

THE ICCA CONSORTIUM NEWSLETTER

Issue #5 – September 2013

Edito

From understanding to action

By Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, ICCA Consortium Global Coordinator

Dear colleagues, once again I would like to start the newsletter with information on the topic of “governance of protected areas”. The [Consortium](#) is pleased to announce fresh from the press a volume produced in conjunction with the [IUCN](#), the [CBD Secretariat](#) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development ([BMZ](#)): [Governance of Protected Areas—from understanding to action](#). The document -No.20 in the IUCN Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines series -- is available as a pdf in English (click on the title above) and will be launched in print at a side event organised by the CBD Secretariat – 14 October 2013, 13:15-14:45 – during the forthcoming SBSTTA meeting in Montreal. The Spanish and French translations of the document are already under way.

The document includes a methodology to assess, evaluate and take action about the governance of “systems of protected areas” at national and sub-national level— an ideal context to discuss how ICCAs could and should be appropriately recognised and supported. The methodology will be piloted by a number of countries who will review and recount their experience at the Stream *Enhancing diversity and quality of governance of protected areas* at the next World Parks Congress in Sydney (Australia) in November 2014. In fact, let me take this occasion to share with you a quick report from the first planning meeting for that Stream, which took place at the IUCN Hq. in Gland (Switzerland) on 2-3 August 2013. For the ICCA Consortium participants included Taghi Farvar, Ashish Kothari, Chrissy Grants and myself – all members other Steering Committee, and several Honorary members participated on behalf of other organisations. Our intern Emma Courtine



valiantly compiled the minutes. The discussions were extensive (and fascinating for many of us involved), but I will only share with you what was finally agreed in terms of two main “agendas”, or “strategic directions”, for the Stream.

The first agenda is about fully **consolidating and implementing** the decisions developed by the preceding WPC governance stream (Durban, 2003). Such decisions may not be fully taken to fruition yet, but they are enshrined in



Governance
of Protected Areas

From understanding to action

Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Nigel Dudley, Timian Jager, Barbara Lassen, Yvonne Pethall-Droome, Adrian Phillips and Trevor Sandwith



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several IUCN Resolutions, the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas, other CBD Decisions and even the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted in 2010. At the Sydney WPC we will celebrate all that, as well as the fact that the “governance perspective” seems to have changed the way in which peoples perceive protected areas, and take action about them. The vision for Sydney is that more relevant actors— governments, indigenous peoples, local communities, NGOs, small business, landowners, development agencies— will strengthen their commitments to conserve nature through the will, knowledge, tools and capacities necessary to full take on a governance role. We wish to see a future when all governments support a diversity of protected area governance types, well integrated and governed effectively and equitably. And we wish to see a future when different actors engage one another in building systems of good governance for the jewels of their land, social and ecological history and collective identity.

While this first agenda is challenging, the second is even more so. The second agenda for Sydney WPC is about **advancing the “governance frontiers”** for protected and conserved areas until they become **“models of ecologically sustainable human well-being”**. During the August meeting we spoke about the need to better understand conservation in the landscape/ seascape, and to take more appropriate and effective action about it. So far,



we may have come to terms, at least in part, about the “who?” and the “how?” of protected and conserved territories and areas. The “who?” is about governance types and the “how?” is about governance quality (i.e., the criteria we can embrace to move towards “good governance”). Already at COP 10 in Nagoya, however, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets ushered new questions about the “what?”. “What” should we govern? Do we know how to carve landscape and seascape units in meaningful ways, so that natural features and ecological functions can be decided upon equitably and sustainably? Can we reconcile “territorial governance” and “ecological governance”? At what scale do land subdivisions make sense in terms of history, society, the economy... but also in term of the inherent properties that render the units “manageable” in ecological terms?

Further than that, what types of governance appear to help people maintain natural *and* cultural diversity, including endogenous institutions at the interface with nature? What types of governance are capable of delivering livelihood security – including protection from outside threats? What types of governance foster socio-economic justice, including for past offenses? What types of governance strengthen communities and their resolve to conserve nature?

Understood in this broad, open and very challenging sense, “governance” could become a central pillar of the post-2015 development goals. Protected and conserved areas, in all their evolving types and manifestations, might offer important lessons to deliver just that.

International work & Key issues

The VIth ICCA Consortium General Assembly

The main gathering of the Consortium in 2013 will take place on **October 3-7** in Valdeavalleno, a small rural community in the province of Soria, central Spain. The meeting will begin with a full day to discuss technical issues of relevance for ICCAs (mutual learning and exchanges of ideas and skills). It will continue with field visits with Spanish colleagues to a few examples of common governance of natural resources in Spain. The actual VIth General Assembly (GA) of the ICCA Consortium will take place on October 6.



All Members and Honorary members are welcome to attend in person or via Skype.

As part of the General Assembly, a number of reports will be discussed – including in depth country reports on ICCA progress, reports on current and past initiatives, the membership, the financial status and resources, the communication system, etc. A strategic outlook – with priorities and key activities for 2014 – will be developed at the meeting. Elections for a renewed Steering Committee will also take place.

- ▶ If you would like to attend via Skype, please inform Aurélie Neumann (aurelie@iccaconsortium.org) before October 5th.
- ▶ For any question, please contact Emma Courtine (emma.courtine@gmail.com), the ICCA Consortium in charge of the GA logistics.
- ▶ Please also visit our dedicated webpage [here](#).

Why in Spain?

By Sergio Couto González, ICCA Consortium Regional Coordinator for South and West Europe



This year our General Assembly will take place on October 3-7 in Valdeavellano de Tera (Soria province): a Spanish little village with 205 inhabitants located in the outskirts of “Sierra de Urbión y Cebollera”. This area is quite famous in terms of governance and environment. This is a region with many “Montes de Socios”,

an old collective management and property model covering 89,679 ha and involving thousands of local co-owners only in Soria province. This model has been very successful in terms of biodiversity conservation and equal sharing of resources during centuries, but is facing nowadays severe problems related with depopulation, loss of traditional culture and lack of legal recognition. Fortunately there is an impressive project (“*Montes de Socios*” project) looking to gather all the documents and federate all the persons (many of them already emigrated) involved in their collective property and management, as well as to successfully promote the recovering of many “*Juntas Rectoras*”, their traditional governance bodies.

Today, Spain is experiencing a strong economic crisis that has changed the mind of many of its citizens. The confidence and popularity on politicians has dropped to minimum levels as their management, dictated by party and economic interest groups, shows – now more than ever – their absolute lack of commitment with public interests. This is leading to a rediscover of the self-governance concept in a country with a very rich and strong culture on common uses and property. Spanish society is organising in many fronts, and one of the most promising in terms of sustainability and governance is the revival of “The Commons” as a trending topic on current urban and rural social movements. We hope to be able during our meeting to give you all a little bit of this energetic and hopeful “flavour” and help this way to our inspiring ICCA movement all around the world. Welcome to Valdeavellano!

- ▶ “*Recognition and Support of ICCAs in Spain*” – an overview of the current situation of ICCAs in Spain: <http://www.cbd.int/pa/doc/ts64-case-studies/spain-en.pdf>
- ▶ “Montes de Socios” Project web page (in Spanish): <http://www.montesdesocios.es/>
- ▶ Documentary on the “Montes de Socios” (in Spanish): <http://vimeo.com/71793695#>

Various documents to be discussed in Valdeavellano

Policy Briefs

Last year at the General Assembly, it was decided to develop – within the 2013 overall work plan – a set of policy briefs. They were to answer the need for in-depth analysis and information systematization on ICCA-related issues like land rights, economic valuation of nature, alternative financial tools to support ICCAs, overlap between ICCAs & protected areas, contribution of ICCAs to Aichi Targets, or demonstration of ICCAs’ conservation effectiveness. Three of those policy briefs are currently in the drafting process and will be discussed at the GA:

- 1) *ICCAs & Protected Areas* – This document will recommend appropriate means of recognition and respect for the many ICCAs over which state declared and governed protected areas have been superimposed. Stan Stevens (sstevens.umass@gmail.com) is preparing it and is still seeking information about good practices and specific cases and issues. In particular, he is eager to hear about cases where the governance authority for protected areas is been effectively shared with indigenous peoples and local communities or where their governance authority over zones or particular activities within these protected areas has been recognized through law, legally-binding MoUs, management plans, and other means.

- 2) *ICCAs & Aichi Targets* – This document explores the contribution of ICCAs to the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-20, specifically its Aichi Targets. ICCAs already contribute to most or all of the Targets, and given appropriate recognition and support, could do so in a more effective and widespread manner. The Briefing Note will describe this contribution in the case of each of the Targets, with suitable examples. It is hoped that this will be jointly published by the ICCA Consortium and the CBD Secretariat by early 2014. For further details, and if you would like to contribute, please contact Ashish Kothari at chikikothari@gmail.com.
- 3) *Markets versus non-market based mechanisms: how to support ICCAs?* – Are markets in environmental services a useful way to support ICCAs or is it better to stick to conventional non-market based approaches? To provide policy-makers and communities some clarity on this question the ICCA Consortium, in collaboration with the Global Forest Coalition, has produced two short briefing papers, one targeting policy-makers and one providing information for communities themselves. The briefing papers conclude that market-based approaches might benefit some communities, but in general they tend to marginalize indigenous peoples, local communities and women, as these groups tend to have less money to buy and invest in environmental services and weak land tenure rights, so they can easily become the victim of green land grabbing. These groups also tend to have less capacity to compete in complicated environmental services markets. Non-market based approaches like the legal recognition of ICCAs and the redirection of perverse incentives appear to form a more straightforward and effective way to support ICCAs than market-based schemes. The briefing papers are available for review at WEBLINK. They will be presented at two side events that will be organized at the upcoming meetings on traditional knowledge (8j) and scientific matters of the Convention on Biodiversity, which take place from 7 to 18 October in Montreal, Canada. For more information, please contact Simone Lovera at simone.lovera@globalforestcoalition.org.

Operational guidelines

A document to guide the concrete functioning of the Consortium has been drafted in January 2012. It sets out:

- The ethical foundations of the ICCA Consortium
- Criteria for inviting and/or accepting Members, Honorary members and Partners
- Procedures on becoming a Member, Honorary members or Partner
- Procedural rights, including about terminating membership
- General Assembly attendance
- Procedures about Funders
- Procedures about expenditures and disbursements

It has only been informally used since then, as it hasn't been formally approved yet. It will therefore be discussed during this coming GA and Members, Honorary members, Regional Coordinators, Steering Committee and staff are encouraged to provide their comments.

- The operational guidelines can be downloaded in [English](#), in [French](#), and in [Spanish](#)

EMRIP Side Event on the Relationship between ICCAs and Access to Justice

By Marie Wilke & Holly Jonas, Natural Justice (Member)



The Sixth Meeting of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), held from 8-12 July in Geneva, focused on Indigenous peoples' rights and access to justice. A [side event](#) was hosted on 11 July by Natural Justice, the ICCA

Consortium and the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC) to discuss the relationship between access to justice and Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories & Areas (ICCAs). Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend (ICCA Consortium) opened the panel with an introduction to the concept and stories of diverse ICCAs around the world. Two local examples from the Indigenous Pygmy peoples from North Kivu (Joseph Itongwa, PIDP-Kivu) and from the Ogiek peoples (Daniel Mpoiok Kobei, Ogiek Peoples' Development Program) from Kenya followed. Marie Wilke (Natural Justice Associate), Nigel Crawhall (IPACC Secretariat) and Kanyinke Sena (Chairperson, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues) concluded the panel with presentations and statements on the legal perspective and the opportunities provided by the legal recognition of ICCAs as a means of environmental conservation, among many other things.

The panel and the audience concluded that the concept of ICCAs provides a valuable opportunity for indigenous peoples' and local communities' self-determination as it enables them to emphasise the benefit of their customary practices and ways of life to society at large in the form of effective and locally appropriate conservation, in addition to underscoring their unique rights and responsibilities. Appropriate recognition of ICCAs can also contribute to securing broader territorial and resource rights, collective rights and legal standing for customary institutions.

- ▶ More information about EMRIP 6, including the draft study on access to justice, is available [here](#).
- ▶ Submissions by Natural Justice, including one in French with PIDP-Kivu, to the study on access to justice are available [here](#).

Regional issues

Africa

The San community from Ranyane (Botswana) wins a court case

By Lesle Jansen, ICCA Consortium Regional Coordinator for East & South Africa



Some 600 Botswana San peoples were threatened with eviction during May 2013. This indigenous community is from an area called Ranyane, located in the Ghanzi district close to its border with the northern Kgalagadi District, Botswana. They reportedly live in an area proposed as a 'wildlife corridor'. This intended wildlife corridor is proposed between the Central Kalahari Game Reserve and the Kgalagadi Trans Frontier Park. It was promoted by the US organization Conservation

International (CI), of which Botswana's President Khama is a board member.

The ICCA Consortium's Regional Coordinator for East & South Africa received reports that the local and national authorities pressurized this San community to leave. She monitored this matter closely and supported the Khwedom council (local San community based organization advocating for San peoples' rights) during this period. The San community was successfully able to obtain a permanent court order preventing their eviction through legal representation. A settlement agreement was reached between the San community and the Botswana government. On 18 June 2013, this agreement was then made a court order.

An excerpt to the Botswana court order states as follows:

- *"The authorities will not permit their officers to enter any household compound occupied by the Ranyane San without their express consent - as opposed to the door-to-door campaigns that officials were waging to 'encourage' people to relocate;*
- *The authorities will not remove the engine that currently operates the borehole at Ranyane without 14 days prior written notice to the community's attorneys; and*
- *No one shall be removed from Ranyane less than 48 hours after the authorities have informed the community's lawyers by telephone of their proposed removal."*

(Excerpt taken from Ditswanelo's statement to the Ranyane relocation).

► [Read more](#)

Identification et documentation des APACs en RDC – outil de plaidoyer pour leur reconnaissance légale

Par Christian Chatelain, Coordinateur Régional pour l'Afrique Centrale et de l'Ouest & Joseph Itongwa, Coordinateur Régional pour les écosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique Centrale



Le REPALEF est le principal réseau des peuples autochtones qui œuvre pour une gestion durable des écosystèmes en République Démocratique du Congo. Il a reçu du GEF-SGP un fond pour la réalisation d'une mission d'identification et de documentation des APACs dans trois provinces de ce pays, la réalisation d'une étude juridique spécifique et la tenue d'un atelier de plaidoyer de haut niveau pour la reconnaissance légale des APACs en RDC.

Entre le 15 août et le 15 septembre 2013, plusieurs communautés et peuples autochtones ont été visités par Joseph Itongwa et Christian Chatelain dans l'Est, le Centre et l'Ouest du pays. Ils y ont découvert des espaces de diversité bioculturelle très riches gouvernés et gérés de façon traditionnelle par des institutions issues des tout premiers habitants du Bassin du Congo. La RDC, pays de diversité bio-culturelle par excellence, porte encore aujourd'hui des marques de discrimination forte envers les peuples autochtones. Les APACs représentent pour eux, comme pour les autres communautés locales, une opportunité non seulement de défendre leurs droits à la terre et aux ressources naturelles mais aussi leurs droits humains les plus élémentaires.

- Un rapport plus complet sur les résultats de cette mission sera prochainement disponible en ligne sur le site internet du Consortium.

Halte à la carbonisation dans la forêt communautaire de Mangagoulack

Par Salatou Sambou, Coordinateur Régional du Consortium APAC pour les écosystèmes marins et côtiers de l'Afrique de l'Ouest & Christian Chatelain, Coordinateur Régional du Consortium APAC pour l'Afrique Centrale et de l'Ouest

Située en Casamance (Sénégal), la communauté rurale de Mangagoulack compte 8 villages (Tendouck, Boutégol, Mangagoulack, Élane, Bodé ébouck, Bouteum, Affiniam et Diatock) et une population estimée à 12000 habitants. Les moyens de subsistance principaux sont la pêche (poissons, huîtres, etc.), la collecte de produits forestiers non ligneux (fruits sauvages, viande de brousse, etc.) et ligneux (bois de service). L'association des pêcheurs de la communauté rurale de Mangagoulack (APCRM) existe depuis longtemps, avec pour but de pérenniser la pêche artisanale tout en restaurant les mangroves, afin d'améliorer la vie des populations. L'APCRM est à l'initiative de cette gestion concertée entre la population et la Communauté Rurale administrative de Mangagoulack, initiative qui s'est traduit par la reconnaissance légale de l'APAC Kawawana en 2010 par l'Etat sénégalais (la première de l'histoire).

Un fait malheureux s'est produit en 2012 lorsque le conseil rural s'est substitué – en tant qu'organe délibérant – à la population par abus de pouvoir, pour développer un partenariat avec le *Wulanafa*, un programme financé par l'USAID qui prétend mettre en place un plan d'aménagement dit participatif dont la seule ambition est en réalité la carbonisation à grande échelle, activité totalement inconnue dans la zone. Aucune concertation sérieuse n'a été entreprise au préalable avec les populations et, le 6 mai 2013, à la surprise de toute la communauté, l'équipe du conseil rural a entrepris une formation en technique de carbonisation pour une durée de 10 jours, à l'intention de ses membres et de quelques personnes choisies. Des coupes de démonstration ont débuté sur l'axe de la piste reliant les villages de Mangagoulack et Diatock.



Ce projet risquant de fragiliser à terme la vie des populations qui souffrent déjà des conséquences des calamités engendrées par les changements climatiques, j'ai mené un travail en porte à porte de sensibilisation et d'information sur les impacts de la carbonisation, en commençant par l'APRCM et les chefs de villages qui ont un pouvoir de décision au sein du conseil rural.

Plusieurs rencontres se sont tenues à huis clos afin de stopper ce projet problématique. J'y ai exposé les risques majeurs de ce projet : perturbation de l'environnement et du climat local – déforestation et désertification de la seule forêt naturelle de Mangagoulack ; perte de biodiversité végétale et animale ; déficit alimentaire en produits non ligneux et ligneux ; etc. Nos efforts communs entre les 8 villages de la communauté ont été récompensés par une victoire et, actuellement, plus personne ne parle de ce projet. Tous mes remerciements vont vers toutes les personnes qui ont de loin ou de près participé à la lutte pour l'arrêt de ce projet.

Asia

Devolution of the Governance of Nayband National Park (Iran) to Indigenous and Local Communities

By the Centre for Sustainable Development and Environment – CENESTA (Member)

National parks in Iran have the highest status of protection among all categories of protected areas. Nayband National Park is the first marine and coastal park of the country. As a sign of recognition of the established role of the indigenous communities in the Assalouyeh region, the government recently decided to transfer the governance

responsibility of Nayband National Park to them, with the support of all the other stakeholders.

Based on CENESTA's previous work under an European Commission grant to the Living Earth Foundation in the Assalouyeh region as well as the successful preparatory work in co-management, the Department of Environment (DoE) entrusted CENESTA to prepare in February/March 2013 a plan for the transfer of governance. Cenesta staff travelled to the Assalouyeh region to organize several meetings. A community organisations general assembly meeting was also held at Abu-Bakr al Seddiq Mosque in Chah Mobarak village, where they elected the management board of Nayband Sustainable Development Organisation. The European Commission-funded "*Dialogue and Development*" project supported the process of transferring governance responsibility to key stakeholders, notably the local and indigenous people of Assalouyeh.



As a result of this process, a comprehensive report has been prepared about the ecological characteristics, the history of protection, and the current threats to the ecological integrity of the marine and coastal area of the Nayband National Marine and Coastal Park. A zoning and governance plan for the park was also prepared. Under this project, Cenesta received enthusiastic support from DoE and the Pars Special Economic Energy Zone (PSEEZ) as well as the IIES (Institute of International Energy Studies). The agreement between DoE and Cenesta calls for

making this case a model to be replicated to many of the other 250 protected areas in the country.

The Philippine ICCA Consortium Marches On

By Samson B. Pedragosa, ICCA Consortium Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia and the Pacific Region

Four months after the founding general assembly in February 2013, the Philippine ICCA Consortium successfully convened the first meeting of its Steering Committee on 09-10 July. It would be the first and last meeting of the committee. The committee was replaced by a nine-member Board of Trustees that was created to lead the consortium. The composition of the Board includes an elected representative from each of the seven (7) ethnographic regions of the country who will be chosen by members of the Consortium from their respective regions. Two (2) seats are reserved for women who will be elected at large by the female members of the Consortium.

The following were elected members of the Board of Trustees:

1. Giovanni B. Reyes – Cordillera Administrative Region

2. Sammy Balinhawang – Cagayan Valley Region
3. Salvador “Ka Badong” A. Dimain – Central and the rest of Luzon Region
4. Artiso “Tisoy” Mandawa – Islands Groups and the Visayas Region
5. Datu Migketay Victorino “Vic” L. Saway – Northern and Western Mindanao Region
6. Datu Eduardo “Ed” A. Banda – Central Mindanao Region
7. Datu Ireneo “Makalipay” P. Rico Sr. – Southern and Eastern Mindanao Region

Immediately after its creation, the Board had its first meeting and elected its first set of officers, which includes Datu Makalipay (President), Ka Badong Dimain (Vice President), Giovanni Reyes (Secretary) and Sammy Bakinahwang (Treasurer).

Aside from the creation of the Board of Trustees and election of officers, the meeting formulated and approved the organization’s Articles of Incorporation, and its Constitution and By-laws that will govern the operations of the corporation. In addition, the meeting provided opportunity for the review and validation of the project information format for the proposed Philippine National ICCA Program that is being developed in partnership with the UNDP-Philippines for possible funding under the Global Environment Facility. If, and when approved, the project will vigorously promote support and recognition of ICCAs into the mainstream of biodiversity conservation in the Philippines.

The Steering Committee meeting was attended by 30 participants. These included six (6) permanent steering committee members, 4 alternate steering committee members, and guests and representatives from indigenous communities and support groups. The Interim Secretariat composed of representatives from AnthroWatch, KASAPI, PAFID, NTFP-TF and NewCAPP) provided support in managing and convening the meeting. Sam Pedragosa of PAFID and the international ICCA Consortium, acted as the main facilitator of the meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled in October 2013. It is expected that by then the processes and procedures for incorporation and registration of the Philippine ICCA Consortium would have been completed. The next meeting will be held in Mindanao.

Philippine ICCAs & International Engagements

By Giovanni B. Reyes, Secretary, Philippine ICCA Consortium & Secretary General, KASAPI (Member)



What is significant about our international engagements the last two years since the launching of the first National ICCA conference is the emerging realization by global conservation groups – government and non-government alike – of biodiversity’s inextricable link to the relationship between indigenous knowledge and conservation. We have been approached by global

environmental networks engaging the International Union for Conservation of Nature and UN-CBD Conference of Parties, who have expressed interest at how we were able to form partnerships and building the viability of indigenous community conserved areas.

While conservation is a common agenda of the world's environment domain, indigenous knowledge has been largely put aside because discourses in environmental management often separate nature conservation, wildlife habitat, protected areas and indigenous knowledge. Such dichotomy only shows a marked position of indigenous peoples being in the margins in terms of environmental planning and decision-making. Yet, as so often propounded by customary law practitioners but largely unarticulated in the larger society, the ideas and processes in which these are managed are of the same stock and linked in the same ecosystems addressing the same objectives. These objectives are embodied in the UNCBD and have been practiced by indigenous peoples through time.

Now, the fruits reaped from the partnership between [NewCAPP](#), [PAFID](#) & [KASAPI](#) include Community ICCA Declarations and ICCA registration at the UNEP-WCMC. Both, we argue, are NOT abstract testaments but living embodiments of Articles 8 (j) and 10 (c) of the UN-CBD. Article 8(j) calls on State parties to “promote the wider application of innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities” while article 10(c) calls on parties to “encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices”. This (line of) argument formed the framework of our international engagements.

Asian Region

KASAPI's partners in Climate Change and Adaptation Project including seven countries in South-east Asia will visit us in November for an exposure trip (Cross-site visit). The aim is to allow participants to see for themselves about ICCA work and learn first-hand practical steps in participatory mapping and resource inventory. Under the umbrella of the Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), our partners include Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam, Nepal and North-east India.

Philippine-Taiwan ICCA exchange

From May 17 – 20, 2013, while a diplomatic row between the Philippines and Taiwan raged over the killing of a Taiwanese fishermen over Philippine sea (as claimed by the Philippine government, but claimed as neutral fishing ground by Taiwan), we engaged in a Philippine-Taiwan ICCA exchange (diplomacy at citizen's level, we called it) with the School of Forestry and Resource



Conservation of the National Taiwan University, Lanan Cultural and Educational Foundation

and the Taiwan Forest Certification Development Association. Brokered by The Global ICCA Consortium through its East Asia ICCA representative Mr. Sutej Hugu with collaboration from the Taiwan Forest Certification Development Association and the Council of Indigenous Peoples of Taiwan, the Philippine-Taiwan ICCA exchange was held with the theme: “Discourses on Indigenous Governance and Forest Certification, Taiwan 2013”. KASAPI was tasked to share to our hosts how the Manila Declaration on ICCA came about. Enlightened by our experience, four major ethnic groups in Taiwan will be federated following the Philippine model. The Philippine-Taiwan ICCA exchange also committed to create in the long run, an East-Asia ICCA Corridor involving the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan (Okinawa), South Korea (Jeju) and Southern China (Yunnan).

World Indigenous Network (WIN) Conference, Darwin, Australia



From Taiwan, the ICCA models' popularity gained momentum at the World Indigenous Network (WIN) in Darwin, Australia. Our engagement from May 23-31, 2013 was brokered by PAWB-NewCAPP and the Geneva-based ICCA Consortium. With more than 1,200 international delegates including 600 Australian Aborigines present, the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples Prof. James

Anaya described WIN as “the largest gathering of indigenous peoples in history”. The Philippine ICCA delegates include Mr. Salvador “Badong” Dimain of the Maporac ICCA, Zambales Mt. Range, Datu Johnny Guinna of Portulin, Bukidnon ICCA, Kalatungan Mt. Range and this author. One of the aims of WIN was: “to look into Indigenous peoples views on sustainability, their links to nature and culture, conservation and rights to self-determination.” In our view, this simply means territories, traditional governance systems and indigenous knowledge – three pillars that make up an ICCA.

At the WIN, we spoke on two plenary sessions: one, on ICCA as a powerful solution to the environmental crisis; and, two, during the launching of the First Comprehensive ICCA Toolkit by UNEP-WCMC and UNDP-Equator Initiative.

Of the first, we argued that most of the country's remaining forests are in territories where indigenous peoples have asserted their having been culturally, spiritually and economically linked to their ancestral domains. On the second, we propounded about the ICCA Registry as a community effort and a rights-based **process** backed by UNDRIP particularly Articles 3 on Self-determination, Art. 32 on Culture with Development, FPIC and Obligations of States and Art. 37 on Treaty Principles as well as the UN-CBD particularly Articles 8 (j) and 10 (c).

Since the Philippines is a signatory to both the Declaration and the Convention on Biological Diversity, we argued that the processes and stages of our ICCA work from documentation to mapping to resource inventory to community conservation planning and registration at the UNEP-WCMC is proof that synergy of government and genuine IPO-NGOs can effectively contribute to the country's commitments under the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly targets 11 and 18 on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use.

What was clear to the Philippine IP team during the WIN conference, as one participant aptly noted, is the shifting of global power in terms of natural resource management in a magnitude unimaginable three decades ago. The gradual shifting of power into the hands of indigenous lands and sea managers signal global recognition of the crucial role indigenous peoples play in conservation. We left Darwin with the thought that the upsurge of indigenous voices through the ICCA track is signaling the reassertion of the logic of traditional governance system as a conservation mechanism at its pristine best.

World conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP), Alta, Norway.



On June 7-14, 2013, around 700 indigenous leaders gathered in Alta, Norway for the historic Global Indigenous Preparatory Conference for the United Nations High Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP). The participants came from seven (7) global regions with each region having 37 official representatives each. Several observers consist of additional indigenous persons,

representatives of the UN bodies and special procedures, governments, civil society organizations and funders. The outcome of this conference is the Alta Outcome Document that was unanimously adopted by the participants.

KASAPI formed part of the Asia delegation under the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact. Representatives of the Philippine-based IP organizations have actively taken part in earlier meetings such as the "Asia Indigenous Peoples' Regional Preparatory Meeting for the WCIP" held in Bangkok in November 2012 and other WCIP processes including the Asia Preparatory Meeting for the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues held in Malaysia in March 2013. I'm pleased to state that we sent one holder of ICCA model to participate in the November 2012 meeting in Bangkok. The person is Mr. Salvador "Badong" Dimain of the Maporac ICCA.

At the Alta event, we were privileged to be part of the drafting team for the Alta Outcome Document. Under Par. 3 on Theme 1: Indigenous Peoples lands, territories, resources, oceans and waters, we included the phrase ***"delineation and demarcation"*** in lieu of the

word “mapping”. This also means that identification of traditional territories, bio-cultural landscapes and sacred places as approved by the conference will be utilizing a systems long established in the Philippines under Department Administrative Order 2 Series of 1991 of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). This means that mechanisms in the Philippines are far advanced with a mechanism that the international community has yet to adopt. We have just made an initial step towards that through the Alta Outcome Document. This document will be the subject of debate and approval during the forthcoming United Nations High Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly otherwise known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) to be held in New York, September 14-17, 2014

Europe

ICCA Consortium networking in Europe

By Iris Beneš, ICCA Consortium Regional Coordinator for Northern, Central & Eastern Europe



On April 10-14 Vilm Island (Germany) hosted the “*International Workshop on Integrating Category V into landscape- and seascape-scale conservation to enhance connectivity and ensure resilience*”. The workshop was organised by the IUCN-WCPA Protected Landscapes Specialist Group, in cooperation with the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN). It brought together participants with expertise in diverse

fields and geographic regions to exchange experiences on the role of Category V protected areas in the broader landscape/seascape in achieving conservation aims at a larger scale, particularly with respect to enhancing connectivity and resilience, and maintaining ecosystem functions and services.

Special attention was paid to the crosscutting issue of governance and diverse governance models. Iris Beneš, as ICCA Consortium Regional Coordinator for Northern, Central and Eastern Europe presented “*Traditional agricultural landscapes and experience with Category V in Central/Southeastern Europe*”, emphasizing the challenges and opportunities of community conservation in the region and the work of the Consortium.

► [Read more](#)

Another event, “*Best practices for sustainable use of common grasslands in the Western Balkans and Europe – South Eastern European Round table*”, took place in Sofia (Bulgaria) on April 15.



This round table focused on the best management and governance practices in the Western Balkans and Europe. This topic was initiated within the project *“Sustainable use of pastures in Bulgaria”*, funded by GEF SGP Bulgaria and in discussion with partner NGOs from the Western Balkan countries who share a common history in pastures governance practices. Common land management is a historical feature of farming in Western Balkans and SEE Europe,

where all inhabitants of a settlement had the ‘unwritten’ right to use the commons. In the light of the new policy developments in agriculture and biodiversity conservation in EU (but also non-EU) countries in the region, it is therefore very important to find the right solutions for securing policy support for the commons of high-nature value Europe-wide.

The round table offered a forum in which current experiences in the management and governance of common pastures in the Western Balkans were shared, including aspects of best practices from the region and other areas in Europe. It also provided a chance to explore possible cooperation between the ICCA Consortium and the European Forum for Nature Conservation and Pastoralism on the possible entry points on EU level for the policy support for the commons/community conserved areas. Iris Beneš was present as a representative of Croatia, introducing common grazing practices in that country but also as an ICCA Consortium coordinator for the region and introduced the work of the ICCA Consortium.

► [Read more](#)

Another excellent networking possibility was the third LandLife workshop, hosted by the Catalan land stewardship network, XTC, in Tavertet (Catalonia) on May 29-31. The workshop was a meeting point for people and organisations from all across Europe in which participants debated about the state of art of Land Stewardship in Europe, its future prospects and possible development strategies. In order to present different non-government governance models Iris presented “Community conserved areas as pools of biodiversity – Croatia’s study case”.

► [Read more](#)

Latin America

El Consorcio TICCA en el X Congreso Latinoamericano sobre Reservas Privadas y Pueblos Originarios

Por Lorena Arce & Carmen Miranda, Coordinadoras Regionales del Consorcio ICCA para el Cono Sur y el Amazonas



Entre el 19 y 23 de agosto integrantes del Consorcio TICCAs de América Latina se reunieron en la ciudad de Valdivia, Chile, para intercambiar experiencias en el X Congreso Latinoamericano sobre Reservas Privadas, que por primera vez consideró la participación de pueblos indígenas. En esta ocasión, dada la importante presencia de miembros de la región, se realizó también la primera

reunión Latinoamericana del Consorcio. La participación de líderes indígenas en ambos eventos, fue posible gracias al decidido apoyo de la coordinación de política indígena de la Oficina Regional de la FAO para América Latina.

Reservas Privadas y TICCAs ¿una relación posible?

Para muchos, en principio, pareció extraña la relación entre reservas privada y pueblos indígenas, sobretodo considerando que entre las amenazas que hoy enfrentan los pueblos y comunidades de América Latina, se encuentra el acaparamiento de tierras por parte de privados e inversionistas con fines de conservación. Esta “relación” fue discutida internamente en la primera sesión del Consorcio –previa al Congreso y abierta a otros invitados– dónde se planteó la pregunta sobre *¿cuáles son los elementos en común y divergentes entre las reservas privadas y los pueblos indígenas?*

Como elementos comunes, fue destacado el hecho de que ambos grupos realicen sus esfuerzos de conservación de manera voluntaria, es decir, sin estar obligados o mandatados a hacerlo; y que a la vez, ambas formas de gobernanza aún no hayan sido reconocidas (o en algunos casos débil o inadecuadamente reconocidas) por la mayoría de los sistemas oficiales de áreas protegidas o por la sociedad civil en general. Sin embargo, los participantes también señalaron que ambos grupos presentan diferencias fundamentales, entre las que destacaron: *“que las motivaciones de conservación no son un objetivo explícito sino el resultado de prácticas tradicionales y de innovación de conocimientos en nuestra interacción con la Madre Tierra”* y que *“las reservas privadas se sostienen en el derecho privado mientras los territorios indígenas se sostiene en el derecho colectivo”* (Declaración Final).

Por lo tanto, los representantes indígenas presentes si bien celebraron *“que por primera vez en un evento de reservas privadas se haya convocado a la participación de los pueblos indígenas”* (Declaración final), señalaron que existen diferencias esenciales entre ambos grupos y que por lo tanto, **reservas privadas y TICCAs deben ser entendidas como categorías de gobernanza distintas –como sugieren las directrices de la UICN– de manera de avanzar hacia un reconocimiento apropiado a sus realidades específicas.** Se destacó finalmente que, siempre sobre la base del respeto a los derechos territoriales, culturales y colectivos de los pueblos indígenas, habrá voluntad para trabajar juntos, dialogar, establecer

alianzas e intercambiar experiencias, que permitan fortalecer el propósito común de cuidar la naturaleza y los beneficios esenciales que esta proporciona para la vida de todos los pueblos.

1ª Reunión de la Red Latinoamericana del Consorcio TICCA

El Congreso también representó una oportunidad para reunir a un representativo número de miembros del Consorcio TICCA de América Latina, situación inédita para esta red regional. En ese contexto se realizaron dos reuniones paralelas, una al inicio y otra al finalizar el Congreso, en las que también participaron los representantes de FAO y de pueblos indígenas invitados. Además de los temas de discusión antes señalados, fue posible avanzar en definir y acordar **líneas de acción prioritarias para el Consorcio en la Región**:

A Nivel Regional y Subregional: 1. Investigación-acción (con la participación de los pueblos indígenas); 2. Incidencia política; 3. Comunicación y difusión de información (en español);

A Nivel Nacional y Local: 1. Incidencia política (nacional-estatal); 2. Apoyo a iniciativas locales (estrategia de financiamiento); 3. Acompañamiento legal y político a procesos de conflicto.

Se destacó la importancia de buscar mecanismos que permitan avanzar en poner en práctica dichas líneas de acción. A la vez, los participantes manifestaron interés y compromiso por mantenerse conectados, y contribuir a seguir fortaleciendo y ampliando las alianzas que se generaron en este encuentro.

En síntesis, podemos decir que el haber podido encontrarse, dialogar y compartir visiones y experiencias, fue un importante paso adelante para la red de TICCA en América Latina; y que sumado al reciente encuentro subregional del Consorcio en Mesoamérica podemos observar cómo este “tejido regional” se va fortaleciendo y ampliando. Sin embargo, aún creemos que estamos al inicio de un largo proceso que requiere trabajo, compromiso y esfuerzos para madurar y dar frutos. La buena noticia es que no somos pocos, sino cada día más los que nos encontramos en el mismo camino.

Mas Información en:

- ▶ [Sitio web del Consorcio](#)
- ▶ [Sitio web oficial del Congreso](#)

Nicaragua: SOS de los pueblos indígenas para BOSAWAS

Por María Luisa Acosta, Coordinadora del Centro de Asistencia Legal a Pueblos Indígenas – CALPI (miembro Honorario)

BOSAWAS, la primera Reserva de la Biosfera de Nicaragua (Unesco 1998), está superpuesta sobre territorios indígenas Mískitu y Mayangna (Sumu). La Ley 445 (Ley del Régimen de Propiedad Comunal), establece la obligación para el Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARENA) “hacer en conjunto” el Plan de Manejo y el “sistema de manejo conjunto”. Por lo que se requiere del Consentimiento, Previo, Libre e Informado, como lo establece la Declaración de Naciones Unidas sobre los Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas, para realizar cualquier acción por parte del Estado. Sin embargo, BOSAWAS está siendo



afectada por otorgamiento de concesiones mineras, construcción de infraestructura, deforestación e inmigración de colonos. Por ejemplo, el impulso de la trocha construida sin consultar a los indígenas para impulsar la carretera Cola Blanca afecta las zonas núcleo y de amortiguamiento.

El Estado de Nicaragua se ha comprometido a preservar la Reserva de BOSAWAS por medio de la Ley que la declara y define

(Ley 407) y en 2005 otorgó los títulos de propiedad a los pueblos indígenas sobre sus territorios tradicionales. Pero aún estos no tienen el efectivo “uso, goce y disfrute”, como lo garantiza la Constitución Política de Nicaragua (Artos. 5, 89 y 180) y como lo determinó la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos de la OEA en su paradigmática sentencia del 2001, *Awas Tingni Vs. Nicaragua*. Los Gobiernos Territoriales Indígenas (GTI) denuncian que después de la entrega de los títulos de propiedad la deforestación y las invasiones se han agudizado. Pero reconocen que debido a la titulación de sus territorios existe mayor empoderamiento de los GTI, por lo que la crisis de BOSAWAS solo se puede solucionar con el trabajo conjunto entre el Estado y los GTI.

North America

Reciprocity, Natural Economy and Bio-Cultural Diversity

By Eli Enns, ICCA consortium Regional Coordinator for North America & University of Victoria POLIS Project on Ecological Governance Affiliate



While our planet experiences an extinction event on a historic scale we are also losing indigenous languages at an equally alarming rate. Is there a connection? Cultural-Biological diversity refers to a corresponding diversity in cultures (values, beliefs, languages) and life (from micro organisms to apex predators such as wolves and humans). A culture that is rooted for many generations in a given place,

will evolve tailored knowledge of the life forms there, which will improve its Resiliency. Many indigenous cultures' ways of organizing societal relationships to environment, have built in them ideas of responsible ecosystem stewardship, or Natural Economy, including almost universally an emphasis on Reciprocity.

Reciprocity, the idea of exchange and mutual benefit, is key to maintaining a healthy relationship between a society and an environment, and can be thought of as a fail safe rule for maintaining cultural and biological diversity. It connects intangible understanding of relationship to environment, with actions and tangible results in biological diversity and ecosystem health. Although both human social systems and ecosystems are complex apart from one another, reciprocity offers a simple rule of thumb to be sure that each can sustain and maintain resilience.

To illustrate reciprocity in action on a micro scale, take the following personal experience from my natural education in the Tribal Parks of Clayoquot Sound on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. Years ago, my elder relative took me fishing in the early summer. After several hours off shore and many fish caught, we headed in land. Rather than heading straight to dock in the village, he pulled his boat up along side "Sea Gull Rocks" just off shore and asked me to take a bucket and go to collect some Sea Gull eggs.

Growing up in an urban centre, this was a completely new experience for me, and at first, an unsettling one. The birds were obviously alarmed at my presence, and I could feel their anxiety. After a brief and unsuccessful search of the lower bank of the rocky islet, I returned to report back to my elder. What I saw then both put me at ease and brought home a teaching that had previously been given to me verbally. My relative was gutting the fish and departing the innards onto the lowest rocks for the Sea Gulls and the other creatures to eat in exchange for what we intended to take. He instructed me to climb up to the higher clefts, where I was indeed successful in finding several eggs. Rather than feeling like a thief, because of the exchange of energy that we offered, I felt a sense of reciprocity.

How does this level of reciprocity ensure cultural and biological diversity? Having a diverse way of meeting your energy needs helps to ensure that no one resource is relied upon to the point of exhaustion. Reciprocity further ensures against exhaustion of resources by going one step further and replenishing the resource on a case to case basis. In this way, the idea of reciprocity becomes a balancing force in cultural-biological diversity.

Publications, videos & forthcoming events

Sobre los avances de la gobernanza marina comunitaria en Costa Rica: Pescadores artesanales evalúan los avances en conservación marina y buen vivir

Por Vivienne Solis Riviera (miembro Honorario)

CoopeSoliDar R.L y la Red de Áreas Marinas de Pesca Responsable de Costa Rica, publican el resultado de una evaluación desde los actores principales de estas iniciativas locales de gobernanza del mar. En la conservación del mar, junto con otros movimientos a nivel global,

estas organizaciones abogan por movilizar esfuerzos hacia la gobernanza participativa de los territorios, tanto continentales como marinos. Una gobernanza que fortalezca la participación requiere Estados democráticos y con una visión de futuro. Requiere de una ciudadanía dispuesta a ejercer sus derechos y responsabilidades, así como de un pacto social y político fundamentado en valores de respeto, esfuerzo y solidaridad.

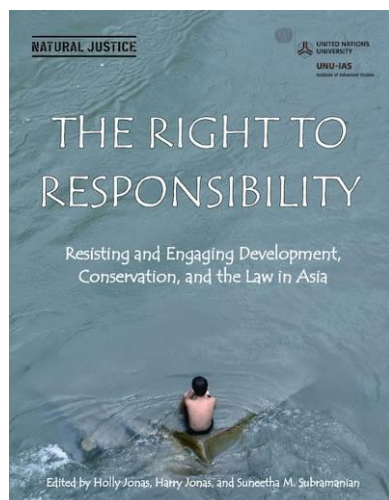
Hoy, los pescadores y pescadoras de pequeña escala de Costa Rica, representantes de las comunidades que han solicitado y en algunos casos recibido el reconocimiento del Estado para sus áreas marinas de pesca responsable, logran presentar este “estado del arte” de la situación de dichas áreas. El objetivo, medir a lo largo del tiempo cómo los esquemas más participativos de toma de decisiones, de igualdad y favorecedores de la diversidad de opiniones y formas de vida permite avanzar hacia el buen vivir y brindar esperanza para la conservación del mar. Los indicadores han sido preparados en los elementos fundamentales que rescatan la iniciativa de Directrices de apoyo a la pesca de pequeña escala que promueve la FAO.



► [Leer mas](#)

The Right to Responsibility: Resisting and Engaging Conservation, Development and the Law in Asia

By Holly Jonas, ICCA Consortium International Policy Assistant & Harry Jonas, Natural Justice (Member)



Natural Justice and the United Nations University – Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) recently released: [The Right to Responsibility: Resisting and Engaging Development, Conservation, and the Law in Asia](#). This edited volume explores how Indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ resilience to external factors is often undermined by laws, institutional arrangements, and judicial systems. It also examines how particular peoples and communities are striving to overcome such structural barriers to self-determination by resisting unwanted developments and engaging proactively with a range of actors at multiple scales. It features 8 community case studies (most of the authors of which are Consortium members!):

- "The Role of Traditional Knowledge and Customary Arrangements in Conservation: Trans-boundary Landscape Approaches in the Kailash Sacred Landscape of China, India and Nepal" – by Krishna Prasad Oli, Luorong Zhandui, Ranbeer S. Rawal, Ram Prasad Chaudhary, Shi Peili, and Robert Zomer
- "Defending and Strengthening Sharwa (Sherpa) Rights and ICCAs in Sagarmatha (Mount Everest) National Park, Nepal" – by Stan Stevens
- "A National Park, River-dependent Sonahas and a Biocultural Space in Peril" – by Sudeep Jana

- "Empowering Rights-holders and Facilitating Duty-bearers to Secure Farmers' Rights in Nepal" – by Bikash Paudel and Sajal Sthapit
- "Livestock Keepers' Rights in South Asia" – by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson
- "Forest Rights and Conservation in India" – by Tushar Dash and Ashish Kothari
- "Local Forest Governance, FPIC and REDD+ in Indonesia: A Case Study from Aceh, Sumatra" – by Patrick Anderson and Marcus Colchester
- "Asserting the Right to Safeguard Biocultural Heritage and Customary Lands in Ulu Papar, Sabah, Malaysia" – by Justine Vaz and Agnes Lee Agama

► The book is available for download in full, in three parts, and by chapter at: <http://naturaljustice.org/library/our-publications/books-volumes/the-right-to-responsibility>.

Life of the Consortium

Participation to the conference *"Scaling-Up Strategies to Secure Community Land and Resource Rights"*

The lack of clarity and recognition of community land and resource rights across the developing world has become a global crisis undermining progress on social and economic development, human rights, peace, food security, environmental conservation, and the ability to confront and adapt to climate change. Ownership of roughly one-half of the rural, forest and dryland areas of the developing world is contested, directly affecting the lives and livelihoods of over two billion people. These lands, which contain the soil, water, carbon, and mineral resources that the future of all humanity depends upon, are the primary targets of rapidly expanding investments in industrial agribusiness, mining, oil and gas, and hydro-electric production. This international conference aims to increase the profile and prioritization of community land rights as a global concern, catalyse new ideas and alliances, and secure commitments to take these strategies forward in coming months and years. It will take place on September 19-20 in Interlaken, Switzerland.

► For more information about the conference, visit their [website](#)

Application for the ECOSOC status

Last May, the ICCA Consortium applied for consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). ECOSOC is the main body to coordinate the economic, social, environmental, and related work of the UN. It generates policy recommendations to the General Assembly and has a number of subsidiary bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Commission on Sustainable Development. More information about each subsidiary body is available [here](#).

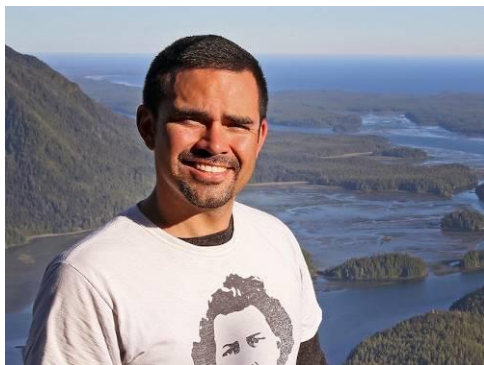
Since the first NGOs were granted consultative status in 1941, their numbers have grown steadily to over 3700. Applications are usually processed within 2 or 3 sittings of the Council.

Successful applicants are granted one of three categories of status: General consultative status (usually for large international NGOs with a broad focus), Special consultative status (usually for smaller and newer NGOs with a more limited focus), or Roster status (usually for NGOs with a very narrow focus). NGOs with consultative or roster status can be accredited to participate in the many relevant conferences convened under the UN. Participation may include attending in person, hosting a side event, and making an oral or written statement. NGOs in general or special consultative status must submit a brief report every four years on their contributions to the work of the UN.

The Consortium's application will be reviewed by the ECOSOC Committee in 2014, and final notification of approval (or rejection) should be sent by the end of next year.

- For more information, please visit the dedicated website: <http://csonet.org/> and download the NGOs Guide to Consultative Status (available in English, Portuguese, Japanese, and Korean): <http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=134>

Staff announcements



The ICCA Consortium is very pleased to announce it counts with a new **Regional Coordinator for North America, Eli Enns**, based in British Columbia, Canada. Eli is a Nuuchah-nulth Canadian political scientist focused in Constitutional Law, International Dispute Resolution and Ecological Governance. Co-founder of the Ha'uukmin Tribal Park in Clayoquot Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island, Eli is the great grandson of Nah-wah-suhm, public speaker and historian for Wickaninnish, Tyee Ha'wiih of the Tla-o-

qui-aht Nation. A proud father of five, Eli holds himself accountable to Future Ancestors and invests his time in several related capacities: Committee Member, Canadian Commission for UNESCO Man and the Biosphere National Committee; Plenty Canada, Nation Building Program Director; and Liaison for Ecotrust Canada's Business Development Group. Eli was also the recipient of the 20th Anniversary Canadian Model Forest Achievement Award. Through the natural education (Ha'hopa) provided by his elders, Eli has gained an appreciation for the profound simplicity of Hishuk-ish Tsawaak (everything is one and interconnected), applying this perspective in his life and work through the pursuit of common ground and alternative pathways to economic certainty, environmental stewardship and assertion of Aboriginal Rights and Title. Building on experience in a variety of community development areas at the Tyhistanis Equilibrium Community Development site in the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and at Opitsaht in the Meares Island Tribal Park, Eli is aware of the connection between the inner world of beliefs and the external work we co-create. Contact: eli@iccaconsortium.org and eli@ecotrust.ca.

Eli had also taken over the organization of the workshop "Conservation of First Nations' Territories by and for First Nations" to be held in November 2013 in Tofino (Canada).

- Visit the conference dedicated webpage [here](#).

New Members & Honorary Members

The Consortium is delighted to welcome four new Member organisations:



[Tafo Mihaavo](#)



[Equipe de Conservação de Amazônia \(ECAM\)](#)



[Sacred Natural Sites Initiative \(SNSI\)](#)



[Strong Roots](#)

We are also warmly welcoming 13 new Honorary Members:

1. Ms. Erika Stanciu, Romania
2. Ms. Alina Ionita, Romania
3. Dr. Maria Luisa Acosta, Nicaragua
4. Mr. Andrej Sovinc, Slovenia
5. Mr. Stefano Lorenzi, Italy
6. Prof. Jesse (Chiung Hsi) Liu, Taiwan
7. Prof. Silvel Elias, Guatemala
8. Dr. Romeo Tiu, Guatemala
9. Mr. Armando Ismalej, Guatemala
10. Mr. Li Bo, China
11. Ms. Yuxin Hou, China.
12. Mr. Josep Maria Mallarach, Spain
13. Mr. Bertrand Sansonnens, Switzerland.

The ICCA Consortium

www.iccaconsortium.org
<http://iccaconsortium.wordpress.com>

For any enquiry, please write to:
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