



# Infrastructure and Nature

at the IUCN World Conservation Congress

3-11 September 2021

## Equity, Ecosystems and Scarcity- The Global Sand Crisis and Infrastructure

8 SEPTEMBER 2021 | 19:00-20:30 CEST (+2 GMT) | Onsite and livestreamed

To watch the livestream, [click here](#)

Sand is the world's most consumed raw material after water and an essential ingredient to our everyday lives. It is central for the construction of roads, bridges, and buildings and is fundamental in the manufacturing of glass and silicon computer chips. Yet the world is facing a growing sand shortage without readily available alternative materials. Construction booms have led to dramatic increases in demand for sand, leading to rising tensions in communities and degraded ecosystems. As the global demand for this resource continues to rise faster than natural sources can sustain, it is crucial to manage it sustainably.

### Moderator:



**PASCAL PEDUZZI**  
Director, United Nations Environment Programme GRID-Geneva; Professor, University of Geneva

### Welcome:



**MIKE MCMAHON**  
Strategic Partnerships Administrator  
Northwestern University (ISEN)

### Speakers:



**HALINISHI YUSUF**  
Managing Director  
Makueni County Sand Conservation and Utilization Authority in Kenya



**DEEPTHI WICKRAMASINGHE**  
Professor  
Zoology and Environment Sciences at University of Colombo, Sri Lanka



**ANTONIS ANTONIOU LATOUROS**  
President of the European Aggregates Association



**KATE DAWSON**  
ESRC Research Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science

