

THE ICCA CONSORTIUM NEWSLETTER

Issue #13 October 2017

EDITORIAL

Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, ICCA Consortium Global Coordinator

Greetings, colleagues! As the great majority of us has already gone through adolescence, possibly many of us remember a day in which— suddenly seeing our face in a mirror— we realised “that person is me!”... It was a feeling rather close to “I *am* a person”... was it not?

If we think about ourselves as a collective person, we have now an opportunity of looking at ourselves in a mirror and saying “that complex reality of action, people, ideas, hopes, words, images, pronouncements, influences, passion, pain, elation and determination” is “the ICCA Consortium”... it is “all of us together”.



Why I am saying this? Because, after more than two years of thinking and hard work, Emma, Tiphaine and I have been delighted and excited to share with you ***our dedicated mirror... a brand new Web Site dedicated to ICCAs and the ICCA Consortium!*** If the address remains the one you

know—www.iccaconsortium.org— the appearance and content have been entirely renovated. On the home page you find two full menus, the most recent news and several emblematic ICCA case examples (you need to scroll down to find all this) and the logic is based on two parallel spaces characterised by basic colours: dark green and orange.

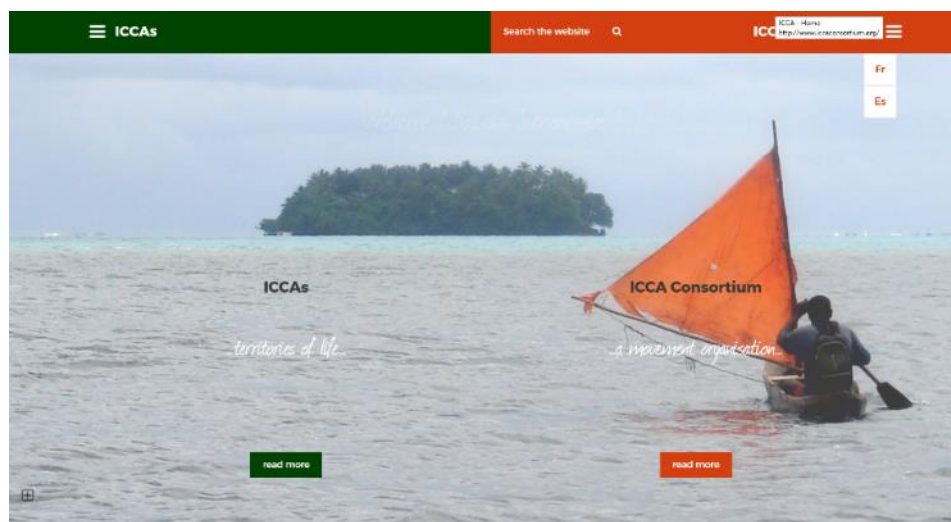
The dark green space is dedicated to ICCAs as a phenomenon, it contains our understanding of what ICCAs are, the threats they face and why it makes sense to focus on them. You will find there **plenty to read and videos to watch**, with due attention to diverse histories and cultures, grassroots analyses and reviews at national, regional and international level. A strong section focuses on **international policy**, including plenty of information on the pronouncements **on ICCAs in conservation and beyond** that you can use and quote to foster improvements in national policies. And another section focuses on taking action, outlining “**what works**” **when a custodian community wishes to strengthen its ICCA**. The section highlights several steps in a process that distils what the organisations and peoples in the Consortium have learned, and keep learning, during decades of work. The same process is also supported by dedicated guidance documents and tools, such as videos and webinars in several languages that are being worked on as we speak.

The orange space is dedicated to the Consortium as an organisation. You will find out our **origins, mission, vision, governance, strategy, key work results**, who are our **Members throughout the world**, who is in the **Steering Committee and Secretariat**, and who are our **partners**. You will find there all our **key documents in three languages** (Statutes, Operational Guidelines, reports and minutes from

the General Assemblies) and **all about what we do**, from the ICCA Global Support Initiative to our Working Group on Law and Policy, from our ICCA Alerts and preparatory work for SAFE to the reports from many events and all our key resources—Policy Briefs, publications, videos and the Newsletter. Finally, the section on “where we work” offers **regional perspectives on the key issues for ICCAs and the responses supported by the Consortium**, as well as they **key Consortium Members, people, events resources and any active alerts in any given region**.

While the translation of the entire site is not completed yet, you will see that many pages are already available also in **Spanish and French**, thanks to the generous efforts of our personnel and collaborators. Overall, we must confess, this is a home-made product. We did not purchase expensive professional services and we took care of the architecture and each page ourselves. We made mistakes and we took longer than a professional service, but we believe we now have a product that is more genuine and has more personality than the “usual web site”...☺

More importantly, in our intent and hope, the Consortium web site is much more than a pretty face. It is a **tool for our collective work**, and a **space for every member to use and contribute to**. Especially now, while the new strategic plan takes us towards **enhanced decentralisation and enhanced efforts at effective communication and fundraising**, our web site is crucial and must represent a space of encounter and sharing. Please contact Emma (emma@iccaconsortium.org) with any comments and suggestions you may have: we will be delighted to receive your stories, pictures, ideas and anything else that you consider important to include. Before you do that, however, please take the time to get to know the web site for what it is: **a young and ambitious endeavour to support a worldwide grassroots movement**.



The Consortium is home for hundreds of individuals, bearers of the experience and knowledge of thousands of communities... we hope that our site will enhance the interaction and effective collaboration among us all. Excellent navigation to you!

PS: As you surely have noticed the Consortium Newsletter has become larger and more substantial but less frequent, while Deborah has started passing around some newsflash messages. While newsflashes are more agile, some of us remain keen to maintain at least an annual or bi-annual Newsletter alive, to offer a chance to all to speak *extensively* about they work on ICCAs. Please let us know your views on this.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Highlights on ICCAs at the UN Ocean Conference

The United Nations Ocean Conference, dedicated to the Sustainable Development Goal 14, took place in New York, June 5–9 2017. Several Members and honorary members of the ICCA Consortium participated in this conference whose goal was to become the “game changer that will reverse the decline in the health of our ocean for people, planet and prosperity... (a conference) solutions-focused with engagement from all”. Kim Sander Wright, Strategy Advisor on Coastal, Marine and Island Environments for the ICCA Consortium and Vivienne Solis Rivera, ICCA Consortium’s Steering Committee Member with special responsibility about ICCAs and gender issues carried the Consortium voice. They were supported by Hugh Govan, a Consortium Honorary Member who is a renowned governance specialist and strategist for the LMMA Network, and by Marvin Fonseca, ICCA Consortium’s collaborator for Mesoamerica. The Consortium team voiced community conservation concerns at every available opportunity, in official events, side events and on the sidelines.

In addition to our participation in-person, the ICCA Consortium registered a voluntary commitment to the UN SDG. On June 7th, Kim Sander Wright had the opportunity to present this voluntary commitment to the UN as an intervention in Partnership Dialogue 5 - Increasing economic benefits to SIDS and LDCs and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets. The video of this intervention can be found [here](#).



Vivienne Solis Rivera, representing ICSF, Coopesolidar and the ICCA Consortium © IISD Reporting Service

Vivienne Solis Rivera spoke at several side events, and had the opportunity to read a statement in the General Assembly Plenary meeting on June 7th on behalf of Women’s Major Group. This video can be found [here](#).

A brief introduction to ‘Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures’

*Harry Jonas (Natural Justice) and Nigel Dudley (Equilibrium Research),
Members of the IUCN WCPA Task Force on OECMs*

International and state approaches to conservation have until recently tended to either ignore or undermine the ways that indigenous peoples and local communities support the integrity of local ecosystems and biodiversity. A number of changes in law, policy and practice - particularly since the 5th World Parks Congress in 2003 (Durban) – have begun to reverse that trend. One such process that may contribute positively to the greater and more appropriate recognition of ICCAs outside of

protected areas relates to ‘other effective area-based conservation measures.’

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11

In 2010, the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10/CBD) adopted the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as part of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*. Target 11 calls for “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and



Farming methods in many mountain areas of Europe maintain native flora and wildlife and some of these might be considered OECMs © N. Dudley

marine areas” to be conserved by way of “well-connected systems of protected areas **and other effective area-based conservation measures**” (OECMs).

Task Force

Following discussions with the Secretariat of the CBD, IUCN’s World Commission on Protected Areas established a Task Force in 2015 to develop guidance to parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), among other right- and stakeholders, on the meaning of the term. Since its inception, the Task Force has held

three expert meetings (Cambridge, Vilnius and Vancouver) and presented its progress at a side event at the twentieth meeting of the CBD’s Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). The Task Force also presented its work at the World Conservation Congress (September 2016) and Conference of the Parties to the CBD (December 2016).

What is an OECM?

The definition of an OECM and related guidance is still a work in progress, yet there is general agreement in the Task Force about the core difference between a protected area and an OECM. Specifically, while protected areas should have a **primary** conservation objective (i.e. aim to promote the *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity), the defining criterion of an OECM is that it should **deliver** the effective and enduring in-situ conservation of biodiversity, **regardless** of its primary management objectives. This is a crucial distinction, which will help improve the recognition and support for ICCAs that are not managed for conservation, but nevertheless contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Potential kinds of ICCA-OECMs

Some ICCAs are also protected areas, some are likely to be recognized as OECMs; some may end up being neither. There are three broad categories of ICCAs that could qualify as OECMs:

- ICCAs that are governed primarily for conservation but are not recognized by governments as such;
- ICCAs that are governed primarily for conservation but where the indigenous or community governing authority does not want the area to be recognized as a protected area; and
- ICCAs that are not governed primarily for conservation but do contribute to the enduring conservation of biodiversity.

Focusing on ICCAs, the following is a non-exhaustive list of potential examples that might be recognized as OECMs:

- Some indigenous peoples' and local community conserved territories and areas (or sections of these terrestrial or marine areas) managed to maintain natural or near-natural ecosystems, with light/low levels of use of natural resources practised on a sustainable basis and in a way that does not degrade the area's biodiversity;
- Sacred natural sites governed by indigenous peoples or local communities that are protected for their associations with one or more faith groups, and which have high biodiversity values;
- Traditional agricultural systems with high levels of associated biodiversity that achieve the *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity, including low-level livestock grazing on native grasslands managed so that it maintains the full variety of native biodiversity;
- Some permanently set-aside areas (i.e., not part of the harvest schedule), such as ancient, old-growth, primary, or other high-biodiversity forest areas within community-managed forests;
- Watersheds and areas managed to mitigate flood and other disaster risk, e.g. water meadows, riverine forest, coastal forests and wetlands, natural forest protected for long-term soil and slope stabilisation;
- Water catchment areas that are maintained in a natural condition to provide a source of water;
- Hunting reserves that maintain natural habitats and other flora and fauna as well as viable populations of hunted and non-hunted native species; and
- Areas created by active restoration of degraded and threatened ecosystems e.g. freshwater and coastal wetlands.

Contribute

The Task Force aims to complete its work by the end of 2017. The Task Force's Co-Chairs, Kathy MacKinnon and Harry Jonas, are always looking for case studies that help contribute to the development of the guidance. If you would like to complete a case study, please contact us and we will send you the framework. Contact:

- Kathy MacKinnon - kathy.mackinnon@iucn.org
- Harry Jonas - harry@naturaljustice.org

Oil palm debate – tackling four “myths”

Dr. Denis Ruysschaert, Vice-president SWISSAID Genève, and researcher associate at Biose Department, University Liège

Debates are passionate around oil palm. On one side, pro oil palm groups advocate that it is necessary both for local economic development and for being the most efficient crop producing oil. On the other side, opponents underline its link to deforestation and social injustice, including the expulsion of communities from their lands. With these impacts in mind, Dario Novellino, from the Coalition Against Land Grabbing, explained that oil palm expansion should be stopped, in the last ICCA newsletter ([Novellino, 2016](#))



Independent smallholder © Denis Ruysschaert

As early as 1997, Western consumers were shocked by the reports of widespread forest fires in South East Asia that were linked to oil palm expansion. This prompted dominant supply chain

actors to engage, promising to address the negative impacts. But, it was only at the last World Park Congress that IUCN adopted a resolution to assess ways to balance oil palm development with conservation. Why are we still assessing the pros and cons of this crop, twenty years after the first reports? Behind this lasting controversy, I was flabbergasted to find four “myths” surrounding oil palm. They all contribute to confusing messages, and impede common sense solutions.

Myth 1: Oil palm alleviates poverty and supports local economic development

A first myth is that oil palm supports local economic development. To understand this, we need to look at the historical context. After gaining independence from colonial powers, Southeast Asian states, especially Indonesia and Malaysia, took over large areas managed by the local communities and indigenous peoples to establish “forest states”. Governments are now leasing oil palm concessions from forest states to develop an export-oriented economy. To maximize production, each lease is typically about four thousand hectares linked to a mill that extracts the oil. This has led to the emergence of more than 50 giant palm oil producers, each exploiting at least 100.000 hectares, collectively about eight million hectares of oil palm ([ZSL, 2016](#)). In addition to these large-scale producers, there are smallholders who are producers that only manage a few hectares, typically two. They can be divided into two categories. The “dependent smallholders” are farmers, often coming from other areas, who are linked to a large producer with an exclusive contract to buy the production and to provide technical assistance. The “independent smallholders” are local peoples who own their land and plant without any support. As a result of this system, their yield is only half that of the other categories.

Most of the economic benefit comes from controlling the supply chain (including a first mill to produce red oil and a second mill to purify the oil), but locals are excluded from this control. Their work remains unskilled and restricted to collecting bunches of fruit to take to the mill and to maintaining the plantations. This results in low wages for the local people.

Myth 2: The demand for palm oil will grow: we need more plantations

A second myth is that the demand for palm oil will steadily rise ([RSPO, 2016](#)). This myth results from a confusion between past trends and current forecasts. Indeed, palm oil production is now three times higher than in 1999. This growth is linked to recent demands from agro-business and agro-fuels. Palm oil counts now for 40% (or 70.000 tons, including palm oil from the pulp and palm oil kernel from the seed) of the global vegetable oil market ([USDA, 2016](#)).



Large oil palm lease extracted from forest © J. Gerster

Given this recent growth, there is no need for new plantations. Three reasons make this conclusion clear. First, agro-industry demand is decreasing, especially in Western countries. Since mandatory labelling began in 2014, with its warning for saturated fats, consumers no longer want this oil. Overall demand in Europe is only increasing because of biofuel which now accounts for 45% of total consumption ([TE, 2016](#)). Second, many already established plantations are

only now beginning to produce, as there is five-year gap between planting and production.

Third, targeted support to smallholders (for seedlings, in particular) to raise their outputs will have the benefit of reducing the demand for oil palm expansion in the coming decades. For these three reasons, fewer planted areas are actually needed, unless the biofuel market expands. With the current trend of expansion, there will be overproduction and price collapses that will negate the benefits to downstream agro-businesses.

Myth 3: Global “Sustainable” palm oil is the solution

A third myth is that global “sustainable” palm oil is the answer. This widespread belief is promoted by dominant actors in the supply chain. Indeed, after lengthy discussions, major environmental NGOs (such as WWF), main producers (especially from Malaysia and Indonesia) and downstream users (for example, Unilever) established the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). Since 2008, the RSPO certifies “sustainable” palm oil. At the end of 2016, the RSPO was certifying about 20% of the world production as “sustainable” ([RSPO, 2016](#)). Facing the risk that consumers might shift away from palm oil, RSPO and its members have been widely promoting this certified oil, including by establishing liaison offices and animating a “palm oil debate” in The Guardian newspaper. However, this certification raises two fundamental concerns. First, only some of the largest producers get certified. The overwhelming majority of the smallholders are excluded from certification because it is too costly and the managerial requirements are too demanding ([Ruysschaert & Salles 2014](#); [Ruysschaert 2016](#)). Second, certified producers often do not respect the internationally accepted rights of indigenous peoples to their customary lands and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) ([Colchester 2016](#)). To settle conflict with communities, the RSPO promotes economic interests above any other values. In conclusion, RSPO certification has promoted the agro-industrial model of mass production while overlooking the fundamental issue of local communities being dispossessed from their lands.



European RSPO meeting June 2016 © D. Ruysschaert

members of the RSPO adopt a “collaborative” strategy, providing scientific evidence, setting up rules and holding positions on the RSPO board, which makes them very visible (see picture). But, by adopting this scientific-managerial approach, those NGOs have engaged in a process of an on-going negotiation of means and goals, and this has effectively silenced their initial concerns. In addition, this process has excluded all other NGOs from the RSPO, such as the “sceptic NGOs” that work with communities to address the root causes of the issues (i.e. secure local land rights, control production). As a result, sceptic NGOs progressively disengage even more from the RSPO. In conclusion, the RSPO has constrained social and environmental NGOs that would be more effective in reaching their goals either by focussing on their initial conservation objectives or by strategically collaborating with each other outside the structures of the RSPO ([Ruysschaert & Salles, 2016](#)).

Denis Ruysschaert has widely published on palm oil in International peer-reviewed journals such as Conservation and Society, Ecological Economics, and IUCN Policy Matters.

Myth 4: Environmental and social NGOs are supporting “sustainable” palm oil

A last myth is that conservation and social NGOs are widely supporting “sustainable” palm oil. This is far from the reality, as demonstrated in a recent article ([Ruysschaert & Salles, 2016](#)). Only 32 environmental NGOs and 13 social NGOs are RSPO members: NGOs only count for about 3% of the membership (RSPO, 2016). Those NGOs who are also

The Consortium at the 13th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity

With 40 delegates from 26 countries, our Consortium participated in the CBD COP 13 that was held in **Cancun, Mexico, from 4-17 December 2016**. The official theme was **"Mainstreaming biodiversity for well-being"** and State Parties adopted a number of decisions on a range of issues relevant to ICCAs. In fact, four decisions specifically refer to it (as "territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities", "indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas", etc.) and to the "ICCA Consortium". This is a very important step for ICCAs and for our association, as community conservation was usually only recalled in generic terms... What are the specific mentions about?

Decision XIII/2 (*"Progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12; para 7"*) provides a clear mandate for the development of **guidance and best practices on identifying and recognising ICCAs** and their potential contribution to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The same decision refers specifically to situations of **overlap with protected areas**, which should be taken into consideration in establishing new and/or expanding existing protected areas, or taking other effective area-based conservation measures. Decision XIII/5 (*"Ecosystem restoration: short-term action plan"*) states that restoration activities may include **supporting "indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas**, and respect for their traditional customary knowledge and practices". And Decision XIII/20 (*"Resource mobilisation"*), which identifies the ICCA Consortium as having "many tools and methods for capturing the contribution of collective action", calls for guidance for identifying, monitoring, and assessing the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to the achievement of the CBD Strategic Plan and Aichi Targets. The same decision invites Parties to include in the progress reports **information on appropriate recognition and support for indigenous peoples and local communities that conserve territories and areas, and other effective community conservation initiatives**. Among the relevant indicators, several relate to "other effective area-based conservation measures"... and ICCAs are recognised to be a possible type.

Please follow this link to read more on [**ICCAs in Decisions of CBD COP 13!**](#)

COP13-COPMOP8-COPMOP2
CANCUN, MEXICO 2016



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY FOR WELL-BEING
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

One minute video on the ICCA Consortium in action

ICCA Consortium's flash event at CBD COP 13, Cancun (Mexico)

On the 15th of December 2016, the ICCA Consortium organized a flash event at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 13) in Cancun (Mexico). The event — entitled: “No to the plunder of our territories! Yes to ICCAs— territories of life!” — offered a glimpse of the concerns that animate many of the defenders of nature, the natural commons and ICCAs. The flash event took place after a technical side event on the conservation impact of extractive industries and just before a press conference on the same subject.



The full video can be viewed [here](#).

In the hall of the CBD COP 13 © Safia Southey

ICCA Consortium 10th General Assembly– Felipe Carrillo Puerto, Mexico

The Xth General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium took place in Felipe Carrillo Puerto (Mexico) on Sunday and Monday 18-19 December 2016. It is the most important governing body of the ICCA Consortium and this time counted 66 participants.

During the Assembly, the [new ICCA Consortium Steering Committee](#) was elected for 2017-2019. It now counts 19 members in charge of diverse ICCA-related concerns and representing different regions of the world. Taghi Farvar is re-elected President of the ICCA Consortium. [Stan Stevens](#) left the Steering committee but is now the Auditor of the accounts and ombudperson. The decision to instate an Elder council was approved by the General Assembly. The ICCA Consortium [Statutes and the new operational guidelines](#) were reviewed and approved. An entire day has also been dedicated to discussing key questions and work priorities concerning the ICCA Consortium new [Strategy](#), which was subsequently adopted by the Consortium in May 2017.



The participants in the ICCA Consortium Xth General Assembly © Producciones Naat's Kaan

Please find more information, reports and picture on [this dedicated webpage](#).

AFRICA

Les APAC au Burkina Faso : se préparer à la création d'une organisation nationale

Alexis Kaboré, Président de l'Association NatuDev, Coordinateur du Consortium APAC pour le Sahel et Christian Chatelain, Coordinateur du Consortium pour l'Afrique francophone

Au Burkina Faso, des autorités et des membres de communautés locales ont décidé de s'unir pour la défense et la promotion de leurs APAC. Ils préparent, en ce moment une instance fédérative nationale. Cette phase étant en cours, cet article ne peut être exhaustif.

Les APAC sont présentes partout sur le territoire du Burkina Faso. Elles peuvent être regroupées en trois types:

- les sites naturels sacrés tels que les bois, collines et mares sacrés. Ils sont des milliers.
- Les zones d'élevage, telles que les aires de pâture et les couloirs de transhumance. Il en existe des milliers également.
- et les Zovic (zones villageoises d'intérêt cynégétique), qui sont des espaces de conservation à usages multiples et règlementés par la communauté. Une petite centaine de ZOVIC est pour l'instant répertoriée mais il y en a probablement beaucoup plus.

Le niveau d'attachement des communautés villageoises aux **sites sacrés** est très élevé : Ils trouvent sur ces espaces et dans leurs ressources ce qui est essentiel pour leur vie : la paix et la nourriture. En contrepartie du respect des esprits du site et parfois même de sacrifices, on prévient la maladie et recouvre la santé, on obtient la pluie en cas de sécheresse, la procréation, la réussite et les victoires face aux adversités de la vie, etc. Chaque territoire villageois contient ses sites sacrés, où sont interdits les usages ordinaires, ainsi que d'autres espaces de conservation, dans lesquels plusieurs besoins de la communauté sont assurés, notamment la chasse et la cueillette.

La quasi-totalité des villages © A.Kaboré

burkinabè (au nombre de 16 000 environ) a dédié au moins une portion de son terroir à la **pâture** du bétail (bœufs, moutons, chèvres, chameaux, etc). Ces zones sont encore mal connues et répertoriées mais bon nombre d'entre elles sont gérées et gouvernées par les communautés elles-mêmes, avec l'aval des services burkinabè de l'élevage.

Les **Zovic** quant à elles sont décidées, délimitées et règlementées librement par les communautés villageoises mais sur incitation de l'administration forestière qui les reconnaît conformément à la loi par des actes administratifs locaux (arrêté municipal ou préfectoral). De par le mode de gouvernance de la majorité d'entre elles, ce sont de véritables APAC. (Cf. article de l'auteur sur les Zovic dans le livre produit en 2016 par l'ONG française RONGEAD « Laafia, livre à voyager en pays gourmantché, Burkina Faso », article publié sous le titre « Pays gourmantché, pays des réserves communautaires », p. 16-19.)



Des caractéristiques communes à toutes ces zones sont à relever : l'attachement fort que les communautés leur portent, l'exercice effectif du pouvoir décisionnel par les autorités villageoises, et l'importante densité et diversité des ressources naturelles qui s'y trouvent. En conséquence, ces APAC de types divers peuvent être considérées comme les principales formes de conservation de la nature que connaît la grande majorité de la population, les forêts dites « classées » étant confinées à seulement quelques provinces. Par ailleurs, dans les régions du Nord et de l'Est, les aires de pâture s'enchaînent pour former des couloirs de transhumance dont l'utilisation est sous le contrôle d'autorités traditionnelles locales.



Usage local d'une Zovic pour l'apiculture © A.Kaboré

Malheureusement, ces aires remarquables sont menacées par des dégradations inhérentes à plusieurs phénomènes tels que le changement climatique, l'accroissement démographique ou le développement de grands chantiers. Ce dernier facteur, les grands chantiers de construction de routes, de barrages, d'installation de mines d'or, etc., est le plus redouté par les populations. Par exemple, la communauté villageoise de Kalwaka (2500 habitants environ) s'est engagée depuis 2013 dans une lutte pour sauver sa colline sacrée de la pression d'une entreprise aurifère qui planifie d'y implanter une mine. L'entrepreneur clame avoir obtenu le droit d'exploiter au niveau national (il s'est fait délivrer une autorisation illégale par le ministère des mines) mais la population du village a compris que c'est également à l'échelle nationale qu'elle peut efficacement porter sa lutte. Elle a donc initié une pétition ayant recueilli des centaines de signatures et l'adhésion évidente de tous. L'Assemblée Nationale envoya alors une délégation pour rencontrer les autorités coutumières qui ont réaffirmé l'opposition de l'ensemble de la communauté à toute activité minière sur leur sanctuaire.

Le cas de Kalwaka est une illustration locale d'une action collective menée face à une préoccupation pour les sites naturels communautaires conservés en général. C'est pour cela, et pour faire face à l'ampleur des menaces qui pèsent sur leur patrimoine, que les autorités des communautés n'ont eu de cesse d'appeler de tous leurs vœux un projet de structure nationale. Ce changement d'échelle dans la gouvernance des affaires du village (du niveau villageois au niveau supra-villageois) n'est pas



Responsables des bois sacrés de Kalwaka © Association NatuDev

nouveau pour la population. Les bois sacrés, les zones pastorales et les Zovic peuvent relever, de façon traditionnelle, de l'autorité d'une chefferie régionale couvrant plusieurs villages, voire plusieurs chefferies régionales. En somme, les populations en connaissent l'intérêt et ont l'expérience de fonctionner en réseau pour exercer la gouvernance de leur sites naturels communautaires conservés. Les démarches pour se regrouper au niveau

national ont déjà été entamées par les responsables des Zovic et des aires de pâture avec des déplacements à Ouagadougou pour des rencontres aux ministères de l'environnement d'une part et de l'élevage d'autre part.

C'est cette dynamique déjà en cours que le Consortium APAC a révélée comme importante à promouvoir et à soutenir. Les leaders des espaces concernés ont pris cela comme une chance pour

partager leurs préoccupations et bénéficier de conseils tirés d'autres expériences de réseaux nationaux d'APAC à travers le monde. La rencontre avec le co-coordonateur du Consortium APAC pour l'Afrique francophone, Christian Chatelain, a produit sur les responsables communautaires d'APAC l'effet d'une reconnaissance supplémentaire (au-delà du Burkina-Faso) de la justesse de leur action et de ses chances de succès. Une première réunion a été tenue à Ouagadougou en octobre 2016, avec des spécialistes des aires naturelles communautaires conservées, y compris un membre d'honneur burkinabè du Consortium ainsi qu'un responsable du PMF/FEM. Aujourd'hui, les participants forment un groupe d'acteurs engagés à soutenir les communautés villageoises dans la protection de leurs APAC. Il a été décidé de façon consensuelle d'œuvrer en priorité à l'identification et au listing formel des APAC au Burkina Faso et à la constitution d'une organisation faîtière nationale chargée de porter à un niveau plus élevé de décision la lutte menée à la base par les populations. Ces populations veulent, en effet, pouvoir perpétuer leurs traditions et défendre leurs droits sur les ressources naturelles de leurs terroirs. L'objectif ainsi convenu a été transcrit sous la forme d'un micro-projet proposé au PMF/FEM qui y a donné une suite favorable.



Participants à la réunion du 02.02.2017 sur le projet de structure nationale des APAC du Burkina Faso © Association NatuDev

Intitulé « Consolidation de la gouvernance des APAC au Burkina Faso », le projet a une durée de trois ans (2017-2019) avec un montant de 25.000 US\$ destiné aux APAC précurseurs de la dynamique APAC au Burkina Faso. Ils étaient trois sites au départ, c'est finalement six qui s'engageront dans le projet : les bois sacrés du village de Kalwaka (Région du Centre-Ouest), les Zovic de Sadpenga, de Pama (Région de l'Est) et de Saro (Région du Centre-Sud), et les aires de pâture de Darkoye Wara-Wara (Région du Sahel) et de Namoungou (Région de l'Est). Elles sont représentatives de ces milliers d'APAC du Burkina et des pays du Sahel. Le projet soutiendra les activités d'information et de sensibilisation aux valeurs de l'approche APAC, l'organisation de l'assemblée constitutive de l'organisation fédérative nationale des APAC, la formation de l'organe dirigeant qui sera élu et, enfin, l'identification et la documentation des APAC du Burkina. La coordination du projet est assurée par Alexis Kaboré, le coordinateur du Consortium APAC pour le Sahel en sa qualité de président de l'Association NatuDev (Nature et Développement), répondant directe du projet auprès des communautés porteuses d'APAC et du PMF/FEM.

Du 05 au 07 juillet 2017, a été organisé l'atelier de lancement du projet à Ouagadougou.



Participants à l'atelier de lancement © Association NatuDev

La démarche observée pour ce faire fut reconnue comme éminemment pédagogique : La préparation de la rencontre s'est déroulée en trois étapes : A) réunion de préparation avec les représentants des communautés d'APAC pour définir ensemble un processus porté véritablement par eux. A cette session ont été décidées par exemple les catégories de personnes pouvant représenter au mieux les APAC à l'atelier de lancement, le programme de l'événement, les institutions partenaires à convier, etc; B) tournée effectuée par les représentants des communautés d'APAC pour rencontrer les administrations et organismes responsables des domaines touchant aux APAC (direction de la faune, direction des forêts, direction des aménagements pastoraux, UICN, PMF/FEM, Point focal de la Convention sur la diversité biologique). Les échanges ont porté sur la présentation de la dynamique APAC qui émerge au Burkina et dans le monde, l'invitation à intervenir comme communicateur à



Communications pour les participants à l'atelier de lancement © Association NatuDev

l'atelier de lancement du projet et/ou à assister simplement à l'atelier; C) Tenue de l'atelier de lancement du projet proprement dit, en trois journées aux contenus spécifiques mais savamment articulés.

Le premier jour fut consacré aux communications sur les thématiques intéressant les APAC présentes : communications successives sur les bois sacrés, les Zovic, les aires de pâture, les forêts villageoises. Les échanges étaient d'autant plus nourris que, non

seulement les conférenciers font partie, au Burkina, des meilleurs experts des thèmes qu'ils ont traités mais aussi ils sont les autorités en charge de ces secteurs au sein de leur ministère. Les représentants des APAC ont intensément animé les débats avec leurs questions, témoignages et recommandations au point de faire dire à un des communicateurs qu'il a « le sentiment d'avoir plus appris qu'enseigné ». Les participants ont toutefois noté que si les Zovic et les aires de pâture sont prévues dans les législations en vigueur, ce n'est pas le cas des forêts sacrées et des forêts villageoises qui en sont totalement absentes. A titre illustratif, cette non reconnaissance légale a constitué un obstacle pour les responsables du village de Kalwaka lors de leur lutte contre la destruction de leur colline sacrée par des orpailleurs s'étant faits délivrer un permis d'exploiter du site par le ministère en charge des mines. La détermination de la population a pu empêcher l'installation de la mine mais la menace n'est pas totalement écartée, à cause surtout de ce défaut de couverture juridique.



Responsables de l'aire de pâture de Darkoye © Association NatuDev

Le deuxième jour était dit « journée en interne ». Il a commencé par une présentation de l'approche APAC et du guide d'auto-renforcement des APAC par le coordinateur du consortium APAC pour la région du Sahel. Par leurs commentaires et témoignages, les représentants des communautés d'APAC ont insisté sur le vide que vient combler cette initiative : au-delà du cadre coutumier et villageois, il n'existe aucune structure de la société civile sur laquelle compter pour porter leurs préoccupations et fédérer leurs énergies. La plus grande partie de la journée était dédiée aux représentants des APAC : chaque délégation, constituée des quatre plus hautes autorités de l'APAC représentée, formait un panel pour présenter aux autres leur APAC, son histoire, son importance pour les communautés locales, ses menaces et les solutions trouvées ou envisagées. Il était toujours impossible d'épuiser les questions, commentaires et suggestions, tant ils étaient nombreux et édifiants. L'appel à l'union et à l'engagement au sein des villages est le trait dominant des discussions entre représentants d'APAC.

Le troisième jour fut celui de la cérémonie de lancement du projet, déclinée, elle aussi, en quatre moments : message de chaque délégation, inspiré des échanges des deux journées précédentes, message de la coordinatrice du PMF/FEM au Burkina Faso, intervention du coordinateur du Consortium APAC pour le Sahel, discours du représentant du directeur général des eaux et forêts. Rendez-vous a été donné en septembre 2017 pour l'étape cruciale du processus, celle de la tenue de l'assemblée constitutive de l'organisation fédérative nationale des APAC du Burkina Faso. Elle consistera en l'adoption des textes devant régir le fonctionnement de l'organisation, l'élection de l'organe dirigeant, l'adoption du plan d'action sur la base des projets d'activités de chaque APAC et des actions devant être portées par l'organe dirigeant.



Responsables de la Zovic de Pama © Association NatuDev

Par ailleurs, étant entendu que les APAC reposent sur la reconnaissance des traditions locales et des autorités qui les incarnent, les bénédictions et le soutien des chefs coutumiers d'envergure nationale ou régionale seront sollicités et maintenus constants. L'autorité morale qu'on leur reconnaît dans tous les milieux et leur fort potentiel d'influence sur les décideurs politiques font d'eux des alliés stratégiques.

La marche vers une organisation nationale des APAC est résolument entamée au Burkina Faso. L'initiative se justifie par l'importance des APAC pour les communautés titulaires, l'ampleur des menaces qui pèsent sur ces sites et l'engagement et les capacités des responsables d'APAC d'y aboutir et de faire fonctionner la structure avec, selon les nécessités, des appuis ad hoc pertinents de compétences indépendantes.

Pour en savoir plus, veuillez contacter Alexis Kaboré à alexis@iccaconsortium.org

Kabeka part à la découverte des APAC au Sénégal !

Salatou Sambou, Coordinateur pour les écosystèmes marins et côtiers en Afrique de l'ouest



*Le Président et Vice-président de Kabeka au travail
© G. Borrini Feyerabend*

L'Association KABEKA (KAmalor BE KAFankante -- « Se concerter pour se prémunir ») est reconnue légalement en tant qu'association depuis décembre 2012. KABEKA a été créée pour promouvoir des formes appropriées de reconnaissance, de renforcement et de soutien mutuel aux aires et aux territoires du patrimoine autochtone et communautaire (APAC) en Casamance, au Sénégal. Depuis sa naissance, elle organise des rencontres pour renforcer son fonctionnement et poursuivre son objectif général, tels que des réunions de communication sociale autour du thème des APAC en Casamance ou des rencontres avec les administrations territoriales de Casamance.

En 2016, KABEKA a bénéficié d'une offre de service pour la mise en œuvre de l'initiative de Soutien stratégique APAC du pays, diffusés par le Programme des Petites Subventions (PPS) du Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial (FEM) du Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement (PNUD) dans le cadre de l'Initiative de Soutien Mondial aux APAC (GSI). Dans le cadre de cet appui, elle est en train d'identifier – dans les cinq principales zones agro-écologiques du pays – des communautés qui pourraient reconnaître leur fonctionnement dans les caractéristiques des APAC. Il s'agit de « découvrir » ces communautés, les contacter, les aider à voir si elles ont la volonté et la capacité de prendre en main la gouvernance et la gestion de leurs APAC et de se relier dans un réseau national pour promouvoir la reconnaissance et l'appui approprié à toutes les APAC du pays. Cinq ateliers régionaux auront lieu, ainsi qu'un sixième au niveau national et cinq processus d'appui au processus d'auto-renforcement à cinq APAC identifiées en tant qu'emblématiques au Sénégal.

Grâce à KABEKA, les communautés prennent conscience de la possibilité de déclarer leurs APAC et de les voir reconnaître. Elles ont ainsi l'espoir de pouvoir être soutenues pour défendre leurs territoires contre « l'accès libre » qui prévaut partout au Sénégal aujourd'hui, et pour leur recherche de reconnaissance légale par l'État sénégalais. À ce propos, lorsque KABEKA a réalisé ses premières visites dans les zones écologiques du pays elle a déjà soulevé beaucoup d'espoir parmi des communautés qui ont des territoires et des aires qu'elles voudraient mieux conserver et protéger. Dans ce sens le



Femmes et enfants de la communauté de Ngnith © S. Sambou

Consortium APAC parle d'« APAC désirées » et possibles. En résumé, l'association KABEKA agit pour un renforcement des capacités des communautés en matière de gouvernance et gestion des APAC et elle a en charge la création d'un réseau d'APAC. Ceci se passera dans un premier temps au Sénégal mais on espère l'étendre bientôt dans d'autres pays en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Elaboration de plans d'action nationaux pour les APAC en Afrique de l'Ouest

Christian Chatelain, co-coordonateur pour l'Afrique francophone

L'association casamançaise KABEKA, avec l'appui du PMF-FEM de Dakar et du Consortium APAC ont organisé à Saint Louis du Sénégal, pendant cinq jours, un atelier d'information, d'échange, d'analyse et de planification initiale sur les Aires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire (APAC) en présence de personnes-ressources venus de 5 pays : Sénégal, Bénin, Guinée, Guinée Bissau et Maroc.

L'atelier, qui avait pour thème « Partage de connaissances et renforcement de capacités sur les APAC », s'est déroulé en Octobre 2016 dans le cadre du programme GSI (Initiative d'appui mondial aux APAC). L'objectif principal de cette initiative est de favoriser la reconnaissance appropriée et le soutien aux APAC et la promotion de leur efficacité par l'intermédiaire du renforcement de capacités dans au moins 26 pays pilotes à travers le monde, dont le Sénégal, le Maroc et



Une partie des participants visitent la potentielle APAC du Ndjaël et posent des questions aux notables et aux sages locaux pour comprendre qui gouverne cet espace et comment, © C. Chatelain

le Bénin. Il avait pour objectifs le partage des expériences et des connaissances, l'apprentissage du concept, menaces et opportunités des APAC, l'analyse des réponses à ces menaces et le renforcement des capacités de tous les participants. Ceux-ci étaient des représentants des peuples autochtones et des communautés locales qui gouvernent et gèrent leurs APAC, des représentants des agences gouvernementales concernées et des organisations de la société civile, ainsi que les coordinateurs nationaux du PMF-FEM.

Le contenu de l'atelier était dense : Le premier jour, dénommé « Situation des APAC en Afrique de l'Ouest », furent présentées des expériences des 5 pays en matière de conservation communautaire ; le deuxième jour, intitulé « Concepts & analyses », furent présentés des concepts de bases, suivis de travaux de groupes qui ont permis d'élaborer des cartes parlantes et d'ébaucher des stratégies pour chacun des pays représentés ; le troisième jour a permis de faire deux visites de terrain et d'apprendre de deux exemples d'APAC locales (Réserve du Ndiael- village de Ngnith et Parc national du Djoudj- APAC de Djoudj) ; le quatrième jour a été le jour de « Planning & appuis mutuels » avec des travaux de groupe pour l'élaboration de plans d'actions par chacune des équipes pour la promotion de la reconnaissance et l'appui aux APAC dans leur pays respectifs ; le cinquième et dernier jour de l'atelier, intitulé « Futur de l'apprentissage des APAC » a permis de discuter et améliorer les plans d'actions en plénière.

Outre de nombreuses leçons apprises par chacun des pays sur leurs potentialités en matière d'APAC, et particulièrement sur la présence de coutumes, règles et d'institutions traditionnelles encore bien vivantes, les résultats principaux de l'atelier sont condensés dans la planification faite par chaque pays:

La **Guinée** a comme objectifs le renforcement des structures coutumières, le suivi écologique des ressources naturelles et la promotion des biens et des services générés par les APAC et leurs zones connexes. Elle envisage de réaliser un inventaire national des APAC, évaluer le potentiel en APAC transfrontalières, capitaliser et conforter les bases des connaissances sur les APAC, promouvoir le développement du réseau sectoriel des APAC et élaborer une stratégie sectorielle APAC assortie de

plans d'actions/budgets pour le financement de leur reconnaissance légale, de leur gestion et de leur gouvernance.

La **Guinée Bissau** souhaite promouvoir trois initiatives qui sont de faire connaître les Lois parmi les communautés et les parties prenantes ; organiser un atelier national sur les APAC et identifier les APAC potentielles à appuyer par le PMF-FEM en réseau. Elle envisage de procéder à l'identification et la promotion des APAC dans le pays, à la création d'une base de données nationale sur les APAC, à la création d'un réseau national des APAC, à l'appui aux APAC potentielles par le PMF-FEM, à la diffusion des activités menées par les APAC, à la reconnaissance formelle des droits des communautés et du système de gestion traditionnelle, et à la reconnaissance internationale des APAC de Guinée et de leurs valeurs.



Les participants des 5 pays à l'atelier © C. Chatelain

Le **Bénin** propose également trois initiatives stratégiques qui sont de développer un centre national de ressources sur les APAC, mettre en place le consortium national APAC du Bénin et généraliser la mise en œuvre du programme « graines du futur » pour faciliter la transmission des connaissances intergénérationnelles et garantir la protection durable des APAC. Le Bénin envisage de faire adhérer les acteurs clés à la cause des APAC, améliorer les connaissances et la conscience des acteurs clés, promouvoir la reconnaissance des APACs par l'analyse du cadre légal et le plaidoyer pour sa relecture, confirmer les

sites APAC potentiels, initier un réseau national d'APAC, outiller les communautés pour conserver et défendre leurs APAC et créer une synergie d'action entre les pays en favorisant la création d'un réseau régional via des visites d'échanges d'expériences entre pays.

Le **Maroc** se fixe 4 objectifs stratégiques qui sont d'améliorer l'état des connaissances des APAC au niveau national, accompagner les efforts de conservation des APAC identifiées, intégrer la question des APAC dans les stratégies régionales, et mettre en place un cadre national favorable à la reconnaissance des APAC. Il prévoit pour cela d'améliorer l'état des connaissance des APAC, accompagner les efforts de conservation des APAC identifiées par le soutien de 4 à 10 APAC emblématiques, intégrer la question des APAC dans les stratégies régionales et mettre en place un cadre national favorable à la reconnaissance des APAC.

Le **Sénégal** vise trois objectifs stratégiques qui sont d'améliorer la situation des APAC actuelles au niveau national, mettre en place un système de communication et de gestion des connaissances sur les APAC et chercher à influencer les politiques en faveur des APAC. Il envisage pour cela l'identification d'APAC existantes et potentielles, le renforcement des capacités des APAC au niveau national, la mise en place d'un réseau national fonctionnel des APAC, l'organisation de consultations régionales et nationales et des échanges d'expériences avec d'autres APAC de la sous-région, le développement d'une base de données sur les APAC, l'inscription des APAC dans le registre mondial www.iccaregistry.org et la diffusion d'informations sur les APAC aussi bien à l'échelle nationale qu'internationale. Il prévoit également l'analyse du cadre juridique et des politiques pouvant influencer sur les APAC, la sensibilisation des décideurs et acteurs étatiques de l'environnement sur le rôle des APAC dans la conservation et la garantie de la prise en compte des APAC dans la typologie des aires protégées, des textes de loi et des documents de politique au niveau national.

Pour des détails régionaux et nationaux sur les résultats de cet atelier, veuillez consulter son [compte rendu](#) ou contacter C. Chatelain chri.chatelain@gmail.com et S. Sambou sambousalatou@gmail.com

Supporting ICCAs in Zambia: setting the cornerstones

Vincent Ziba, Regional Coordinator for East and Southern Africa

In March 2017, some 30 participants in representation of local communities, civil society, government and the ICCA Consortium gathered for an ICCA National Workshop co-convened by the Zambia Community Based Natural Resources Management Forum, GEF SGP Zambia and the ICCA Consortium.

After sharing information on ICCAs in general and on the history and conditions related to ICCAs in the country, the participants focused on the situation of ICCAs in four defined Zambian regions: 1) Western and North-western, 2) Copper belt, Central and Southern provinces, 3) Lusaka and Eastern provinces and 4) Northern, Muchinga and Luapula provinces.



Mapping ICCAs in the region © gbf

From that situational analysis, the necessity to formalize a Zambian Working group on ICCA arose. It was also clear that there is a need to guide relevant custodian communities to identify the kind of support they need to strengthen their ICCAs. In this context, the ICCA Global Support Initiative will be able to provide assistance to emblematic ICCAs. The CBNRM will serve as the catalytic organisation in Zambia, as foreseen by the current project agreement with GEF SGP. The national workshop was followed by a field mission that started using the **Consortium guidance for ICCA Self-strengthening**.

Please find more information in the [report](#) of the workshop, the report of the field visit and the **Consortium guidance for ICCA Self-strengthening**, available on line in three languages. For more information, please contact Vincent at vincent.ziba@iccaconsortium.org.

Towards a critical mass for social justice in community territorial governance in Kenya

On the invitation of UNDP GEF SGP, the ICCA Consortium, the Forest People Programme, Natural Justice and the Indigenous Peoples Forest Network, more than 20 people convened in Nairobi on March 2017 to discuss social justice in community territorial governance. The meeting offered an opportunity to examine the situation of communities struggling for land and natural resource rights in Kenya, and to analyse the processes and mechanisms available to support them. These include seeking recognition as ICCAs and/or engaging in the Whakatane Mechanism. The ICCA Global Support Initiative also offers an avenue to support and strengthen community work, including in legal literacy and

advocacy for community conservation and livelihoods issues.

More information is to be found in this [report](#), produced by the [Forest Peoples Programme](#), a Member of the Consortium.

For more information, please contact Vincent at vincent.ziba@iccaconsortium.org.



The participants in the workshop © UNDP GEF SGP Kenya

Two workshops in Tanzania: one on enhancing governance of the national system of protected and conserved areas, and one on understanding and strengthening ICCAs

Two workshops were held back-to-back in late March 2017 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, gathering civil society, organized communities, government representatives and representatives of the IUCN, UNDP and the ICCA Consortium. The first was part of a series of IUCN-assisted processes of assessment and action to enhance governance for conservation and sustainable livelihoods. And the second was a typical national ICCA workshop as the Consortium has organized in various countries with the support of UNDP GEF SGP. The ICCA Consortium provided technical assistance in organizing and running both events. **Please download the [reports of the events here](#) and [here](#).**

For more information, please contact Vincent at vincent.ziba@iccaconsortium.org.



Some participants in the national ICCA workshop in Tanzania © gbf

LATIN AMERICA

Intercambio regional de capacitación en técnicas y herramientas de gestión de los TICCA y modelos de desarrollo

Carmen E. Miranda L., Coordinadora del Consorcio TICCA para los países Amazónicos

Con el apoyo de la Iniciativa Global de Apoyo a los TICCA implementada por el Programa de Pequeñas Donaciones del Fondo Mundial para el Medioambiente (GSI PPD- GEF) y en coordinación con la Iniciativa Ecuatorial del PNUD, el Consorcio TICCA organizó el Taller «**Intercambio regional de capacitación en técnicas y herramientas de gestión de los TICCA y modelos de desarrollo**», celebrado

del 16 al 21 de octubre de 2016 en la localidad de Santiago de Chiquitos, una pequeña comunidad de la región de la Chiquitanía boliviana, en el departamento de Santa Cruz, Bolivia.



Los participantes al taller © I. Patzi

Participaron activamente en este encuentro sesenta y tres representantes de organizaciones y comunidades indígenas de Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador y Perú.

El taller se centró en cuatro áreas para el desarrollo de capacidades:

- i. Gobernanza: resolución de conflictos y marcos legales internacionales de Derechos Humanos.
- ii. Estrategias de comunicación.
- iii. Mapeos participativos y tecnologías digitales para la gestión integral de los territorios indígenas y los TICCA.
- iv. Sistemas tradicionales de conocimiento indígena y protocolos comunitarios bioculturales.

Gracias al aporte de un nutrido grupo de facilitadores, el intercambio fue intenso, rico en aprendizajes y discusiones, resaltando la indudable experiencia de los participantes así como la grave problemática y los conflictos que confrontan **los TICCA ante las presiones del desarrollo extractivista**.

Se han identificado las siguientes líneas de acción e instrumentos prioritarios para el apoyo a los TICCA en la región como resultados destacados del evento,



Mesas de discusión en grupos abordando metodologías de resolución de conflictos © I. Patzi

varios de los cuales están siendo considerados por las entidades organizadoras del encuentro para la planificación de la gestión de 2017:

- a. Capacitación virtual en marcos legales, comunicación y resolución de conflictos: el tema legal fue percibido como prioritario, destacándose la necesidad de profundización en la capacitación y la posibilidad de crear un consultorio legal virtual para consultas en línea. En el área de las Comunicaciones se reconoció la importancia de conocer los medios de información y las redes actuales disponibles para ampliar contactos y alianzas, definir estrategias y promover cursos de capacitación, también en línea. En lo que respecta a los mecanismos de resolución de conflictos, dada la gravedad de algunas situaciones y la necesidad de que las comunidades estén mejor preparadas para afrontar estas situaciones violentas, se recomienda el desarrollo de seminarios virtuales —*webinars*— adicionales o cursos en línea.
- b. Vitalizar un sistema de alerta con redes solidarias en los ámbitos nacionales e internacionales.
- c. Establecer una plataforma de intercambio de aprendizajes que profundice en los temas que fueron abordados en el taller.
- d. Mapeos participativos tridimensionales y uso de drones.
- e. Sistemas de gobernanza autónomos.
- f. Fortalecimiento y revitalización de sistemas ancestrales de conocimiento indígena.
- g. Documentación como eje transversal.

La memoria completa del evento se encuentra [siguiendo este enlace](#).

Comienza fase de ejecución de la Iniciativa Global de Apoyo a los TICCA en Colombia

Carolina Amaya, punto focal en Colombia para el Consorcio TICCA, y directora científica y editora general del CEMI (miembro del Consorcio TICCA)

En el segundo semestre de 2017 se han firmado los memorandos de acuerdo entre el Programa de Pequeñas Donaciones del GEF y 32 organizaciones de pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales en Colombia para apoyo a sus TICCA. Con el acompañamiento del Centro de Estudios Médicos Interculturales —CEMI—, Miembro del Consorcio y organización estratégica para la implementación de la Iniciativa Global de Apoyo a los TICCA (GSI por su sigla en inglés), y la coordinación del PPD en cabeza de Ana Beatriz Barona, ha comenzado la ejecución de los proyectos seleccionados.

Cabe señalar que la asignación de la GSI en los 26 países seleccionados está pensada para apoyo de 4 a 10 TICCA. Sin embargo, el PPD ha sumado recursos adicionales de su presupuesto de país para ampliar la selección a 32 proyectos, un apoyo sin precedentes que demuestra el compromiso del Comité Directivo Nacional y de Ana Beatriz con los TICCA en Colombia.

Para comenzar, y siguiendo la planeación definida en el taller de arranque de la GSI y el evento regional de intercambio de aprendizajes, los dos realizados en Ecuador, se adecuaron los términos de referencia para tener en cuenta avances previos en el país relacionados con el reconocimiento de las áreas de



conservación comunitaria, movimiento que tomó el nombre de «Territorios comunitarios para la vida». Por otro lado, Carolina Amaya, punto focal del Consorcio en Colombia y coordinadora del proyecto desde la organización estratégica, trabajó en la adecuación intercultural de la definición TICCA y dirigió la realización de un video para acercar el concepto a las comunidades indígenas, negras y campesinas de Colombia. Ambos documentos pueden ser consultados [en el sitio web del CEMI](#) y [del PPD Colombia](#).

Vale la pena destacar que la organización estratégica así mismo adaptó el formato para presentación de proyectos —que fue aprobado por PPD— de manera amigable y consecuente para facilidad de las comunidades. Este formato se puede consultar [aquí](#). Resulta grato constatar que formato, video y folleto con la definición permitieron la comprensión del concepto TICCA —por lo menos para las personas de las comunidades que asumieron la tarea de formular los proyectos— y se dio como resultado una forma nueva de describir y comunicar los TICCA mediante dibujos, cuentos, coplas, historias, narraciones, que el Consorcio ha recogido como herramienta para pueblos y comunidades que quieran hacer un primer acercamiento de autoconciencia como custodios de territorios de conservación desde sus formas propias de expresión (consultar en la [página web del Consorcio](#) en la que se muestran algunos ejemplos tomados de los proyectos de esta convocatoria). Adicionalmente, el CEMI adelantó la investigación de fuentes secundarias que recoge en un [documento de línea base para la consideración de los TICCA en Colombia](#) y una [síntesis sobre marco legal internacional y nacional para el reconocimiento de las áreas de conservación comunitaria en Colombia](#), con base en la cuidadosa obra de la investigadora Marcela Jiménez que está en proceso de actualización a 2017 para su edición y publicación.

La respuesta a la convocatoria fue amplia: se recibieron 487 propuestas que fueron evaluadas según una metodología diseñada con criterios de selección pertinentes, contando adicionalmente con un comité técnico asesor convocado por el PPD y en el que la organización estratégica, en representación del Consorcio TICCA, participó activamente. Posterior a la evaluación de las propuestas por parte de los miembros del comité técnico asesor, se realizó una discusión y preselección de 34 propuestas para conformar un portafolio estratégico de proyectos TICCA, que diera cuenta de la diversidad del país.



Visita de verificación, cabildo inga de Orito, Putumayo © I. Giraldo

propuestas en campo. El portafolio finalmente seleccionado por el Comité Directivo Nacional de PPD incluyó 33 proyectos. Los proyectos escogidos abarcan zonas representativas del país como Amazonia, Orinoquia, región andina, Chocó Biogeográfico,

Costa Pacífica, piedemonte amazónico, llanura Caribe, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, valle del Magdalena, con una variedad significativa también de ecosistemas: selva húmeda tropical, sabana, zonas marino-costeras, páramos, bosques altoandinos, ciénagas. Así mismo involucra comunidades indígenas, negras y campesinas, representadas tanto por organizaciones locales sin reconocimiento legal como ONG avaladas por comunidades y organizaciones legalmente constituidas del nivel regional, lo que va a permitir apoyar procesos comunitarios locales, así como escalar una reflexión regional. La selección de proyectos respetó propuestas que continúan procesos previos de fortalecimiento de



Trabajo sobre mapas en el taller de inicio © I.Giraldo

identidad cultural y defensa del territorio, siempre desde una perspectiva abierta al autorreconocimiento como territorios de conservación. En resumen, el portafolio de proyectos resulta intercultural, con diversidad de ecosistemas, variedad de visiones sobre el territorio y sobre lo que puede considerarse TICCA en Colombia y diferentes niveles de consolidación de los TICCA: definidos, degradados y deseados ([ver la tabla descriptiva con las 32 propuestas](#)).

Con la facilitación de Tropenbos Colombia, la activa participación del CEMI y la coordinación de PPD, se realizó en junio un primer taller de intercambio con representantes de los 32 proyectos y en el que se dio la oportunidad de presentar las iniciativas, dialogar entre sí y avanzar en el ajuste de los proyectos. En el siguiente mes el CEMI acompañó de cerca el ajuste final de las propuestas y la recolección de documentación para la firma de los memorandos de acuerdo. Actualmente, como se decía al principio, ha comenzado la ejecución de los proyectos que será acompañada por el equipo del CEMI tanto en los aspectos técnicos como en la realización de talleres comunitarios para la reflexión y la autoidentificación como TICCA.



Taller de inicio © L. Parra

Para más información, contactar a Carolina en carolina.amaya@iccaconsortium.org

Hacia la construcción de una visión de gobernanza territorial comunitaria en México

Albert M. Chan-Dzul, Coordinador región Mesoamérica Consorcio TICCA, U Yich Lu'um, AC

Tomando en cuenta que México es una de las regiones del mundo con megabiodiversidad y cuna de antiguas culturas, con una enorme variedad de territorios y áreas gobernados, gestionados y conservados por sus pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales y con los objetivos de compartir conocimientos y fortalecer capacidades para promover y fortalecer el reconocimiento y apoyo apropiados a los TICCA y mejorar su eficacia en México, en octubre de 2016, los días 21, 22 y 23, se llevó a cabo, en el ejido Zoh Laguna, Calakmul, Campeche, el taller «Intercambio de conocimientos y aprendizaje mutuo sobre territorios y áreas conservados por pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales (TICCA): hacia la construcción de una visión territorial comunitaria en México».



Trabajo grupal de la región Península de Yucatán. © S. Oliveros

Aun cuando en un principio esta reunión se pensó solo para la Península de Yucatán (Sureste de México), poco a poco se fue ampliando hasta tener representantes de otras regiones: las organizaciones locales U Yich Lu'um (miembro del Consorcio y organizador de este taller) y EDUCE, el Consejo Regional Indígena Maya de Bacalar y los colectivos Selva Sí, Palma No y Colectivo Conciencia,



Reunión de seguimiento en Felipe Carrillo Puerto. © I. Oliveros

la Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán y el Ejido Felipe Carrillo Puerto de la Península de Yucatán; la organización Nuiwari y el Consejo Náyeri (Nayarit), de la región Occidente; la Asamblea Permanente de los Pueblos de Morelos de la región Centro y Defensores del

Territorio Comcaac de la región

Noroeste así como representantes de la iniciativa Gobernanza del Territorio y Bienes Comunales de Guatemala.

Durante el primer día se presentó la situación actual de los territorios y áreas conservados por pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales en Mesoamérica; luego una presentación y discusión colectiva del concepto y la práctica de los TICCA; finalizando el día con una presentación de qué es y qué hace el Consorcio ICCA. El segundo día fue para trabajar en dos grupos, uno conformado por los participantes de la Península de Yucatán y otro por los participantes del Centro, Occidente y Noroeste, con el fin de desarrollar una estrategia regional para el adecuado reconocimiento y apoyo a los TICCA. Durante el

tercer día, con base en las discusiones precedentes y la estrategia regional, los participantes se organizaron de nuevo en grupos para desarrollar un plan de acción.

Entre los resultados más importantes, estuvo la oportunidad de encontrarse, conocerse y compartir las experiencias desde las diferentes realidades locales; se plantearon **dos nombres para identificar a los TICCA en México: K' lu'um (nuestra tierra) y Territorios Autónomos Comunitarios (TAC)**; se planteó que todos los participantes fueran promotores de este movimiento y se propuso la elaboración de un plan estratégico que permitiera avanzar de forma ordenada y coherente.

Basado en este primer encuentro, se tuvo la oportunidad para reunirse, de nuevo, los días 20 y 21 de diciembre en Felipe Carrillo Puerto, Quintana Roo, en el marco de la X Asamblea General del Consorcio. En esta ocasión el tema principal fue el bosquejo de un plan estratégico en el que se determinó identificar las diferentes experiencias de TICCA o TAC en México, generar los materiales de identidad para el caso nacional, mapear los TICCA y socializar la información, intercambiar experiencias con Guatemala y vincularse con el Consorcio para el caso de TICCA/TAC amenazados que requieren atención urgente. Para estos planteamientos se propusieron reuniones presenciales y asignación de actividades a cada uno de los participantes.



Cierre del taller. © I. Oliveros

Taller de Gobernanza de Áreas Protegidas y Conservadas en Ecuador



Frente al legendario monte Pichincha, los participantes a la reunión © UICN WCPA

En marzo de 2017 se desarrolló en Quito, Ecuador, el taller de arranque de un proceso de «evaluación y acción» para mejorar la gobernanza del sistema de áreas protegidas y conservadas del país. El taller, atendido por la UICN y el Consorcio TICCA, reunió a 26 personas en representación del Ministerio del Ambiente, las pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales, la sociedad civil y el proyecto GSI, con el objetivo de trabajar a favor de la conservación y de los medios de vida sostenibles en el país.

Aquí se puede descargar el [informe completo](#) del taller. Inmediatamente después del taller principal, un grupo más restringido de participantes se reunió para crear un grupo que se denominó «Equipo de planificación de gobernanza» para poner en marcha en el país las recomendaciones del taller principal. Aquí se puede descargar el [informe de esta segunda reunión](#).

ASIA

National ICCA Workshop in Nanning, China

Yi Liu, National Coordinator, SGP, UNDP, China



The participants in the workshop © Yi Liu

The ICCA workshop was successfully held in Nanning during 18 to 20 October 2016. It was organised by UNDP/GEF SGP and co-organised by the Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association (SGP grantee), Guangxi Wildlife Conservation Society and Fauna and

Flora International China. The workshop brought 103 participants together, and included overseas guests, Chinese experts and scholars, government officials, representatives from civil society organisations, representatives from village communities, volunteers and media.

The workshop was exceptionally productive. The participants shared information and concerns about the ICCA global development situation, international policies related to ICCA and a number of cases from China, the United States, Bhutan, Vietnam, Iran and Taiwan. Participants not only saw from the international perspective of ICCA in the global model, but also learned about the long history of the concept of ICCA in China, and ICCA's value in light of the current ecological civilisation policy in China. The case studies of the practitioners from Guangxi, Yunnan, Sichuan, Guizhou and



Feed back of the working group © Yi Liu

Qinghai demonstrated the value of ICCAs and proved that appropriate actions in ICCA would bring about positive changes in ecology, politics, economy, culture and other aspects. Site visits to two community conserved areas in Qu Nan and Xin Tuan villages near Nanning, the capital of Guangxi added a real life dimension to the discussions. During the visit, the participants got a hands-on understanding of the local history, the current situation and future development of the community conserved areas, which contributed to in-depth discussions. A typhoon and heavy autumn rain complicated every step of the trip and the “backstage” service arrangements. Despite the weather, the visit provided a good opportunity for the participants to gain a fuller understanding of this area



A Multi-cultural meeting © Yi Liu

and to exchange opinions with each other.

Eight issues related to ICCAs were discussed in the workshop, and delegates from different places sat together to discuss and draw future action plans. The delegates finally reached a consensus and adopted the following proposal, which was signed by the relevant representatives. The adoption of the proposal pushed this workshop to a higher level, and increased the confidence of local policymakers and practitioners, and it promoted the development of ICCAs in China in the future.

meeting. They will continue to share information about ICCAs and other relevant concerns and projects through this platform as they go ahead.

In addition, the participants established a social network platform during the

Please find here the full [Proposals for Promoting the Development of ICCA and Paying Great Importance to the Reform of Ecological Civilisation](#).

International training workshop on community-based biodiversity conservation in Yunnan, China

Liu Yi, GEF SGP National Coordinator in China



Ms. Yi Liu's Intervention © J. Li

The International Training Workshop on Community-based Biodiversity Conservation was held in Yunnan, China, from 30th Oct. to 13th Nov. 2016. It was organized by the Kunming Institute of Botany, of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). More than twenty participants, from Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and China, took part in this workshop, with the aim of providing a training course and strengthening networks among young scientists and practitioners working in biodiversity conservation in South and Southwest Asia.

South and Southeast Asian is a global hot spot for biodiversity and cultural conservation. This region is one of the most populated areas in the world and has historically had less economic development, but it is now expected to experience fast changes from a socioeconomic and ecological point of view. Hence, the pressure to safeguard Nature and its valuable resources is increasing. National Park or Nature Reserve lives are hindered by monetary resource shortage and causes growing conflict forbidding local communities to use natural resources for their livelihoods. To simultaneously mitigate

this kind of conflict and to achieve the preservation of natural lands, a community-based conservation approach is highly recommended.

Ms. Yi Liu was invited to introduce Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme's (SGP), an initiative that supports ICCAs in China. Since its establishment in 1992, GEF SGP has supported about 3000 ICCAs around the world, including 21 in China. Local people and communities in China have developed uses of natural resources that are compatible with conservation, some of which were recorded 2000 years ago, in ancient literature. Local communities manage their surrounding ecosystems through indigenous knowledge, traditional culture and customary laws, all of which contribute greatly to biological and cultural conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and greater resilience in the face of natural disasters. Regrettably, the value of ICCAs is underestimated by mainstream society. ICCAs in China have provided great ecological, social and economic benefits not only for local people but for society as a whole. Some provinces or local governments have issued bylaws or policies to recognize and support ICCAs. For example, in 2012, Guangxi Provincial Forestry Bureau issued "The Regulations on the Forest and Wildlife Small Protected Areas in Guangxi", and enabled local communities to establish community conserved areas following the principles of self-establishment, self-fundraising, self-management and self-benefit. By the end of 2015, there were 134 ICCAs in Guangxi. GEF SGP supported the project 'Mainstreaming and Capability Enhancement of Community Conserved Areas in the Southwest of Guangxi', which aims at working with stakeholders to build ICCAs capacity, support them as they work to obtain governmental and society recognition, and attempt to mainstream ICCAs into the Guangxi protected area system. This project's outcome could be replicated and extended to other provinces in China.

During the workshop, Prof. Shengji Pei, from Kunming Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, talked about Sacred Landscape Conservation in Yunnan, China. Prof. Yiching Song, from the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy (CAS), described two Community Based Biodiversity Conservation cases: the Potato Park in Peru and Stone Village in China. Dr. Chusie Trisonthi, from Chiangmai University, explained the lessons to be drawn from ethnobotanical studies and the implications of plant conservation and utilisation in Northern Thailand. Dr. Xuefei Yang, from Kunming Institute of Botany, CAS, talked about protection of traditional knowledge, cultural expressions and genetics. Prof. Peng Luo, from Chengdu Institute of Biology, CAS, highlighted the development and challenges of Chinese national parks. Prof. Anthony Cunningham, from University of Western Australia, talked about community conservation cases from China, Indonesia and Africa. Dr. Jianying Xiang, from Southwest Forestry University, focused on biodiversity and conservation of the ferns and lycophytes of Yunnan. Dr. Lixin Yang, from Kunming Institute of Botany, CAS talked about community conservation of medicinal plants in Ludian Township in Yunnan. Mr. Kang Wei, from TNC, described community engagement in the land trust conservation of TNC China. Prof. Yongcheng Long, from SEE, talked about Yunnan nub-nosed monkey conservation with community approach. Dr. Xuefei Yang, from CAS, spoke about prized matsutake mushroom management at the community level in Northwest Yunnan.



The participants in the workshop © J. Yang

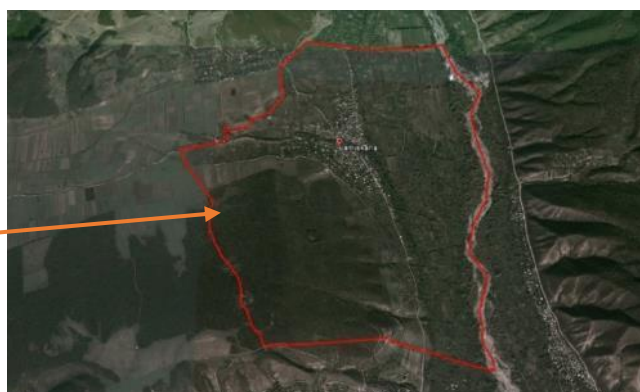
Strengthening ICCAs in Georgia

Ghanimat Azhdari, Steering Committee member of ICCA Consortium with special responsibility for West and Central Asia, and Somayeh Nokarizi, Cenesta Advisor for Georgia

As part of the Caucasus eco-region, Georgia is a biodiversity “hotspot”. (Currently, [Conservation International](#) has identified 34 biodiversity “hotspots” around the world: areas with uniquely rich biodiversity that are under significant threat.) According to the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF), the Caucasus is an eco-region of global importance, with great species diversity and a high degree of endemism and diversity of vegetation types. The first Georgian nature reserve was established in 1912 in Lagodekhi. Nowadays, there are 50 protected areas, covering 7.1% of the territory of Georgia. Thus, according to [Aichi Targets](#), particularly number 11, it is very important to secure the conservation of these community conserved territories and areas as either formal protected areas or as “other effective area-based conservation measures”.

Georgia was selected as one of the GSI (Global Support Initiative) countries in 2015. Following that designation, I visited the country in July 2016 to start assessing the needs and opportunities to provide technical support to the GSI programme in Georgia. My “Consortium’s visit” was an occasion to gather information for a database of existing and potential ICCAs in the region, to discuss the GSI initiatives, to promote appropriate understanding of ICCAs and how to actively support them, to envisage networks at different levels, and to start identifying and responding to ICCA needs.

Lamiskana (local name: ლ მ ი ს ყ ა ნ ა) is a Community Conserved Area (CCA), in the Kaspis district, Shida Kartli province of Georgia. This CCA is in a hilly and green area, in the eastern part of Georgia and Northwest of Tbilisi.



Preliminary territory of Lamizkana CCA, in Georgia map (left) and community territory (right)

In Georgia, land ownership is legally in the hands of government, but when there are community territories, communities enjoy use rights. They cultivate the land and let their livestock graze there. On these lands, governmental agencies do not have the right to intervene in the community's management systems. The local governance system was inherited from the past authority of a Duke who claimed one third of the communities' production in exchange for assuring land and community security and safety. The local people had great respect for him and even now the community remembers him and his family with deep regard. In the past, the Duke controlled the conservation of natural resources and the people's use of rangelands, forests, wildlife and water sources. The Duke's house was on a hilltop, where he could better to control the area. The house has been conserved as a museum of the community's history and governance system.



Community's livestock grazing in the rangelands in their territory



The view of the Duke's house , overlooking the village, rangelands and the territory



One of the home vineyards in the Lamiskana territory

In Lamiskana, the main product is wine, and the traditional home winery is one of the most important elements in the local economy. The best and safest room in a house is always dedicated to traditional wine production. Usually underground, the wine is conserved there, in clay pots. Part of the production is kept for personal use and the rest is sold. Red and white wine is shared among the community members; wine is a symbol of community solidarity and unity at weddings and funeral ceremonies.

In discussions with local elders, it became clear that hundreds of similar ICCAs could be highlighted, promoted and registered for the GSI Initiative throughout Georgia.

Acknowledgment - The authors would like to thank Dr. Taghi Farvar and Andro Barnovi for their support and guidance in this work. © Photos and maps: Ghanimat Azhdari



Some of the home products of the community



Traditional tool of wine drinking with horn



Drying the by-products of the rangeland. for medicinal and edible uses

ICCAs in the Agenda of a Conference of Governments and Civil Society

Tanya Conlu, NTFP-EP and regional coordinator for Southeast Asia for the ICCA Consortium

On June 9-10, 2017, civil society organizations (CSO) from Southeast Asia gathered in Chiang Mai, Thailand, to have their annual discussions on social forestry, or what is known as community forestry. The CSO Forum on Social Forestry was established in 2012 as a platform to distil, consolidate and relate

key messages from CSOs and communities to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) through the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry. It is made up of civil society, community-based, and indigenous organizations and networks working on forest tenure, livelihood, traditional knowledge, climate change, and other related themes.



*Participants in the CSO Forum meeting pose in front of their workshop outputs which contain the directions and plans for the years ahead
©NTFP-EP*

This year the gathering was attended by over 60 participants from 40 organizations and communities in eight countries. The forum took off from the country and thematic plans which have been developed from the previous meetings, and now aims to elevate its efforts into continuously increasing the knowledge, exchanging experience and information among participating organizations, strengthening advocacy and networking, and elevating regional collaborations.

Representatives of ICCA Consortium Members NTFP-EP, Pan Nature, PACOS Trust, and WGII were present and gave focus to ICCAs in the discussions. Ms. Thi Hai Van Nguyen of Pan Nature presented the efforts of the Vietnam ICCA Learning Group in promoting the official recognition of ICCAs in their country through the new forestry and biodiversity law, and stressed that ICCAs should be recognized by government as a type of special use forest system. Mr. Gordon John Thomas of PACOS Trust presented a case study of *tagal hutan*, a customary governance system in Malaysia, and pointed out that ICCAs are not only a patch of forest but a holistic conservation area based on traditional knowledge. Other presenters talked about security of communities and activists, country developments on legalities and implementation of tenure instruments, community livelihood, shifting cultivation, and other traditional conservation practices.

Every year the forum comes up with a strong and concrete message and recommendations on social forestry which are delivered at the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG SF) Conference, which takes place immediately after the CSO Forum. AWG SF is a government driven network established to strengthen ASEAN cooperation in social forestry through the sharing of information and knowledge (<http://www.awg-sf.org>). As delegates of ASEAN member



Participants sing, dance and cheer during solidarity night ©NTFP-EP

states discussed, shared and lobbied issues on social forestry, the CSO Forum brought forward the key messages from their meeting.

Mr. Kittisak Rattanakrajangsri, Chairperson of Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), addressed the host, the Thai government, in behalf of the Thai CSOs who participated. He relayed that as indigenous communities living in forest areas depend on the forest for survival and have taken care of their forests for a long time, there should be strong measures to protect them from illegal encroachers, extractive industries, large scale plantations and big infrastructure development projects. He emphasized that communities must be guaranteed protection from any harm or negative impacts while these measures are being implemented. He pointed out that it is not by coincidence that most of the remaining forestlands in Thailand are home to indigenous peoples and local communities.

For the rest of the ASEAN members, Ms. Mai Thin Yu Mon from Myanmar delivered the collective statement of the CSOs from eight countries. She said that a critical bottleneck in social forestry is that there is no or weak recognition of tenure of ICCAs and their associated knowledge, making forest dependent communities more vulnerable to conflicts due to public and private development projects. She also mentioned that despite documented evidence, shifting cultivation is still not recognized as a sustainable land management practice, and that there is limited capacity in applying policies on community safeguards and Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC). She relayed the recommendations of the CSOs, which include: support the establishment of proven management and governance arrangements in forested landscapes particularly ICCA and co-management; ensure that customary tenure rights and access to forest and farmland are secured; monitor development investment strictly; ensure security of communities and advocates, and that there should be an accessible and effective community grievance mechanism; and recognize traditional knowledge and self-governance, and ensure that processes for securing communal land titles are faster and more efficient.



CSO Forum representatives discuss in a workshop the network's action plan in terms of forest tenure and access rights, governance, safeguards, and livelihoods ©NTFP-EP

While these messages were well received by the delegates, the actual work goes back to the participants' respective countries, where CSOs have to lobby with their governments the details of how these recommendations will be carried out. Nevertheless, active CSO participation in the AWG SF has been instrumental in advancing the rights and interests of forest-dependent communities.

The 6th CSO Forum on Social Forestry was organized by Non-Timber Forest Products -

Exchange Programme in partnership with the CSO Forum on Social Forestry Regional and Thematic Working Groups, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), and Indigenous Peoples' Foundation for Education and the Environment (IPF), in collaboration with the Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT) and the Indigenous Women of Thailand Network (IWNT), with support from the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

EUROPE

The project “Montes de Socios” honoured with the Elinor Ostrom Award 2017

Iniciativa Comunales, ICCA Consortium Member

The project “[Montes de Socios](#)” from the [Soria Forestry Association](#), has been awarded the third [Elinor Ostrom Award](#) in the ‘practitioners’ category for their work in defence of *montes de socios*. This award is the highest recognition given worldwide to institutions, administrations or individuals that engage in important work to defend common goods and their governance.

The award is given to honor the legacy of Nobel laureate economist Elinor Ostrom (1933-2012), who, over the course of 30 years, was able not only to overcome the conceptual confrontation between ‘public’ and ‘private’, recognizing the concept of ‘commons’ and emphasizing its specificity, but also to



The press conference © icomunales

show that when the management of common goods is done by local communities using clear and democratic governance models, it is much more effective. This contradicts years of economic tradition in which it was argued that local communities were unable to govern directly their goods in a sustainable way (the so called “tragedy of the commons” which should be much better described as a “tragedy of the open access”).

Click [here](#) to read more!



Local Saami and other activists announcing a Moratorium on the imposed new agreement between the governments of Finland and Norway, affecting traditional fishing rights on the Deatnu river © Aili Pyhälä

Current ICCA-related issues in Northern Europe

Aili Pyhälä, Steering Committee Member with special responsibility for Northern Europe and Russia

In June 2017 I had the privilege of being part of a delegation (organized by Greenpeace Finland) to northern Finland, i.e. Sápmi, the homeland of the Saami (the only officially recognized indigenous peoples in the European Union). The purpose of the mission was

to have meetings with key contact people, both political representatives and reindeer herders and fishermen, as well as local activists who have been working to negotiate Saami environmental rights.

There are two priority issues regarding ICCAs that were examined and discussed during this trip were: 1) the current status of the reindeer husbandry act (*poronhoitolaki*) which, according to my Saami informants, needs to be renewed, together with the state-run top-down system of forest management (including logging), and; 2) the case of the Deatnu River fishing agreement, imposed by the Finnish and Norwegian governments, restricting traditional Saami fishing rights on both sides of the Deatnu river.

On forest management and reindeer herding

Reindeer husbandry is regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, considered to be part of the national agricultural sector. Fences have been raised around the areas of the various reindeer cooperatives, and these fences stand as a direct obstacle to the free roaming of the reindeer, however, the Saami know well that reindeer need more migratory land surface area than what is currently designated, as the reindeer are limited to too closed-in migratory spaces. Meanwhile, no one has looked in depth at the impacts of state logging on reindeer feeding grounds. Despite the controversies, a strong and biased anti-reindeer herding research agenda continues to guide national policy-making and logging operations.

The Finnish government is reluctant to allow the reindeer to roam freely in larger areas, as this would mean handing over more land back to the Saami (land which was originally Saami territory). Related to this, the next new threat to Saami livelihoods and the long-term sustainability of Lapland is tourism, which directly affects and disturbs the reindeer, and hence also Saami livelihoods and wellbeing. As for forest management, the state agency in charge, Metsähallitus, continue to clear-cut forests on Saami land, without free, prior, informed consent. Indeed, the activities of Metsähallitus in Lapland is illegal, as they have no mandate to carry out logging on Saami territory, according to international indigenous rights law. The Saami have tried to negotiate with Metsähallitus, but have found it very difficult, due to power imbalances. Based on all logic and evidence, logging in Northern Lapland makes no economic sense whatsoever, as it takes close to 200 years for a forest in Northern Lapland to regenerate. Meanwhile the reindeer depend on these forests and the lichens within for their food.

On fishing rights in the Deatnu

Earlier this year, an agreement was signed between the governments of Finland and Norway, which severely cuts down on the traditional fishing rights of the local Saami population. This has resulted in local resistance; in fact, the clear majority are in opposition of the new agreement, especially as there was no form of FPIC in the decision-making process. Furthermore, the studies that have informed this new agreement have almost completely disregarded local environmental knowledge. A local activist group, Ellos Deatnu, have declared a Moratorium to the fishing law, while they plan to write their own Deatnu Saami Law on collective fishing rights. In Finland and Norway, fishing legislation is grounded on individual land ownership, and does not recognize collective rights. Similarly,



From left to right: Jenni Laiti, Ellos Deatnu representative; Sini Harkki, head of Greenpeace Finland; Jarmo Pyykkö, Akwe:kon member; Aslak Holmberg (upfront) – Vice-chair of the Nordic Saami Council and spokesperson for Ellos Deatnu; Aili Pyhälä (ICCA Consortium rep); Laura Meller (GP Head of Arctic Campaign)

indigenous rights are not recognized in the law, so the Saami have to be careful in negotiating their rights, so as not to trample on local non-Saami rights (who may also be land-owners). Both the Finnish and Norwegian Saami parliaments have stated that traditional fishing rights should be the number one priority in defining the law. In the current agreement, these are acknowledged, but not addressed. Traditional Saami fishing knowledge and practice is on the brink of disappearing, and this new law only exacerbates the situation.

A first ICCA officially declared and registered in Finland!

Tero Mustonen, Snowchange, ICCA Consortium Member



Havukkavaara forest in winter © Snowchange

Snowchange Co-op has officially registered the [Havukkavaara forest](#) in the UNEP WCMC global ICCA registry. This is the first community-conserved area (ICCA) declared and registered in Finland. The forest, located in North Karelia, is a south/middle-boreal forest with strong and extensive cultural and historical roots in the region.

Traditional Finnish practices and skills for sustaining life in the boreal have included swidden agriculture in the boreal forest, hunting and fishing. Swidden agriculture is also called “slash and burn” and is maligned

by conservationists in many parts of the world, but in Finland it is recognized as having had great importance for the maintenance of local biodiversity... so much so that it is carried out to this purpose, and at high cost, in official protected areas for demonstration purposes. In the community conserved area, swidden agriculture in the boreal forest took place in the past. Today hunting and fishing persist as normal activities or as cultural-traditional activities, due to the social changes in Finnish peripheries, which have seen the growth of the service sector as main source of livelihoods. Notably, the collective moose hunt gathers hunters together in the autumn, and the village gets together for the ensuing Moose Feast in early November.

Between 2009 and 2013, the old growth forest areas in the ICCA were declared as a national protected area. The two families who own these forests continue to be the land owners. The state agency Metsähallitus is responsible for the administration of the protected area. The families involved maintain a presence and practice traditional-cultural subsistence land-uses in the area. They maintain the traditional trails inside the protected area, and benefit from the conservation zones through berry and mushroom picking, hunting, and cultural-spiritual health, among other uses. One of the families is active in the Selkie village council, the decision-making body for the community. They have been involved in successfully defending the area against mining threats in Selkie. The Havukkavaara ICCA has also been granted a license for diamond exploration, although this license is inactive at present. The current land owners agreed to register the Havukkavaara community as the first Finnish ICCA

registered in the UNEP WCMC international registry in order to stress the importance of ICCAs and the critical need to preserve the last remaining boreal forests for the Finnish villages.

“Most of the old-growth forests in Finland are gone, south of the Arctic Circle. This establishment of the first ICCA in Finland is a positive step towards a new era, where the local peoples (the Finns for example) and, in the Arctic zone, the Indigenous communities (the Sámi), can protect and highlight those remaining areas that are vital to their culture, history and traditional land uses. Right now, no such recognitions exist nationally. We wish to make it more visible that these remaining real, old growth forests are sources of our spiritual-cultural well-being. This is a new view in Finland that needs to be recognized at this time. We want Havukkavaara to be a positive example, to all parties, of a new style of community-based conservation that includes culture, history and people, and we are very proud to launch this today, with many thanks also to ICCA Consortium, the ICCA Registry and all staff and people involved. The forest is the source of our life, now and in the future.” Said Tero Mustonen.

The current Havukkavaara ICCA is adjacent to a state-owned “Ostola” area which is due to be established as a strict conservation area in the 2020s. This has the potential to increase the ICCA territory surface in the future.

Two first ICCAs successfully pass the peer-review process developed in Spain for international listing in ICCA Registry and WDPA



Monte Veciñal en Man Común de Froxán

Sergio Couto, ICCA Consortium regional coordinator for Europe

During the last days of April, 30 local community representatives from all around Spain gathered in Valsaín, Segovia (Spain) to start running the self-designed system to declare ICCAs in Spain, designed by the communities themselves in 2015 and 2016 as part of a participative process facilitated by Iniciativa Comunales (iComunales). The meeting was supported by the ICCA Consortium and the Spanish Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente, in the framework of the Permanent Seminars organized by the CENEAM (National Centre for Environmental Education). The objective of these communities is to set up a viable and well performing system so that communities can receive recognition and support to their ICCAs by including them in the ICCA Registry, managed by UN Environment-WCMC. This has to be preceded by a process of peer-support and evaluation, to check that the ICCA characteristics are indeed present and relevant.

In the peer-support and review process agreed in Spain, each community willing to be registered as an ICCA, applies to be included in the ICCA Registry and accepts to be subject of an evaluation process conducted by members of other similar communities. iComunales appoints two anonymous members of similar communities as evaluators for each of the candidacies. The role of the evaluators is to critically analyze the three ICCA characteristics that define an ICCA on the basis of the documentation provided by the candidate community. On the basis of the reports provided anonymously by the evaluators, the communities gathered in Valsaín discussed a number of candidacies (are they ICCAs or

not?) and the process itself (e.g. how to improve it, was it sufficiently clear?).

Although 6 communities (2 *Montes de Socios*, 2 watering communities and 2 *Montes en Man Común*) were interested in having their ICCAs reviewed, only for two of them managed to gather all the documentation necessary for a final decision in Valsaín, including the reports of the anonymous evaluators. All the four evaluations (2 evaluations for each candidacy) were clearly positive, and after many comments that focused on the peer-review process itself and on how to improve it, the communities agreed unanimously on the inclusion of two ICCAs into the UN Environment-WCMC ICCA Registry: the *Monte en Man Común de Froxán*, and the *Monte en Man Común de Santiago de Covelo*. Both also applied for being included in the World Database of Protected Areas (WDPA).

As the process is now started and working satisfactorily, the challenge is to maintain the quality of the process (based on good governance criteria) and provide quality info and feedback to an increasing number of communities interested in being part of the ICCA Registry.

To learn more about the process please visit the [Iniciativa Comunes website](#) (in Spanish)

To see the [Valsaín Permanent Seminar programme](#) is downloadable [here](#) (in Spanish)

Food Sovereignty matters in both Europe and Central Asia!

*Iris Beneš, Brod Ecological Society (BED), ICCA Consortium member and
Rodion Sulyandziga, Centre for Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North*



Energized participants in the meeting © Nyeleni europe

More than 500 people from 40 countries – from Western through Eastern Europe to Central Asia– gathered in the Romanian city of Cluj-Napoca at the end of October 2016. They met to discuss, share, exchange, analyze and propose policy changes on Food sovereignty issues at the [European movement for food sovereignty Forum](#).

Food sovereignty is the right of people to define their own food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries systems and policies, as advocated by farmers, peasants, pastoralists, fisherfolk, Indigenous Peoples, women, rural youth and environmental

organisations. It was launched in 1996 by the international peasants' movement *La Via Campesina* during the FAO World Food Summit in Rome and is continuously growing in the Pan-European region.

The forum gave special importance to the environmental and social aspects of current food systems and the way agroecological practices might cope with the shortcomings of industrialized agriculture and damaging neoliberal policies. At the meeting, volunteers translated most activities into seven different languages. There were stands filled with local food from a variety of nations, as well as music and culture, and educational materials on the stories and actions in the food sovereignty struggle. Everything was organized to highlight diversity as well as to express solidarity and unity in this fight.

Brod Ecological Society (BED), a Member of the ICCA Consortium, was present as a part of the Croatian

delegation. They engaged in working groups mostly on common land and policy issues.

Russian indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East, jointly with the Saami people (Northern Europe), demonstrated a strong solidarity with all participants and shared their struggle for food security and to retain traditional knowledge.

All participants also expressed their strong support for the Standing Rock Dakota demonstration against the oil pipeline.

A new Cluj-Napoca document created an advanced platform for all stakeholders to protect and promote food security and the rights of nature and Mother Earth. Based on the outcomes of these sessions, the organising team defined six different groups of actions: 1. Land, water and fisheries in the hands of people, 2. Migrants, agriculture, food culture rights, 2. Peasants' agroecology, 3. Alternative trade systems vs. global corporate power, 4. Territorial markets and food distribution systems, and 5. Common food and farming policies.

In Lower Kolyma, Russia, fishermen are addressing climate change

*Tero Mustonen, Snowchange,
Member of the ICCA Consortium and Kolyma ELOKA*

The Lower Kolyma region, in far-east Russian Siberia, is widely known for its iconic nomadic reindeer communities. For millennia, these communities have assured their food security and cultural stability through traditional fishing methods, in addition to their semi-domesticated reindeer herds. The Kolyma River is the largest river in Siberia. Along with hundreds of smaller streams, lakes and the Arctic Ocean coastline, it is home to abundant and diverse fish species. The local communities harvest some of these fish in traditional ways. In the past 15 years, with the support of a Snowchange community programme, fishermen from various Kolyma communities are taking steps to address climate change.

Visit their website and learn more about Indigenous fishery practices in the region and some of the drivers of change that are affecting it: [Lower Kolyma Fisheries](http://eloka-arctic.org)



Harvest fishing in Turvaargin © <http://eloka-arctic.org>

NORTH AMERICA

Indigenous Circle of Experts (ICE) core group sets off a series of gatherings in Canada

The [Indigenous Circle of Experts \(ICE\) core](#) group held its first meeting to organise the Pathway to Canada towards meeting Aichi Target 11: reaching 17% of terrestrial territory as protected and conserved areas by 2020 in the country. [The video of the first meeting in Tla-oh-qui-aht Tribal Parks can be viewed here.](#)



PUBLICATIONS

ICCAs and Overlapping Protected Areas: Fostering Conservation Synergies and Social Reconciliation



ICCAs and Overlapping Protected Areas: Fostering Conservation Synergies and Social Reconciliation

Policy Brief of the ICCA Consortium

Issue No. 4

Produced in collaboration with COMSTH and Holmström
Series Sponsors: the Copenhagen Fund and UNDP-GEF SOP



The latest ICCA Consortium policy brief, [*ICCAs and Overlapping Protected Areas: Fostering Conservation Synergies and Social Reconciliation*](#), by Stan Stevens, Tilman Jaeger, and Neema Pathak Broome, was launched in a dedicated side-event at the 13th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Cancun, Mexico in December 2016. The new policy brief, Issue No. 4, is available (in English only) in a printed version and [online](#).

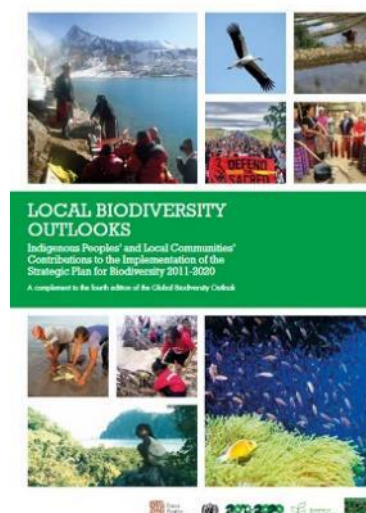
Worldwide a large number of ICCAs are overlapped by protected areas, including collectively-governed commons, protected sacred places, self-declared indigenous and community protected areas, and other conserved territories and areas. Very often neither protected area governance nor management are set to appropriately recognise, support, or coordinate with overlapped ICCAs. This can undermine their integrity and effectiveness, squandering an important opportunity for conservation synergies and social reconciliation, and violating internationally affirmed human and

environmental rights. A new IUCN policy adopted at the World Conservation Congress in September 2016 calls for recognition and respect of ICCAs in these overlapped situations. The WCC Resolution and a provision adopted by the Parties to the CBD at COP13 in December 2016 also call for the ICCA Consortium to work with IUCN and the CBD Secretariat to develop guidance on appropriate recognition and respect of overlapped ICCAs and best practices.

Policy Brief #4 aims to contribute to the development of guidance on appropriate recognition and respect of overlapped ICCAs. Policy Brief #4 provides important background information and context on the overlap issue and its significance, identifies principles for appropriate recognition and respect of overlapped ICCAs, provides case studies from around the world of five promising governance approaches, and offers recommendations for IUCN and the Parties to the CBD. The Policy Brief draws on information and analysis from [*Recognising and Respecting ICCAs Overlapped by Protected Areas*](#)-- a longer, in-depth report prepared for the ICCA Consortium by Stan Stevens, Neema Pathak Broome, and Tilman Jaeger.

Local Biodiversity Outlooks

A volume entitled [*Local Biodiversity Outlooks – Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities Contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*](#) has been produced by the Forest Peoples Programme, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2016). The publication, which brings together the perspectives and experiences of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, was presented at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP13) in Cancun, Mexico. The printed publication was launched at the cultural night and 20th anniversary celebration of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), which ended the three-day Muuchtanbal Summit.



The landscape in the concession area is being permanently altered as the companies convert rice fields, forests, and streams into vast seas of sugarcane
© Prame community

Cambodia: communities in protracted struggle against Chinese sugar companies' land grab

CNA, Ponlok Khmer, GRAIN, CIYA and AIPP

A new joint report from Community Network in Action (CNA), [Ponlok Khmer](#), [GRAIN](#), [Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association \(CIYA\)](#), and the [Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact \(AIPP\)](#) exposes the devastating consequences of

land grabs for indigenous communities in Preah Vihear province, northern Cambodia.

The report reveals how Chinese sugarcane companies, attracted by the Cambodian government to invest in local agro-industry, have been violating the fundamental rights of communities and destroying livelihoods and ecosystems over the past six years. Five subsidiaries of a single Chinese state-owned company, Hengfu Group Sugar Industry, were granted economic land concessions covering more than 40,000 hectares in 2011.

Over the years, affected communities in Preah Vihear have engaged in sustained resistance to the destruction of their livelihoods and culture, and exposed land grabs for what they really are: violent, devastating, and unlawful. They have called for the concessions to be cancelled and the land returned to them. So far, they have managed to slow but not stop the onslaught from the concessions. But they have not given up.

Download the report in [English](#) or in [Khmer](#).

Cuestionando los enfoques clásicos de conservación en Chile: el aporte de los pueblos indígenas y las comunidades locales a la protección de la biodiversidad

Observatorio Ciudadano, Miembro del Consorcio TICCA – y el Consorcio TICCA



La relación entre pueblos indígenas, comunidades locales y conservación de la naturaleza ha sido un tema escasamente abordado en nuestro país.

Para muchos la conservación continúa siendo sinónimo de áreas protegidas –conocidas como Parques, Reservas y Monumentos Naturales– que se encuentran aisladas de la intervención humana y son administradas por el Estado a través de la Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF). Para los más entendidos, si bien existen algunas experiencias que incorporan la participación de pueblos y comunidades, estas no son la regla general en Chile, y menos aún se encuentran consideradas en los marcos normativos actuales.

En contraposición, a nivel internacional, hace más de quince años ha ido ganando espacio un enfoque que reconoce no solo la vulneración de derechos que los pueblos y comunidades han sufrido como resultado del establecimiento de áreas

protegidas sobre sus territorios –declaradas y administradas principalmente por los Estados–, sino también los importantes aportes que los pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales realizan a la conservación de la naturaleza. Así, el Convenio para la Diversidad Biológica (CDB), ratificado por Chile desde 1994, y la Unión Internacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (UICN) han venido recomendando la incorporación de un enfoque de derechos en toda iniciativa de conservación y, en ese marco, un adecuado reconocimiento de los «territorios indígenas de conservación y áreas

conservadas por comunidades locales».

Sin embargo, el Estado chileno no ha recogido aún estas recomendaciones, lo que se expresa en su actual marco normativo y en el Proyecto de Ley que crea el nuevo Servicio de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas y el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas. En este inicialmente se omite toda referencia a pueblos indígenas y comunidades locales. Luego, en enero de 2016, en respuesta a las demandas de organizaciones indígenas y de sociedad civil, y a lo establecido por el Convenio 169 de la OIT, el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente convoca a consulta indígena de dicho Proyecto de Ley abriendo la posibilidad de avanzar cumpliendo con los estándares internacionales. Este documento busca aportar tanto a la discusión de este Proyecto de Ley como a la importante relación que existe entre pueblos indígenas, comunidades locales y conservación. Esperamos que sus contenidos puedan contribuir a avanzar hacia un Proyecto de Ley que –garantizando el respeto a los derechos de estos pueblos y comunidades– permita sentar las bases para un adecuado reconocimiento, apoyo y protección de los «territorios indígenas de conservación y áreas conservadas por comunidades locales» en Chile.

El [Informe completo se encuentra aquí](#).

Relatora ONU recibe informe preliminar de Evaluación de Impacto en DDHH de proyectos mineros canadienses en territorio diaguita huascoalino

En el marco del seminario sobre consulta, consentimiento y gobernanza indígena de recursos naturales que se realiza en Thunder Bay, Canadá, con la asistencia de representantes de pueblos indígenas y académicos del norte y sur de América, y al que asiste la Relatora Especial de Naciones Unidas sobre Derechos de los Pueblos indígenas, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Sergio Campusano, Presidente de la Comunidad Agrícola de los Diaguitas Huascoalinos, y José Aylwin, codirector del Observatorio Ciudadano, hicieron entrega a la Relatora de un informe preliminar de Evaluación de Impacto en Derechos Humanos (EIDH) de los proyectos mineros canadienses existentes en territorio huascoalino. El [anuncio completo se encuentra aquí](#).



Down on the Seed: The World Bank enables corporate takeover of seeds

The Oakland Institute

Only six multinationals currently control over two-thirds of the industrial seed sales, and pending agro-industry mergers stand

to [further consolidate this oligopoly](#). Further market expansion for these corporations depends on the shrinking of farmer-managed seed systems, which currently provide [80 to 90 percent](#) of the seed supply in developing countries through on-farm seed saving and farmer-to-farmer seed exchange.

Enabling the Business of Agriculture: Reinforcing Stranglehold of Agrochemical Companies

Down On the Seed, the World Bank Enables Corporate Takeover of Seeds, exposes that while the World Bank claims to promote “smart and balanced policies,” its Enabling the Business of Agriculture index blatantly ignores farmer-managed seed systems. Instead, it reinforces the stranglehold of agrochemical companies and Western nations by pushing for intellectual property rights in agriculture, so that private breeders profiteer from the use of their seeds by farmers.

[The full report “Down the seed” can be downloaded here](#).

Pura Pesca – nuevo documental en Costa Rica

Association Terres de Cultures, Miembro del Consorcio TICCA y CoopeSoliDar R.L

Pura Pesca es un documental de la asociación francesa Terres de Cultures con el apoyo de CoopeSoliDar R.L. Presenta diferentes iniciativas de gobernanza desarrolladas por las comunidades locales en los espacios marino costeros, en Costa Rica, para enfrentar problemas como la disminución de recursos, el desarrollo inmobiliario, la creación de espacios protegidos que no permiten ningún uso de los recursos marinos y cuya creación no fue consultada con las comunidades locales, y otras circunstancias que impiden a las comunidades ejercer sus derechos, como el



En Cabuya, cuatro generaciones © Terres de cultures

derecho al aprovechamiento sostenible de los recursos pesqueros y al acceso a la tierra y al mar.

En Cahuita, los pescadores se movilizaron para garantizar un modelo de gobernanza compartida que ahora les permite ser parte de la toma de decisiones orientadas al aprovechamiento sostenible de este Parque Nacional. Parque que es ahora un ejemplo único en el país, ya que está manejado por la comunidad y por el Ministerio de Ambiente como representante del gobierno de Costa Rica. En Cabuya, el desafío estuvo en identificar la forma más apropiada para garantizar el respeto de las normas locales derivadas del conocimiento tradicional de los pescadores para la conservación de su territorio marino. En Dominicalito y Tárcoles, las comunidades decidieron crear un área marina de pesca responsable, administrada por los pescadores junto con el INCOPESCA. Estos esfuerzos son ejemplos de TICCA marinos que se unieron para iniciar a partir del año 2012 la Red de Áreas Marinas de Pesca Responsable (AMPR) para el ejercicio de la pesca responsable en el país y la mejora del bienestar de las comunidades pesqueras.

¡Ver el video [aquí](#)!

Visita el sitio web [docus d’ailleurs](#) de Terres de Cultures para conocer más sobre este proyecto y ver el video en español! También se puede ver el trabajo de fortalecimiento de capacidades y gobernanza marina comunitaria que desarrolla CoopeSoliDar R.L [en su sitio web](#).

YOU ARE THE CONSORTIUM

The ICCA Consortium is undergoing internal organisational improvements

Emma Courtine, ICCA Consortium Programme Assistant



Strategic discussions at the Xth General Assembly on December 2017 in Cancun © Producciones Naat's Kaan

The ICCA Consortium is continuing on its path towards consolidation and strengthening, but it takes time, particularly because of the care that needs to be given to the process. You may have seen some evidence of these changes, for example, in the past few months there has only been one membership nomination round! Why is this?

The Consortium is growing and in order to recognise this fact without diminishing the quality of our overall operations and membership (our most important component), we have been working for several months now on a new Consortium Strategy. What has been created and how will it affect the overall functioning of the Consortium?

The new Strategy can be consulted [here](#) ! It is organised around three main directions which will sound familiar to you: 1) Supporting Local, National and Transnational Action, 2) Influencing Global Policy, Law and Discourse and 3) Building Communication Bridges and Support Materials.

More details on the implementation can be found in part 5 of the strategy (page 23), but very briefly the ICCA Consortium is moving towards a more regionalised structure, it is developing a leadership transition plan, has recruited a communication specialist, is refining the roles of all Secretariat members, has enriched its governance function, is reviewing its membership policy and is developing a fundraising strategy to support all this!

In this context, three sub-committees within the ICCA Consortium Steering Committee have been created:

- The Executive Committee, chaired by the Consortium president: [Dr M. Taghi Farvar](#)
- The Policy and Programme Committee, chaired by [Ms Emma Lee](#), from Tasmania
- The Membership Committee chaired by [Dr Aili Pyhälä](#), from Finland.

This implies many changes internally. Each one of these committees is now active, organising themselves and moving forwards with their responsibilities. If you would like to know more about their tasks, please refer to the [operational guidelines](#). To give an example of the work they are doing; the Policy and Programme Committee is actively working on the NO-GO policy that the Consortium is preparing in the run-up to the UN Business and Human Rights Forum which will take place in Geneva in November 2017.

The Membership committee has been very active in completely reviewing our Membership policy, and in working to implement the new policy. Now, the requirements for membership applications have changed, for NGOs especially, and the revision process has been reinforced. There have also been changes in the membership fees charged. They now vary according to the nature of the applicant organisation and there is the possibility for them to be paid in-kind. Please see all the details on this page dedicated to the process - [join the Consortium](#)!

We welcome your comments on the new membership policy, these should be sent to Emma: emma@iccaconsortium.org.

LIFE OF THE CONSORTIUM

New ICCA Consortium members

The ICCA Consortium is delighted to welcome the following new Member organisations:

Amis de l'Afrique Francophone - AMAF - Benin (Benin) is a humanitarian and development organization focusing on Benin. Created in 2008, it promotes education and dialogue and it speaks and acts to promote the strengthening of peoples' capacities, biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation and the respect of international policy regarding forests, wetland and indigenous peoples and other communities.



Alliance Nationale d'Appui et de Promotion des Aires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire en RD Congo - ANAPAC RDC (Democratic Republic of Congo) is a national alliance for ICCAs, developed by some active representatives of indigenous peoples in the country. Its objectives are the recognition and security of ICCAs in DRC through strong legal backing, self-strengthening via ICCA initiatives and improved organisational capacities, better conservation of biodiversity, more support to indigenous peoples and local communities (IP and LC) in their sustainable lifestyles, and enhanced respect of cultural diversity and individual and collective rights of IP and LC in DRC.



Asociación de Mujeres Waorani de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana – AMWAE (Ecuador) gathers 35 communities from 3 Amazonian regions in Ecuador with the objectives of promoting, assisting, developing and sharing sustainable socio-economic initiatives led by Waorani women. This must lead to both the wellbeing of people and the conservation of the Amazonian forest in the Yasuni Biosphere Reserve. AMWAR received the 2014 Equator price and the 2015 Green Latin America price.



Blue Ventures Conservation is an NGO from the **UK** that has supported the establishment of locally-managed marine areas (LMMAs) in Madagascar and their network called MIHARI, which has also applied to become a Member of the ICCA Consortium. Blue Ventures is a global NGO and works in a number of countries promoting the rebuilding of tropical fisheries with coastal communities. Its conservation model is designed to demonstrate that effective management improves food security and makes economic sense. Communities are supported to manage their marine territories, share their experiences, engage in ecotourism and develop grassroots marine conservation movements.



Consejo Zonal Lafkence de la Confederacion Mapuche de Neuquen (Argentina). This Community Council gathers three Mapuche communities custodians of territories with great biodiversity value that they are strenuously defending against real estate speculations and inappropriate “development” initiatives. They wish to place their experience at the disposal of the Consortium and they seek its alliance to better face the challenges upon them.



ENDA Energie (Senegal) is part of the International network "ENDA Tiers-Monde". Since its creation, four decades ago, ENDA Energie works at local, national and under-regional level toward promoting rights and responsibilities of disadvantaged local communities on their territories. They are promoting syncretism of local communities’ traditional knowledge with new inputs to find sustainable alternative solutions to issues they are facing. They actively participated in the regional ICCA event that took place in Saint-Louis, Senegal in the context of the GSI.

Federación Nativa del Río Madre de Dios y afluentes (FENAMAD – Perú) is an organization funded in 1982 to federate 36 communities from the Madre de Dios region of the Peruvian Amazon, representing Harakbut, Ese Eja, Shipibo, Yine, Matsigenka, Amahuaca and Quichuaruna Peoples organised to defend their territories and fundamental rights. Exactly with the objective of strengthening such territorial rights, FENAMAD also established the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve on the ancestral territory Harakmbut, and a Territorial Reserve for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation. Today, they are still struggling to defend them against extractive concessions.



Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC – Armenia) works at the crossroads of wildlife protection, environmental education and sustainable development, engaging rural populations in the sustainable development of their communities and landscape conservation, especially in the Ararat and Vayots Dzor regions.

Groupe de Recherche et d'Action pour le Bien-Être au Bénin (GRABE Benin) is a community organisation created in 1996. It actively works with local communities and indigenous peoples adding value to local knowledge toward natural ecosystem regeneration and preservation and sustainable development. It was chosen as Benin's GSI catalytic organization for ICCAs



KABEKA - KAmalor BE KAfankante (Senegal), which means “Let us work together to protect ourselves in the future”, is the first Senegalese association fully dedicated to the promotion of appropriated forms of ICCA recognition, reinforcement and mutual support in Casamance, Senegal (and elsewhere). KABEKA is working hand in hand with APCRM, the long-time Member of the Consortium that is governing and managing the emblematic ICCA Kawawana. KABEKA is currently the GSI national strategic support organization in Senegal.

Karen Environmental & Social Action Network – KESAN (Thailand) is a local organisation working alongside local communities in Karen State, Burma, to build up capacities in natural resource management, raise public awareness, support community-based development initiatives, and collaborate with organisations at all levels to advocate for environment policies and development priorities that ensure sustainable ecological, social, cultural and economic benefits and gender equity. Their main effort is currently focused on the recognition as formal ICCAs of the Salween Peace Parks and Mae Nyaw Kee wildlife sanctuary.



Kua'Āina Ulu 'Ulu – KUA (USA) is a non-profit organization based in Hawai'i, created by a network of native Hawaiian and rural community organizations to convene and facilitate their ability to share lessons learned and empower each other to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage. The network is composed of more than 31 community groups, 38 traditional fishpond restoration projects and many practitioners from across Hawai'i. KUA means “backbone” as it wishes to be a “backbone organization” that supports creative and collective community-based solutions to problems stemming from environmental degradation in Hawai'i.

MIHARI - Mitantana HAreana an-dRanomasina avy eny Ifotony (Madagascar) is a network of locally-managed marine areas (LMMAs) in the country, grouping more than one hundred community associations and more than 65 ICCAs from 8 regions and 19 partner NGOs. The network is still relatively informal, but its vocation is to promote collaboration among the LMMAs (ICCAs) and speak to defend the concerns and bring the voice of the fishermen communities to government authorities. The MIHARI network is thus about advancing the cause of both the fishermen communities and their life environment in Madagascar.





NAMATI (USA) is an international nongovernmental organization dedicated to “putting law into people's hands” and building a global movement of grassroots legal advocates who work with communities to advance justice (600 groups worldwide). The advocates fight on the front line to ensure that people can protect their land, access essential services, and take part in the decisions that govern their lives. NAMATI collects and analyzes data on all its activities and uses findings, shared learning and innovations to produce practical resources for legal empowerment organizations at the grassroots and to advise governments on improving and implementing their legislation.

It has a main office in Washington DC and other offices in California, India, Mozambique, Myanmar and Sierra Leone.

Organisation Communautaire pour la Conservation de la Nature - OCCN (Democratic Republic of Congo). This Community Organisation for the Conservation of Nature is an organization based in the East of the DRC, in the South Kivu. It was created in 2004 by local communities and pygmies indigenous peoples living around the Kahuzi Biega National Park with the view to enable the conservation of their community forests through sustainable management of natural resources.



Plateau perspectives (People's Republic of China, and Central Asia): aims to promote community development and environmental protection on the Tibetan Plateau and in surrounding mountain regions of Central Asia. They mainly work at promoting community-level partnerships, raising awareness & advocacy for 'community-level partnerships' and publishing findings

Tawid Inc. (Philippines) is a NGO dedicated to providing development assistance to indigenous peoples and local communities, in the Philippines and abroad. Tawid (“Heritage”) works in close collaboration with other indigenous and non-indigenous groups to deal with disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation while emphasizing respect to indigenous peoples’ self-determination and the conservation of nature. Based in the Cordillera region of the Philippines, Tawid has been working closely with some long standing members of the Consortium and comes with their strong recommendation.

Terra Sylvestris (Greece) aims to contribute towards the reversal of the current worldwide positive trend in the loss of global biological diversity, natural and semi-natural ecosystems on both sea, freshwater and land, the genetic contamination of food crops, agricultural animal populations and natural ecosystems by anthropogenous genetically modified organisms and to be a key catalyst in sustainable development that respect indigenous communities and their rights



New ICCA Consortium Honorary members

The ICCA Consortium is delighted to welcome the following new Honorary Members:



Mr. Aibek Samakov (Kyrgyzstan) is a PhD student at the University of Tübingen and he is currently working on a riparian commons in the Syrdarya River Delta. His master thesis (U of Manitoba) explored sacred sites in Ysyk-Köl region of Kyrgyzstan as community-conserved areas located within a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Before entering the graduate school, Aibek worked with Aigine Cultural Research Center (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) to document sacred sites and local traditional knowledge in several regions of the country.

Mr. Alberto Tacón, (Chile) is an environmental biologist, specialized in rural development and management of protected areas. His main area of interest are conservation on a landscape scale, integrated conservation initiatives and local development processes, participatory governance models and territorial ordering. Alberto has more than fifteen years of experience working with different public institutions, private actors, grassroots organizations and communities. He teaches at the Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Institute of Anthropological Studies, in the Austral University of Chile.



Dr Alex Alvarez (Peru) is an anthropologist specializing in indigenous resource governance and management with a focus on protected areas and property rights and development versus conservation at landscape level. Keen to confront the challenges of cultural diversity in a globalized world, Alex has been researching and writing about the situation of Andean and Amazonian indigenous peoples vis-à-vis land governance, biodiversity conservation and protected areas in indigenous territories in Peru. A university lecturer in South America and Europe, he directs the Indigenous Peoples and Globalization program of SIT Study Abroad - World Learning INC.

Dr Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares (Finland). Álvaro is an ethnoecologist (post-doc) interested in biocultural approaches to conservation. He has carried out fieldwork in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Kenya and Madagascar, living with and learning from indigenous peoples. His current research investigates the effectiveness of biocultural conservation in buffering biological and cultural diversity losses, focusing on the role of Amazonian indigenous lands as biocultural conservation assets. Alvaro is a Fellow for the Global Assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). He has a deep interest in indigenous storytelling as a tool for revitalizing biocultural heritage.





Ms. Amalia Maling (Philippines) is Forest Project Manager for WWF in Myanmar, where she has been the prime mover for the first National Workshop on ICCAs. Amy is a specialist in community conservation and development with a focus on sustainable use of non-timber forest products and ecotourism. She has many years of experience in Cambodia and the Philippines, working for WWF and the Foundation for the Philippine Environment.

Ms. Anitra Nelson (Australia) is an activist scholar at RMIT University (Melbourne) who has taught and researched on community-based natural resource management, such as ecoforestry and community forestry; on indigenous peoples and the environment (e.g., about planning and policy); on permaculture; and on non-monetary futures that allow for indigenous land rights and collective sufficiency, living from local lands. Currently she is Associate Professor at the Centre for Urban Research, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT Univ.



Dr Archi Rastogi (Canada/India) is a WCPA young professional and consultant based in Canada. During his formative years he worked directly with community institutions in Rajasthan, India, seeking to conserve nature through collective action. Later, as a journalist, he has worked on reporting policy and practical dimensions of community conservation. Throughout 2014, he volunteered for the ICCA Consortium and partners in the organization of the Governance Stream of the Sydney World Parks Congress.

Dr. Barbara Lausche (USA) is an international environmental lawyer with more than thirty years of experience with governments and national and international organizations around the world. She has authored or co-authored numerous peer-reviewed papers and several books on protected areas-related law, including the updated *IUCN Guidelines for Protected Areas Legislation* (2011). Since 2011, Barbara has been Director of the Marine Policy Institute (MPI) at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, a non-profit marine science research organization in Florida.



Mr. Brent Metz (USA) has worked since 1992 to support the Ch'orti' Maya peoples of Guatemala and Honduras to regain a positive view of their historical identity, and to educate the public about their deteriorating quality of life and environment. In 2011 he helped to found a chapter of Engineers Without Borders to ensure Ch'orti' access to clean water. This includes the conservation of their watershed, which is an ongoing project.

Mr. Casey Ng (Malaysia) earned his B.Sc in Engineering, M.Sc in Architecture majoring in Advanced Environmental and Energy Studies and is currently pursuing a Ph.D in biological science. He consider himself as a multi-disciplinary grassroots facilitator, enabler and field worker in support of community-driven initiatives, community forestry and smallholder agriculture, traditional ecological knowledge, freshwater safety and security, vernacular and eco-friendly architecture, and creating honest and open spaces for communal discussions.



Ms. Cynthia Ong (Malaysia) engages in facilitating processes, partnerships and projects that provoke ecologically sustainable co-existence between groups, communities, regions and nations. Her experience over the past 25 years has been in the fields of organizational leadership, process facilitation, project management and financing. Cynthia founded LEAP – Land Empowerment Animals People – which helped the birth of multiple long-term partnerships and organizations. Among these is Forever Sabah, which seeks the transition of the Malaysian Borneo state of Sabah towards a diversified, equitable circular economy with focal areas of food and agriculture, water, waste and soil, renewable energy and tourism.

Mr. David Núñez (Chile) is an anthropologist from the Austral University of Chile. He has 17 years of work experience with communities on issues related to intercultural medicine, indigenous territoriality, conservation and indigenous rights—always from a participatory and decolonizing perspective. He participated in supporting the Committee for the Defense of the Sea in Mehuín and advising many communities in the establishment of Marine Coastal Areas of Native Peoples. At present he is advising communities in strategies to defend their marine and coastal territories in the face of the threat of expanding salmon farms. David has worked with the Mapu Lahual Association towards the establishment of the Indigenous Conserved Territory of Mapu Lahual.



Mr. Duane Fraser (IP, Australia) is a Wulgurukaba and Bidjara man, Traditional Owner of the Great Barrier Reef and south central Queensland. Duane has experience in community development and resource management and works to ensure that Traditional Owners are at the forefront in governing, managing and conserving Land and Sea Country across the Great Barrier Reef. He is co-Chair of the Global Indigenous Caucus United Nations and works for the Prime Minister of Australia, whilst developing his own Foundation to support Indigenous youth.

Ms. Emma Courtine (France) has been ICCA Consortium program assistant and communication officer since 2014. She has studied geography in Sweden and France and deepened her interests in the links between social and environmental sciences and ICCAs in India, Iran and Ecuador.

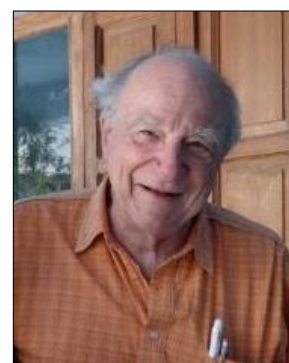


Mr Edgard Yerena (Venezuela) is a biologist and lawyer, professor at the Department of Environmental Studies & Protected Areas Laboratory of the Simon Bolivar University. Venezuela's focal point for the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN WCPA), Edgard has been collaborating with the Consortium for a number of year, promoting the recognition of ICCAs in Venezuela as well as the use of a comprehensive approach to the governance of protected areas in the national protected area system of Venezuela.



Mr. Emmanuel Sulle (Tanzania) is a consultant and PhD Candidate at the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies, University of the Western Cape, South Africa. He has over 10 years' research experience on a range of topics that include natural resource governance, land rights, inclusive business models and policy analysis. He holds a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Maryland College Park, USA. Sulle is currently volunteering to advance governance and ICCA initiatives in Tanzania.

Dr. David Barkin (Mexico) is Distinguished Professor at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Xochimilco Campus, Mexico City. He founded the Ecodevelopment Center, was a recipient of the National Prize in Political Economy in 1979 for his analysis of inflation in Mexico, was elected to the Mexican Academy of Sciences in 1992 and is an Emeritus Member of the National Research Council. David published numerous books and articles on problems related to social alternatives for Latin America, food systems analysis, and ecological economics. During recent years, he and his students have collaborated with communities in many parts of Mexico in their efforts to consolidate post-capitalist societies.



Dr. Delfin Ganapin Jr. (Philippines / Singapore) is currently Global Leader in Governance Practice for the World Wide Fund For Nature International after holding for 15 years the position of Global Manager for the United Nations Development Program in the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program (UNDP GEF SGP). Through his career, he has promoted over 8,000 community projects globally, including ICCAs. He has experience with NGOs (e.g. as founder of the Philippine Federation for Environmental Concern, PFEC) as well as with governmental institutions (he worked for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of The Philippines).

Dr. Fabrizio Frascaroli (Italy) is a conservation ecologist working on the linkages between cultural and biological diversity. Fabrizio has studied and worked in Iceland, Switzerland, the USA and Italy. His research focuses on sacred natural sites in central Italy, highlighting their role in conserving natural and intangible heritage. His interests include traditional knowledge, common property, pastoralism, food sovereignty, and the relation that all these have with biocultural diversity. He is vice-president of the Religion and Conservation Biology Working Group of the Society for Conservation Biology.





Mr. Felipe Guerra (Chile) is a lawyer for the Observatorio Ciudadano (ICCA Consortium member) specialized in human rights and environmental administrative law. Felipe has worked documenting, preparing and litigating various cases, both in national and international situations, in which the collective rights of indigenous peoples and local communities have been affected. Among those are the discussion of the bill that creates the new Biodiversity and Protected Areas Service and in a community compensation program following the contamination of the Cruces River Wetland.

Mr. Francisco Coché Pablo (IP, Guatemala) is Maya T'z'utuhil. He graduated in automotive mechanics and has 15 years of experience in social work, notably with indigenous peoples, in particular as a leader of his community. He helped launching several community development projects related to environment and development and is now a strong and eloquent advocate for ICCAs. He is already Honorary Member of the Guatemalan ICCA Consortium.



Gloria Kendi Borona (Kenya) is a PhD Candidate at the University of British Columbia, focusing on sustainable resource management and improvement of community livelihoods. She was born and raised near an indigenous/natural forest in Meru, Central Kenya and has worked with diverse communities on conservation projects in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, South Africa and Australia. She is keen to deal with ICCAs as part of dynamic cultural landscapes.

Ms. Heidy Zaith Orozco Fernández (Mexico) is native to the San Pedro river watershed. She worked several years as teacher before becoming operation coordinator for a project that seeks to preserve the traditional knowledge and natural resources in the San Pedro River, Nayarit region. This led her to co-fund and now become the Executive Director of Nuiwari (Center for Social Development and Sustainability)—an organisation that helps to sustain and consolidate the movement Free San Pedro River (Movimiento Rio San Pedro Libre).



Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim (IP, Chad) is from an Mbororo pastoralist community. She coordinates the Peul Indigenous Women Association of Chad (AFPAT), is a member of the Executive committee of the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC), Co-Chair of International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change, represents CSO at the UNCCD and is policy board Member of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Partnership (UNIPP).



Ms. Iokiñe Rodriguez (Venezuela) is a sociologist, facilitator and engaged researcher in socio-environmental conflict transformation in Latin America. Her work includes historical reconstruction, intra/intercultural dialogue, territorial management and control and local knowledge revitalization, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples from Venezuela, Guyana and Bolivia. Iokiñe is a founding member of Grupo Confluencias and currently Senior Research Fellow at the School of International Development (DEV) at the University of East Anglia (UEA), UK.

Ms. Iris Benes (Croatia), a long-time Consortium collaborator in Europe, is office manager for BED, a grassroots NGO in Croatia that is Member of the Consortium. A professional background in law and interests in human rights and nature conservation have brought Iris towards her current engagement in civil society projects and initiatives. She is active in biodiversity and landscape conservation (especially floodplains), sustainable agriculture, traditional architecture, endogenous breeds and species, natural and cultural heritage, conservation law and policies and conservation advocacy.



Dr. Jennifer Kelleher (Ireland) is Programme Officer for Governance, Equity and Rights for the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme (GPAP). A lawyer from Ireland, her doctorate focuses on the history of conservation law (both at the national and international levels) and the transition to innovative conservation arrangements that recognize equitable and rights-based approaches for communities in conservation. She used to be working as Permanent Representative of the International Council of Environmental Law to the United Nations Office in Vienna. She has worked as lecturer in universities in Austria, China, Serbia, Slovakia and Russia.

Dr. Jeremy Spoon (USA) is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Portland State University, USA, and Research Associate with The Mountain Institute. His applied research has focused on integrating indigenous ecological knowledge into the governance, management and interpretation of mountain protected areas in western United States, Nepal, Hawai'i and Kenya. Since 2008, Jeremy has co-facilitated the creation of a shared governance and stewardship framework among the Nuwuvi Nation (comprising seven Native American tribes) and the US Forest and Wildlife agencies.



Dr. Joel Kiyulu (Democratic Republic of Congo) is Associate Professor at the University of Kinshasa. He holds a PhD in ethnography in communication (consult an article on his thesis [here](#)), has been project leader for the IUCN on topics related to governance and worked for many institutions across Africa. Joel specialises on forest, cultures, sacred sites and peace reconstruction.

Ms. Julia Fogerite (USA) is Programme Officer for IUCN in Myanmar, where she focuses on community forestry, and advocacy-driven research. Julia has experience working with indigenous peoples and organisations in Myanmar and prior experience with CIFOR and Yale University. Recently, she has assisted in fostering an active collaboration among national authorities and indigenous peoples that resulted in governance issues and ICCAs being prominently included in the Myanmar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.



Justin Kenrick (UK) is an activist anthropologist, working for forest peoples' land rights in Africa as Senior Policy Advisor for the [Forest Peoples Programme](#) (a Consortium Member). He is also keen on community resilience in Scotland. He currently works with the Mt Elgon Ogiek and the Sengwer of the Cherangany Hills, Kenya, as well as with other peoples impacted by conservation or palm oil land grabs in DRC, Uganda, Liberia and Cameroon. He also focuses on the implementation of the [Whakatane Mechanism](#). He has lectured in social anthropology at Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities, and chairs [Action Porty](#), the community body that pioneers the first urban Community Right to Buy in Scotland.

Dr. Ken Wilson (UK) encountered sacred forests and strong resource management institutions in Africa in the mid-1980s, and found a way to blend his formal training in ecology and anthropology with community activism and indigenous knowledge. During his 22 years in international philanthropy (with Ford Foundation and Christensen Fund), Ken developed systematic programs to back community-based conservation efforts around the world, including ICCAs, and to open up the global conservation community to the importance of sacred places and indigenous landscape management traditions. He is currently Technical Advisor to LEAP in Sabah (Malaysian Borneo).



Mr. Kevin Chang (USA) is the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) a non-profit movement building organization that is applying for the Consortium membership (see information above) and oversees all fiscal, administrative and programmatic work of KUA. With a B.A. in Psychology and a J.D. from the University of Oregon, Kevin was a Land Manager for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and a Field Representative for the Trust for Public Lands' Hawaiian Island Program. Kevin is married to Alma Siria and plays with a band called Kupa'āina.

Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli (Nepal). After studying agriculture, environmental law, and geography, Krishna pursued a career in academia and conservation organizations. A keen supporter of community engagement in conservation, collaborative and negotiated governance and connectivity in transboundary landscapes, Krishna has upheld traditional knowledge and skills relevant for biodiversity and genetic resources in the Himalayan region. He is genuinely committed to further the agenda of ICCA in the Asian region and beyond.



Dr. Leticia Leitaó (Portugal) leads the implementation of the Connecting Practice Project, a joint IUCN-ICOMOS initiative seeking recognition and support for interconnected natural, cultural and social values of landscapes, seascapes and biocultural practices. Leticia has been leading capacity building work for the IUCN World Heritage Programme for over seven years. Besides her doctorate on World Heritage conservation, she just completed an Executive Master in Public Administration at the London School of Economics. She is currently based in Denmark.



Makko Sinandei (Tanzanie) is a community development facilitator and trainer with over 15 year experience with pastoralist indigenous peoples in Tanzania. Makko has been focusing on customary leadership and capacity building to empower communities in governing and managing natural resources. As Executive Director of the organisation Ujamaa Community Resource Team, he has been active to secure communal lands for grazing and conservation initiatives that positively impact the local environment and livelihoods (e.g. via community tourism).

Marcos Cerra (Spain), geographer, worked for the last 17 years in international environmental cooperation and disaster risk reduction projects in several Latin American countries, developing participatory processes with local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as environmental and social education projects. He was a representative for Ecodesarrollo in Cuba, El Salvador and Paraguay and for World Geologist in Ecuador. Until 2016, he worked in the Regional Office for South America of IUCN as program officer in the area of Social Equity and Nature Governance and is currently an independent consultant, collaborating with the ICCA Consortium.



Dr. Marcus Colchester (UK) received his doctorate in Social Anthropology from the University of Oxford. He was Founder Director of the Forest Peoples Programme and now acts as Senior Policy Advisor. Marcus has more than a 35-year experience working with forest peoples in the humid tropics. His expertise is in indigenous peoples, social and political ecology, standard setting, human rights, environment, development, land tenure, policy reform and advocacy, FPIC and conflict resolution. Marcus has worked intensively in support of forest peoples' rights in relation to logging, plantations, palm oil monocultures, extractive industries, dams and protected areas.

Dr. Maria Purificació Canals i Ventín (Catalonia, Spain) has been President of the League for the Defense of Natural Heritage (DEPANA) in Catalonia and Regional Councilor for the IUCN in West Europe and Vice-president of the IUCN. She now works as an international freelance consultant on marine and coastal conservation, teaches physiology at the University Rovira i Virgili (Tarragona) and is President of the Mediterranean Network of Marine Protected Areas (MedPAN).





Dr. Mark Infield (UK) is Technical Advisor with the Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda. After studying zoology, Mark's inter-disciplinary PhD examined cultural values and protected areas management in Uganda. He then went on to 30 years of experience working in nature conservation, protected and conserved areas and natural resource management in Africa and Asia, focusing on the social, economic and political environments in which conservation initiatives are designed and managed. His key questions deal with "local cultural values in nature" and ways to integrate those in conservation initiatives.

Matthew Emslie-Smith (Kyrgyzstan) is research assistant at the Mountain Societies Research Institute, University of Central Asia and field staff for Plateau Perspectives, an NGO devoted to the sustainable livelihoods of mountain communities in Central Asia. Matthew has a Masters in Conservation Science & Policy, in which he focused on the resilience of pastoralist livelihoods amongst Kenyan Maasai communities, in particular dealing with conflict with large carnivores. He is currently seeking to study for a PhD in natural resource governance structures amongst pastoralists in Central Asia- especially those willing to be ICCA custodians.



Ms. Mi Chan Aie (IP, Myanmar) is a Mon community-oriented activist with a background in journalism, the arts and critical thinking. She is currently Programme Officer with Paung Ku-- an NGO that supports grassroots communities in Myanmar by facilitating their own self-strengthening, networking and designing own development activities. In her capacity with Pang Ku she actively participated in the first ICCA gathering in Myanmar, in 2016. She has excellent language capacities in Mon, Burmese, and English and has been working for several years in Mon State, at the Thai-Burma (Myanmar) border.

Mr. Pablo Lumerman (Argentina) has been working many years towards enhancing governance in protected areas overlapping with indigenous territories, including facilitating consultations and resolutions of intercultural conflicts with the Plurinational Council of Indigenous Peoples. He is part of UNDP conflict resolution program, facilitates dialogue for IUCN in Latin America and was a member of the board of the Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea.



Prof. Peter Bridgewater (Australia) is an adjunct Professor at the University of Canberra. Prior to returning to Australia in 2015 he was Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on wetlands and Director of the Division of Ecological Sciences of UNESCO. As Chief Executive of the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, Peter helped develop the now successful Indigenous Protected Area plan for Australia (as he says: "while the 'P' word is used there, those are re certainly community 'C'onserved areas!"). Peter is currently a member of the Indigenous and Local Communities Task Force of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).



Dr Rosie Cooney (Australia) is a biodiversity/environmental policy specialist with over fifteen years experience in biodiversity policy research, analysis and development. Since 2012, she has served as Chair of the Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist (SULI) Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Rosie has worked for leading international conservation organisations including IUCN, WWF International, and Fauna & Flora International, carried out research projects at Cambridge University, the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and at the Australia National University. She currently teaches at UNSW.

Ruben Khachatryan (Armenia) is a film director. After a few years in a theological seminary, he studied fine arts, sculpting, music and filmmaking. In 2002 he co-founded the Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC) of Armenia and has since then served as its executive director. FPWC projects have dealt with self-employment, cultural support, wildlife conservation, the development of voluntary protected areas, ecotourism, environmental policy, marketing campaigns for nature conservation and effective communication in society. Ruben is also the Director of the Yerevan Zoo. In 2016 he was awarded a gold medal for prominent achievements for conservation in Armenia.



Mr. S. Faizi (India) is an ecologist specialized in biodiversity management and international environmental policy. He has developed and undertaken community based conservation programs in a few countries and is an insightful critical commentator of international and national conservation policies. Faizi is active with the CBD civil society group.

Mr. Thomas Niederberger (Switzerland) is a social anthropologist at the University of Bern, Switzerland. Currently doing research in the Santiago Comaina Amazon area of northern Peru, he worked also in Central India, Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Switzerland. He is the main editor of the 2016 book "The Open Cut - Mining, Transnational Corporations and Local Populations".



Prof. Dr. Tobias Haller (Switzerland) is Extraordinary Professor for Economic and Ecological Anthropology at the Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Bern. He is specialized in institutional theory, political ecology and common pool resource management, with fieldwork experience in Cameroon and Zambia, and currently engaged in an ongoing research on land grabbing. Tobias is founder of infoe CH, editor/author of the infoe book on oil companies and indigenous peoples.

Tom Griffiths (United Kingdom) A social anthropologist and human rights activist with prior training in environmental science, Tom has more than 25 years' experience of working with forest peoples in South and Central America and in South Asia, where he has been leading action research projects on documenting customary systems of tenure and sustainable use of biological resources, including documentation of traditional knowledge and indigenous concepts and customary law on community conserved areas. Fluent in Spanish and with knowledge of several Amerindian languages, Tom currently works for the Forest Peoples Programme, a Member of the ICCA Consortium.



Mr. Simar Muiba (Bolivia) is a young representative of the Moxeño Indigenous People. He has been working for several years on issues of governance of natural resources with the Leco de Apolo people and Monkoxi people in Lomerio, Bolivia. For several months now, he has been coordinating the natural resource governance work and territorial management in the Chiquitanía region. He is participating enthusiastically in the emergence of the ICCA Working Group in Bolivia.

Mr. Paul Sein Twa (Thailand) is the Executive Director and Founding Member of the Karen Environmental and Social Action Network (KESAN). An ethnic Karen from Burma/Myanmar, Paul has been working on social and environmental issues in Burma's conflict areas since 1996. He is the leading spokesperson for KESAN and several other networks including Karen Rivers Watch (KRW) and Burma Environmental Working Group (BEWG). Currently, in close collaboration with the Karen National Union (KNU) authorities and other civil society organizations, Paul is working towards the formal establishment of the "Salween Peace Park" as a Karen indigenous reserve in southeast Burma.



Ms. Vilisa I. Morón Zambrano (Venezuela) is a conservation biologist who aims at improving Venezuela's protected area national system. She is a biology science master degree student at the Simón Bolívar University and works towards guiding conservation strategies related to protected areas and vulnerable species. She is also Chair of the Venezuelan Ecology Society and has worked with the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas toward empowering an ICCA network in Venezuela.

Secretariat Announcements



Dr. Alexis Kabore, Regional Coordinator for the Sahel, Based in Burkina Faso.

Dr Alexis Kabore is a sociologist from a peasant family in a small rural village. He studied in Geneva and Ouagadougou and owns a PhD in sociology, with specialisation in protected areas, community forest and fauna reserves. Alexis is Executive Director of the Burkina Fauna and Development Association, which he founded in 2004. He has work experience with decentralised local authorities, governmental services and international organisations and protected areas such as the WAP (W-Arly-Pendjari) and PONASI (Pô-Nazinga-Sissili). Alexis is Professor and Researcher with the Pr Joseph Ki-Zerbo University in Ouagadougou.

Ms. Anne Meier, Senior Accountant, Based in the USA.

Anne is a Swiss Certified Specialist for Finance and Accounting, holding an advanced certificate in management accounting. She graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University with a Bachelor in Sustainable Performance Management. During her studies, Anne developed an interest in ethics and sustainability issues and how the accounting function can assist an organization in achieving and measuring their sustainable goals. As a professional accountant, Anne has worked for small, medium, and large organizations in Switzerland and in the United States. She grew up in Switzerland and now lives in Southwest Colorado with her husband and their lovely dog. Anne is grateful to be surrounded by so much nature and wild life. In her spare time, she enjoys road biking, hiking in the Colorado Mountains, and listening to Bluegrass and Folk Music.



Ms. Deborah David, Communications Officer, Based in Ecuador.

Born in Haiti, Deborah has more than 16 years of experience in international development and nonprofits in the US, Latin America and the Caribbean. She is fluent in English, French, Spanish and Haitian Creole and has recently begun learning Italian. Throughout her career, Deborah has learned that the best way to help people and communities is to first understand their hopes and dreams; hence intercultural communications is her most developed skill set. She currently lives in Quito, Ecuador with her husband and two children where she is gaining more knowledge about sustainable development and conservation. Deborah holds a Bachelor's Degree in International

Economic Development and a Master's of Science in Administration from the University of West Florida.

Ms. Jessica Campese, Advisor on issues of Governance and Human Rights, Based in the USA.

Jessica is a social science researcher, writer, and activist with more than ten years of experience working on natural resource governance and environmental justice. She has worked with a wide range of civil society organizations at the local, national, and international level. Currently based in the Washington D.C. area, she is a part-time consultant and full-time parent of two environmental justice activists-in-training. Jessica has lived and worked in Switzerland and Tanzania, where she has volunteered and consulted with Tanzanian CSOs on research and advocacy for more just and effective natural resource governance. She has a Masters in Public Policy and worked on human rights-based approaches to conservation with IUCN's Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) as a Fulbright Scholar. As a volunteer and periodic consultant to the ICCA Consortium, Jessica has participated in international meetings, including the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), and is co-developing guidance on governance vitality and ICCA self-strengthening.



Mr. Koosha Dab, Co-coordinator for Marine and Coastal Areas for West and Central Asia on behalf of CENESTA, Based in Iran.

Koosha is Senior Expert in Marine Ecology at [Cenesta](#). Holder of a Master's degree in marine biology, Koosha has been working on traditional knowledge and management systems in the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems, the identification of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in the North-West Indian Ocean and the Caspian and Black Seas regions and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Iran. He has been part of the team supporting the implementation of Aichi Target 11 through diversification of governance types of protected areas and the appropriate recognition of ICCAs in Iran. He is actively assessing the environmental and social impacts of industrial development in the

coastal and marine ICCAs of Iran in the northwest Indian Ocean, and has authored numerous articles on marine and coral reef conservation.

Ms. Sepideh Shakeri-Nasr, Co-coordinator for Marine and Coastal Areas for West and Central Asia on behalf of CENESTA, Based in Iran.

Sepideh holds a BSc in Natural Resources and an MSc in Environmental Planning and Management. Having joined [Cenesta](#) in 2013, she has been promoting the engagement of traditional knowledge in the governance, management and conservation of natural resources in the marine and coastal ecosystems of Iran. She has contributed to Iran's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) as a Drafting Committee member and supported the diversification of IUCN governance types of protected areas and the appropriate recognition of ICCAs in Iran. Her current work focuses on the environmental and social impact assessment of oil and gas industrial development, building multi-stakeholder alliances, promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and assisting in the participatory zoning of protected and conserved areas using GIS tools.



Collaborator Announcements

Mr. Dario Novellino, Collaborator for ICCA Alerts and SAFE, Based in Italy/Philippines.

Dr Dario Novellino is an anthropologist and defender of indigenous peoples' rights. Most of his advocacy work has taken place in Southeast Asia, especially in the Island of Palawan (The Philippines), but he also lived with the Inuit people of Canada and other indigenous groups throughout Latin America and Asia, and contributed to the empowerment of local pastoralists in Central Italy. He is affiliated with the Centre for Biocultural Diversity University of Kent (UK) and received numerous international grants and awards for his extraordinary engagement with indigenous peoples. In 2013, he conceptualized the idea of a dedicated fund for land-rights-defenders, which has now developed as the SAFE initiative. In 2015, Dario was elected Executive Director of the Philippines-based Coalition against Land Grabbing (a Member of the Consortium).



Mr. Harry Jonas, Legal Advisor to the Consortium, Based in Sabah, Malaysia.

Harry is an international environmental and human rights lawyer who co-founded Natural Justice—a Member of the Consortium -- and supports Forever Sabah. Harry co-chairs the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas' Task Force on Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures that is developing guidance on how to recognise and support areas of conservation value outside of protected areas, including ICCAs. His publications include: [Tyranny of the Masses](#), The Right to Responsibility, The Living Convention and Conservation Standards. He is an Ashoka Fellow.

Octaviana Vihocencu, Collaborator for Accounting, Based in Switzerland.

Octaviana earned a Bachelor in Philology at the University of Bucharest, Rumania and has a professional background in the commercial sector and customer relations. A full-time mother, Octaviana joined the ICCA Consortium as Accountant in the hope of putting to good use the knowledge accumulated while attending accounting courses, but also in order to gain useful work experience. Octaviana has a passion for creating polymer clay jewelry, travelling and doing Pilates.



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