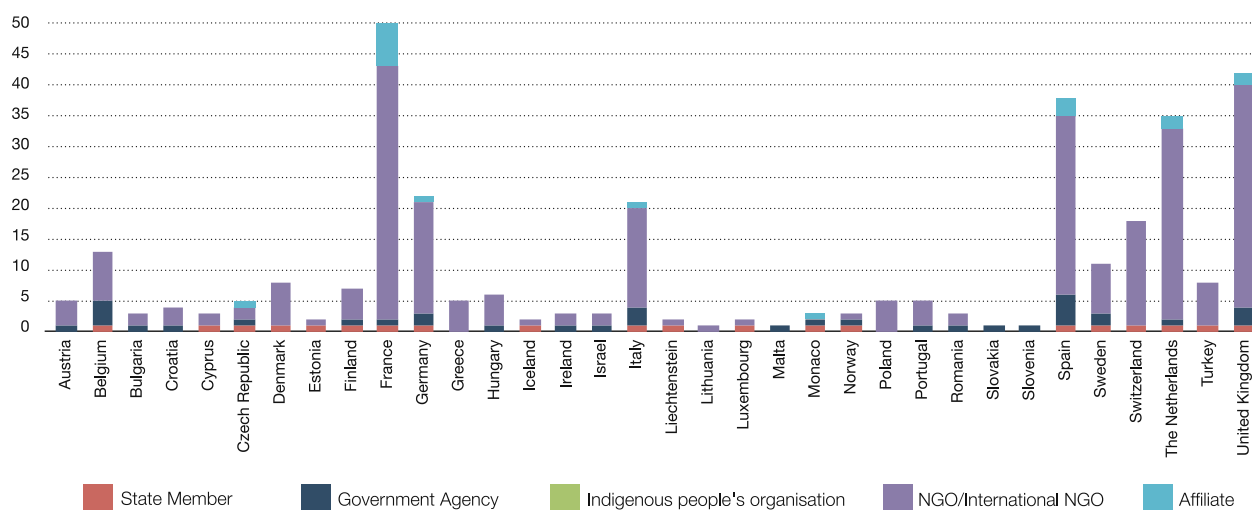
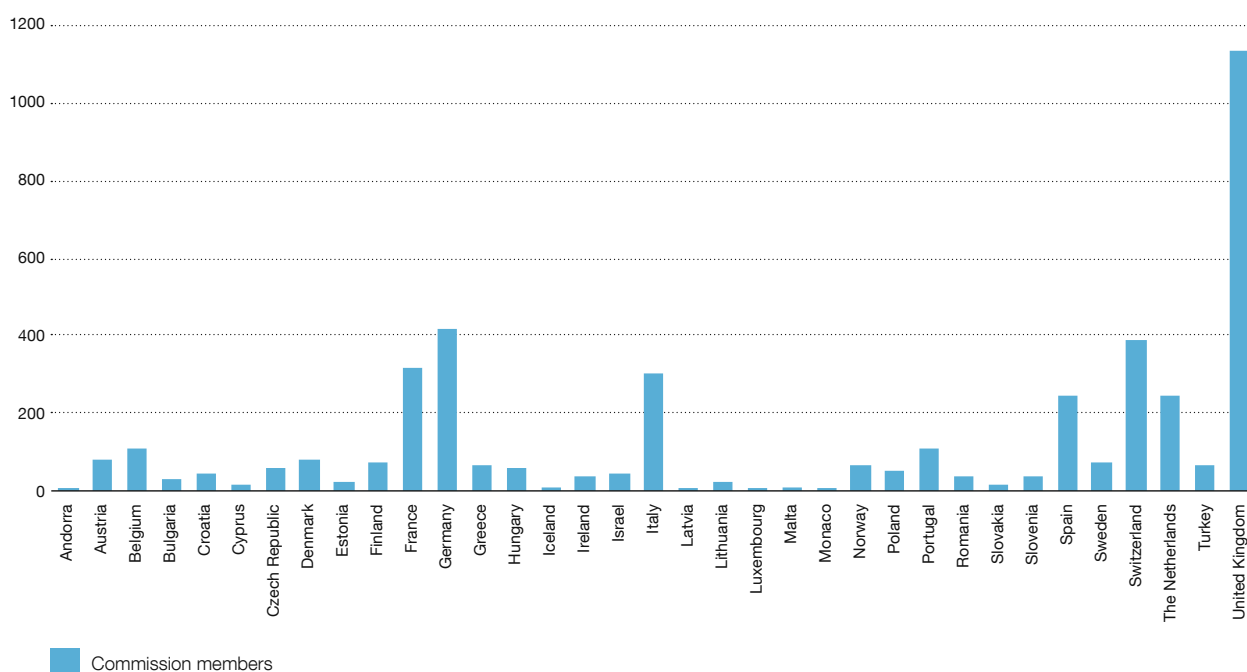


Figure 2. Number of Commission members per country covered by the IUCN European Regional Office*



* Countries for which the number is zero are not included. The graphs include EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories.

IUCN's Members work together to help find pragmatic solutions to some of the planet's most pressing environmental and developmental challenges. Their participation collectively leads, governs and sets IUCN's strategic agenda. IUCN's strength lies in the vast knowledge and expertise of its members. IUCN intends to enhance its current membership while also continuing to explore new partnerships. The IUCN programmatic region of Europe was directly responsible for 38 countries with its membership network consisting of 345 Members, 14 of which were admitted in 2018. IUCN Europe covers 38 countries, including all 28 EU Member States plus Andorra, Holy See, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and Turkey.

Members:

* Indicates new member in 2018

Austria

Bundesministerium für Nachhaltigkeit und Tourismus
Nationalpark Hohe Tauern
Oesterreichischer Naturschutzbund
Umweltdachverband
WWF Österreich

Belgium

Politique scientifique fédérale
Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos van het Vlaams Ministerie voor Leefmilieu, Natuur en Energie
Bruxelles Environnement - Institut Bruxellois pour la Gestion de l'Environnement
Direction Générale Agriculture, des Ressources Naturelles et de l'Environnement
Service Public Fédéral Santé publique, Sécurité de la Chaîne Alimentaire et Environnement
Confédération Européenne des Propriétaires Forestiers
European Bureau for Conservation and Development
Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE
International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey
Institut de Zoologie - Département des Sciences et Gestion de l'Environnement - Université de Liège
Koninklijke Maatschappij voor Dierkunde van Antwerpen
Regionaal Landschap Kempen en Maasland
World Wide Fund for Nature – Belgium

Bulgaria

Ministry of Environment and Water
Bălgarska Fondatzia Bioraznoobrazie
WWF - World Wide Fund for Nature, Danube-Carpathian Program
BulgariaCroatia

Croatia

Ministarstvo zaštite okoliša i energetike
Hrvatsko Biološko Društvo
Udruga BIOM
Udruga Hyla

Cyprus

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of Cyprus

Omospondia Perivallontikon Organoseon Kyprou
Terra Cypria, The Cyprus Conservation Foundation

Czech Republic

Agentura ochrany přírody a krajiny ČR
Český svaz ochránců přírody
Ministerstvo životního prostředí
Správa Krkonosského národního parku
Unie Ceských a Slovenských Zoologických Zahrad

Denmark

Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark, Agency for Water and Nature Management
Danmarks Naturfredningsforening
Dansk Ornitologisk Forening - Birdlife Denmark
Friluftsrådet
Verdens Skove
World Wide Fund for Nature - Verdensnaturfonden
Zoologisk Have København
Nordic Hunters' Alliance

Estonia

Keskkonnaministeerium
Eestimaa Looduse Fond

Finland

Ministry of the Environment of Finland
BirdLife Suomi
Korkeasaaren eläintarhan Säätiön
Natur och Miljö r.f.
Suomen Luonnonsuojeluliitto
Suomen riistakeskus
World Wide Fund for Nature - Finland

France

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international
Agence des Espaces Verts de la région Ile-de-France
Agence française pour la biodiversité *
Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement
Centre de Culture Scientifique, Technique et Industrielle de la Mer OCEANOPOLIS BREST
Conservatoire du littoral
Fondation Yves Rocher - Institut de France
NAUSICAA, Centre National de la Mer
Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage

Office National des Forêts

Service des Parcs naturels régionaux et biodiversité - Conseil Régional Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur

Association Les Eco Maires

Centre international de droit comparé de l'environnement

Oiseaux Migrateurs du Palearctique Occidental

Pro-Natura International

The Cousteau Society

Tour du Valat

Association Beauval Nature pour la Conservation et la Recherche *

Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing et du Massif de Fontainebleau

Association Française des Entreprises pour l'Environnement *

Association Française des Parcs Zoologiques

Association Française du Fonds Mondial pour la Nature - France

Association Française Interprofessionnelle des Ecologues

Association PAÏOLIVE

Awely, des animaux et des hommes

Centre de Découverte du Monde Marin

Conservation Sauvage Internationale

Conservatoire pour la Protection des Primates *

Fédération des conservatoires d'espaces naturels

Fédération des parcs naturels régionaux de France

Fédération Française des Clubs Alpains et de Montagne

Fédération Nationale des Chasseurs

Fondation d'Entreprise Biotope pour la Biodiversité *

Fondation François Sommer-Fondation Internationale pour la Gestion de la Faune

Fondation Nature et Découvertes

Fondation pour la Nature et l'Homme

France Nature Environnement

Humanité et Biodiversité

Jardin Botanique de la Ville de Lyon

Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle

Noé Conservation

Office pour les insectes et leur environnement

Reserves Naturelles de France

Société Française pour le Droit de l'Environnement

Tchendukua - Ici et Ailleurs

Union professionnelle du génie écologique *

Association Kwata

Te Mana o te Moana

Germany

Bundesministerium für Umwelt,
Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit

Bayerische Akademie für Naturschutz
und Landschaftspflege (ANL)

Bundesamt für Naturschutz

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Ecologic Institut

EUROPARC Federation

Global Nature Fund

ICLEI - Local Governments for
Sustainability - Africa, NPC

Societas Europaea Herpetologica

Stiftung Europäisches Naturerbe -
EuroNatur

Verband der Zoologischen Gärten
(VdZ) *

Bund Naturschutz in Bayern

Deutscher Angelfischer-Verband e.V.

Deutscher Jagdverband e. V.

Deutscher Naturschutzring

Naturschutzbund Deutschland

SHARKPROJECT Germany e.V.

WWF - Deutschland

Zoo Leipzig GmbH

Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von
1858 - Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt

Zoologische Gesellschaft für Arten- und
Populationsschutz e.V.

Zoologischer Garten Köln

Greece

Elliniki Etairia Melethi kai Prostatias
Mesogeiakias Fwkias

Hellenic Botanical Society

Hellenic Society for the Protection of
Nature

Mediterranean Institute for Nature and
Anthropos

World Wide Fund for Nature - Greece

Hungary

Földművelésügyi Minisztérium

International Council for Game and
Wildlife Conservation

Göncöl Alapítvány

Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi
Egyesület / Birdlife Hungary

Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége

WWF Világ Természeti Alap
Magyarország Alapítvány

Iceland

Umhverfis- og auðlindaráðuneytið

Landvernd, landgræðslu- og
umhverfisverndarsamtök Íslands

Ireland

Department of Culture, Heritage and the
Gaeltacht *

Biosphere Expeditions

Irish Environmental Network *

Israel

Israel Nature and Parks Authority

Israel Nature and Heritage Foundation

The Society for the Protection of Nature
in Israel

Italy

Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del
Territorio e del Mare - Direzione Generale
per la Protezione della Natura

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

Ente Parco Nazionale del Cilento, Vallo
di Diano e Alburni

Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la
Ricerca Ambientale

Confédération Mondiale des Activités
Subaquatiques

Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic
Investigation of the Mediterranean Area

CED-PPN Centro Europeo di
Documentazione sulla Pianificazione
dei Parchi Naturali (DIST-Politecnico di
Torino)

Emergenza Sorrisi - Doctors for Smiling
Children

Federazione Italiana Parchi e Riserve
Naturali

Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura

Fondazione Europea Il Nibbio

Istituto Oikos

Istituto Pangea - Onlus- Istituto Europeo
per l'Educazione e la Formazione
Professionale per l'Ambiente

LANDS ONLUS

Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli

Legambiente

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Unione Zoologica Italiana onlus

Associazione Italiana per il World Wildlife
Fund (WWF-Italy)

Università degli Studi di Catania -
Centro universitario per la tutela e la
gestione degli ambienti naturali ed agro-
ecosistemi

Parco dell'Etna

Liechtenstein

Amt für Umwelt

Commission Internationale pour la
Protection des Alpes

Lithuania

Lietuvos Gamtos Fondas

Luxembourg

Ministère de l'Environnement
Luxembourg

natur&ëmwelt a.s.b.l.

Malta

Awtorità għall-Ambjent u r-Riżorsi

Monaco

Ministre des Relations Extérieures et de
la Coopération de Monaco

Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco

Centre Scientifique de Monaco

Norway

Ministry of Climate and Environment
(Norway)

Norwegian Environment Agency

World Wide Fund for Nature - Norway

Poland

Fundacja Dziedzictwo Przyrodnicze

Fundacja WWF Polska

Instytut Ochrony Przyrody Polskiej
Akademii Nauk

Panstwowa Rada Ochrony Przyrody

Polskie Towarzystwo Ochrony Przyrody
"Salamandra"

Portugal

Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e
das Florestas

Associação de Defesa do Património de
Mértola

Liga para a Protecção da Natureza

Quercus - Associação Nacional, de
Conservação da Natureza

Romania

Ministry of Environment

Asociația Speologică Exploratorii

Fundatia Carpati

Slovakia

Statná ochrana prírody Slovenskej
republiky

Slovenia

Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor

Spain

Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica

Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería,
Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible, Junta de
Andalucía

Consellería de Medio Ambiente e
Ordenación do Territorio, Xunta de
Galicia

Departament de Territori i Sostenibilitat,
Generalitat de Catalunya

Fundación Biodiversidad

Vice Consejería de Medio Ambiente,
Planificación Territorial y Vivienda,
Gobierno Vasco *

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Fundació Privada

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Aquariums

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Asociación Herpetológica Española

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Naturaleza/WWF - España

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de la Biodiversidad y su Hábitat

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Fundación Lonxanet para la Pesca
Sostenible

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Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre

Fundación Oxígeno

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Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet

Stiftelsen Nordens Ark

Stiftelsen Skansen

Svenska Jägarförbundet

Svenska Naturskyddsöreningen

Varldsnaturfonden WWF

Switzerland

Office fédéral de l'environnement

Association pour le Développement des
Aires Protégées *

European Association of Zoo and
Wildlife Veterinarians

Fondation Save Our Seas

Marinecultures.org

Programme for the Endorsement of
Forest Certification Schemes PEFC
Council

Sicherung der landwirtschaftlichen Arten
Vielfalt in Europa (SAVE)

World Business Council for Sustainable
Development

World Wide Fund for Nature -
International

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des parcs suisses / Rete dei parchi
svizzeri / Rait dals parcs svizzers

Pro Natura / Friends of the Earth
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des cétacés

Swiss Academy of Sciences

Swiss Association for the Protection of
Birds - BirdLife Switzerland

The European Outdoor Conservation
Association

World Wide Fund for Nature -
Switzerland

Zooschweiz

The Netherlands

Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en
Voedselkwaliteit

Staatsbosbeheer

Bears in Mind

Naturalis Biodiversity Center

Vereniging Milieudefensie

European Association of Zoos and
Aquaria

Rewilding Europe

Wetlands International

Both Ends - Environment and
Development Service for NGOs

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Wiskunde en Informatica - Universiteit
van Amsterdam

Koninklijke Nederlandse
Natuurhistorische Vereniging

LandschappenNL

Leo Foundation

Natuur & Milieu

Nederlandse Vereniging van
Dierentuinen

Reptile Amfibieën Vissen Onderzoek
Nederland

SOVON Vogelonderzoek Nederland

Stichting CHIMBO

Stichting Floristisch Onderzoek
Nederland

Stichting Leerstoel Prins Bernhard

Stichting Lippe - Biesterfeld
Natuurcollege

Stichting tot Behoud en ter Bescherming
van het Przewalski-paard

Stichting tot instandhouding van de
diergaarde van het koninklijk zoologisch
genootschap, Natura Artis Magistra

The Avalon Foundation

Tropenbos International

Van Tienhoven Stichting voor
Internationale Natuurbescherming

Vereniging tot Behoud van
Natuurmonumenten in Nederland

Vereniging voor Instituut voor
Natuureducatie en Duurzaamheid

Vereniging voor Zoogdierkunde en
Zoogdierbescherming

Vogelbescherming Nederland

Waddenvereniging

Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland

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Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Doğa Derneği (BirdLife Turkey)

Doğa Koruma Merkezi Vakfı *

Dogal Hayati Koruma Vakfı - WWF
Türkiye

Ege ve Marmara Çevre Belediyeler Birliği

KuzeyDoğa Derneği

Türkiye Erozyonla Mücadele,
Ağaçlandırma ve Dogal Varliklari Koruma
Vakfı (Tema Vakfı)

Türkiye Tabiatini Koruma Derneği

United Kingdom

Department for Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs

Department for Natural Resources,
Welsh Government

Department of the Environment &
Climate Change, Government of
Gibraltar

The Scottish Government (Environment
and Forestry Directorate)

BirdLife International

Earthwatch Institute (Europe)

Fauna & Flora International
 International Fur Federation
 International Institute for Environment and Development
 Rainforest Concern
 The Born Free Foundation
 The World Parrot Trust
 TREE AID
 Blue Ventures Conservation
 Bristol Clifton and West of England Zoological Society
 British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums
 British Ecological Society
 Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
 Forest Peoples Programme
 Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society
 Margaret Pyke Trust, with the Population & Sustainability Network
 Marwell Wildlife
 North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo)
 People's Trust for Endangered Species
 Plantlife International

ResourceAfrica United Kingdom
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
 Scottish Environment Link
 Synchronicity Earth *
 The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland
 The Sibthorp Trust
 The Wildlife Trusts
 Twycross Zoo, East Midland Zoological Society
 Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
 Wildscreen
 World Land Trust
 World Wide Fund for Nature - U.K.
 Zoological Society of London
 A Rocha International
 Natural History Museum, London

EU Overseas Countries and Territories and Outermost Regions

France

Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Programme, Pacific Community

Direction de l'environnement de la province Sud

Direction Energie-Environnement - Conseil Régional de La Réunion

Groupe Local d'Observation et d'Identification des cétacés de la Réunion

Société Réunionnaise pour l'Etude et la Protection de l'Environnement Ile de la Réunion

FNE Saint Pierre et Miquelon

The Netherlands

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance

Caribbean Research & Management of Biodiversity Foundation

United Kingdom

National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

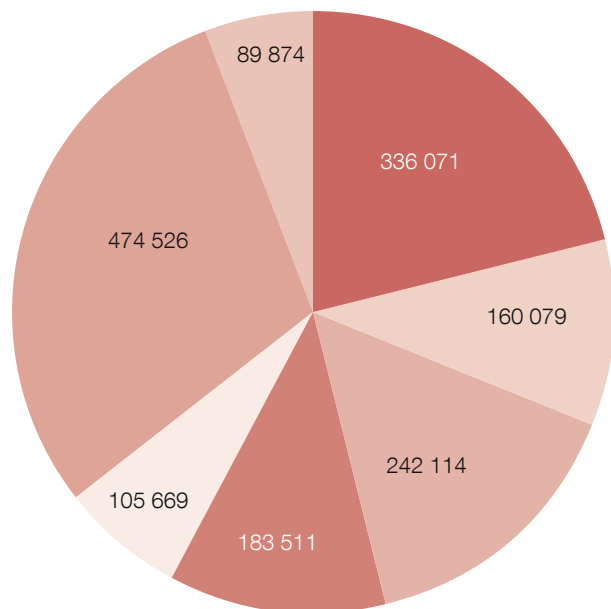
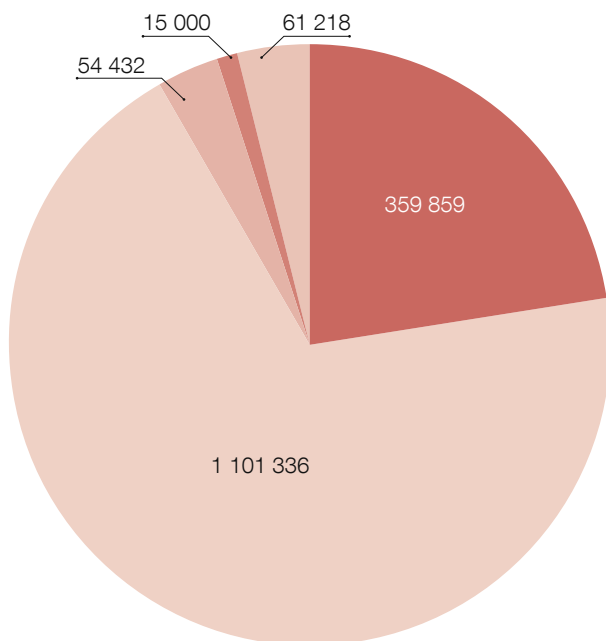


Grey seals (*Halichoerus grypus*) Helgoland Island, Germany © Wolfgang Vogt/Pixabay

REGIONAL FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2018

Income	Euros (€)
Operational funding IUCN	359 859
Donor income - EU	1 101 336
Donor income EU Member States	54 432
Donor income non-EU	15 000
Other sources	61 218
Total income 2018	1 591 845

Expenditure	Euros (€)
Policies	336 071
Management & leadership	160 079
Admin & Finance	242 114
Natural Capital	183 511
Protected Areas	105 669
Species	474 526
Marine & polar	89 874
Total expenditure 2018	1 591 844



IUCN EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE TEAM



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IUCN European
Regional Office



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KERNOA**

Office Manager
& Personal
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Director



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Assistant



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Officer



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Conservation
Officer

Global Protected Areas Programme



**Roxana
BUCIOACA**

BIOPAMA Liaison
and Communications
Officer

Global Marine and Polar Programme



**Daniel
MITCHELL**

BEST 2.0
Project Officer

A THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

EUROPEAN UNION



NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS



Government of Belgium



Gouvernement Princier
PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO



Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and
Food Quality of the Netherlands



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a just world
that values and
conserves nature



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FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

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