



Indigenous Forum Sacred Sites and their custodians: restoring culture and strengthening voices

Tuesday 22st May, 2012, 09:00- 17:30, House of International Relations, Montpellier

Contact Persons:

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Purpose:

To convene a dialogue with custodians and others involved in protecting sacred natural sites. The session will enable discussion on the main themes that arise from the previous workshop on “Sacred lands - dynamic archetypes for changing times” (S35), as well as other issues participants raise during the day.

The main objective of the day is to share strategies for supporting sacred natural sites to face today’s threats. The day will consist of film screenings, group work, plenary discussions and interviews.

There will be:

1. Discussion on three main themes (See below):
 - Revitalizing culture
 - Strengthening custodian voices and
 - The role of non-custodian supporters
2. Launch of the French Language Version of the IUCN-UNESCO Guidelines: Sacred Natural Sites: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers
3. Sacred lands contribution to the ISE Montpellier statement
4. Taking 2-3min video interviews on perspectives on sacred sites held throughout the day for those interested in taking part. See also the IN Perspective project: <http://vimeo.com/42118999>

Reporting and outputs:

Cultural revitalization: A necessary first step

- Strategies and methods for cultural revitalization - Internal and external support

Raising Custodian voices:

- Methods - film, principles, statements, policy events, legal provisions
- National and international legal recognition of sacred sites custodial definitions
- Strategies to support strengthening of custodian voices
- National and international policy and legal recognition of sacred sites custodian definitions

Role of Non-custodian supporters:

- Sacred sites and science (Ethnobiology),

- Protected areas - supportive government agencies
- Globalization threats (mining etc.)
- Policies, legal provision, field support etc.

Programme:

9:00 -10:30	<p>Introduction to the day: Robert Wild, Chair of the IUCN Specialist Group on the Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas. (7 minutes)</p> <p>Opening blessings: Mphatheleni Makaulule, Venda, South Africa (8 minutes)</p> <p>Launch of BPG 16 SNS Guidelines: French language version - 15 mins (3mins/person)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Wild: Chair and Introductions • Mphathelenei Makaulule, Venda Custodian, S.A - sharing Venda use of the guidelines • Ken Wilson, Executive Director The Christensen Fund • Jean-Marc Sinnassamy, GEF Regional Program Manager, Natural Resources Team • Assistant Professor Mame Demba Thiam, Senegal (to be confirmed) <p>Standing on Sacred Ground:</p> <p>A. Film Introduction - 6mins</p> <p>B. Altai, Russia - 8 mins followed by a presentation Danyl Mamvev (10mins)</p> <p>C. Ethiopia - 8 mins followed by a presentation Million Belay (10 mins)</p> <p>Guidelines for Group work:</p>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	<p>Group work</p> <p>Group A. Revitalization of Culture</p> <p>Group B. Strengthening Custodian Voices</p> <p>Group C. Role of Support Groups</p> <p>Group D. Statements and Principles (formulation group)</p>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	<p>D. Hawaii - 8 mins, Presentation Hawaii (10min) N.B. Hawaii attendance tbc (alternative: Zanzibar, Gaia Fdn)</p> <p>Philippines mining - 16mins - Custodian presentation - Dario Novellino (10mins)</p> <p>Group work: Continued (30mins)</p>
15:30 - 16:00	Break
16:00 - 17:210	<p>Plenary - Reporting Back</p> <p>Group A. Revitalisation of Culture</p> <p>Group B. Strengthening Custodian Voices</p> <p>Group C. Role of Support Groups</p> <p>Group D. Statements and Principles (formulation group)</p> <p>Presentation of S35 workshop outputs (reporters)</p>
17:20-17:30	Closing blessings: Mphatheleni Makaulule, or Danil Mamyev, Altai Republic (8 minutes)

Reporting and outputs:

- 1. Inputs to the Montpellier statement:**
 - Pre-development of text
 - Building on IUCN Resolution and other statements
 - Building on Guardian principles
 - Capturing the essence of the discussions and developing a statement and element to put forward to contribute to ISE statement
 - Provisional text presented at the end of the day.
- 2. E-Learning Module: Preliminary Identification of items that may go into a e-learning module (dry run for WCC)**