



WCOPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS

Scaling Ambition for Nature

Brent Mitchell, Vice Chair
IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

Agenda

- Brief intro to IUCN WCPA (for new Members)
- Current global priorities and programs

- Regional priorities and activities (Zolton Kun)

Commissions of the IUCN



WCPA Mandate (2021-2024)

Mission

To develop and provide scientific, technical and policy advice and advocate for global and national systems of marine, freshwater and terrestrial protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) that result in successful outcomes for the conservation of biodiversity, based on principles of sound design, good management, and equitable governance.



WCPA's Strategic Approach

- **Ensure Protected and Conserved Areas (PCAs) result in effective conservation outcomes**
- **Build PCA skills, capacity and resources to deliver on conservation outcomes**
- **Promote PCAs as natural solutions to address societal challenges**
 - **Biodiversity**
 - **Climate**
 - **Health**

WCPA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

WCPA is divided into 12 operational regions. WCPA members are linked to a Commission region according to their registered Country of residence.

WCPA currently has eight Themes, each with a Thematic Vice Chair who sits on the WCPA Steering Committee. Themes work on broad areas of enquiry and key strategic directions towards meeting the WCPA mandate.

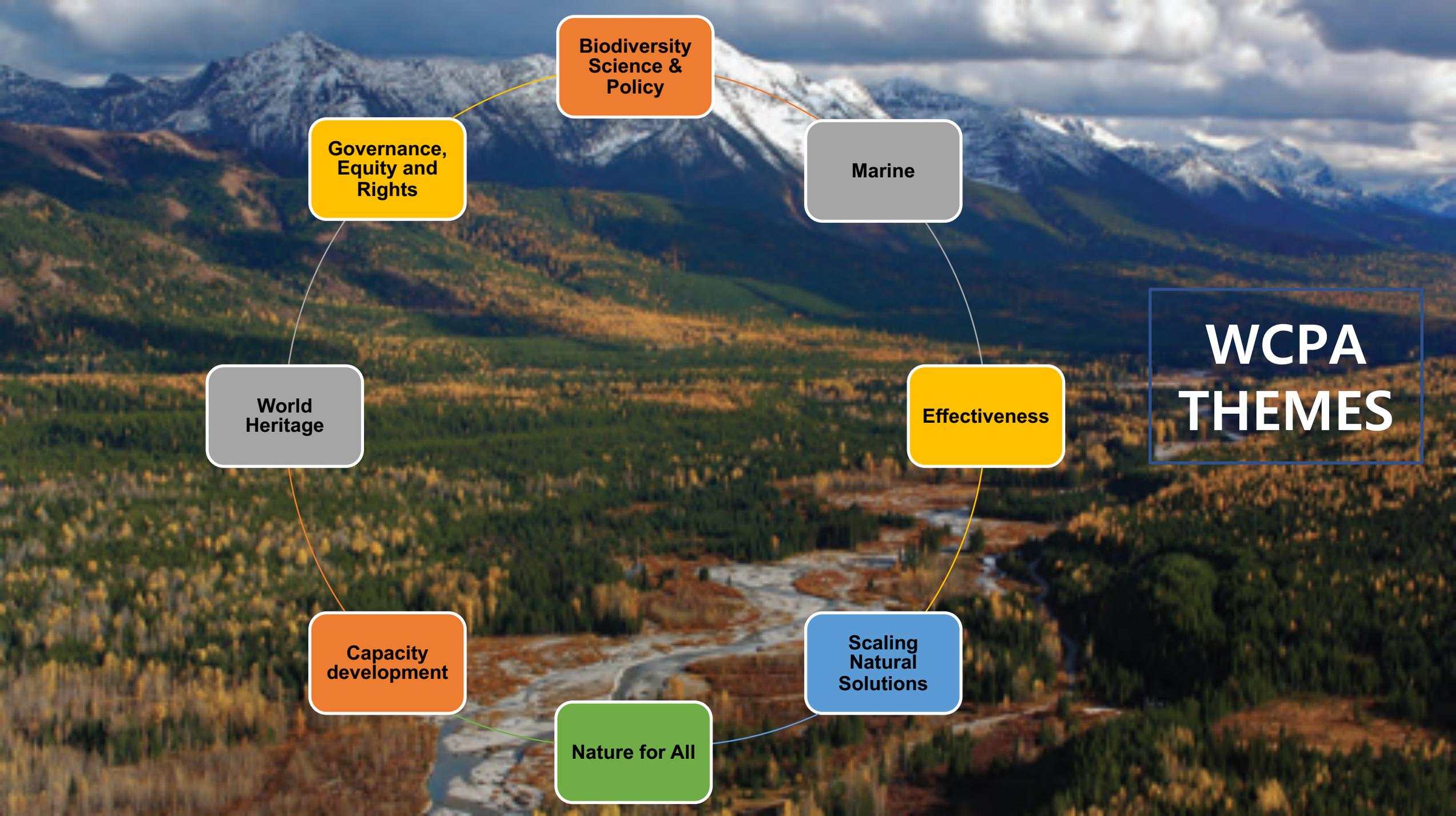
WCPA Specialist Groups work on long term thematic activities relating to specific topics of study addressed by the Commission mandate.

WCPA Task Forces work on a specific issue, usually within a determined time period.

Special projects are crafted around cross-cutting priority topics within the Commission and can be either short or long-term in nature.

Thanks to outgoing Steering Committee members:
Oliver Chassot - Vice Chair, Communications
Mike Wong - Regional Vice Chair, North America
Sabela Lindani - Regional Vice Chair, East & Southern Africa





WCPA THEMES



**Biodiversity
Science &
Policy**

Marine

Effectiveness

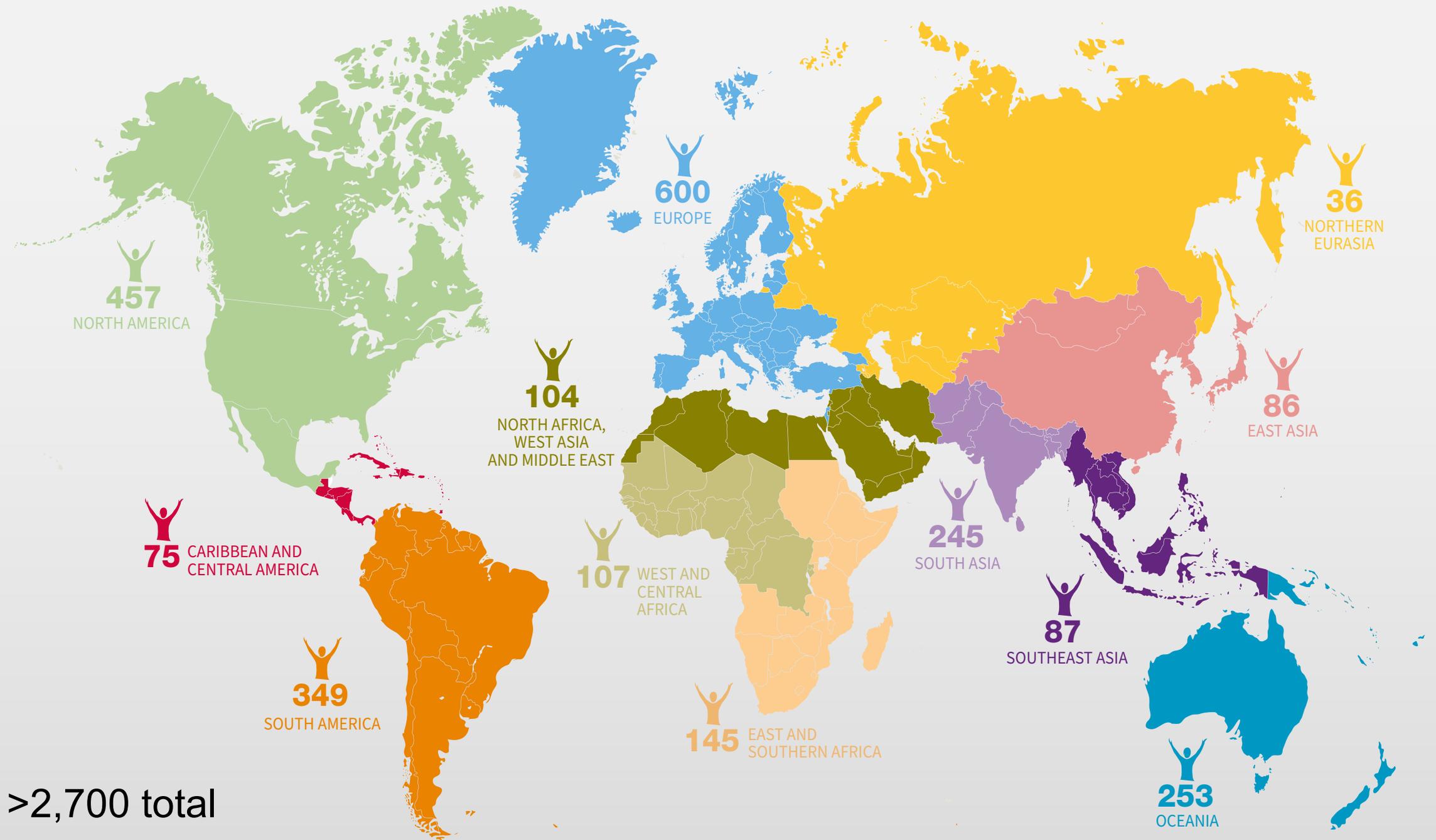
**Scaling
Natural
Solutions**

Nature for All

**Capacity
development**

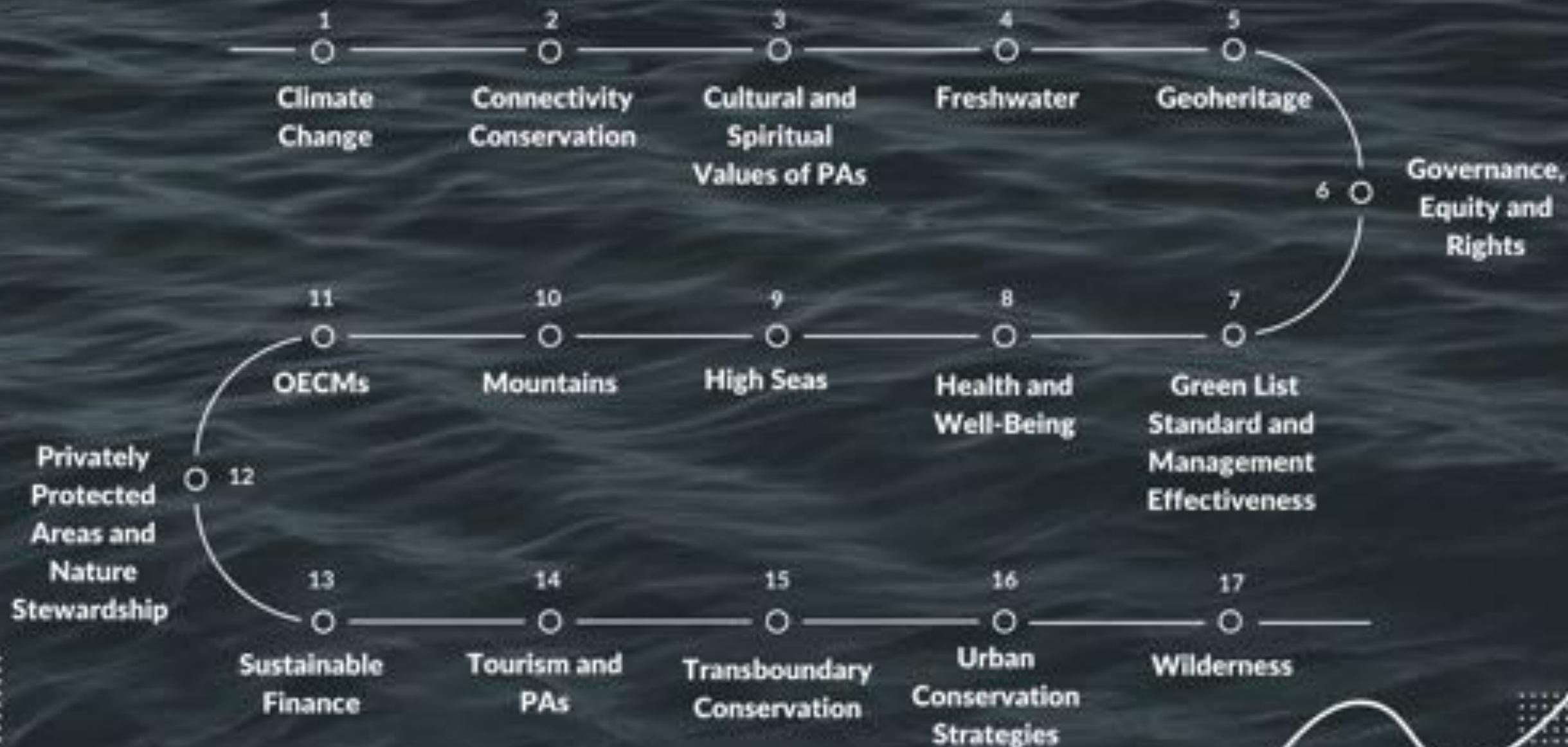
**World
Heritage**

**Governance,
Equity and
Rights**



>2,700 total

IUCN WCPA SPECIALIST GROUPS



IUCN WCPA TASK FORCES

NEW!- in process
Restoration TF
Spatial Planning TF
Protected Planet SG



Protected area
downgrading,
downsizing, and
degazettement



Ecological Integrity
Joint with CEM



Joint with SSC
Important Marine
Mammal Areas



Effectiveness



One Health



Human-Willdife Conflict

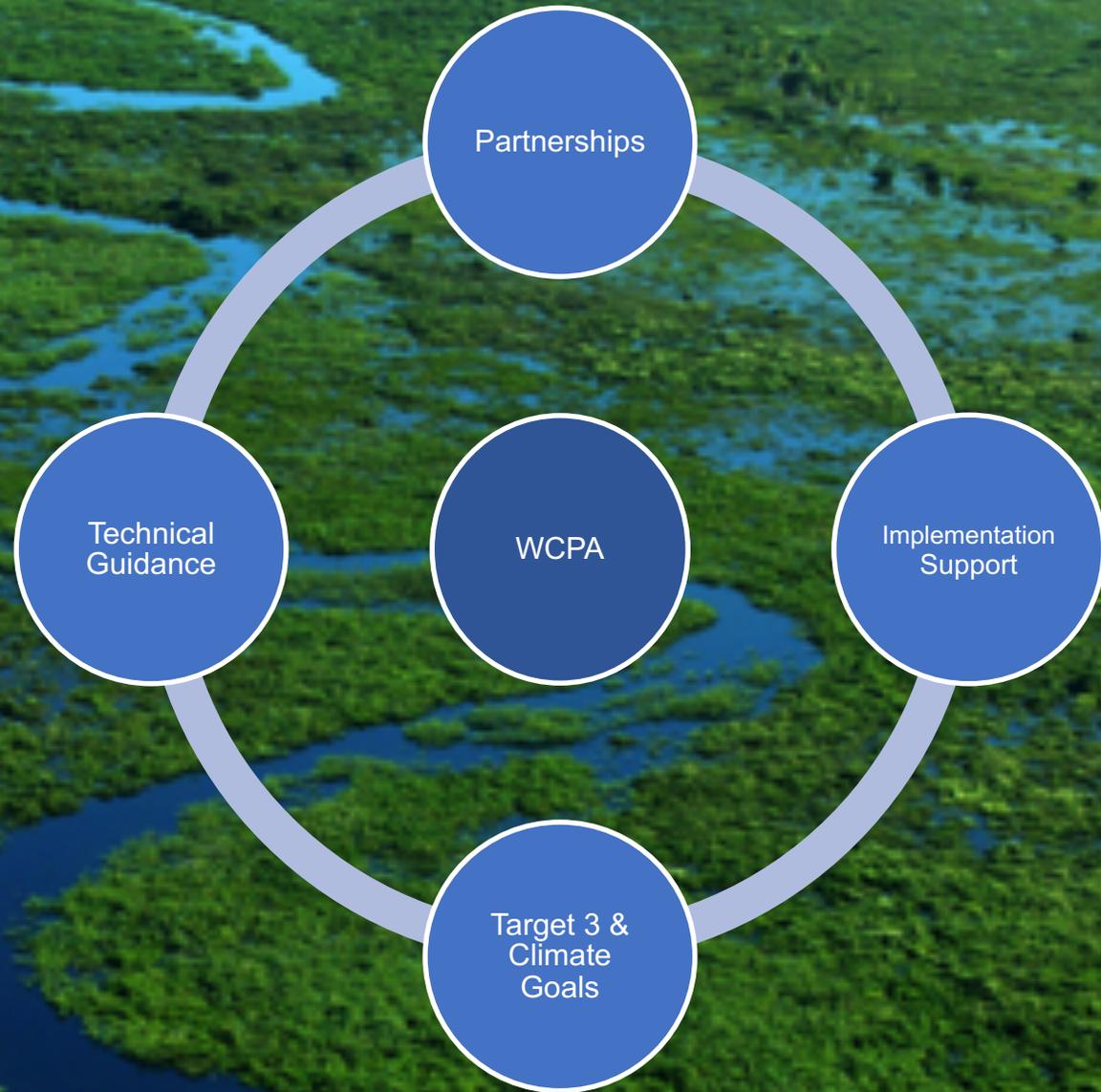


Harmonization

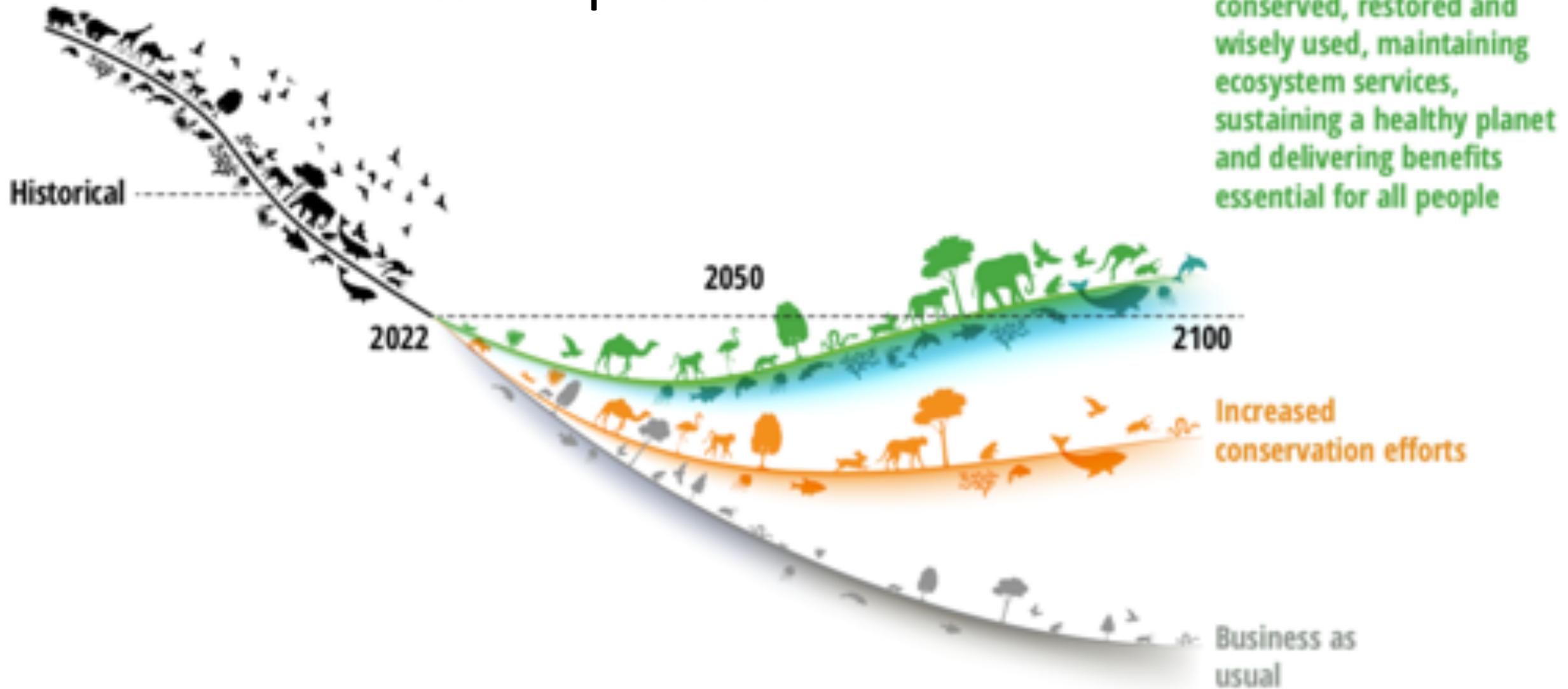




Supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework



The imperative



Observations on 30x30

- Reverse the curve
- Three pathways (PAs, OECMs, Indigenous and traditional territories)
- Effectiveness, with equity, is key
- Global target

Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%

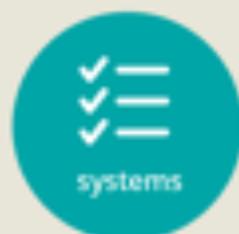


Where

Especially areas of particular importance for:



How



While ensuring



Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland
water



coastal
& marine

Where

Especially areas
of particular
importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem
functions and
services

How



equitably
governed



effectively
managed



systems



ecologically
representative



well
connected

While ensuring



recognizing and
respecting the rights
of indigenous peoples
and local communities
including over their
traditional territories



integrated into
wider landscapes,
seascapes and
the ocean



sustainable use
is fully consistent
with conservation
outcomes

Biodiversity Science and Policy Theme

CONSERVING AT LEAST 30% OF THE PLANET BY 2030 –

What should count?



Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland
water



coastal
& marine

Where

Especially areas
of particular
importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem
functions and
services

How



equitably
governed



effectively
managed



systems



ecologically
representative



well
connected

While ensuring



recognizing and
respecting the rights
of indigenous peoples
and local communities
including over their
traditional territories



integrated into
wider landscapes,
seascapes and
the ocean



sustainable use
is fully consistent
with conservation
outcomes

OECD Specialist
Group

1

**GEOGRAPHICALLY DEFINED,
NOT A PROTECTED AREA**

3

**DELIVERS THE LONG TERM IN
SITU CONSERVATION OF
BIODIVERSITY**



2

**EQUITABLE GOVERNANCE
AND MANAGEMENT**

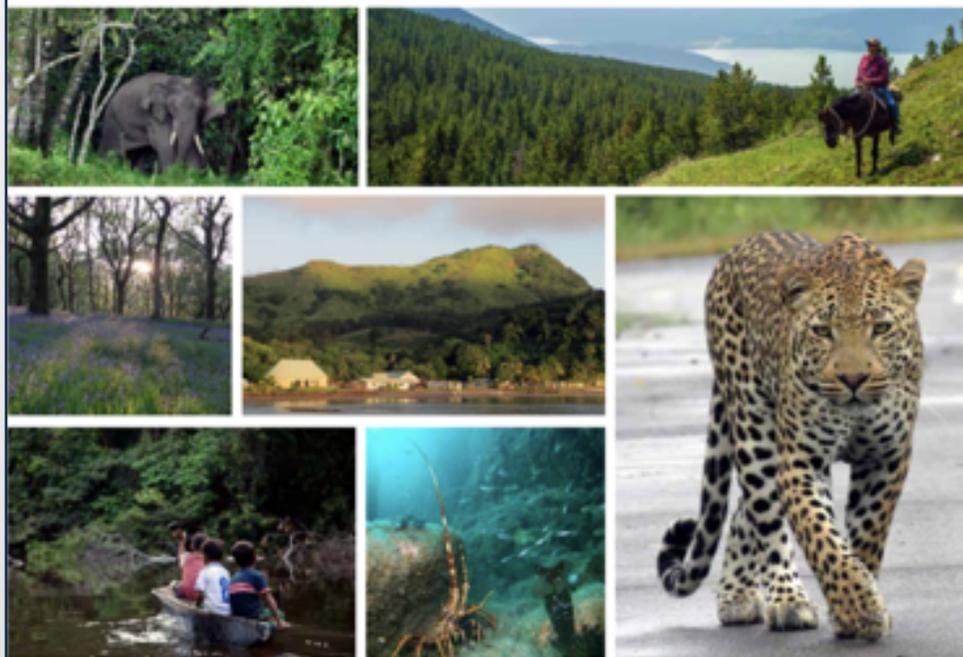
4

**CONSERVES ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES AND RESPECTS
LOCAL VALUES**

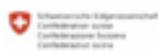


Recognising and Reporting Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures

World Commission on Protected Areas



Protected and Conserved Area Technical Report Series No 3



Site-level tool for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)

First edition

Harry D. Jonas, Kathy MacKinnon, Daniel Marnewick and Pete Wood

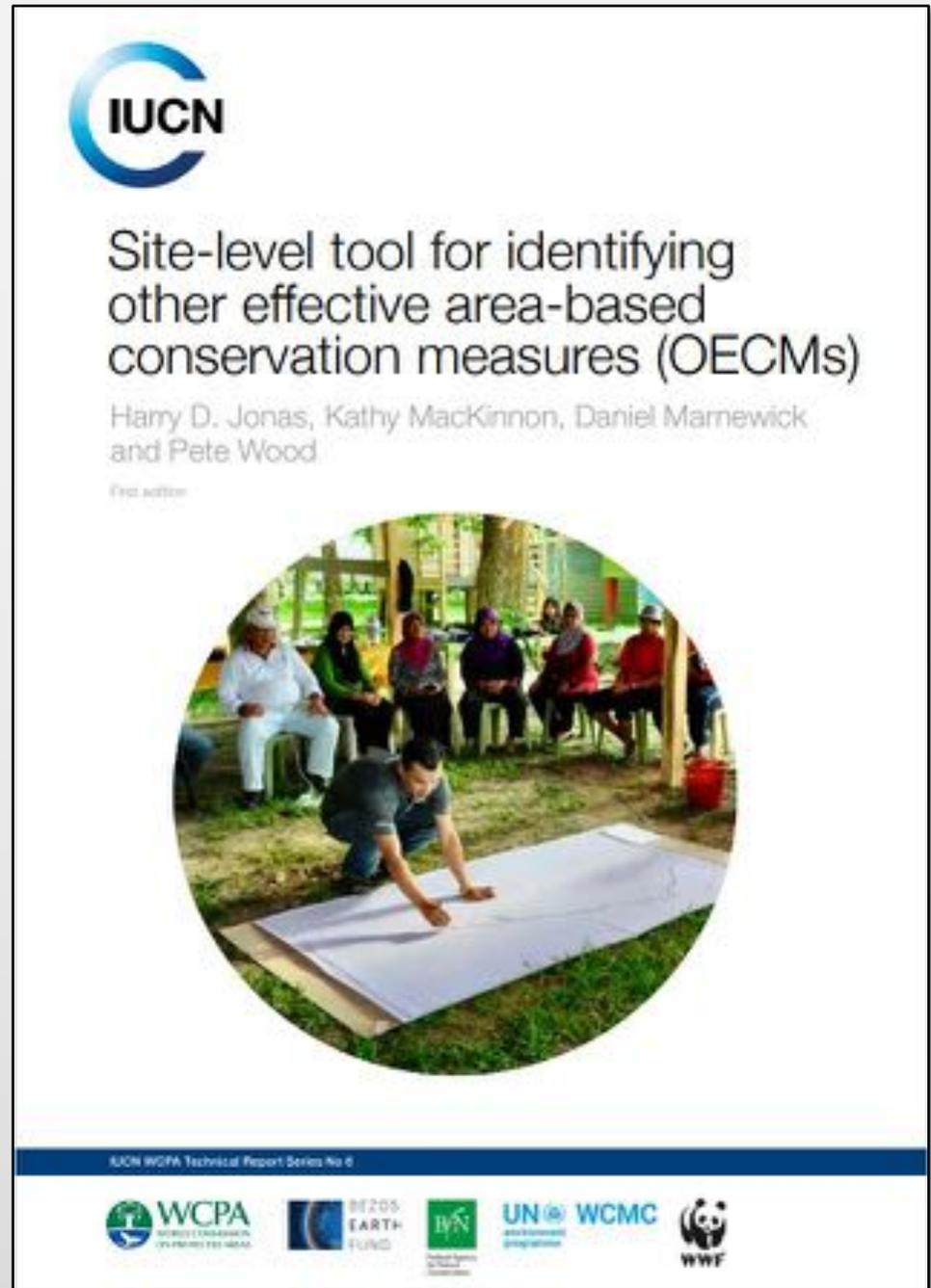


IUCN WCPA Technical Report Series No 6



The tool can be downloaded as an interactive PDF and filled in online, or printed and filled in as a hardcopy.

Currently available in English. Translations into French, Indonesian, Portuguese, Spanish, forthcoming. Other languages planned.



3.1.3. ASSESSMENT

TESTS	QUESTIONS	RESPONSE	JUSTIFICATION
CRITERION 3: The site is a geographically defined area	Does the site have clear boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> UNCERTAIN OR PARTIALLY <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<i>Briefly summarise the information that supports the response given.</i>

GUIDANCE ON CRITERION 3:

The boundaries of an OECM should be determined by the assessor in consultation with the governing authority, Indigenous peoples and local communities, where present, and other relevant stakeholders. Existing limits of land use and rights will often be the basis for determining boundaries.

In defining boundaries, assessors and stakeholders may want to consider the following:

- *'Clear' boundaries means that the boundaries of the site can be mapped and have been agreed upon by the governing authority, Indigenous peoples and local communities, where present.*
- *A site can be defined by the limits of ecosystem types, geographic features, customary boundaries or administrative limits.*

Six principles for protected area expansion



Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland
water



coastal
& marine

Where

Especially areas
of particular
importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem
functions and
services

How



equitably
governed



effectively
managed



systems



ecologically
representative



well
connected

While ensuring



recognizing and
respecting the rights
of indigenous peoples
and local communities
including over their
traditional territories



integrated into
wider landscapes,
seascapes and
the ocean



sustainable use
is fully consistent
with conservation
outcomes

Connectivity
Conservation
Specialist Group



Guidelines for conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors

Jodi Hilty, Graeme L. Worboys, Annika Keeley, Stephen Woodley, Barbara Lausche, Harvey Locke, Mark Carr, Ian Pulsford, James Pittock, J. Wilson White, David M. Theobald, Jessica Levine, Mely Reuling, James E.M. Watson, Rob Ament and Gary M. Tabor

Craig Groves, Series Editor



Developing capacity for a protected planet

Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 30



Addressing ecological connectivity in the development of roads, railways and canals

Robert Ament, Anthony Cevenger, and Rodney van der Ree, Editors



IUCN WCPA Technical Report Series No. 5



Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland water



coastal & marine

Where

Especially areas of particular importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem functions and services

How



equitably governed



effectively managed



systems



ecologically representative



well connected

While ensuring



recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories



integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean



sustainable use is fully consistent with conservation outcomes

Governance Equity and Rights Specialist Group

Privately Protected Areas and Nature Stewardship

	GOVERNMENT	SHARED	PRIVATE	IP&LC
Protected Areas				
Category Ia: strict protection, visits controlled or banned				
Category Ib: wilderness area, large areas with low human use				
Category II: protect ecosystems and facilitate ecotourism				
Category III: natural monuments, mountains, undersea mounts, etc.				
Category IV: protect habitat and species, often need regular management interventions				
Category V: cultural landscapes with high nature value				
Category VI: sustainable use areas, natural habitats with sustainable off-take				
OECMs				
1. Ancillary conservation: areas delivering in-situ conservation as a by-product of management				
2. Secondary conservation: where biodiversity outcomes are a secondary management objective				
3. Primary conservation: areas meeting the IUCN definition of a protected area, but where the governance authority does not wish the area to be reported as a protected area.				

WCPA SPECIALIST GROUP ON GOVERNANCE, EQUITY AND RIGHTS IN PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREAS

TERMS OF REFERENCE¹

Background

Governance of protected and conserved areas is a critical element in the legal, policy, institutional and practical framework of conservation around the world. Although no longer a novelty, the concept and its application remain a challenge for many countries and agencies. Despite challenges, and in line with the vision of the Promise of Sydney, countries are committed to foster governance diversity, equity, and vitality for their systems of protected and conserved areas, and to strengthen relevant policies, practices and capacities.

Technical tools such as the IUCN WCPA *Best Practice Guidelines on Governance of Protected Areas* and the *Primer on Governance for Protected and Conserved Areas* are available to offer guidance. Networks of experienced and concerned professionals were created in the occasion of the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 in Sydney (WPC 2014). At the conclusion of the WPC 2014, the Governance Stream provided a set of three strategic directions and twenty recommendations to clearly outline the needed work ahead. Regional Parks Congresses, including the 2nd Asia Parks Congress in May 2022 and the 1st Africa Protected Areas Congress in June 2022, again highlighted the critical importance of governance, and of securing and advancing rights and equity in the identification, designation, and management of protected and conserved areas.²

The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas has a unique role in strengthening understanding of the diversity governance of protected and conserved areas, and supporting effective and equitable governance, by fostering, coordinating and actively and coherently engaging in a set of initiatives to take such strategic directions and recommendations to practice.

Purpose of Specialist Group

The WCPA Specialist Group on Governance, Equity and Rights in Protected and Conserved areas (SG-GER) seeks to promote more equitable and rights-based approaches to PCA governance at scale, including playing a leading role within WCPA in delivering on the equitable governance theme/element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. As a





Recognition of Indigenous and Traditional Territories
UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Social Safeguards, Free Prior Informed Consent, Grievance Mechanisms

Governance, Equity and Rights Specialist Group

A photograph of three women in a rural, hilly landscape. They are wearing colorful headscarves and carrying large woven baskets and metal pots. The woman on the left has a basket with pink fabric. The woman in the middle has a large metal pot on her back. The woman on the right has a basket with yellow fabric. They are walking on a dirt path through a green, hilly area.

**Best Practice in Social
safeguards**

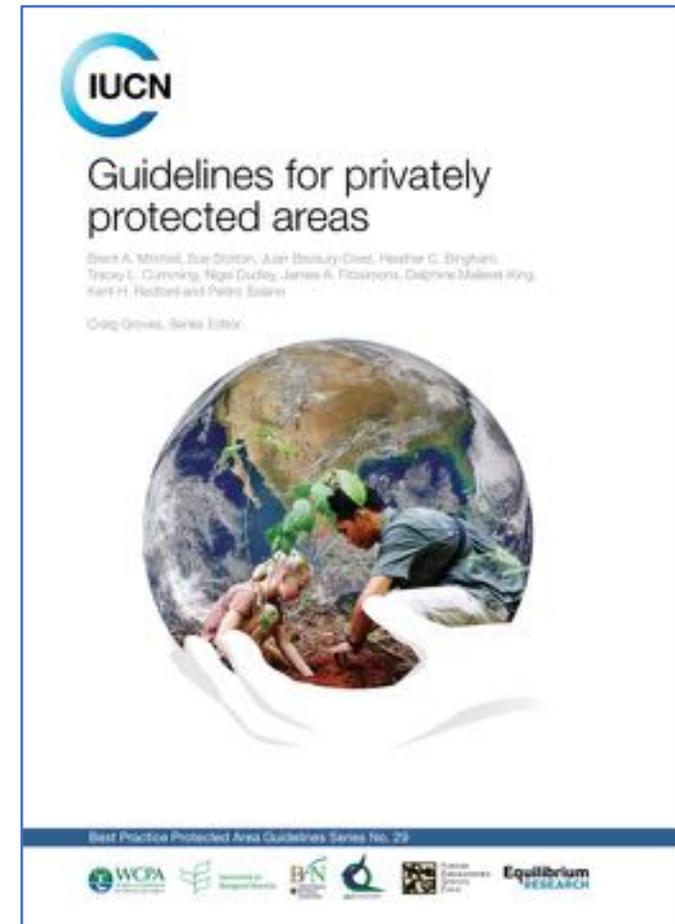
**Free Prior Informed
Consent**

30% by 2030

PRIVATELY PROTECTED AREAS

PRIVATE MEANS • PUBLIC BENEFIT

- A **privately protected area** is a protected area, as defined by IUCN, under private governance
 - Individuals and groups of individuals
 - Non-governmental organizations
 - Corporations (for-profit and conservation)
 - Research entities (universities, field stations)
 - Religious entities
- Same management categories as government PAs



Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



Where

Especially areas of particular importance for:



How



While ensuring



recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories



integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean

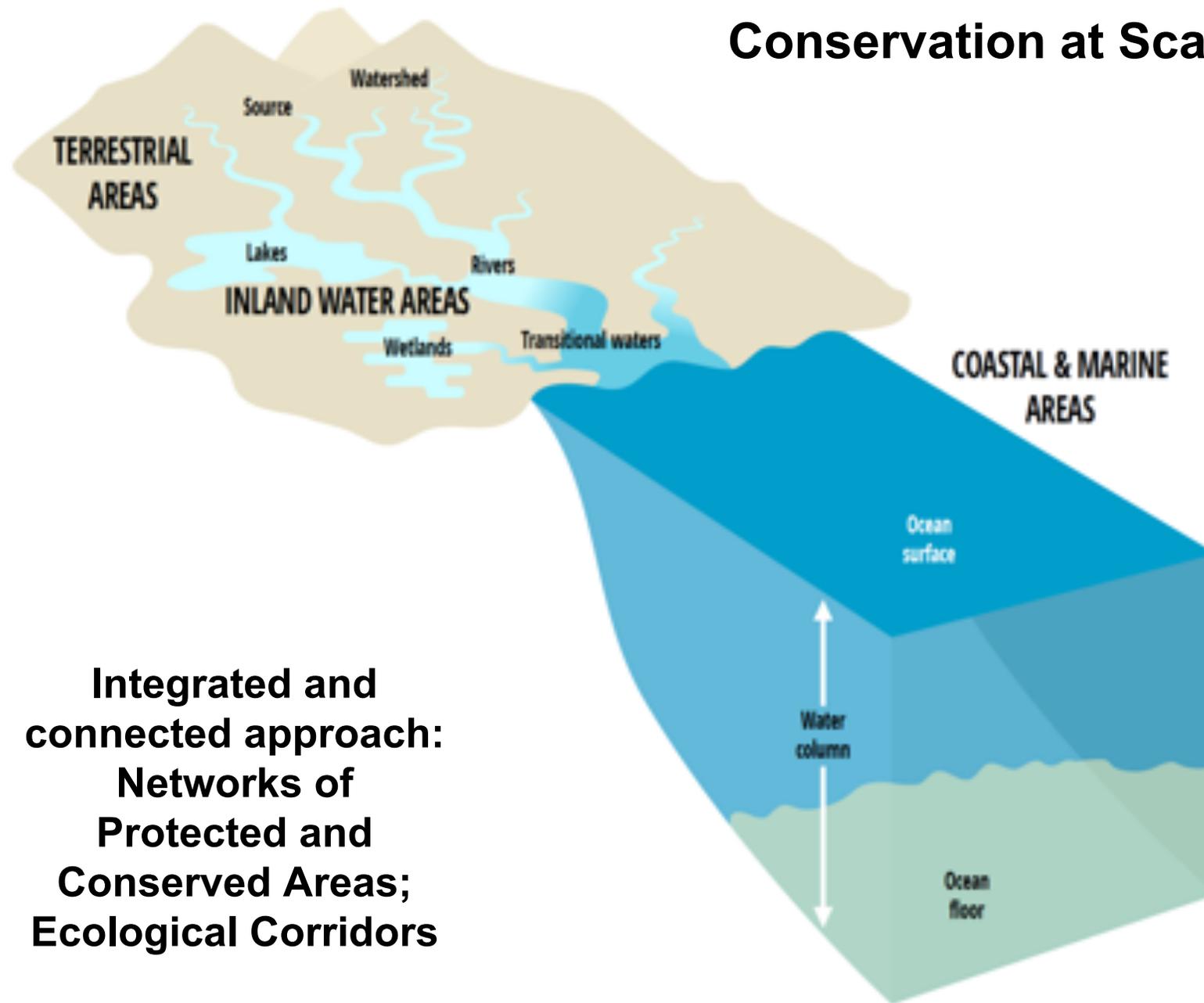


sustainable use is fully consistent with conservation outcomes

Freshwater Specialist Group

Marine Theme

Conservation at Scale



**Integrated and
connected approach:
Networks of
Protected and
Conserved Areas;
Ecological Corridors**

Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland water



coastal & marine

Where

Especially areas of particular importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem functions and services

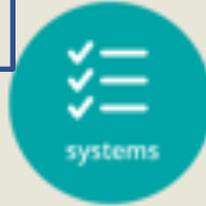
How



effectively managed



equitably governed



systems



ecologically representative



well connected

While ensuring



recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories



integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean



sustainable use is fully consistent with conservation outcomes

Management Effectiveness Task Force

Green List Specialist Group



IUCN Green List of Protected and
Conserved Areas: Standard, Version 1.1
The global standard for protected areas in the 21st Century



EFFECTIVENESS

**Strengthening existing
protected area systems**

Good Governance

Sound Design and Planning

Effective Management

Create

Successful Conservation Outcomes

Improving Effectiveness of PAs & OECMs

Develop a WCPA consensus framework & approach for assessing the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs.

Develop and implement a plan to get adoption & scaling of this framework & approach by key global actors

WCPA aims to build capacity to improve the effectiveness of PCAs irrespective of whether they pursue the Green List Certification

Green List Standard
Improving effectiveness of PCAs

Green List Certification
Programme

Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland
water



coastal
& marine

Where

Especially areas
of particular
importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem
functions and
services

How



equitably
governed



effectively
managed



systems



ecologically
representative



well
connected

While ensuring



recognizing and
respecting the rights
of indigenous peoples
and local communities
including over their
traditional territories



integrated into
wider landscapes,
seascapes and
the ocean



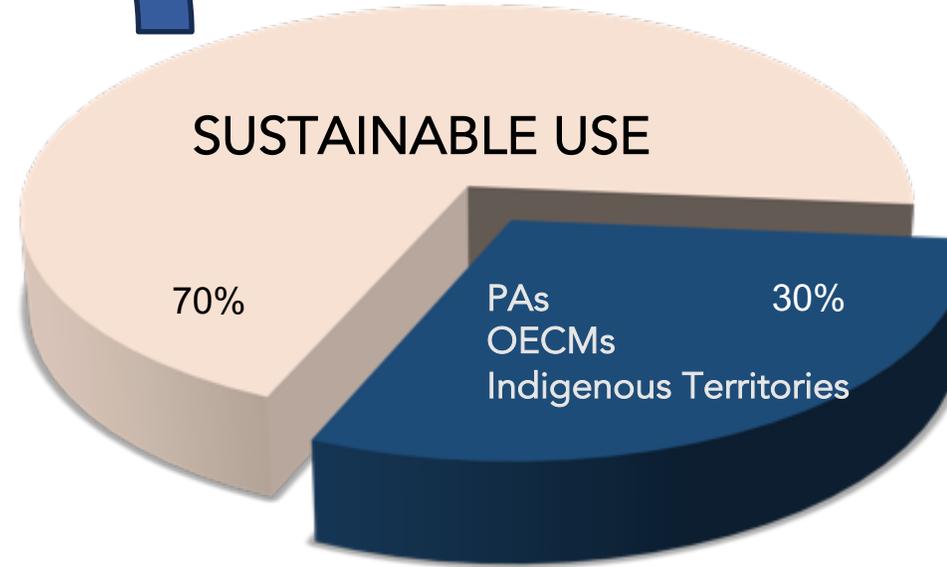
sustainable use
is fully consistent
with conservation
outcomes

Biodiversity Science and Policy

Scaling nature conservation

Production landscapes
Commercial Fisheries
Commercial logging areas
Agricultural plantations

Subsidies
Incentives
Standards
Certification



Areas important for biodiversity and ecosystem services

Areas that are managed to achieve biodiversity outcomes

Ensure & enable



What



By 2030 at least 30%



terrestrial



inland water



coastal & marine

Where

Especially areas of particular importance for:



biodiversity



ecosystem functions and services

How



equitably governed



effectively managed



systems



ecologically representative



well connected

While ensuring



recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories



integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean



sustainable use is fully consistent with conservation outcomes

Capacity Theme

Scaling Natural Solutions Theme

Human Capacity and Workforce Needs for Scaling Up Protection

[nature](#) > [nature sustainability](#) > [analyses](#) > [article](#)

Analysis | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 20 October 2022](#)

Protected area personnel and ranger numbers are insufficient to deliver global expectations

[Michael R. Appleton](#) , [Alexandre Courtiol](#), [Lucy Emerton](#), [James L. Slade](#), [Andrew Tilker](#), [Lauren C. Warr](#), [Mónica Álvarez Malvido](#), [James R. Barborak](#), [Louise de Bruin](#), [Rosalie Chapple](#), [Jennifer C. Daltry](#), [Nina P. Hadley](#), [Christopher A. Jordan](#), [François Rousset](#), [Rohit Singh](#), [Eleanor J. Sterling](#), [Erin G. Wessling](#) & [Barney Long](#)

PA PERSONNEL

555,000



3 million

PA RANGERS

286,000



1.5 million



IUCN WCPA Ranger Awards



Target 3 Partnership



- Share experience
- Leverage strengths
- Encourage collaboration

- Co-hosted with the CBD
 - Parties (governments)
 - Donor philanthropies
 - Multi-lateral agencies
 - NGOs and IPLCs
-
- Montreal, December 2022
 - Cambridge, UK June 2023
 - SBSTTA Nairobi Oct 2023
 - UNEA Nairobi Feb 2023

Target 3 Partnership

SBSTTA25 Side Event



Review progress to date and
Discuss the work ahead

CBD Secretariat and IUCN WCPA

Wednesday 18 Oct. 2023
18:15 – 19:45 EAT (Nairobi)
CR-10 – GRULAC (rooftop)



WHAT & WHERE



HOW



WHILE ENSURING

TARGET 3 - WHAT & WHERE

Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognising indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognising and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.



TERRESTRIAL

[READ MORE >](#)



INLAND WATERS

[READ MORE >](#)



MARINE & COASTAL

[READ MORE >](#)



AREAS OF IMPORTANCE FOR BIODIVERSITY

[READ MORE >](#)



ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES

[READ MORE >](#)



30x30.solutions









LAUNCH

IUCN WCPA Sustainable Finance Specialist Group

This session will officially launch the IUCN WCPA Sustainable Finance Specialist Group. Come learn about our plans and how you can be a part of the solution for sustainable finance for protected areas and OECMs.

The launch will be followed by an expert panel.

- Thursday 21st July 2022
- 12h00-14h00 CAT
- IUCN Pavilion

To join in person or online, contact ellane@wfa.africa

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Effectiveness of PCAs is enhanced by available and sustainable finance

Role of sustainable finance cannot be overlooked when addressing effective PCAs



Madhu Rao

Chair IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and Senior Advisor Wildlife Conservation Society



Candice Stevens

Chair Innovative Finance & Policy at WFA and Chair of Africa's Sustainable Landscape Finance Coalition



Kathleen H. Fitzgerald

Senior Manager Global Project for Permanence Initiative Pew Charitable Trusts



Stefanie Lang

Executive Director Legacy Landscapes Fund



Ellané van Wyk

Fiscal Benefits Implementation Specialist, Wilderness Foundation Africa



Pauline Nantongo

Executive Director EcoTrust Uganda



Alain Liva Raharijaona

Executive Director Madagascar Biodiversity Fund



David Meyers

Executive Director Conservation Finance Alliance



CONSERVATION FINANCE ALLIANCE



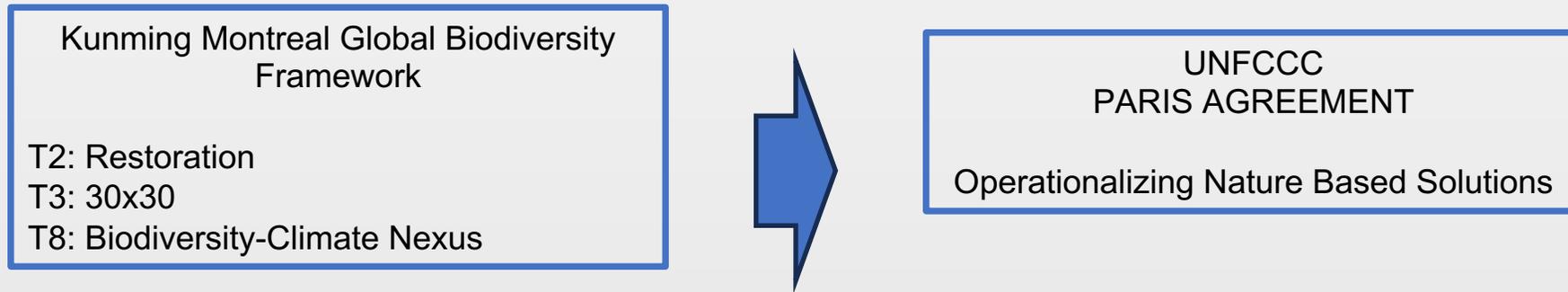
SUSTAINABLE FINANCE WITH FINANCY GROUP

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION AFRICA

Building knowledge and tools for sustainable financing toward 30x30

Good Practice Guidelines on Financing for Protected Areas under development

Protected Areas as NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS



How can achieving T3 help countries meet climate targets?

synergistic climate and biodiversity outcomes



Protected areas:
Nexus of biodiversity and climate agendas

Protection of natural carbon sinks with a
focus on ecological integrity:

Primary forests

Peatlands

Mangroves

...and more

WCPA communications



Scenic view of Douglas, CO



Remembrance of WCPA members, 1959 to 2009



Area-Based Conservation

A Bulletin of the WCPA World
Commission on Protected Areas



ISSN 1523-1739



Parks provides the perfect backdrop for the first WCPA planning committee. The assessment, and the way forward is shared. Parks is looking for more.

Past issues of the
WCPA Bulletin

PARKS

The International Journal of
Protected Areas and Conservation



Developing capacity for a protected planet



Parks Journal

Asante Sana!



Vice Chair,
Scaling Natural Solutions

National Park Service
Stewardship
INSTITUTE



Partner, NPS Stewardship Institute
[NPS.gov/StewardshipInstitute](https://www.nps.gov/StewardshipInstitute)



Senior V.P., Stewardship
QLF Atlantic Center for the Environment

brentmitchell@qlf.org