



IUCN World Conservation Congress Receives ISO 20121 Sustainable Event Certification



“The IUCN Congress 2016 outlined the roadmap needed to place our planet on a more sustainable path. This certification demonstrates that, together with our Hawai‘i hosts, we walk the talk. The IUCN Congress has set an example for other large global events worldwide.”

—Inger Andersen, IUCN Director General

Sustainable Pacific Consulting, a Hawai‘i-based firm, and iCompli Sustainability, a division of BPA Worldwide performed the independent third-party certification of IUCN’s compliance with the ISO 20121 standard.



SUSTAINABLE
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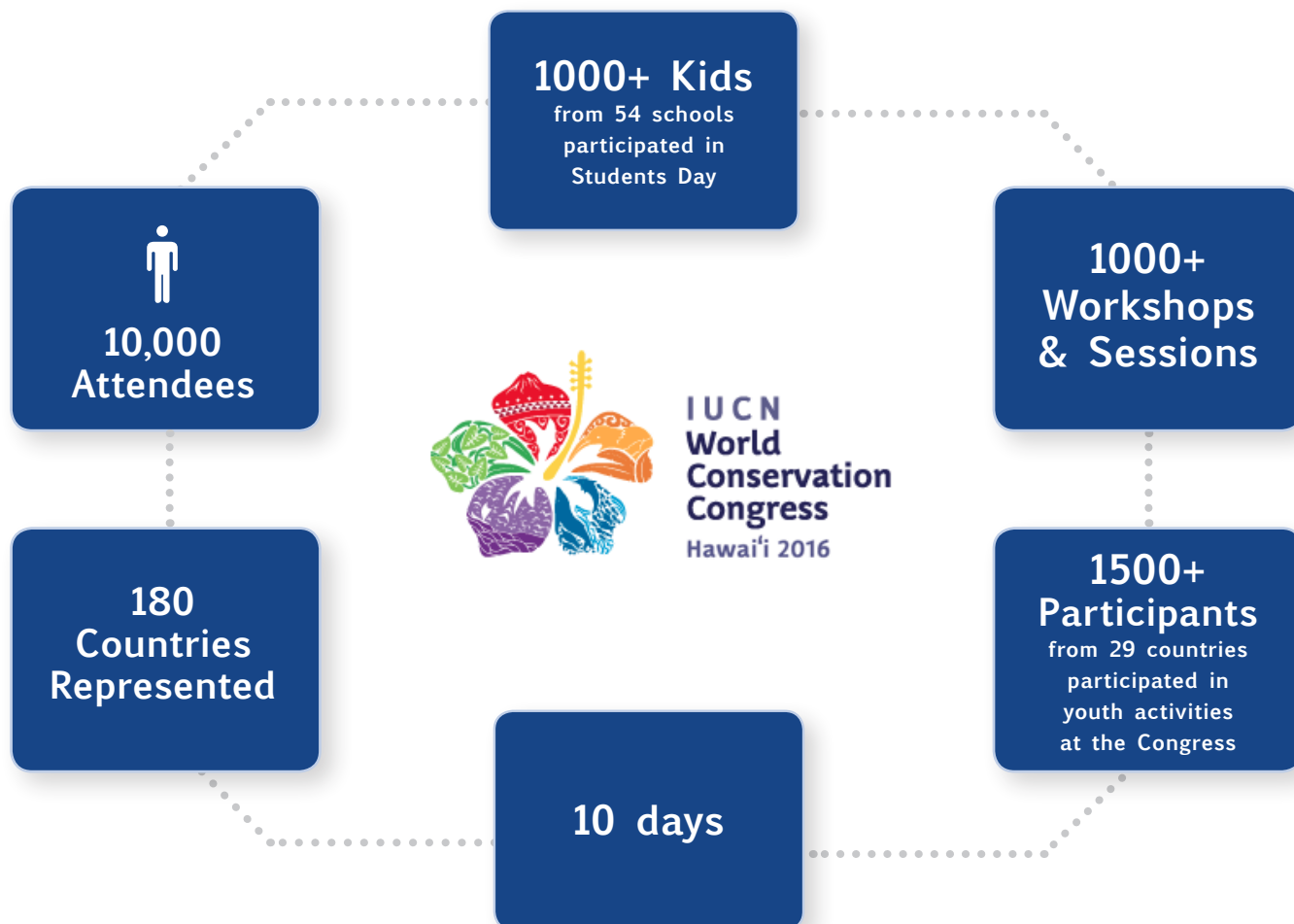
What is ISO 20121?

The ISO 20121 certification is an international sustainability standard that was first introduced at the London Summer Olympic Games in 2012. It provides a management framework based on the “triple bottom line”—environmental, social, and economic impacts. The framework helps integrate sustainability into the management practices and processes at events.

ISO 20121 helps organizations plan and implement events that are financially viable while reducing negative environmental and social impacts. The standards help minimize resource use, such as waste, energy, carbon, and water, while actively engaging with stakeholders.

IUCN: By the numbers

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016 was the largest Congress in IUCN history and the largest international conservation event ever held in the United States. IUCN and the Hawai'i Host Committee were committed to making the event as sustainable as possible and using the event to leave a model for future events to follow in both Hawai'i and elsewhere.





ISO 20121 achievements at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016



Stakeholder engagement

IUCN demonstrated it understood the needs and expectations of interested parties. It closely engaged with the Hawai'i Host Committee's Green Team to develop a sustainability action plan with objectives and examples of actions and issues for key stakeholders such as the venue, the IUCN Secretariat, host country suppliers, hotels, and delegates. IUCN made their event sustainability information available to all stakeholders.



Sustainable operations

IUCN documented its operational procedures to plan, implement and control the processes needed to meet the sustainability requirements. Its online systems and the "My Green IUCN Congress Guidebook" are evidence of the plan to produce a sustainable event.



Leadership

IUCN publicly displayed its sustainability goals on the IUCN website, and IUCN Director General Inger Andersen and Congress management team sent regular emails to internal stakeholders to ensure efforts to make the Congress a sustainable event.



Resource conservation

IUCN worked to reduce its environmental impacts by actively managing its energy, carbon, and waste footprints.



Sustainability planning

ISO 20121 focuses on the requirements IUCN sets for itself to address environmental, social and economic risks and opportunities that are most significant to its goal of sustainability. The IUCN Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics for the Secretariat, as well as the Policy and Procedure on Procurement of Goods and Services, demonstrated IUCN's controls for legal compliance.



Sustainable supply chain

IUCN was guided by a sustainable procurement policy that focused on purchasing local products and contracting local suppliers. IUCN sent requests to participants and exhibitors encouraging sustainability in their travel, supply, and hotel accommodation decisions.

Carbon mitigation

16,935.97 CHF donated by 328 participants = 51.63 CHFpp and 54268CHF donated by IUCN for full onsite emissions and IUCN-paid travel (919 people)

Participant accommodation

18 out of 25 hotels participated in the green programme. 95% of the hotels in less than 30 min walking distance.

Local food

All meals were locally sourced as much as possible. Vegetarian meals: 90% Non-vegetarian meals: 49%



ZERO WASTE

The IUCN Congress reclaimed 97% (22,242 lbs) of the waste from the event, diverting it from the landfill or incineration.

97% RECLAIMED WASTE (22,242 lbs)

Mobile app to navigate Congress instead of printed Programme

Glass Bottles: 2,438 lbs

0% of food service containers and utensils made from single-use plastic

Aluminum Cans: 372 lbs

Composted: 4,191 lbs

Cardboard: 9,000 lbs

Paper: 43 lbs

100% recyclable exhibitions, and pavilions reused by local schools or composted by local farms

Food Waste: 5,535 lbs

Paper consumption from printing and photocopying reduced by 96.5% compared to the 2012 Congress



Acknowledgments

Thank you to everyone who provided information to support the documentation of the certification, including the IUCN congress, participants, suppliers, Hawai'i Convention Center, and Hawai'i Pacific University interns.

About IUCN

IUCN was created in 1948 and is the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, a leading provider of conservation data, assessments, and analysis. Every four years, IUCN hosts the World Conservation Congress, a global event that brings together thousands of participants. The event was held in Honolulu, Hawai'i in September 2016. www.iucn.org, www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org

About Sustainable Pacific Consulting

Sustainable Pacific Consulting (SPC) is a Hawai'i-based Certified B Corporation specializing in sustainability consulting, leadership strategy, and training. SPC's expertise and knowledge combine business competency with sustainability to develop tangible solutions that address the reality of business needs and meet business goals while positively impacting the local culture, community, and natural ecosystem. www.sustypacific.com.

About iCompli Sustainability

iCompli is a division of BPA Worldwide, a not-for-profit auditing organization established in 1931 to audit circulation for publishers, advertisers and their agencies. Today, BPA's audit services have expanded to include external assurance of government and industry standards and independent verification of companies' technology and service claims. iCompli provides independent third-party certification for leading global sustainability standards for the meeting and event industry including ISO 20121 and the ASTM Green Meetings Standards. www.icomplisustainability.com

About ISO

The International Organization for Standardization, commonly referred to as ISO, is an international standard-setting body composed of representatives from various national standards organizations. Founded in 1947, the organization promotes worldwide proprietary, industrial and commercial standards. It has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.