The ICCA Consortium in 2017
Steps towards implementing our new strategy, defining our own policies, communicating more effectively and achieving solid ICCA advances in many countries

Report to the XIth General Assembly
Geneva (Switzerland) 25-26 Nov. 2017
ICCA Consortium (www.iccaconsortium.org)

- rooted in the movements that promoted equity in conservation, and the international policy recognition of ICCAs...
- legally established in 2010 and registered as a global, member-based association under Swiss Law
• **Mission** – promote the *appropriate* recognition of ICCAs, and *appropriate* support to them

• **Members** – organizations & federations of indigenous peoples and local communities and NGOs directly supporting them  (about 130 worldwide)

• **Honorary members** – committed and inspiring individuals with relevant capacities & concerns (about 300, in 75 countries)
Organs of the Association:

- General Assembly
- Steering Committee
- Auditor of accounts

- decision-making by *consensus* (voting only if consensus proves impossible)
- Vision, Statutes, Operational Guidelines, Strategy & yearly work reports online
- important efforts to make materials available in three languages
- main supporters: The Christensen Fund and UNDP GEF SGP + Swedbio
an innovative work style (which is evolving 😊...)

- semi-volunteer personnel – about 26 people based in 22 countries... no dedicated offices... work with Members

- coordinators and staff are self-directed, outstanding individuals, supported and coordinated rather than “instructed”...

- trust, flexibility and frugality are the name of the game: plans offer orientation, monitoring is carried out, but changes are expected and people are trusted to act at best possible for the mission with the most efficient possible use of resources
work

at local level
at national level
at regional level
at international level
Work at local level

Aims: ICCA self-awareness and strength, increased capacity, security, resilience, self-determination, “emblematic ICCAs”…

- supporting grassroots processes of self-strengthening of ICCAs
- analysis of problems and opportunities, conception and implementation of initiatives to strengthen and restore ICCAs (GEF SGP funding and others), support for community communication (videos & photo-stories, local radio, etc.)
- self-monitoring of conservation & livelihoods results & governance vitality, links with the UNEP WCMC Registry...
Work at national level

Aims: a “critical mass” for solidarity & effective advocacy in support of ICCAs; engaging civil society & ICCA leaders/ champions

- Promotion and support to national “ICCA networks” (working groups/ coalitions/ federations)
- Advocacy with technical agencies and policy makers for appropriate ICCA recognition and support
- Exchange visits and capacity building events
- Reports on “legal options” to recognize ICCAs
- National/regional governance evaluation processes (with IUCN)
Work at regional level

Aims: sharing inspiring experiences, providing mutual support, joint capacity building…

- Organization and facilitation of regional events and exchange visits…
Work at international level

**Aim:** enhanced international recognition of the ICCA contribution to conservation of nature and culture, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, food sovereignty and security, collective rights and responsibilities and human wellbeing

Active presence at international policy negotiations & other regional and international events, partnerships and exchanges among IPs and LCs…

Developing applied research & publications with CBD, IUCN and other UN bodies (e.g., Policy Briefs)
This report

- What have we been doing in 2017?
- What have we accomplished?
Need to consider:

- No “core funding”... but we function, and we save as much as we can for lean times (that always come)...

- Support from three main projects “designed” to fit our mission & work:
  
  - **GSI** → national strategic work in 26 countries + int. work on governance & ICCAs (capacities, ICCA Registry, etc.)
  
  - **TCF** → global coordination + communications + Alerts/SAFE + international policy advocacy, publications... & strategic review
  
  - **Swedbio** → this GA + development of NO GO policy + videos for communications (2018)
ICCA are thriving and contribute to self-determination, conservation of bio-cultural diversity & wellness of all living beings.

IPs and LCs -- in full exercise of their FPIC -- declare, document and register their ICCAs and take action to conserve and defend them.

- **National legal & social environments are supportive**
- **ICCA communication system is active & effective**
- **Relevant regional policies are supportive**
- **Indigenous peoples & human rights policies are supportive**
- **Food security policy is supportive**
- **Climate change policies recognize ICCAs in mitigation and adaptation**

- UNEP WCMC ICCA Registry ensures listing options
- Partners & donors & GEF SGP provide financial support
- ICCAs fully recognized & supported as legitimate governance type for conservation by IUCN & 193 countries parties to the CBD
- ICAs as indicators of SDGs
- Active ICCA alert systems & Solidarity Alliance & Fund
- WPC 2014 & WCC 2016 are supportive
- CBD decisions are supportive
- Food sovereignty, land & water rights, UNDRIP, SDGs
- IP & LC coalitions & federations offer solidarity & critical mass for advocacy
- The Consortium, its Members & ICCAs learning networks encourage & offer technical support

Local level

National level

International level
a new strategy for the ICCA Consortium
remarkable document, well worth pondering,
2017: taken some key steps to implement the strategy

“content” of our work

- Assisting Members and partners in about 40 countries
- Assisting in governance issues in five (+) countries
- Developed self-strengthening methodology
- Started evolving “our own policies”

growth of the organization

- Governance
- Regionalization
- Human resources
- Communications
- Fundraising
GSI initiative in 2017

- **GSI priority countries**: Argentina, Benin, Belize, Colombia, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Paraguay, Senegal, Suriname, Tanzania, Vietnam and Zambia (...training, field-support, advice, correspondence...)

- We also worked in **non-GSI priority countries**: Burkina Faso, Bolivia, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, DRC, Finland, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, India, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Spain and Taiwan and explored other countries

- GSI delays experienced in Brazil, Maldives, Namibia, Philippines, Tanzania, Peru...

- Conflicting views & stalling: Argentina, Nepal, Iran...

- Very keen to do more in East Timor, Peru, Tanzania, Maldives, Guinea, Myanmar, Mexico...
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Capacity building events in 2017

Regional ICCA events in Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan) & the South Cone (Paraguay)
Meeting on the commons in Europe (Spain)
National events on ICCAs in Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, Georgia, Iran and Ecuador (dedicated training of “leaders”)
Capacity building on governance issues in Tanzania, Indonesia, Austria, Georgia (collaboration with IUCN)
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Other events/ initiatives in 2017

• CBD written submissions eg Glossary of key terms and concepts for Article 8(j) (more to go)

• meetings with Prof. John Knox -- UN Rapporteur on Environment and Human Rights (Feb, Oct, Nov 2017)

• Participation in EMRIP, OCEAN Conference, IMPAC 4

• First participation in Treaty Alliance events at Geneva (UN Treaty on Business & Human Rights)

• ICCAs in Africa at IUCN Hq.

• ICCAs in Switzerland – public event at the Museum of Natural History in Geneva

• This Xith General Assembly (from fundraising to organising…)

• Roundtable among Partners and Friends of the ICCA Consortium (4 days from now)

Friends of the Earth International

1. “financialisation” of nature (webinars in English and Spanish)

2. governance for conservation of nature and ICCAs (webinars in English and Spanish, to come)

3. SAFE – rather stalled –
Alerts in 2017

• Nigeria/ Ikuri forest (sharing info)
• Finland/ Moratorium on external rules on fisheries
• Ecuador/ Cordillera del Condor (fundraising)
• New letter for Tanzania/ Uvinje
• Sharing info for Tanzania/ Loliondo
Applied research & publications

Guidance for a comprehensive process of ICCA self-strengthening

produced and diffused in three languages, currently under field use/testing
• On-going research on **governance vitality** (to be completed in 2018)
• Updated report on **ICCAs in Asia**
• First draft of national report on ICCAs in **Rumania**
• Extractive industries impact tools (finalised in Spanish)
• Special issues of Journal of the Commons (being planned)

**Consortium Policy Briefs in preparation:**

– Food sovereignty ➔ planned
– Sustainable Development Goals ➔ more work is needed
– Collective Rights and Responsibilities of Indigenous Peoples ➔ more work is needed
– EU common agriculture policy ➔ more work is needed
Taking **steps to implement the new strategy in 2017**

- Assisting Members and partners in about 40 countries
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- Developed self-strengthening methodology
- Started evolving “our own policies”

“content” of our work

- Governance
- Regionalization
- Human resources
- Communications
- Fundraising

growth of the organization
Governance of the Consortium

- New **Steering Committee** – enlarged to 19 people
- **Membership committee** + new membership policy—paying attention to composition, representation, and regional balance across the membership
- **Policy & Programme Committee** and new Consortium policies on NO GO (we will discuss tomorrow) and gender (still draft)
- Steering Committee meetings on Skype (one week!) & on-going e-discussions
- General Assembly in Geneva (November 2017)
- Exploring new partnerships with media organizations, defenders of HR advocates, donors…
- Recruiting and serving Members (about 130 Members & 300 Honorary Members (approx. 20% growth per year)
Throughout the existence of the Consortium, the Regional Coordinators have always developed their own plans. With more formal appointments, there is a need for **more systematic planning and clearer responsibilities**...

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<td><strong>Global Secretariat</strong></td>
<td>Lead on global policy engagement, communications and coordination, including synthesizing and distilling work across all regions and identifying opportunities for learning, exchange, strategic partnerships and advocacy; oversee overall strategy and management of the Consortium, including fundraising and human resources.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Regional Coordinators</strong></td>
<td>Lead on support and facilitation of national networks, including supporting national focal point organizations; develop and manage implementation of regional strategies and work plans, based on national action plans developed with national focal points; assist regional Members with transnational advocacy efforts; contribute to communications and identification of priorities for international advocacy and policy engagement. <strong>Fundraise</strong> for regional and transnational work.</td>
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<td><strong>National Focal Points (i.e., Member organizations at national level)</strong></td>
<td>Lead facilitation of national networks; assist national members with transnational advocacy efforts; contribute to communications and identification of priorities for international advocacy and policy engagement. <strong>Fundraise</strong> for national level work.</td>
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<td><strong>Members</strong></td>
<td>Work with national Focal Point Organizations to develop strategies at national level. <strong>Participate actively</strong> in the work of national networks and regional and international activities. Contribute to communications and identification of priorities for advocacy and policy engagement. Assist National Focal Points in mobilizing resources.</td>
</tr>
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Human resources

- Secretariat (about **26 peoples** in **22 countries**, **3 languages**)
- New **professional accountant** – incredibly lucky that she is willing to be a semi-volunteer with us
- **First audit** passed in 2017
- Communication person – semi-volunteer collaborator for now several months
- Fundraising and reporting personnel still lacking/taking a huge toll
- Regional coordinators -- procedural aspects of planning and reporting are slowly being more systematically enforced
Huge effort at improving communication

New website launched

• Not only a website… a resource repository 😊 and a powerful element of transparency and participation…

• Translation of the website in 2 languages (on going)

• 1 “large” issue of Newsletter + Flashnews

• ICCA drone material collected, India video stories, regional ICCA Newsletter, regional dedicated Facebook…
Donor relations and fundraising

- 5 successful new grants for 2017-2018 (about US$ 136,000) + travel support for people to attend events
- 4 main proposals still waiting for results
- On going reporting for our grants (quite a task!)
- Gearing up for more and more focused efforts in 2018 also on the basis of the plans of the Regional Coordinators

small grants for Africa US$ 5,000-10,000 on community-centred conservation, preferably forest areas…
Summary milestones in 2017

- **New strategy** being implemented
- **Shaping our own policies** (e.g., NO GO for destructive developments in ICCAs)
- **New WEB SITE**
- **Solid ICCA advances** in organizing, policy & practice in Burkina Faso, Bolivia, Colombia, Guinea, Iran, Senegal, Indonesia, DRC, Malaysia, Taiwan, Guatemala, Madagascar, Chile... (and at regional level in Central Asia, Cono Sur & Europe)
Many thanks and please check www.iccaconsortium.org