

# Geoconservation-related activities at the 6<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress (Sydney, Australia, 12-19 November 2014)

## Throughout the whole congress:

Modular stand with exhibition on geoconservation initiatives, shared by Geological Society of Australia, European Association for the Conservation of Geological Heritage (ProGEO), Geological Survey of Spain (IGME)

### Activity 1

#### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

Nature-based solutions (NBS) pavilion, 3:30-5:00 pm

#### Local solutions to environmental challenges

Aligning with the objectives of Nature-based solutions in the Jeju Declaration, this presentations on developing new partnerships in ecosystem management (case studies in the areas of mangroves, a barrier dune and estuary, the Pilbara arid zone, and a ria estuary in humid WA), building community links to local natural resources for planning and management, and best practice governance.

Facilitated by Margaret Brocx (Geological Society of Australia)

Involving (a) John Gordon, (b) Roger Crofts, (c) Enrique Diaz-Martinez, and (d) Vic Semeniuk

### Activity 2

#### Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

Protected Planet pavilion, 8:30-10:00 am

#### The importance of geoheritage conservation in protected areas and help available

Presented by the Geoheritage Specialist Group of WCPA, this event will provide briefing and interaction with biodiversity and other non-Earth heritage colleagues on geoheritage conservation in protected areas, covering the reasons for it, role of the Management Categories, background documents available, links to World Heritage and Geoparks, examples of good practice, and the programme of work planned. We will also invite our audience to tell us their needs and how we might work together to develop a Best Practice Guideline on Geoheritage Conservation in PAs, including provision of case studies.

Facilitated by Kyung Sik Woo (WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group)

### Activity 3

e-Poster presentation on stream 8 (available for browsing throughout the congress)

#### Innovating in communication to different types of public in parks: geoheritage interpretation is possible!

Session: New Generation (Capacity Development) rapid fire presentations (Part 2)

Time: 5min presentation between 12:15 and 13:15 (Touchscreen #4, Speaker Order: 7)

### Activity 4

#### Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>

See Room, 8:30-10:00 am

#### Stream 1 session "Using geodiversity for reaching conservation goals"

Convenor: Enrique Díaz-Martínez (ProGEO, IGME, SGE)

- 15 min presentation: **Increasing species conservation and diversity, and better management of coastal wetlands and freshwater ecosystems**, V. Semeniuk and M. Brocx
- 15 min presentation: **Use of geodiversity index maps improves conservation in different types of protected areas: case examples from the Pyrenees**, E. Díaz-Martínez
- 30 min round table & discussion: **Stemming the loss of biodiversity using a multidisciplinary approach: filling the gap between theory, policy and practice**, V. Semeniuk and M. Brocx
- 30 min panel discussion: **The challenges and opportunities of using a geoheritage approach to reaching conservation goals**, Roger Crofts (facilitator), Kyung Sik Woo, Margaret Brocx, Graeme Worboys, Vic Semeniuk, John Gordon, Armstrong Osborne, Enrique Díaz-Martínez

## ***Local solutions to environmental challenges***

Aligning with the objectives of Nature-based solutions in the Jeju Declaration, this presentations on developing new partnerships in ecosystem management (case studies in the areas of mangroves, a barrier dune and estuary, the Pilbara arid zone, and a ria estuary in humid WA), building community links to local natural resources for planning and management, and best practice governance.

### **Key Speakers**

Margaret Brocx, Dr Vic Semeniuk, Pr John Gordon and Dr Roger Croft, Dr Enrique Diaz Martinez and Dr Armstrong Osborne

### **Session / Event Manager**

Margaret Brocx

### **Sessions / Events**

Nature Based Solutions Pavilion

### **Language**

English

### **Location**

Nature Based Solutions Pavilion

**Thursday, November 13th, 3:30 pm - 7:00 pm**

## ***The importance of geoheritage conservation in protected areas and help available***

Presented by the Geoheritage Specialist Group, WCPA, this event will provide briefing and interaction with biodiversity and other non earth heritage colleagues on geoheritage conservation in protected areas. Covering the reasons for it, role of the Management Categories, the materials available, links to World Heritage and Geoparks, examples of good practice, and the programme of work planned. We will also invite our audience to tell us what they need to help them. And to ask them how they might work with us to develop a Best Practice Guideline on Geoheritage Conservation in PAs, including provision of case studies.

### **Session / Event Manager**

Kyung Sik Woo

### **Sessions / Events**

Protected Planet Pavilion

### **Language**

English

### **Location**

Protected Planet Pavilion

**Friday, November 14th, 8:30 am - 10:00 am**

## ***The challenges and opportunities of using a geoh heritage approach to reaching conservation goals and achieving the Aichi Targets, specifically Target 11***

Biodiversity conservation will be enhanced if PA managers have an understanding of how geology determines the geodiversity and hence biodiversity of a region. Recent advances in geoconservation demonstrate how it can help towards preserving biodiversity. With an emphasis on the functional links and their relevance to Aichi targets, this session attempts to answer questions on the links between geodiversity and biodiversity, to set the context and why this matters for PA management and Aichi 11 targets, and what this means in practice for agencies, land managers and field staff.

### **Key Speakers**

Increasing species conservation and diversity, and better management of coastal wetlands and freshwater ecosystems -- V. Semeniuk (Wetlands Research Association Inc., Australia) and M. Brocx (Geological Society of Australia) Use of geodiversity index maps improves conservation in different types of protected areas: case examples from the Pyrenees – E. Díaz-Martínez (Geological Survey of Spain, IGME) Round table discussion/workshop – Stemming the loss of biodiversity using a multidisciplinary approach: filling the gap between theory, policy and practice -- V. Semeniuk (Wetlands Research Association Inc., Australia) and M. Brocx (Geological Society of Australia) Panel Discussion- Title - The challenges and opportunities of using a geoh heritage approach to reaching conservation goals and achieving the Aichi Targets, specifically Target 11 - Roger Crofts (WCPA Emeritus) (facilitator) - Kyung Sik Woo (Kangwon National University, Korea) - Margaret Brocx (Geological Society of Australia) - Graeme Worboys (IUCN/WCPA Vice Chair, SW Pacific delegate and Mountains PA Network) - Vic Semeniuk (Wetlands Research Association Inc., Australia) - John Gordon (Scottish Geodiversity Forum and University of St Andrews, Scotland) - Armstrong Osborne (University of Sydney) - Enrique Díaz-Martínez (ProGEO, Geological Society of Spain and Geological Survey of Spain)

### **Session / Event Manager**

Enrique Díaz-Martínez, European Assoc. for the Conservation of Geological Heritage, ProGEO

### **Sessions / Events**

Stream 1 - Reaching Conservation Goals

### **Language**

English

### **Location**

See Room

**Tuesday, November 18th, 8:30 am - 10:00 am**