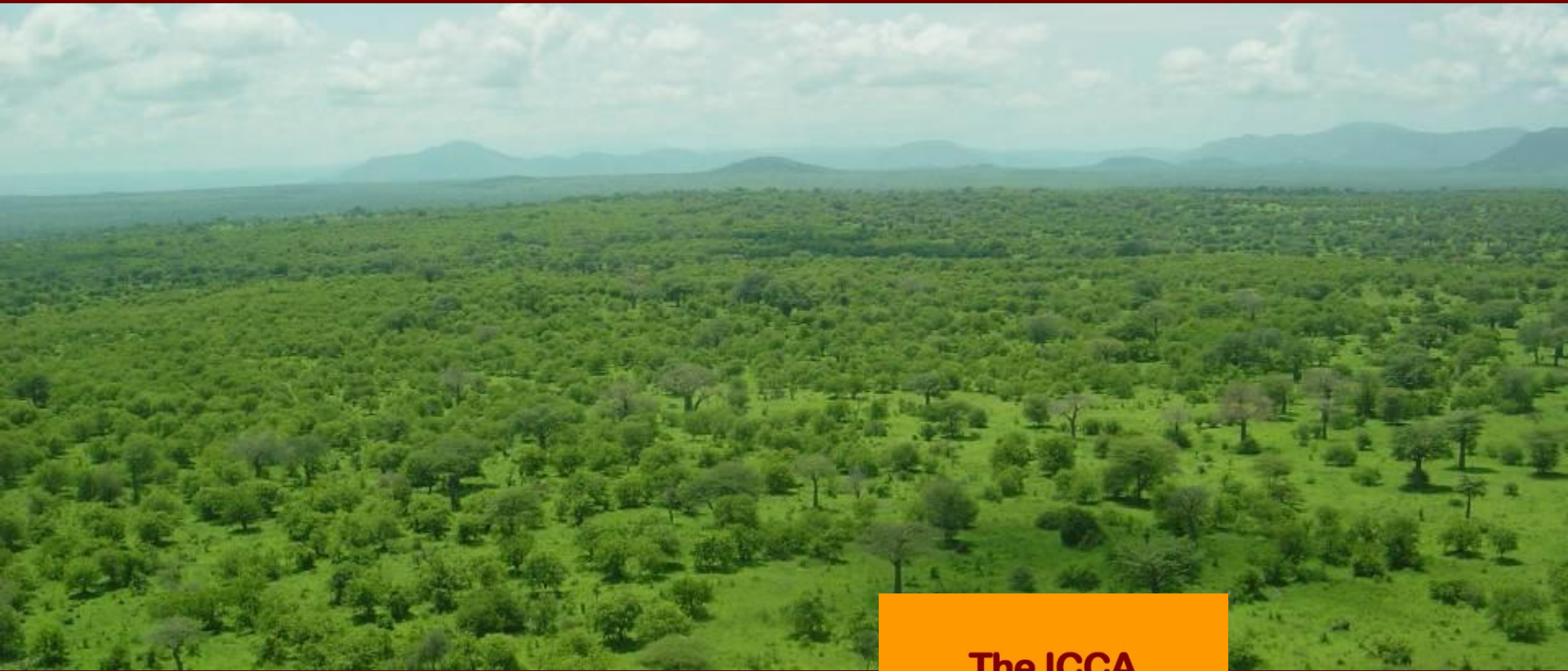


# An introduction to ICCAs & the ICCA Consortium



**The ICCA  
Consortium**

Dr. Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend [gbf@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:gbf@iccaconsortium.org)  
[www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org)

Bishoftu, Ethiopia,  
November 2018









































































































What have all these images in common?

**They are all about “ICCAs”!**





“ICCA” is an abbreviation for:  
territories and areas conserved by  
indigenous peoples and local communities



or the  
“jewels”, the  
“heart”, the  
“seeds” ...



...of bio-cultural  
diversity around  
the world!



# ICCAs— territories of life...





ICCAs– territories of life are found in all world regions, span all types of ecosystems and cultures, have **thousands of local names** and are **extremely diverse...**





**de facto capacity/power to take and enforce decisions** (functioning governance institution) 2

**... but they all have 3 characteristics**



**decisions & practices lead to conservation of nature**

(...preservation, sustainable use, restoration, positive trends, sustainable livelihoods, community well-being...)

1

3



# 3 characteristics of ICCAs



1. A really strong bond between a community and its territory (terrestrial or marine)
2. The community is able to take and enforce decisions/rules on its territory
3. These rules maintain the territory in good conditions for nature and for the community



ICCAs— territories of life relate to some type of “*commons*”—land, water and natural resources governed and managed collectively by a community of people





ICCAs— territories of life are governed and managed by effective *institutions* (decision-making organisations, relations, rules, at times fully embedded into the “local culture”...)





ICCAs– territories of life are **successful** examples of collective decision-making about nature... the oldest form of “**conservation**” ... closely related to peoples’ **livelihoods, culture and identity**...







conservation as  
"strict preservation"



conservation as  
sustainable use





# conservation as restoration





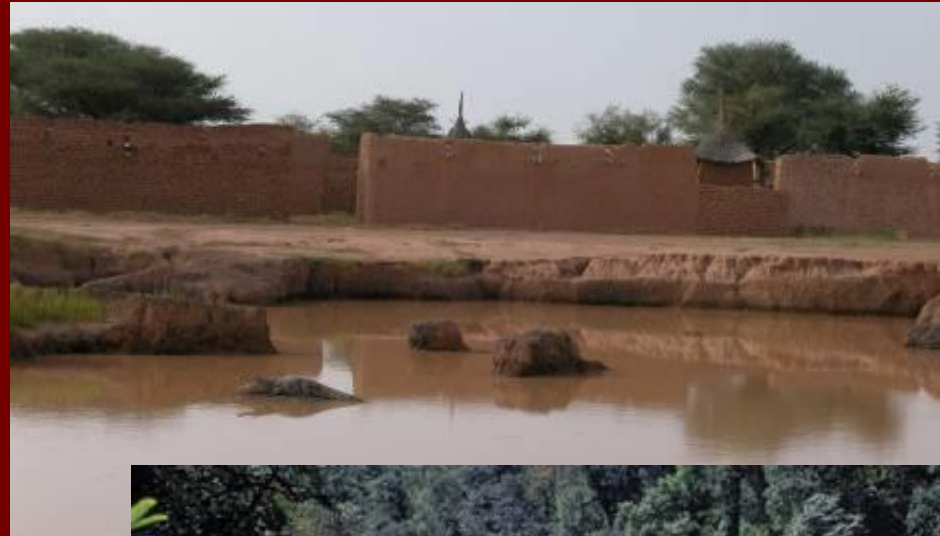
# Examples of ICCAs

## sacred spaces & natural features...

**Chizire sacred forest,  
Zimbabwe**



**Sacred crocodile pond, Mali**



**Khumbu of the Sherpa  
People (Mount Everest  
National Park) Nepal**



**Forole sacred mountain  
Borana/ Gabbra - Ethiopia/ Kenya**



**Sacred lake, Indian Himalaya**



# Examples of ICCAs

## habitats of sacred animals...



examples  
from  
India





## Examples of ICCAs

# indigenous territories and cultural landscapes/ seascapes...

**Paruku  
Indigenous  
PA, Western  
Australia**



**Caribou  
migration  
corridors in  
Inuit  
territory,  
Canada**

**Traditional  
territory of  
ASATRIZY,  
(Yapù),  
Vaupès,  
Colombia**





## Examples of ICCAs

territories & migration routes of nomadic herders / mobile indigenous peoples...



Wetlands in Qashqai mobile peoples' territory, Iran





# Examples of ICCAs

## sustainably-managed wetlands, fishing grounds and water bodies...

Maritime  
extractive reserve,  
Arraial do Cabo,  
Brazil



Temporarily  
and/ or  
permanently  
forbidden  
sites  
(manjidura),  
Bijagos  
biosphere reserve,  
Guinea Bissau



Lubuk Larangan river, Mandailing, Sumatra



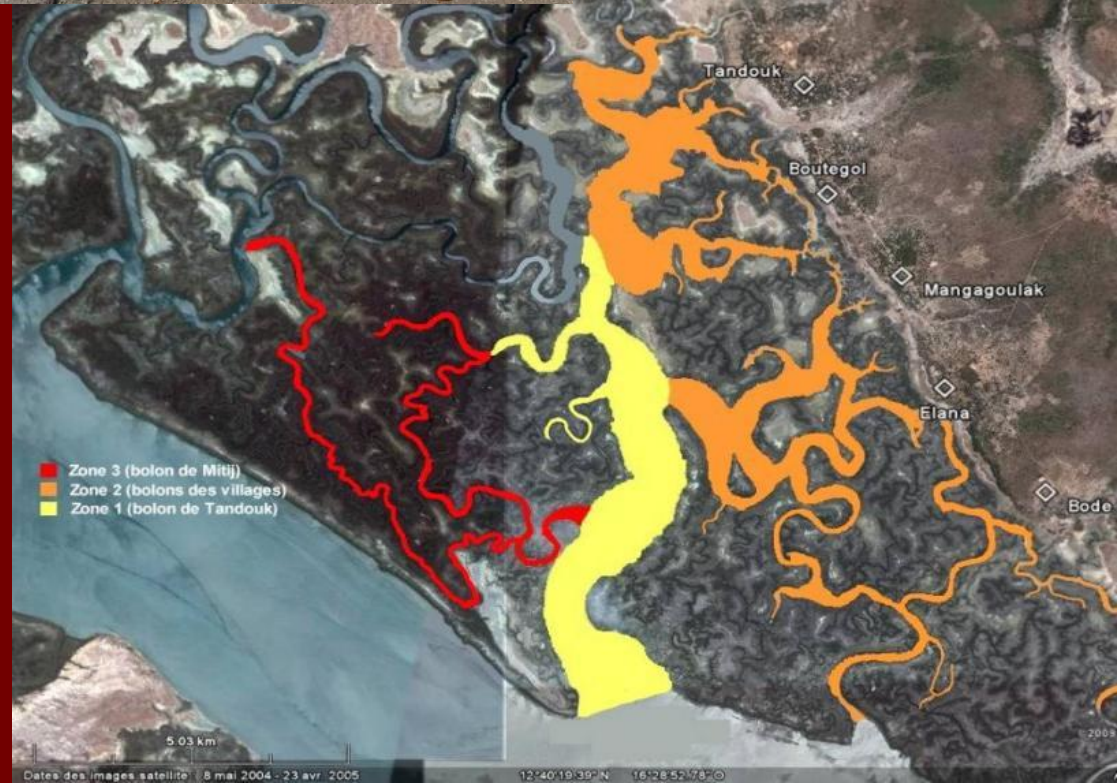
Restoration of marine ecosystem in Okinawa sato-umi, Japan





# ■ Example KAWAWANA Casamance (Senegal)

- **Local action:** Fishermen established Community Conserved Area (9665 ha)
- **Zoning:** for restoration of biodiversity, replenishment & sustainable use of fisheries, food sovereignty & social solidarity
- **Diplomacy:** for official recognition by government at various levels
- **Surveillance:** hard, patient, on-going effort by community volunteers





## Examples of ICCAs

sustainably-managed  
resource reserves  
(water, biomass,  
medicinal plants,  
timber and non-timber  
forest products...)



Qanats, Central Asia



Parc Jurassien Vaudois, Switzerland



Rekawa lagoon,  
Sri Lanka



Natural Community Reserves & Pastoral Units  
of Ferlo, Senegal



Jardhargaon forest, Indian Himalaya



# ■ Example Walikale, Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo) — maps, inventories, towards recognition of collective rights...





# Examples of ICCAs particularly sensitive ecological settings...

**“sacred” areas on the mountain and hill tops & close to the villages in all Tibetan villages, Song Pan County (China)... the local villagers managed to preserve their forest cover even from the timber cutting spree of the State Forest Enterprise...**



**“sacred” island next to a major town in North Madagascar— perfectly conserved as it is strictly forbidden even to set foot there...**



# Examples of ICCAs

## ancient and modern types of “commons”...



**Santiago de Covelo  
neighborhood woodland, Spain**



**Frieze Hill  
Community  
Orchard,  
UK**

**Ancestral territory of  
the Regole of  
Cortina d'Ampezzo,  
Italy – 1000 year of  
recorded history,  
World Heritage Site**



**Gajna  
floodplain  
commons,  
Croatia**



■ **Example Guassa** — 11,000 ha Afro-alpine mooreland, **Community Conserved Area** since 17th Century, Festuca grass + last resort pasture, **Qero System**, uniting all user communities, **strict rules and surveillance** maintained despite serious government opposition... **now values recognised!**





ICCAs– territories of life

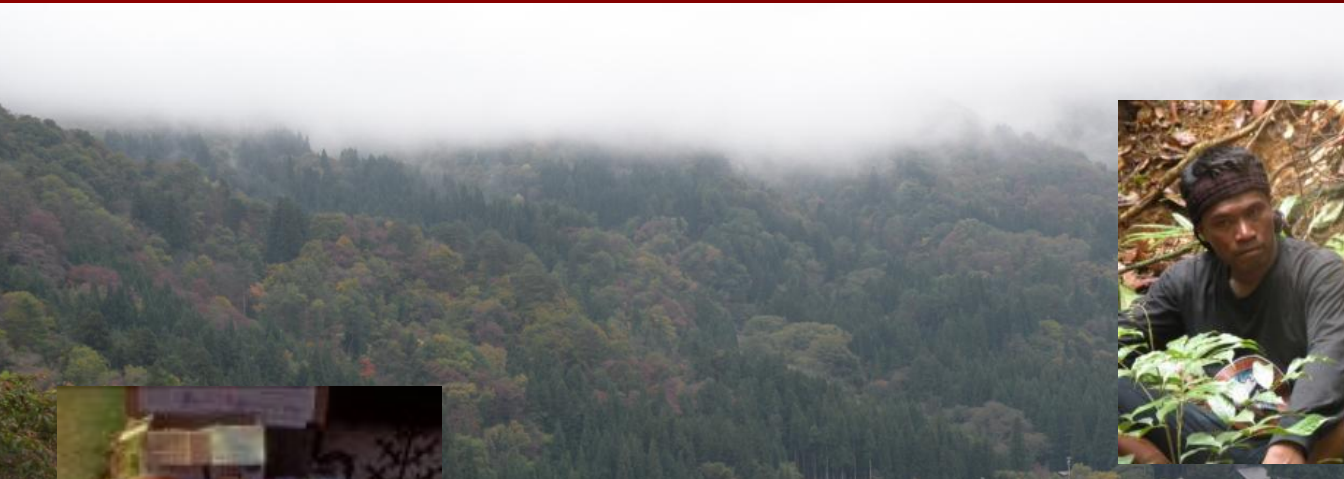
**conserve nature** but also  
**secure livelihoods...** in  
unique ways for unique contexts...





# ICCAs– territories of life

embody the capacity of communities to adapt in the face of change (resilience)





# ICCAs– territories of life

an occasion for **self-empowerment** of indigenous peoples and local/ rural communities... and **pride** for the local youth!





# "emblematic" ICCAs— territories of life

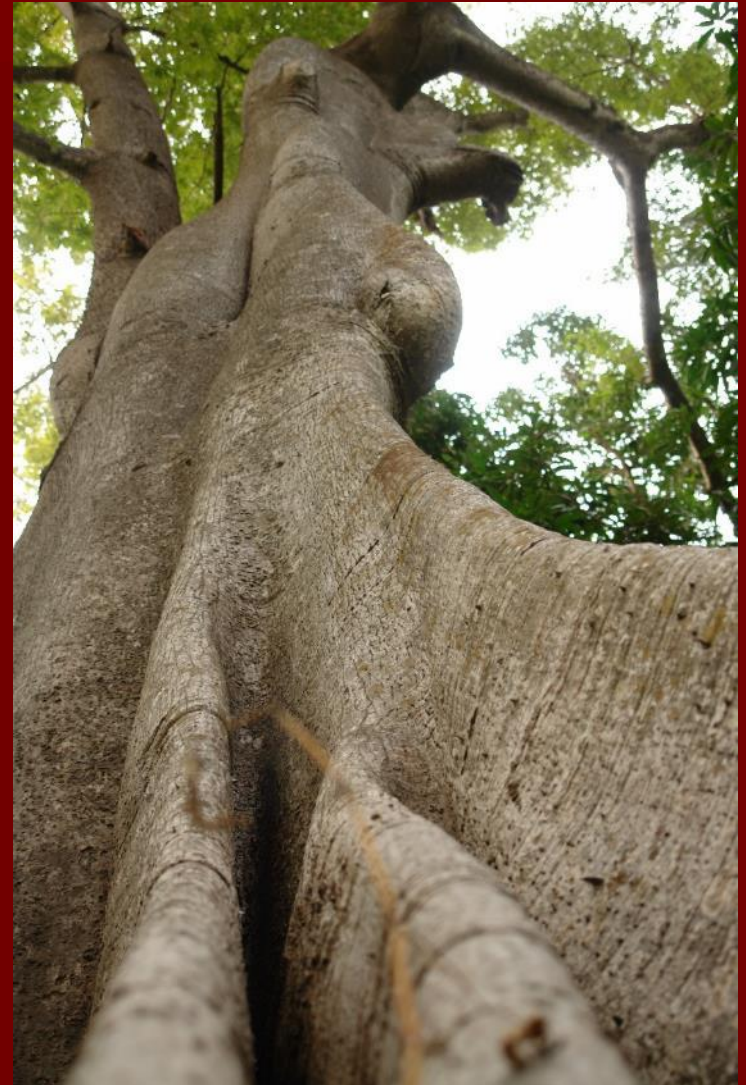
- ... intrinsic charisma and great **potential to inspire** others...
- ...an **example** for other communities & allies...





# Different types of ICCAs

- **Defined ICCAs**— these are ICCAs that currently exhibits all three characteristics - i.e., the strong community-territory connection, the well-functioning governance institution and the positive results for nature and the community
- **Disrupted ICCAs** – these are ICCAs had all three characteristics in the past, but do not today (though they may still have one or two) because of disturbances that the community believes it can still reverse or counteract
- **Desired ICCAs** – these are ICCAs that never had all three characteristics (though they may have one or two today) but have the *potential* of developing the three characteristics through new, or newly effective, community engagement





# Scope of the ICCA phenomenon?

World land under collective, customary control: **more than 6 billion**

**hectares** (Veit & Reytar, WRI, 2018)

...comprising **most of the world's forests, wetlands and rangelands**



- If only 50% of those are in good conditions («conserved»), we have **three billion hectares of ICCAs** in the world...

an **enormous value** for conservation of nature...

...also a best kept secret?



(**Global Witness reports:** hundreds of people murdered whilst protecting their land, forests and rivers from mining, logging and agricultural expansion... generally indigenous peoples, in remote areas and with little publicity and social awareness)

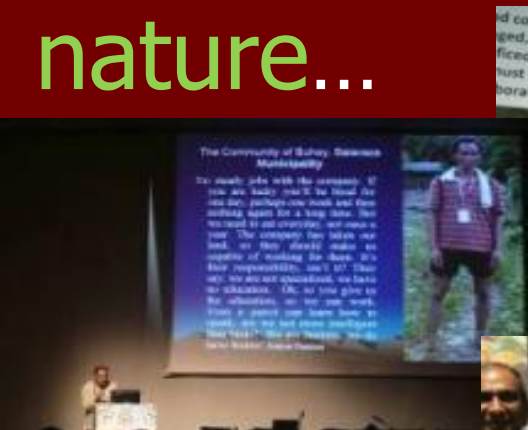








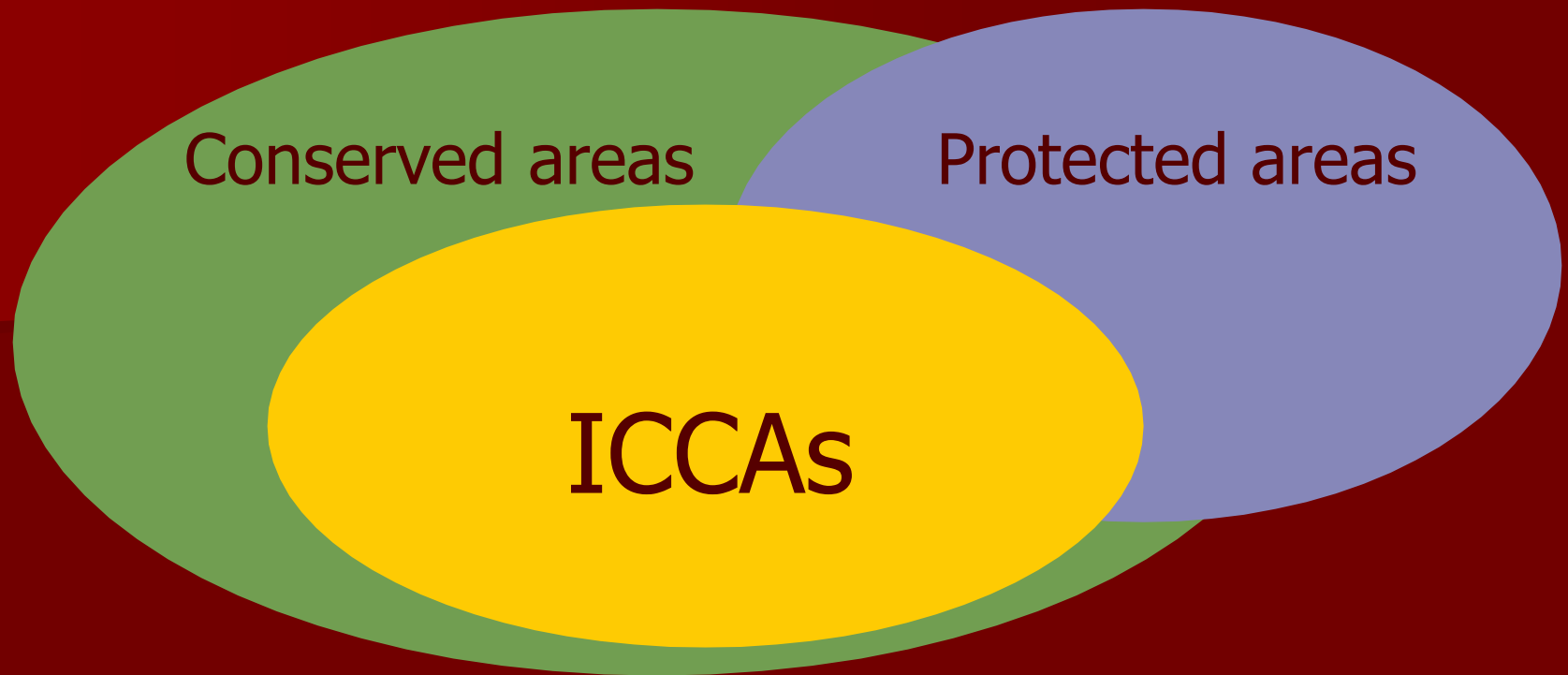
Since 2003 Durban WPC—  
...growing international policy  
recognition of the crucial role  
of ICCAs— territories of life  
for the conservation of  
nature...





[illegible]





- ICCAs can be recognized as “protected areas” *de jure* (according to each country definition and legislation)...
- ...but many may not receive, or may not wish to accept, that recognition...
- ICCAs would then simply be “conserved areas” *de facto*... (or “other effective area-based conservation measures” according to CBD Aichi Target 11)





Programme of Work on Protected Areas (2004) supports innovative types of governance, equity, benefit sharing

... CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (2010)...

Aichi Target 11: ...enhance coverage of PAs and OECMs...

Aichi Target 14: ...restore ecosystems for IPs and LCs...

Aichi Target 18: ...integrate traditional knowledge, innovations & practices...

... CBD COP 13 (2016) asked parties to develop voluntary guidance and best practices on identifying and recognizing the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs), including in situations of overlap with protected areas



...but huge **challenges** and **threats** are weighing upon ICCAs-- territories of life: directly affecting **nature**, but also the **diversity of cultures** (e.g., **languages**, **knowledge** and **wisdom** of local **institutions**) essential for their survival...



- ICCAs are badly in need of being strengthened & «secured» for nature, livelihoods & human wellbeing...



- ecologist E. Wilson → Nature needs half
- ecologist/ indigenous activist T. Farvar → Nature and People need all
- ...from timid Aichi targets for PAs and OECMs towards more ambitious targets for “territories of life” where nature, indigenous peoples and local communities live and thrive together !

proposal/ vision:

self-strengthened, recognised and SECURED  
“territories of life” featured in the 2030 CBD targets  
and SDGs!





# ICCA Consortium ([www.iccaconsortium.org](http://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 150 worldwide)
- **Honorary members** – committed and inspiring individuals with relevant capacities & concerns (about 350, in 75 countries)





# Organs of the Association :

- General Assembly
- Council
- 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



**SwedBio**  
A programme at Stockholm Resilience Centre

← main supporters



**Full Circle Foundation**







The ICCA  
Consortium



...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...







**ZIG'fm**

**100.8**

[www.zig-info.com](http://www.zig-info.com)





# 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)





Peru, Oct 2018





# ICCA “national networks”

Country	Name	Type
Africa – DRC	ANAPAC-RDC	Federation
Africa – Madagascar	<a href="#">Tafo Mihaavo</a> and <a href="#">MIHARI</a>	Federations
Asia – The Philippines	Bukluran ng mga Pamayanang Nangangalaga sa Kalikasan – Bukluran Inc.	Federation
Asia – Indonesia	<a href="#">Working Group on ICCAs in Indonesia – WGII</a> Members include: AMAN), BRWA, HuMa, JKPP, KIARA, NTFP-EP, PUSAKA, Sawit Watch, WHALI WWF Indonesia	Working group
Asia – Vietnam	National Learning Group of ICCAs in Vietnam. Members include: Pan Nature, Dept of Nature Conservation, Viet Nam Forest Administration, FFI, CSDM, FORWET	Learning group
Asia – Taiwan	<a href="#">Taiwan Indigenous Conserved Territories Union – TICTU</a>	Federation
Asia – China	China ICCA Working Group. Members include Shan shui Conservation Center, BRC, many key individuals.	Working group
Asia – Nepal	ICCA Network Nepal	Association (informal)
Asia – Iran	<a href="#">UNINOMAD</a> and <a href="#">UNICAMEL</a>	Federations
Europe – Spain	<a href="#">Iniciativa Comunales</a>	Formal association
Latin America – Guatemala	Consorcio TICCA Guatemala	Federation
Latin America – Bolivia	Consorcio TICCA Bolivia	Working group
Latin America – Chile	ICCA representatives in Chile	Working group

... several others under development... in Colombia, Mexico, Senegal, Canada, Guinea...



# 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)





# ... examples of advice on ICCAs and non-destructive ways to recognize and support them...

## Self-Strengthening ICCAs Guidance on a process and resource for custodian indigenous people and local communities



The ICCA Consortium

Version March 14, 2017



## Mesoamerica— Resumen de Políticas del Con

Producido en colaboración con el Programa de Estudios Rurales y la Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala, el Centro Interdisciplinario U Yich Wu'un de México y GENESTA, Iran.

Patrocinadores de la serie: Fondo Christensen y PNUD FMAM PPD



## Whose 'Inclusive Conservation'?

### Policy Brief of the ICCA Consortium

Issue No. 5

Produced in collaboration with **CENESTA** and with the supplementary support of **SwedBio**  
Series Sponsors: **The Christensen Fund** and **UNDP GEF SGP**



## Reconocer los TICCA – recursos para procesos indígenas y comunidades indígenas de los TICCA



Reconocimiento TICCA

14 de marzo, 2017



## Conservation Reconciliation

Issue No. 4

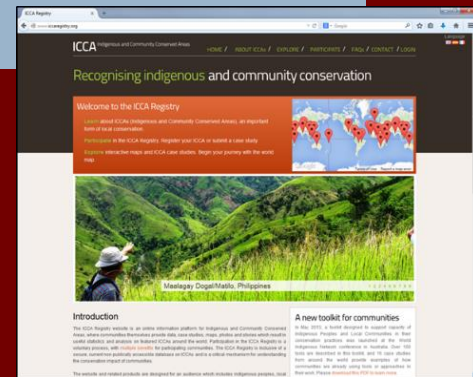
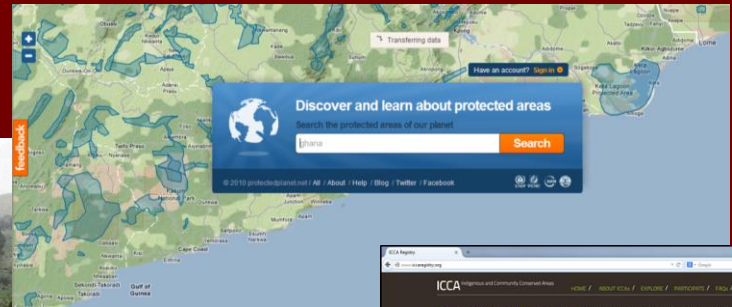
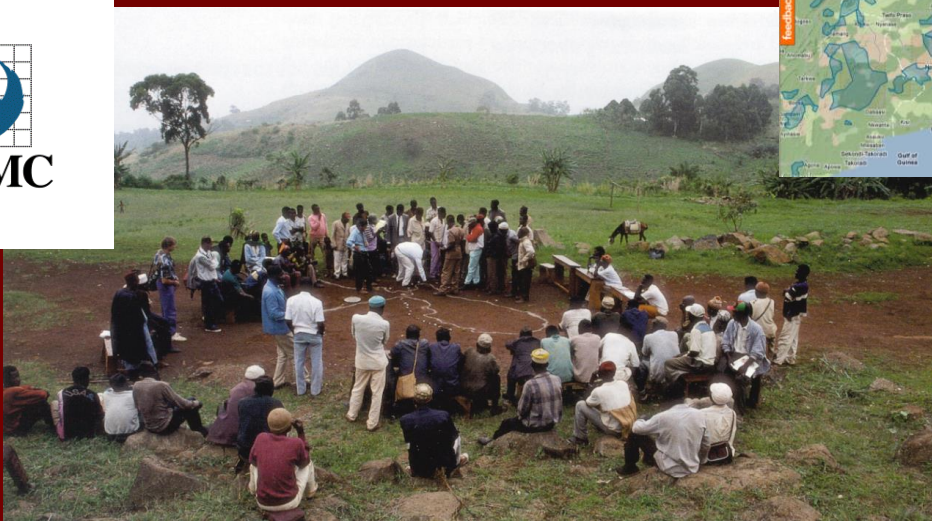
The ICCA Consortium

The ICCA Consortium





- UNEP WCMC has developed a special ICCA Registry in conjunction with the **WDPA** and protected planet database where ICCAs can directly submit information for listing
- ICCAs can be registered as “protected areas”, but also only as “conserved areas”
- Communities provide FPIC to the process and are in control about who can see the information...
- ICCA Consortium supports the registration of ICCAs and the development of **country-based Peer-review mechanisms** to validate the ICCA entries







Many thanks for your  
attention and care!







...& please check

[www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org)