



IUCN

World Conservation Congress 2012

**Jeju Special Self-Governing
Province, one year after...**

(Glad to be back)



Roles of Local Government for Global Environment Conservation

- 1. The IUCN WCC, one year after.**
- 2. What is the World Conservation Congress?**
- 3. The Jeju experience.**
- 4. Local governments at the WCC. The discussion.**
- 5. The discussion world-wide. Inclusion of Local Governments in safeguarding the global environment.**
- 6. The way forward.**



IUCN
WORLD
CONSERVATION
CONGRESS
Jeju 2012

nature 



IUCN World Conservation Congress 2012

Nature+: Towards a new era of
conservation, sustainability and
nature-based solutions



How was the World Conservation Congress JEJU 2012?

- The world's largest and most important conservation event.
- The only global summit that represents every aspect of conservation, bringing together leaders of all levels—from governments and international NGOs to academia and local associations and government.
- The IUCN Congress aims to improve how we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development.
- The IUCN World Conservation Congress is the place to put aside differences and work together to provide the means and mechanisms for good environmental governance, engaging all parts of society to share both responsibilities and the benefits of conservation.

We are coming from a long history...



Landmark developments in the history of IUCN:

- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1968
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, 1971
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), 1974
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 1992

Based on its core strengths, IUCN has helped define the global conservation agenda through Knowledge, Influence and Action.

Jeju 2012

- The 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress was held from 6–15 September on Jeju, Republic of Korea.
- The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea and the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province generously hosted the event.
- Over 600 events were held during the five-day Forum, including five World Leaders' Dialogues (WLD).





Jeju 2012

- The Members' Assembly approved the IUCN Programme for 2013–2016, debated over 180 draft resolutions that set the future conservation agenda, and elected the IUCN President and the governing Council for the next four years.
- 10,000 participants from 157 countries came to support the IUCN Congress in Jeju, including 6,571 who registered to take part in the Forum and Members' Assembly.
- More than 550 sessions during the Forum and another 60 side events were held.
- Business presence was unprecedented, with over 100 business representatives participating

Bringing world leaders to the public

- The World Leaders' Dialogues were innovative debates with live participation from the audience. Each day of the Forum, a panel of five to six international figures across all sectors joined to discuss the most pressing issues of conservation today.
- Focused on the five Congress themes, these top-level dialogues revealed strategic thinking to guide the implementation of pragmatic solutions for a sustainable future.
- The open format, coupled with the latest technology, enabled members of the public to submit questions in real time to the world leaders during the talks.
- The World Leaders' Dialogues were the highlight of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2012.

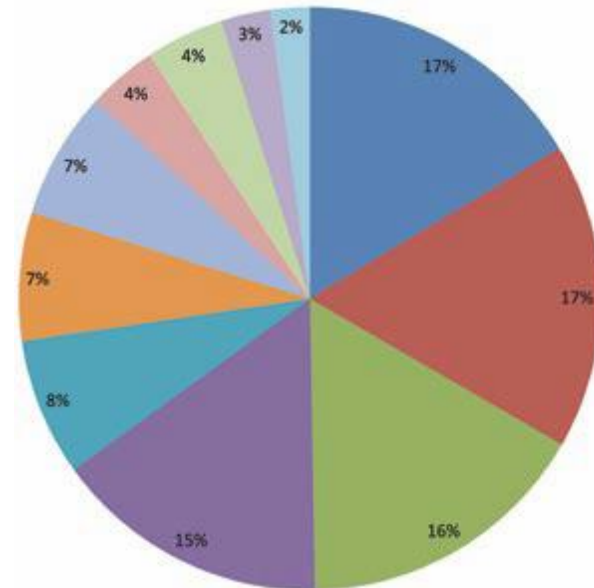


Resolutions and Recommendations adopted in Jeju

- The Resolutions process remains a central element of IUCN's governance system and an important means by which members can influence future directions in the conservation community and seek international support on various conservation issues.
- The number of motions submitted by Members exceeded any previous records. These motions, once adopted at the Members' Assembly, became the Resolutions and Recommendations of the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

Thematic distribution

- Human Well-being
- Protected Areas
- Species
- Ecosystems
- Marine
- IUCN Governance
- Environmental Governance
- Environmental Law
- Energy
- Pollution
- Climate Change





A local legacy

- The Ministry of Environment of the Government of Korea and the Jeju Special Self- Governing Province kindly hosted the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2012.
- They established the Korean Organizing Committee (KOC) in order to fully support the organization of the largest conservation event in 2012.
- Thanks to this joint partnership, the 2012 IUCN Congress was able to leave a legacy at the local level in Jeju and the wider Republic of Korea, as well as driving forward global conservation.



Jeju Declaration

- The Jeju Declaration, signed at the closing of the Congress, marked a stepping stone in the conservation field.
- Based on the thematic framework, it reflects strong points of the 10 days of conferencing, networking and decision making.
- It recognizes that nature offers important solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges in climate change, sustainable energy, food security, and economic and social development.
- Through the declaration, the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province committed to take the World Leaders' Dialogues a step further and set up the "Jeju World Leaders' Conservation Forum".

Capitalizing on the IUCN Resolutions Process

- Leaders from Korea and the island of Jeju were particularly proactive in their involvement in IUCN's motions and resolutions processes. **Nineteen motions** were elaborated and presented to the Members' Assembly. Among others, "Support for conservation and sustainable use of Gotjawal forests in Jeju" and "Supporting the sustainability of Jeju *Haenyeo* as a unique marine ecology stewardship".
- Recommendations:
 - 152 Enlarging and connecting transboundary protected areas for the Ecological Corridor of Northeast Asia
 - 155 Restoration and conservation of Jeju's Hanon Maar Crater**
 - 182 International cooperation towards the mitigation of adverse impacts of aeolian aerosols.



WHAT WAS DIFFERENT ABOUT BEING IN JEJU?

- Jeju is a Special Self-Governing Province.
- Jeju has unique features, being the largest island of Korea, and the crown jewel of the Yellow Sea.
- Very high importance in Nature conservation, one of the new 7 natural wonders of the World.
- Very rich traditions and culture.
- Jeju's Government has a clear and decisive commitment towards sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and the willingness to become an environmental hub for the planet.

Local governments at the WCC.

The foundation of the debate.

- Local and regional levels of Government are playing an increasingly direct and indirect role in biodiversity conservation.
- Population around the Globe is becoming more urbanized.
- Local governments contribute financially to conservation and environmental protection (through direct and efficient action and taxes).
- Consumption patterns express direct and changing levels of pressure, and put demands on Ecosystems.

- There is a process of increasing responsibility of regional agencies of international bodies related to biodiversity conservation and natural resources management.
- Also, local control over NNRR is constitutionally recognized in many countries (for example, in my region: Brazil, Mexico, Argentina).
- Accordingly, environmental governance is being decentralized in many parts of the world.
- Return of the “act locally and think globally” say...with a twist.



Beyond the World Conservation Congress

- Possibility: Use the pressure – state – response analysis to better define the role of local government in environmental matters.
- Importance of the issue of different scales and levels of decision, responding to different interests.
- Remember: **every** environmental issue is a **local** environmental issue for someone.

Some reasons to focus more attention on local governments:

- LGs have profound and enduring interest in the issues.
- LGs are the sphere of the government closest to people and their environment.
- LGs set *de facto* many strategic and long term environmental policies (i.e. land planning).
- The cumulative result of daily small decisions and actions shape regional (and beyond) environmental values (i.e. Ecomobility).



Some pressures in the process:

- Challenging intra-governmental relationships.
- New and demanding roles and responsibilities.
- Unfunded mandates, cost shifting, devolution.
- Increasing population demands.
- Failure of other governmental spheres and levels.

From Local to Global...and back

- What is the International Environmental Governance? Many institutions, many instruments...fragmented and complex.
- Who are the “actors” today? Who should be the “actors”?
- Not all environmental issues can be tackled only by States plus UN. Good example=> Ozone Layer; Not so good one=> Climate Change...
- Other key actors: business sector, civil society, **local governments**. The main reason to include LGs in Global Environmental Conservation is because...we **need** them.

How to strengthen the role of LGs in the international environmental governance.

- LGs can develop new concepts. National governments sometimes don't take certain measures, but welcome local initiatives (i.e. Ecomobility).
- Work together, network with others (i.e. CCP campaign with ICLEI, including more than 1000 cities).
- LGs make significant contributions to global environmental goals... even that many times don't get the credit. Seems logic to include them in a participatory governance framework.

- LGs have many opportunities to exercise leadership by example.
- We need LGs. Central governments and IEG are not sufficient custodians of the planet.
- So...should IEG become GEG, Global Environmental Governance?
Apparently nations working together have not been able to deal with all environmental problems (think about Climate Change, Biodiversity loss, Fisheries collapse, Deforestation, Desertification...etc.).
- New Global Environmental Governance models should include local governments (plus business sector and civil society).

The way forward / Opportunities for the Future:

- Four key areas to improve:
 - Establish appropriate institutional arrangements (design and interrelation).
 - Develop Capacity Building.
 - Resourcing the transition to new roles.
 - Networking.

Final thoughts:

- Local Governments are both old...and new. More delegation, funding, responsibilities. Potential to enhance contributions, and to increased recognition of LGs role in environmental conservation.
- Important to consider the behaviour of other areas of government, to improve systems and norms, to develop respectful institutional arrangements, to ensure adequate long term resources of all kind to support growing environmental responsibilities.
- We should ensure synergy between different governmental spheres. This is the way to adequately address key issues in the field as well as challenging policy areas.
- **We urgently need a new way of thinking the solutions. And Local Governments are definitively a key in this crucial search.**



Kamsa Hamida
Thank you – Gracias!