



IUCN's written input to the High-Level Political Forum under the auspices of ECOSOC, July 2019

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) welcomes this opportunity to offer its inputs on the theme of this year's HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC, "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality", as well as on the specific SDGs under review this year:

- [Goal 4](#). Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- [Goal 8](#). Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- [Goal 10](#). Reduce inequality within and among countries
- [Goal 13](#). Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- [Goal 16](#). Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- [Goal 17](#). Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

IUCN would also like to offer some reflections on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a whole, in light of the first four years of experience with its implementation by national governments, other stakeholders and the international community.

IUCN is an intergovernmental scientific organization dedicated to nature and biodiversity conservation, and its mission is driven not only by an appreciation of nature's inherent value but also by a scientific understanding of how essential a healthy natural environment, including biodiversity and ecosystems, is to human well-being and long-term economic prosperity.

At first glance, it may not be apparent what is the intersection between IUCN's expertise and work and this year's HLPF theme: "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality". There are however important aspects in which nature and biodiversity conservation contribute to empowering people.



- Healthy ecosystems are essential to meeting human beings' food, water and health needs. These are fundamental to human physical empowerment, which is a precondition for social, economic and political empowerment. Nature is also central to human society's cultural and spiritual heritage.
- As a matter of human rights, inclusiveness must extend to human beings' access to essential requirements of life and well-being. Social and economic systems vary in how and how far they ensure equitable access to these – to safe drinking water and sanitation, to healthy foods, to a healthy living environment and health care.
- Knowledge about the science of nature-people interactions and interdependencies is also empowering, enabling societies and individuals to reshape institutions and actions in order to reinforce positive and minimize negative interactions.
- With respect to equality, the standard metrics are income and wealth distributions. On both metrics, global inequalities have been increasing though with nuances¹. Nature is a component of wealth, though one not included (beyond non-renewable resources) in standard wealth measures of national accounts. Though data is limited, there are significant inequalities in access to and control over renewable natural resources like forests, productive lands, fisheries, and water resources. The poor, women and other specific populations – notably indigenous peoples – face particular disadvantages and challenges.

Thus, the work of IUCN bears directly on the theme of this July's HLPF in multiple respects. IUCN's work also relates to all the SDGs under review in this July's HLPF, and we review here how these goals intersect with IUCN's mission, what IUCN is doing at those points of intersection, and what policy recommendations emerge from IUCN's work related to each goal.

¹ Incomes of the lower and middle classes of OECD countries have stagnated while the top 1% have captured the lion's share of income gains in those countries; those at the bottom of the global income distribution have also seen their incomes rise significantly, with the emergence of China, India and others; <https://wir2018.wid.world/files/download/wir2018-full-report-english.pdf>



IUCN's reflections on [Goal 4](#). Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to creating sustainable development. As outlined in the recent report: *Connecting with Nature to Care for Ourselves and the Earth*, research also shows that quality education includes connecting children with nature: Outdoor play in school-aged children has been linked to the development of core skills, including problem-solving and reasoning, creativity, curiosity, risk-identification, self-regulation and social and emotional learning.

For students, studies demonstrate positive associations between the greenness of school landscapes and academic performance, such as standardized test scores and rates of graduation. More than 40 years of research further shows that meaningful childhood experiences in nature are associated with adult conservation behaviors. Educational experiences that engage children with nature and biodiversity not only enhance academic outcomes, but they benefit the conservation of our planet. In fact, two factors contribute most to children's developing into adults who take action to benefit nature: positive direct experiences in nature during childhood and role models of care for the Earth by someone close to the child—for example, a parent, grandparent, or other trusted guardian, such as an educator².

Key IUCN initiatives

Through the IUCN-led #NatureForAll global initiative, partner organisations are coming together to increase awareness, capacity and opportunities so that school-aged children worldwide enjoy the diverse benefits of connecting with nature. Recent resources that have been developed to support educators include the [Youth Voices Curriculum Sourcebook](#), [#NatureForAll Playbook](#), and [Connecting with Nature to Care for Ourselves and the Earth](#).

IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) has been championing #NatureForAll since 2016. In addition, it brings together over

² Connecting with Nature to Care for Ourselves and the Earth. Recommendations for Decision Makers. November 2018: <http://natureforall.global/why>, pages 6-7.



1,300 members, many of whom are educators focusing on nature conservation. The Commission leverages this large network of members and their expertise to contribute to the overall work of IUCN. CEC also collaborates on the distribution of educational material to young audiences including the #NatureForAll curriculum, UN Environment educational material, and a set of comic books and curricula to educate young audiences on environment issues.

Messages for Policymakers

Desiderata include:

- Education and child care environments that enable time outdoors in nature and experiential learning about nature in early childhood and throughout life
- Parks, outdoor recreation, and tourism options that encourage family-friendly experiences; interpretive programmes; and outdoor, nature-based and experiential education
- Arts and culture policies that promote the integration of culture and nature to develop a sense of oneness with nature while celebrating stories of connection and healing
- Policies and programs that call for biodiversity conservation organisations to work across sectors and populations so that all people, equitably and inclusively, experience the diverse benefits of connectedness with nature³.

IUCN's reflections on [Goal 8](#). Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Historically, economic growth and nature and biodiversity conservation have not coexisted comfortably. The rapid growth of the world economy since the middle of the last century, first in the developed countries and in the past forty years in developing countries, has been accompanied by serious disruption to biodiversity habitat, rapid decline in numbers for many species, and an elevated extinction rate. Yet, with growing recognition of

³ Connecting with Nature to Care for Ourselves and the Earth. Recommendations for Decision Makers. November 2018: <http://natureforall.global/why>, page 27.



human societies' impacts on the natural world, governments and other actors have been taking more forceful measures to halt and reverse species and ecosystem decline. Pressures remain intense, however, as the world's growing population needs to be fed, cities and infrastructure expand, and global temperature rise and climate change continue. Despite stronger awareness, policy and other initiatives, there is still little evidence that habitat and biodiversity losses are being halted no less reversed.

Changing this worrisome relationship between growth and environmental degradation requires a combination of responses, including policies, regulations, incentives and changes in values and social norms, to which education and communication contribute. It also requires technological and organizational changes which delink economic activity from resource depletion and environmental pollution, and initiatives which recognize the value to economy and society of restoring and protecting natural systems for the multiple ecosystem services they provide to enhance human well-being. Advances in science and knowledge about the workings of nature and natural systems have opened up opportunities to "work with" rather than against nature in providing societies' needs – for clean water, clean air, protection from disasters, or mitigation of climate change, and a variety of natural materials which can be harvested sustainably to support growth.

Key IUCN initiatives

IUCN has been championing the restoration of degraded lands to improve productivity and ecosystem health under the auspices of the Bonn Challenge. We are currently developing a systematic framework to record progress and have documented in seven participating pilot countries that initiating restoration processes across 30 million hectares has helped to create an additional 350,000 jobs, often in more remote areas where job creation opportunities are limited.

New economic growth and development models (to with, sustainable development models) are needed which closely align improved human health and well-being with the health and well-being of nature and other species. [Below we reflect on the role of SDG 17 and in particular conservation finance in this endeavor.]



IUCN is engaged in a number of scientific endeavors and practical initiatives which aim to enhance the theory and practice of what might be called nature-compatible, even nature-based socio-economic development. This includes the following:

In November 2018, with financial support from the European Commission, a number of partners launched the [We Value Nature](#) campaign at the start of Natural Capital Week. Partners include The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), WBCSD, IUCN and Oppla.

Many businesses already value nature through approaches such as: natural capital assessment, natural capital accounting, nature-based solutions, green infrastructure and related ecosystem-based solutions. **We Value Nature** seeks to change business perceptions and make valuing nature the new normal for businesses across Europe.

In 2016, IUCN published a study entitled *Nature-based Solutions to address global societal challenges*⁴ which concretizes the multiple health, other social and economic benefits which various natural systems and which biodiversity provide. It is currently developing an operational framework for NBS.

Messages for Policymakers

- In economic development planning, consider nature and biodiversity systematically as valuable assets contributing to, rather as constraints hampering, development plans and projects. This calls for a change of mind set and skill set of economic planners.
- Integrate the cost of biodiversity loss into decision-making by establishing a shadow price of biodiversity loss and developing assessment and accounting of natural capital aligned with the UN System of Environmental and Economic Accounts
- Employ more effectively pricing, fiscal measures and other tools to reshape economic incentives towards greater conservation effort

⁴ Nature-based Solutions to address global societal challenges, IUCN (E Cohen-Shacham, G Walters, C Janzen, S Maginnis, editors), Gland.



- Devote greater effort and resources to implementation/enforcement of policies with the potential to align development and conservation objectives.

IUCN's reflections on [Goal 10](#). Reduce inequality within and among countries

Inequality manifests in many forms around the world. Widespread inequalities exist between countries, most notably between developed and developing countries. At the same time, factors such as gender, ethnicity, race and class drive inequalities within countries. When it comes to sustainable development, women and indigenous peoples are among the most marginalized. For example, indigenous communities, present in over 90 countries, represent about 5% of the world's population but make up 15% of the world's extreme poor. Conserving the integrity and diversity of nature is predicated upon the recognition of and ability to address the inequalities and inequities that drive unsustainable practices.

Countless data shows that involving women and enhancing women's and girl's empowerment and gender equality can trigger transformative impact across sectors, for whole populations, such as toward increased food, health and economic security, as well as innovation and efficiency in forestry, climate change, protected areas and water management and use. Similarly, evidence shows that indigenous peoples hold and manage a significant part of the Earth's most biodiverse regions and play a vital role in conserving lands, seas and resources.

Advancing gender equality and promoting women's and girls' rights, as also emphasized in Goal 5, as well as the rights of indigenous peoples and other minorities, is an essential component toward the sustainable use, management and conservation of natural resources. IUCN has been a leader on gender and environment considerations for decades and has a long history of working with indigenous peoples both to promote recognition of their rights at policy level and to engage and support indigenous peoples in conservation activities on the ground.



Key IUCN initiatives

IUCN has developed a methodology called the Gender Action Plan (GAP) to spur gender-responsive implementation of environmental action. Facilitated via participatory, multi-stakeholder processes, Gender Action Plans serve to unite policies, programmes and stakeholders/staff around a common issue—and, specifically, map steps necessary to meet a goal.

This methodology can be used by Governments, Agencies and other institutions to identify gender gaps and develop activities to improve gender equality. IUCN launched the Environment and Gender Information (EGI) platform as a resource to influence, encourage and assist governments and civil society, policymakers and practitioners, academia and advocates, donors and the media to propel gender-responsive environmental policy, practice and communication. EGI knowledge products serve as tools across frameworks and sectors — building knowledge, measuring commitments and enhancing accountability.

IUCN is also expanding ways in which to address gender issues through operationalization of the IUCN policy on Gender and expanding the action areas to include addressing issues on gender-based violence (GBV).

At the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2016, the IUCN Members Assembly adopted a landmark decision to create a new category of IUCN membership for Indigenous Peoples' Organisations (IPO), strengthening the recognition of their rights, participation, voice and role in IUCN.

Messages for Policymakers

- The rights of indigenous peoples and local communities need to be respected and strengthened.
- Women's empowerment and gender equality must be a priority (SDG 5 is critically linked to SDG 10).
- Data and indicators need to be disaggregated, not least by sex and/or gender.



IUCN's reflections on [Goal 13](#). Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The adverse effects of climate change are being felt increasingly across the world today, with vulnerable communities and nations facing its worst impacts. The world's ecosystems – on which millions depend for their survival and livelihoods – are not being spared either. A study led by IUCN experts, and published in *Science* in 2016, found that more than 80% of the ecological processes that form the foundation for life on Earth are currently being impacted by climate change ([Scheffers et al 2016](#)). A recent IUCN assessment also identified climate change as the 'fastest growing threat' to natural World Heritage Sites, with 1 in 4 sites being impacted in 2017, compared to 1 in 7 sites in 2014 ([IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2017](#)). The IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in October 2018, further underscores the scale of the threat that climate change poses to natural and human systems. The need for urgent and ambitious global action to combat climate change and its impacts is, therefore, clearer than ever before.

Often overlooked, however, in the fight against climate change, is the role that healthy ecosystems themselves can play in addressing this global challenge. Conserving, restoring, and sustainably managing the world's ecosystems – its forests, mangroves, peatlands, and production landscapes, among others – can provide practical and effective *nature-based solutions* for both climate change mitigation and adaptation. A recent analysis, for example, has estimated that these natural climate solutions can provide up to 37% of the cost-effective mitigation needed between now and 2030 to remain within the 2°C temperature rise goal agreed to in the Paris Agreement ([Griscom et al 2017](#)). Another recent study estimates that wetlands helped to avoid over US\$ 600 million in direct flood damages during Hurricane Sandy in 2012 ([Narayan et al 2017](#)), pointing to the benefits of these ecosystems not only for mitigation but also for adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Moreover, investing in ecosystems also provide a range of other benefits, including water regulation, livelihood support, and biodiversity conservation.



Key IUCN initiatives

IUCN has championed a number of key initiatives in this regard. One of these is the [Bonn Challenge](#). This is a multi-partner initiative that aims to bring 350 million hectares of deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2030. Achieving the Bonn Challenge target offers a major opportunity for unlocking the untapped mitigation potential of ecosystems. Estimates suggest that meeting this target could sequester between 1 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ each year and generate annual benefits worth US\$170 billion from other ecosystem services. To date, the Bonn Challenge has secured over 170 million hectares in restoration pledges from around 40 countries. Its implementation across selected countries is also being tracked through the [Bonn Challenge Barometer](#). Other key IUCN-supported initiatives with clear benefits for climate mitigation and adaptation include the [Global Mangrove Alliance](#), which aims to increase global mangrove cover by 20% by 2030, and the [Friends of Ecosystem-Based Adaptation \(FEBA\)](#) initiative, an global effort to increase collaboration and knowledge-sharing on the contribution of ecosystems in building climate resilience.

Messages for Policymakers

As countries are invited to communicate their new or revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in support of the Paris Agreement by 2020, IUCN encourages them to incorporate more ambitious and concrete ecosystem-based mitigation and adaptation measures (i) in these NDCs, (ii) in their mid-century, long-term, low GHG emission development strategies (LT-LEDS), and (iii) in their other relevant national plans, actions and strategies on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

IUCN's reflections on [Goal 16](#). Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Natural resources are central to most rural and marginalized communities' livelihoods; they are sources of survival, meaning; self-determination; security, freedom and wealth. Thus, their sustainable management requires governance institutions and processes that enable the integration of these interests with the national and international goals of both conservation and



development. In this regard, shaping natural resources management structures and processes that are inclusive, responsive and accountable would not only enhance sustainability of resources and security of marginalized communities, it would contribute to stable, transparent, accessible, accountable societal governance and livelihood systems.

It is, thus, commendable that, at the global level, momentum and progress in advocating for inclusive, equitable development and natural resources management has received attention and is reflected in important global frameworks such as the CBD, UNFCCC, and SDGs. This momentum needs to be scaled through systematic application of approaches and tools that build capacity and guide processes to integrate social dimensions and inclusive governance more fully into conservation programs and initiatives.

Key IUCN initiatives

In this regard, IUCN's has developed and is rolling out the implementation of key frameworks and tools such as the Natural Resources Governance Framework (NRGF) and Environmental and Gender Information platform (EGI), that can be used by conservation organizations and countries to build capacity, so as to be able to plan for, implement and monitor the delivery of effective and equitable social outcomes by integrating good governance principles, gender issues and rights-based approaches in conservation and development programs or policies.

IUCN has also taken a deliberate step to establish a membership category of IPOs in its governance structure that allows their participation in making all decisions regarding the policies and programs of IUCN. Consequently, the IUCN secretariat and IPO members have developed a strategic plan for coordinating the input of IPs' voices in IUCN policies and programs and for securing their tenure rights. IPO Members have developed a self-determined strategy identifying joint priorities for advancing their rights and issues in conservation and engaging with each other and within IUCN moving forward.



Messages for Policymakers

- Enhance and support implementation approaches that expand the diversity and quality of inclusive, equitable natural resources governance systems such as those proposed by IPs
- Promote secure, sustainable and accountable natural resources governance systems by linking them to development and financing initiatives.

IUCN's reflections on [Goal 17](#). Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Globally, the diversity of life on earth – nature- is declining due to human activities. Global biodiversity loss has severe impacts on human well-being and the economy, and impacts developing countries and the poor disproportionately. However current investments in biodiversity take place primarily in developed countries, when the largest loss and the largest need is now in developing countries. The G7 countries drive substantial impacts on biodiversity around the world by “importing” impacts through trade flows. A recent study shows that G7 countries are responsible for about 44% of all impacts on extinction risk through international trade.

Biodiversity-related official development assistance (ODA) has steadily increased, reaching US\$6.3 billion in 2015. There has been a threefold increase in biodiversity-related ODA by G7 members between the periods 2002-2006 and 2011-2015. However public finance likely will only ever cover about 10–20% of the investment in nature needed to conserve biodiversity and thus sustain the range of benefits it provides to people. Increased public funding needs to leverage private investment, as mandated for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development. Barriers to private sector involvement in nature conservation include perceived high risk, small scale, and weak economic incentives. Suitable risk mitigation, deal scaling, legal and policy approaches must be deployed to mobilize private



sector investment in nature conservation⁵. There is also a need to establish appropriate metrics and practical tools to assess the impact on biodiversity of investments on Aichi Targets and SDGs to enable more informed decision making by investors.

The overall aim of these steps is to create an economic context that rewards investors for investing in nature, and to widen the participation in these activities to reduce poverty and improve the lives of people dependent on nature.

Key IUCN initiatives

The [Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation](#) (CPIC), a multi-stakeholder initiative launched by IUCN, is an example of an approach to increase the pipeline of investments in conservation and thereby promote local economies based on improved management of nature. The aims of the CPIC process are to standardize deals (blueprinting), replicate them across new sectors and then aggregate them into financial vehicles that are of sufficient scale and risk/return profile to be attractive to institutional investors. One important mechanism for building these deals is to integrate a nature conservation component into commercial investment projects (eco-tourism, eco-urbanization, sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry, etc.)

Together with the Global Environment Facility and The Rockefeller Foundation, IUCN is building the Conservation Finance Facility which offers conservation deal developers technical advisory grant funding and concessional public finance to support early stage projects. The Blue Natural Capital Finance Facility, a partnership with the Government of Luxembourg, provides similar technical advisory grant funding for marine conservation projects. The [Incubator for Nature Conservation](#) provides technical advice and support to protected and conserved areas in developing innovative ideas for sustainable funding.

IUCN is working with a consortium of scientific, governmental and technical

⁵ IUCN (2016), *Conservation Finance: From Niche to Mainstream*.
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2016-001.pdf>



partners to develop a species recovery metric that can be used to set a global science-based target for biodiversity conservation for the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework. The metric can also be used to assess state and non-state contributions to attaining the target.

Messages for Policymakers

- Biodiversity-related international financial resource flows to developing countries should aim to create the conditions to favor the mobilization of private capital in particular through blended finance
- Develop and deploy suitable and stronger regulatory, legal, and policy frameworks to incentivize private investments in conservation
- Promote the implementation of safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms, transparency and access to information
- Encourage non-State actors including the private sector and finance to engage in and support the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Substantially increase support to capacity of project developers, conservation agencies and local financial institutions in order to increase the flow of investable projects from countries rich in biodiversity
- Align commitments to maintain and conserve biodiversity around the post-2020 Science-based Targets.

Concluding Observations

The Regional Assessments on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services carried out by IPBES in 2018 are conclusive - continued loss of biodiversity, especially when coupled with projected changes in climate, is likely to undermine achievement of many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2019-2020: a myriad of opportunities

A myriad of opportunities are presented to us over the next year to get substantive decisions in place which, by fostering societal transformation, can change the course of events towards a more sustainable future.



Importantly, governments and stakeholders have started negotiations on a **new global biodiversity framework for the post-2020 period**. Some main pointers in the discussions so far include: 1) The need for high ambition to remain guided by the establishment of *SMART science-based targets*; 2) support for and interconnectedness with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as other frameworks and processes including the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, especially in the light of those SDG Targets with timelines that vest in 2020; and 3) the willingness to reach a multi-faceted and multi-sectoral framework which, by relying on the inputs and views of society at large, is owned by all, raises the profile of the current biodiversity challenge, and mobilizes action from all stakeholders at all levels.

Over the course of 2019 and most of 2020, governments and civil society will debate on the scope and content of such a global biodiversity framework culminating in its adoption at the **15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15)** that will take place in the last quarter of 2020 in China. Building strong political momentum towards COP15 is key and there will be many stopovers we must capitalize on. Importantly but not exclusively, let us recall just a few.

In 2019, the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services will be presented at the IPBES-7 plenary session (France, April-May). The G20 Leaders Summit (Japan, June) and joint Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transition and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth as well as the G7 Summit (France, August) will provide important high-level opportunities to insert biodiversity considerations into the wider development agendas. The HLPF meetings themselves need no further elaboration. The UN General Assembly (New York, September), alongside the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Summit (for which Nature-Based Solutions is one of the SG's priority action portfolios), will highlight the importance of synergetic global agendas. The Conferences of the Parties to the UNCCD (India, October 2019) and the UNFCCC (Chile, November) as well as CITES (Sri Lanka, May) are other important events.



Turning to 2020, the **IUCN World Conservation Congress** (Marseille, France, June 2020), held once every four years and placed strategically a few months before COP15 when it can help shape global conservation and sustainable development priorities, will bring together several thousand leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, indigenous peoples, business, and academia, and provide a space for open discussion to harness the solutions nature offers to global challenges. The Congress could very well offer a public platform to share voluntary biodiversity commitments by all actors and help transform the political landscape ahead of COP15.

Finally, the UN General Assembly has been invited by the Parties to the CBD to convene a Heads of State/Heads of Government summit in 2020 on biodiversity, which could provide a critical opportunity to set an international integrated agenda for people and nature.

IUCN's niche

As an organization that brings together States, civil society and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations, IUCN is unique. By harnessing the experience, resources and reach of some 13,000 experts, IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

IUCN has honed a **unique value proposition** among international organizations:

1. IUCN provides credible, trusted knowledge
2. IUCN convenes and builds multi-stakeholder partnerships for action
3. IUCN has a global-to-local and local-to-global reach
4. IUCN impartially sets and influences standards and practices
5. IUCN incubates innovations from networked volunteer experts worldwide

These five features of IUCN's value proposition make the Union distinct from others in the conservation and sustainable development arena.

As mentioned in the introduction, knowledge about the science of nature-people interactions and their interdependencies is essential to advance sustainable development. Over the next couple of years, IUCN will continue



to **mobilize its knowledge and expertise around various important tools and standards** which can help assess natural ecosystems and identify critical areas requiring immediate intervention through conservation action, to ensure their long-term support for sustainable development. These tools and standards include: The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species; The Key Biodiversity Areas Standard; the World Database of Protected Areas; The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems; The Green List of Protected Areas, among others.

IUCN will also continue its more recent work to **substantiate the definition and development of a *planetary science-based target for biodiversity*** which will move towards “stabilizing trends” and “bending the curve” for species, ecosystems, and genetic diversity, as a waypoint towards the 2050 Vision of recovery and restoration of nature. Such a planetary target could then be disaggregated to allow not only countries but also companies, cities, and other non-state actors to make the contributions required if biodiversity loss is to be halted and recovery started by 2030.