

Climate Clock “Tick-Tocks” in Bangkok

UNFCCC subsidiary bodies meeting: 28 September to 9 October, Bangkok

Background: The UN climate change talks in Bangkok are a critical step in moving towards a new climate change agreement in Copenhagen this December. A new draft of the negotiating text is out, and governments need to work hard on substantially shortening this and reaching political decisions that would form the basis of the Copenhagen agreement. IUCN, the world’s largest conservation organization, wants governments to recognize that managing nature better helps people adapt to climate change and can actually reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Key issues:

- Well-managed nature plays an important role in both climate change adaptation and mitigation. *“Nature can offer solutions that are available to the rural poor in particular, that are cost-effective and sustainable,”* says **IUCN’s Climate Change Coordinator, Ninni Ikkala**. *“The potential of forests in reducing emissions is well-known, while, for example, well-managed mangroves can reduce flood impacts in low-lying coastal areas.”*
- Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change must be included in the post-2012 adaptation framework. *“Managing and conserving nature can increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of people to the impacts of climate change,”* says **IUCN’s Head of Ecosystem Management Programme, Neville Ash**. *“Governments should promote the inclusion of ecosystem-based adaptation in the Copenhagen agreement.”*
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) can be an immediate solution to reducing harmful emissions, and can also provide benefits to local people and biodiversity. *“We know how to use REDD, we don’t have to wait for the development of low carbon technologies,”* says **IUCN’s Director of Environment and Development, Stewart Maginnis**. *“New science shows it’s more urgent than ever to act now; we can’t wait to start reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”*

Press Material and Events

- Opening Statement, Monday 28 September
- Press briefing on REDD+, 11:00-11:30, Thursday 1 October
- Press trip – Community Solutions to Climate Change in Gulf of Thailand, Sat 3 to Sun 4 October
- Daily Media Brief – sent to registered press Monday 5 to Thursday 8 October
- Press Drinks Reception and Premiere Screening of Earth Watch, Foreign Correspondents Club, Bangkok, 18:00-20:00, Tuesday 6 October
- Press briefing on UNFCCC negotiations, 11:00-11:30, Thursday 8 October
- Closing Statement, Friday 9 October

All press briefings will be held in the **Press Conference Room at the United Nations Conference Centre, Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok**

Photos/Audio/Video material are available from: www.iucn.org/unfccc

Spokespersons

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- **Ninni Ikkala**, IUCN’s Climate Change Coordinator, ninni.ikkala@iucn.org

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About IUCN - IUCN is the world’s oldest and largest global environmental organization, with more than 1,000 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. IUCN’s work is supported by over 1,000 staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world. www.iucn.org