



IUCN
World
Conservation
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IUCN Media Advisory

Local 2010 Action for Biodiversity: The ignored solution?

Sustainability Dialogue: 7th October 2008, 16.30 -18:00, Auditorium

The Story

The battle for the future of life on earth will be won or lost in cities. The year 2007 marks a turn in humanity where more than half of the world's population live in cities. Cities occupy 2% of the earth surface and consume 75% of its natural resources. Cities are major users and managers of ecosystems and biodiversity. According to UN projections, 85% of world population growth between 2000 and 2010 will be in urban areas. However, very often they are left out of the national and global debates on biodiversity. This event seeks to fill this gap and incorporate the voice of local and regional authorities into the WCC Barcelona Commitments. It is a forum for local, regional and national governments including international organisations to discuss how they can work together to reduce the loss of biodiversity by 2010.

Key Issues

- Urbanization and biodiversity conservation: friend or foe?
- How can local and regional authorities support national governments in achieving the 2010 biodiversity target?
- How can biodiversity be mainstreamed into regional and urban development planning?
- What is the 5 step approach for developing Local Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans?
- How can citizens be involved in biodiversity management?
- Launching of a Global Partnership for Local Action

More information at <http://www.countdown2010.net/lara>

Participants

1. Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General, IUCN.
2. Ahmed Djouglaf, Executive Secretary, UNCBD.
3. David Cadman, President, ICLEI.
4. James Leape, Director General, WWF.
5. Bärbel Dieckmann, Mayor, Bonn.
6. Imma Mayol, Vice-Mayor, Barcelona.
7. Adama Sangare, Mayor of Bamako.
8. Boris Johnson, Mayor, London (tbc).
9. Jan Olov Westberg, Director, Swedish museum of Natural History.
10. Jose Maria Musmeci, Vice-Secretary for the Environment, Argentina.
11. Beate Jessel, President, Bundesamt für Naturschutz (German Federal Nature Agency)
12. Humberto Rosa, State Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Portugal.
13. Mossadiq Umedaly, BC Hydro & Chair of WBCSD Ecosystem Focus Group.
14. **Moderator:** Irene Quaile-Kersken, Head of Environment Department, DW Radio

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Meet the Press: 7th October, 18:30-19:30, Media Lounge.

Lead Organisers: ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability/Local Action for Biodiversity initiative; IUCN-The International Union for Nature Conservation/Countdown 2010

Partners: United Council of Local Governments (UCLG); Metropolis; UNEP; UN Habitat; UNDP; WWF One Planet Living, etc.

Focal Point

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