Vision

A just world that values and conserves nature

Mission

To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable
Moving Forward on the Path of Conservation

Through the coordination of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN, non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and member States; experts from six commissions on social, environmental and economic issues; allies from various sectors; and a secretariat made up of a highly committed team all work together to advance an agenda that seeks to achieve a just and equitable world that values and conserves nature.

It is difficult to synthesize the huge volume of processes and results achieved by this great workforce. Such an effort often fails to do justice to a level of performance that is much more complex than a few lines can describe. This report includes a representative sample of stories that provide a glimpse of the work of people who, through their daily efforts, support the construction of a society that is more sensitive to and responsible for its environmental surroundings and its fellow humans.

Every action counts, which is why we have chosen to share with you various examples of the first advances in the implementation of the four-year program objectives of the IUCN 2013-2016. Issues such as the application of a conservation focus based on rights, adaptation to climate change, the restoration and protection of ecosystems, reducing vulnerability, promoting mechanisms for the protection of forests, and the implementation of nature-based solutions for food and development, among others, are part of a constant effort that is transcendental in order to guarantee the social and ecological well-being of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean.

Beyond any doubt, nature is the support for life, which is why the generation of reliable knowledge, and best practices in governance for the conservation of natural resources and healthy and restored ecosystems, are in many ways the essence of our work. We know that the participation of organized civil society in decision-making processes, as well as the prior, free and informed consent of indigenous peoples regarding the sustainable use of natural resources, are inescapable elements of building effective environmental stewardship, reducing poverty and achieving balanced natural surroundings.

The IUCN creates a link between knowledge, policies and action, which makes us an authority on the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development, as well as the largest and most experienced organization in the world in uniting governments and civil society. We continue to broaden our efforts and add to our network organizations and individuals who are committed to stopping the loss of biodiversity, reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development.

While we continue to face many challenges in the conservation of natural resources and sustainable development, the efforts we have carried out in a strategic manner, supported by the synergy of governments, experts, and non-governmental organizations, offer an enormous opportunity for moving forward on the path of achieving a more just region with greater solidarity, able to conserve its valuable natural assets.
About ORMACC

Throughout the history of environmental conservation, the IUCN has taken on the large responsibility of identifying paths and tendencies of sustainable natural resource management, as well as the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.

We have achieved this through the promotion of environmental standards and conservation policies. The ability to leverage efforts and mobilize change stems from the varied and multifaceted membership of the IUCN, which includes States, government agencies and civil society organizations.

Together, this group seeks to find nature-based solutions that address global challenges; to strengthen environmental governance in order to promote sustainable development; and to promote the conservation of biodiversity that sustains life on this planet.

This work is delineated by an international agenda developed and approved by the IUCN’s member organizations every four years. The 2013-2016 IUCN Agenda includes clear objectives and action areas. Based on its Global Programme, the Union in the Caribbean and Mesoamerica leads the efforts of the member organizations, commissions of experts and the secretariat, through a regional agenda based on three action lines including the conservation of biodiversity, the implementation of natural solutions to climate change and food security, and the strengthening of environmental governance mechanisms.

In this region, the IUCN is represented by the Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, ORMACC, which is the Union’s supporting arm for carrying out projects, initiatives and actions for the conservation of nature and sustainable development, linking members and expert commissions working in Mexico, Central America and the Insular Caribbean.
A United Program: 2013 Results

Following the approval of the International IUCN Agenda in 2012, the Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, along with the Members and Commissions, has carried out actions based on three principal programming lines:

Programming Line: Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity

Despite its importance for sustaining life on the planet, biodiversity continues to decline. This puts at risk natural goods and services that are essential to environmental and human well-being. This programming line addresses direct pressures on biodiversity and promotes the sustainable use of ecosystems in the short, medium and long-term.

Programming Line: Effective and Equitable Governance of Nature

Equitable access to the goods and services provided by ecosystems is a key factor in achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction. Decisions regarding how to manage natural resources and the way in which decisions are made generally have an impact on the environment and human livelihoods. This programming line seeks to create spaces for dialogue and decision-making that stimulate better management of natural resources, for the benefit of current and future generations.

Programming Line: Nature-Based Solutions

The correct way to confront the impact of climate change and the increasing degradation of the environment is through the protection of nature. To achieve this, intersectorial and integral actions are required to position biodiversity as a way to find “natural solutions” to our challenges as a society.

In Search of Effectiveness: Proposals Focused on Results

In search of effective management, the IUCN supports three action areas:

- The generation and use of relevant technical knowledge.
- The impact of results on the ground.
- Reinforcing environmental governance in order to preserve biodiversity, human well-being and sustainable development.

Implementing nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development

Effective and equitable governance in the utilization of nature

Valuing and conserving nature

Luciano Capelli
Valuing and Conserving Biodiversity
Hands on the Job:

The management of knowledge, the generation of local and government capacity regarding conservation. Set the production of policies and plans. Directed towards the sustainable use of biodiversity, have been visual places to promote the conservation of biodiversity in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

PROTECTED AREAS IN THE CARIBBEAN

• Within the framework of the Biodiversity and Management of Protected Areas Program (BIOPAMA), agreements have been facilitated among organizations and individuals linked to the management of protected areas on land and sea in the Insular Caribbean, to identify technical issues on which training is needed. These efforts have involved the discussion and planning of an Observatory on Caribbean Protected Areas, to support decision-making and planning related to protected areas. This leads towards the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Heritage Sites and the Cartagena Convention, which specifically covers the Caribbean Sea.

ADAPTATION BASED ON ECOSYSTEMS IN TRANSBORDER AREAS

• In four transborder basins - Coatán (México), Río Paz (El Salvador), Lempa (El Salvador – Honduras) and Río Sixaola (Costa Rica- Panamá) – ecosystem restoration actions have been carried out. These efforts have brought about the preparation and formulation of plans for basin management, along with the Management Plan for the Quebrada Rosa Basin, the Binational Sixaola Basin, the Management Plan for the Río Paz Basin, and the Binational Operative Plan for the Sumpul Sub-Basin (El Salvador – Honduras).

FOREST RESTORATION

• To boost implementation of the REDD+ mechanism in rural communities, the restoration of forest landscapes has been promoted in a manner that is consistent with REDD+ national plans, and spaces have been opened for discussion and coordination with communities and forest authorities in Guatemala. In Mexico, priority areas have been evaluated for forest restoration and sustainable use. These efforts by Mesoamerican countries are added to the “Bonn Challenge,” which is a commitment to restore 150 million hectares worldwide by the year 2020.

RED LIST OF ECOSYSTEMS

• A new methodology for the Red List of Ecosystems has been developed. This effort is part of an evaluation of the state of continental ecosystems of the Americas, which, besides Costa Rica, includes Colombia, Chile and Brazil. The methodology is now in development. In the case of Costa Rica, the process has been distinguished by the leadership of CATIE (the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center), a IUCN member, and the support of the Regional Office and governmental environmental institutions such as the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC).

SUPPORT FOR COSTA RICAN PROTECTED AREAS

• In Costa Rica the development of a tool for the management of visitors to Protected Areas has been carried out; support has been provided for the development of a plan to direct the Protected Areas, and a revision of categories for the management of natural protection areas has begun.

RED LIST OF SPECIES

• In Nicaragua, concern over the state of endemic species motivated the National Committee of Members to develop a Red List of species for its country. With the support of technical experts, academics and governmental agencies, a list was created of 40 woodland species of vertebrate animals including birds, mammals and reptiles, evaluated according to the methodology of the Red List version 3.1. This work included the revision of the legal framework for species protection in Nicaragua and the identification of various techniques for the evaluation of the state of biodiversity.

• In the Caribbean, the IUCN with the support of the Government of France has been developing, since 2011, the first Red List of species for the region. This list focuses on initial efforts in marine species. The work has involved experts from the Commission on Species Survival (SSC) as well as the IUCN Secretariat. Following three workshops with international and regional scientists, close to 1150 species have been classified, principally of fish, but there are still many more species to evaluate due to the impressive biodiversity and endemism of the region, which is among the top four spots on a list of 34 “Hot Spots” for biodiversity internationally.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE FOR CONSERVATION

I. During 2012 and 2013, various National Committees of Members and Technical Commissions achieved political advocacy for the conservation of species and protected areas. One of these was the National Members’ Committee of Panama, which, supported by the Specialists’ Group on Anteaters, Sloths and Armadillos (ASASG) of the Species Survival Commission (SSC), expressed its concern about the possible exportation of pigmy three-toed sloths (Bradypus pygmaeus), a species currently listed as “Critically Threatened” on the IUCN Red List.

II. In the Dominican Republic, the National Committee of Members expressed its concern over the development of an agricultural project promoted by the Dominican Agrarian Institute (IAD) within the Loma Charco Azul Biological Reserve, home to at least five species from the IUCN Red List, including the Ricord Iguana (Cyclura ricordii).
III. In an effort to protect the habitat of the Jamaican Iguana (*Cyclura collei*), which is among the list of the 100 most threatened species in the world, the Commission for Species Survival, headed by the Iguanas Specialists Group, expressed its support for the ban imposed by the Government of Jamaica on the extraction of carbon for export. The negative implications that this commercial activity could have on the dry forests of the Hellshire Hills, in the south of Jamaica, has captured the attention of conservationists who expressed their interest in supporting the protection of this natural area.

**KNOWLEDGE OF BIODIVERSITY IN MEXICO**

- Mexico was a pioneer in carrying out a national study to evaluate its natural capital. The book “Natural Capital of Mexico,” coordinated by the National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO), is the result of the compilation of technical information from more than 650 Mexican academics and professionals hailing from 230 institutions. The document is the most complete source available of primary information, analyzed and synthesized in regards to biological diversity in Mexico, its conservation, its sustainable use and the environmental services it offers.

  (www.biodiversidad.gob.mx/pais/pdf/AccionesEstrategicas_web.pdf)

**TOWARDS THE RECOVERY OF PÁTZCUARO LAKE**

- The organization FAUNAM A.C. supported research that used information from the IUCN Commission on Species Survival, and which analyzed the environmental and social implications of a fishing ban on white fish (*Chirostoma estor*) in Lake Pátzcuaro, located in Michoacán, México. This autochthonous species declined dramatically because of the introduction of species that have affected the ecological dynamics of the lacustrine body.

- The study carried out by FAUNAM A.C./PG7 demonstrated that the ban has not resulted in a repopulation of white fish in the Pátzcuaro and pointed out that an opportunity exists for various social actors, merchants, fishermen, academics and local authorities to find joint solutions to the problem.

**CONSERVATION OF THE ACHOQUE IN PÁTZCUARO LAKE**

- The achoque (*Ambystoma dumerilii*) is an amphibian endemic to Pátzcuaro Lake. The Purépecha people have used it as a food and in traditional medicine. On the Red List it is included in the category of Critical Danger of Extinction due to environmental degradation of the lake. Local initiatives have managed to conserve the achoque, but the lack of resources and infrastructure have kept these efforts from greater effectiveness. FAUNAM A.C./PG7 has led a process to strengthen local initiatives so that they have better infrastructure and the ability to manage more self-sufficient breeding grounds with reproductive potential, species management and the exchange of individuals and technical information.
In 2013, the promotion of social platforms for participation allowed indigenous peoples to gain influence in the design of public policy related to community forest management, respect for indigenous lands, the application of Prior Free Informed Consent (CPLI) and the adequate implementation of initiatives to combat climate change.

Two relevant cases:

- The creation of a binational platform among organizations of the Honduran Moskitia and the Nicaraguan Caribbean coast strengthened the Miskitu peoples’ advocacy agenda on issues of forests, protected areas, territorial governance and culture.
- Through the strengthening of the indigenous advocacy agenda (2013-2014), articulated by the Central American Indigenous Council (CICA), influence was exerted, from a focus on rights, on the design of regional policies related to climate change, protection of biodiversity and respect for indigenous territories in the face of extractive economic activities such as mining.

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM: FOCUSING ON ADAPTATION AND MitIGATION

- An operating structure has been established to put into effect the Regional Program on Climate Change, supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In addition, the initiative has been presented to national environmental authorities in Central America, along with the Central American Commission on the Environment and Development (CCAD), the regional environmental political structure. This program will support mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change through innovative environmental policies, preparing communities for extreme hydrometeorological events, and the generation of interventions in strategic areas to incentivize the sustainable use of natural resources.

ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN MEXICO

- In Yucatán, México, platforms have been created for dialogue with social actors to identify the causes of deforestation, including analyses of socioeconomic variables and mechanisms to establish appropriate forms of Payment for Environmental Services to accomplish a just and equitable distribution of benefits.

INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION IN THE DEFINITION OF STRATEGIES IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

- As part of the processes of empowering indigenous populations and rural communities, autochthonous groups participated in the definition of an appropriate method for the implementation of the National Strategies for the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) in their respective countries, as well as the identification of the best forest incentives for the equitable distribution of natural goods and services.

FRAMEWORK FOR GOVERNANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- The IUCN is developing a Framework for the Governance of Natural Resources (MGRN) that seeks to unify, under one umbrella, the values, principles and conditions that must be fulfilled in order to achieve a just, equitable and ecologically sustainable governance of nature. It is hoped that the “Canasta de Conocimiento;” or Knowledge Toolbox, will be constituted as a reference, guide and support for rights-holders and other actors involved in decision-making, territorial management and the evaluation of the governance of natural resources. Its development, jointly led by the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN Secretariat, began in 2013.

STRENGTHENING FOREST INCENTIVES

- Support was provided to the formulation of the Program of Community Forest Incentives (PIFC) for the management, restoration and conservation of forests in Nicaragua’s North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN).

APPLICATION OF FOREST LAWS

- In Guatemala and Honduras, contributions were made to develop an implementation proposal for the European Union’s Action Plan for the Application of Forest Laws, Governance and Trade (FLEGT), a proposal approved by the European Union. Participants in the preparation of the document included many social actors from each country. The plan’s implementation will focus on areas with high indices of illegal logging such as El Petén, Los Cuchumatanes and Las Verapaces in Guatemala, and El Yoro, Atlantis, Olancho and Gracias a Dios in Honduras.

ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

- The revision of the legal framework and forest policies in Nicaragua, Panama, Guatemala and Mexico is now underway. This research seeks to improve and ensure landowner rights, facilitate the participation of indigenous and rural populations in decision-making about forest management, and increase transparency and simplify processes for the sustainable management of forested areas.
GUATEMALAN CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

- The National Roundtable on Climate Change, in which Guatemalan member organizations of the IUCN played an important role, was the civil society platform that, following an advocacy process with decision-makers, advanced the approval of the Guatemalan Climate Change Law.
- The law addresses variables such as territorial development, natural resource government, risk management, the use of clean technologies, respect for traditional knowledge and a mandate for public participation in decision-making. In addition, a national climate-change fund was created, from which 80% of resources will be dedicated to actions of adaptation and 20% to mitigation work.

LOBBYING AGAINST TRAWLING

- As the result of a lobbying process to reduce the impact of semi-industrial trawling – which has not only an environmental impact on the marine ecosystem, but also a socioeconomic impact on sustainable, artisanal fishing – member organizations, MarViva and PRETOMA, along with other NGO partners, achieved a declaration of unconstitutionality by the Costa Rica’s Constitutional Court for the articles of the Fishing Law that authorized trawling licenses for shrimpers.

CARIBBEAN: TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

- In the Insular Caribbean, the Regional Committee of Members has worked to create the conditions necessary to advance projects oriented towards improving environmental governance, as well as strengthening environmental policies in the region. Among the achievements of the Committee is the development of a consensus-based Action Plan that has defined priority work areas that involve conservation work in protected areas, the creation of a red list of Caribbean species, the strengthening of environmental governance based on a focus on rights, and work for adaptation to climate change based on the well-being of ecosystems, among other issues.

REACTIVATION OF THE WCPA IN THE CARIBBEAN

- In the Caribbean, the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) initiated the reactivation of its regional network if members. Members were encouraged to create working groups based on priority areas; to generate synergy to bring about development projects in collaboration with the Union program; and to focus efforts on specific conservation efforts.

TERRITORIAL LAND TITLES IN MISKITO COUNCILS

- The Honduran government turned over one million hectares to seven Miskito Territorial Councils during 2012-2013. The achievement is due not only to an old process that included field expeditions showing, since 1982, the experience in forest governance of the Tolupanes and Pech ethnic groups had developed in Moskitia territories, but also to various mapping processes that scientifically demonstrated the occupation of the territories in question by indigenous and Afro-Honduran groups.
- During this process, the IUCN, along with members such as the NGO Mopawi and partners such as the indigenous organization MASTA, the Ford Foundation, the INA, GIZ and the ICF, helped make possible the granting of land titles in favor of better community management of forests in Honduran Moskitia.

FOREST GOVERNANCE

- In Mexico, through a workshop for improving forest governance and the trade of wood, within the FLEGT framework, initial contact was achieved between players in the management of Mexican forests and the forest legality plan of the European Union. With this effort, the IUCN member organization Reforestamos Mexico (Let’s Reforest Mexico) generated space for discussion focused on creating agreements for collaboration on issue such as legal access, competitiveness, regulations and sustainable forest management.
- The results of the analysis allowed participants to make public policy recommendations to improve the forest business climate in Mexico.
- On a regional level, not only do Honduras, Guatemala, Panama and Nicaragua now have Strategic Plans of Forest Governance, based on common agendas developed between government and community organizations, but the CCAD has also finished updating the PERFOR (Strategic Regional Program for the Management of Forest Ecosystems), establishing a specific chapter about monitoring and evaluating forest indicators. The conditions are therefore in place to allow for the first regional forest baseline, to be prepared with the support of the IUCN in early 2014.

PROTECTION OF NATURAL SACRED SITES

- In order to conserve biodiversity associated with the Historical-Cultural Route of the Huichol Community, a Protected Area categorized as a Natural Sacred Site, the Mexican Members Committee initiated an advocacy process to strengthen public policies related to the protection of this site. The effort included meetings and legal actions involving civil society organizations through forums, meetings and programs related to community conservation plans in Mexico.
Nature-Based Solutions
Hands on the Job:

ADAPTATION BASED ON ECOSYSTEMS: A PATH TO REDUCING VULNERABILITY

Adaptation to climate change based on ecosystems seems to use the restoration and sustainable management of natural resources as a mechanism to reduce vulnerability. In rural communities located in transborder basins such as Coatán (Mexico), Río Paz (El Salvador), Lempa (El Salvador-Honduras) and Sixaola (Costa Rica- Panamá), restoration actions have strengthened local livelihoods. Results include:

- Reforestation of 7 hectares of the Río Y orkin microbasin (tributary of the Sixaola River) with local species.
- Establishment of 6 local tree nurseries capable of producing 60,000 trees for reforestation and crop diversification.
- Graduation of 50 producers in El Salvador from monocultures to diversified production with fruit and timber-producing trees.

PAYMENT FOR NATURAL SERVICES

Efforts to generate conservation mechanisms in the Cahoacán Basin in Chiapas have resulted in the inclusion of 12,963.43 hectares in the Payment for Environmental Hydrological Services plan, distributed in a series of common lands. This achievement has benefited approximately 12,210 people.

AGROFORESTRY AND POVERTY REDUCTION

- Through support for a cacao trading structure, the community-based FUNDALACHUÁ organization, located in the Lachúa Ecoregion in Guatemala, has generated $27,000 in income in economically depressed areas. This organization produced 35,000 plants grafted with valuable genetic material, which will contribute to the maintenance of areas with agroforestry systems.

APPLICATION OF THE ECOSYSTEM-BASED FOCUS

- The member organization Association of Organizations of the Talamanca-Caribbean Biological Corridor, which operates in the transborder area between Costa Rica and Panama, supported indigenous and rural communities in the development of seed-exchange fairs to promote agroecology as a livelihood capable of reducing social and environmental vulnerability to the effects of climate change.
- In Mexico, two member organizations, the Natural History Society of Soconusco and the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), supported the opening of the Tanguis Campesino, or rural farmers’ open-air market, in Cacahoatán, Chiapas. This market seeks to promote the production and trade of organic products and the diversification of coffee lots as a means of adapting to climate change. The Cacahoatán farmers’ market has registered 69 growers to date.
- A total of 24,000 students from 400 schools took part in a project called “Integral Management for Risk Reduction in School Communities,” developed by the member organization Salvadoran Ecological Unit (UNES). As a part of the initiative, students from 7 states have been trained and sensitized to issues such as food sovereignty, adaptation to climate change, risk management and sustainable livelihoods. The process has resulted in 35 agroecological school gardens, trained 500 teachers, and involved 4,000 parents in these issues.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE VULNERABILITY OF BIODIVERSITY

- In an effort to evaluate the vulnerability and risks that biodiversity faces in the state of Morelos, Mexico, due to modifications in precipitation and temperature increases caused by climate change, the organization FAUNAM A.C. has sought to generate recommendations for adaptation and mitigation that allow for the identification of species at greatest risk. The complete interpretation of the results makes possible a profound analysis for decision-making and the implementation of adaptation measures in the future.

RESTORATION AND THE REDUCTION OF VULNERABILITY

- In El Salvador, the member organization Salvadoran Ecological Unit (UNES) coordinated the organization of communities around the Garita Palmera wetland in order to carry out conservation actions in this area of the mangrove swamp. Through training and sensitizing local residents about the mangroves’ importance in sustaining their livelihoods and reducing their vulnerability to the effects of climate change, interest grew among the communities in rehabilitating the ecosystem. Today, the communities have created their own conservation committee and are carrying out restoration work, including the reforestation of the area with 700,000 red mangrove specimens.
New Members

• National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (British Virgin Islands)
• For Nature/Para la Naturaleza (Puerto Rico)
• Mexican Fund for Nature Conservation, A.C. (Mexico)
• Institute for Sustainable Development in Mesoamerica, A.C. (Mexico)
• Man – Nature / Hombre Naturaleza, A.C. (Mexico)
• Foundation for the Promotion of Indigenous Knowledge (Panama)
• Association of Protected Areas Management Organizations (Belize)

OUR DONORS 2013

MANAGING KNOWLEDGE:

• During the period covered in this report, a series of documents and audiovisual materials were developed, based on the experience and lessons learned during the implementation of the Program. These include the following documents and videos:

Audiovisual Material

• Video: Communities with Natural Intelligence
• Video: BRIDGE Mesoamerica: Rivers that Unite Borders
• Video: People and Ecosystems: Adaptation to Climate Change

Documents

• Adaptation Based on Ecosystems: Improving Livelihoods and Water Governance in Mesoamerica
• Analysis of the Legal Framework for Sustainable Use and Trade of Wood in Mesoamerica: Mexico
• Paths and Achievements on the Road
• Derecho a la Ciudad: Vivienda y Ambiente (book)
• Analysis of the Legal Framework for Sustainable Use and Trade of Wood in Mesoamerica: Honduras
• Construction of a Geospatial Model to Identify and Prioritize Potential Areas for the National Restoration of the Forest Landscape in Mexico (English)
• Analysis of the International Trade of Wood Products and its Administrative Governance in Central America and the Dominican Republic
• Analysis of the Legal Framework for Sustainable Use and Trade of Wood in Nicaragua
• Analysis of the Legal Framework for Sustainable Use and Trade of Wood in Mesoamerica: Costa Rica
• Mechanisms for Payment for Environmental Services Related to Forests that Should Be Included in a Program of Forest Incentives, and a Context Analysis of the Distribution of Incentives, Oriented Towards Productivity, Management and Conservation of Natural Forests
• Systematizing Experiences of Implementation of Programs of Forest Incentives for Owners of Small Land Extensions of Forest or Agroforest Land (PINPEP)
TRANSPARENT MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, as a routine control measure, applies a monthly monitoring system to facilitate oversight of the use of financial resources under the rigorous guidelines that characterize the institution.

This monitoring system not only allows for financial control of expenditures and ORMACC project execution, but also serves as a useful tool for technical supervision and implementation of projects by facilitating the identification of delays and the application of opportune corrective measures.

Internal controls have also facilitated strong performance in compliance with the requirements of auditors, so that 100% of audits obtained a satisfactory rating without any observations whatsoever.

During this period eight project audits took place, as well as the annual Regional Office audit. These audits are carried out according to international standards, evaluating not only the correct and timely use of financial resources, but also the use of those resources in service of contracts with donors.

GOVERNANCE OF THE UNION

In the region throughout 2012 and 2013, members of the three pillars of the Union – Members, Commissions and Secretariat – met to establish joint action routes to strengthen the labor and governance of the IUCN.

Examples such as the meetings of the Regional Committee of Caribbean Members were spaces in which strategic regional work lines were established. These gatherings facilitated a discussion of the opportunities and challenges for implementing conservation and sustainable development actions in the Insular Caribbean.

In the same way, the meetings of the Regional Committee of Mesoamerican Members also delineated spaces of action and governance that allowed for the establishment of synergies to promote a program of work capable of influencing the region’s environmental agenda.

Participants in these spaces for governance included Advisors for the Caribbean and Mesoamerican regions, who participate in the IUCN World Council, where the Union’s political path is determined, and where decisions are made that are most relevant to the achievement of the organization’s conservation goals.

At the same time, from country to country, the National Committees of IUCN Members maintained constant coordination, which has allowed them to define their path as groups to exert influence over the respective environmental and sustainable development agendas of their nations.