

# MEETING OF THE IUCN COMMUNITY FOR EUROPE, NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

October 16–18, Yerevan, Armenia



# THIS REPORT

The IUCN Interregional Committee for Europe, North and Central Asia (ICENCA) is an IUCN Member Committee recognised by IUCN Council in 2021. One of the goals of ICENCA has been to gather the IUCN family within this “super region” at a community meeting. This finally became a reality when ICENCA received an invitation to host such a gathering, from long-standing IUCN member, the Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC) in Armenia.

The meeting in Yerevan was a fine example of all that is good about IUCN and how valuable its convening power can be. It also demonstrated the value of activities led by ICENCA.

Throughout the meeting we provided a participatory environment providing several interactive sessions using Mentimeter.com. This report compiles the results of the various mentimeter sessions along with a list of useful resources provided by the speakers during their sessions.

Overview of questions:

Mentimeter session Day 1

- Which country are you from?
- What kind of organisation are you from?
- What are the biggest challenges that you face in your work on nature conservation?
- What kind of support would you need from IUCN that would boost/uplift your work?

Mentimeter session Day 3

- What have been the most useful areas/topics that you have learnt about?
- What are your top 3 learnings from the meeting’s speaker sessions?
- What are your expectations of ICENCA now that you know more about it?

Also included in this report are photos from the event and participant feedback received throughout the event.

# INTRODUCTION



**We are a coalition of the willing**

**We are the IUCN family**

**We are a community**

**We can be a movement for Nature**

The event attracted a wide range of participants which represented what was meant by the IUCN 'Community' - IUCN Members (State, Subnational and NGO), IUCN Commission members, IUCN Councillors elected from the Regions (5 out of 6 for the super-region), IUCN National Committees and Country Focal Points, IUCN Secretariat colleagues from Regional Offices and others who just wanted to know more about IUCN.

The meeting had a number of purposes that it set out to achieve, in addition to recognizing the value of just bringing conservationists together.

- For us all to have a better understanding off the many elements of IUCN
- For us all to feel more a part of our collective super-region, to meet each other, to network, learn, share, make friends, make deals, forge partnerships, seek and find synergies, and enjoy each other's company at this unique and special event.
- To provide an opportunity for the ICENCA Steering Committee to hear expectations of ICENCA and what it should be doing collaboratively for nature conservation
- To gain an appreciation of Armenia our host country, the city of Yerevan, the more immediate parts of this super-region and its people and wildlife
- To generate outcomes arising from the speaker's workshops and special announcements and activities made

None of this could have been achieved without the fantastic team support from IUCN Member, The Foundation for Preservation of Wildlife and Culture in Armenia (FPWC), under the leadership of Ruben Khachatryan. An exemplary IUCN Member organisation which enabled us to achieve so much.

# WHO WAS IN THE ROOM?



# BIGGEST CHALLENGES



**Funding**

**Political Will**

**Personnel**



# RESOURCES

The event programme included a wide range of topics and themes featuring speakers from across the IUCN community. Here we have listed relevant publications and other resources that have been highlighted from the speaker slides.

## EVENT PROGRAMME

[Speaker presentations](#)

[Full Programme](#)

## IUCN AND MEMBERS IMPLEMENTING ACTION FOR THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

[Post 2020 - Global Biodiversity Framework IUCN Issues Brief](#)

[IUCN Strategy for implementation of the CBD Global Biodiversity Framework](#)

[Enabling a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework fit for purpose](#)

## SUB NATIONAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERSHIP

[IUCN Sub National Government Members](#)

[A guide for pollinator-friendly cities - IUCN Urban Alliance](#)

[Nature-based Solutions for cities | IUCN](#)

[Guidelines for conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors](#)

[Historic Urban Landscape Approach](#)

[Planning and delivering Nature-based Solutions in Mediterranean cities](#)

[Sports and Urban Biodiversity Guidelines](#)

[National Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy of Catalonia](#)

[ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Europe - Tools and Resources](#)

[Regions4 Sustainable Development Knowledge Hub](#)



# RESOURCES

## IUCN RED LISTS AND GREEN LISTS

[European Red List](#)

[Online training modules for national/regional red listing](#)

[Webinars about national Red Lists](#)

[The National Red List Project](#)

[IUCN Green List](#)

[IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas - resource](#)



## WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS



[Recognising and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures](#)

[Site-level tool for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures \(OECMs\)](#)

[Guidelines for conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors](#)

[Addressing ecological connectivity in the development of roads, railways and canals](#)

[Guidelines for privately protected areas](#)

[30x30 A Guide to Inclusive, Equitable and Effective Implementation of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#)

## SPECIES CONSERVATION PLANNING

[Get to know us: Conservation planning specialist group](#)

[Species Conservation Planning Principles and Steps](#)

[Training, Tools and Workshops](#)

[European Hoverflies: moving from assessment to conservation planning](#)

[Ex Situ Conservation Assessment - Online Course](#)



# RESOURCES

## YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

[IUCN Youth Strategy 2022-2030](#)

[IUCN CEC Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Partnerships Specialist Group  
A 10-Step Guide To Creating a Youth Dialogue Space at Your Event](#)

## COMMUNICATION TOOLS

[#NatureForAll Toolkits](#)

[Learn More about CEC](#)

[IUCN CEC Nature Education for Sustainability Specialist Group](#)

[Reimagine Conservation](#)

[Introduction to IUCN Engage - User Guide](#)

## NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND FOCAL POINT DEVELOPMENT

[Operational Guide for IUCN National and Regional Committees](#)

[Creating and managing an IUCN National Committee in Europe](#)









# MEETING OUTCOMES

## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK



*"Meeting new people and new organisations"*



*"Direct Knowledge Exchange"*

*"Presence of fantastic colleagues"*



*"Availability of information"*



*"Professionalism and Dedication"*

*"Very approachable and friendly people"*

*"Feeling like a part of the IUCN family"*

*"Meeting a diverse set of people and having unity at the same"*

# CONCLUSIONS

## REAL OUTCOMES FROM A POSITIVE MEETING

The feedback from this first in-person meeting held by the IUCN Interregional Committee for Europe, North and Central Asia (ICENCA) has been overwhelmingly positive. It really was a good example of all that is good about IUCN and how valuable its convening power can be. The event attracted a wide range of participants which represented what was meant by the IUCN 'Community' (IUCN Members (State, Subnational and NGO), IUCN Commission members, IUCN Councillors elected from the Regions (5 out of 6 for the super-region), IUCN National Committees, IUCN Secretariat from Regional Offices and others who just wanted to know more about IUCN.

Outcome 1: better understanding of some of the elements of IUCN including increased awareness and potential participation

Outcome 2: to feel more a part of our collective super-region, including new friendships, new partnerships, joint projects

Outcome 3: expectations of ICENCA and what it and we all should be doing, including good guidance for the future work planning of the ICENCA Steering Committee

Outcome 4: an appreciation of our host country and the city of Yerevan, including enthusiasm for return visits and for future events

Outcome 5: specific outcomes from each of the sessions, including new Commission members and project collaborations

Outcome 6: special outcomes from announcements, including new organisation memberships, a new protected area, a new memorial woodland in memory of Nana Janashia and more

And that's without mentioning the fantastic field trips to the Caucasus uplands - truly breathtaking!

## MOTIVATION

## MOBILISATION

## MOVEMENT

## MOMENTUM

# SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

## VIVEK MENON / CLOSE UP LOOK PHOTO EXHIBITION

Vivek Menon is the founder and Executive Director of Wildlife Trust India. He is elected Councillor of the IUCN and Chair of its Governance and Constituency Committee and its Asian Elephant Specialist Group (SSC).

*This event was supported by the Embassy of India in Armenia*



# SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

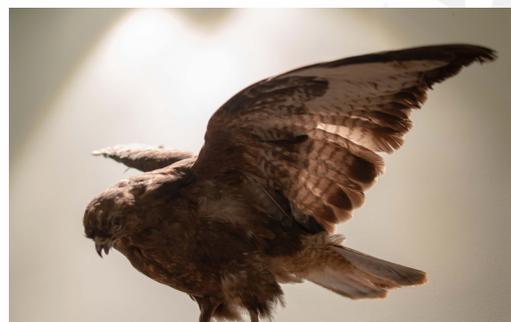
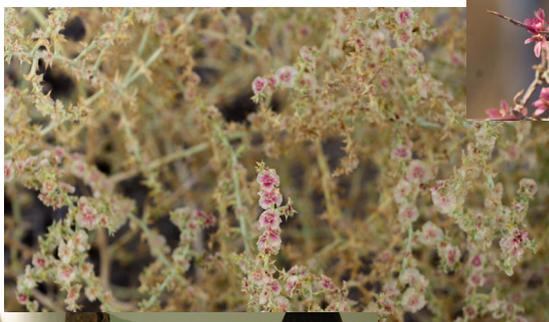
## RECEPTION AT THE YEREVAN MUNICIPALITY

Presentation of ongoing urban environmental projects and plans, IUCN Membership of the Yerevan Municipality



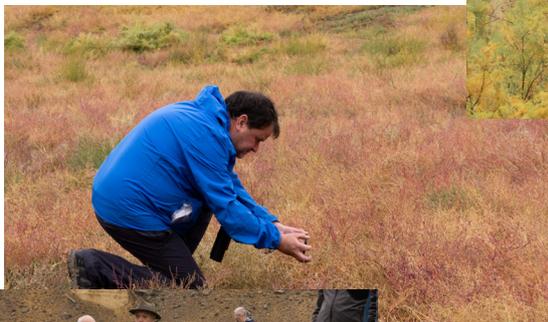
# EXCURSIONS

## Visiting Gorovan Sands Sanctuary, Khosrov State Reserve (IUCN Category Ia)



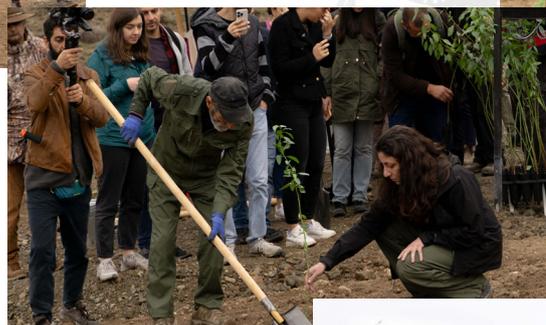
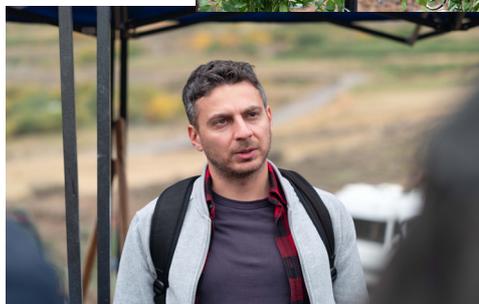
# EXCURSIONS

## Khor Virap Monastery and Angel's Canyon



# EXCURSIONS

## INITIATION OF NANA JANASHIA MEMORIAL FOREST



# EXCURSIONS

## CAUCASUS WILDLIFE REFUGE

## IUCN NETHERLANDS RECEPTION AT FPWC'S URTSADZOR ECO CENTER



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## ORGANISATION TEAM

This event was made possible by the dedicated efforts of a very hard working organisation team. With over a year of planning this team assembled every week to discuss and plan this IUCN community meeting in Yerevan. With special thanks and acknowledgment to the Armenian team from FPWC. We are very grateful to our hosts for their relentless generosity and kindness.

A true representation of the Union.

### Members of the team:

Alexsey Zavarzin, Commission on Education and Communication

Ann-Katrine Garn, Copenhagen Zoo, IUCN National Committee of Denmark

Anna Espadale Gelis, Government of Catalunya

Christopher Mahon, Interregional Committee Europe, North Central Asia

Constantine Makris, IUCN European Regional Office

Diana Garlytska, Commission on Education and Communication

Divija Jata, IUCN Belgian Focal Point

Eva Martirosyan, Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets

Ruben Khachatryan, Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets

Sona Kalantaryan, Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets

