

IUCN Group To Explore Conservation Ethics

A three-day workshop on "Ethics, Culture, and Sustainable Development" has been scheduled for the World Conservation Strategy Conference meeting May 31-June 5 in Ottawa, Canada. Co-conveners of the workshop are Ron Engel, chairman of the IUCN Working Group on Ethics, Humanities, and the Arts, Commission on Education, and Peter Jacobs, Programme Chairman of the Conference.

The Working Group has been asked to write a new section for the World Conservation Strategy on the role of ethics and culture in conservation; its members have been invited to write brief papers on the subject, to be published as a "reader." Issues to be dealt with in the reader include: (1) why explicit concern for ethics and culture (including religion and the arts) is necessary for the success of world conservation; (2) critiques of the World Conservation Strategy – its principles and goals – from the standpoint of ethical and cultural concerns; (3) the contributions and limitations of traditional cultures to sustainable development, and new sources for viable ethics, and (4) specific initiatives in the area of ethics and culture that can promote the implementation of the World Conservation Strategy.