

THE ICCA CONSORTIUM NEWSLETTER

Issue #9 – February 2015

Editorial

Dear colleagues,

Greetings and welcome to richest (so far) among our Newsletters! Emma feels a mix of delight, worry and exhaustion when she realises that every new issue she compiles is larger than the preceding one! We hope you will also be delighted by glancing through the titles and finding those that attract you to read more in depth... Let me call your attention, in particular, to the new section entitled **"You are the Consortium!"** where you will find many opportunities to take an active role in the Consortium life and work. We hope that many of you will reply and contribute your energy and experience.



Joe Martin, from the Tla-o-qui-Aht First Nation (Canada), during the Smoking Ceremony that opened the "Welcome to country" day in the "communities conserving nature and culture" gathering which was held in The Blue Mountains, NSW, Australia, 10th November 2014. Credits: A. Kothari

This is also the moment for me to offer a few words on the meaning of the recent work of the Consortium in international policies for the conservation of nature, which came to a milestone at the World Parks Congress Sydney 2014. There are at least three elements, in the [Promise of Sydney](#) Vision (the document that summarises the key results of the congress) that encapsulate what can be seen as significant positive change from past approaches... and to which the Consortium hopes to have contributed.

The first is the fact that, throughout the Promise of Sydney Vision, we never find the expression "protected areas" but always "protected *and conserved* areas". The novelty is crucial. While for the majority of readers "protected areas" are still those officially protected by state governments, "conserved areas" is new terminology increasingly recognised as "areas conserved *de facto*, and often voluntarily"-- many of which are ICCAs. In other words, ICCAs are taking indeed a prominent place in conservation circles.

The second is that issues of governance are also becoming most prominent throughout. The Vision includes phrases such as: "*We will enhance diversity, quality and vitality in governance* and management, including the appropriate recognition and support of areas conserved by indigenous peoples, local communities, and private entities." Again, there is both new language and the awareness that profound change is needed ("diversity, quality and vitality").

And, finally, the third element is the new attention and focus on conservation justice and

redress: “By working in partnership with and recognizing the long traditions and knowledge, collective rights and responsibilities of indigenous peoples and local communities to land, water, natural resource and culture, *we will seek to redress and remedy past and continuing injustices* in accord with international agreements. [...] We will collaborate with new partners to promote *sustainable and equitable economies that respect planetary boundaries and social justice.*”

We have no illusion that all these governance-related changes in international policy in conservation will not take years to get translated into practice. They will. The Consortium may need to help to re-state them many times in Resolutions for World Conservation Congresses and in new language for CBD decisions. It may need to help its members to develop national standards and more supportive legal frameworks, including better integration of customary laws, to enhance the diversity, quality and vitality of governance of protected and conserved areas and

territories. It may need to develop guidance and highlight exemplary cases. It may need to support rightsholders, NGOs, governments and UN bodies to establish effective mechanisms to ensure that new approaches and international standards of justice and redress are actually *applied*... But, if the Consortium and others will keep nourishing and supporting them, these elements of change in mainstream conservation will hopefully become both concrete and irreversible. That will not be a small change.

Good reading to you all!

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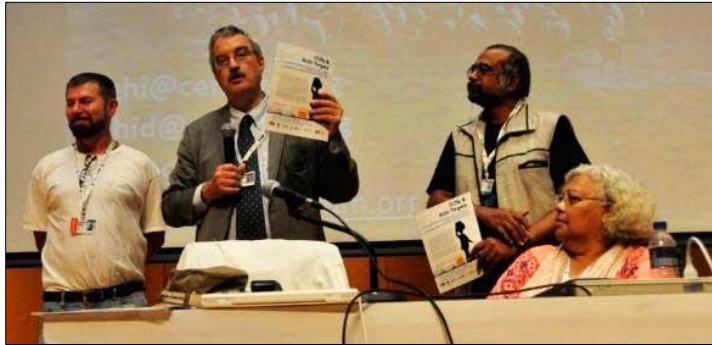
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International News

ICCAs at the 12th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Holly Jonas, ICCA Consortium International Policy Coordinator, and Alphonsa Jojan, Natural Justice



John Scott (CBD Secretariat), Bráulio de Souza Dias (Executive Secretary of the CBD), Ashish Kothari (Kalpavriksh), and Chrissy Grant, speaking about the ICCAs and Aichi Targets briefing note. (Credits: Harry Jonas)

From 6-17 October 2014, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, delegates from state parties, civil society, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities convened for the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12).

The main agenda items focused on: a) assessing progress in the implementation of the 2011-2020

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity; b) enhancing implementation to achieve the Strategic Plan; and c) other items under the CBD's Programme of Work (including access and benefit sharing, Article 8(j) and related provisions, marine and coastal biodiversity, and climate change and biodiversity).

The fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO4), which draws largely from the latest round of national reports submitted by CBD parties, serves as a mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets. There has been significant progress towards meeting some components of the majority of the Targets, with some on track to being met (for example, conserving at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas). However, in most cases, the progress to date will not be sufficient to achieve the Targets by 2020. In addition, very few suggestions made by the Consortium through two rounds of detailed written submissions were taken up by the GBO4 authors. The Consortium has notified the Secretariat of concerns that the final product largely ignores the significant contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities to conservation and signifies an unfortunate step back from GBO3 (2010). Much more will need to be done to close the significant gap between the Targets and their implementation.

The COP adopted 35 Decisions, several of which contain provisions relating to ICCAs and community conservation. Arguably the most important is Decision XII/12 on Article 8(j) and related provisions, which adopted the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use (after years of dedicated efforts by the Forest Peoples Programme and their partners) and agreed to use the term "indigenous peoples and local communities" instead of "indigenous and local communities" in all future decisions and secondary documents adopted under the CBD. ICCAs, traditional and indigenous knowledge, customary sustainable use, and other relevant terms also featured strongly in decisions on biodiversity and sustainable development, marine and coastal biodiversity, and ecosystem conservation and restoration.

In addition to the negotiations, the ICCA Consortium and its members co-hosted and participated in a number of side events, including on ICCAs and the Aichi Targets;

biodiversity, well-being and the post-2015 agenda; the Community Conservation Resilience Initiative; legal preparedness for the Aichi Targets; and community protocols. Consortium members also contributed actively to the briefing notes, preparatory meetings, and statements of the CBD Alliance and International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

In the middle weekend, the Secretariat of the CBD, UNESCO and the ICCA Consortium, among others, partnered to host a number of activities on the “Linkages between Biological and Cultural Diversity”. It featured presentations by several Consortium members on topics such as ICCAs, customary sustainable use, and other effective area-based conservation measures, and launched a detailed [Briefing Note on the contributions of ICCAs to achieving the Aichi Targets](#) which was compiled by Ashish Kothari and Aurélie Neumann.

[Please visit the page dedicated to the COP12 in our Website](#)
[CBD COP 12 meeting website - CBD COP 12 meeting documents - CBD COP 12 official final report - CBD COP 12 Decisions - Global Biodiversity Outlook 4](#) (multiple languages)

131 times: “indigenous and local communities” (and variations thereof)
83 times: “indigenous and traditional knowledge” (and variations thereof)
53 times: “customary sustainable use”
25 times: “community-based”
21 times: “livelihoods”
19 times: “rights”
15 times: “*sui generis* systems”
14 times: “full and effective participation”
11 times: “indigenous and community conserved territories and areas” (and variations thereof)
9 times: “governance”
9 times: “community protocols”
8 times: “territories”
8 times: “prior and informed consent”
4 times: “tenure”
4 times: “customary practices”
2 times: “community conservation”

Number of references related to ICCAs throughout the COP 12 Decisions (to be verified).

World Park Congress, Sydney 2014, governance at the forefront!

Emma Courtine, Assistant to the programme



Taghi Farvar making a speech in front of 300 persons at the welcome Smoking Ceremony by the local aboriginal owners, sitting around here, in the Gully Aboriginal Place, Katoomba, Blue Mountains, NSW, Australia. Credits: C. Chatelain

The ICCA Consortium co-organized three consecutive events in New South Wales, Australia, in November 2014. It was the completion of many months (years!) of technical and logistical work and the culmination of much reflection by its members.

The first event was a gathering among indigenous peoples and local communities from five continents entitled

Communities conserving nature and culture, held from 7 to 11 November in Leura, in the Blue Mountains region. On this occasion the ICCA Consortium also held its 7th General Assembly. (Please find [the report of the General Assembly here](#)) The second event was the *Stream on Enhancing Diversity, Quality (and Vitality) of Governance of Protected Areas* at the IUCN World Parks Congress (Sydney 2014). More than a hundred people related to the Consortium as members, honorary members or close partners took part in the Congress, and in its Governance Stream in particular. The [overall conclusions of the Governance Stream](#), are available here and some of them you can also find in the main statement of distilled conclusions of the WPC, the 'Promise of Sydney'. In the Promise of Sydney, governance issues are stressed, and there is a clear acknowledgement of "... *the increasing role of indigenous peoples', community, and privately -conserved areas and territories in reaching biodiversity conservation and societal goals*". This mentioning of ICCA makes us proud!



The Consortium launched several [publications](#) at the Congress, and the representative of one of our members, Reza Salehi, who chairs the council of elders of the Abolhassani Tribal Confederacy of Iran, was on stage during a plenary to explain how its people faces climate change and copes with increasing droughts. On the left you can click and see Reza Salehi who starts talking in Persian and is followed by Ghanimat Azhdari (member of the Qashqai Tribal Confederacy in

Iran) who is continuing the speech in English. It has been a beautiful and effective moment of knowledge sharing.

The third event organised by the Consortium was a field visit and capacity exchange gathering on ***Assessing, evaluating and planning to enhance the governance of protected area systems and individual sites***. For four days, a group of about forty people gathered in the south of Sydney, in the Jervis Bay Territory, which includes the land of the Dharawal, Durga and Wollongong Nations. The exchange provided an occasion to come back to the conclusions of Sydney but also to start planning for the future, notably for the **Governance Learning Networks** that will hopefully develop and take-on their roles in the ICCA Global Support Initiative (GSI). The outcomes of these three events for the ICCA Consortium are detailed in the [ICCA Consortium Participants report](#) that is now available here!

The Proceedings of the WPC 2014 Stream on Enhancing Vitality, Quality and Diversity of Governance of Protected Areas are currently under development.

***Click here to read the
ICCA Consortium
participant's report***



Fraternity among continents: members and partners of the Consortium meet a Cullunghutti traditional owner, providing an occasion for exchanges among indigenous peoples from the Philippines, Indonesia and Australia. Credits: C.Chatelain

Burning the Planet, One Climate COP at a time

Mary Louise Malig, trade policy analyst and Research Associate and Campaigns Coordinator for the GFC

For the third year in a row, a typhoon wreaked havoc on the Philippines during a Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In 2012, during the UNFCCC COP 18 in Doha, Qatar, Typhoon Bopha, the strongest ever to hit Mindanao, the southern area of the Philippines, left more than a thousand dead and thousands more homeless. In 2013, during the COP 19 in Warsaw, Poland, Typhoon Haiyan, a super typhoon of levels never seen before in the Philippines, made landfall and devastated millions of families, displaced an estimated 4 million people, and, left in its wake at least 6,100 dead, making it the deadliest typhoon to ever hit the country. Storm surges brought by the super typhoon violently washed away entire communities.

“Today, at the COP 20, it is clear beyond any doubt that the historically responsible emitters are not interested in making any emission cuts, nor are the big developing countries, who are rather competing with the industrialized countries in polluting the planet.”

This year, 2014, during the COP 20 in Lima, yet again another super typhoon made its way to the Philippines. Initially a category 5 super typhoon, Typhoon Ruby, weakened to a category 3 once it made landfall. Its path however included the communities still reeling from devastation of Typhoon Haiyan the year before.

Although the Philippines is no stranger to typhoons, seeing 15-20 typhoons a year, the scale of these recent super typhoons hitting the country has inflicted damage never before seen. Scientists have been making these warnings for several years now, warmer waters and warmer air temperatures are combining to produce more volatile and extreme weather including super typhoons of record-breaking magnitudes. One would think that with the vivid and horrific reality of massive loss and damage in countries like the Philippines, happening exactly at the same time as representatives of 192 governments come together to discuss actions needed to address the crisis of climate change, that these decision-makers would at least be compelled to take genuine action. Instead, it has been the complete opposite.

From Commitments to Pledges to Contributions: downward spiral of emission cuts

Following an acknowledgement of historical responsibility for the contamination of the planet, 37 industrialized countries (known in UNFCCC parlance as Annex 1 countries) ratified the Kyoto Protocol, legally **committing** to cut emissions – by at least 5 percent below 1990 levels in the commitment period 2008 to 2012. The Kyoto Protocol however had **flexibility mechanisms** which allowed Annex 1 countries to “offset” – pay developing countries to plant trees in order for them to maintain their polluting ways, or to trade – buy and sell their polluting credits. These mechanisms have allowed Annex 1 countries to continue or even increase emissions at source.

In 2010 however, as negotiations discussed the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, at the COP 16 in Cancun, a new concept proposed from the COP 15 in Copenhagen was agreed to replace the legally binding commitments: pledges. Despite

protests from developing countries, the Cancun Agreements, which included these new pledges, were adopted. Pledges would be **voluntary** and would endeavour to keep the warming of the planet to stay below 2 degrees Celsius. Best efforts would be made to not burn the planet.

At COP17 in Durban, the following year, even more historic changes were made, breaking from the original principles of the Rio Conventions. The Durban Platform stated that the new agreement would be “applicable to all,” which would begin to undermine the principle of common but differentiated responsibility to escape the historical responsibility of developed countries.

Then COP19 in Warsaw, Poland, introduced an even weaker concept replaced pledges: **contributions**. Technically named Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, this allows countries to decide for themselves, what they think they can contribute to keep to the global target. It didn’t seem possible but they found a way to commit even less.

Today, at the COP20, it is clear beyond any doubt, that the historically responsible emitters are not interested in making any emissions cuts, nor are the big developing countries, who are rather competing with the industrialized countries in polluting the planet. The options laid on the table for the post 2020-agreement are even weaker than what was “pledged” in Cancun and Copenhagen. There also seems to be attempts to change the baseline to 2010 levels instead of 1990 levels, meaning that countries will probably even increase their emissions. Furthermore, there is no clear legally binding mechanism to ensure that countries contributions are actually meeting the global goal. And there are even more market mechanisms proposed in addition to those that exist under the Kyoto Protocol. The proposals include more carbon markets for forests and possibly even agriculture, and subnational, national and regional emissions trading schemes.

Science is very clear: to limit the increase of the temperature to 1.5°C - global emissions should be less than 38 Gt of CO₂e by 2020 (44 Gt of CO₂e for 2°C) – this means legally binding cuts – not pledges or contributions and no carbon markets. At current “business as usual” rates, we will reach global emissions of 57 Gt of CO₂e by 2020. Simply put, the current trajectory of the climate negotiations mean that we will not make enough cuts in emissions before 2020 to ensure that we will stay on the path of keeping within the limit of the 1.5 degree centigrade ceiling. The feedback mechanism of the climate guarantees that if this decade is lost, that there will be no going back from climate chaos.



At the march for Mother Earth in the streets of Lima, people called for a change to the system not the climate. Credits: P.Solón

To reclaim the future, we need to change the present

The urgency of the climate crisis, blatantly ignored by the climate negotiations, is lived daily by social movements, indigenous peoples, and communities all living on the frontlines of climate change. In the streets of Lima, during the COP20, at least 20,000 people marched for Mother Earth, calling for a change in the system, not the climate.

It is the adherence to the capitalist system and the perpetuation of corporate profits after all that drives the climate negotiations – which are promoting false solutions such as REDD (Reduction from Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), Climate Smart Agriculture, and other market based mechanisms to carbon markets to techno-fixes such as geo-engineering, carbon capture and storage, industrial bio-energy and others that do further harm to the planet. One of the most crucial steps to real and deep emission cuts is to **leave more than 80 percent of fossil fuels in the ground**, but with the corporate capture of the negotiations by the oil and energy industry, there will never be a break from business as usual. The seeming insensitivity of the COPs to very real devastation experienced firsthand by countries like the Philippines is intentional as governments prioritize big business over affected communities.

We need to break from the current system of over-exploitation, over-consumption, over-production and extractive industries and, in its place, let flourish the many different solutions, methods and systemic alternatives of peasants, indigenous peoples, women, and communities such as food sovereignty, *buen vivir*, agroecology, community conservation, de-globalization and respect for the rights of nature.

Changing the system is our only hope to reclaim our future.

This is a shortened version, for full article, please go to:

<https://peopleforestsrights.wordpress.com/2014/12/13/burning-the-planet-one-climate-cop-at-a-time/>

Igorot Raises “Two-Headed Monster” at UNHRC

Giovanni Reyes, Member of the Steering Committee of the ICCA Consortium and Kankanaey Igorot tribe from Sagada, Mountain Province, Northern Philippines was at the



G. Reyes during his speech at the UNHRC

27th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on the 17th September 2014. He had there an occasion to raise the spectrum of a “two-headed monster” that poses grave threats to indigenous peoples.

[Read more on his intervention and on the outcomes of the meeting here.](#)

This can also be read in parallel with [the article from the ICCA Consortium Newsletter N.8 on Giovanni Reyes’ intervention at the WCIP \(Page 3\).](#)

Global ICCA Support Initiative Inception

Meeting 27 – 30 Jan 2015

Sarah Ryder, Programme Manager & Grazia BF, Global Coordinator

As announced in the Newsletter of October 2014, the German government, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have formed a new partnership to create the largest global fund for territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs). The initiative is entitled 'Support to indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs) through the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)', will be financed over five years as a contribution to the achievement of targets contained in the CBD Aichi 2020 framework, and will work in at least 26 countries at the global level.



The participants in the ICCA GSI Inception meeting. Credits: ICCA Consortium

From 27th to 30th January 2015, twenty-one individuals affiliated with the implementing partners of the initiative gathered at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) headquarters in Gland, Switzerland to discuss definitions and work processes. The implementing partners are the UNDP GEF SGP, the ICCA Consortium, the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC). Other organisations present were the Equator Initiative, which is currently coordinating the World Indigenous Network (WIN) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Four days of explanations, discussions, presentations and group work resulted in a greater understanding of the definition and complexities of ICCAs, and an agreement on a timeline of activities for the four implementing partners to carry out work throughout 2015. Attendees heard about ICCA examples from Central America, Ecuador, Iran, China, The Philippines, Kenya, Namibia and other countries around the world.

The initiative will act as an umbrella for coherent projects of many partners and is designed to improve recognition, support and effectiveness of ICCAs by enhancing capacities at many levels. Through that, it will support the diversity, quality and vitality of governance of the global network of "protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures" as articulated in the Promise of Sydney of the World Parks Congress of 2014.

You are the Consortium!

Would you like to become a Consortium Regional Coordinator? Do you know anyone who has a great profile for it?



*The field visit and capacity exchange post-WPC event participants.
Credits: Tanguy Chatelain*

The ICCA Consortium is currently seeking exceptional individuals willing to take on volunteer positions and/or semi-volunteer consultancies as **Consortium Regional Coordinators**. The needs are stronger in **Eastern and Southern Africa, in Central Asia, the Sahel, Brazil and in Central America with a specific focus on indigenous peoples' issues... but we will welcome expressions of interest for any world region**. The ideal candidates would, first and foremost, be enthusiastic about contributing to a global organisation that is advancing appropriate recognition, respect and support for ICCAs. It would also be important to have field and/or policy experience with ICCAs, a strong sense of values, analytic capacities and excellent communication skills, including in writing. We would be

delighted if indigenous peoples, women, young people and/or elders decide to apply. As Coordinator positions are flexible and combinable (as our President says, "*we are a movement, not an NGO...*") we encourage individuals to propose themselves for part time positions openly combined with employment with Consortium's members and partners or others.

The Consortium Regional Coordinators foster communication and collaborations among the Consortium's members and honorary members in a given region. They help to develop and carry out the Consortium work programme and take action to expand its network and influence. As time goes by, they become the voice of the Consortium in the region, taking important diplomatic and practical responsibilities.

As you will have understood from the words 'volunteer' and 'semi-volunteer', the successful applicants can expect a relatively meagre financial compensation but plenty of opportunities to learn and engage in an international movement fostering conservation, sustainable livelihoods and the respect of human and indigenous peoples' rights.

If you are willing to offer some of your time and skills to the ICCA cause, please send a short motivational note and CV to Sarah Ryder, the Consortium Programme Manager (sarah@iccaconsortium.org). Sarah will reply and you will be able to converse about options and details with her and others.

The Consortium's communication system and YOU!

Emma Courtine and Alessandra Pellegrini, Assistants to the Programme of the ICCA Consortium, and Grazia BF

What is the scoop?

We are at the beginning of the ICCA Global Support Initiative (GSI) and the ICCA Consortium is due to play a crucial role in it. Many events and ideas will have to be communicated to wide and diverse audiences. The aim of the Consortium communication team is to make sure that the ongoing multi-directional flow of information on ICCAs among the members is as clear, relevant and beneficial as possible.



Communicating in Cambodia. Credits: GBF

Who is in the ICCA Consortium communication team?

Emma Courtine	Compilation of the Consortium Newsletter; social network animation; website management; development of overall communication strategy
Alessandra Pellegrini	Development of overall communication strategy
Vahid Asefi	Website technical management
Christian Chatelain	Making photostories and videostories on ICCAs; making a short film on the WPC Governance Stream
Sarah Ryder	General advice; language monitoring; occasional translations into English, especially for the movies
Sébastien Weiskopp	Development of an animated video on ICCAs
Aurélie Neumann	Photo Story Advisor
Isis Alvarez	Support to information dissemination in Spanish through social networks
Grazia BF	General advisor

In order to implement the ICCA Consortium overall communication system (ICS), we are currently developing a communication strategy. Two basic principles will serve as its foundation:

- *The **information you generate** is what feeds the Consortium's communication system*
- *Members, honorary members, coordinators and partners: **you** are also the crucial **actors** in the communication system! The communication team would very much like to hear from you and interact!*

Please advice!

To help us develop both the content and tools of the Consortium's communication system, **kindly offer your answers and views on the following questions**, or any suggestions on communication:

- **Is it useful to you to be able to communicate effectively about ICCAs? For what purpose?**
- **What would you like to communicate about ICCAs?**
- **To whom? In what circumstances?**
- **Which communication avenues would you prefer to use?**

Please send them to Emma (emma@iccaconsortium.org) & Ale (alepelle@iccaconsortium.org)

The communication team is there to help you diffuse the information you produce and want to communicate. The more you let us know, the more we will be able to amplify your work and inspire other people on the basis of your experience.

Where do we start from?

The **ICCA Consortium website**: Much of the work of the communication team is currently focused on revamping the Consortium's website, where you will see changes in 2015. Our main goal is to improve the clarity and ease of use of the website and thus facilitate access to the wealth of information it contains. It will remain the website of the Consortium but also serve more clearly as a forum to find and exchange ICCA-related ideas, documents, articles and information.

Other communication channels on the web: There are many ways to follow the Consortium online: [our blog](#), [Facebook page](#), [Twitter account](#), and [Newsletters \(you have it in front of your eyes!\)](#) Social media (Facebook and Twitter) are used as a complementary way to access all the articles published in our blog, website and our Newsletter! **Please do not hesitate to connect your organisation with the Consortium on Facebook and Twitter and ask us to forward your news related to ICCAs.**

Send us your news! Indeed, let us repeat one more time that our communication channels will function at best when each one of you will nourish them. This is why I would like to invite you to send at any moment in the year (and not only when we call for articles for the Newsletter) to Ale (alepelle@iccaconsortium.org) and Emma (emma@iccaconsortium.org) any articles or items of news related to ICCAs that you or your organization are working on.... We will then find the best way to diffuse them through the ICCA Consortium network.

It is not only about diffusing news... The aim of the Consortium is also to follow ICCA initiatives, in policy and in practice, to keep track of them, to inform about such initiatives and to learn from them through time. In this respect we would like the ICCA Consortium website to be a source of knowledge and insights for anyone visiting it.

Do you need our own dedicated platform?

If you feel that it is not enough to upload some information on the Consortium website, and you would like to have your own platform/ site to present your ICCA-related achievements, if you feel that you have the energy necessary to create and manage your own site, we would be more than happy to help you! A tutorial for the creation of a blog

web site is available. (Please contact Ale or Emma). The only condition is that your site has to be directly connected to the one of the Consortium, as it will be hosted by its server. This tutorial is currently being used by some of our Members in Africa.

The important issue of language

We wish to improve communication despite boundaries and, in the same way, we wish to improve it despite a diversity of languages among us! We are planning to offer navigation of the new website in the three languages most commonly used within the Consortium: English, Spanish and French. This was an important request made during a recent Steering Committee meeting and we hope to be able to find solutions that will enable to meet it effectively!

Please let us hear from you!

The ICCA Consortium Working Group on Law and Policy-- an open call for members!

Holly Jonas, ICCA Consortium International Policy Coordinator

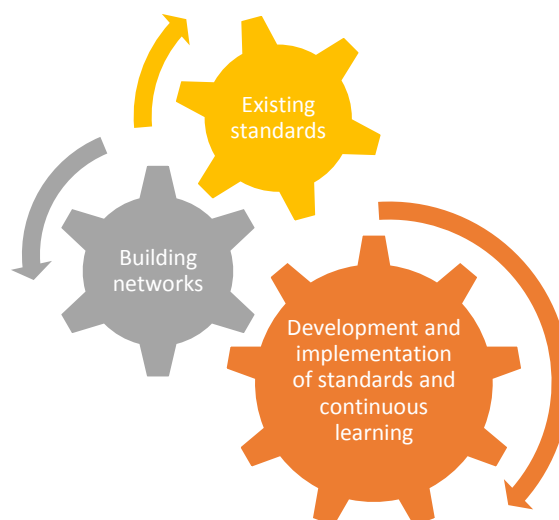
The ICCA Consortium has made great strides in international law and policy in promoting appropriate recognition of and support for ICCAs. This has primarily been done through international conservation and biodiversity fora, particularly the World Parks and World Conservation Congresses of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Programme of Work on Protected Areas. Many of the Consortium's Members are increasingly engaging with a greater diversity of international processes within both environmental and human rights fora, including climate change, desertification, agriculture, and indigenous peoples' rights, as well as business and human rights and sustainable development fora.

Time for a Step-Change?

The Consortium is arguably at a point in time where a well-developed and –executed strategy could be a step-change for its influence and impact on international law and policy. Such a strategy could significantly broaden and deepen the categories and types of international and regional decision-making processes with which the Consortium engages. It could also provide far greater clarity to the Consortium's Members about the full extent of international instruments and processes that can be strategically utilised to support their local and national efforts.

International advocacy strategies can thus be a combination of using **existing international standards** to highlight violations, pushing for the **further development and implementation** of international standards and jurisprudence (and continuous learning thereof), and **building networks** to raise international awareness and support. It may be more effective to use multiple international and regional fora and mechanisms, rather than counting on just one, and in concert with local and national mechanisms. However, developing such strategies takes

time and calls for an understanding of the broader legal and policy (and practice) landscape. The ICCA Consortium has held a number of discussions on these matters over the past 1.5 years, including at the 2013 and 2014 General Assemblies, the 2014 Steering Committee meeting in Australia, a 2014 meeting in Gland on international advocacy strategies, and further exchanges with the Global Coordinator and Consortium members.



Announcing the Working Group on Law and Policy

On the basis of these discussions and decisions, in order to pursue a more comprehensive and integrated international advocacy strategy, the ICCA Consortium is establishing a **Working Group on Law and Policy**, which will comprise the following teams:

- 1) ICCAs and ***indigenous peoples' rights and human rights***
- 2) ICCAs and ***food and agriculture*** law and policy (including fishing, farming and pastoralism)
- 3) ICCAs and ***land and water*** law and policy
- 4) ICCAs and ***climate change and energy*** law and policy
- 5) ICCAs and ***conservation of nature*** law and policy (including biodiversity, forests and combating desertification)
- 6) ICCAs and ***sustainable development*** policy
- 7) ICCAs and ***standards and safeguards*** for finance and business

Call for Members for the Working Group on Law and Policy

ENGLISH	FRANÇAIS	ESPAÑOL
<p>For more information about what is expected of each team, please see the call for members. The Working Group is open to all ICCA Consortium members and Honorary members and will be coordinated by Holly Jonas, the Consortium's International Policy Coordinator (holly@iccaconsortium.org). Please be in touch if you are interested in being involved, preferably by 10 March !</p>	<p>Pour plus d'informations sur ce qui est attendu de chaque équipe, veuillez voir l'appel aux membres. Le groupe de travail est ouvert à tous les membres et membres d'honneur du Consortium APAC et sera coordonné par Holly Jonas, Coordinatrice de la politique internationale du Consortium (holly@iccaconsortium.org). Veuillez nous contacter si vous êtes intéressés à vous impliquer, de préférence avant le 10 Mars !</p>	<p>Para obtener más informaciones sobre lo que se espera de cada equipo, por favor ver la llamada para los miembros. El grupo de trabajo está abierto a todos los miembros y miembros honorarios del Consorcio TICCA y será coordinado por Holly Jonas, Coordinadora de Políticas Internacionales del Consorcio (holly@iccaconsortium.org). Por favor, póngasen en contacto con ella si están interesados a participar, preferiblemente antes del 10 de marzo !</p>

The ICCA Consortium new series of Policy Briefs: do you wish to contribute?

As part of its 2014-2017 Work Plan, the Consortium is articulating **topical background and policy recommendations for a number of key subjects of concern for ICCAs**. The results will be part of a **Consortium Policy Brief series** to be diffused on line and as printed documents during events and focused advocacy efforts at international policy meetings. As typical for all initiatives of the Consortium, the effort unfolds through a participatory process: 1. the lead authors develop a first draft, which is then sent to the whole membership for comments and examples, with the possibility of others joining in as co-authors; 2. this process can be repeated a few times, until a good quality product is achieved; 3. the lead authors – in coordination with the Consortium Secretariat – take responsibility for the final text and pictures.

Fifteen key subjects are under consideration for the series, some of which are already been worked on, others for which work will soon begin and others for which work will never happen unless someone emerges with concern and willingness to lead them along. Some small consultancies are envisaged to take the matter forward.

Interested candidates should contact the **Consortium Global Coordinator and International Policy Coordinator** (Grazia and Holly) with a **short description of the key ideas they would like to develop**. As the topics of the possible Policy Briefs often overlap with the topical focus of the teams of the Working Group on Law and Policy (see preceding article), it is expected that the teams may take some Briefing Notes under their wings.

Expected/ proposed and/or agreed topics for the Consortium new series of Policy Briefs

1. **ICCAs and the CBD Aichi Targets for Biodiversity** (*already completed and launched on the occasion of the [CBD COP 12](#) in October 2014, and [available here](#); lead author: Ashish Kothari*)
2. **ICCAs and protected areas: overlaps, conflicts and synergy** (*on-going; lead authors: Stan Stevens and Neema Pathak*)
3. **ICCAs and market-based and non-market-based incentives for ecosystem services** (*developed and distributed in early version; lead author: Simone Lovera;*)
4. **ICCAs and collective land, water and natural resource rights and responsibilities** (*on-going*)
5. **ICCAs and food and water security and sovereignty**
6. **ICCAs and the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals**
7. **ICCAs and collective rights and responsibilities to nature**
8. **Strengthening ICCAs by working with Youth and Elders**
9. **Options for the legal recognition of collective rights and responsibilities for nature (ICCAs)—a primer**
10. **ICCA coverage, characteristics and values—examples from around the world**
11. **Conservation of nature: are there diverse collective rights and responsibilities of indigenous peoples and local communities?**
12. **ICCAs and sustainable use and restoration initiatives**
13. **ICCAs and “other effective areas-based conservation measures”**
14. **ICCAs and human rights standards**
15. **ICCAs: what is their role in restoration of nature and sustainable development?**



International meetings and policy decisions on the horizon

Holly Jonas, ICCA Consortium International Policy Coordinator

A wide range of international law- and policy-making processes are of relevance to ICCAs. Many such processes hold public consultations or issue calls for submissions, which provide opportunities to positively influence negotiations and policy outcomes. A [new page on the ICCA Consortium website](#) will be regularly updated with information on calls for submissions and related deadlines.

There are currently four important calls for submissions to which ICCA Consortium members may wish to respond:

- [Public consultation](#) on the International Council on Mining & Metals (ICMM) Good Practice Guide on Indigenous Peoples and Mining: **Deadline 12 March 2015**
- [CBD Working Group on Article 8\(j\) and related provisions](#): **Deadline 1 April 2015** ([en français ici](#), [en Español aquí](#))

International meetings on the horizon until May 2015 are set out below in seven categories:

Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Human Rights			
Date	Location	Meeting	More Info
24-28 March 2015	Tunis, Tunisia	World Social Forum	http://bit.ly/1yUD5sF
20 April to 1 May 2015	UN Hq, New York City	14th Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	http://bit.ly/1CIfLiZ

Food and Agriculture Law & Policy (including fishing, farming and pastoralism)			
23-27 March 2015	Siem Reap, Cambodia	Tenure and Fishing Rights 2015 - A global forum on rights-based approaches for fisheries	http://bit.ly/1zfQCN2

Land & Water Law & Policy			
18-24 April 2015	Berlin, Germany	3 rd Global Soil Week	http://bit.ly/1CX5UD
11-17 May 2015	Dakar, Senegal	Global Land Forum (International Land Coalition)	http://bit.ly/1uBD6f
27-29 May 2015	Cairns, Australia	Second Blue Planet Symposium	http://bit.ly/1wFvFc

Climate Change & Energy Law & Policy			
14-18 March 2015	Sendai, Japan	UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction	http://bit.ly/1knEBx
18-19 March 2015	Nairobi, Kenya	Africa Future Energy Forum	http://bit.ly/15Kbdf
28-30 April 2015	Jamshoro, Pakistan	South Asian Conference on Climate Change: Risks and Actions	http://bit.ly/1xXuyB
19-21 May 2015	Beijing, China	World Hydropower Congress 2015	http://bit.ly/1C5A8Y

Conservation of Nature Law & Policy (including biodiversity, forests and combatting desertification)			
9-12 March 2015	Cancun, Mexico	UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference: Combating desertification, land degradation and drought for poverty reduction and sustainable development	http://bit.ly/18jcmfa
17-20 March 2015	Barcelona, Spain	IV Mediterranean Forest Week	http://bit.ly/1BrC5c
25-27 March 2015	Bonn, Germany	UNCCD 13 th Session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention	http://bit.ly/1yIIW53
4-15 May 2015	UN Hq, New York City	UN Forum on Forests Eleventh Session	http://bit.ly/1GXUVjO

Sustainable Development Policy			
23-27 March 2015	UN Hq, New York City	Third Session of Intergovernmental Negotiations on Post-2015 Development Agenda	http://bit.ly/1ymqazg
20-24 April 2015	UN Hq, New York City	Fourth Session of Intergovernmental Negotiations on Post-2015 Development Agenda	http://bit.ly/1ymqazg
18-22 May 2015	UN Hq, New York City	Fifth Session of Intergovernmental Negotiations on Post-2015 Development Agenda	http://bit.ly/1ymqazg

Standards & Safeguards for Finance & Business			
23-27 March 2015	Washington, D.C.	16th Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty	http://bit.ly/106Gfvi
17-19 April 2015	Washington, D.C.	2015 Spring Meetings of World Bank and IMF	http://bit.ly/1r6nG3z

Regional News

AFRICA

Community evictions and disrespect for human rights pitted against conservation in Tanzania

For the second time, the ICCA Consortium is alerting its members on events in Loliondo, Tanzania, where more than 100 homesteads were recently destroyed.

Please click [on this link to follow the case](#), and see several telling pictures... or [check out directly our press release here](#).



ICCA Coast chapter and champions in Kenya

Nancy Chege, GEF SGP National
Coordinator, Kenya

In December 2014, representatives of various ICCAs located in the coastal region of Kenya, gathered over a 2-day period in the ancient town of Mombasa, to discuss ways in which ICCAs can take advantage of the on-going devolution process, so as to gain appropriate recognition and support. It was also an opportunity for the participants to connect with others, and to share their victories



**INDIGENOUS AND CONSERVED AREAS (ICCA)
COAST WORKSHOP 8th - 10th DEC @ SEVERIN SEA LODGE**

Credits: GEF SGP Kenya

and challenges. The workshop was organized by the GEF Small Grants Programme of UNDP, in collaboration with Ujamaa Center, a local NGO based in Mombasa, which promotes community rights over land and natural resources. At the end of the workshop, the participants had resolved to work together under a platform they called “The ICCA Coast regional chapter” and they selected among themselves 7 persons as ICCA Coast champions. The champions represent the different categories of ICCAs, and they will drive the ICCA agenda at the Coast, under the guidance and support of Ujamaa Center.

Prior to the December 2014 workshop, two other workshops were organized and hosted by “the ICCA team” - a small group of professionals based in Nairobi. The first was a 1-day workshop in June 2013, which targeted state and non-state actors in the environmental arena, whose work and mandate requires them to work with ICCAs. The purpose of the workshop was twofold: (i) acquiring a better understanding of the definition and characteristics of ICCAs and (ii) creating partnerships which would foster a collaborative effort to support ICCAs. Dr. Grazia Borrini Feyerabend, Global Coordinator of the ICCA Consortium, keynote speaker, gave a comprehensive and global overview of ICCAs, which elicited a lively discussion.

As a follow-up to this primary workshop, local communities and representatives of ICCAs from different parts of the country were invited to a 2-day workshop to exchange views and share ideas. While representatives of community conservancies, sacred forests, marine co-management areas, and rangelands talked about their respective areas, a common thread was emerging: threats and challenges faced by ICCAs across different ecosystems were similar. It includes lack of security of tenure, poor understanding of relevant policies and legislation, degradation of the natural resource base and lack of support from state actors. However, it also revealed the opportunities that ICCAs could collectively tap into, in order to address their challenges. Indeed it appeared evident that, rather than struggling independently, it would be more effective for ICCAs to address their challenges within a harmonized and collaborative effort among their different types.

Given that there are perhaps hundreds of ICCAs located across the Kenyan land/sea-scape, the workshop participants agreed to carve the country into regions and develop a phased approach, in order to be effective and enhance opportunities by starting each phase equipped with lessons learnt from the previous phase. The first region selected was the Coastal one, and a workshop for the Coastal ICCAs was held in December 2014. The Kenyan Coastal ICCAs chapter was established on this occasion (see picture above).



Threatened eviction of Uvinje villagers—the frustration deepens

Sarah Ryder, Programme manager of the ICCA Consortium

TANAPA's force compensation assessment at Uvinje village. June 4th, 2014. credits: Resident of Uvinje Village

The Consortium currently has an active alert concerning Uvinje, a small, coastal sub-village of Saadani Village, north of Dar es Salaam, in Tanzania. The residents of Uvinje face forced eviction from their land and homes because the Tanzania National Park Authority (TANAPA) redrew boundary lines and unilaterally gazetted Uvinje's present and ancestral lands to extend the coverage of Saadani National Park.

In 1965, Saadani Game Reserve (SGR) was officially established. To facilitate this, the community voluntarily contributed over 66% of their original lands to the SGR. In exchange, they were promised the retention in perpetuity of the coastal areas where their main villages, including Uvinje, are situated. In the 1990s, TANAPA unilaterally redrew the boundaries of the SGR to include the totality of the Uvinje and Porokanya sub-villages and a portion of the remaining Saadani village lands. Government officials and policemen attempted to start the expropriation of the Uvinje community's lands in June 2014.

The villagers of Uvinje remain the legal owners of the village lands in question. They have consistently proven to be diligent custodians, able to respect and manage wildlife whilst remaining *in situ*. In a letter dated 20th August 2014, the Consortium appealed to the national authorities in Tanzania to cancel the proposed eviction and to seek agreement with the Uvinje community. Significant media interest in this affair was generated both locally in Tanzania and internationally but, to date, the Consortium has received no response to its letter and the situation has become increasingly difficult and threatening for the inhabitants of Uvinje. TANAPA has not yet withdrawn its claims, nor communicated formally with Saadani Village or Uvinje. Further, and of profound concern, there is the suggestion that a group of individuals claiming to possess relevant 'land rights', is imminently to be paid 'compensation' for rescinding such alleged rights. Under Tanzanian law, and without any specific agreement from the rightful land owners in Uvinje, this could constitute a serious abuse in process and substance. Legitimate members of the community have steadfastly refused to accept any form of compensation for the expropriation of their land.

At the request of the Uvinje villagers, the Consortium has just written a [second letter](#) to the authorities in Tanzania and it has already been [forwarded in the local press](#).

For full details [please consult the dedicated page in our website](#) and support them on [Facebook](#)



A child of the Uvinje Village and his mom during one of the meetings at Uvinje taking place soon after TANAPA's forced compensation exercise. Credits: Alejandra Orozco, June 2014

The Bambuti-Babouloko preserve their landscape in DRC

Christian Chatelain French-Speaking Africa Coordinator, and
Joseph Itongwa Coordinator for forest ecosystems in Central Africa

The Bambuti-Babouloko, indigenous pygmies of Democratic Republic of Congo are seeking a legal recognition of their forest land as conservation areas. By declaring their forests as "KISSI MBOSSA" (fertile areas), they demonstrate their usefulness for the livelihood of the communities and the role of their pygmy culture in conservation. KISSI MBOSSA possesses all characteristics of the areas and territories conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs), which are now internationally recognized as a very useful type of natural resources governance to safeguard nature on our the planet. This film was made to support the indigenous peoples and local communities of DRC in their advocacy for the official recognition of ICCAs in the national legislation. It is part of a series of three films from three different provinces of the DRC.

Les Bambuti Babouloko préservent leur paysage en RDC

Les Bambuti Babouloko, peuples autochtones pygmées de RDC recherchent une reconnaissance légale de leurs territoires forestiers en tant qu'aire de conservation. En déclarant ces forêts sous le nom "KISSI MBOSSA" (Espaces féconds), ils démontrent leur utilité pour la subsistance des communautés et le rôle de leur culture pygmée dans la conservation de la nature. KISSI MBOSSA possède les caractéristiques des aires et territoires du patrimoine autochtone et communautaire (APAC), maintenant reconnues au niveau international comme un type de gouvernance des ressources naturelles très utile à la sauvegarde de la nature de notre planète. Ce film a été réalisé pour aider au plaidoyer des peuples autochtones et des communautés locales de la RDC en faveur de la reconnaissance officielle des APAC dans la législation de ce pays. Il fait partie d'une série de trois films réalisés dans trois provinces différentes de la RDC.



La Vidéo de Kissi Mbossa existe également [en français!](#)

“Our” ICCA in Casamance...

The story of Kawawana

Christian Chatelain French-Speaking Africa Coordinator, and
Salatou Sambou, Coordinator for the marine and coastal ecosystems of West Africa

In Casamance, a group of fishermen engaged an entire community to set up an exemplary ICCA. In french, with English subtitles.

En Casamance, un groupe de pêcheur a engagé sa communauté toute entière dans la mise en place une Aire du Patrimoine Communautaire (APAC) exemplaire. En Français sous-titré anglais.



To know more about Kawawana, [find a presentation here!](#)

Pour en savoir plus sur Kawawana, [veuillez lire leur rapport « Kawawana en marche ! »](#) ainsi que le livre [« il était une fois Kawawana » paru en 2013.](#)

Second National Conference on ICCAs in the Philippines

Giovanni Reyes, Member of the Steering Committee and representative of members KASAPI and Bukluran ng mga Pamayanang Nangangalaga sa Kalikasan (Bukluran Inc.)

This article is extracted from [a report that you can find here](#).

The Second National Conference on indigenous peoples' and local communities' conserved areas and territories (ICCA) was held 21-22 October 2014. Held auspiciously in time for the yearly celebration of indigenous peoples' month (October), the event gathered under the leadership of the National Coalition of Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines' (KASAPI, Inc.) including community representatives from the newly-formed Philippine ICCA Consortium (BUKLURAN Inc.). The Conference was held with support from the Biodiversity Management Bureau, of Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation (PTFCF), GIZ Protected Area Management Enhancement (PAME), Philippine Association for Intercultural Development Inc. (PAFID), University of the Philippines-National College for Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG) and New Conservation Areas in the Philippines Project (NewCAPP) and aimed at further advancing the recognition and role of indigenous peoples (IPs) in biodiversity conservation, strengthening of traditional governance systems, forging stronger partnership and following-up commitments made in the 2011 Manila Declaration on ICCAs.

"The resilience and commitment of indigenous communities is enough reason to be inspired. Now we must open our minds to the wisdom of our indigenous brothers and sisters." Congressman Teodoro B. Baguilat, Jr.



Ifugao Representative and congressman Teodoro Baguilat Jr., Biodiversity Management Bureau Director Mundita Lim, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Undersecretary Demetrio Ignacio, and National Commission on Indigenous Peoples chairperson Leonor Quintayo. Credits: KASAPI.

Apart from 250 participants from 40 tribes representing seven ethno-geographic regions, the event welcomed some representatives of government agencies, private sector, civic and donor institutions, the academe and the media. Bannering the theme, "Pagpapahusaysa Tradisyunalna Pamamahala ng Lupaing Ninuno at Pangangalaga ng Laksambuhay," (Strengthening Traditional Governance of Ancestral lands and nurturing biodiversity) the program included opening and closing ceremonies, press briefing and ICCA material launching, workshops, networking hour and five sessions covering topics such as developments on ICCA, case studies on ICCAs, Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP) and Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

The opening ceremony kicked-off with an indigenous morning sunrise ritual led by Aeta, Kalinga, Manobo and Talaandig tribes. A video presentation of the morning ritual was shown during the plenary to emphasize the significance of the event to the IP community. On this occasion, seven messages came from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Atty. Antonio G.M. La Viña, Chairperson, Philippine Tropical Forest and Conservation Foundation (PTFCF) (represented by Atty. Jose Andres Cañivel), Dr. Stephanie Schell-Faucon, Principal Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit Conflict Sensitive Resource and Asset Management Program (GIZ-COSERAM), Ms. Amelia Supetran, Team Leader, Energy and Environment, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Hon. Demetrio L. Ignacio, Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Hon. Teodoro “Teddy” B. Baguilat Jr., Representative, Philippine House of Representatives.

According to Dr. Stephanie Schell-Faucon, *“laws in the Philippines (regarding IP and local communities) are very progressive.”* While recognizing the initiatives of the country in CBD, he stressed upholding of IP rights and local communities. On the other hand, Ms. Amelia Supetran explained that the problems arising from natural resources management are drawn from Western-oriented legislations and their incompatibility with customary laws. She added: *“We have to be specific when laying down plans regarding the use of natural resources. The focus must be wealth creation from our resources.”* Thus, she stressed that there is a need to recognize the value of traditional knowledge to generate substantial wealth for the country. Under-Secretary Demetrio L. Ignacio shared the efforts made by the DENR in addressing IP concerns and land tenure. These include the issuance of an administrative order to clarify land management concerns and facilitate dialogues among stakeholders and harmonization of the records among Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), DENR and NCIP. Usec. Ignacio further affirmed the commitment of DENR in the ICCA initiative. He asserted that, *“dapat manaig ang karapatan ng katutubo (IPRA)”* which means: *“rights of IPs should at all times prevail”*. Congressman Teodoro “Teddy” B. Baguilat, Jr. explained that, *“the resilience and commitment of indigenous communities is enough reason to be inspired. Now we must open our minds to the wisdom of our indigenous brothers and sisters.”* He said that, as a legislator, he is exploring possible amendments to the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992 to be able to accommodate indigenous management systems.

National and International Development on ICCA Recognition

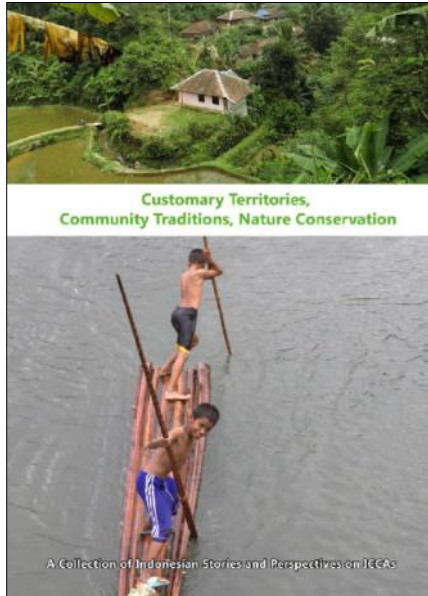
During the First Session, Director Theresa Mundita S. Lim discussed the highlights of the First National Conference on ICCA and the status of the national recognition on ICCA which includes the ICCA registry, ADS DPP, FPIC and PA System Masterplan. Ms. Holly Jonas-International Policy Coordinator for the ICCA Consortium-Global-- shared the development of ICCA within a global context.



The participants in the meeting. Credits: KASAPI

Customary territories, community traditions and nature conservation in Indonesia

By Crissy Guerrero, Cristina Eghenter and Kasmita Widodo, Working Group on ICCAs in Indonesia (WGII)



Indonesia is one of the most biologically and culturally diverse countries in the world. Many of these areas and lands are sustainably conserved and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities who have a close bond with their territories. They have developed governance and conservation systems, and the areas and territories are a source of identity, culture and livelihoods for them.

The Working Group for ICCAs in Indonesia (WGII)¹ was established after the [ICCAs Symposium in Bogor](#) in October 2011, to promote ICCAs practices and advocate for their formal recognition as a way to balance the need to protect critical ecosystem areas while securing the rights of indigenous people and local communities.

The first urgent step made by WGII has been to start compiling stories and experiences of ICCAs as well as community traditions about the management of their territories and the importance of conserving nature but also finding additional value to natural resources and ecosystem services to improve benefits for the communities.

The stories were compiled in a book: “**Customary territories, community traditions and nature conservation**”, which was presented and shared at the World Park Congress in Sydney (Nov 2014). It includes initial case studies and experiences of ICCAs in Indonesia. More examples are forthcoming.

The stories evoke the Ammatoa Kajang of Bulukumba, South Sulawesi, who have been protecting *Borong karamaka* or sacred forests for generations; the people in Haruku who, like many communities in Maluku and other eastern islands of Indonesia, practices *Sasi* or customary prohibition imposed on the catch of fishes or shells, with the view to allowing present and future generations to have bountiful, yet sustainable, harvests. The case of the Dayak Kenyah in North



Tana Ulen Sungai Nggeng (forest and old burial sites, evidence of the long history of the IPs in their land), Dayak Kenyah Indigenous Peoples of Long Alango. Credits WGII

¹ The member organizations of WGII are: AMAN, BRWA, JKPP, Huma, Kiara, NTFP-EP, Pusaka, Sawit Watch, WALHI, WWF Indonesia.

Kalimantan Kenyah of Malinau, in North Kalimantan, is also detailed. They have a traditional system of forest and river basin reserves or *Tana Ulen*, in which customary councils limit and regulate the use of natural resources in the area and fine transgressors.

The documentation, recognition and registration of ICCAs continue to be fundamental in order to overcome the internal and external challenges and risks that ICCAs still face in Indonesia. It is particularly important now that mapping of customary and indigenous territories is regaining momentum and strength in many parts of the archipelago, and customary areas and territories start being recognized in local spatial plans (e.g., Papua). This is also a result of the fundamental Constitutional Court ruling No. 35 issued in 2013 that customary forests, including ICCAs, can no longer be considered as state forest but are a rightful and separate category of forest land. Districts around Indonesia are legislating on the recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights (e.g., Malinau government Regulation No.10 / 2012 on the Recognition and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; the Regent of Lebak decree No. 32/2001 on the Protection of Baduy Land Rights), which is currently a base when actualizing customary forest rights. Moreover, another law No. 1/2014 has sanctioned the rights and role of customary and



The Dayak Kenyah Indigenous Territory of Hulu Bahau in Malinau District, North Kalimantan, Indonesia. Credits: WGII

local communities in managing coastal and marine resources. Similarly, the new Village Law (2014) can strengthen the recognition and support of customary practices. Moreover, the draft revision of the law on biodiversity conservation (No. 5/1990), community conserved areas (CCAs) and related traditional knowledge are recognized and adopted as a new governance type in addition to national parks.

As the stories and examples illustrate it in this report, ICCAs are examples showing that traditional management of natural resources and conservation is holistic and integrates various aspects such as livelihoods, food and water security, conservation and environmental security, and cultural identity. From legal perspective, ICCAs are an appropriate place to fulfil economic, environmental, social and cultural rights. ICCAs do not only conserve a vast range of habitats, biodiversity and ecosystem services and have their own zonation system, they are also the basis of livelihoods for millions of people by securing resources and income.

The case studies also show that ICCAs were traditionally integrated in a broader management system, which is a key element for their future. It encourages us to take a landscape approach and to recognize that the cultural and natural values of landscapes and customary territories are inextricably linked, and that indigenous people and local communities are central to sustaining them.

“The documentation, recognition and registration of ICCAs continue to be fundamental in order to overcome the internal and external challenges and risks that ICCAs still face in Indonesia”

Ultimately, the strength of ICCAs and traditional conservation initiatives depends as much on the existence of international and national instruments as on the strength of the customary law and traditional knowledge of the community itself (*“how strong and committed we are”*). Local institutions need to be sustained and strengthened, and empowered through information, capacity building and skills sharing, to be participants and champions of improved governance of forests and natural resources in Indonesia.

For more information, visit the [webpage dedicated to the Symposium in Bogor](#) in the ICCA Consortium’s website

The “Taiwan Indigenous Conserved Territories Union” is about to be born!



Pangcah people of Farangaw has built a traditional bamboo sailing boat named “Self-Government.” Credits: Mayaw Biho

Sutej Hugu, Regional Coordinator for East Asia, ICCA Consortium

Till the Imperial Japan took over Taiwan in 1895, the traditional territories of indigenous peoples covered 60% of our island’s territory. Only after 1928 the Japanese colonial government announced its expropriation into state property and left to the indigenous peoples only a small part of it as ‘reserved areas.’ Today, there are still more than 800 tribal villages in Taiwan within about 250 thousands hectares of ‘Indigenous Reserved Areas.’ Under

the continued efforts at forced assimilation during the last century, the tensions and conflicts between the indigenous peoples and the state governments have remained well alive. They are persistent today in the solidarity resistance of indigenous peoples for their own survival and revival to a better future.

Looking forward to translating the rights and responsibility of indigenous peoples into realistic actions and practices, Kavas Takistaulan, an iconoclast activist from Lido tribal village of Bunun people in Taitung convened a meeting of veterans of the indigenous peoples’ movement in Taiwan. The group, which was supported by Consortium’s honorary member Professor Jesse Liu and Regional Coordinator Sutej Hugu, decided to work on the organization of the “Taiwan Indigenous Conserved Territories Union” (TICTU). Following the basic principles of “self-identification, self-determination, and self-government,” the indigenous peoples decided to strives for achieving “tribal sovereignty, eco-occupation, de facto governance, and the management of the commons” in each of their own tribal villages. They also planned to establish a “Rights of Indigenous Peoples Resource Platform” to promote the rights-based approach, institutions-based approach, and the knowledge-based approach in local and national strategic programs.

Currently, the tribal activists are undertaking various grassroots campaigns and making alliance for their collective rights. They are also participating in the development of the

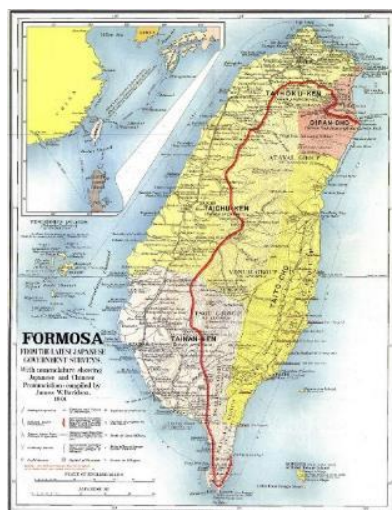
new constitution for a new pluralistic state of Taiwan, and handling the historical injustice problem of homeland grabbing by colonial governments. They lead in proactively demanding the rights of 'preview, approve, and review' all major research projects and development planning in their territories—a requirement that goes further than the mere principle of “free, prior, and informed consent.”

Dr. M. Taghi Farvar, President of ICCA Consortium, is invited to join the formal launching of the TICTU in early March at Taitung, the county with the highest number of tribal villages and the largest percentage of population that is indigenous. A global coalition towards tribal sovereignty organized through national federations of ICCAs and being supported by regional learning networks is a great vision to struggle for, and any advice from our seasoned comrades around the world will be most appreciated.



Mr Kavay Takistaulan on Aliavjini: "We are come back to restore our permanent sovereignty on natural resources in our traditional territories." Credits: Cegaw Lrakadrangilra <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q63yn2FFys8>

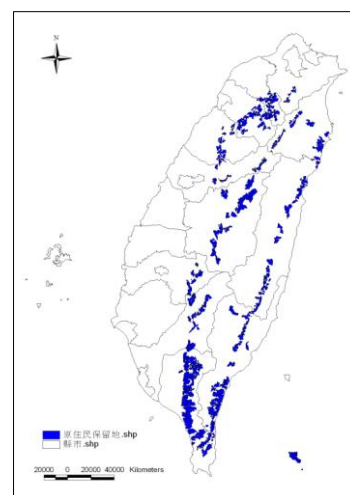
1901- Japanese government, and outline drawing done by T. Obamawa, expert from Formosa government



1935 - Japanese Governor-General Office in Taiwan



2002 - Professor Chiou-Mien Lin, National Taipei University



This is a short supplement to the modern history of indigenous peoples in Taiwan. In the map of Taiwan (Formosa) of 1901 (see above here), the legend details that the red line designates: "Approximate boundary line separating Savage District and Territory under Japanese administration." Despite the state land grabbing policy, in the 1935 another map named "Indigenous peoples' distribution" still very clearly displays the traditional territories. In 1928 the Japanese Colonial Administration of Taiwan had announced the state expropriation of all traditional territories along with the establishment of the Indigenous Reserves. The 2014 map highlights the Indigenous Reserves nowadays, shown as fragmented areas in deep blue.

Farmers and Indigenous Peoples continue to denounce the expansion of oil palm plantations in Palawan

Dario Novellino, Honorary Member and ALDAW

“Which development? For whom and on which purpose? How and where? And with which implications?” These are only few of the many questions raised by the victims of oil palm development in Palawan’s UNESCO declared Man and Biosphere Reserve, one of the most valuable ecological sanctuary in the entire Philippines.



Pala'wan children sat on rolls of bamboo to be sold in the local market. Oil palm plantations are responsible for the depletion of bamboos and other NTFPs. Credits: ALDAW

On 29 September 2014, a delegation composed of farmers and indigenous peoples has conveyed to Palawan Vice-Governor Dennis Socrates, a petition signed by more than 4,200 individuals calling for a moratorium on oil palm expansion province-wide. The group belonging to the newly established Coalition Against Land Grabbing (CALG) said that, in addressing rural poverty, the Government of Palawan should focus on concrete and sustainable plans to improve production on farmers’ land, rather than pushing for massive oil palm plantations. As oil palm expansion continues unabated, the household economy of small farmers and indigenous peoples is now breaking apart.

“The expansion of oil palm plantations in Palawan is a blatant example of companies defying international law, state laws and the rights of communities through the connivance of unscrupulous and short-sighted government officials” says Marivic Bero (CALG’s Secretary General). One can only speculate why the Government of Palawan remains passive while huge expanses of land, forest and fertile grounds of the “last Philippine Frontier” have been given away for agribusinesses. However at least, we know the official explanation: oil palms are only planted on ‘idle’ and ‘abandoned’ land to enhance the province’s economy while increasing job opportunities and transforming unused areas in productive plantations.

But are such lands really ‘idle’ and ‘abandoned’? A [recent study carried out by ALDAW](#) (Ancestral Land/Domain Watch), a member of the global ICCA Consortium with the support of the [Non-Timber Forest-Exchange Programme](#) and the [Broederlijk Delen](#), has clearly proven the contrary. The study, further supported by additional documentation obtained by the author during his Darrell Posey and Paul Feyerabend fellowships, points out that most of these so called ‘idle’ and ‘unproductive’ lands include areas that have been used since time immemorial by IPs societies. The removal of natural vegetation and of previous agricultural improvements by oil palm plantations is leading to the total



Virgin forest being stripped for oil palm plantations in Sandoval, Municipality of Bataraza. Credits ALDAW

collapse of traditional livelihoods, thus fostering communities' impoverishment and increasing malnutrition.

What the Government has failed to consider is that most of the so called 'idle' and 'underdeveloped' lands include areas that are being utilized by the rural and indigenous populations for different purposes (gathering of non-timber forest products - NTFPs), medicinal plants, widen cultivation, etc. A direct relationship exists between oil palm expansion, the

impoverishment of people's diet, the progressive deterioration of traditional livelihood and the interruption of cultural transmission related to particular aspects of people's local knowledge.

In some oil palm impacted communities, the most common plant species used in basketry have dramatically declined. Overall, if massive land conversion for oil palm plantation will be allowed to continue, this may cause the additional exhaustion of plant material and fibers which are essential to sustain people's cultural practices, artistic expressions and daily needs. The depletion of useful wild palms is directly connected to land conversion into oil palm plantations. Palms yield multiple types of products and provide both food and cash income. Pala'wan indigenous communities exploit wild plants for their edible cabbages (the tender meristematic region found in the growing tip and enclosed by leaf bases). Calamus spp. and Daemonorops spp. yield very little, but Arenga spp. and Oncosperma spp. might provide buds that are up to two-three kilograms. Certain palms such as *bātuq* (*Caryota mitis*), *bātbat* (*Arenga undulatifolia*), *busniq* (*Arenga brevipes*), and *nangäq* have been traditionally exploited for their edible starch. Undoubtedly, palm food in Palawan may still play an important role in view of the dramatic changes that peoples are experiencing in their livelihood (e.g. increasing crops' failure due to attack of pests and unpredictable weather patterns). There are evidences, in fact, that during various El Niño events, several Pala'wan communities have been able to counter famine and crop failures through increasing collection of starch from both wild and cultivated species. It may then be anticipated that the alarming decline of starch palms caused by oil palm expansion could further deprive entire Pala'wan communities from an important emergency food (palm starch), thus

Evidence clearly indicates that the disappearance of useful plant species in favor of oil palm expansion is extremely alarming.

For instance, in one particular area of Palawan, in Barangay Iraan (Municipality of Rizal), interviews of local inhabitants lead to the conclusions that out of the overall amount of species that cannot longer be found in the proximity of people's settlements:

- 32 of them are plants for medicinal and ritual uses,
- 27 of them are plants used for making artifacts, objects of daily use as well as for house material,
- 13 are palms having multiple uses and
- 7 of them are rattan palms,
- 4 are useful bamboo species.
- 9 species were used as fish poison,
- 3 species provided the poison for the blowpipe darts and
- 15 are plants used as food/condiment.

leaving them with no food options during periods of food shortage and crops failure.

“Pushing for oil palm expansion, without a single map being produced, is an indication of the lack of commitment and concerns by both government agencies and oil palm companies” says Motalib Kemil, the Chairman of the newly established Palawan-based CALG

Surprisingly enough, oil palm expansion and massive land conversion in Palawan is taking place with neither serious monitoring by the concerned authorities nor existing maps. It is therefore impossible to systematically determine the ownership, elevation, land classification, etc. of the areas in which oil palms are being planted. So far, oil palm plantations have covered an area of about 6,000 ha. across six Municipalities in Southern Palawan and their aim is to expand to a total target area ranging between 15,000 to 20,000 hectares.

Oil palm development in the Philippines is bound to become a major issue. The country, in fact, aspires to become one of the key exporters of oil palm kernels and palm oil in Southeast Asia, after Malaysia and Indonesia. Indeed, this is not such a remote possibility, considering that, recently, Environment Secretary Ramon Paje has proposed [the conversion of some 8 million hectares of ‘idle’, denuded and unproductive lands across the country into oil palm plantations.](#)

EUROPE

Iniciativa Comunales: together for ICCAs and the commons in Spain

Sergio Couto González, ICCA Consortium Coordinator for South and West Europe and member of the Steering Committee of Iniciativa Comunales.

Little more than one year has passed since the ICCA Consortium General Assembly (GA) in Valdeavellano de Tera (Soria, Spain) in October 2013. There and then, something important, and yet low-key, took place in one of the small rooms surrounding the large hall of the GA. A group of representatives of different ICCAs/Common lands and seas from Spain met for the first time. Why were they there? Why side by side with the Consortium’s GA?

It all started one year before, when some of us associated with the ICCA Consortium were gathering information for the report [Recognition and Support of ICCAs in Spain](#) (2012). For that report, we contacted about 200 relevant people and local and regional initiatives in Spain. While doing this, we had two major surprises:

1. In Spain there were many and very varied forms of ICCAs—many more than we ever imagined! The richness and diversity were, sometimes, overwhelming: hundreds of fishermen and shell gathering guilds, thousands of common forests, neighbour forests, hunting societies, watering communities and others currently managing millions of hectares of high environmental value in Spain!!!

2. Most of these communities did not know about each other, even inside the same sector (forests communities, watering communities, etc.). In the best case, some were organised at regional level, as the Neighbouring Woodlands ([*Montes en Mano Común*](#)) in Galicia, but did not know the existence and importance of other similar situations as, for example, those of the Partners' Forest Societies ([*Montes de Socios*](#)) in Soria. The common feeling was that they were alone and that nobody (the state, regional government, society, mass media) cared very much about them. But reality was to show something quite different...

Thanks to the report (which was in no way exhaustive) the tip of the iceberg was described and assessed. Reality showed that there were many people and communities working on supporting and successfully managing ICCAs, while many other common lands were alienated,



Workshop among the EU Project COMET-LA and Iniciativa Comunes in Córdoba, Spain. 10th January 2015. Credits: Iniciativa Comunes

neglected or just privatised, and that this situation was almost “invisible” for society. As we interviewed different people and communities, we facilitated contacts among one another. We also communicated to the communities that, for the first time this kind of initiatives were starting to be recognised at international level in different arenas (e.g. conservation, human and collective rights, direct democracy, etc.). This led to the idea that gathering the ICCA Consortium members with the representatives of the federations, associations and other groups governing and managing different types of commons in Spain would generate an amazing synergy. In such a meeting everyone was likely to see, understand and feel much stronger the importance of the collective heritage of Spain as part of an even larger global movement.

So, let us go back to when we all first met during the ICCA Consortium General Assembly in Valdeavellano de Tera, in 2013. In one of the late evenings of those days, the Spanish delegates gathered and started formulating their ideas. We decided to call ourselves “Iniciativa Comunes” (The Commons Initiative) and we sketched the “Declaration of Valdeavellano de Tera”. The Declaration, later refined and translated in ten languages ([English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#) and other 7 co-official languages in Spain), is now signed by 28 organizations –from common forests, to transhumant and pastoral organizations, federations of hunting societies, shell gatherers and fishermen guilds, conservationist NGOs, etc. The “Declaration of Valdeavellano de Tera” was [publicly released](#) in Madrid last September with great success.

Having clarified what united us and our “common vision of the commons”, we decided to go for the next step and develop ourselves into an association. Currently we include people who represent NGOs (as SEO/BirdLife or the ICCA Consortium itself), some academics and many organizations representing ICCAs and federations of lands and seas managed as “commons”. In our Statutes we included a “weighted vote”, so the votes of local community associations weight much more than those of people from universities or NGOs. With that, we wanted to make sure that communities will always represent the commons and ICCA movement. Additionally we decided not to admit unions or parties as



Members of Iniciativa Comunales with the “Declaration of Valdeavellano de Tera”. Credits: Iniciativa Comunales

member, to avoid the risk that the organization may be exploited to serve party interests or similar vested interests.

In January 2015 the members of “Iniciativa Comunales” finally met in Córdoba (Andalusia) for a double purpose. The first was the one of approving our Statutes in our

first General Assembly, and the second the one of co-organising a [workshop](#) with the EU project [COMET-LA](#) to collectively develop the research agenda on the commons in Spain based on the needs of the communities managing ICCAs and the commons in Spain. The idea was that, for the first time, the communities present at the event will themselves design the research agenda, in order to set the research priorities on the commons on a realistic and applied basis. The final document is about to be published and will be available from the ICCA Consortium webpage.

Ahead of us are now many initiatives to find shape and many challenges to overcome... but there is no better company than community members to face all that!

You can follow “Iniciativa Comunales” from our [facebook profile](#).

ICCAs and European Union Policy— a Consortium study

Concha Salguero Herrera, Honorary Member of the ICCA Consortium

I am currently writing a report for ICCA Consortium to deepen the understanding of ICCAs in the policy context of the European Union, for which I am reviewing relevant UE policies with a focus on the Common Agriculture Policy. In this, I am trying to identify impacts and leverage points, and to propose recommendations for initiatives and tools for awareness and action that will support the values and role of ICCAs in European contemporary society.

The term “ICCAs” is nowhere found in the EU social and political context but the concept can quite easily be applied to systems of communal tenure, whether common land (eg. common grazing areas) or jointly managed systems (eg. some marine protected areas). Considering that ICCAs depend on collective tenure of natural resources, this report’s

analysis is built around the premise that land, water and biodiversity are “common resources” and any effect on them, will also affect the associated communities.

Historically of great importance in Europe, these communal systems have largely been displaced or marginalized by the current market economy, suffering abandonment and hardly even being considered by EU or national administrative and political structures. Despite this adverse situation, these systems still exist in Europe across a surprisingly wide area, which gives an indication of their resilience and capacity to adapt over time. Furthermore, these “European ICCAs”, are experiencing a sort of revival that seems to be triggered by local community demands, under the increasing pressure that the economic system and privatization processes exert over natural resources, with EU policies being the main catalysts of these tensions.

Interestingly, while some of these ICCAs are quite ancient, dating back many centuries, there are also new ICCAs emerging, which bring common tenure systems back to the current EU context as a highly valuable **‘retro-innovation’ tool** in the face of the challenges posed by the economic and environmental crisis. This presents a powerful



Common grazings in Sueve Mountains in Asturias Region (Spain) where half of the territory is common land. Credits: Concha Salguero Herrera

argument for that part of the European civil society that is increasingly proactive in fighting against a combination of generally poor public participation, design and practical application of EU rural policies. The analysis undertaken for this report is revealing that communal systems are largely unknown to the wider society and ignored by public authorities in Europe, despite applying to several million hectares of land and coastal waters. Much research remains to be done on these practices and traditions within the EU, starting with the need to collect basic data and fill important information gaps. If current civil society strengths can be capitalized to promote the values of ICCAs through the correct EU policy instruments, these hugely important but frequently neglected systems could be an invaluable agent in pursuing a new socio-economic paradigm which is so urgently needed, in Europe and beyond. I hope that this report can make a small contribution to that challenge.



"- What do you think about European Union?
- Well, maybe everything would be solved if Germany would leave Euro
- Well now that you say it..."
Caricature by Forges

An ICCA alert that likely worked... Havukkavaara Forest In Finland



Mists of Karelia. Credits: Matti Pihlatie, 2014

Our member Snowchange has raised an alert regarding the threat of a potential clear cutting in the last boreal forests on the lot “Ostola” of Havukkavaara, village of Selkie, North Karelia, Finland by the state enterprise Metsähallitus. [You will find more information and updates in there website.](#)

LATIN AMERICA

El Congreso Mundial de Parques 2014— desafíos para Chile

Jose Aylwin, Co Director OC, Lorena Arce, Consorcio TICCA, y Joaquin Meliñir, Comunidad Quinquen e Intengrante Consorcio TICCA

Más de 6000 personas, entre ellas representantes de organismos estatales, ambientales, comunitarios e indígenas, provenientes de cerca de 170 países, se reunieron en el Congreso Mundial de Parques 2014 de la UICN (Unión Internacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza) realizado en Sídney, Australia, del 12 al 19 de noviembre. En el caso de Chile, participaron representantes de CONAF, del Ministerio del Medio Ambiente, Ongo ambientales y de derechos humanos, y representantes de pueblos indígenas y de entidades privadas de conservación.



Joaquin Meliñir, Lorena Arce y José Aylwin en Sídney

Los temas discutidos en este Congreso abarcaron desde el cumplimiento de las Metas de Aichi sobre la diversidad biológica, los desafíos del cambio climático, la relación entre conservación y desarrollo, hasta las diversas formas de gobernanza de áreas protegidas y conservadas y la contribución de los conocimientos tradicionales a la conservación de la biodiversidad.

El documento final del Congreso, denominado “La Promesa de Sídney” resume la visión de los participantes sobre el crítico estado actual de la conservación del planeta y alerta sobre los desafíos que esta realidad nos plantea a todos en momentos de graves amenazas para la sustentabilidad, manifestados en la acelerada

explotación y degradación de los recursos naturales y en el cambio climático.

Así, si bien el documento valora el incremento de áreas protegidas y conservadas alrededor del mundo desde el último Congreso de Durban 2003, destacando el establecimiento de nuevas áreas marinas protegidas y el reconocimiento de áreas y territorios conservados por pueblos indígenas, comunidades locales y entidades privadas; reconoce que las amenazas a la diversidad biológica y a las áreas protegidas han alcanzado su nivel más alto en la historia, debido a la convergencia a gran escala de los patrones de consumo humano, el crecimiento de la población y la actividad industrial...

[El resto del artículo se puede encontrar aquí...](#)

La promesa de Sídney no puede pasar inadvertida en Chile, país signatario de la Convención sobre Diversidad Biológica (CDB), donde de acuerdo al informe de OECD de 2011, se constatan serios problemas ambientales que han resultado en una acelerada pérdida de la biodiversidad.

Fighting for the Survival of the Isoseño-Guaraní Culture

The Isoseño-Guaraní People, in the Department of Santa-Cruz, in Bolivia, is living in the Iso region, located in the lower portion of the Parapetí river basin. The story of vindication of its territory is not yet concluded. This video shows the effort of its territorial management strategy which involve their indigenous territory and its relationship with the Bolivia's largest protected area. (In Guarani with English subtitles)

Luchando por la pervivencia de la cultura Isoseño-Guaraní

El pueblo Isoseño-Guaraní, en el Departamento de Santa Cruz, en Bolivia, habita la región del Iso, ubicado en la porción baja de la cuenca del río Parapetí. La historia de reivindicación de su territorio aún no concluye. Este video muestra el esfuerzo de su estrategia de gestión territorial que involucra su territorio indígena y su vinculación con el área protegida más grande de Bolivia. (Guaraní con subtítulos en inglés)



La conservación local invisibilizada?

Albert M. Chan-Dzul, Consejo Regional Indígena y Popular de Xpujil, S. C., Centro Interdisciplinario de Investigación y Desarrollo Alternativo, U Yich Luum, A.C.

Calakmul, al oriente del estado de Campeche, está integrado por comunidades rurales migrantes de 26 estados de la república, principalmente indígenas, resultado de un rápido y desordenado proceso de colonización que inició en los 40 y que se masificó en los 70 promovida por las políticas oficiales de colonización. Actualmente, más de 40% del municipio corresponde a la Reserva de Biosfera Calakmul (RBC).

La importancia de esta área natural protegida no está en duda, sin embargo la participación de las comunidades humanas, la inclusión y reconocimiento de sus prácticas de conservación son poco valoradas. Es decir, aun cuando a nivel de comunidad o individual se mantienen áreas conservadas que van desde fragmentos de bosque de diferentes tamaños y en diferentes etapas sucesionales hasta fragmentos de bosque virgen, éstas no son reconocidas por las instancias oficiales ni por las organizaciones conservacionistas. En este sentido, solo son reconocidas si se involucran en procesos “formales” como el pago por servicios ambientales (PSA).

Por otro lado, los efectos del PSA en las relaciones socioculturales comunitarias, no han sido suficientemente documentados aunque hay información que permitiría re-direccionar las acciones de este tipo de políticas incluyendo la pertinencia de REDD+.



La comunidad en una asamblea. Creditos: Sara Oliveros López

Esta falta de visibilidad provoca que se culpe a las prácticas agropecuarias locales de la degradación ambiental. Si bien, cada vez es mayor la superficie destinada a monocultivos con uso de agroquímicos hay que considerar que: 1) estas prácticas son promovidas por el estado, y b) la superficie destinada para estas prácticas es proporcionalmente menor a la superficie total de cada productor. Lo que denota, como bien dice Silvia Ribeiro (La Jornada 07-02-2015), una resistencia “que los poderosos no consiguen descifrar”.

Por otro lado, está el órgano estatal encargado de las áreas de conservación en el país, la Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP) con un proceso de reconocimiento de áreas de conservación comunitarias conocido como Áreas Destinadas Voluntariamente a la Conservación, de acuerdo a la Ley General de Equilibrio Ecológico y la Protección al Ambiente (LGEEPA) en su artículo 46, fracción XI. Aunque, esta iniciativa constituye un importante avance, la institucionalización de los esfuerzos comunitarios asociado a la falta de consulta mantienen la desconfianza en dichas herramientas oficiales. Por ejemplo, cuando la Reserva de la Biosfera Calakmul fue decretada, varias comunidades fueron reubicadas en áreas con tierras menos fértiles. Hasta la fecha, 25 años después, varias comunidades siguen en espera de que se cumplan los compromisos. Respecto a la desconfianza, en una encuesta realizada por la doctora Porter y colaboradores (2006) a un grupo de campesinos, el 59% dijo que cree que la Reserva de Calakmul pertenece al gobierno e incluso 14% mencionó que pertenece a otros países o agencias internacionales.

Un ejemplo - Para ejemplificar la importancia de la conservación comunitaria y la falta de visibilidad hablaremos de una comunidad ubicada en el sur del municipio de Calakmul, el Ejido Once de Mayo. Este es un ejido con 300 habitantes de los cuales 54 son ejidatarios (poseionarios legales de los derechos sobre la tierra). La población está conformada por migrantes, de manera que conviven en la misma comunidad indígenas de diferentes etnias y mestizos. Respecto a la toma de decisiones, la comunidad tiene un comité directivo con el comisario ejidal como el representante legal y las decisiones se toman en asamblea general que se lleva a cabo cada dos meses.



Las tierras ejidales del Once de Mayo. Creditos: Albert Chan-Dzul

Las tierras ejidales del Once de Mayo representan, en términos de conservación, una clara importancia ya que colindan directamente con la RBC en toda una línea en la que la Reserva no tiene zona de amortiguamiento.

Actualmente, cada ejidatario cuenta con 50 has parceladas internamente y un área común de reserva de más de 2000 has. Es decir que **casi el 50% (48.88%) del territorio ejidal es reserva**. Más aun, cada ejidatario conserva un fragmento de su área designada. En un trabajo aun no publicado, realizado por un equipo interdisciplinario durante 2012-2015 ([Combioserve](#)), se tienen datos de que éstas áreas individuales van de 20 a 30 has. Si como ejercicio tomamos que **cada persona conserva 25 ha. y lo sumamos al área de conservación ya establecida, estaríamos hablando de poco más de 80% de la superficie ejidal conservada, sin contar con las áreas en sucesión o acahuals como se les conoce localmente.**

Otros peligros - Muchos peligros rondan los esfuerzos comunitarios, algunos son internos pero muchos están relacionados con el modelo de desarrollo oficial. Como ejemplo significativo están las modificaciones al Art. 27 de la Constitución, en los 90 del siglo pasado, para permitir la división del ejido en pequeñas propiedades y recientemente (2014) las reformas energéticas que en un apartado dice que “Por su carácter estratégico, se considera la exploración y extracción de petróleo y demás hidrocarburos, así como el servicio público de transmisión y distribución de energía eléctrica, como actividades de interés social y orden público, a raíz de lo cual tendrán preferencia sobre cualquier otra actividad que implique el aprovechamiento de la superficie del subsuelo de cualquier terreno afectado”.

¿Qué hacer? - Definitivamente, la organización y acompañamiento honesto a las comunidades es clave ante los embates de las políticas de desarrollo que implican subsidios como “punta de lanza” aprovechándose de las necesidades económicas del grueso de la población. Es urgente identificar, para replicar y compartir, esfuerzos comunitarios en los que la comunidad está empoderada, es decir que hace esfuerzos de conservación, que toma decisiones sobre sus recursos y sobre todo que está consciente de este esfuerzo. Un ejemplo puede ser la Red de Áreas Naturales Protegidas Comunitarias de Chiapas, a nivel nacional la Red Etnoecológica y Patrimonio Biocultural de México.

El fortalecimiento de estas redes locales, nacionales o más allá como la que se pretende como Red TICCAs Mesoamérica, también puede contribuir para incidir en las políticas públicas, para que éstas no solo reconozcan los esfuerzos comunitarios sino que se adapten a sus dinámicas; dinámicas que incluyen muchos elementos culturales y de cosmovisión.

[Para saber más.](#)

Community-based management— central theme of an important conference in Latin America

The Global Diversity Foundation, member of the ICCA Consortium and co-coordinator of COMBIOSERVE

The [COMBIOSERVE](#) consortium is concluding a 3-year project assessing the effectiveness of community-based management strategies for biocultural diversity, using case studies from three sites in Latin America. One of the principal goals of the Consortium is to recognise the importance of community-based conservation, and support communities as they enhance it. As part of this process, the Consortium organised an international conference [Community Conservation in Latin America: Innovations in Research and Practice](#) in the Mexican town of Xico, in the state of Veracruz, from 6-9 November 2014.

Eight academic panels delivered a combination of theoretical and experiential knowledge on biocultural conservation, including local processes and initiatives to provide insight into current innovations, to the 160 participants comprising indigenous and community experts, academics and practitioners who were in attendance. This was followed by two highly interactive dialogue sessions - moderated and led by community experts – providing platforms to discuss the use of specific tools in advocacy and research and to gauge feedback on experiences in collaborative research and dissemination of research results. Underlining the consortium's focus on the practice of community-based conservation, the conference held 4 parallel methods workshops in which consortium partners shared innovative and participatory approaches to assess the effectiveness of community-based management, exploring their implementation with conference attendees.

The conference was a [resounding success](#), and those present were heartened by the massive presence and powerful participation of so many community-based experts. The Proceedings from the conference are currently under peer review, and will be made available through open-access publication in late 2015. ICCA Consortium members Global Diversity Foundation (UK) and the Consejo Regional Indígena y Popular Xpujil (Mexico) are COMBIOSERVE consortium partners; Global Diversity Foundation was one of the organisers of the conference, and both contributed substantially to conference-related events.



Participants in the community researchers dialogue, one of the conference events focusing on community experiences.

À la rencontre des APAC du continent américain

Zoë Glénard et Guillaume Cottarel, association Terres de Cultures, membre du Consortium APAC

Si, à l'échelle internationale, les APAC sont de plus en plus reconnues comme de véritables exemples d'une gestion efficace de la diversité bio-culturelle, elles restent peu documentées. Leur travail, leur action en faveur de la conservation de la diversité bio-culturelle restent trop peu connus du grand public.

Partant de ce constat, l'association française Terres de Cultures a impulsé le projet ACAPACA - Agir pour la connaissance des Aires protégées du patrimoine autochtone et communautaire d'Amérique. Terres de Cultures est une association loi 1901 agissant pour la valorisation et la conservation de la diversité bio-culturelle. Elle est basée à Saint Pierre, à l'île de la Réunion. Elle a pour objet la découverte, l'étude et la valorisation des initiatives visant à la conservation de la diversité biologique et culturelle sous toutes ses formes et à l'échelle de la planète. Le projet ACAPACA vise à rencontrer diverses initiatives disséminées entre l'Amérique du Sud et l'Amérique du Nord afin de valoriser leur travail. Comment? Par la réalisation d'un court documentaire sur chacune des initiatives rencontrées. Initiée en janvier 2015, la phase de terrain, consistant en la rencontre avec les communautés et le tournage des documentaires, est en cours. Retour sur le premier tournage réalisé auprès du territoire Mapuche de Mapu Lahual au Chili.



La communauté de Caleta Condor. Crédits: Association Terres de cultures

Mapu Lahual est un territoire fascinant à bien des égards. Bordé par l'océan Pacifique, recouvert d'une forêt native représentant beaucoup pour les habitants, il illustre de



"Micro trottoir" avec un habitant. Crédits: Association Terres de cultures

manière tout à fait intéressante les problématiques qui pèsent sur beaucoup d'aires du patrimoine autochtone et communautaire. Un sujet idéal pour le premier documentaire de la série.

Le travail de tournage a consisté en la rencontre avec les habitants ainsi que diverses autorités du territoire, notamment le Lonko, Carlos Paillamanque, chef traditionnel, ou le Président de l'Association Indigène Mapu Lahual, Javier Ancapan. De cette rencontre avec le territoire et ses habitants est né le

documentaire « Les forêts de Mapu Lahual ». Difficile de résumer une situation aussi complexe, et riche à la fois, que celle du territoire, en seulement 13 minutes...

Un problème de taille pèse aujourd'hui sur le territoire, celui de la propriété de la terre. En effet, seuls 12.000 des 65.000 hectares que couvre le territoire appartiennent aux communautés Mapuche. Or, pour exploiter les ressources, notamment le bois d'Alerce, il est obligatoire d'établir un plan de gestion de la parcelle que l'on souhaite exploiter. Ces plans de gestion sont délivrés uniquement aux propriétaires des parcelles. Ainsi, les

habitants, n'étant pas propriétaire des terres, ne peuvent pas en exploiter librement les ressources. Les Mapuche n'exploitent que les arbres morts, laissant ainsi la possibilité aux « alercales » les forêts d'Alerces, de se régénérer en continu. Ils n'utilisent aucune machine pour le transport du bois, seulement des bœufs ou des chevaux. Ainsi, cette méthode de travail traditionnelle n'entraîne pas d'impact sur le milieu. Mais les espaces légalement exploitables sont trop petits pour permettre à tout le monde de travailler. Ainsi les jeunes quittent-ils le territoire, par manque de perspectives. Parmi les difficultés qui pèsent sur le territoire, citons également les compagnies forestières, dont les monocultures d'eucalyptus se rapprochent dangereusement du territoire.

En réponse aux diverses menaces, les communautés se sont organisées. En réponse à un projet de route côtière qui devait traverser l'ensemble du territoire est née en 2002 l'Association Indigène Mapu Lahual (AIML). Comme nous l'a expliqué Javier Ancapan, son président, l'association cherche à faire prendre conscience aux habitants de la richesse de leur environnement et de la réalité des risques présentés par les compagnies forestières et minières. Face aux difficultés que rencontre l'exploitation du bois, l'association cherche également à créer les conditions favorables à la diversification de l'économie, par l'artisanat ou l'écotourisme. Des pistes intéressantes, car ces deux activités sont développées par et pour les habitants.

Si le tournage de « Les forêts de Mapu Lahual » est achevé, le travail de montage est en cours. Le documentaire définitif devrait être disponible courant 2016. En attendant, ACAPACA met le cap vers la Bolivie, où nous rencontrerons en mars la seconde communauté du projet.

Pour plus d'informations, venez visiter [le site de l'association](#) !



Un Alerce : Arbre emblématique pour la communauté de Mapu Lahual ("Lahual", ou "Lawal" signifiant "Alerce" en Chesungun, la langue traditionnelle des habitants) Crédits: Association Terres de cultures

Events, initiatives and releases

Herramientas de monitoreo ambiental de TICCA amenazados

Carmen Miranda, Regional Coordinator for the amazon region for the ICCA Consortium, SAVIA

Desde octubre de 2013, hemos concentrado nuestro trabajo para iniciar el diseño de una caja de herramientas de monitoreo ambiental de los TICCA que se encuentran amenazados por el desarrollo extractivista. La idea con esta caja de herramientas es expandir su utilidad a otros TICCA en la cuenca amazónica y más allá.

Esta caja de herramientas provee una serie de instrumentos de consulta y monitoreo de los ecosistemas al interior de los territorios, orientados a fortalecer las organizaciones indígenas frente a las diferentes amenazas que impactan negativamente en el desarrollo y conservación de las culturas y tradiciones de los pueblos originarios.

Trabajando con pueblos indígenas en tres estudios de caso en Bolivia (Territorios indígenas del Isoso, Pílon Lajas y Moseten), en colaboración con las comunidades locales

en talleres, visitas de campo, etc., hemos desarrollado diferentes instrumentos para medir los impactos generados por la expansión de la frontera agrícola, el avance de la colonización y la agroindustria, las operaciones petroleras, gasíferas y mineras, o megaproyectos como carreteras y las grandes represas.

Estas herramientas se dirigen a **aumentar la capacidad y fortaleza organizacional y el manejo de la información relevante acerca de los procesos devastadores de empresas o del mismo gobierno que se inician o se desarrollan próximos a los límites de los territorios.** Son instrumentos que alertan y ofrecen elementos de resistencia y negociación que proveen respuestas rápidas y contundentes sea en la forma de acciones directas de las organizaciones o a manera de denuncias y reportes a las diferentes autoridades. Son también fuentes de información y motivación para conservar las formas y usos tradicionales. También tienden a generar capacidades de comunicación entre las comunidades, y desde ellas hacia el exterior.



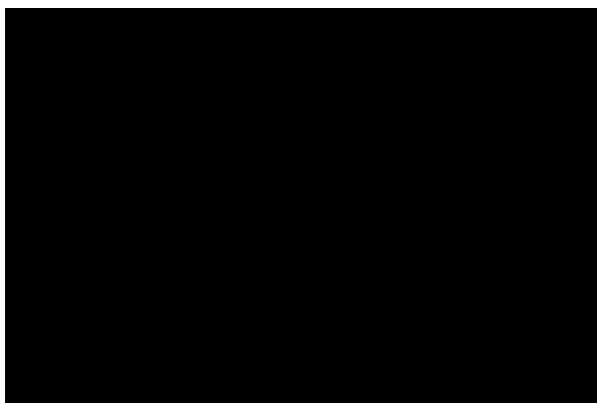
Carmen Miranda presentando las herramientas en Wollongong, NSW, Australia, durante el acontecimiento de intercambio de capacidades post WPC. Créditos: C. Chatelain

Existe una íntima correlación entre las diferentes herramientas, siendo unas de estricta información y de consulta, mientras que los protocolos ayudan a medir y percibir los impactos y se orientan a la toma de datos que generan información fiel de los procesos que impactan y deterioran la vida al interior de la organización; otro tipo de herramientas son de orden tecnológico como páginas especializadas de monitoreo satelital del estado de los bosques, o tablas y bases de datos con información pertinente para el monitoreo del territorio.

Es un objetivo que estos instrumentos se conviertan con el paso del tiempo en parte integral de la gestión territorial. La protección y conservación efectiva y el uso sostenible de los ecosistemas y las funciones que estos brindan son los pilares en los que se sostiene este documento, para que las organizaciones cuenten con formas efectivas de proteger sus fragilidades y fortalezcan los procesos de gestión indígena.

Esta primera versión de las herramientas ha sido presentada durante la Asamblea del Consorcio ICCA y el Congreso Mundial de Parques llevados a cabo en Australia en Noviembre de 2014, con el propósito de compartir esta experiencia y mejorarla hacia el futuro a través de su prueba en más casos.

Para iniciar el vídeo explicativo aquí abajo, se puede hacer clic en él:



In Solidarity - New film connects communities resisting mining around the world

The Gaia Foundation

In her theory of change known as 'emergence', the academic scholar Margaret Wheatley reminds us that: "The world doesn't change one person at a time. It changes as networks of relationships form among people who share a common cause and vision of what's possible."

Emulating this vision, *In Solidarity*, is a short film that shares the poignant story of communities separated by geography but united in their resistance against the extractive industries. The film depicts the simple act of a letter exchange from Colombia to the UK; a community struggling against gold mining, taking inspiration from the powerful images of united community resistance against fracking; a story of the power and the simplicity of **solidarity**.



The 5'min film is in English and Spanish

La película de 5 minutos es en Inglés y en Español

<http://vimeo.com/113713748>



Mining affected communities around the world are speaking up, connecting and standing together in Solidarity. We invite you to do the same: yestolifenotomining.org

Comunidades afectadas por la minería alrededor del mundo se están levantando a unir sus voces en solidaridad. Los invitamos a que hagan lo mismo: sialavidanoalamineria.org

First conceived in 2012, the [Yes to life, No to mining website](http://yestolife.no.mining.website) has been developed as a way of uniting global voices speaking out against the extractives industries ([more here](#)).

The website and campaign will serve as a movement strengthening tool, creating a space for communities affected by mining to come together in solidarity across oceans and continents to learn and strengthen their resistance. Available in English and Spanish, the site also provides the chance for members of the public who want to support communities

and say Yes to life, No to Mining to lend their solidarity.

Take a look at the site to discover [toolkits](#) gathering useful research and manuals on [advocacy](#) and [legal rights](#); photography, videos and first hand storytelling;



inspiring [stories of resistance](#), interviews and a connect function that allows communities to find and connect with one-another immediately. For supporters, a pledge function and social media feed allow anyone to visibly give support and stay up to date with news and future actions.

As a tool for a movement, it is vital as many people as possible discover the website and take the Yes to Life, No to Mining message to heart.

If you are interested in joining the initiative, sharing experience and find allies in these issues, please do not hesitate to contact Emma (emma@iccaconsortium.org) who will link you with the relevant persons on behalf of the Consortium.

A two day workshop for the Community Conservation Resilience Initiative (CCRI): Assessing methodologies

Mrinalini Rai, Advisor – Indigenous Peoples and Gender, Global Forest Coalition (GFC)
Mrinalini.rai@globalforestcoalition.org www.globalforestcoalition.org



CCRI Global Meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay (26 & 27 November 2014)
Credits: GFC

Global Forest Coalition (GFC) organized the first global workshop of the Community Conservation Resilience Assessment Initiative (CCRI) that took place on 26th and 27th November 2014 in Asuncion in Paraguay. The two-day workshop brought together 27 participants to share experiences and discuss the [CCRI methodology](#)². The workshop was planned for GFC's members and other partners who

a) are involved in the pilot phase of the CCRI, b) would be joining in this initiative starting

² CCRI Methodology can be reviewed at <http://globalforestcoalition.org/resources/forests-and-climate-change>

2015 and beyond, and/or c) were able to share experiences with participatory methodologies and assessments used by indigenous peoples and local communities. In addition to some donors and local government representatives, this diverse group also represented GFC member and allies from India, Iran, Nepal, Colombia, Malaysia, Chile, Solomon Islands, Russia, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Panama, USA and Paraguay.

The objective of CCRI is to reach out to up to 20 countries and at least 60 communities in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific starting 2015 until 2018. The initiative looks not only to the roles and rights of indigenous peoples as stewards of conservation but the relationship between biodiversity with community-driven conservation initiatives, including the aspirations of women, which is central as they play a key role in conservation. The initiative will look into the specific rights that should be respected and combine it with an analysis of human rights instruments, especially the UNDRIP. After the assessment the communities would further develop their own plans that would enable them to continue with their conservation initiatives with support from the government, organizations and/or donors. This would not just be limited to financial support but also include legal and policy change as this initiative aims at building an enabling environment that would create the space for the communities to further strengthen the resilience of their conservation initiatives.

The CCRI methodology is to be used to assess and strengthen resilience of community conservation practices. It is a simple guiding framework that can be adapted to specific national contexts and its elements are nurtured with some crucial principles and components that are inherent to any rights based conservation, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). The initiative was piloted in four countries (Chile, Uganda, Malaysia and Samoa) and it will now be extended to a further 16 countries by 2018. Ten countries will implement their assessment in 2015: Samoa, Uganda, Iran, Russia, Ethiopia, Chile, Paraguay, Panama, South Africa and Solomon Islands. The initiative will bring together the results at the end of the year in its first global report. GFC hopes to have the draft report ready by September and that the final report will be launched in Paris at the UNFCCC COP21. Then, a second global report related to the additional 10 countries, including India, Malaysia, Colombia, Tanzania, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, will be produced in 2018. Throughout the process of the CCRI, GFC will work with its partners including experts, donors and advocacy campaigners to reach out to policy makers, communities, Indigenous Peoples, networks to share the results of the initiative with a view to conserving the world's biodiversity. In this process, as one of the participants from Colombia stated, "to strengthen resilience of community conservation practices, it is necessary to listen to the aspirations, understand the issues, respect the traditional knowledge and give ownership to the indigenous peoples as without the trust and respect there is no real effectiveness and no real implementation."

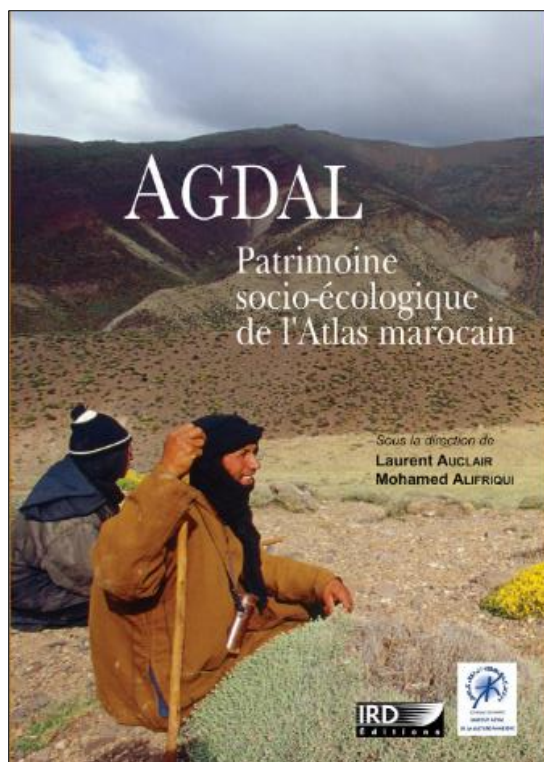


NAPE research team during a CCRI assessment during the pilot phase. Credits: NAPE, Uganda

AGDAL - Patrimoine socio-écologique de l'Atlas marocain

Sous la direction de Laurent Auclair et Mohamed Alifriqui

L'*agdal* est un territoire communautaire dont les ressources naturelles sont protégées, mises en défens. Cette pratique héritée d'un passé lointain est omniprésente dans les sociétés berbères (*amazighes*) de l'Atlas marocain et, au-delà, on en trouve la trace dans l'ensemble du Maghreb et au Sahara. Longtemps oublié des développeurs et des experts,



l'*agdal* trouve aujourd'hui une résonance nouvelle. Il apparaît en effet comme un cas d'école de gestion durable, au croisement de courants théoriques qui font aujourd'hui référence : la gestion communautaire, adaptative, patrimoniale. Le concept d'*agdal*, à l'interface entre nature et culture, stimule la recherche interdisciplinaire. Il permet en outre de poser de manière exemplaire les enjeux liés aux concepts locaux dans le contexte de globalisation et de transformation du monde rural. Cet ouvrage collectif rassemble les premières études écologiques de l'*agdal* marocain ainsi que différentes contributions relevant des sciences humaines et sociales. La

reconnaissance de l'*agdal* ouvre une nouvelle perspective aux acteurs du développement : promouvoir une stratégie de « conservation participante » des ressources naturelles reposant sur un concept local qui fait sens pour la population.

ENG:

AGDAL - Socio-ecological heritage of the Moroccan Atlas

For more information on this book, please contact:

FR :

Pour plus d'information sur cet ouvrage, veuillez contacter :

ESP:

AGDAL - Patrimonio socio-ecológico del Atlas marroquí

Para obtener más información sobre este libro, por favor póngase en contacto con :

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Life of the Consortium

Farewell

The ICCA Consortium would like to pay tribute to Jaime Levy who passed away as a consequence of a tragic accident in December 2014. He was Executive Director of the Ecuadorian-based NGO Fundación Altropico and Honorary Member of the Consortium. Our sincere condolences go to his family, friends and colleagues.



New members & honorary members

The Consortium is delighted to welcome **7 new Member organisations**, all of which were approved during the last General Assembly (November 2014 Leura, Blue Mountains, NSW, Australia):

The Abolhassani tribal confederacy, is an Indigenous People Organisation from the Touran Desert, in North West Iran. For centuries living in harmony with nature, they are today intensely threatened by the increased frequency and severity of droughts that are a consequence of climate change. They notably conceived and implemented a detailed new life plan combining agriculture, livestock rearing and water management which they named: "Coping with the drought".



Bukluran, Inc., from its entire name Bukluran ng mga Pamayanang Nangangalaga sa Kalikasan is the ICCA Consortium of the Philippines. It is an Indigenous People Federation. The coalition was established in response to the call of indigenous communities to formalize an umbrella organization, responsible to coordinate partnerships and link among communities that are caretakers of ICCAs. Such demand is stated in the "Manila Declaration", prepared by the 128 representatives of indigenous communities who attended the 1st National ICCA Conference held last March 2012 in Manila, Philippines.

The **Consejo regional Tsimane Maseten Pilon Lajas (CRTLM - PL)**, is the highest body representing all indigenous communities Tsimane- Masetene and Tacanas within the Communal Land of Origin (Tierra Comunitaria de Origen, TCO) and the Biosphere Reserve Pilon Lajas, located between the departments of Beni (Province of Ballivián) and La Paz (Province of Sud Yungas and Franz Tamayo). They already extensively used the Environmental Monitoring Toolbox for ICCAs threatened by extractive developments.



The **Guassa Community Conservation Area Council** is the governing body of Guassa, a community owned and conserved area in the Afromontane landscape of the Ethiopian plateau. The area is governed through a common property system traced back to the 17th century. The Guassa user communities comprise nine *kebeles* (farmers' associations) and the governing body has *kebele* and *woreda* level components and includes both community and local government representatives.



Plenty Canada (Canada) is a registered non-profit organization that facilitates access to and shares resources with Indigenous peoples and other community groups around the world in support of their environmental protection and sustainable development goals.



The **Tla o qui aht Tribal Parks** is an IPO from Canada. They are watersheds in Tla-o-qui-aht traditional territory, managed to integrate human and ecosystem well-being, as taught by the Tla-o-qui-aht ancestors and adapted to today's situation. They have recently made this 6' video which gives a pleasant insight of their identity.



Snowchange Cooperative is a non-profit organisation based in Finland devoted to networking with indigenous communities from all over the world, mostly on topics of relevance for conservation and/or climate change in Nordic environments. Locally, in the Karelia region of Finland, Snowchange assists the Havukkavaara Old-growth Boreal Forest conservation initiative and the Jukajoki Watershed Restoration activities (Selkie village).



Nine new honorary members are also joining the Consortium at this time:



Dr. Michelle Stevens (USA) is Executive Director of **Hima Mesopotamia**, an organisation working towards the cultural and ecological restoration of the Tigris-Euphrates watershed, through empowering its local communities. She is an ethno-ecologist and Associate Professor on Environmental Studies at the California State University of Sacramento, California.

Dr. Bram Buscher (South Africa) teaches at Institute for Social Studies, The Hague, and has been an acute observer of conservation policy and practice for many years, focusing on the political economy of conservation, development and energy. His latest book is *Nature Inc.*, where he critically looks at the increasing commodification of nature by official agencies and big conservation NGOs.



Prof. Pietro Nervi (Italy) is Professor Emeritus of Mountain Economics and Policy at the University of Trento, and Director of its Centre for the Study and Documentation on Civil Domains and Collective Property, a prime mover of analysis and political change about, and in favour of, the commons in Italy. Prof. Nervi is a member of the Steering Committee of the Archivio Scialoja-Bolla, the scientific journal dedicated to the commons in Italy, and author of numerous publications on the subject.

Lic. Concha Salguero Herrera (Spain) is a European legal policy expert specialized in agriculture and environmental and rural development. Having worked on environmental law and policies since 1992, Concha is currently project coordinator and adviser for [Transhumancia y Naturaleza](#), supports the work of the [New Water Culture Foundation](#) and is a member of three committees of the European Commission on issues of relevance to agriculture and conservation.



Ang Bahadur Lama (Nepal) has been involved with the ICCA Network Nepal (a Member of the Consortium) since its establishment, and played a crucial role in supporting the Dolpo People to strengthen and defend their traditional bio-cultural territory. He is currently the chairperson of the Phoksundo Community Conservation and Development Center (CCDC), which works on ICCAs. He is a life time member of Red Cross Society, a Member of ICCA Network Nepal, and of Sangsung Meri Bon Culture Society as well as founder and member of Radio Dolpa FM.

Tero Mustonen (Finland) holds a PhD in Human Geography and is a subsistence seiner, head of Selkie village (North Karelia, Finland) and President of Snowchange Cooperative. Tero received a number of human rights and environmental awards, including adoption as a full status member of the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation of British Columbia, Canada. A passionate defender of the cosmology and traditions of the Finnish-Karelian peoples, Tero collaborates in research with the University of Eastern Finland. He and his wife Kaisu live in the middle of an old-growth forest.





Emma Lee (Australia) is an Aboriginal woman of the Trawlwulway people from Tasmania, a PhD candidate with the Institute of Regional Development and first Indigenous PhD candidate across the history of the Cradle Coast campus of the University of Tasmania. Emma has written on protected areas and Aboriginal people and had a senior role in developing the first joint management agreement for Aboriginal people in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. She is a member of the Australian World Heritage Indigenous Network (AWHIN).

Mr. Rajiv Bhartari (India) is an Indian Forest Service (1986) officer presently posted as the Chief Conservator of Forests Ecotourism in Uttarakhand. He is a member of the IUCN WCPA and a Fellow of LEAD International. He has served on the Board of Directors of “The International Ecotourism Society” for three years, has spent nearly a decade as Director and Deputy Director of Corbett Tiger Reserve— where he was actively involved in management planning and community engagement in tourism, and has served as a Professor at the Wildlife Institute of India.



Leslie King (Canada) is Professor of Environment and Sustainability at Royal Roads University and Director of the Canadian Centre for Environmental Education. She has worked on environmental governance issues in communities in Canada, Africa and the Arctic, focusing on protected areas and poverty reduction, knowledge systems in Northern Canadian communities, social indicators, community responses to climate change, tribal parks, restoration initiatives and resilience.

**The ICCA
Consortium**

www.iccaconsortium.org

<http://iccaconsortium.wordpress.com>

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