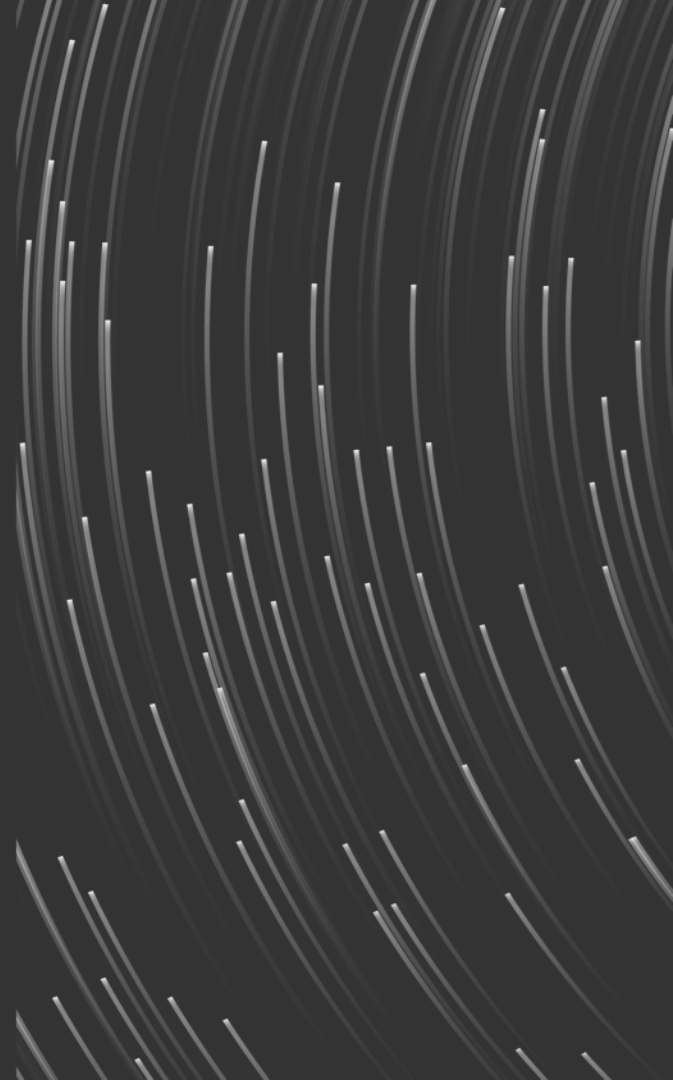


Sustainable Event Strategy

Delivered in partnership with GDS-Movement



October 8–10 2024



IUCN Event Sustainability – Vision and Commitment

IUCN is dedicated to leading by example and committed to organising events more sustainably.

Ambition

The IUCN World Conservation Congresses in 2016 (Hawai'i, USA) and 2021 (Marseille, France) achieved ISO 20121 for the event sustainability management systems, an international recognition for efforts to minimise their environmental impacts. To ensure that best standard practices are aligned across IUCN events, IUCN is currently drafting a best-in-class global sustainability policy. This policy will cover travel, venue operations, catering, waste, digital waste, among other topics.

Historic approach

At the IUCN Leaders Forum 2022, participants compensated 86% of on-site CO2 emissions; at the [IUCN Leaders Forum 2023](#), 100% of unavoidable CO2e linked to the organisation and the attendance to the event (including transportation to the event) have been offset. Details about the IUCN Leaders Forum 2023 sustainability approach and results are available in the [Forum's sustainability report](#).

IUCN Leaders Forum – Approach

Creating a sustainable Forum requires commitment and collective action from participants, sponsors, organisers, and suppliers. Our approach is to engage, inspire, and catalyse action to aim at a zero-negative impact event.

Following a successful collaboration with the [Global Destination Sustainability Movement](#) on the global sustainability approach for the IUCN Leaders Forum 2023, IUCN renews this collaboration and its commitment to sustainable event practices for the IUCN Leaders Forum 2024.



IUCN Leaders Forum – Sustainable Event Strategy

Activator

Inspire the IUCN community to improve environmental and social sustainability within their areas of influence

Model

Demonstrate leadership through innovation and the enhancement of sustainability practices within the IUCN events portfolio, highlighting the Forum as a prime example

Our goals

Climate Action

Circular Economy

Social Responsibility

Diversity and Inclusion

Our Principles

Follow principles of the draft IUCN sustainable convenings and events policy to be published in 2024

Transition to more sustainable materials

Reduce waste, increase recycling

Design for inclusiveness and diversity according to, amongst other guidelines, the IUCN's Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

Support local communities and business

Aligned to UN SDGs



Strategic Objectives

Climate Action

- Measure Forum's CO2 emissions.
- Serve 100% of vegetarian food.
- Source 90% of food and beverage locally (160 km radius).
- Achieve 100% offsetting of all unavoidable carbon emissions associated with the Forum.

Circular Economy

- Eliminate 90% of single-use plastic, polystyrene, and PVC.
- Send only 10% of event waste to landfill.
- Recycle 60% of Forum's waste.
- Ensure 90% of all signage is made from sustainable materials.

Social Responsibility

- Achieve a 50/50 balance of male to female speakers.
- Integrate at least 1 community/charity partnership at the Forum.
- Integrate at least 4 social enterprises at the Forum.

Diversity and Inclusion

- Ensure that at least 20% of total participants come from low- and middle-income countries.
- Sponsor the attendance of 30 individuals from underrepresented communities.
- Achieve a satisfaction rating of at least 85% for onsite support services.

Offsetting Approach

For each IUCN Leaders Forum, we invite participants to contribute to nature conservation by offsetting the carbon emissions associated with their participation in the event. This includes the emissions generated by travel as well as those generated onsite by the event itself.

The calculation is based on the average carbon footprint per person from the previous IUCN Leaders Forum held in Geneva, Switzerland, in October 2023 as well as on the city of departure and the means of transportation of each delegate.

Through the online registration process, participants are prompted to contribute to one of the selected projects* certified by renowned international bodies like the UNFCCC, Gold Standard, or Verified Carbon Standard. The projects selected align with the IUCN Programme and Regions, prioritising those led by Members.



Cleaner, Safer Water
in Cambodia



Conservation Coast in
Guatemala



Improved Cookstoves for
conservation of Ibanda-Makera
Gallery Forest in Rwanda

IUCN thanks all participants,
partners and suppliers for
contributing to reduce the
environmental impact of the
Forum.



IUCN

www.iucnleadersforum.org

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