

Barcelona Congress – Facing up to Climate Change

Tuesday 7 October 2008, Barcelona

THE LATEST The world is changing more quickly than at any time in human history. Changes in the global climate system are pulling many new players into the debate in Barcelona. We now are facing the dual challenges of significantly and urgently reducing emissions to avoid dangerous climate change, and adapting to the impacts of climate changes already underway. The world's oceans are rising – by 1cm every 3 years at current rates, and over the next 50 years or so, temperatures could be an average of 2°C warmer on the planet, with significant and dire consequences for nature and people.

Background The IUCN World Conservation Congress brings together 8,000 leaders from the public sector, government, business and non-governmental organizations for what is the premier summit on sustainable development in 2008. Over 10 days they debate the best ways to tackle environmental and development challenges. They share pragmatic solutions to pressing issues. And they commit to collaborative action.

Key Issues

- **Climate change, rapid loss of biodiversity, food security, health hazards, poverty alleviation** are all issues that the IUCN Congress will put on the table, unlike any other sustainable development event.
- **Innovations and solutions** based on traditional and indigenous knowledge, working alongside the latest technologies and emerging multi-sector partnerships, all presented at IUCN's Congress.
- **Congress is the birthplace of ground-breaking environmental conventions, scientific discoveries and global impact international initiatives.** Be there to see how new key agreements, shaping our future are being born.

Today's featured media events:

09:00-09:30 Press Briefing - IUCN

09:30-10:00 Press Briefing - Equator Prize UNDP/Ted Turner

10:00-11:00 Press Briefing - A new partnership for an equitable post-2012 agreement on climate change - IUCN/HRH Prince Albert of Monaco

12:00-13:00 Press Briefing - Latin America climate change report, economic impacts – World Bank

14:00-14:30 Press Briefing Protecting Planet Ocean: A new mapping tool and portal for Marine Protected Areas linked to Google Earth – IUCN/Google/WCPA

14:30-15:00 Press Briefing - Leading change in water resources – IUCN

15:00-15:30 Press Briefing - Launch of Sacred Site Guidelines – IUCN

15:30-16:00 Press Briefing - Addressing protected areas challenges - IUCN

16:00-16:30 Press Briefing - Google Earth Outreach launching in Spain – Google

16:30-17:00 Press Briefing - Green Entrepreneur Women's Fair – IUCN

17:30-18:00 Press Briefing - The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity with Pavan Sukhdev

18:00-19:00 Press Reception - IUCN/Reuters Media Awards Ceremony and Reception

Photo Opportunity:

- Drummers For a Sustainable Future outside Congress centre - contact S Casellas +34 600906789.
- Make a Wish Stunt outside Congress centre – contact S Casellas +34 600906789.

For a full list of key events at IUCN's World Conservation Congress, please click here:

http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/key_events_congress.pdf

Materials for media:

Audio clips for download http://iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/media/wcc_audio.cfm

Video clips for download http://iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/media/wcc_video.cfm

Press releases, statements http://iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/media/news

Photos for download http://iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/media/wcc_photo.cfm

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