

The ICCA Consortium 2017 Annual Report



30 March 2018

Executive summary



Throughout 2017 the Consortium has continued to provide **support to ICCAs at local, national, regional and international levels** by advancing the **ICCA Global Support Initiative (GSI)** and a few other companion projects. As part of that, it has been highlighting “**emblematic ICCAs**” at local level, providing catalytic support in 30 countries, facilitating regional capacity exchanges in more than three regions and continuing to follow

closely relevant international policies. For the latter, in particular, it kept contributing to technical advances of the Convention on Biological Diversity, but more specifically also participated in international **marine and coastal conservation** events (Oceans Conference, IMPAC), focused on **ICCAs and human rights** and ventured into the business and biodiversity arena. Meanwhile, the Consortium has been **implementing its ambitious new Strategic Plan**— in particular by **strengthening internal governance, improving communication and setting the basis for fundraising to come to fruition in 2018-2019**. A novelty of 2017 is that for the first time the Consortium not only contributed to the policies of other major conventions or institutions, but started **developing policies of its own**. Finally, while we must notice a slowing down in the pace of production of new Consortium Policy Briefs, it was possible to **compile, produce in three languages and diffuse a coherent process guidance to facilitate self-strengthening of ICCAs**.

The Global Initiative in Support of ICCAs (GSI) was supported by GEF SGP dedicated grants in most of the pilot countries identified by UNDP. As part of that, many **national catalytic organisations** were identified and contracted by GEF SGP national offices. In all such cases, the Consortium has been eager to collaborate, but we have learned that the relationship with our crucial national partners can be in a spectrum from “intense and effective” to “non-existing”. This appears to depend strongly on the capacities, goodwill and interest of GEF SGP national coordinators and committees: a powerful lesson for the future of this crucially important initiative. Overall, **the GSI stimulus has revealed a major positive form of support for ICCAs**, which is particularly effective when the Consortium and its Members are managing to work closely with the national GEF SGP offices.

ICCA networks exist today in at least 18 countries (see the list in the report) and **attention towards emblematic ICCAs is emerging in all of them** and more. In 2017, our **technical advice was delivered to partners in 30 countries** and we have co-organised experience sharing and capacity development initiatives at regional level in **West Asia, the Cono Sur**, Eastern Europe, francophone Africa and Africa overall. **Capacity building events at national level** took place in Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, DRC, Ecuador, Finland, Georgia, Guinea, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Mexico, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania, Zambia, etc.

The Consortium has maintained and nourished partnerships with the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme – with whom we have collaborated on **governance of protected and conserved areas** (national workshops for sharing experiences and joint planning and learning (e.g. in Tanzania, Georgia, Austria) and with UNEP WCMC, with whom we have advanced towards effective and sensible ways of including ICCAs in the WDPA with the support of **national peer-support and review processes**. Spain, Iran and the Philippines have been at the forefront of such national processes. We are ever more

realising that the process of registering ICCAs in an international registry and the WDPA cannot be taken lightly or carried out at hoc (beyond the possible need of spotlighting some emblematic ICCAs). It rather requires careful planning and accompaniment, lest it may “burn” opportunities for effective recognition.

Following an effective collaboration with the UN Rapporteur on **Environment and Human Rights**, the Consortium is proud of seeing ICCAs taken into account in relevant UN Reports. Participation in the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, however, made us aware of how long the road towards impact (e.g. enhanced security of ICCAs and protection against undesired development initiatives) may be. As a positive note, the occasion of participating in the Forum prompted us to clarify and start elaborating our own policies, such as a policy of **“NO GO” for destructive developments in ICCAs and a policy on gender issues**. Progress in the partnership with Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) about ICCA Alerts and the Solidarity Action and Fund for the Defenders of the Commons and ICCAs (SAFE) has been—overall—disappointingly slow.

The new Strategic Plan of the Consortium foresees enhanced attention to the organisational structure of the Association— towards a solid regionalisation process, while enhancing internal governance, communication and fundraising. For that, 2017 has marked an important step towards a **more effective role for our new Council** (the new name for the Consortium Steering Committee), which developed **its working committees** and had meetings on Skype and in person. The Membership Committee, in particular, consolidated a **revised Membership Policy** and started implementing it in earnest. As part of that, the Consortium shed some Members that did not seem to function properly any longer— while steadily acquiring others. It also agreed on new monetary and non-monetary ways to contribute the membership dues. At end of 2017, we had 116 Members (organisations) and 290 Honorary members (individuals). We also then held the first **Round Table of Friends and Partners of the ICCA Consortium**— an initiative that proved useful to plan ahead for 2018 and we are intending to replicate in future years.

Our communications outlook improved substantially in 2017 with the completion and functioning of **the new Consortium website**, which is even richer than it used to be, but is also better organised and usable (we love it! ☺). Only one issue of our Newsletter (a major enterprise) was produced, but our new Newsflash has also begun regular operations. We started working on a concise document to communicate about the Consortium (some of us call it a “communications deck”) and prepared for being able to offer webinars in three languages. Finally, while it is true that the new Consortium Policy Briefs have been advancing more slowly than expected, in 2017 we managed to compile, produce in three languages and diffuse a coherent **guidance on processes to facilitate self-strengthening of ICCAs**. Such processes support IPs and LCs towards enhanced awareness, documentation, planning of specific initiatives, communication, networking, registering and advocating for policy support.

Background

Legally established in July 2010 but informally active since 2008 and rooted in the movements that promoted equity in conservation in the decades around the turn of the millennium, the ICCA Consortium is an international association dedicated to promoting the appropriate recognition of, and support to, the “territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities” (ICCAs for short) in the national, regional and global arenas. The Consortium is directly linked to the grassroots through its Members (which include both indigenous peoples (IP) and local community (LC) organisations and civil society groups working with IPs/LCs) and Honorary members (individuals with relevant concerns and expertise).

As a global institution, the Consortium has developed partnerships with the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme of the IUCN, the CBD Secretariat, UNDP GEF SGP, UNEP WCMC and various UN mechanisms promoting human and indigenous peoples' rights. With the IUCN, for instance, it is spearheading innovative work on governance of protected and conserved areas. With UNDP GEF SGP,



it is currently implementing an ICCA Global Support Initiative involving 26 pilot countries. In such countries and in others, the Consortium supports and highlights field-based ICCAs while nourishing a critical mass of understanding, concern and action for ICCAs at national level, mostly via dedicated working groups, coalitions and federations. So far, the Consortium and its Members have fostered opportunities for mutual exchanges and learning on ICCA-related issues through a variety of media and outreach mechanisms, such as publications in three languages, an extremely rich website, social media, and the organisation and running of local, national and global events throughout the world.

The new Strategy of the Consortium (available in English, Spanish and French) provides a concise account of what the Consortium is about, where it comes from and where it wishes to have an impact at the international, national and local level.

The Consortium has no full time or regular personnel. In place of that, it entertains consultancy contracts and/or full volunteer relationships of collaboration with about twenty-six people who provide time as Regional Coordinators, Programme Manager, IT Manager, Programme and Communication Officer, Communications Assistant, International Policy Coordinator, Strategy Advisor, Senior Accountant, etc. The volunteers and semi-volunteers work for compensation well below the market-value of their time. Only on the occasion of international events do some members of the Council and Secretariat have a chance to meet and physically work together. These opportunities are rare, but most valuable.

We list in this report only activities and accomplishments where the Secretariat and members of the Council of the Consortium have directly taken part. It should be noted, however, that **a large part of the value of the Consortium is the fact that it is an Association. The work of the Consortium is thus augmented by the work of each one of its Member organisations and individual Honorary members**, who are encouraged, inspired and provided with advice and support to the best of the Consortium's ability.

Consortium accomplishments January-December 2017

The work of the Consortium develops following a Work Plan and Budget modelled closely around the ICCA Global Support Initiative (GSI) with funding from UNOPS and The Christensen Fund. Below we summarise main activities carried out in 2017 and their key results.

A. Providing ICCA support at local and national level

In 2017, the Consortium Secretariat and Council carried out missions to provide information and support to ICCAs in many countries, with a (non-exclusive) focus on those communicated to us as GSI

priority. In particular, we provided varying forms of assistance to **Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, DRC, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Senegal, Taiwan** (province of China), **Tanzania and Zambia**.

Meetings were held, talks and presentations were offered and documents were compiled and presented. The national work also prompted processes of **facilitated self-strengthening** of individual ICCA sites for enhanced awareness, documentation, delineation and mapping, communication and development and implementation of specific initiatives. The core of the support the Consortium provides at national level, however, remains oriented towards **promoting and strengthening national networks** dedicated to the appropriate recognition of, and support for, ICCAs. Besides providing mutual recognition and support, these networks are meant to advance policy analysis and advocacy. In this light, the Consortium has continued, as appropriate, to promote, maintain or develop dedicated ICCA networks in **as many countries as possible**.

The ICCA networks of **Senegal, Guinea, Guatemala and Chile** experienced especially important developments in 2017 with direct encouragement and support from the ICCA Consortium, including for the development of their own action plans.

Table 1: National ICCA Networks associated with the Consortium (updated July 2017)			
Region & country	Name and brief description of the Network	Type of Network	Member of the ICCA Consortium?
Africa – Democratic Republic of Congo	Alliance Nationale d’Appui et de promotion des Aires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire en République Démocratique du Congo – ANAPAC-RDC	Federation	Yes
Africa -- Guinea	Informal network	??	Not yet
Africa- Kenya	Kenya ICCA Network	??	No
Africa – Madagascar	Tafo Mihaavo and MIHARI	Federations	Yes, both
Asia – The Philippines	Bukluran ng mga Pamayanang Nangangalaga sa Kalikasan – Bukluran Inc.	Federation	Yes
Asia – Indonesia	Working Group on ICCAs in Indonesia – WGII – the members include: the alliance of Indigenous Peoples of Indonesia (AMAN), BRWA, HuMa, JKPP, KIARA, NTFP-EP, PUSAKA, Sawit Watch, WHALI and WWF Indonesia	Working Group	Yes
Asia – Vietnam	National Learning Group of ICCAs in Vietnam — members include: People and Nature Reconciliation (Pan Nature); Department of Nature Conservation (DONC); Viet Nam Forest Administration (VNFOREST), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM), Research Centre for Forests and Wetlands (FORWET)	Working group	Yes, for PAN Nature

Asia – Taiwan (province of China)	Taiwan Indigenous Conserved Territories Union – TICTU A federation for self-determined ICCAs negotiating to implement transitional justice for indigenous peoples through: 1. Recognised sovereignty and rights; 2. Return of the land and marine traditional territories; 3. Reparation of destruction and persecution; 4. Collaboration on recovery and restoration processes	Federation (it is formally registered)	Yes
Asia – China	China ICCA Working Group It comprises seven ICCA Consortium Honorary members in China, along with representatives from two Members: Shan shui Conservation Center and Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association (BRC). It promotes mutual exchanges and learning and has developed procedures for peer review to register ICCAs and get them recognised by local governments as small community-based protected areas. It is strongly supported by GEF SGP China.	Working group	Yes, for its own Members Shan Shui and BRC
Asia – Nepal	ICCA Network Nepal	Association (informal)	Yes
Asia – Iran	UNINOMAD and UNICAMEL and their supporting secretariat in Cenesta are deeply engaged in ICCA demarcation and mapping, national policy development (e.g. NBSAP II), communications capacity building, and documentation of traditional knowledge.	Federations	Yes, for both and for Cenesta
Europe – Spain	Iniciativa Comunes	Formal association	Yes
Latin America – Guatemala	Consorcio TICCA Guatemala comprising representatives of Territorios Autónomos Comunitarios of Guatemala	Federation	Not yet
Latin America – Colombia	Territorios de Vida and other more recent informal ICCA networks	Working group?	Not yet
Latin America – Bolivia	Consorcio TICCA Bolivia Was established in 2017 and is already actively developing a map of violations of rights in Community Lands of Bolivia and providing on the ground support to emblematic ICCAs	Working group	Not yet
Latin America- Mexico	ICCA network Rather informal, but active in exchanges and attempting fundraising among territorios comunitarios autonomos	Working Group	
Latin America— Chile	Coordinadora Willi Lafken Wichan (meaning williche-mapuche communities in defence of the sea)—including organisations united to defend	Coalition?	Not yet

	their coastal and marine conserved areas. It meets to carry out punctual analyses of legislation and develop policy advocacy.		
Africa— Burkina Faso	National ICCA Federation (FENAPAC) Just created, it meets as part of a project that also seeks to establish a national database	Federation	Not yet

Below are more details reporting progress in specific countries.

AFRICA

Burkina Faso

A process of ICCA identification was carried out in three of the 13 regions of the country and a national initiative was launched. The national database now under development has nearly 54,000 ICCAs listed (53,411 sacred groves, 99 sacred wetlands, 77 community pasture reserves, 68 village areas of hunting interest (Zovic) et 43 village forests). A **national ICCA Federation (FENAPAC)** was created in December 2017 and has already gained some national visibility (TV, newspapers, events...). Three emblematic ICCAs are being actively supported.



DRC

Support has focused on an emblematic ICCA (Kisimbosa), mapping its territory and strengthening local ICCA-based livelihoods. Nationally, two ICCA information bulletins were produced, and two training workshops held. A working group with legal experts studied current legal reforms and their possible impact on ICCAs and a report was produced. Two projects are finally active and **ANAPAC** is gaining in national recognition.

Kenya

July 17, 2017: ERMIS Africa was identified as GSI national catalytic organisation and has started to support the **Kenya ICCA Network**, develop an ICCA database and develop an “ICCA capacity building curriculum”. Another organisation (RECONCILE) is attempting to synthesise policy that is relevant for the governance of ICCAs in Kenya, and still another one (ICE) is engaged in developing an ICCA documentation guideline.

Namibia

NACSO received funding from UNDP GEF/SGP which has made possible capacity building support to some conservancy and community forests formations and the running of two workshops.

Senegal

In 2017, six ICCA initiatives were supported by GEF SGP, and five regional workshops organised by the national catalytic organisation – KABEKA --which was also involved in numerous field missions and various meetings in the capital including a national gathering to discuss ICCA policies in Senegal.

Overall, the year was preparatory **towards the emergence of a national ICCA network**, which should see the light in 2018. About 20 ICCA custodian communities are ready to take part.

Tanzania

Two main national events on governance of protected and conserved areas and on ICCAs were held at the beginning of 2017, and this was followed up by the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum selection as lead agency to support ICCA work under the GSI.

Zambia

A National workshop on ICCAs was held at the beginning of 2017 and the Zambia National Resource Forum (ZNRF) organised with the ICCA Consortium a national workshop that brought together key people and facilitated a process by which they identified ICCAs in Zambia on the basis of indigenous knowledge on local governance and nature conservation. During the workshop, four potential “emblematic ICCAs” were identified with the help of traditional leaders and knowledge holders in three diverse provinces. The identified ICCAs were later visited with the hope of setting in motion/ contributing to some self-strengthening process. A national network is still to emerge.

AMERICAS

Argentina

The GSI is ongoing but information is scarce. A national team participated in an ICCA capacity building initiative that took place in Paraguay.

Bolivia

The **founding charter of the ICCA Bolivia Consortium was signed** in May 2017, establishing a strategic alliance between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. Among its first acts has been the preparation and ongoing updating of a **map showing the violation of rights in Community Lands of Bolivia**– (TCOs). The map lists 64 serious violations that took place from 2006 - 2017. **On the ground support** was provided to ICCAs under threat in Uchiopiamonas (technical and financial support to resist the Bala and Chepete mega-dams) and Isiboro Sécuré (solidarity actions to mobilise and denounce abuses). In coordination with the Equator Initiative, virtual trainings/ webinars were hosted focusing on international and regional indigenous human rights frameworks and existing mechanisms to access justice, and communications strategies for indigenous people.

Ecuador

The GSI was active throughout the year and the Cordillera del Condor was supported to organise for indigenous mobilisation. The Consortium supported a Member who carried out **specific training on ICCAs** as part of a leadership training for young Ecuadorians.

Canada

The Indigenous Circle of Experts for the Pathway to Canada Target 11 (co-chaired by the Consortium Regional Coordinator for North America) has convened four regional gatherings across the country to discuss how Target 11 could be achieved in the spirit and practice of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and formulated recommendations that led towards a significantly expanded mandate. A report will be released in March 2018.

Chile

Exchange workshops on ICCAs took place in 2017 and ended up establishing a **network of organisations to defend coastal and marine conserved areas** and support the implementation of a law that can be said to recognise marine ICCAs in Chile (EMCPO or Lafkenche Law). The national ICCA Network called **Coordinadora Willi Lafken Wichan** is active discussing relevant national legislation and providing punctual policy recommendations. This has happened for the law that creates the Biodiversity Service and National System of PAs in Chile (see [HERE](#)). While the recommendations were favourably received/ incorporated, the road is still long towards appropriate recognition of ICCAs in Chile. Some Senators are now convinced supporters, and another Law (to create the new Forestry Service) may be favourably influenced.

Colombia

Our Member CEMI has been greatly engaged in running the GSI and supporting the 12 communities that wish to strengthen their ICCAs—communities finally selected after a thorough selection process among the hundreds that applied. A self-awareness tool was produced, as well as a review and summary of legislation and policy relevant for ICCAs and a baseline document on ICCAs in Colombia. Extensive exchanges were developed with partner organisations, including in meetings dealing with the new draft decree intended to regulate “ethnic conservation areas” (that is, ICCAs).



Guatemala

The Guatemala ICCA network has been very active throughout 2017, including in strategic organising and site self-strengthening.

Mexico

ICCAs are being discussed as a source of opportunities in several events, and – specifically – in indigenous General Assemblies at community level (e.g., in the communities of Ka' kuxtal much' meyaj; Xka' lot ak'al and Sacabchén). The ICCA network of Mexico is continuing to identify emblematic ICCAs and seeking sources of support.



Paraguay

Hosted a regional capacity building event. GSI here started later than in the rest of the countries in Latin America and at the end of 2017 was still to select a catalytic organisation and the organisation that will be conducting the legal analysis.

ASIA

Myanmar

A learning visit to the Philippines was organised with the essential support of WWF Myanmar. It brought together 34 participants from communities and CSOs from Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia and the Philippines. Action plans were developed for each country.

China

With the support of GEF SGP China, several ICCA documents were translated into Chinese. A **Conference on CCAs** was held in **Chengdu (Sichuan)** where the Chinese ICCA Working Group met and elaborated the **peer review criteria** and procedures for recognising the existence and critical value of ICCAs overlapping, surrounding, and bridging the State protected areas system in key biodiversity areas. Our Member, Shan-Shui Conservation Centre, has published on IUCN protected areas governance types and ICCAs, and **ICCA stories were diffused in popular magazines in China, including as cover stories** for millions of copies. Our Member, BRC, supported six local communities to apply for the ICCA Registry with criteria and peer review procedures developed in the China ICCA Working Group Meeting that took place in July 2017.

India

Reports and a video on ICCAs were completed. Help was extended to develop curriculum on CCAs for Tata Institute of Social Sciences, in Tuljapur, Maharashtra and Azim Premji University in Bangalore. A paper on “Forest Rights Act providing a space for legal recognition and protection of CCAs in India”

has been drafted, discussing legal recognition of ICCAs. A special edition on ICCAs in India and South Asia of the bi-annual newsletter 'People in Conservation' was published in November. The link to the newsletter is:

http://www.kalpavriksh.org/images/Documentation/Newsletters/PiCJanJun2017_Vol8is1_eng.pdf



Indonesia

21 ICCAs have been extensively documented and are in the process of being submitted for international registration. NTFP-EP Indonesia and partners are working on management plans (conservation plans) for some of these ICCAs. WGII is also starting governance assessments. ICCAs were brought to the national agenda of the Indonesian Government during the Tenure Conference, where WGII hosted one panel on the community's role in conservation. A follow up meeting was granted by the Ministry with

BRWA, which presented, on the occasion, its CCA/ *hutan adat* proposal.

Georgia

Several workshops were supported to develop a national ICCA Strategy and assist the organisation implementing the GSI project. It was found that, contrary to expectations, **ICCAs are still ubiquitous and very strong in Georgia** (including Saphari Forests) and the national understanding by key actors was enhanced.

Iran

The Second National Camel Congress in Iran was held in January 2017. A set of participatory **good governance indicators**, adapted to local conditions for governance type D (ICCAs), emanating from best practices in Iranian ICCAs were elaborated (July 2017) and various relevant meetings were attended. In a workshop in Tehran, several CBOs were introduced to the WCMC and signed the FPIC form required for the registration of their territories on the platform. The **peer review process** was carried out and decisions were made on how to put the process into practice. The workshop also tackled the issue of governance of natural ecosystems, including pastures and rangelands, in non-equilibrium conditions. Best practices were gathered for the further elaboration of a sustainable rangeland management programme and integration and adaptation to the tenure guidelines for Iran.

Kyrgyzstan

A regional capacity building event was held here and provided an opportunity to explore the reality of ICCAs in the country and kindle the interest of some key individuals.

Philippines

The ICCA Bill in the Philippines continued to be supported... but is now facing some political impasse in the Senate. Several Technical Working Group meetings were held and a national initiative is ongoing.

Taiwan (province of China)

The TICTU Tribal PGIS Platform has somehow been stalled because of political tensions with the government. In the first half of the year, however, TICTU team members personally visited more than 50 tribal communities of Bunun, Pinuyumayan, Tao, and Truku, and participated in organising the People Assembly of 125 tribal communities. Following the TICTU peer validation procedure, Taromak and Katatipul are preparing to register in the International Registry. **TICTU is now an officially registered national NGO in Taiwan (province of China).**

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The ICCA Consortium counts on the GSI and UNDP GEF SGP Country Offices to be able to provide small grants and other forms of support for the appropriate recognition and protection of ICCAs. If the relationship is reluctant and bureaucratically heavy, our work is naturally constrained and much less effective than it could otherwise be. For a status update of ICCA GSI initiatives at the end of 2016, see the following **Barometer of ICCA GSI initiatives**.

Table 2: BAROMETER OF ICCA GSI INITIATIVES					
GSI Partner Country	GEF SGP & national strategic organisation participated in regional exchange/ capacity building?	Catalytic grant allocated in country?	Name of national catalytic organisation (NCO) <small>(underlined green if Consortium Member)</small>	Support provided by the Consortium to allocation process and catalytic work?	Status update/ remarks <small>(underlined yellow signifies some challenges/ issues to solve)</small>
Argentina	Participation in regional event in August 2017	YES	Patagonia Natural Foundation (FPN)	Supposedly yes, but our advice was disregarded	Timid improvement of relations. Potential emblematic ICCAs are being identified...
Belize	Yes, for GEF SGP Coordinator but no for the NCO	YES	Belize Enterprise for Sustainable Technology	No support requested	Poor communication since the 2016 regional event
Benin	YES	YES	Research and Action Group for Well-E be in Benin (GRABE-BENIN)	YES... We also support Natural Justice, which is in touch with the CSO in country	National catalytic initiative started but the quality of the process is reported as not impressive. GRABE Benin is now a Member of the ICCA Consortium.
Brazil	YES, but only for GEF SGP Coordinator	not yet (to our knowledge)	NA	NA	Poor communication since the 2015 regional event, but relationship rekindled. 2018 just started with a national

					event on ICCAs and the inclusion of two new Brazilian Members
Colombia	YES	YES, from OP6	Centro de Estudios Médicos Interculturales (CEMI)	Extensive	Excellent cooperation and results, continuing and being extended through new grant
Ecuador	YES	YES	Fundación Oficina de Investigaciones Sociales y del Desarrollo – OFIS	YES, better correspondence	Results beyond our initial expectations and interest enhancing... The concepts seem to have matured in the understanding of the country GEF SGP personnel and collaborators... OFIS in the process of getting the ICCA Consortium membership
Georgia	YES, for the GEF SGP Coordinator in June 2017	YES	Center for Strategic Researches and Development of Georgia (CSR DG)	Several ICCAs identified by the Consortium	We recommended waiting for grant allocation and inviting several promising organisations to the June 2017 event. The grant was allocated but the NCO was not present at the capacity building event.
Guatemala	YES, but not the new GEF SGP Coordinator	YES	Oxajuj Ajpop	YES	Good cooperation with the new GEF SGP Coordinator Good progress
Indonesia	YES	Catalytic Grant allocated	Working Group on ICCAs in Indonesia (WGII)	Yes, also through various Members and Honorary members in the country	Delays in grant allocation after the selection of the strategic organisation. Currently the national catalytic initiative is proceeding but communication is rather poor. In February 2017, there was a national workshop where they launched a registry for ICCAs. Training was held in May. In Oct and Nov, the working group and the ministry of forestry held meetings.
Iran	YES, in June 2017	NOT YET	Under process	YES, to various communities, even before allocation	Delays. GEF SGP sent out the NCO call in July 2017. Conflicts in allocation. Unfair opposition to Cenesta

Jordan	YES, in June 2017 but the chosen catalytic organisation was not present	YES	Royal Scientific Society (RSS)	NO	Cenesta is supporting NCO with the activities that they defined (and they agree to designate some budget for experts to help them in their GSI project). RC trip to Jordan included a short discussion about their emblematic ICCAs (Himas), and SGP members will call on RC for technical support.
Kenya	YES	YES	Yes	One-day workshop attended by the NCO	Resources invested and activities ongoing... but relatively scarce communication
Kyrgyzstan	YES, in June 2017	Yes, but then recalled	Not likely	Yes... but it may change!	Waiting for confirmed grant allocation... Possible plan: a pastoral exchange programme in Central Asia
Madagascar	YES	YES	RAVINTSARA (strongly associated with Tafo Mihaavo and others)	YES, also at a distance	The Consortium Treasurer carried out visits and in the course of that passed on extensive advice
Malaysia	YES	YES	Partners of Community Organizations in Sabah (PACOS Trust)	YES, also via support visit and meetings in place	Specific meeting held with PACOS and on-going strong advice provided by the Consortium in country
Maldives	NO	NOT YET	Under process	NOT YET	Still need to discuss specifically. GEF SGP Coordinator is sick.
Morocco	YES	YES	ADEPE (Association for Sustainable Dev., Ecology & Cons. of the Env.)	YES -- more specific support possible in 2018	Scarce communication since the beginning of the Initiative.
Namibia	YES	yes	NACSO	Poor communication	MoA supposedly finalised and signed in 2017 Unclear what the NCO will actually do...
Paraguay	Regional initiative held in August 2017	YES, to CAPI	Under process	Yes, to GEF SGP Coord.	Positive relationship between Consortium and GEF SGP Coordinator. CAPI asked to become Member – strong

					opposition by Simone Lovera of GFC
Peru	Peruvian team planned work, but not the new GEF SGP Coordinator	Expected March 2018 only	Under process	Improved communication with new GEF SGP Coordinator	Serious uncertainties & delays throughout 2017... but positive initiatives expected for 2018!
Philippines	YES	NA	NA	Planning to work on local ICCA governance assessment	Stalled national legislation on ICCAs ... Duterte-related problems
Senegal	YES	YES	Kamaloor BE Kafankante	Very extensive support and more to take place in 2018	National training took place in 2017. KABEKA concluded its initiative and work is continuing.
Suriname	YES, to GEF SGP, but unclear to CSO	YES	Foundation of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS)	Limited support (only regional training)	Poor communication and lack of interest on ICCAs by key influential person in country.
Tanzania	YES	Selection and agreement at the very end of 2017	TNRF	National workshop on governance of protected and conserved areas and on ICCAs carried out in March 2017	Serious delays, but now ToRs launched, grant assigned
Vietnam	YES	YES	Centre for People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature)	Not much communication	Scarce communication
Zambia	YES	YES	The Zambia Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Forum	YES, extensive and specific workshops and visits in 2017	Need to revise the strategic project proposal. Specific assistance provided in 2017. Finally, the CBNRM Coordinator was changed at end of year. We hope for enhanced activities in 2018...

The Consortium has been **collaborating with the IUCN Global Programme on Protected Areas (GPAP) towards the completion of six national governance assessments** for protected areas and “other effective area-based conservation measures” (OECMs or conserved areas). Besides broad collaboration with GPAP in general, technical support was provided to IUCN and its country-based counterparts for the pursuit of initiatives in **Tanzania, Georgia, Iran, Indonesia** and **Ecuador**. Plans for **Peru** were initially discussed in 2017 and are being further pursued in 2018.

B. Promoting capacity building for ICCAs at regional level

In line with the GSI strategic approach, during 2017, **two regional knowledge sharing and capacity building events** were organised and run in Central Asia and South Cone of South America. National teams (including representatives of government, NGOs and organised IPs and LCs as well as the national GEF SGP Coordinator) from more than ten countries took an active part, deepening their understanding of ICCAs and planning for their own country-based initiatives. The



The countries that participated with a full national team include **Argentina, Chile, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Jordan and Paraguay**. Smaller participating teams did also take part from **Tajikistan, Turkey, Armenia and Colombia**.

A **capacity building event on governance of protected and conserved areas** was held in Austria in July 2017 with the collaboration of the Consortium, the IUCN and a local University. Participants came from Eastern European countries, West Asia and North Africa and the subjects had a strong component on ICCAs.

A **European meeting on the Commons and ICCAs** (supported by ILC) was held in Granada, Spain from 23 – 25 October. There were 22 participants from twelve countries and they worked on the creation of a European Strategy on the Commons and ICCAs.

An **exchange visit for a team from Myanmar** was organised to get them to visit and discuss ICCAs in the Philippines. This resulted from an effective cooperation between the ICCA Consortium, its Member NTFP-EP and WWF-International in Myanmar.

Meetings to plan for **ICCAs in Africa** were held in Etercy, France (20-22 November 2017), and at the IUCN Headquarters (23 November) in Gland, Switzerland. The first gathered French-speaking African delegates, spanning several members of the Consortium Secretariat and the Treasurer and colleagues from Europe. The participants shared experiences and outlined future joint work in French-speaking Africa.

This event was followed by a workshop that broadened the perspective focusing on African ICCAs in general. This second workshop, organised within the framework of the ICCA-GSI, provided an opportunity to discuss cases of emblematic ICCAs, while offering perspectives on ICCA situations in various African countries in the light of recent successes and setbacks, and in view of the outcome of the Sydney World Parks Congress and related CBD decisions. The workshop encouraged participants to develop a broad agreement on crucial steps for the full and effective recognition and support of ICCAs in Africa, beginning with concrete actions in 2018, but also envisaging longer-term plans.

C. Promoting policy development at international level

The ICCA Consortium has nurtured a long-term effective collaboration with the IUCN and the CBD Secretariat—collaboration that was again sustained throughout 2017 with the active engagement of indigenous and community leaders. Indigenous youth and indigenous elders together have provided a meaningful combination of capacities to deliver lessons learned and obtain a forceful policy impact for the confirmation and strengthening of ICCAs in CBD policy decisions. Submissions were made to the CBD in preparation for the intersessional meetings in December:

- submission on Article 8(j) and related provisions (May 2017)
- submission on preparation of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (July 2017)
- submission via the Collaborative Partnership on Wildlife on the wild meat trade (Sept 2017)

Technical and logistical support was provided to Members attending the following international meetings (inter alia), including with registration, side event applications and organising, strategies for negotiations, website updates, etc. either directly via the Secretariat or through some Members:



Indigenous Peoples' Rights & Human Rights:

- UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Dialogue on human rights and conservation

Territorial Integrity & Community Wellbeing:

- Negotiations for UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants
- Global Peasants Congress
- International Conference on Land and Resource Rights

Conservation of Nature:

- Earth Optimism Summit
- Oceans Conference
- CBD SBSTTA and WG8(j)
- The Consortium also took an active part in the International Congress of Marine Protected Areas - IMPAC4, facilitating the participation of representatives from coastal communities from the south of Chile.

Global Environmental Change:

- UNFCCC COP23

Private Sector Standards & Safeguards:

- GEF Council meetings
- Negotiations for Binding Treaty on TNCs
- UN Forum on Business & Human Rights

The Consortium intended to prepare and approve a Consortium Policy of NO GO for destructive developments in ICCAs to be presented to a wide audience at a side-event planned for the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in November. Preliminary discussions were held and a draft document

was drawn up prior to the General Assembly but it became clear, during the GA, that due to the complexity of the issue and the need to canvass and incorporate many varying views from the grassroots and other levels, it would not be possible to present a finalised document at the Forum. The side-event at the UN Forum thus heard only a preliminary report from the Consortium and not the account of a final policy... but useful exchanges took place and the input of external interested parties was collected. Contact was also made with the UN Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and a representative from the Consortium met with him during the Forum. Work will continue to complete the Consortium Policy of NO GO for destructive developments in ICCAs, which is expected to be presented and discussed by the Consortium Executive Committee in July 2018.



The Consortium collaboration with the **UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment, Prof. John Knox**, was strengthened in 2017 and culminated in him sending a message of support to the GA in November. The UN Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples' Rights (Ms. Vicky Tauli-Corpuz) also sent a message to be read out to the GA.



The Consortium participated in the **2017 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights**, including co-organisation of a side event and carrying out interventions by IP and LC leaders in plenary (November 27 – 29 2017). There was extensive advocacy work and provision of financial, technical and logistical support to many representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities

comprising youth and elders from all world regions. For many participants, this was a first attendance to an UN event and it provided opportunities to make new contacts, meet face-to-face with colleagues, be exposed to the workings of the UN and, most importantly, highlight specific situations and problems being faced in their particular community.

Finally, always in terms of international policy on human rights, the Consortium President participated in the meeting in Stuttgart, Germany **on the rights of peasants and other rural workers** together with a large number of local community representatives (including La Via Campesina), small rural industrial producers, civil society organisations, UN agencies and interested governments. A **draft declaration** was advanced which is intended to be negotiated in the UN to become a UN Declaration on the rights of peasants and other rural workers. In one of the major working groups of the meeting the Consortium promoted the concept of ICCAs as central to the collective and community rights of peasants as well as the need to closely collaborate among peasants and indigenous peoples.

D. Recording ICCAs in WDPAs and international ICCA Registry

The ongoing review of the quality of existing ICCA entries in the WDPAs and ICCA Registry continued and was complemented by the start of a study of the ICCA Registry peer-review processes around the world. Active peer-review processes for registration in the ICCA Registry are now underway in Spain, Iran, the Philippines, China, Bolivia... etc.

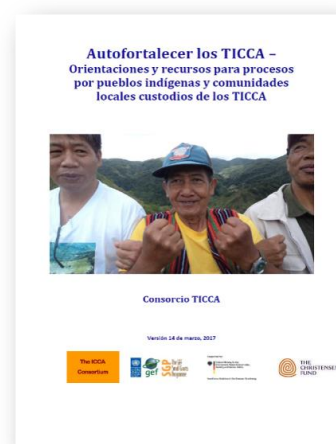
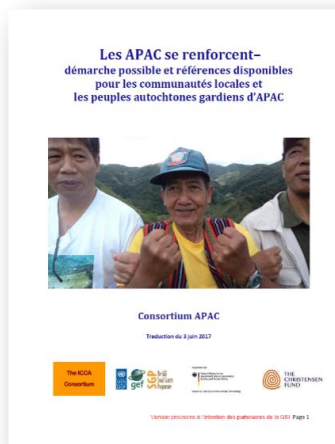
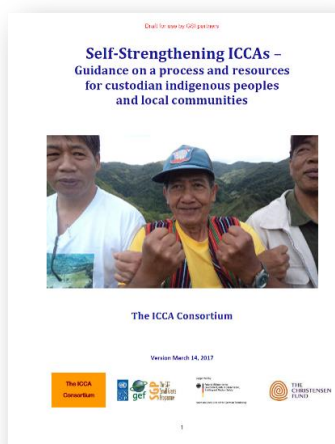
The Consortium Secretariat continued to work with UNEP-WCMC to develop documents and procedures as general guidelines to take advantage of the ICCA Registry. The Consortium has collaborated with UNEP-WCMC to deal with specific issues in various countries and to participate in various meetings and webinars, including the **Steering Committee meeting of the ICCA Registry**, chaired by UNEP WCMC and held over two days at the IUCN Headquarters in December 2017.



E. Carrying out research and compiling and diffusing ICCA information

The major efforts of the last two years were finally rewarded when the **new Consortium website** went live in June. It is actually 2 sites: one for “ICCA as a phenomenon” and one for the ICCA Consortium. Each part is enormously more complex than most websites available. Work continues to translate all the information in the site into Spanish, English and French.

Relevant publications produced, released and diffused by the Consortium between 1st January and 31st December 2017 also include a Consortium **comprehensive methodology to describe and orient a process for the self-strengthening of ICCAs**, which was **compiled, made available in three languages and diffused**. It includes guidance on processes to facilitate self-strengthening of individual ICCA sites for enhanced awareness, documentation, delineation and mapping, communication and development and implementation of specific initiatives. It has been widely diffused and is being used in several countries.



A planned Policy Brief on ICCAs and the SDGs has been revised in 2017, but not yet completed.

In parallel with the Policy Brief series, the Consortium supported a study of ICCAs in Romania. A preliminary report is available and has been commented by Members and partners. Delays in Secretariat feedback caused the final report to be late.

- ICCA Consortium Newsletter no. 13 – October 2017 ([available here](#))
- ICCA Consortium Newsflashes – nos. 1 – 4, 2017 ([available here](#))
- Version II of a Toolbox (in Spanish) to help indigenous communities resist threats from extractive industries.
- Specific publications for conservation journals by members of the Consortium Council and Secretariat (examples are: *New Steps of Change: Looking Beyond Protected Areas to Consider Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures – Harry Jonas et al*)



Extensive support was provided to the IUCN GPAP to properly include governance and ICCA issues in the IUCN WCPA website.

The specific research initiative in collaboration with a university in Australia which was developed and initiated in 2016 on understanding and assessing **governance vitality**, has continued throughout 2017 and will be completed in 2018.

Work was begun on producing a succinct and appealing document providing basic information on the Consortium (a “communications deck”) to support our efforts to forge collaborations with appreciative and effective partners and donors. It is expected that this will be completed in 2018.

Two capacity building sessions on **communication tools and strategic approaches** to defend ICCAs and communicate about the Consortium and its work were held with New Media

Advocacy Project and LifeMosaic (two professional organisations with demonstrated concerns and capacity to develop the products we need). The sessions included planning for collaboration on an effective **communication strategy** and an appropriate **video series** as part of it.

F. Running the ICCA International Alert Mechanism & promoting SAFE

Alerts were raised in 2017 for: Uvinje in Tanzania (as part of an ongoing Alert); Sami traditional fishing rights which are threatened in Finland & Norway; and the Pueblo Shuar Arutam in Ecuador. A New Alerts Policy was revised and published in May 2017 ([see here](#)). Regarding SAFE, progress with this initiative was slow due to delays on the part of both the Consortium and Friends of the Earth International. Some preliminary meetings have been held with some other potential partners and a **regional Consortium team for SAFE in South East and East Asia has been established**. Updates on both the Alerts and SAFE are available from the dedicated pages in the [Consortium website](#).

G. Implementing the new Consortium Strategy

Following dedicated work on the **new Strategy for the institutional growth of the Consortium** throughout 2016 and at the General Assembly in Mexico, a finalised Strategy document was approved and adopted in a Council meeting that took place in May 2017, and its implementation proceeded in earnest. As part of the evolution of the Consortium and strengthening of its internal governance structure, in 2017, the Consortium held its first in-person meeting of the Council and created three sub-committees: Membership Committee; Policy and Programme Committee; and Executive Committee. All three committees took the opportunity of the 2017 General Assembly (GA) to meet in person for the first time and plan for future work.

Work continued to review and improve the policies of the Consortium. Following its formation, the new Membership Committee immediately conducted a review of the Membership Policy and revised it to create new application forms, regulate the frequency of application reviews and simplify the overall procedure. At the GA, the decision was taken to remove the option for applications to be heard and directly decided on at a General Assembly.

To date, the Consortium has operated without an explicit and formally agreed **Gender Policy**. Following an enquiry from one of our partners in 2017, work began to formulate such a policy. The preliminary draft of this was presented to the GA sparking interesting reflections during the meeting and in the subsequent months. Development is continuing and the finalised policy document will be presented for approval at the 2018 GA.

Throughout 2017, and as a direct result of the new Consortium Strategy, there was a new emphasis placed on communication and fundraising. Details of the new Consortium website, plans for communication videos and the Round Table meeting held for friends and partners of the Consortium can be found elsewhere in this Annual Report and/or on line.

Managing the operations of the ICCA Consortium

Managing the operations of the ICCA Consortium involves planning, fundraising, implementing activities, reporting and maintaining active collaborations with our supporters and partners (technical advisory group meetings, budgeting, solving problems, etc.). As we are a membership Association, we need to maintain Member databases and mailing lists, recruit new Members, communicate about appointments, report, reply to requests, seek payment of fees, and provide support to participate in various events (fundraising, visas, event registration, logistics for travel, accommodation, etc.). A considerable amount of effort is necessary to organise and hold **meetings of the Council** via Skype, usually held in three languages, with rolling minutes. In parallel, our **Secretariat** (27 people) needs to be **contracted and supervised**, with particular emphasis on communication and maintenance of warm and convivial relations among people working as volunteers or on a semi-volunteer basis. Consultants also need to be identified and contracted and provided with technical and financial support.

The organisation and running of our **Annual General Assembly** is always a major enterprise and in 2017 this was rendered even more challenging as the core GA event was enriched by an association with several events, including the planning meetings on ICCAs in Africa described above, a special event on **ICCAs in Switzerland** held at the Museum of Natural History in Geneva; rare in-person **meetings of the Secretariat** of the ICCA Consortium and of its Council, a Steering Committee meeting of the UNEP WCMC Registry... etc.

The 2017 XIth General Assembly (Geneva, 25-26 November 2017) saw the participation of 62

representatives of Members, Honorary members and Secretariat from 28 countries. The GA was truly rich in content and participants benefitted fully from one another and made precious contacts for future work. The Minutes of the GA are available from the [Consortium website](http://www.iccaconsortium.org). The experience of Members and partners was, in particular, harnessed to discuss a NO GO policy for destructive practices in ICCAs. This topic was invaluable enriched by the video messages prepared and sent for the occasion by the UN Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples' Rights (Ms. Vicky Tauli-Corpuz) and the UN Rapporteur on Environment and Human Rights (Prof. John Knox).

Substantial work goes into our **financial management and reporting** in two currencies (US\$ and CHF), with attention to idiosyncratic donor requirements but also a variety of requirements in Switzerland, including detailed reporting to registration and fiscal authorities, which is necessary each year despite our recognised tax-free status. In May 2017, the Consortium passed its first ever financial audit. Following on from the recommendations of the Auditor, a new accounting software system was researched, tested and set into operation.

Please visit: www.iccaconsortium.org

