**Committe:**United Nations Development Programme(UNDP)

**Agenda Item:** Eliminating Vulnerability and Reducing Inequalities and Exclusion

Iceland is an island and Europen country located in the North of the Atlantic Ocean, southeast of Greenland and northwest of Scandinavia and Great Britian. Iceland is surrounded by the Artic Ocean to the North. It is the most sparsely populated country in Europe, with a population of 320.000 and a surface area of 103,000km2. The capital and largest city is Reykjavik, more than two-thirds of the population lives in and around this city located in the southwest of the country.

Iceland becomes newest partner to UNDP’s next phase of the Climate Promise: From Pledge to Impact, that will support at least 100 countries on delivering their national climate pledge. With this contribution, Iceland joins Germany, Sweden, Belgium, EU, Spain and Italy as UNDP’s newest Climate Promise funding partner supporting the next phase of this pioneering and groundbreaking initiative. Iceland’s new contribution is over twenty US dolars for the Climate Promise partners initiative to be completed for the next phase in 2021. The initiative is also a contribution to the NDC Partnership, a promoter of countries and organizations collaborating on climate change. NDC’s, of which UNDP is one of the largest.

Iceland have got some weaknesses about development. These weaknesses are volcanic and seismic risks, small and very open economy: constrained monetary policy, concentration of production and exports (aluminum and marine products accounted for 73% of all goods exports in 2022), volatile activity due to dependence on tourist inflows and wage growth higher than productivity growth. We can find some solutions for these problems. These solutions are abstract alongside their contribution to biodiversity conservation, protected and conserved areas are increasingly recognized as important sources of a wide range of benefits, or ecosystem services, that humans gain from intact, natural ecosystems. Well-governed and well-managed protected areas are among the most effective tools for maintaining ecosystems – such as forests, natural grasslands, coastal areas and freshwater wetlands – and their associated ecosystem services.

This report explores how protected areas contribute to achieving the SDGs. It does this by analyzing case studies from PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet, an initiative of IUCN and several partners that aims to provide knowledge and facilitate exchange and learning on successful approaches in conservation and sustainable development, and to support the broader application of proven solutions.