

## Outline of structure and tasks for the Naturalliance network in 2022.

### *Background*

Much of life on earth is in danger because humanity is not living sustainably. This problem is due mainly to lack of adequate understanding and poor governance. In IUCN, a multilingual system for global-with local networking has been built to improve understanding. The system also showcases governance, here for gaining and deploying knowledge of the environment, which could provide a model for other issues. The system is used to run the Naturalliance network which (like Wikipedia) depends entirely on volunteers and is thus in the civic sector, not beholden to the state (public) or the commercial (private) sectors. Guidance is by a small team of SUME<sup>1</sup> and ESUG<sup>2</sup> members, who work by consensus at global level. Information is provided through satellite sites, in local languages, which can also collect local knowledge and opinions.

### *1. Composition of Naturalliance steering (responding to SUME leadership):*

ConCom drafts and approves general Content, also guiding satellite site teams (chair RK);  
DevCom assesses Development requirements and arranges training (chair JM);  
TechCom in which ConCom, DevCon chairs liaise with Anatrack to enhance and service software.

### *2. Satellite site content and management.*

The emphasis is to provide innovative ideas (and when possible, links to services) that promote conservation through sustainable use, by addressing challenges such as:

- How can local people gain opportunities by adding value sustainably from nature?
- Where nature needs protection, how can local livelihoods benefit, e.g. through tourism?
- Where nature provides a harvest, how can that encourage improvement to ecosystems?

Sites should be respectful of all who can benefit nature, as cultivators, harvesters or watchers and line-management responsibility is defined for sites, which are IUCN publications. ConCom and DevCon chairs answer to IUCN group chairs. They supervise one Lead Editor per site, who has sole privilege to publish & moderates the site forum unless steering has agreed otherwise.

### *3. Satellite site teams and tasks.*

A survey of translators and site editors, run after two years of development, contained questions about ease of translation, use of software and attitude to content, also on opinions about sustainable use activities and system improvements. This helped identify satellite team tasks of:

- Coordination: making contact with groups of Sustainable Use beneficiaries (practitioners);
- Collation: engaging with ecological & social scientists to build a resource base for content;
- Communication: making contact with sympathetic media influencers; and, of course,
- Translation: obtaining a back-up translator as well as liaising with network manager.

The tasks and other suggestions in the survey could be supported by a Forum for each team.

### *4. An overall Forum for all team members and a Forum for each satellite site.*

Initial forums are for cultural regions based on major languages (Arabic, English, French, German, Russian, Spanish) and may contain teams for several sites. Additional members of SUME and an international member of IUCN<sup>3</sup> will be added to help with the team tasks (after training if required) and especially to generate content of interest in the regions. Team members will not be asked to create Naturalliance content for more than 1 hour/month. If more help is needed, there will be a contract for a small fee. Forums can also provide training, e.g. on:

- The impending IPBES Assessment on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity;
- Implementing Ecosystem Approach and AAPG through Charters;
- Scenario examples for explaining contentious issues.

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<sup>1</sup> Thematic Group on Sustainable Use and Management of Ecosystems in IUCN-CEM.

<sup>2</sup> European Sustainable Use Group, a spin-out from IUCN.

<sup>3</sup> International Association for Falconry & Conservation of Birds of Prey, an international member of IUCN.