



IUCN's key messages for UNFCCC COP24

The *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C* published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in October 2018 underscores the seriousness of the threat that climate change poses to natural and human systems. Yet, as the *UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2018* reveals, a very significant gap still remains between the current commitments expressed by Parties in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and what is needed to keep global warming to well below 2°C and 1.5°C. The need for urgent and ambitious global action to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is clearer than ever before.

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As Parties convene in Katowice to finalise the rules, procedures and guidelines in relation to climate change, in addition to ambitious mitigation action in other

This is bearing in mind the major climate change mitigation strategies for conserving, restoring and sustainably managing terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems provide as practical and cost-effective sinks and removals of greenhouse gases, as also clearly recognised in the Paris Agreement.

- o An analysis published in the *Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences (PNAS)* in 2017 has estimated that natural climate solutions provide over one-third of the cost-effective climate mitigation options between now and 2030 to stabilize warming to below 2°C.

- o *UNEP's Emissions Gap Report 2017* estimates that land-based carbon removal options, including forests, wetlands and soils, offer a total annual emissions reduction potential of 4 to 12 GtCO_{2e}.^{iv} These also help to meet other global sustainability goals, such as improved water quality, biodiversity conservation, and improved food security.

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