



# AGENDA

	Activities
<b>10:00–10:45</b>	<p><b>Registration &amp; Networking</b></p> <p>A cultural welcome showcase presented by the Department of Culture &amp; Tourism – Abu Dhabi, celebrating heritage and welcoming participants to the host country, led by the Energy Team and Host Country Team, helps break the ice and connect youth delegates before the Summit officially begins.</p>
<b>11:00–11:05</b>	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b></p> <p>Welcome, context, and acknowledgments to set the stage for the Summit, led by the Masters of Ceremony:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mohsen Mohammed Al Sakkaf (UAE), Soil Quality Analyst at Environment Agency–Abu Dhabi</li><li>• Sara Pineda (Mexico), Biologist and National Geographic Explorer</li></ul>
<b>11:05–11:30</b>	<p><b>High-level voices for youth</b></p> <p>Inspirational messages from leaders and allies highlighting the importance of youth in shaping global conservation</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• His Excellency Mohammed Saeed Al Nuaimi, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment</li><li>• His Excellency Khalid Mohammed Al Nuaimi, Director of the Federal Youth Authority</li><li>• Dr. Grethel Aguilar – Director General, IUCN</li><li>• Dr. Hany El-Shaer – Regional Director, IUCN ROWA</li><li>• Laila Mostafa Abdullatif – Director General, Emirates Nature–WWF</li></ul> <p><b>Youth Powering Transformative Conservation Video</b></p> <p>A dynamic video featuring young people from around the world with the unifying call: “Together, we are Youth Powering Transformative Conservation.</p>



<b>11:30–12:00</b>	<p><b>Why we are here</b></p> <p>This session highlights IUCN’s achievements on youth empowerment and opens space for dialogue on the future role of youth within the Union.</p> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Faria Tarus – IUCN ESARO and YAC member</li></ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Grethel Aguilar – Director General, IUCN</li><li>• Diana Garlytska – YAC Chair, IUCN</li></ul>
<b>12:00–12:45</b>	<p><b>Youth on the Frontlines of Nature Conservation</b></p> <p>This panel brings together youth leaders and grassroots activists from around the world to share how they are shaping a sustainable future.</p> <p><b>Moderators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Georges Habib – Young Professional Focal Point for West Asia, IUCN CEESP</li><li>• Fatima El-Aaraby – Regional Focal Point for Africa, IUCN CEESP; member of the GYBN International Team</li></ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• H.E Razan Al Mubarak – IUCN President</li><li>• Ahmad (Pakistan/Canada) – Deputy Chair of IUCN CEESP TGER; founder of youth-led initiatives on pollution abatement and nature-based solutions.</li><li>• Jessica Grefa (Ecuador) – Indigenous Kichwa biologist and land defender; master’s in Political Ecology; active member of Piatúa Resiste.</li><li>• Humaira Agibo Badrú (Mozambique) – Project Officer at BIOFUND; experienced in innovative financing for biodiversity and youth leadership in conservation.</li></ul>



<b>12:45:13:30</b>	Lunch break
<b>13:30–14:20</b>	<p><b>Voices that lead</b></p> <p>A youth-focused session where six young leaders share TED-style stories of courage, authenticity, and impact in 5-minute segments.</p> <p><b>Moderators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Georges Habib – Young Professional Focal Point for West Asia, IUCN CEESP</li> <li>Fatima El-Aaraby – Regional Focal Point for Africa, IUCN CEESP; member of the GYBN International Team</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saed Hanani (Palestine) – Climate leader and founder of Foras; UN Youth Climate Leader at COP28.</li> <li>Vania Tejeda Gómez (Peru) – Biodiversity Specialist, Smithsonian; Executive Director, NODO Conservation.</li> <li>Muneef Al Shammari (Kuwait) – Founder of We Plant and Protect; IUCN and RSCN member.</li> <li>Tewende Emmanuel Sawadogo (Burkina Faso) – Environmental journalist and climate activist; MTE Climate Ambassador 2023.</li> <li>Sheherazade Jayadi “Shera” (Indonesia) – Co-Executive Director, PROGRES; Fulbright Scholar and One Young World Ambassador.</li> <li>Noura Omar Alnaqbi (UAE) – Emirates Global Aluminium Youth Council member with expertise in sustainability, environmental management, and corporate decarbonization strategies.</li> </ul>
<b>14:20–15:00</b>	<p><b>Financing Youth-Led Conservation: Bridging the Gap Between Youth and Funders</b></p> <p>This fireside chat brings together youth leaders and funders to explore how resources can more effectively support youth-led conservation and climate action.</p> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <p>Sylvia Gan – Learning Manager, Youth Climate Justice Fund</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swetha Stotra Bhashyam – Youth advocate and conservationist</li> <li>Uxue Urteaga – Partnership Analyst, Global Environment Facility</li> <li>Sheherazade Jayadi – Co-Executive Director, PROGRES</li> <li>Aisha AlZarooni – ESG Communities Lead, Emirates NBD</li> <li>Zahra AlSuwaidi – ESG Strategy &amp; Governance Manager, Emirates NBD</li> </ul>



	<b>Bridging Generations: Empowering Young Conservation Leaders in the UAE</b>  This High level discussion will explore how mentorship, supportive policies, and well-designed programmes can inspire youth to assume leadership in nature conservation, ensuring the UAE continues to be a global model for youth-driven environmental action
<b>15:00–15:40</b>	<b>Moderator</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arwa Diab advances environmental education and youth engagement at the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi.</li></ul> <b>Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shaikha Osha bint Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Hamdan AL Nahyan (Youth Student – who won a gold medal at the Greenwich Olympiad for Design and Innovation)</li><li>• H.E Khalid Mohammed Al Nuaimi, Director of the Federal Youth Authority</li><li>• H.E. Amal Abdulrahim – Assistant Undersecretary for the Support Services Sector, Chief AI and Innovation Office</li><li>• Khuloud Hasan Al Nuwais – Chief Sustainability Officer at Emirates Foundation &amp; Secretary General , Ne'ma National Steering committee</li></ul>
<b>15:40–15:50</b>	<b>Icebreaker led by the Energy Team</b>
<b>15:50–16:30</b>	<b>Youth Voices: Shaping the Future</b>  Led by the Chair and members of the IUCN Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), this interactive session invites all participants to share their perspectives on youth engagement in the Union. Using guiding questions and participatory tools, youth will co-create key inputs that will form part of the official youth outcomes of the Congress, to be presented at the Members' Assembly.
<b>16:30–17:00</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>