

The First Asia Parks Congress

Background

- CBD COP10 (October 2010, Nagoya, Japan)
 - Target 11 of Aichi Targets: “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are conserved through systems of protected areas..”
 - Decision X/31 (Protected Areas): “Conference of the Parties invited Parties to foster the formation of regional initiatives and formulate regional action plans..”
- Preliminary Asia Parks Congress
(November 2011, Tokyo, Japan)
 - Participants agreed to hold 1st Asia Parks Congress in 2013
 - participants call on the Government of Japan to consider hosting the first Asia Parks Congress and illustrate the role of PAs in post disaster reconstruction as in “Sanriku Fukko (reconstruction) National Park”

Outline

- Organizer:
 - Ministry of the Environment of Japan
 - The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Date: Nov. 13-17, 2013
- Venue: Sendai International Center (Sendai city, Miyagi, Japan)
- Participants (Registration): 760(from 46 country/ region)
 - Representative of PA agency in Asia(from 22 countries)
 - International Organizations, Renal Organizations
 - Development Assistance Agencies
 - NGOs
 - Researchers, Students
 - Private Sector

Theme: “Parks Connect”

- Under this theme, the emphasis is making connections;
 - Between People and Nature,
 - Between People and People
 - Between Cultural/Spiritual values and Natural Values,
 - Between Parks and the wider landscape/seascape, and many others.

Objectives

- Showcase the success and to advocate the values of protected areas in Asia, reinforcing their relevance and broadening the constituency of support.
- Share experience across the region and particularly to promote what Asia can offer to the world.
- Set the agenda for protected areas in Asia and so facilitate action toward achieving the Aichi Targets and the objectives of the PoWPA.
- Build regional capacity; find solutions to problems; energize and catalyze the protected community in Asia
- Provide a regional perspective and specific Asian input to relevant regional and global events including the World Parks Congress in 2014.

Sessions/Meetings (on 14th and 15th)

- Plenary (9:00—11:00)
 - 8 presentations
- Working Group Session (12:45-18:00)
 - 154 oral Presentations
- Poster Session(Core time: 11:00-12:30)
 - 135 poster
- Side Events (11:15-12:15, 18:30-19:30)
 - 25 events
- Youth Session (15:15-19:30)
 - 21 presentations
- Informal Meeting on the Proposed Asia Protected Areas Partnership and the 2nd Asia Parks Congress(closed)(19:30-21:00 on 15th)

Schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
	Wed., 13 November	Thu., 14 November	Fri., 15 November	Sat., 16 November	Sun., 17 November
Morning		Plenary (9:00-11:00)	Plenary (9:00-11:00)	Excursion (Site visit to the <i>Sanriku Fukko</i> National Park)	Plenary 9:00-12:00
Lunch Time		Poster Session (11:00-12:30) Side-event (11:15-12:15)	Poster Session (11:00-12:30) Side-event (11:15-12:15)		Closing Ceremony "Toward the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014" (12:15-13:00)
Afternoon	Registration (14:00-16:00)	Working Group Session 1 (12:45-15:15)	Working Group Session 3 (12:45-15:15)		
Evening	Opening Ceremony (16:00-16:30) Keynote Addresses (16:30-18:10)	Working Group Session 2 (15:30-18:00) Youth Session (15:15-19:30)	Working Group Session 4 (15:30-18:00) Youth Session (15:15-19:30)		
Night	Reception (18:30-20:00)	Side-event (18:30-19:30)	Side-event (18:30-19:30)		

APC Outcomes

● Overall outcome of APC Asia Protected Areas Charter

An agreed document by APC participants, which will be finalized and agreed on the last day of the congress by all participants.

● Outcomes of six Working Groups

Formulated by incorporating the discussions of each Working Groups, under the responsibility of the Working Groups chairs and Co-Chairs.

Message from Asia for WPC 2014

WG1: Natural disasters and PA

“PA to mitigate natural disaster risk”

WG3: Culture/Traditions and PA

“PA Management in harmony with culture and traditions”

WG5: Int’l Cooperation for PA

“Asia Protected Areas Partnership”

WG2: 2.Tourism and environmental education in PA

“PA as a driver for sustainable tourism”

WG4: Collaborative Management of PA

“Effective PA governance”

WG6: Biodiversity and PA

“Achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”

● Outcome of Youth Session: APC Youth Declaration

APC outputs will be delivered to:

- CBD COP 12
(October 2014, PyeongChang, Korea)
- World Parks Congress
(Nov 2014, Sidney Australia)
- World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
(March 2015, Sendai, Japan)

Programme streams of WPC

- Reaching conservation goals (WCPA, SSC, ZSL, UNEP-WCMC etc.)
- Responding to climate change (US National Park Service, CONANP, CSIRO)
- Improving health and well-being (Parks Victoria , US National Park Service)
- **Supporting human life (FAO, WCPA, MOEJ)**
- Reconciling development challenges (WB, UNDP, WBCSD, CI)
- Enhancing the diversity and quality of governance (GIZ, UNDP, CBD, ICCA Consortium)
- Respecting indigenous and traditional knowledge and culture (NAILSMA, UNU, IPACC)
- Inspiring a new generation (Parks Canada, WCPA, CEC)

Stream 4: Supporting human life

The Stream will highlight the socio-economic contribution and environmental benefits of protected areas for sustainable human development through provision of opportunities to enhance:

- Disaster risk reduction (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
- Food security, nutrition and *insitu* conservation of genetic resources(FAO)
- Water and watershed management (WCPA)