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#GGSD
Forum

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(IUCN)

Stewart Maginnis has worked on sustainable development and biodiversity conservation for 35 years.

During the first half of his career he acquired substantial applied conservation and rural development experience, with over 15 years of field-based implementation in Tanzania, Sudan, Ghana and Costa Rica. He led the development and promotion of “forest landscape restoration” (FLR) – one of the first “purpose-built” Nature-based Solutions - to which over 70 countries have committed 210 million hectares under the Bonn Challenge. Over the last 12 years, he and his team at IUCN have worked on the framing, definition and promotion of Nature Based Solutions and have worked with many governments and non-state actors to support its application to climate change, food & water security and disaster risk reduction. A key output from these activities has been the development the first global NbS Standard that was launched by IUCN in July 2020 after an extensive two-year consultation process.

Stewart was educated at Oxford University and Queen’s University Belfast. He has worked for government, private sector and non-profit organizations. He is currently the Global Director for IUCN’s Nature-based Solutions Group, with responsibility for the organization’s work on Water, Marine, Forests, Business Engagement, Social Science and Ecosystem Management.