

# The ICCA Consortium at the 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 11)— Gaining momentum!



Participants' Report  
Hyderabad (India), October 2012

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## CREDITS

This report was produced by Aurélie Neumann, Holly Shrumm, Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend and Vanessa Reid. Photos are courtesy of Aurélie Neumann and Ashish Kothari.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
COP	Conference of the Parties
GA	General Assembly
ICCAs	Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IIFB	International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity
LCs	Local Communities
NBSAPs	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

## THE ICCA CONSORTIUM AT CBD COP 11—GAINING MOMENTUM!

The Consortium had five main objectives for its participation at the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 11). The first was to position **ICCAs as effective elements of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)<sup>1</sup> to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets** of the CBD [Strategic Plan for Biodiversity](#) 2011-2020. The second was to further broad awareness and knowledge about ICCAs by **launching five publications** (two entirely new, two reprinted for COP 11 and one as a pre-publication draft). The third was to announce and discuss the current strategic approach of moving from highlighting exemplary ICCA cases to promoting and supporting **national coalitions and federations of indigenous peoples and communities as caretakers of ICCAs**. The fourth was, of course, to learn from and interact with other delegates and participants as much as possible. The fifth and final was to take advantage of the occasion of the meeting to organise the **Fifth General Assembly of the Consortium** itself.



Did we “achieve” our first objective? In a specific sense, the answer depends on the country or countries one has in mind and on who actually participated in COP 11 from those countries (so much depends on individuals...!). We organised and participated in a number of well-attended side events on the topic, and specifically discussed ICCAs with many country delegates. We were also extremely satisfied that the CBD Secretariat organized a [one-day Colloquium on the role of ICCAs in achieving the Aichi Targets](#), including case studies from India, Australia, the Philippines, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Guatemala, Panama, and Argentina. This is a very important recognition and engagement on the part of the CBD Secretariat, following years of lobbying from the Consortium and its predecessor organisations. The Colloquium discussed ICCAs as effective area-based conservation measures for Aichi Target 11, but also as means to pursue virtually all of the Aichi Targets, particularly those related to livelihood security and sustainable use.

During the Colloquium (see more about it in Annex 1), government representatives from countries as varied as India, Brazil, the Philippines, and South Africa expressed their support to the concept and practice of ICCAs and received the following advice from the Consortium:



- ✓ provide clear, indivisible and inalienable common rights to territories and natural resources to the indigenous peoples and local communities governing their terrestrial and marine ICCAs;
- ✓ recognise IP and LC institutions of collective governance;
- ✓ make sure that destructive activities such as mining and major infrastructures are excluded from ICCAs;
- ✓ recognise ICCAs as protected areas or as “other effective area-based conservation measures” as deemed appropriate by the concerned peoples and communities;

1 National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the principal instruments for implementing the Convention at the national level. The Convention requires countries to prepare a national biodiversity strategy (or equivalent instrument) and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into the planning and activities of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity. To date, 176 (91%) Parties have developed NBSAPs in line with Article 6.

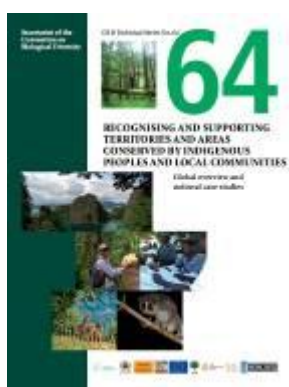
- ✓ pursue various recognition avenues for ICCAs and provide social, technical and financial support to them including in relevant official programmes (e.g. land use, development, capacity enhancement) and for ICCA mutual exchanges and networking.

As part of the broad political impact in COP 11, **concepts and terms relevant for ICCAs** are now present in more CBD Decisions and are **branching out from protected areas provisions to also influence provisions related to traditional knowledge, innovation and practices for in situ conservation<sup>2</sup> and sustainable use of biodiversity<sup>3</sup>**, which is a very promising development. For instance, Decision XI/14 on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions includes elements of specific great value for ICCAs (a more in-depth description of COP 11 Decisions is included later in this report). We cannot deny, however, that most NBSAPs continue to neglect or ignore ICCAs and, more generally, lack attention to and focus on issues of governance of protected areas and conservation by Indigenous peoples and local communities. Past experiences with NBSAP processes in some countries such as India underline the importance of engaging civil society; and the next 'generation' of NBSAPs can offer renewed concrete opportunities to do just that. Towards this aim, especially after the ICCA Colloquium in Hyderabad, we are confident in the help and support of the CBD Secretariat, with which the Consortium is in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding.



The CBD Secretariat could indeed play a most significant role in assisting the Parties to improve their NBSAPs, in particular by:

- ✓ raising attention and improving capacities on governance issues as developed for PoWPA, (including via dedicated workshops and training sessions);
- ✓ promoting awareness, interest and involvement of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society in NBSAPs and in conservation in general, including by promoting the development of support materials in local languages;
- ✓ making sure that more and better equipped representatives of IPs and LCs and civil society participate in relevant meetings (e.g. regional workshops hosted by the SCBD) and decision-making fora; and
- ✓ producing and diffusing a volume of their Technical Series to guide Parties towards the integration in NBSAPs of governance issues in general and the knowledge and concerns of indigenous peoples and local communities in particular.



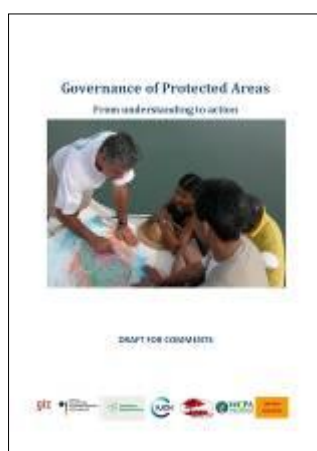
The second main objective of the ICCA Consortium in Hyderabad was to launch five publications, starting with volume no. 64 of the CBD Secretariat's Technical Series, entitled [Recognising and Supporting Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Conserved Territories and Areas](#). This publication reviews the range, diversity, coverage, and values of ICCAs and explores the status and processes of recognizing and supporting them at international and national levels in both legal and non-legal terms. More specifically focused on legal and institutional mechanisms for the recognition of ICCAs is a second Consortium study launched at COP 11 entitled [An Analysis of International Law, National Legislation, Judgements, and Institutions as they Interrelate with ICCAs](#). Two other volumes distributed at COP 11 are reprints of publications originally launched at COP 10 in Nagoya ([Bio-](#)

2 CBD Article 8(j).

3 CBD Article 10.

[cultural diversity conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities: examples and analyses](#) in English and [French](#)). Finally, a side event was dedicated to pre-launching and collecting comments on the forthcoming *IUCN Guidelines on Governance of Protected Areas*, which has been produced with key authors from the Consortium.

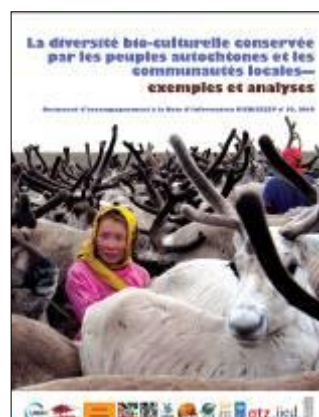
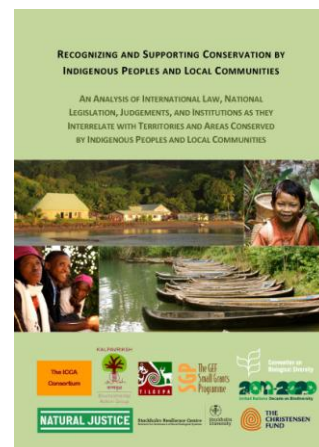
The Consortium Members, Honorary members and staff who attended Consortium events at the COP (see their list in Annex 1) were active in both lobbying delegates during official negotiations and organizing events designed to share and discuss experience and knowledge on ICCAs, including on new topics such as the role of ICCAs for food sovereignty. In collaboration with the Equator Initiative, the Consortium also led a workshop on the role of federations and coalitions of ICCAs, drawing from examples from the Philippines (see the [Manila Declaration](#) of March 2012, signed by the largest coalition of Indigenous peoples in the Philippines); Iran (particularly the *Brugerd Declaration* on autonomous governance of ancestral territories and natural biodiversity resources by the Union of Indigenous Nomadic Tribes of Iran from May 2012); and Madagascar (see the [Anja Declaration](#), also of May 2012, developed with the contribution of 482 traditional communities). The experiences of the ICCA Network in Nepal and of community networks in India and several Latin American countries were also explored. Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager of the GEF Small Grants Programme, concluded the workshop by stressing that ICCA Federations are a likely indicator of the maturity of the country's Indigenous peoples' and local community movements. Learning from their struggles can be instructive for countries at an earlier stage in the same kind of processes. However, the Consortium must be aware that the process of establishing federations needs to be



tailored to the specific legal, social and historical context, and may provoke opposing reactions, as federations are a clear attempt to develop some form of countervailing political power.

From the point of view of exchanges, contacts and weaving of relationships with other players in the field of conservation and sustainable livelihoods, we can only say that—as expected— COP 11 was very effective. Among the meetings entertained, we will stress the ones with [COICA](#) (Coordinadora de la Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazonia), [ACTO](#) (Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation), BMU (Germany), the Coordinator of the Sacred Natural Sites Initiative, GEF SGP Madagascar and Global Management, UNEP WCMC, and the new President of IUCN, Mr. Zhang Xinsheng.

At the end of the COP, the Consortium held its fifth Annual General Assembly (GA). It was hosted by the Deccan Development Society in Pastapur, Andhra Pradesh (which took the occasion to become one of the newest Members of the Consortium). A separate report on the GA is available from the ICCA Consortium website ([www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org)).



## ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE CONSORTIUM

The Consortium organized events in collaboration with its Members Kalpavriksh (India) and Natural Justice (South Africa / Malaysia), in addition to other Members and Honorary members from around the world. Events started on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of October with preparatory meetings of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) and the CBD Alliance (the collation of NGOs collaborating with CBD). They unfolded as noted in the table below, and were immediately followed by the Consortium's General Assembly, held in a rural environment (Pastapur) not far from Hyderabad itself.



CBD COP11 Events Organised by the Consortium and/or its Members		
Date	Event	Hyperlinks to articles and publications
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Achieving Aichi Targets through Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in South and East Asia	<a href="#">Video &amp; Article</a>
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	"Space to place new steps of change: An analysis of international, regional, and national laws essential to securing IP and LC territories and areas" – Publication Launch	<a href="#">Publication</a> <a href="#">Blog posting</a>
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	PA Governance in India – Where do we stand in terms of tenure, relocation, and possibilities of coexistence?	<a href="#">PA Governance report</a>
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	"Governance of Protected Areas – From Understanding to Action" – Pre-publication Launch	<a href="#">Publication draft</a>
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	National Federations of IPs and LCs ready to take conservation authority and responsibilities towards fulfilling the Aichi Targets for biodiversity	<a href="#">Federations article</a>
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	CBD Technical Series No. 64: "Recognizing and Supporting Territories and Areas Conserved by IPs and LCs - Global Overview & National Case Studies" – Publication launch	<a href="#">Publication overview</a> <a href="#">Series Publication</a>
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	Full day colloquium: the role of ICCAs in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<a href="#">Colloquium report</a>
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	ICCAs & Food Sovereignty	<a href="#">Article from CBD Alliance Eco</a>
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Traditional knowledge and area-based management measures in marine and coastal ecosystems	<a href="#">Video of the side event</a>
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	UNDP support to achieve the Aichi 2020 Target 11 through Recognition and Protection of ICCAs	
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	NBSAPs and ICCAs side event	

Officers, members and staff of the Consortium were asked for interviews during COP 11, which can still be accessed from these links:

- Taghi Farvar: [Indigenous wisdom, not colonialism, is key to conservation](#)
- Ashish Kothari: [Local communities must be at the forefront of conservation](#)
- Sutej Hugu: [Cultural diversity can save ecosystems](#)
- Neema Pathak Broome: [Indigenous rights are a focus for biodiversity NGOs](#)
- Dominique Bikaba: [Conservation must shed colonial past and empower communities](#)
- Sarah Fortune: [Climate change threatens Tuareg people](#)
- Vanessa Reid: [“You can’t put economic gain over human rights”](#)

Reports of many events and outcomes are also available on the [Consortium blog](#) and the [Natural Justice blog](#).

## ICCAs IN COP 11 DECISIONS

ICCAs (typically referred to as “indigenous and community conserved areas” in the CBD) are directly referenced in Decisions:

- **XI/14** on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, arguably the most important for ICCAs;
- **XI/24** on Protected Areas;
- **XI/25** on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

Key issues such as full and effective participation, traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use, governance, rights, tenure, and community protocols are also referenced in other decisions

Dedicated individuals volunteered to focus on priority agenda items throughout the two weeks of the COP. Their role was to ensure the Consortium collaborated with the CBD Alliance and IIFB advocating for key issues relating to IP and LC rights.

The overriding emphasis of the negotiations was on setting the foundations for resource mobilisation and policy alignment to implement the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Amongst the 33 Decisions adopted, there were hundreds of provisions of relevance to the Consortium and its Members. For example, whilst ICCAs (commonly referred to as “indigenous and community conserved areas” or “community conservation areas” in the CBD) were only referenced 9 times throughout the Decisions, many other key terms such as traditional knowledge, customary sustainable use, and full and effective participation – all essential aspects of securing the integrity and resilience of ICCAs – were each referenced dozens of times (see Box 1).

210 times: “indigenous and local communities”  
 81 times: “traditional knowledge”  
 51 times: “customary sustainable use”  
 37 times: “full and effective participation”  
 12 times: “*sui generis* systems”  
 12 times: “governance”  
 11 times: “rights”  
 11 times: “livelihoods”  
 9 times: “indigenous and community conserved areas” (or “community conservation areas”)  
 9 times: “tenure”  
 8 times: “community protocols”  
 5 times: “traditional territories”  
 4 times: “prior and informed consent”  
 4 times: “customary laws”  
 2 times: “ICCA Registry”

**Box 1:** Number of references related to ICCAs throughout the COP 11 Decisions.

## Decisions directly relevant to ICCAs were:

- **Decision XI/3 (Monitoring Progress in Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets):** Parties to pilot-test the two indicators<sup>4</sup> on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use and to work with [UNESCO](#), the [International Labour Organization](#), and the [International Land Coalition](#), among others, to compile data on status and trends in linguistic diversity, traditional occupations, and land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities, respectively.



- **Decision XI/14 (Article 8(j) and Related Provisions):** under the **section on progress in implementation**, Parties to include in requests to the [Global Environment Facility](#) and [Small Grants Programme](#) and other donors support for indigenous and local communities to organise themselves, to develop community plans and protocols, to document, map and register their ICCAs, and to prepare and implement their community conservation plans; and to provide support to countries to strengthen recognition of ICCAs.
- **Decision XI/14 (Article 8(j) and Related Provisions):** under the **section on participatory mechanisms for indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention**, Parties to provide resources for and partner with indigenous and local communities to develop and implement “indigenous to indigenous” and “community to community” training projects and initiatives, and request the Executive Secretary to provide opportunities for participation of an indigenous and local community representative from each country represented at regional and sub-regional capacity building workshops.
- **Decision XI/14 (Article 8(j) and Related Provisions):** under the **section on development of elements of *sui generis* systems for the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices**, Parties to support and promote the development of *sui generis* systems, including through the development of community protocols.
- **Decision XI/14 (Article 8(j) and Related Provisions):** under the **section on Article 10 and 10(c) as a major component of the programme of work**, Parties decided that the three initial tasks for the new work on Article 10 and 10(c) are to incorporate customary sustainable use practices or policy into national biodiversity strategies and action plans; to promote and strengthen community-based initiatives; and to identify best practices to promote the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities in the establishment, expansion, governance, and management of protected areas, to encourage the application of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use in



<sup>4</sup> The indicators are: (i) status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities; and (ii) status and trends in the practice of traditional occupations.



protected areas, and to promote the use of community protocols to affirm and promote customary sustainable use in protected areas.

- **Decision XI/14 (Article 8(j) and Related Provisions):** under the **section on recommendations from the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**, Parties to further consider adopting the phrase "indigenous peoples and local communities" (instead of "indigenous and local communities") at the next Working Group on Article 8(j) and at COP12 in 2014.



- **Decision XI/16 (Ecosystem Restoration):** Parties to promote the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities and the use of traditional knowledge and practices in appropriate ecosystem restoration activities.

- **Decision XI/17 (Marine and Coastal Biodiversity: Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Areas):** Parties to also use traditional knowledge and social and cultural information to help describe and identify ecologically or biologically significant marine areas.

- **Decision XI/22 (Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development):** Parties to protect and encourage the customary use of biological resources and to promote

biodiversity and development projects that empower women and Indigenous peoples and local communities; an Expert Group on the same topic will, among other things, develop a conceptual framework and guidance on how to assess the role of collective action and the efforts of Indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation, stewardship, and sustainable management of biodiversity and natural renewable resources, including exploring the role of non-market-based approaches.

- **Decision XI/23 (Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems):** Parties recognize that indigenous and local communities "maintain a very close holistic, cultural and spiritual relationship with essential elements of biodiversity associated with the water cycle... and can help to promote sustainable water management based on their traditional knowledge".

- **Decision XI/24 (Protected Areas):** Parties to strengthen recognition of and support for community-based approaches to *in situ* conservation and sustainable use, including ICCAs, and support the development of local and international registries of ICCAs; to renew efforts to establish multi-sectoral committees with representation of indigenous and local communities and conduct assessments of governance of protected areas; and to direct benefits arising from the use of genetic resources to protected areas and share benefits with indigenous and local communities.



- **Decision XI/25 (Sustainable Use of Biodiversity):** Parties to build and strengthen capacities of Indigenous peoples and local communities to exercise rights and responsibilities to sustainably manage wildlife resources.

Many other Decisions contain additional provisions of more general relevance to ICCAs, including:

- **Decision XI/1 (Status of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing):** Parties to undertake and provide support for capacity building initiatives, including participation of indigenous and local communities in legal, policy and decision-making processes, and the development of community protocols.



- **Decision XI/2 (Review of Progress in Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans):** Parties to include all stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities, in planning and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

- **Decision XI/6 (Cooperation with International Organizations, Other Conventions and Initiatives):** under the **section on collaboration on Arctic biodiversity**, Parties to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in research projects and programmes on Arctic biodiversity, noting that Arctic ecosystems provide essential services for community livelihoods.

- **Decision XI/7 (Business and Biodiversity):** Parties to help businesses assess and effectively address their impacts on biodiversity and on Indigenous peoples and local communities.

- **Decision XI/19 (Biodiversity and Climate Change and Related Issues: Safeguards):** Parties to reduce the risks of adverse impacts on indigenous and local communities such as loss of traditional territories and restriction of rights; and recognize that the application of safeguards requires solving land tenure and rights issues.

- **Decision XI/21 (Other Matters Related to Biodiversity and Climate Change):** Parties to take into account traditional knowledge, innovations and practices when addressing the impacts of climate change.



The advance unedited compilation of all Decisions is available in English at: <http://www.cbd.int/cop/cop-11/doc/2012-10-24-advanced-unedited-cop-11-decisions-en.pdf>. The official Decisions will soon be available on the CBD website <http://www.cbd.int/decisions/>.

If you have any questions or would like the full text of the Decisions of relevance to ICCAs, please contact Holly Shrumm ([holly@naturaljustice.org](mailto:holly@naturaljustice.org)).

## ANNEX 1: CONSORTIUM PARTICIPANTS

No.	Last Name	First Name	Organization	ICCA-C Status	Country/Gender/IP
1.	Alvarez	Isis	GFC	Member	Colombia/F
2.	Andreve	Jorge	ICCA-C Regional Coordinator	RC	Panama/M/IP
3.	Andriamano noro	Monique	Fondation Tany Meva	Observer	Madagascar
4.	Bahadur Lama	Ang	ICCA Network Nepal; Community Conservation and Development Centre	Member	Nepal/M/IP
5.	Bikaba	Dominique	Strong Roots	Proposed Honorary member	Democratic republic of Congo /M
6.	Borrini- Feyerabend	Grazia	ICCA-C Global Coordinator	Honorary member	Switzerland/F
7.	Brunelle	Heva-Anne	WAMIP	Member	Canada/F
8.	Chao	Chih-Liang	Providence University	Observer	Taiwan/F
9.	Chandrika	Sharma	ICSF	Member	India/F
10.	Corrigan	Colleen	UNEP-WCMC	Honorary member	UK/F
11.	De Vera	Dave	PAFID	Member	Philippines/M
12.	Demain	Salvador	KASAPI	Member	Philippines/M/IP
13.	Desai	Lalji	MARAG WAMIP	Member	India/M/IP
14.	Eleazar	Floradema	Philippines Official Delegation	Honorary member	Philippines/F
15.	Farvar	Taghi	UNINOMAD, Cenesta, ICCA-C President	Member	Iran/M/IP
16.	Fortuné	Sarah	L'Internationale Touarègue ICCA-C Steering Committee	Honorary member	Niger/F/IP
17.	Ganapin	Delfin	GEF SGP	Partner	Philippines/M/IP
18.	Grant	Chrissy	ICCA-C Steering Committee	Honorary member	Australia/F/IP
19.	Hay-Edie	Terence	GEF SGP	Honorary member	Switzerland/M
20.	Hugu	Sutej	Tao Foundation	Member	Taiwan/M/IP
21.	Jana Thing	Sudeep	Forest Action Nepal	Member	Nepal/M
22.	Jansen	Lesle	Natural Justice ICCA-C Regional Coordinator	Member	South Africa/F/IP
23.	Jonas	Harry	Natural Justice	Member	UK/M
24.	Kothari	Ashish	Kalpavriksh ICCA-C Steering Committee	Member	India/M
25.	Laletin	Andrey	GFC Friends of the Siberian Forests	Member	Russia/M
26.	Lovera	Simone	GFC Sobrevivencia-Paraguay	Member	Paraguay/F
27.	Lu	Dau-Jye	National Taiwan University	Honorary member	Taiwan/M

28.	Masardule	Onel	FPCI	Member	Panama/M/IP
29.	Mohamed	Handaine	IPACC ICCA-C Steering Committee	Member	Maroc/M/IP
30.	Myant	Maung	BIRAM (Boudhi Investigation and Research Assembly of Men) ICRFC (Itchari Community Reserve Forest Conservation Project )	Observer	Bangladesh/M/IP
31.	Nahuel	Jorge	Confederacion Mapuche de Neuquen ICCA-C Steering Committee	Member	Argentina/M/IP
32.	Narayanan	Sumana	ICSF	Member	India/F
33.	Neumann	Aur�lie	ICCA-C Programme Assistant	Staff	Belgium/F
34.	Pathak Broome	Neema	Kalpavriksh ICCA-C Regional Coordinator	Member	India/F
35.	Pedragosa	Sam	PAFID ICCA-C Regional Coordinator	Member	Philippines/M/IP
36.	Periyapatna	Satheesh	Deccan Development Society	Member	India/M
37.	Rai	Jailab	Forest Action Nepal ICCA Network Nepal	Member	Nepal/M/IP
38.	Rajagopalan	Ramya	ICSF	Member	India/F
39.	Randrianarivelo	Laurette	R�seau Tafo Mihaavo	Observer	Madagascar/F/IP
40.	Rao	Jagdeesh	Foundtion for Ecological Security	Member	India/M
41.	Rao	Giri	Vasundhara	Member	India/M
42.	Rasheed	Tahir	Sustainable Use Specialist Group Central Asia BRSP	Proposed Honorary Member	Pakistan/M
43.	Rasoarimana na	Vololoniaina	GEF SGP	Honorary Member	Madagascar/F
44.	Reid	Vanessa	ICCA-C Communication Officer	Staff	UK/F
45.	Reyes	Giovanni	KASAPI	Member	Philippines/M/IP
46.	Shrumm	Holly	Natural Justice	Member	Canada/F
47.	Solis Riviera	Vivienne	CoopeSolidar	Proposed Honorary Member	Costa Rica/F
48.	Sunde	Jackie	ICSF	Member	South Africa/F
49.	Ulman	Yasmita	Vasundhara	Member	India/F
50.	Vershuuren	Bas	Sacred Natural Sites Initiative	Honorary member	The Netherlands/M
51.	Vongayan	Syaman	Tao Foundation	Member	Taiwan/M/IP
52.	Yeh	Mei-Chih	Providence University	Observer	Taiwan/F

## ANNEX II: REPORT OF THE COLLOQUIUM ON THE ROLE OF ICCAS IN ACHIEVING THE AICHI TARGETS

13 October 2012, on the margins of CBD COP11, Hyderabad, India

**Organised by: CBD Secretariat, ICCA Consortium, Governments of Brazil, India, the Philippines, Senegal and South Africa, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, UNDP, and Conservation International**

### Background

A full day Colloquium was organised on the margins of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, India, on the *Role of Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Conserved Territories and Areas in Achieving the Aichi Targets*. The colloquium agenda was framed around the key lessons and recommendations emerging from a study conducted by the ICCA Consortium, coordinated by the Indian NGO Kalpavriksh. This study, published by the CBD Secretariat as its Technical Series 64, titled “Recognising and Supporting Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs)”, was released by Mr. Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the CBD. The Colloquium involved presentations by a number of indigenous peoples and local community representatives, governments, non-governmental organisations (including Conservation International), intergovernmental agencies (including the GEF Small Grants Programme implemented by UNDP, and the Global Protected Areas Programme of the IUCN), and civil society organizations. A global overview on ICCA recognition and support was provided by the ICCA Consortium, followed by country-level case studies from India, Australia, the Pacific, the Philippines, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Guatemala, Panama, and Argentina.

### Key issues

Presentations at the Colloquium as well as the studies contained in the publication released today, demonstrated that Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs) contain significant levels of biodiversity and related cultural diversity. ICCAs are the world’s oldest conservation initiatives, much older than the formally designated protected areas of the modern times, and in fact many such protected areas have been carved out of ICCAs. They range from tiny patches of nature to tens of thousands of square km in size. They include sacred sites, habitats of threatened or culturally important species, indigenous territories including those of

mobile peoples, sustainable resource use areas such as community managed marine fisheries and community forests, and others.



The knowledge and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities in such sites have contributed greatly to conservation of ecosystem, species, and genetic diversity. The study suggests that **much of the world’s area is under officially designated protected areas (about 13%), and an equal area, if not more, may be conserved in ICCAs.**

In 2010, at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Nagoya, Japan), governments committed to a Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. This included a set of 20 targets (‘Aichi Biodiversity Targets’), covering aspects such as integrating biodiversity into economic development, enhancing the coverage of protected areas and other forms of effective conservation, protecting threatened species, ecological functions alleviating poverty and providing secure livelihoods. The

global study, and a number of presentations at the colloquium, demonstrated that ICCAs can help meet many of these targets. This includes Target 11 (*“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”*). But it also includes all other Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including those related to biodiversity-based local development, ecosystem services and resilience, vulnerable ecosystems, preventing extinctions, sustainable use, livelihood security, agricultural biodiversity, enhancement of awareness and use of traditional and biodiversity knowledge. ICCAs can also help meet commitments under other global agreements such as the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), the Millennium Development Goals and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



The Colloquium participants, however, noted an important issue that is also highlighted in the study: that ICCAs face serious threats from inappropriate development (such as extractive industries and large-scale infrastructure projects), absence of clear tenure rights and imposition of inappropriate conservation policies, among others. The absence of appropriate recognition to ICCAs, or weak recognition, makes it difficult for indigenous peoples and local communities to deal with such threats. Several countries are moving substantially to fill this gap in recognition and support of ICCAs. This includes policy and legal recognition. For instance, in Australia, Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) make up about 30% of the official protected area estate, while in the Philippines legislation relating to Ancestral Domain rights is providing backing to indigenous peoples in their efforts to conserve and sustainably manage their territories. In other countries there are also substantial steps to provide social recognition, facilitation for documentation, technical and funding support, and facilitation of advocacy and networking by or with indigenous peoples and local communities. Yet, many countries are still weak in their recognition of indigenous peoples and local communities in general, and of their ICCAs in particular. Key gaps include poor documentation of ICCAs and their values, weak recognition of territorial and resource rights, lack of respect of customary collective governance, absence of free and prior informed consent (FPIC) processes, and so on.

### Key suggestions

The Colloquium noted the urgent need to provide recognition and support to ICCAs, but also the necessity of doing this in ways that are appropriate and respectful of the diversity of situations in different parts of the world, and are based on the voluntary desire of the relevant people or community. **It stressed that, in order to maintain and enhance the values of ICCAs, indigenous peoples and local communities governing them need *adequate and appropriate* recognition and support, including:**

- **Clear, indivisible and inalienable common rights to territories and natural resources, in both terrestrial and marine areas;**
- **Recognition of their institutions of collective governance;**
- **Rights to exclude destructive activities like mining and major infrastructure;**
- **Respect of diverse cultures, lifestyles, economic systems;**
- **Recognition of ICCAs as protected areas or other effective area-based conservation areas as deemed appropriate by the concerned peoples and communities; and**

- **Support of various kinds other than legal, including in relevant official programmes (e.g. land use and development), capacity enhancement, technical, financial, and networking.**

Participants also noted that market-based measures for conservation, including climate change related ones, need to be seriously reviewed for their possible impacts on ICCAs, as they could convert ethical and spiritual relationship of indigenous peoples and local communities with nature into more commodified or commercial relationships and, in general, further disempower such peoples and communities.<sup>5</sup>

Full and comprehensive dialogue at national and international levels, and free and prior informed consent processes are needed before any such measures are considered. Additional suggestions by participants were: inclusion of ICCA recognition and support in the Aichi Biodiversity target indicators; the use of the ICCA Global Registry maintained by UNEP WCMC as one form of voluntary recognition (building appropriate peer review and FPIC processes); measures to ensure effective implementation of the CBD (including the PoWPA and reaching the Aichi Biodiversity Targets) at national levels; orientation of donor funds, including those of GEF, towards ICCAs; and inclusion of ICCAs into National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs). Global cooperation is needed to enable all countries to achieve recognition of ICCAs, enhance their contribution to conservation, livelihood security, and cultural sustainability. The Colloquium provided pointers on how this can be done through legal, administrative, social, financial, advocacy, networking and other forms of recognition and support. It recommended that the study published by the CBD Secretariat with financial support from The Christensen Fund, UNDP and the European Union as Technical Series mentioned above, could be used by all CBD Parties towards the above objectives. (For further details, please see [www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org) ; [www.iccaregistry.org](http://www.iccaregistry.org) ).



<sup>5</sup> The COP to the CBD in Decision XI/19 at its eleventh meeting adopted advice on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity with regard to policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.