



Accessibility Plan

IUCN Congress 2025, Abu Dhabi

Introduction and Purpose

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is committed to ensuring an accessible and inclusive environment for all participants at the IUCN Congress 2025. We have worked with partners and local stakeholders to ensure accessibility is thoughtfully planned across both physical and digital aspects of the event. Reflecting the diverse needs of our participants and in line with broader safety measures, our approach supports equitable participation, comfort and wellness throughout the Congress.

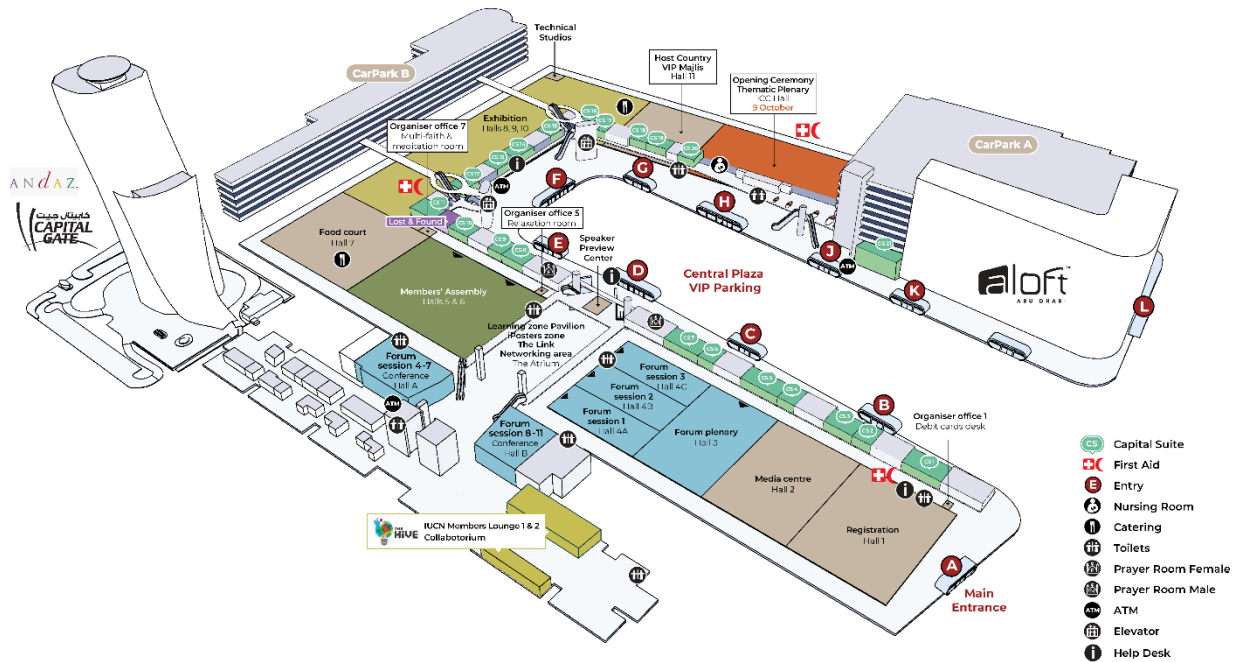
We encourage all participants to familiarise themselves with this information – not only those who may directly benefit from specific measures. Promoting accessibility is a shared responsibility, and understanding the available resources helps foster a more inclusive, supportive environment for everyone during the Congress.





At-a-Glance Information

Venue Map



Contacts at ADNEC and outside

Emergency Contacts:

- On-site at ADNEC: **+97124064444 (24/7)**
- Outside ADNEC:
 - Police: 999
 - Ambulance: 998
 - Fire Department (Civil Defense): 997
 - Coastguard: 996
 - Find and Rescue: 995
 - Electricity failure :991

Abu Dhabi Police's AD999 app: report fires, request an ambulance, or call emergency services via the SOS button. The AD999 app is available on [Google Play](#) and [App Store](#).



Venue Accessibility (ADNEC)

Accessible Toilets

- There are 47 toilets designed for accessibility, available throughout the venue.
- Each is equipped with a DTA alert system connected to the security control room (call cords, individual buzzers, and visual signals).



Ramps

- Ramps with handrails are available in car park CPI.
- Other parking areas are equipped with standard ramps (without handrails).

Lifts

- Lifts are available throughout the venue.

Signage

- Toilets and parking spaces designed for accessibility are clearly marked to ensure easy identification and use by those who need them.
- Directional signage, including pictograms, is available on site.



Drop-off Zones

- Drop-off zones designed for accessibility are located close to the main entrances to support convenient arrival for participants with reduced mobility or access needs.

Circulation Areas

- Corridors and passageways are designed to allow smooth movement for wheelchairs or mobility aids.

Trained Staff

- Trained staff are available on-site at the ADNEC security entry point to assist visitors with specific needs.

Session Room Stages

- ICC Hall, the Forum and Member's Assembly Plenary rooms, the Forum session rooms 1,2,3 and 4 are equipped with either fixed or removable ramps. The other session rooms do not have an elevated stage.
- Central stages located within the Exhibition Hall are also equipped with ramps.

Emergency & Safety

General Arrangements

- Evacuation chairs are available on each floor to support safe evacuation for participants with reduced mobility.
- Intermediate landings in the emergency staircases, protected by fire doors, serve as temporary safe zones.

Fire Procedure

- Immediately activate the nearest fire alarm.
- Call **ADNEC Security at +971024064444 (24/7)**, providing the nature of the emergency and the exact location.
- Alert people in the immediate vicinity.
- Assistance should only be given by trained personnel.
- Never use lifts during emergencies; always use the staircases.
- Follow the official building evacuation route plan (available from ADNEC).



Signage and Assembly Points

- In case of fire or evacuation alarm, follow the green “Exit” signs with the running man pictogram.
- There are 8 assembly points within ADNEC and 2 additional assembly points at the Marina.
- Participants should follow the instructions of ADNEC Security and fire marshals to reach the nearest assembly point safely.



PEEP – Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan

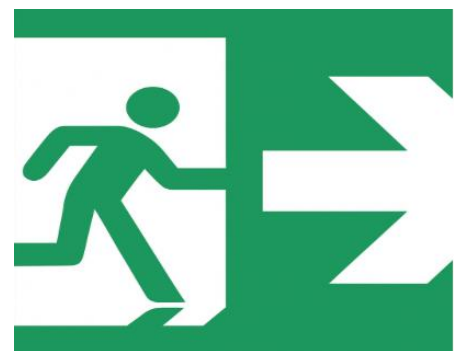
- Any participant with reduced mobility or reduced response capacity in the event of an alert should have a **Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP)**.
- Please contact us as early as possible at congresslogistics@iucn.org to arrange this personalised plan with our team.

Evacuation Procedures for Those Supporting Participants with Reduced Mobility

If you are supporting a participant with reduced mobility, please make sure:

Step 1 – Move to a Safe Location

- Accompany the individual to a safe landing protected by fire doors.
- If the way is clear and safe, the person may proceed down at their own pace, if possible.



Step 2 – Notify Security Immediately

- Immediately inform the incident manager by calling ADNEC Security Control at **+971024064444 (24/7)**.

Step 3 – Wait for Assistance

- If necessary, emergency services will intervene to manage the evacuation.
- In those instances, a trained staff member will remain with the individual to provide informed support and help ensure they feel safe and reassured until further assistance arrives.
- If the way is clear, the individual may proceed down at their own pace, if possible

First Aid, Medical and Well-being Support

Injury or Illness

- If you encounter or witness an injury or illness, please inform ADNEC Security Control at **+971024064444 (24/7)**.
- You may also proceed directly to the ADNEC First Aid Clinic, located near Hall 8 or one of the secondary First Aid Points available onsite.



Wheelchair Loans

- Wheelchairs can be temporarily borrowed from first aid points.
- Please contact us in advance at congresslogistics@iucn.org to reserve a wheelchair.

Nursing room

A nursing room is available on the ICC Balcony (mezzanine floor).

Other Assistance Needs and Services

- If you require specific assistance beyond the provision of a wheelchair (such as guidance, support, or help related to a medical condition), please inform us as early as possible at congresslogistics@iucn.org.
- Please note that such requests may incur a cost, which includes the presence of a **nurse or paramedic at AED 226 per hour, with a minimum shift of 4 hours.**

Dedicated facilities are available to support participants who may experience sensory overload:

Low-sensory space – OASIS Lounge – Exhibition Hall 7

Noise-cancelling headsets providing relaxation music are available, help participants reducing stress, enhancing concentration, and promoting a sense of calm.

Relaxation Room – Organiser Office 5 (towards Hall 5)

A designated quiet space with a comfortable and tranquil setting and a massage chair, allowing participants to rest and restore in a low-stimulation environment.

Accessible and Inclusive Food Options

- A wide range of meals is available to meet different dietary needs and preferences.
- Meals accommodate allergy-related, cultural, and medical dietary requirements.
- 70% of meals are vegetarian or vegan – flavourful, locally sourced where possible, and lower in environmental impact.
- Cup lids for hot beverages are available upon request.
- Straws are available upon request for participants who need them.

Accommodation

K.I.T. Group, the official Congress housing agency, has selected nearly 30 hotels, available for booking through the [Congress hotel booking platform](#). These hotels have been chosen for their strategic locations and the quality of their facilities, and also because they offer rooms accessible to participants with reduced mobility. These rooms are available upon request at congress.hotels@iucn-events.org.



Communication & Awareness

Available Materials

- All Health and Safety measures in place at ADNEC are available through videos both in [English](#) and [Arabic](#).
- The overall ADNEC evacuation plan is available upon request or can be consulted at strategic points on site.

Visual Aids

Official signage, directional pictograms and standard icons are placed throughout the venue to facilitate orientation and understanding of instructions.

Interpretation and Digital Accessibility

During the Sessions

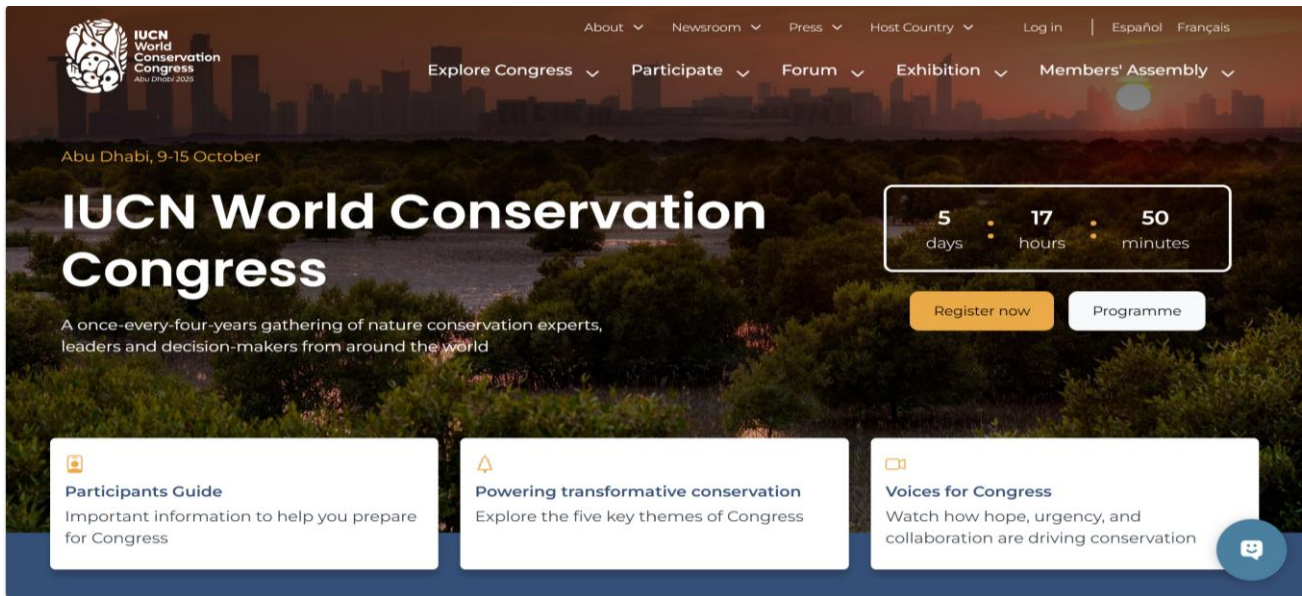
- All sessions will offer simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish. Interpretation will be provided either on site by interpreters, remotely, or through AI solutions.
- When AI interpretation is used, live captioning will also be available through the Congress App and on the Virtual Platform. Please note that there will be no subtitles in the original floor language.
- Sessions taking place in the Exhibition Hall, along with any interpretation, are managed directly by each booth owner where the above solutions might not be available.

Congress website

- The Congress website (iucncongress2025.org) is designed to be accessible, inclusive, and user-friendly.
- Regularly checked against recognised Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) standards.
- All images and videos include clear alt text to support screen readers.
- Compatible with screen reader technology (logical page structures, headings, and links).
- High-contrast colour schemes used; flashing or rapidly animated elements are avoided.



- Text can be resized without disrupting layout.
- Navigation is clear and consistent, with descriptive menu and link text.
- Available in the three official IUCN languages (English, French, Spanish) to support international access.



Communication in Advance for Better Congress Experience

To best address your needs, please send any requests as early as possible to:

congresslogistics@iucn.org. This includes:

- Reservation of wheelchairs
- Requests for specific assistance
- Preparation of personalised PEEPs
- Any other questions or assistance you might need during the Congress