

**Project title: Promoting International Youth Engagement and Partnership
Building at the IUCN World Conservation Congress**

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**IUCN World Conservation Congress, Jeju, South Korea (members from Bangladesh, Canada,
Costa Rica, Mexico, and USA)**

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1. Synthesis

The IDRC Small Grants program partially supported the participation of 6 young professionals belonging to the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) and one community member from Costa Rica to participate in the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress in September, 2012. The impact of the participation affected not only the individuals supported by this grant, but also the broader CEESP Youth Network and the IUCN-wide Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability. By being able to interact at the forum, lead our own events, and present a candidate for Council, we became a recognizable group and force within the IUCN. The learning experiences and achievements of our participants from Bangladesh, Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, and the United States will be used towards developing strategic plans for broadening our CEESP Youth Network membership, while contributing to the design and implementation of Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability initiatives. We will also seek out mutually beneficial partnerships with IUCN Member Organizations to continue CEESP's mission to act as a source of advice on the environmental, economic, social and cultural factors that affect natural resources and biological diversity and to provide guidance and support towards effective policies and practices in environmental conservation and sustainable development. This report compiles the personal reflections (learning experiences and outcomes) of our network and considers the impact of our participation at the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress 2012, as well as recommendations for moving forward with our vision.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the project were to:

1. Engage and participate in planning activities leading up to the World Conservation Congress.
2. Lead and facilitate Congress events scheduled between September 6 to 11, 2012. These included workshops organized or co-organized by our members, participating in a CEESP booth and in pavilion and forum events.
3. Contribute to an IUCN-wide Action Plan for 2013-2016 by: a) Reviewing past achievements of youth engagement and intergenerational partnership within each Commission, with a focus on sharing lessons learned since 2008; (b) Draft an agenda and work plan for 2013-2016 within and across Commissions; and (c) Highlight all youth and intergenerational events at the Congress.

3. Project outcomes and findings

3.1 Objectives achieved

All of the above objectives were achieved through the CEESP Youth Network's participation in the Congress. All participants were actively involved in planning activities for the Congress, including the planning of specific events and their facilitation (Objectives 1 and 2). At Congress, participants contributed to reviewing past achievements of youth engagement and intergenerational partnership within each Commission, shared lessons learned since 2008, and helped draft an agenda and work plan for 2013-2016 within, across, and even beyond Commissions. The scope of the Action Plan spans through IUCN's next Congress in 2016, and a focused set of Working Groups and objectives for 2013 will be ready for implementation January. All youth and intergenerational events at the Congress were highlighted on the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership website and on a flyer that was distributed online as well as at the Congress website as a youth themed Journey.

An interactive report on the Youth and Intergenerational Journey at Congress is here:
<http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/wcc2012>

In addition to these major objectives, participation at Congress also created the potential for other personal objectives to be met. Below are reports on the additional learning outcomes and achievements experienced by the CEESP young professionals who benefitted from this grant.

3.2 Individual Learning outcomes

Eduardo Jr. Arenas (Mexico) - During the World Conservation Congress I had the chance to meet with many people. Learning about and understanding different realities was amazing. Some of the events which I attended were important and interesting. The event that my organization and I led received a fair number of participants and positive reactions from them. But most importantly, the major learnings from my participation at the World Conservation Congress in Jeju South Korea are:

1. Over-simplification of the complexities of our world is still pretty widespread, even at events where experts and professionals attend.
2. The transition towards understanding sustainability is slow. Many people are still only considering the bird, the frog or the tree as the most important element; disregarding other important elements and, many times, the most important element: humans and their interactions with the environment.
3. IUCN is the oldest and largest global environmental organization, a structure that has been built and developed by the capacity and will of thousands of individuals. Many of them have been connected to the Union for a long time and sometimes are not willing to let go and let newer generations get involved in the work of the organization. Profound changes need to be pursued and pushed by all the actors that are interested in a more robust Union. Young people, specifically young professionals, need to play a key role on this specific objective.

Daniela Barguil Gallardo (Costa Rica / United Kingdom) - CEESP Youth Network members actively participated at the World Conservation Congress. Thanks to partial funding support from the International Development Research Center, and the number of initiatives in which many of us were involved, youth became visible at Congress. The young representatives that attended Congress were actively engaged. At various levels youth was not only present and participating in discussions but was also leading events.

One of the events, which CEESP Youth helped organized and where I was actively involved, was the Knowledge Cafe on Marine Governance which brought local community representatives from coastal communities of Mesoamerica to the Congress. In this event, the young representatives participated leading discussions and sharing their perspectives. Their contribution and participation was a big success, enabling them to put forward their perspectives as young leaders, to discuss the challenges young people and coastal fishing communities face, and the contributions that they make towards securing a sustainable future through their livelihoods. You can read the results of the discussions held by the young participants in the Knowledge Cafe report (please see report in **Appendix A**).

The young local leaders, including Gilberto Naranjo whose participation was also supported by IDRC, and myself also participated in other events of the Congress. These included the Community Voices event in the Just World Pavillion and two other events at the Blue Pavillion, where young representatives shared their concerns regarding marine issues, conservation and climate change and made visible community perspectives in these matters.

An important outcome of these efforts was that CEESP Youth Network and CoopeSoliDar R.L. were successful in integrating local, engaged, community youth voices in a high level policy-making space such as the Congress. This was an effort very much congratulated by many, and which entailed a long process of preparation with these local young leaders.

Another valuable experience and outcome of the Congress was that young professionals from the different Commissions and their work were made visible throughout Congress events. Moreover, special attention was brought to youth and intergenerational partnerships in IUCN. The importance and potential of youth and intergenerational partnerships was discussed and highlighted in several events, such as the Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability Action Planning workshop.

We, as young representatives from the different Commissions' youth networks, were also able to meet, share ideas, collaborate and work together brainstorming actions ideas and plans to advance intergenerational partnerships and youth initiatives within Commissions and across the IUCN.

Parallel to all these working sessions I also learned how the IUCN works and the valuable visions and perspectives that youth and intergenerational partnerships can bring to the IUCN and the work of the Commissions that form an important part of the Union.

Gilberto Naranjo (Costa Rica) - Personally this experience and learning opportunity has left me an even clearer conviction of the importance of our livelihoods to the inhabitants of our planet. From the perspectives of my specialty field, which is the oceans and marine resources for the development of coastal communities and culture, and the fishing community that I come from (Tarcoles, Costa Rica) - I am relieved to hear that there are sectors in conservation that are taking into account human beings, who are on a daily basis linked to natural resources for their social, economic and cultural well-being through sustainable use. I also hope that it is clear for the big conservation international agencies that the local actors, who are linked to natural resources for their livelihoods, have the tools to indicate where to go with these resources, since we are those who most directly suffer from their deterioration.

In the many discussions I had at Congress - for example carried out at our event, the Knowledge Cafe on Marine Governance - I also noted that there are very similar challenges in Central America and Mexico in terms of fishing activity (fisheries decline, trawling as a destructive fishing practice, inequality of access to resources, lack of access to information). We have to create consciousness and raise the awareness of the governmental authorities of these countries to stop seeing marine resources as infinite and endless. If this continues, nothing will get better. We also have to start implementing actions. Furthermore, a key and very important point was highlighted during our discussions, and that is that conservation done through sustainable use and management, as it is practiced by most artisanal fishing communities, contributes greatly to the food security and sovereignty of our peoples and nations.

The presence of us - local actors - in this international conference is an important achievement that I personally expect to be repeated and expanded in the future with the presence of more local actors in international events, and with the support of international organizations. This is key as we - local actors - make a great contribution to the desired sustainability of natural resources and our beautiful planet Earth, and we have much to contribute to the discussions.

Elaine Hsiao (United States / Canada) - The World Conservation Congress (WCC) was an incredible experience, albeit intense and exhausting! I had the opportunity to submit two Motions through Pace's Center for Environmental Legal Studies. The two Motions were: "Prioritizing Community Based Natural Resources Management for Social and Ecological Resilience" and

"Establishing a Forum for Transboundary Protected Areas Managers." The CBNRM Motion was assigned to a contact group facilitated by the Chairwoman of CEESP, Aroha Mead, and, as always, was an interesting learning experience in environmental politics and diplomacy. Both Motions were adopted and will now form part of the IUCN's policies and 'soft' law.

As a young professional, the Congress was a great opportunity to meet many people with whom I had previously been in contact only via email and to establish a face-with-name personal relationship, as well as to meet many new people doing very interesting things. It was inspiring to be at a meeting where many people involved are actually active 'on the ground' and can speak from first-hand experience of what works, what doesn't, the challenges they face, and share ideas on how to overcome them. This kind of networking is critical in the development of any young professional. It was also incredible to feel like a part of the 'youth movement' at the WCC and specifically to be able to represent CEESP Youth in that regard. The mutual support within the youth group was genuine and it was nice to have cohorts at Congress. I believe that this opportunity to work so coherently in advance of Congress, to actually attend the WCC, and to meet in person, has greatly strengthened our interpersonal relationships and will drive our collaborations in the future. The youth group within CEESP and other Commissions received many commendations for the mobilization they achieved prior to Congress and the presence that they had at the WCC (a large part of which was made possible by the co-funding provided by IDRC). Many commented that the youth had truly arrived! The youth also had the opportunity to engage in a local issue in Gangjeong, Jeju (the development of a military base on a sacred natural site). I spent my last afternoon and evening in Jeju with the Gangjeong villagers. CEESP supported us as members of the CEESP Youth Network in reaching out to the villagers, in securing their participation in the workshop, and in offering them a presence at the CEESP booth. Ours was the first such invitation and it ultimately opened many doors for the villagers within the WCC, allowing them to have a presence at Congress. That connection with a local community and a troubling international phenomenon was made possible by young professionals supported by the IDRC grant and, in particular, by the organization of a workshop specifically on the topic of "Strengthening Community Voices Toward a 'Just World'."

I learned a lot at this Congress about multi-tasking, international collaboration, environmental diplomacy, the IUCN, and various issues in environmental conservation. Much of this you cannot learn without experiencing it in person and taking an active part in the processes; for that, I'm truly grateful for the funding that IDRC was able to provide. The grant may have been to support youth participation in the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress, but what it accomplished in the end is so much more than a one-off event.

Md. Biozid Jessorey (Bangladesh) - In Bangladesh I am working with a youth organization called the Center for Human Development. The [Center for Human Development](#) is a youth-led, non-profit social organization. To direct its activities by ordinary people without any kind of discriminations, it encourages volunteerism. It implements non-profit projects on Health, Information Communication Technologies (ICT), Education and Quality of Life. It also establishes relationships of interchange and carries out joint actions with other national, regional, and international organizations that agree with its objectives and procedures.

As a youth activist, the World Conservation Congress was very significant to me. I specifically contributed to:

1. Working with the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability (<http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/TaskForceWorkingGroups>), which organized youth projects for Congress accomplished through five Working Groups. My role was as a convener of Working Group 3 on Visibility and Networking for Young Professionals. The main tasks of this group were to (a) organize the launch of the new Task Force logo; (b) promote youth events through our Intergenerational Wikispace (<http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/wcc2012>) and during the Congress; (c) establish a youth meeting and networking point and (i) organize a welcome dinner.
2. I participated at youth events and helped to organize (i) [The Elders](#) workshop (#979), convened by IUCN President Ashok Khosla; (ii) [Youth at Congress: Strengthening community voices towards a 'Just World'](#) (#1100); (iii) the [Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability: Toward an IUCN-wide Action Plan](#) (#746) organized by the IUCN Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability; (iv) [Young Leaders for Green Action](#) (#784) organized by DaeJayon; and (v) Conservation Campus events

In summary, the conference offered me a great opportunity to interact with prestigious leaders, policy makers, and government officers in the area of conservation from all over the world. It provided me with an opportunity to learn about other cutting edge actions in the field which assisted me to come up with a few new skills relevant for my activities in Bangladesh. All in all, the conference was an extreme success. I would like to thank the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Lakehead University for providing the funds that allowed me to travel to Korea for the World Conservation Congress in 2012.

Caroline Seagle (United States) - I had the privilege of running in the 2013-2016 IUCN Regional Council elections as a young candidate for the North America and Caribbean region. Although ultimately unsuccessful in my bid as a Council member, it was an incredibly worthwhile and important learning experience that I hope to share with future youth candidates. In the months leading up to the Conservation Congress, I worked very closely with members of the CEESP Youth Network Leadership Team and the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability (IPS), and was thrilled to meet and interact with so many young professionals from across Commissions and regions. The campaign process was facilitated through the hard work of my Campaign Team, IPS Working Group 4, and, although a massive and at times daunting task, we reached out to as many IUCN Members Organizations as possible in our appeal for support. It was a true grassroots effort, and I learned that running a campaign for Regional Councillor is no easy task! I want to thank Working Group 4 members, as well as IPS convener Dominic Stucker, CEESP Youth Network convener Catie Burlando and young Council member Grace Mwaura for their incredible support and advice throughout this challenging experience.

At Congress, I was really moved and encouraged by the number of participants who actively voiced their support for more youth (and female) engagement in IUCN. Many were supportive of having a young member of Council and promoting youth involvement in higher level IUCN governance more generally. Many IUCN members want fresh perspectives and new voices. I think this also speaks to the level at which youth were made more visible at Congress through the activities (workshops, forums, Motions adopted, and events at the Just World Pavilion) of the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability and the CEESP Youth Network members.

As a young professional, the campaign process and experience at Congress was also challenging and deeply political at times, which revealed to me some of the complex power relations embedded in the higher levels of IUCN governance. But I think that, with the great success of youth engagement this year - especially the adoption of Resolution 008 - we will see more meaningful places for youth to participate in the future. I also saw many people from across all generations attending youth-related events organized by IPS and the CEESP Youth Network, and many people sporting the new Intergenerational Partnership logo.

It was an incredibly dynamic event and I had the opportunity to sit in on several regional meetings and learn about some key issues facing different parts of the global IUCN community. A big theme this year was the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities in biodiversity conservation and corporate engagement in the so-called "green economy." This became even more evident in debates surrounding corporate finance in IUCN and conservation initiatives (even of the WCC itself), but also the much publicized naval base conflict in nearby Gangjeong village. To me, this revealed some of the limitations to (and contradictions within) IUCN; despite the various Motions adopted which specifically aim to protect Indigenous land rights, it points to an inability within IUCN as an organization to really halt social and environmental injustices - even when they are occurring right in the Congress' back yard. Still, many members of the IPS, CEESP Youth Network, and IUCN community as a whole actively worked with the people of Gangjeong village to bring change, which, from what I understand, brought a lot of hope and media recognition. I really applaud these people - the story is not over yet!

Melanie Zurba (Canada) - My individual learning outcomes were exceedingly diverse and valuable to my professional development. As a graduate student, I have had opportunities to explore and understand the effects of IUCN policy at the grassroots level. Participation in the World Conservation Congress afforded me the experience of observing policy development through the submitting, revision, and passing of Motions by the Members Assembly. This gave me a more holistic knowledge of the lifecycle of IUCN policy. I believe that this is the broader foundational outcome of taking in an IUCN Congress for the first time.

More specifically, I gained learning from being the main coordinator of the Just World Pavilion event *Youth at Congress: Promoting Community Voices towards a Just World*. Through co-coordinating this event with the assistance of another youth network participant, I learned about event planning, facilitation, and especially about the politics of inclusion of such events. The issues surrounding the development of the naval base at Gangjeong Village was a highly contentious and politicized leading up to and during Congress. Due to the theme of our event and the spirit of local interest and inclusion, we decided to invite young individuals leading the local movement to speak at our event. We went through the appropriate channels to make sure that we would be acting in an appropriate fashion, both in regards to the culture of our host county and the culture of the IUCN as a global organization. However, the issue continued to remain contentious and there was concern over how the event would be received by the South Korean organizing committee. The main points that I learned about engaging in a highly politically divided event are:

- There is safety in solidarity and promoting inclusion through events that have a sincere mandate to simply allow people to share perspectives. Point of view exercises as such have the ability to make way for calm and constructive dialogue.
- Such events add to the transparency surrounding issues. However, that transparency may not always be well received. Different parties of the organizing committee will have different perspectives on protocol and information that can be included in events.
- It is possible that when building relationships at the grassroots level other relationships at the levels of upper-governance can be harmed.

Other significant learning was related to the inclusion of youth and the Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability within the IUCN. Many inside and outside of our network agreed that these movements had come of age at this Congress and that there is a real future within the IUCN for youth and intergenerational initiatives. This was learned through direct feedback and other major milestones such as the passing of a Motion directly related to youth participation in and through the IUCN.

4. Project implementation and management

Most components of our initiative at the IUCN World Conservation Congress were implemented as a joint effort of the project team. A few members of the team also directed specific initiatives.

One such initiative included the participation of young local fisher people as speakers in the Knowledge Cafe on Marine Governance, organized by Daniela Barguil and the community leader Gilberto Naranjo, both from Costa Rica (see their reflections, above). The Youth at Congress event at the Just World Pavilion, also described above, was co-directed by Melanie Zurba and Elaine Hsiao, with Melanie as focal point and facilitator. Dominic Stucker organized The Inheritors workshop, convened by IUCN President, Ashok Khosla; and facilitated the Intergenerational Logo Launch and the IUCN-wide Action Planning Workshop. He was supported in these efforts by Grace Mwaura, Catie Burlando, Rebecca Koss, and Melanie Zurba, amongst many other young professionals. Dominic is not a member of our IDRC project team, but is a young professional from the Commission on Education and Communication's Steering Committee, the founding convener of the CEC's Young Professionals Leadership Team, and the founding convener of the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability.

5. Project outputs and dissemination

CEESP Commission Action Plan - Our Commission Action Plan was developed at a lively and interactive workshop focused on IUCN-wide Action Planning, organized by Catie Burlando, Dominic Stucker, and a host of partners and volunteers. After a welcome by Keith Wheeler and Grace Mwaura, Dominic Stucker, Verena Treber and Melanie Zurba offered short presentations. Then, the 35 participants voted on strategic directions for Union-level projects to engage youth and collaborate across generations for conservation outcomes. Break-out groups were formed around each topic, with Elaine Hsiao, Bruno Monteferrri, Eduardo Arenas Hernandez, Biozid Jessorey, Grace Mwaura, Hilary Masundire, and Melanie Zurba facilitating these and a subsequent round of break-out groups on each of the 6 Commissions. Each break-out group carefully considered the action ideas compiled from various sources, including a Commissions Chairs survey, a Commission members survey, Motion 008 recommendations, The Inheritor's workshop, the CEC Members Meeting, and other events at

Congress. Specific projects were developed in depth and an initial Task Force Core Team was assembled to finalize and coordinate the implementation of the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability Action Plan.

Community voices booklet (Appendix B) - This publication was created by Melanie Zurba, with contributions from several of the CEESP Youth Network and Congress participants. The booklet is in full colour with images featuring stories from several CEESP Young Professionals, many of whom attended Congress, and have been working towards strengthening the voices of community members in conservation through their work. The booklet was distributed at Congress, on the Internet through our Wikispace, and was featured at the Just World Pavilion throughout Congress. Our network intends to continue using this as one of our tools for reaching out to new members and organizational partnerships. The booklet is available at: http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/file/view/CommunityVoiceBooklet_online.pdf, and attached at the back of this report.

Report on the Knowledge Café event “Dreaming of marine conservation and people of the sea. Marine Governance: Reflections on conservation, sea access rights and social and cultural resilience”, by CoopeSoliDar R.L and CEESP Youth Network (Appendix A) - For the IUCN World Conservation Congress, CoopeSoliDar R.L. together with IUCN’S CEESP Mesoamerica and the CEESP Youth Network organized this Knowledge Café. Local young representatives from coastal fishing communities of Central America and Mexico participated, leading discussions and sharing their perspectives. Their contribution and participation was a success, enabling them to put forward their perspectives as young leaders, to discuss the contributions and challenges young people face in trying to secure a sustainable future through their livelihoods. A report on the discussions was prepared (see **Appendix A**). This report has been shared throughout different networks and platforms, including in IUCN newsletters and social networks.

The goals of making audible the voices of local community young actors, sensitizing knowledge cafe participants about the challenges faced by small-scale fishworkers, and promoting their perspectives and solutions, were all achieved. CoopeSoliDar R.L. worked with small-scale fishing organizations to promote the participation of youth, noting that the youth of coastal communities in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean had much to contribute in discussions on and practices of marine conservation, responsible use of resources and local development. A video on youth perspectives regarding these issues was produced with the seven young local community representatives that participated at Congress, during one of the pre-Congress preparation events. The video is available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFsbx_yqZfk&feature=plcp&noredirect=1

6. Capacity-building

Young CEESP Network members were active participants in activities leading up to and at Congress. Some of the activities included:

- Publications (Community Voices booklet, IUCN CEESP Newsletter, Young fisherfolks discussion report and the forthcoming Action Plan);
- Organization and communication of meeting and networking events at Congress;
- Participation at the CEESP Steering Committee meeting;
- Contribution to the creation of spaces for the participation of local community members from Jeju protesting the construction of a military naval base; and
- Caroline Seagle’s campaign for an IUCN North America Regional Councilor position. Despite not being elected, she paved the way for future youth to run again for this position.

As a result of their involvement, and the Union-wide efforts built at the Action Planning workshop, two of the participants applied and were selected to become part of the five Co-Conveners that lead and coordinate the activities of the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnerships for Sustainability. At the time of writing this report, the Task Force had grown to over 100 members from all parts of the IUCN family and partners.

In order to enable the participation of young local community leaders of Central America and Mexico to the World Conservation Congress, CoopeSoliDar R.L. with the support of CEESP Youth Network carried out and developed a process to train and strengthen the leadership of young representatives.

This process involved the participation of young representatives at two different events. First, five young representatives from the Central American countries of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panamá participated in the FAO regional civil society consultation for the development of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries that took place in Managua, Nicaragua on the 18th of February 2012. As a follow-up, the seven young representatives (from the countries Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica) nominated to go to the IUCN Congress participated in a meeting and two day workshop in Costa Rica, the 7th and 8th of June, organized by CoopeSoliDar R.L , IUCN Mesoamerican and Caribbean Regional Office, and CEESP and CEESP Youth Network, with the support of the organizations that nominated the young participants.

The preparation process and their participation as main actors in the Knowledge Café and in other sessions at the World Conservation Congress served as a great capacity-building experience that strengthened learning and the leadership of these young representatives, while their capacity to contribute to international decision-making forums was enhanced.

We are thankful for the support that IDRC provided because it contributed to partially funding the participation of Gilberto Naranjo at the Congress. CoopeSoliDar R.L. will build on this effort and continue to involve these young leaders in post-Congress follow-up activities as a way to trigger local action in support of marine conservation and community well-being.

7. Impact

Many observers agreed that youth became visible at the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress! There was a great deal of feedback from Congress participants, stating that the youth presence was felt and was recognised as a movement that had not only “come of age” (excuse the pun) but would continue to play important roles, including leadership at future Congresses.

Young professionals demonstrated the value of their perspectives and their ability to engage in intergenerational forums. We brought new insights and were able to discuss contentious issues that senior members would have had difficulty in bringing to the table (for various political and logistical reasons). At the Jeju Congress this took shape as a pavilion event inclusive of local youth giving voice to the issues surrounding the Gangjeong Village naval base complex.

Caroline Seagle also added to our visibility by running for IUCN Regional Councilor for the North American and the Caribbean. Youth specific Motions, namely 008 “Increasing Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership Across and Through the Union” and 132 on “Child’s Right to Connect with Nature and a Healthy Environment,” were both passed. Many organizations reached out to us as well as to young members from other Commissions for potentially developing strategic partnerships. The future for youth at the IUCN looks very well supported and bright!

The young professionals network achieved their impacts through the participation in the activities outlined in the table attached (**Appendix C**).

8. Recommendations

Recommendations provided in this section present ways for the CEESP Youth Network and the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability to move forward across Commissions and beyond. Further and more refined recommendations will be developed as the Co-Conveners for the Task Force and young Steering Committee members for each of the Commissions continue to implement strategies based on learning outcomes from Congress. These represent an initial set of recommendations:

- Develop a ‘constitution’ for the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability that sets out a clear vision and focused mandate for the implementation of the Action Plan.
- Continue to work with a spirit of inclusivity, inviting a diversity of individuals to join our CEESP Youth Network, including various community members, stakeholders and Indigenous peoples, across all of the IUCN Regions.

- Continue to reach out to IUCN Member Organizations to build mutually beneficial strategic partnerships.
- Work towards the implementation of each IUCN Young Professionals' Commission Action Plan.
- Ensure youth engagement in the implementation of all IUCN Resolutions.
- Continue promoting the inclusion of youth at all levels, not only within IUCN but also in Union-wide project implementation (i.e., within the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions, and Member Organizations) and in other international or regional fora (e.g., Rio+20, CBD COP meetings).
- Increase the visibility of youth and the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability through the use of the Task Force logo, unveiled at Congress.
- Promote greater youth representation within IUCN decision-making bodies (e.g., Council, Budget Committees, etc.), striving for at least one young professional represented on each of these bodies.
- Continue to lead by example in areas where bureaucracy and long-standing practice are inhibitive (e.g., leadership by young professionals on Jeju naval base issue enabled to open spaces which had been limited by organizers).
- Young people are capable of organizing and quickly gathering momentum that can lead to effective action planning and events.

APPENDIX A

Report on the Knowledge Café event

“Marine Governance: Reflections on conservation, sea access rights and social and cultural resilience”ⁱ

(Session 0272)

IUCN World Conservation Congress

10 September 2012

Background

For more than two years, CoopeSoliDar R.L.¹, with different small-scale fishing organizations and federations from the Central American region, have been designing and opening spaces for the participation of small-scale fishing communities in marine conservation, local development and sustainable resource use initiatives and decision-making spaces at local, regional and international level. The goal has been to make visible the voices of these actors, sensitize to the challenges faced by small-scale fishworkers and promote solutions. CoopeSoliDar R.L. with small-scale fishing organizations have also promoted the participation of youth, noting that the youth of coastal communities in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean have much to contribute in discussions and practices of marine conservation, responsible use of resources and local development.

The first gathering of young representatives from small-scale fishing communities in the region took place in February 2012 in the city of Managua Nicaragua, under the regional civil society consultation process of FAO’s Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries with the support of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF).

Later, CoopeSoliDar R.L. asked the small-scale fishing organizations of the region, that participated in the FAO consultation, to nominate young representatives that could participate in a process towards the World Conservation Congress, Jeju, Korea 2012. With the support of IUCN Regional Office for Mesoamerica, CEESP and CEESP Youth Network, seven young representatives of the region that were nominated by their organizations met in Costa Rica in June 2012 for a discussion workshop. This event

¹ CoopeSoliDar R.L. (www.coopesolidar.org) is a cooperative of professionals working on initiatives that build bridges between conservation and development, focusing on the well-being of local communities.



With the financial support of:



allowed identifying key issues and the key messages that the young local representatives would take to the World Conservation Congress. Also, a youth virtual communication network, called *Young Artisanal Fishers Union of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean*, was created.

The process culminated in bringing seven young representatives from the Mesoamerican region to the World Conservation Congress. These included Gamaliel García Alvarado from Mexico; Mynor Bautista Carrillo, from Guatemala; Franklin Gómez Quevedo from Honduras; Rosa Sandoval de Zepeda from El Salvador; Erick Isaacs Jarquín from Nicaragua; and Laura Morales Rojas and Gilberto Naranjo from Costa Rica.

Objectives of the Knowledge Cafe

The basis of the knowledge cafe Congress event was to deepen reflections on the key relationship between social and cultural resilience and marine conservation, from the perspectives and experiences of young fishworkers of the artisanal fishing sector in the Mesoamerican region. Specific objectives included:

- Share the messages of youth of the region, their stories, experiences and visions.
- Make visible marine conservation efforts that foster communities' strengths (their identity, culture, knowledge, social forms of organization) and the responsible use of resources, from a vision of equity, human rights and mutual responsibility.
- Strengthen the emerging leadership of small-scale fisherfolks of the region.
- Explore the experiences of the participants and share concrete examples to build common aspirations for the future of marine conservation.
- Contribute towards a possible framework of common objectives that can contribute to connect marine conservation and human wellbeing, through the values of equity, human rights, governance, responsibilities and the rescue of cultural identity.

Themes of discussion and issues identified by the young representatives

- Human rights and improvement of opportunities
- Marine governance and participation in decision-making spaces
- Responsible fishing practices
- Rights to land and coastal marine areas



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- Knowledge generation
- Contribution to the economy
- Drug trafficking and other social threats
- Climate Change

Results on the discussions of the Knowledge Café

Human rights and improvement of opportunities

Youth agreed that emphasis should be placed on gender equity and on strengthening efforts for the sustainable use of marine resources within the small-scale fishing sector.

In the case of El Salvador, women use resources in many ways: some fish with nets, whilst others extract molluscs and conch. In the region there are women who fish in different water ecosystems, including the sea and lakes, and there are women who dive.

However, at least in El Salvador, fishers do not have the right to social security, nor access to life insurance-- despite the risks involved in the fishing activity. Many women in the region want to have better opportunities. Some want to continue their studies, while others want to be fishers. The limited access to education in coastal rural communities was emphasized as a limitation. While the need to access other sources of employment, such as ecotourism, was emphasized, the lack of training and capacity building was pointed out also as a limitation.

Another challenge expressed was the limited access to credit and the need for a legal framework that could allow and promote this access.

Among the issues to consider in this subject the following were presented:

- Promote differentiated access to opportunities for men and women, according to their needs as a way to promote gender equity.
- Strengthen the organizations of men and women.
- Ensure access to natural resources and fishing areas.
- Ensure access to credit and social security.

Marine governance and participation in decision-making spaces

Young people stressed that they are the most affected stakeholders in marine fortress conservation initiatives. Participants noted that there were limited spaces and opportunities for participation in these areas of decision-making. The young generations are not only the future, but also the present and must be recognized as important actors



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for change at different levels. In Central America young fisherfolk have a strong link with their communities and with the fishing activity. The young generations do not intend to leave their communities but rather learn and support development in their territories.

It was mentioned that in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras, the conservation laws and policies severely impact small-scale fisherfolk. Yet, decision-makers do not listen to fisherfolks, and fail to integrate and enable their participation in the various marine governance models that are implemented by conservation initiatives in the region.

Drug trafficking and other social threats

The discussion focused on the decline of the fisheries resources and the limited opportunities to access other sources of employment by people in fishing communities. In this difficult socio-economic situation, drug trafficking can be seen as an alternative, but in fact threatens the well-being and human dignity of these communities.

The young representatives raised the need to access new local development opportunities, such as rural small-scale tourism; open spaces and actions that promote innovation and proactivity; and spaces to share lessons learned and experiences.

The discussions also highlighted the need to raise this issue, and tackle it in development cooperation and marine conservation initiatives to allow communities to confront drug trafficking and the related social problems.

Responsible fishing practices

"We cannot talk about Responsible Fishing if there is no fish in our oceans"

The young participants shared different experiences in the region, highlighting two recommendations to promote responsible fishing:

- The need to think of a vision that integrates watershed and ecosystem based management and "think of the people who live above (inland)".
- To adopt the principles of FAO's Code for Responsible Fisheries and support to small-scale fisheries.

Additionally, young people can promote significant changes to move towards responsible fishing practices, while the organization of fisherfolks (or fisherfolk organizations) is essential to achieve changes and promote resource responsible use.



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The discussion suggested that artisanal fisheries are the sector closest to responsible fisheries, but it was agreed that Responsible Fishing couldn't be discussed if there is no fish in our oceans.

“Young people can have a positive impact on changes for responsible fishing practices, for this the organization of the small-scale fishing sector is the key”

Rights to land and coastal marine areas

The problems of access to land and resources that young fisherfolk and fishworkers have observed and experienced in their communities were shared.

Three elements stand out from the discussions:

1) The implementation of regulatory plans for territorial planning that are promoting evictions of fishing communities from their lands, and affecting their rights of access to resources, land and their right to work. While the governments prioritize mass tourism development, local communities suffer the consequences of this displacement. This situation is being experienced in Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua.

2) Aquaculture in Honduras raises issues of access to the sea and fishing grounds, and has caused conflicts and human assassinations. The young representative from Honduras shared that over the weekend an artisanal fisherman in his country was assassinated as a result of such conflict.

3) Science and protected areas versus local coastal communities: in Guatemala, scientific stations and biological corridors are promoting the eviction of communities from their land and causing fishing restrictions.

Knowledge Generation

From El Salvador, the importance of ethical research processes was raised, pointing out that communities should be informed and know about research processes being carried out by external agents, and that local actors must have access to the research results. In this way access to information and accountability is promoted, while communities can face situations affecting them and affecting their access to the sea and resources more effectively.

The fact that often institutions and researchers use research processes for their own benefit and interests was raised. Unethical research practices that do not involve communities in the process were denounced as bad practices.



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Fisherfolk and fishworkers do not often have the appropriate access to information to enable them to understand and/or make decisions regarding the development and/or conservation measures or policies that are being promoted, by the governments or organizations, in their communities and in their traditional fishing grounds.

The young representatives stressed the following points:

- Research results should be shared and revised with the local communities.
- Research should be conducted with the participation of fisherfolk and fishworkers (the case of CoopeTárcoles R.L. and the Responsible Fishing Area of Tárcoles, Costa Rica is shared as a good example where the local artisanal fisherfolk keep a local database and are participating in monitoring and research).
- The importance of local knowledge is highlighted and the youth representatives underlined the importance of intergenerational sharing where the youth learns from the adults from actions and practices.

Climate Change

The discussion centered on the various changes that are taking place and that have been experienced by the young participants in their coastal communities: changes in the water sources, ocean temperature, higher tides affecting houses and infrastructure along the coast, changes in rivers and streams and increased flooding, among others.

Young people say that the only way to tackle climate change is based on adaptation. The following specific actions were raised:

- 1) Education for adaptation
- 2) Training and capacity-building in production of alternative livelihood sources of fisheries (e.g. aquaculture)
- 3) Changes in the construction of homes and local infrastructure

Contribution to the economy

The young representatives highlighted the economic contribution of the small-scale fishing sector to the economies in their own countries and at the local level. The fact that artisanal fisheries play an important role in local community consumption, and in national and international markets was stressed. The participants noted the following trends in their own communities: in the case of Honduras, over 98% of the catch is commercialized, whilst 2% of the total catch is consumed as a food source in coastal



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communities. In the case of Costa Rica, it is estimated that 60% is sold directly in the local market, 15% is sold to export, 15% for the national market and 10% for local consumption. In the case of El Salvador, fishery resources played a greater role for local community consumption.

The following points were recognized as important with respect to markets, commercialization and trade:

- 1) Fish resources contribute to the local domestic economy, and to the national economy. They are products that are also exported. Also, fishery resources contribute significantly to the food security and food sovereignty of fishing communities.
- 2) Direct commercialization of fish products by the artisanal fisher sector should be promoted.
- 3) The organization of artisanal fisherfolk in different organizational structures, such as cooperatives, should be promoted.

What is our message to the IUCN World Conservation Congress?

Four specific messages were developed and discussed:

- 1) Open up spaces and increase opportunities for the participation of youth from small-scale fishing communities in international forums and global congresses.
- 2) Open up spaces for the exchange of concrete and positive experiences (among youth and among youth and adults) in small-scale fishing communities.
- 3) Promote access to information at all levels and in the local languages.
- 4) Promote a new approach and vision for marine conservation that integrates the following aspects: the sustainable use of marine resources, access to decision-making spaces by local actors of the small-scale fisheries sector and the improvement of livelihoods of small-scale fishing communities as an integral part of marine conservation work.



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Knowledge Café Organized by

CoopeSoliDar R.L.

CEESP and CEESP Youth

ICSF

With the support of

ACRA- Nicaragua

CODDEFAGOLF- Honduras

CoopeTárcoles R.L.-Costa Rica

Federation of Artisanal Fishers of Guatemala (FENAPESCA)

Federation of Artisanal Fishers of El Salvador (FACOPADES)

IUCN Regional Office Mesoamerica and the Caribbean

And the financial support of:

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Fauna and Flora International



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Main messages from the youth of coastal communities in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean

"Marine Governance: Reflections on conservation, access rights to the sea and social and cultural resilience"

1) Human rights and improvement of opportunities

- Ensure gender equity and opportunity equality for the coastal-marine communities of the region.
- Recognize the contributions of young artisanal fisherfolk of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean to artisanal fishing and livelihoods.
- Promote higher education in coastal fishing communities.

2) Marine governance and participation in decision-making spaces

Recognizing the depletion of coastal marine ecosystems and coastal livelihoods,

- Promote greater openness and participation of young fisherfolk from Mesoamerica and the Caribbean in governance models that contribute to improving marine conservation and livelihoods.
- Promote the active participation of youth and women from the fisheries sector in livelihood activities and decision-making processes.

3) Responsible fishing practices

- Create opportunities for capacity building in responsible fishing practices and open spaces for self-improvement
- Promote efforts to conserve endangered species
- Find alternative practices that allow the continuation of shrimp fishing, without depleting non-targeted species
- Promote and encourage responsible fishing world-wide

4) Rights to land and coastal marine areas

- Show the displacement of young fisherfolk from their coastal- marine areas, due to the lack of recognition of their territorial rights, large-scale tourism and real estate development.



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5) Knowledge generation

- Recognize the value of local knowledge, especially that of the youth that practice artisanal fishing in all indigenous peoples and local communities.

6) Contribution to the economy

- Recognize the contribution that young people make to local and national economies, and their contributions to food security

7) Drug trafficking and other social threats

- Address the vulnerability of youth in Central America and Mexico to the threat of drug trafficking in coastal fishing areas

8) Climate Change

- Find new alternative modes of survival that allow us to adapt to climate change and other threats.



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ⁱ This report was prepared and revised by CoopeSoliDar R.L, by the associates Marvin Fonseca Borrás, Vivienne Solís Rivera and Daniela Barguil Gallardo.



APPENDIX B

Community Voices

Young Professionals' Stories
from the Commission on
Environmental, Economic, and
Social Policy (CEESP)

Towards a 'Just World'



Young Professionals

Daniela Barguil
CoopeSoliDar R.L., Costa Rica

Shalini Dhyani
G. B. Pant Institute of
Himalayan Environment
and Development, India

Elaine Hsiao
University of British
Columbia, Canada

Md. Biozid Jesseroy
Center for Human
Development, Bangladesh

Rebecca Koss
University of Liverpool,
England

Bidur Khadka
United Nations University,
Japan

Melanie Zurba
University of Manitoba,
Canada

Our inspiration

As young professionals we have been striving to bring community perspectives into the world of conservation through our unique disciplines and activities. Our work strives to empower the voices of community people and giving them a chance to affect the decision-making that in turn affects their livelihoods and the livelihoods of future generations.

This is a collection of the stories and profiles of individuals that are part of the CEESP young professionals network. Our members are as unique as the stories they bring with one very important thing in common: they are trailblazers, innovators, and have the potential to become future leaders in their respective fields.

We hope that you enjoy reading about our passions and visions for 'just conservation'.

- Compiled and edited by Melanie Zurba, IUCN-CEESP member

Community stories from across the globe

Australia, Barcelona Congress 2008, Canada, Costa Rica, Honduras, India, Nepal, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Uganda

pg. 1

Photo (above): Shalini Dhyani's work in India

Photo (right): Giringun Artists with piece, *Caring for Country*, from Melanie Zurba's Master's thesis work



Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

CEESP, the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy, is an interdisciplinary network of professionals whose mission is to act as a source of advice on the environmental, economic, social and cultural factors that affect natural resources and biological diversity and to provide guidance and support towards effective policies and practices in environmental conservation and sustainable development.

The CEESP Youth Network is an emergent team of young and committed practitioners and professionals who envision an intergenerational community of leaders who learn and work together



within and through IUCN, for a just, sustainable and peaceful world. Our mission is to contribute to CEESP's work program through intergenerational partnerships between established and emerging leaders and CEESP thematic and regional groups. Our goals are to recognize and support emerging leaders in the structures, policies and activities of CEESP; promote the involvement of youth in the development of

CEESP policy and policy-making; and foster cross-commission collaboration to increase intergenerational discussion of and participation in IUCN activities.

Catie Burlando

*Intergenerational Partnership
Advisor and Steering
Committee member, IUCN-
CEESP*

For more information on our activities, or if you would like to join our network, please visit:

<http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/ceesp/>

<http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/yp-ceesp>

Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability

It is abundantly clear that we cannot continue to make decisions that impact on the environment in isolation of looking comprehensively at economic, social and cultural issues as well. It is also clear that we need to work more collaboratively across disciplines, sectors, genders and generations. This does not just mean older people stepping aside for young people to make decisions, or saying that the younger generation has all the answers, but rather that we need more quality interaction across/between generations sharing knowledge, ideas, visions and experiences of implementing sustainability

policies and projects together. The WCC Resolution 4.098 "Intergenerational Partnership: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable, and peaceful world," has provided the framework for a concerted plan of action across IUCN's

six Commissions to create intergenerational partnerships. This brochure sets out the beginning of one such partnership and I look forward to many more.

Aroha Mead – Chair, IUCN



New logo for the Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability to be launched at the IUCN World Congress, 2012 in Jeju.

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge funding for the participation of young professionals at the World Conservation Congress from the International Development Research Center, CEESP and Lakehead University, CoopeSoliDar R.L., Pace Centre for Legal Studies, the University of British Columbia, and the Liu Institute for Global Issues. We also thank support from the Canadian Committee for the IUCN.



Strengthening the visibility of community voices and local youth in Marine Conservation

Daniela Barguil Gallardo, is an anthropologist specializing in environment and development, and is an associate of CoopeSoliDar R.L. (www.coopesolidar.org), organization bridging conservation and development for local communities.

Strengthening the visibility of community voices and perspectives is not an easy task and poses many challenges. Our organization, CoopeSoliDar R.L., has been working towards this goal for many years working at different levels- local, national and global- creating bridges between conservation and community development with a strong emphasis on participation. Our work has always emphasized on the importance of wellbeing, participation, equity, justice and happiness.

In the last period I have been directly involved in an initiative of bringing local community youth voices to the World Conservation Congress 2012. The initiative started as a dream to bring and make visible the experiences and visions of coastal youth and local community representatives from fishing communities in Central America and Mexico into international discussions and to the World Conservation Congress. The voices of those coastal communities that depend on the marine resources for their livelihoods and well-being are often neglected, and at times the sector of artisanal fishing is seen as an enemy. With our initiatives we hope to make a difference and make sure that their voices are heard at many levels.

Through our initiative a great effort and collective work has been created for enhancing community voices and messages. Supporting the participation of local young representatives in the World Conservation Congress has involved a series of steps, such as the following: support and alliances with local community organizations and international organizations, involvement of community voices and youth in regional and global discussions regarding responsible fishing (e.g FAO civil society consultation of the “Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries”), organization of a meeting with young representatives, creating methodologies for community youth participation in discussions, communication strategies, development of a local coastal youth group with regular communication and a whole preparation process for their participation in the World Conservation Congress. This includes youth discussions to prepare messages to take to Jeju regarding conservation and human well-being from community perspectives.

Bringing community voices and local youth voices has also involved many challenges, which make visible equity issues in achieving participation of local communities and youth. But we have kept advancing and we have not given up our dream and our conviction of the importance of coastal communities and youth and their essential contribution to a better world!



Livelihoods in the Western Himalayas



Dr. Shalini Dhyani (www.gbpihed.gov.in) is an environmental professional from India and has PhD in forest Ecology and Environment. She has more than 8 years of working experience in participatory forest management, biodiversity conservation, climate change, environmental policy and politics in India and developing opportunities for mountain people in India. She is also founder members of “COPAL” Conservation of Planet and Life – a voluntary youth organization that works in Indian Himalayas and Western Ghats on various Conservation issues by active community participation.

The villages of Western Himalaya in India are inhabited by a large number of traditional Garhwalese community. Agriculture and animal husbandry along with tourism related jobs are main sources of income. Rearing animals is an inevitable part of their social system. Agriculture and animal husbandry are the main sources of livelihood for over 70 per cent of the population in the Indian Himalayan region. With the ban imposed on free grazing of livestock and introduction of stall feeding, the demand for fodder has increased greatly with subsequently increased workload on women and pressure on forests. Extracting fodder and carrying it long distances on their heads and backs negatively affects women's health and the education and nutrition of their children. It is also a cause of minor and major accidents.

It has also led to the illegal harvesting of such resources, putting pressure on natural forests. Developing a fodder bank model was one of the conclusions of my research that I conducted from 2005-2008 in the protected, community and reserve forests of the area. Hence, considering the seriousness of the issue I have developed a Fodder Bank Model on a 5 hectare community wasteland by active community participation using fast growing and high biomass yielding nutritious species (both indigenous as well as introduced) in upper Kedar valley, Uttarakhand, India. The objective of the initiative was to relieve the pressure on women by reducing their fodder collection time as well as the distance they travel. It was also meant to create awareness among them on better methods of livestock feeding, and better

health improved milk and meat yield by improved quality of fodder. Women were trained in growing high biomass yielding fodder species in their cropland bunds and kitchen gardens. Livestock owners and farmers were also trained to construct their animal houses and sheds on scientific lines provided with cost-effective feeding and watering systems and proper ventilation using locally available materials. Outcomes of strengthening the community are rewarding as now every month for 10 days women do not walk long distances and go to forests for fodder needs, girls have started going back to schools and have also started taking care of their nearby forests. Now fodder needs are fulfilled from their cropland bunds, kitchen garden bunds and fodder bank.



Transboundary Peace Parks

Elaine Hsiao is a student at the University of British Columbia's Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, where she is doing a Ph.D. in Resource Management and Environmental Studies. Her research focuses on transboundary protected areas and environmental governance in areas of conflict or insecurity.

Elaine Hsiao began working on transboundary peace parks through an initiative on the border of Honduras and Nicaragua (www.parqueparalapaz.org), for which she co-drafted the IUCN Resolution “Establishment of a Transboundary Peace Park between Honduras and Nicaragua.” That text became the basis of a draft convention between the two governments, but a coup in Honduras paralyzed the peace park process, so she outlined an alternative approach based on existing village-level environmental governance structures and common environmental concerns. That case study illustrates the concept of Patchwork Peace Parks, or transboundary networks of Indigenous and Community Conservation Areas for peace and resilience (digitalcommons.pace.edu/lawdissertations/7/).

Elaine has studied community conservation around Parque Internacional La Amistad (PILA) between Costa Rica and Panama. Her work with PILA communities led her to design a service-learning expedition run by International Peace Park Expeditions (IPPE: www.peaceparkepeditions.org). Students live and work with community organizations, learning directly from them about the environmental challenges they face (e.g., dams and road proliferation) and the role of communities in transboundary peace parks.

Between 2010-2011, Elaine could be found in border villages adjacent to the Central Albertine Rift Transfrontier Protected Area Network. Her research there promoted the development of networks of local water user groups for community-based transboundary integrated water resources management. Direct and cooperative environmental governance by communities crippled by armed conflict and aid/development assistance fosters social and ecological resilience that would benefit transboundary protected areas governance and protection of headwaters to both the Nile and Congo Rivers. Elaine is co-directing/co-producing a documentary on transboundary conservation in the Central Albertine Rift which she hopes to screen in the villages of the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda via bicycle-powered cinema. Community feedback on the documentary will allow diverse local perspectives to be better communicated and the screenings will seek to stimulate dialogue on how local communities can engage in the transboundary collaboration, which her research reveals, they know little to nothing about.

Elaine continues to promote peace parks that strengthen community voices toward just conservation, peace (international, social and ecological), and connectivity (linkages between protected areas, land and water, humans and land or Nature, or people and people through Nature).



Youth Experience of World Conservation Congress 2008

Md. Biozid Jessorey (right in photo), M, 30. Biozid grew up in Khulna, Bangladesh, which is one of the most climate affected biodiversity diverse country in South Asia. Since his childhood, he has had a passion to contribute to youth development. Currently, He is working as executive director with a nonprofit you lead NGO Center for Human Development (<http://chd.50webs.com>). As a development activist, he was also involved with many international youth movements like IUCN Young Professionals, Earth Charter Youth, UNICEF Voice of Youth, and UNFCCC youth group YOUNGO etc. In this article, Biozid shared his experience during World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, Spain 2008.

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2008 was held on 5-15 October 2008 in Barcelona, Spain. The congress had two main parts. The four-day forum and the four-day member assembly. High-level speakers addressed the opening ceremony include HRH the Prince of Asturias and HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand, Spain's Minister of Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs, Elena Espinosa and Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus. Delegates include prominent figures such as Prince Albert of Monaco and CNN founder Ted Turner. They all sought ways to halt destructive trends and move towards IUCN's vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature".

I reached Barcelona International Airport at 12.22 pm, 3rd October 2008. It was my first experience in Europe. Outside was very cold and windy. I managed my first night in Barcelona Mar Hostel. After words, I shared a room in hotel Silken with one of my collogue Mr. Dominic Stuker. Dominic and I worked together in Earth Charter International. It was my pleasure that I passed congress days with him.

As a Bangladeshi youth activist it was great honor for me to join such international conference with more than 8,000 of the world's leading decision makers from governments, NGOs, business, the UN and academies in one place for 10 days. I was sponsored by Earth Charter International.

In front of opening ceremony auditorium, I was excited to meet other young professionals. Some of them were well known to me for longtime but we never had chance to make face contact before. Especially 'e-GLO' alumni members Douglas and Natalie. e-GLO (Earth Charter Global Learning Opportunity) is a global, online digital storytelling and community leadership course, a program of Earth Charter International's Youth Initiative

The event was very significant to me for intergeneration experience sharing. I learned lots from Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus, and Earth Charter International Executive Director Mirian Vilela while sharing development strategies with them. I also had close contact to IUCN regional councilor, Mr.

Continued


Mahfuz Ullah, Director UPEACE Center for Executive and Professional Education resident Faculty Mohit Mukherjee. I enjoyed ECI member's party and observed their team work. At the sea party I enjoy company of Susan Guthridge-Gould. She is working as IUCN CSE newsletter Editor. I would like to give her big hugs for publishing my picture at IUCN CSE web page. My other colleagues working in Bangladesh were inspire a lot to see my pictures and hear my experiences.

There were 900 events during the forum. All the events were very interesting and inspiring to me. Events ran parallel so I fully participated in one event but during interval period. When I got out of an event I collected information from other rooms near to me so that I could read them later.

I was very keen to observe youth events. So far, I found three youth events titled "Intergenerational Partnership Fostering Ethical Leadership for a just, sustainable, and peaceful world", "Investing in the Future: Young Leaders and Protected Areas", "Supporting the Next Generation of Sustainable Development Leadership". I also act as group presenter in supporting the next generation of Sustainable Development Leadership event.

On 5th October 2008, I joined a learning opportunity event titled "Facilitating the process towards positive change". This event was organized by The IUCN Commission on Education and communication, The Convention on Biological Diversity, The Ramsar Convention on wetlands and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. As part of the event, I presented a story of a local postman during the cyclone Sidor in Bangladesh. In addition, I joined and collected material from more than 30 events.

Nowadays, IUCN and many other organizations are starting to opening doors for youth. It is really good steps for building a better future. Indeed, the ratio of intergenerational partnership is not yet satisfactory. As a youth activist, I am approaching global leaders to more focus on youth leadership. It is very important to note that the youths are not only the leaders of tomorrow but they are also set of people that will take over the world from the present generation and must be treated with respect and with great passion in leadership.



Rebecca Koss (opposite) is a post doctorate researcher for the Options for Delivering Ecosystem-Based Marine Management (ODEMM) (www.liv.ac/odemmm) project in the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of Liverpool. Rebecca's interest and passion lies in the human-marine environment relationship, where her research encompasses marine social science, marine policy and governance, environmental stewardship and community engagement in marine protected areas. Formerly, Rebecca managed the Sea Search community-based monitoring program in Victorian marine protected areas, Australia, was a board member for the Victorian Government Central Coastal Board, Australia and Deputy Chair Oceania for the Young Professional Group for the World Commission on Protected Areas of (WCPA).



Sea Search and Reef Life Survey

Engaging communities to look after their marine front yards across Australia – Rebecca Koss

Community volunteer groups and school students have been monitoring Victoria, Australia MPAs through the *Sea Search* citizen science program. The *Sea Search* program encourages volunteers to look after their marine ‘front yard’ through seasonal monitoring. This involves community engagement, whilst building their knowledge and skills about marine ecology and

management. The benefits of *Sea Search* included: base line data collection, community engagement, capacity building, MPA stewardship and connection to nature for better health and well-being. Between 2004 - 2011, biota data was collected across intertidal and seagrass habitats in many of Victoria’s MPAs by community volunteers and school students. This

data can then be used by Parks Victoria, the management agency for these MPAs, for planning and management. Volunteers who were engaged in *Sea Search* experienced mental and physical well-being benefits and high levels of

Friends of Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary and a Parks Victoria Ranger participating in a Sea Search intertidal monitoring survey at Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary, Victoria, Australia.



ecological connectedness to their marine front yard. This work has been published as *Koss RS and Kingsley YJ. 2010. Volunteer health and emotional wellbeing in marine protected areas. Ocean & Coastal Management 53:447-453.*

The *Reef Life Survey* (<http://reeflifesurvey.com/>) program engages volunteer SCUBA divers in monitoring rocky subtidal reefs across Australia. Similar to *Sea Search*, volunteers collect data on marine biota, which can be used for ecological monitoring and decision - making. The two volunteer programs encourage community volunteers to

be actively engaged in looking after their local marine front yards whilst building their capacity to be involved in environmental decision-making processes. Volunteers work side-by-side with marine scientists, sharing knowledge, ideas and many fun adventures delving into Australia’s wonderful marine world.



Community Forestry Program in Nepal

Bidur Khadka is currently pursuing a higher degree in United Nations University, Yokohama. Professionally Forester and working in Nepal on the issues of Community Forestry, Reducing Emissions Form Deforestation and Degradations Plus, Payments for Environmental Services etc

Due to the progressive political change in Nepal there have been drastic changes on the land tenure system transferring power from direct control of government to local level forest resources user groups. Community Forest of Nepal has been working on greening for the past 30 years. 1.5 million ha. of forest has been handed to the Community Forest User Group where people have responsibility to protect, manage, prepare and implement community forest management plan¹. According to the latest data approximately 31 % of Nepal's current population lives below the poverty line and 72 % of these individual are forest

dwellers, largely compromised of indigenous ethnic groups². Community Forestry in Nepal is for the community people, particularly poor, socially disadvantage and ethnic minorities where people have limited access to and the utilization of the forest resources. Community Forestry is providing support timber for construction related activities such as school/campus building, women co-operative building and temple in the local level. Community Forestry has contributed to improving and diversifying livelihoods by

mobilizing locally available and communally owned natural capital forests both direct through the promotion of wild edibles and indirectly by providing financial and social safety nets to the poor. Forest-based income accounts for a substantial portion of overall household income. Products extracted and total value often varies by household income in many rural areas, while in others community forestry is becoming a tool to strengthen communities. In the current phase Community Forestry is

Forest Cover change before the Community forest and after the community forest Photo taken from same latitude and altitude from Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Program. Photo: NSCFP



providing different ecological services such as carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation, forest certification, and carbon credit³. The Community Forestry has a major two concepts such as rights to self-governance and rights to forest management and utilization. The social and political sustainability,

environmentally sustainability and green economy can be achieved through the Community Forest program. Now the current issues of Community Forestry program are the management of payment for environmental services and enhancement of enterprise development and provide greener jobs at the local level.

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Promoting community voice through creativity

Melanie Zurba is a PhD candidate at the Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba. Finding unique ways to promote the inclusion of community perspectives for managing resources is a common focal point to her research.



Participatory art created by the Girringun Arts Centre in Australia (above) and the Lake of the Woods Arts Collective in Canada (below)



Through artistic workshops communities have unique opportunities to explore themes and collaborate towards common visions.

Communities can then share their collective vision with others by showcasing the work with interpretive information gathered from workshop participants.

Melanie aims to understand complex multi-party resource management systems through her research. In appreciating such resource scenarios, she also believes in creating opportunities for communities to have their perspectives heard and acknowledged by working with new and innovative tools novel to the field of natural resources management.

Melanie has found through her work that community people often have important messages to share with other parties interested in resources but may not have access or understandings built up for the forums where they might be heard. She has used artistic and other creative workshops towards bringing community perspectives into the forefront of discussions for shared resources

Melanie's Master's work took

place in Australia where she worked with the Girringun Aboriginal Corporation towards understanding indigenous values for land and sea country in relation to species agreements and protected areas, including the development of an Indigenous Protected Area over both land and sea country.

Melanie's current doctoral work within the Common Ground Research Forum (<http://www.cgrf.ca>) is focused on learning for the development of cross-cultural governance systems for land between First Nations and non-First Nations partners in Northwest Ontario, Canada. The research also aims to develop understanding of the connections between meaningful collaboration and how it in turn influences societal norms, common ground, and the reconciling of past wrongdoings.

Thank you for your interest in our stories! Our young professionals would love to hear from you:

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Photo (above): Shalini Dhyani's work in India

Photo (below): CoopSoliDar R.L. Workshop, Costa Rica

IUCN CEESP member organizations

- Daniela Barguil** – CEESP Youth Network, Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA), TILCEPA Marine
- Shalini Dhyani** – CEESP Youth Network, Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas (TILCEPA), TILCEPA Mountains
- Elaine Hsiao** – CEESP Youth Network, Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas (TILCEPA), Theme on Environment, Conflict & Security (TECS)
- Bidur Khadka** – CEESP Youth Network
- Md. Biozid Jessory** – CEESP Youth Network
- Rebecca Koss** – CEESP Youth Network, Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas (TILCEPA), World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)
- Melanie Zurba** – CEESP Youth Network, Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas (TILCEPA) & TILCEPA Marine

To learn more about the CEESP Youth Network and the Intergenerational Partnership for sustainability visit our website at:



<http://intergenerationalpartnership.wikispaces.com/yp-ceesp>

APPENDIX C

IUCN World Conservation Congress 2012 activities focusing on youth or including youth

Date, Time, Room	Title, Session Code, Organizer	Type	Abstract Excerpt
Fri, 7 Sept 09:00 - 13:00 Crystal Ballroom 3	Getting to action: Secrets to influencing climate resilient decision-making (#227) Organized by Integrated Environmental Consultants Namibia	Conservation Campus	Capacity development for climate resilient decision-making is critical to making progress on the set targets. However, few conservation leaders and practitioners think strategically about how best to address their key target groups. To best apply limited resources and make the knowledge generation and foundation work count in a policy and action context, well designed and executed training, learning, communication and awareness raising interventions are needed for impact.
Fri, 7 Sept 09:00 - 13:00 Crystal Ballroom 1	Knowledge exchange in the social cloud: New pathways for professional updating in conservation (#810) Organized by CEC	Conservation Campus	Bring your mobile devices, smartphones, pads, laptops, cameras to engage in storytelling with a purpose: using social media to move to action in professional updating for conservation. The session will produce multimedia portable presentations, useful as training resources and as social postcards from the World Conservation Forum. We will encounter examples of excellent networked knowledge sharing, and identify key elements of quality in multimedia conservation training.
Fri, 7 Sept 11:00 - 13:00 Tamna Hall	The Inheritors: Responsible Citizens for Tomorrow: Transferring Ownership for Saving Biodiversity to the Next Generation (#981) Organized by IUCN President Ashok Khosla	Workshop	This event, hosted by IUCN's President Ashok Khosla will provide an opportunity for young people and youth groups to become involved with IUCN and to make commitments to conserve biodiversity and work for providing nature based solutions to the problems faced by all generations. The session, which will also welcome representatives of organizations interested in supporting such a youth conservation movement, is intended to culminate in the launch of an 'Earth Corps' of young volunteers ready to contribute meaningfully to the design of new systems by which humankind and nature can have a healthy future together. Report: this session drew some 80 participants of all ages. Inspiring presentations were made by Ashok Khosla, Jessica Sweidan, Grace Mwaura, Verena Treber, Balaji Vedharajan, and Dominic Stucker. Wayne Talbot did a fantastic job of facilitating interactive small group discussion on the vision, goals, and projects concepts for youth engagement and collaboration across generations for 2013-2016. Virtual participants from around the world also contributed their ideas through Twitter. These ideas fed directly into our Action Planning workshop, below. Keith Wheeler and Jessica offered closing reflections, and Dominic invited people to engage in the Action Planning workshop.
Fri, 7 Sept 19:00 - 21:00 Room 303	The Elders (#979) IUCN President Ashok Khosla	Workshop	This session, convened by IUCN's President Ashok Khosla will include several of the Union's past Presidents as well as some of the major personalities who helped shape IUCN's history. Panelists will reflect on key events that have shaped IUCN's 64 years and share insights on the future directions and potential for the Union at a time of unprecedented threats to biodiversity and the need to greatly accelerate conservation action. Report: Convened by Ashok Khosla and moderated by young Mexican journalist Solange Marquez Espinoza, this great event was attended by young and elder alike. The audience heard reflections on IUCN history and current challenges from Wolfgang Burhene, Silvia Earle, Valli Moosa, Monkombu Swaminathan, and Ashok Khosla. A

			short questions and answer session followed, with panelists sharing thoughts on increasing IUCN's profile and on how they first fell in love with nature.
Sun, 9 Sept 13:00 - 14:30 Lobby 1st Floor	"Rio + xxx" --> united for social and natural solutions: the International Youth Forum "Go4BioDiv" (#435) Organized by the International Youth Forum "Go4BioDiv"	Poster	The International Youth Forum Go4BioDiv offers young dedicated people from all over the world the opportunity to share their on-the-ground conservation experience with their peers. It enables them to participate in political discussions by engaging with international leaders during the Conferences of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP).
Sun, 9 Sept 14:30 - 16:30 Yeongju Hall B	IMPERATIVE TO ACT - Greening Higher Education for Next Generation of Sustainability Leadership (#543) Organized by UNEP	Knowledge Cafe	Primarily, the knowledge café is aimed at; sharing know how on aspects of curriculum orientations, teaching & learning approaches, transformative research (action & applied research), community engagement, students participation and networking for a green economy and sustainable management and use of ecosystem services within the broader context of education for sustainable development in higher education and the concept of 'greening higher education'
Sun, 9 Sept 14:30-16:30 A Just World Pavilion	Youth at Congress: Strengthening community voices towards a 'Just World' (#1100) Organized by the CEESP Youth Network	Pavilion event	This event highlights the role of empowering community voice in conservation policy development at the IUCN through examples and activities led by youth. It provides an informal space for young professionals and community leaders to engage the diversity of participants at the IUCN Congress (i.e. government officials, academics, NGOs, community representatives, and students) as an intergenerational community to discuss ways for youth to access decision-making processes at Congress and other IUCN forums. Report: Organized by young CEESP members Melanie Zurba and Elaine Hsiao, this lively session featured youth voices on conservation research and on-the-ground action. An estimated 60 people attended. Speakers included Elaine Hsiao, Omer Aijazi, Melanie Zurba and Daniela Barguil, and featured 7 young coastal and fisheries leaders from Central America [please insert names, Daniela]. The second hour of the session was dedicated to hearing directly from local Gangjeong village members and their sustained efforts to halt the building of a massive naval base on their coast.
Sun, 9 Sept 16:30-17:00 A Just World Pavilion	Announcing the winning design for a new Intergenerational IUCN-wide Logo (#1101) Organized by the IUCN Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability	Media event	The winning design will be revealed for the new logo that represents youth engagement and intergenerational partnership acting to bring about the IUCN vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature." Report: Organized by Rebecca Koss, Catie Burlando, and Dominic Stucker, with input from Sudeep Jana, this event celebrated the new visual identify of youth engagement and intergenerational efforts within and beyond the IUCN. Dominic shared background on these efforts and showed a short video from the winning logo designer, Ivan Onatra of Colombia, before unveiling several versions of the logo beside the IUCN and Commission logos. Audience members offered their reflections on the logo and Dominic invited all to the Action Planning workshop, below. Over the course of the Congress, more than 750 pins depicting the logo were distributed, the equivalent of 10% of Congress participants wearing it on their badges.
Mon, 10	<i>Marine Governance:</i>	Knowledge	In order to conserve the ocean, we do not have to

<p>Sept 11:00-13:00</p>	<p><i>Reflections on conservation, sea access rights and social and cultural resilience</i> (#0272) Organized by CoopSoliDar R.L., CEESP and CEESP Youth</p>	<p>Café</p>	<p>necessarily deny access to marine resources to those that have traditionally depended on them. Instead, efforts in marine conservation should be directed towards guaranteeing the well being of resource-dependent communities and towards linking the cultural and social strengths of coastal communities- identity, cultural values, social forms of organization, knowledge- with the responsible and sustainable use of resources. This based on a vision of equity, human rights and reciprocal responsibility. Young representatives of fishing communities from Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean will be the central actors in this event sharing their experiences and perspectives on the subject.</p> <p>See report attached.</p>
<p>Mon, 10 Sept 13:00 - 14:30 Lobby 3rd Floor</p>	<p>Digital Empowerment for Rural Communities: A biodiversity conservation strategy (#258) Organized by Eva Liliana Ardila Cortes</p>	<p>Poster In Spanish</p>	<p>La conectividad en el sector rural y la construcción de redes intergeneracionales permiten superar los desafíos que impone el entorno digital, reconociendo diferentes oportunidades de interacción y construcción colaborativa del conocimiento. La educación ambiental apoyada en redes sociales y uso de TIC en el sector rural, hace posible compartir materiales educativos y experiencias de conservación, fomentando el diseño y producción de material didáctico y divulgativo empleando registros audiovisuales obtenidos in situ, acordes con las realidades de comunidades particulares.</p>
<p>Mon, 10 Sept 14:00 - 18:00 Crystal Ballroom 1</p>	<p>Young Leaders for Green Action (#784) Organized by DaeJayon</p>	<p>Conservation Campus</p>	<p>In order to secure the engagement of young people in global green initiatives, we need to provide them with tools for positive change. This conservation campus will form a unique combination of DAEJAYON and IISD's considerable experience in Leadership Training for Green Campuses and Sustainable Development. It will be open to all participants at the congress who are under 30 and will promote sharing know-how, experiences and lessons learned.</p>
<p>Mon, 10 Sept 14:30 - 16:30 Protected Planet Pavilion</p>	<p>Sustaining Livelihoods: the children and nature connection and launch of a report on wild flora for rural livelihoods (#1212) Organized by CEC and WCPA</p>	<p>Pavilion Event</p>	<p>BGCI Report Launch: Wild flora for rural livelihoods. The report highlights the huge importance of wild plants for livelihoods in Brazil, China, Mexico and India and the opportunities for inclusion of resource species in ecological restoration and maintaining connectivity between protected areas.</p>
<p>Tue, 11 Sept 09:00 - 18:00 Ruby Room</p>	<p>Conservation Communication Camp: Come with Ideas , Leave with a Plan(#73) Organized by the School of Environmental Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Australia</p>	<p>Conservation Campus</p>	<p>The training course will focus on the process of getting the conservation messages out to a wider audience. This interactive and participatory training course will develop the skills and knowledge needed to communicate effective conservation messages for a range of IUCN internal and external audiences.</p>
<p>Tue, 11 Sept 11:00 - 13:00 Room 203</p>	<p>Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability: Toward a Cross-Commission Action Plan (#746) Organized by the IUCN Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for</p>	<p>Workshop</p>	<p>We strongly feel that youth engagement and intergenerational partnership are essential for achieving biodiversity outcomes, including more effective and equitable governance of nature's use. In Barcelona, the Members' Assembly adopted Resolution 4.098 on Intergenerational Partnership and, emerging from Commission Young Professionals Networks, the Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability has been established to support IUCN's vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature." Workshop objectives are to (1) Review past achievements and lessons learnt from youth</p>

	Sustainability		engagement and intergenerational partnership within each IUCN Commission since 2008; (2) Draft an Action Plan for 2013-2016 within each Commission and across the Union; and (3) Highlight all youth and intergenerational events at the Congress.
Tue, 11 Sept 14:30 - 16:30 Yeongju Hall B	Young people's role in forest conservation (#676) Organized by Reforestamos México, A.C.	Knowledge Cafe	Young people are living a new stage in history in which they must decide to transform their lifestyle into a sustainable one, creating conditions that will enable them to have better opportunities. Overall, young people do not have any decision power regarding the use of natural resources. However, they do have an entrepreneurial spirit that allows them to take part in the protection and conservation of forests. These actions have different levels of impact based on their knowledge, institutional support and other influential factors. How do we use their experiences as the basis for innovation?
Sun, 8 -11 Sept	Blue Planet Pavillion	Pavillion Events Blue Planet Pavillion Events	<p>There's a whole world going on beneath the surface of the ocean. It is so different from ours, so vast and mesmerizing, it never fails to fascinate whoever ventures into its depths. Oceans and seas cover 70% of the planet and host huge and unknown biodiversity. This pavilion will demonstrate how, by sharing knowledge, exchanging information and views and launching and promoting marine conservation and sustainable development activities, we can ensure and foster the conservation of marine biodiversity, as well as the equitable and sustainable use of our oceans.</p> <p>An inter-cultural dialogue on Marine Protected Areas – can locally managed marine areas provide a foundation for national marine PA networks? Intercultural dialogue between communities and conservationists on the role of Locally Managed Marine Areas as a way of developing national MPA frameworks and meeting CBD targets. An inter-regional, intercultural event which involves a traditional Pacific Islands kava ceremony, followed by group discussion led by marine delegates from the Pacific and Meso-American Regions sharing their experience of using Locally Managed Marine Areas (including the use of traditional knowledge, local governance systems, equitable benefits, the Satoumi Initiative).</p> <p>What's the buzz? Uniting for Marine Adaptation This was creative, think-tank / dialogue styled event where community representatives, IUCN staff, conservation scientists, NGO people, researchers and government representatives get to share ideas with each other on what IUCN is, could and should be doing on adaptation in the coastal, marine and reef environment. The format is one-on-one exchanges and small group discussions, captured using meta-cards, and then a summary of the main themes emerging are captured on display panels. The event is focussed on how human communities that rely on marine resources are or will need to adapt to changing oceanic climate conditions and shifts in biodiversity and abundance – and the policy and practice opportunities for IUCN. It can include any other relevant aspects of understanding, sharing and learning about marine and coastal adaptation using different types of knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Coastal and Marine Issues in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean Strengthening youth voices in marine conservation: Supporting the development of local leadership and triggering action for a sustainable future.</p>

			<p>This activity had the participation of young people from coastal communities in Mexico and Central America. They are linked to fishing and will present their opinions and experiences in subjects related to human rights, climate change, Marine Governance and participation in decision-making spaces, Responsible Fisheries, the right to land and coastal marine areas.</p>
Sun, 11 Sept	Promoting a New Conservation Ethic Based on Respect for Indigenous Peoples (#544)	CEESP official event	<p>A priority identified at an IUCN Canadian Forum was "recognizing the inherent responsibilities and guardianship Aboriginal people have with respect to the earth, there is a need to recognize their ways of knowing and their treaty rights, and to engage in cross-cultural relationships in support of joint priorities." Four Indigenous representatives from North America, South America, Africa and Asia will discuss their connections to land and how those connections are being challenged by conservation initiatives that are foreign to their world view. Representatives from two conservation organizations that are working to be more responsive to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the IUCN Conservation Initiative on Human Rights will be part of the dialogue.</p> <p>The session focused on finding common ground and new policy directions. It will be organized under these topics: a) Indigenous peoples' practices in the preservation of lands, territories and natural resources; b) western conservation practices and threats to Indigenous peoples' stewardship; c) mechanisms to protect Indigenous peoples' rights under domestic and international law, as well as identifying gaps; and d) how to move forward from ideas to joint action.</p> <p>This workshop will build on the January 2011 CEESP Sharing Power conference. That conference acknowledged that "open and respectful dialogues are needed to transform the dominant paradigm for conservation and development. Individuals and groups belonging to different cultures can be brought together to generate a deeper understanding of each others' world views and this can lead to transformative action."</p>