



# IUCN position paper for UNFCCC COP27

**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
Twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27)  
6 – 18 November 2022, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt**

UNFCCC COP27 is taking place at a time of considerable global turmoil, with growing economic hardship and food and energy insecurity worsening the effects of a still ongoing pandemic. Yet, as the extreme weather events of 2022 – catastrophic floods, droughts and hurricanes – illustrate, the climate crisis is also continuing unabated, hitting vulnerable communities the hardest and exacerbating global inequalities. COP27, therefore, provides

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**II. Nature-based Solutions<sup>1</sup> – centred on the conservation,**





- In particular, it calls on Parties to ensure that adequate safeguards are in place to prevent any adverse environmental or social consequences of the application of the mechanisms, rules and procedures developed under Article 6, especially on existing natural ecosystems and biodiversity as well as on local communities and Indigenous Peoples.
- In the event that Nature-based Solutions are used by Parties or other authorised public and private entities to deliver mitigation outcomes under Article 6, IUCN calls for these to adhere strictly to the [IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions](#), and other related safeguards, guidance and best-practice available, including those already agreed to by Parties.
- IUCN also stresses that any use of Nature-based Solutions for offsetting purposes must be limited to compensate only for those residual emissions that cannot otherwise be abated through GHG emission reduction efforts, and must be governed by robust accounting systems to maintain environmental integrity and prevent double counting. It also reiterates that Nature-Based Solutions are not a substitute for ambitious GHG emission reduction efforts and must not be used to delay the urgent action required to phase out fossil fuels and decarbonize the world economy.

**VII. IUCN welcomes the participative process that has been put in place for the ongoing technical dialogues of the first Global Stocktake under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement and calls for the full consideration of Nature-based Solutions under this process**

- Noting that the Global Stocktake is crucial for enhancing the collective ambition of action and support necessary for achieving the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, IUCN welcomes the opportunity provided to non-Party stakeholders to participate and contribute to this process.
- In particular, IUCN encourages Parties and other stakeholders to use the Global Stocktake to systematically consider and assess (i) the contribution that is both being and can be made by Nature-based Solutions towards climate change mitigation

and adaptation; (ii) the extent to which Nature-based Solutions are being incorporated by Parties under their NDCs, NAPs and LT-LEDS in support of the Paris Agreement; (iii) the means of implementation and support that is presently available for Nature-based Solutions; (iv) the best practices and barriers that need to be supported and overcome to increase their future ambition and implementation at scale; and (v) the need for robust accounting systems (like UN SEEA-EA, for example) that can help reduce current discrepancies in emissions reporting from the land sector improve the integrity of ecosystems and Nature-based Solutions.

- The Global Stocktake can also offer an important avenue to assess progress on issues such as Ocean and Climate Change that are not yet being fully considered, and for which IUCN and its partners have provided [additional guidance](#).

**VIII. IUCN welcomes the progress made to date in the operationalization of the second three-year workplan of the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), and calls for its further strengthening to ensure more inclusive and effective participation of local communities and Indigenous Peoples in climate policy and planning processes across different levels.**

- Indigenous Peoples and local communities continue to remain at the forefront of the climate crisis, often facing its worst impacts. They also play a critical role as stewards and biodiversity and ecosystems and in delivering practical and effective Nature-based Solutions on the ground. As the Paris Agreement explicitly recognizes the rights and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the context of climate action, the establishment of the *UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)* has been critical to moving that agenda forward.
- IUCN encourages more meaningful activities, particularly to help support the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in national and sub-

national climate policy-development and planning processes.

- IUCN also supports the active engagement of local communities and Indigenous Peoples in all relevant agenda items, bodies, and processes of the UNFCCC and urges full facilitation of the same.

**IX. IUCN reaffirms its commitment to the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWPG) and its Gender Action Plan (GAP), and calls – as part of the mid-term review – for building greater coherence with other international fora related to gender equality and climate change to jointly raise collective ambition in closing gender gaps and enhancing rights-based and gender-responsive approaches to climate change.**

- guidance on the GAP mid-term review, recalling that it is critical to ensure the further strengthening and continuance of these efforts in order to deliver successful gender-responsive climate policy and action in support of the Paris Agreement's implementation, both internationally and at the national level.

- IUCN draws attention to the agreed conclusions of the sixty-sixth session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 66) held in March 2022 on [gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk](#)

and encourages Parties and observer organizations to consider these in the context of the GAP mid-term review. In particular, it draws attention to Para 62 (uu), which highlights the need to *finance gender-responsive, equitable and the potential of ecosystem-based approaches or nature-based solutions with gender-sensitive and age-inclusive social protection and care at the centre* also acknowledging the leadership role that women play in advancing Nature-based Solutions to climate change on the ground.

- IUCN also calls on Parties and observer organizations to take into account, under the mid-term review of the GAP, the vision and objectives of the *Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ)* under the Generation Equality Forum. IUCN recalls and reaffirms its commitments to the Forum as a co-lead of the FACJ Action Coalition.