

## ACTING NOW TO STOP THE LOSS OF PRIMARY FORESTS: COUNTERING THE BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CRISES

September 7th from 14:00 to 15:30 CET

Online Forum Session

Central European Time Wed 02:00PM	Congo-Kinshasa (-1h) Wed 01:00PM	British Columbia (-9h) Wed 05:00AM	New York (-6h) Wed 08:00AM
Ecuador Time (-7h) Wed 07:00AM	Brisbane (+8h) Wed 10:00PM	City of London (-1h) Wed 01:00PM	Kenya (+1h) Wed 03:00PM

### Description

This 90-minutes [online forum event](#) will bring to the attention of IUCN's constituency and Congress participants the fundamental importance of primary forests and intact forest landscapes (PF&IFL) in maintaining biodiversity, storing carbon and providing the ecosystem goods and services on which human society depends.

The PF&IFL Task Team, created by WCC-2016-Res-045-EN, developed [IUCN's PF&IFL Policy Statement](#) which was adopted by IUCN's Council in February 2020. This policy statement lays out critical actions that need to be undertaken to stop fragmentation, damage and loss of these forests, and safeguard the terrestrial world's most important guardians of life – a responsibility we all share.

### Outcome

The outcome of this session is to bring attention to the special place that primary forests, including intact forest landscapes, needs to occupy in international policy and the minds of and actions from decision-makers and agents of change. By doing this the event will amplify the importance and prioritise the conservation of these precious forests.

### Format

The event will be divided into three sections moderated by members of the PF&IFL Task Team. After an overview presentation of the Policy Statement, panellists will engage in a discussion on examples of efforts to protect PF&IFL and what are the immediate actions to be taken from the investment, collaboration and non-state actors sides to ensure that PF&IFL remain as such, for the benefit of our future. The audience and panellists will interact through live activities during each of the sections.

### Event Structure

- 1. Introductions** [Moderator: Kristen Walker, Chair of IUCN's CEESP Commission and Co-Chair of the PF&IFL Task Team]
  - Welcome, opening of the event
  - Format and first speaker's introduction
- 2. Overview** [Moderator: Kristen Walker, Chair of IUCN's CEESP Commission and Co-Chair of the PF&IFL Task Team]

Presenter: [Cyril Kormos, PF&IFL Task Team member and Executive Director, Wild Heritage]

  - PF&IFL Policy
  - International policy context
- 3. Case studies of efforts to protect PF&IFL** [Moderator: Tom Evans, Member of the PF&IFL Task Team]

**Questions to be addressed by presenters:**



- what are the context and values of the primary forest that you are presenting on?
- What are the threats to the permanence and retention of this ecosystem?
- What have been the solutions and responses implemented? What are the successes and lessons learned?
- **Democratic Republic of Congo** | Joseph Zambo, Forests and Climate Change Coordinator, Projet Équateur, Woodwell Climate Research Center
- **Brazil** | Barbara Zimmerman Director Kayapo Project, International Conservation Fund of Canada, Environmental Defense Fund
- **Romania** | Zoltan Kun, European Wilderness Officer Frankfurt Zoological Society

#### **INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY FACILITATED BY BORA MASUMBURO**

#### **4. Facilitated discussion on implementation & role of PF&IFL policy to NbS and biodiversity-climate nexus** [Moderator: Brendan Mackey, Co-Chair of the PF&IFL Task Team]

Question to all panellists: What are the fundamental actions that you see in your stream of work that need to happen now to ensure that we halt further loss of primary forests as well as ensure that standing forest remain where they are for the generation to come?

- Peter Shadie, Senior Adviser, World Heritage, IUCN World Heritage Programme.
- Tuntiak Katan Jua, Vice Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin and indigenous leader of the Shuar Nation of Ecuador
- Risa Smith, Co-Chair of the Protected Areas Climate Change Specialist Group, WCPA.
- Irene Suarez, Advisor for the High-Level Climate Action Champion of the COP26 UK Presidency
- Rocio Sanz Cortes, Emergent's Managing Director of Supply, LEAF Coalition
- Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, Global Environment Facility Executive Director