

Sub-theme 1: SUSTAINABILITY: TURNING WORDS INTO ACTIONS THROUGH COOPERATION

Rising demands for food, water, energy and other natural resources are straining the ability of natural ecosystems to produce what people need. Climate change has become a reality more and more communities have to live with, and soon, the first waves of climate refugees will be obliged to flee their homes, lands or countries because of rising sea levels.

Before even talking about a sustainable future, it seems evident that we need to achieve a more sustainable present, as the health of our natural environment is vitally important for our economies and our wellbeing. This sub-theme will explore the latest concepts and incentives available to ensure the exploitation of natural resources does not overcome the capacity of ecosystems to provide them. The role of conservation finance will be analysed, as well as other economy-related conservation concepts like the natural capital approach. At the same time, this sub-theme will also discuss how the rights of local and indigenous communities can be preserved, through tools like the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, for example.

Related technical sessions:

- **Funding conservation:** A Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (CPIC) was formed on the occasion of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016, involving major players of the finance and the conservation worlds. What has this Coalition achieved, two years after the Congress, and what remains to be done? This session will provide an opportunity to take stock of the first two years of existence of the CPIC, renew commitments and define an action plan for the coming years.
- **Access and Benefit Sharing:** how to implement the Nagoya Protocol? This session will be a hands-on training on the CBD's Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, through which participants will gain a better understanding of the concept of "Access and Benefit Sharing" under the CBD, as well of the main challenges of its implementation. The session will also provide an overview of the relationship between the Nagoya Protocol and other international instruments and processes.