

# The Australian Committee for IUCN

Join us and become part of the global network



*For a just world that values and conserves nature*



The International Union for Conservation of Nature, is the largest global conservation network, with more than 1,300 Member organisations, 1,000 staff and over 14,500 volunteer experts in 160 countries.

## The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Australia's role

Formed in 1948, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has since evolved to become the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, which brings people together to develop solutions to the world's most pressing environmental and development challenges - from threatened species and habitats, to climate change and food security.

Today, IUCN is the world's global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

### IUCN Members

IUCN Members are a diverse group of organisations from 160 different countries. The membership is uniquely comprised of States, government agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and indigenous peoples' organisations who share a vision for a just world that values and conserves nature.

### IUCN Commissions

IUCN's Commissions unite more than 14,500 scientists and experts to provide the organisation

and its Members with knowledge and policy advice to drive conservation and sustainable development across the planet. Experts are organised into six Commissions dedicated to species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.

### Governance

The Members' Assembly, held every four years as part of the IUCN World Conservation Congress, is the union's highest decision-making body. In between sessions of the congress, the Council, which is elected by IUCN Members acts as the principal governing body. Headquartered in Gland, Switzerland, the IUCN Secretariat comprises over 900 staff in more than 50 countries.

The Australian Committee for IUCN was founded over forty years ago to provide a focus for local Member organisations of IUCN to advance the network's global mission and programme in Australia.

## The IUCN Programme

The IUCN Programme provides the framework for planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the conservation work undertaken by IUCN's Commissions and the Secretariat with and on behalf of its Members. The four-year programme is approved by Members at the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

In Australia, ACIUCN and its Members contribute to meeting the objectives and priorities of the Programme in the context of our country's unique landscapes and environment.

The IUCN Programme 2017-2020 focuses on three priority areas:

- Valuing and conserving nature enhances IUCN's heartland work on biodiversity conservation, emphasising both tangible and intangible values of nature.
- Promoting and supporting effective and equitable governance of natural resources consolidates IUCN's work on people-nature relations, rights and responsibilities, and the political economy of nature.

- Deploying nature-based solutions to societal challenges expands IUCN's work on nature's contribution to tackling problems of sustainable development, particularly in climate change, food security and social and economic development.



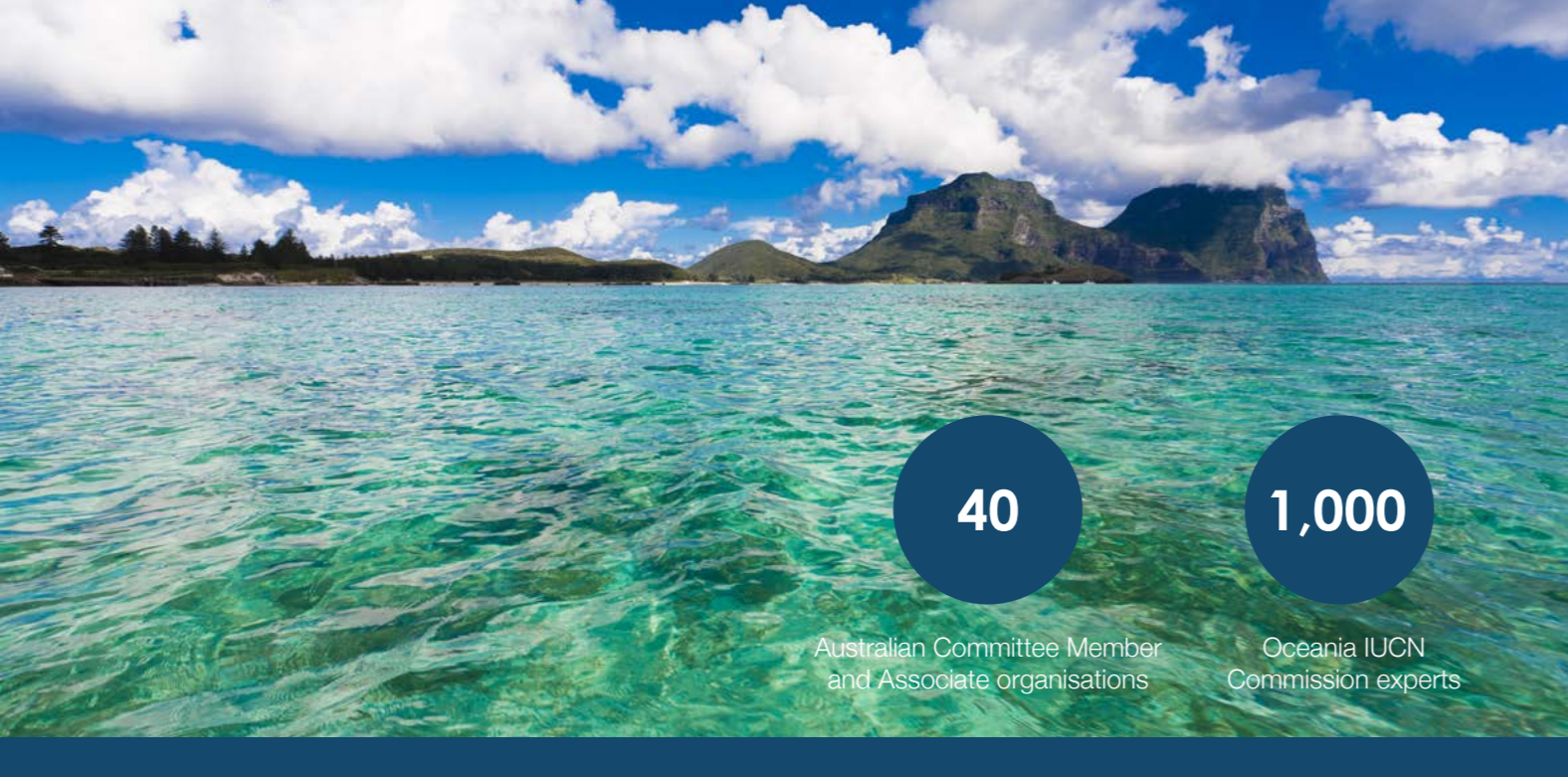
## IUCN World Conservation Congress

Held once every four years, the IUCN World Conservation Congress brings together several thousand leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, indigenous peoples, business, and academia, with the goal of conserving the environment and harnessing the solutions nature offers to global challenges. The congress consists of two parts:

**The Forum** - a hub of public debate that includes a variety of events which explore the depths of conservation and innovation.

**The Members' Assembly** - A unique global environmental parliament which involves national and international governments and NGOs taking joint decisions on the global future of conservation and sustainability.





40

Australian Committee Member and Associate organisations

1,000

Oceania IUCN Commission experts

## The Australian Committee for IUCN

In Australia, the IUCN Constituency comprises a rich network of 40 IUCN government and non-government Member and Associate organisations and hundreds of IUCN Commission experts.

The Australian Committee for IUCN (ACIUCN) facilitates collaboration amongst its Members and Associates and serves as a vital link with the regional and global IUCN network.

Australia forms part of the IUCN Oceania Region, which includes New Zealand and 22 countries and territories of the Pacific Islands (see map).

Oceania is one of the largest IUCN regions, spanning over 100 million square kilometres and encompassing a diverse wealth of ecosystems, ranging from coral reefs to kelp forests, mangroves to montane forests, and wetlands to deserts.

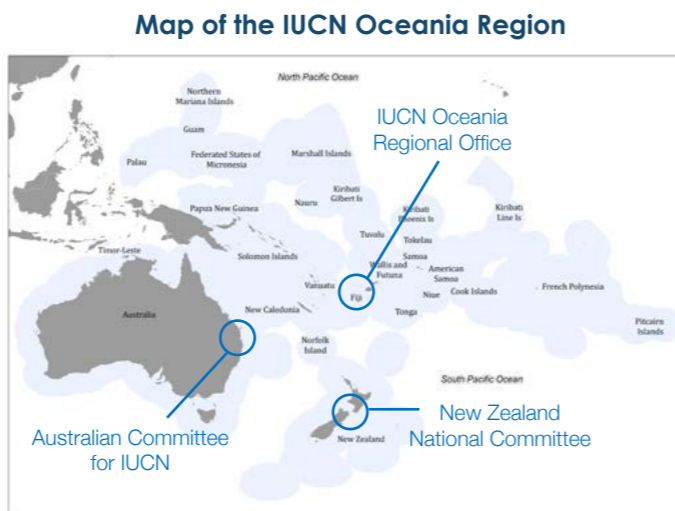
IUCN's Regional Office and Secretariat are based in Fiji. Work in the region is governed by the IUCN Oceania Regional Plan which is closely aligned to the IUCN global Programme.

### Our People

ACIUCN is a small organisation with a single staff member - the ACIUCN Director. The Director is supported by the ACIUCN Executive Committee, which is made up of four elected members - two government members and two non-government members.

In addition, if there is an IUCN Councillor resident in Australia, they serve on the Committee, and a Treasurer may also be seconded.

ACIUCN works closely with other members of the IUCN constituency including local Commission experts, the IUCN Oceania Regional Secretariat based in Fiji and other Regional and National Committees.



## Benefits of membership

ACIUCN uses its unique convening power to provide a neutral forum for different interest groups to come together to pursue common goals, develop policy advice, share knowledge, build capacity, and work towards a shared vision for nature in Australia.

- High-profile, cross sector events** - To stimulate discussion and facilitate knowledge sharing, ACIUCN runs several high-level events with leading conservation experts for its Members every year. One of these is ACIUCN's flagship 'Science Informing Policy Symposium', a two-day event to address solutions to some of Australia's most critical environmental challenges. Past topics have included: Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Climate Change Mitigation; Innovation for 21st Century Conservation and Valuing Nature; and Ecosystems and Protected Areas.
- Expert publications** - To help inform and guide policy and decision making in Australia, ACIUCN works in partnership with its Members and IUCN Commission experts to produce peer reviewed publications which are distributed nationally to key decision makers. All publications are available on ACIUCN's website at [www.aciucn.org.au](http://www.aciucn.org.au)
- Networking for nature** - In many cases, the scale and complexity of Australia's environmental challenges cannot be solved alone. ACIUCN provides its Members with the unique opportunity to create touch points with other organisations to help drive and support shared conservation agendas, extend the reach of Members and speed up the spread of the conservation message to civil society.
- Facilitating expert advisory capacity** - ACIUCN partners with the Australian IUCN network to provide expert advisory capacity to contribute to the development and implementation of national, regional and global environmental goals, conservation frameworks, processes and policies.
- Forging global connections** - The committee provides a vital link between the IUCN network and its Australian members to encourage and facilitate involvement and collaboration with the organisation's global and regional activities, commissions and programmes.





## Become a Member

### Join ACIUCN

All Australian based international members of IUCN are automatically invited to join ACIUCN and get involved in our strong and growing local network. Our Members and Associates are a diverse group of over 30 organisations and individuals including government, NGOs and Indigenous People's organisations, working towards a shared vision for nature conservation in Australia.

### Associate status

For agencies and organisations that have clear conservation objectives but are unable to apply for full IUCN Membership, ACIUCN will on occasion offer Associate Status. Individuals who are members of IUCN Commissions, specialist groups and task forces may also apply to become an Associate. Associates do not enjoy the benefits of full ACIUCN Membership and are ineligible to vote, but are provided with the opportunity to be a part of the growing Australian IUCN network, attend events, build relationships with other members and connect to the global network.

### IUCN membership

If your agency or organisation is not currently a Member of IUCN, we invite you to join this global community. IUCN Membership is open to States, government agencies, NGOs, Indigenous Peoples' organisations and academic institutions working in fields related to conservation or equitable and ecologically sustainable development. Applications are accepted on a quarterly basis. For more information on IUCN membership including membership dues, visit [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org).

For information on ACIUCN membership and benefits, contact the ACIUCN Director at [director@aciucn.org.au](mailto:director@aciucn.org.au)



### Contribute your expertise - IUCN Commissions

While only organisations and agencies are eligible for IUCN Membership, individuals who want to play a role can make a significant impact by joining any of IUCN's six expert Commissions.

This global network of expert volunteers plays a major function in driving IUCN's conservation and sustainable development work by providing vital knowledge, expertise and policy advice, while making it easier for Members to connect with the resources and support they need.

For more information on IUCN Commissions and how to join, visit [www.iucn.org/commissions](http://www.iucn.org/commissions).

### ACIUCN Membership fees

ACIUCN is a small organisation with a modest budget and capacity. As an independently funded organisation, we rely on the financial support of our Members and Associates to enable us to continue our work to serve Australia's IUCN network. Funding is provided in the form of membership dues, partnerships and in-kind support. Our Membership dues are reviewed every few years and are kept modest to ensure that they do not act as a barrier to membership, for this reason and given unprecedented times, ACIUCN membership dues have not increased since 2020-2021. Membership rates vary depending of the size and scope of your organisation or agency.

### 2020-2023 ACIUCN Membership dues

It is important to note that ACIUCN membership dues are separate to the dues paid for global IUCN membership. ACIUCN's membership fees contribute specifically towards facilitating the work of the Australian Committee for IUCN.

ACIUCN Membership Categories	Membership code	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
State Party (Australian Government)	ST	\$10,900 or higher sum as negotiated	\$10,900 or higher sum as negotiated	\$10,900 or higher sum as negotiated
Primary state/territory government agency	GA1	\$4,380	\$4,380	\$4,380
Subsidiary state/territory/ Commonwealth Government agency	GA2	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750
Major national NGO/Indigenous Peoples' Organisation (IPO)	NGIPO 1	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750
State/smaller NGO/Indigenous Peoples' Organisation (with paid staff) OR University department/institute	NGIPO 2	\$540	\$540	\$540
Small/local NGO/Indigenous Peoples' Organisation (entirely voluntary)	NGIPO 3	\$390	\$390	\$390
Associate (non-voting organisation)	A	\$450	\$450	\$450
Associate (non-voting individual)	AA	\$290	\$290	\$290



## Contact Us

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