







































PROHIBITED















What have all these images in common?

They are all about “ICCA”s!



“ICCA” is an abbreviation for:
territories and areas governed, managed
and conserved by custodian 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, rules & practices lead to conservation of nature

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

1

3

3 characteristics of ICCAs

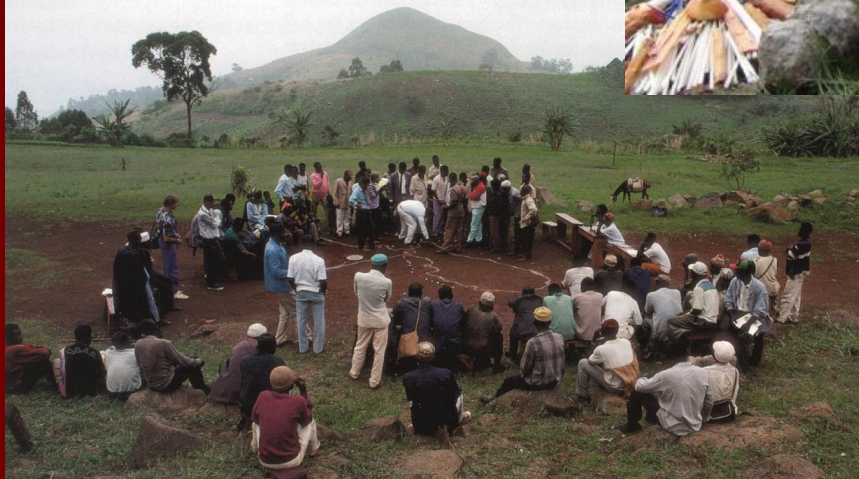


1. A really strong bond between a community and its territory (terrestrial or marine)
2. The community is able to take and enforce decisions/rules on its territory
3. These rules maintain the territory in good conditions for nature and for the community

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* (structures for decision-making, capacity to enforce rules, “local culture”...)



ICCAs – territories of life are **successful** examples of collective decision-making about nature... the oldest form of “**conservation**” on earth... 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**



■ Example: Wampis Territory (Peru) – 1,352,000 ha of Amazon forests & wetlands -- self-recognised autonomous, integral territory... the Wampis assume the commitment & responsibility to govern and conserve it for self-determination and livelihoods (*Statutes*)



Examples of ICCAs

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



Wetlands in Qashqai mobile peoples' territory, Iran



■ Example: the territories of the Shahsavan, Qashqai, Abholassani and other mobile indigenous peoples of Iran-- maintaining and defending their winter and summer grounds and migration territories in-between, incl. wetlands, pasture, landscapes & biodiversity



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: the territory of the Nayarit people of Mexico – organised in the 'Rio San Pedro Libre movement' to defend the integrity of their river, sacred sites and traditional livelihoods

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: the 'Peace Parks' declared by the Penan people of Malaysia and the Karen people of Burma to protect their territories against dams and other unwanted 'developments'

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”...

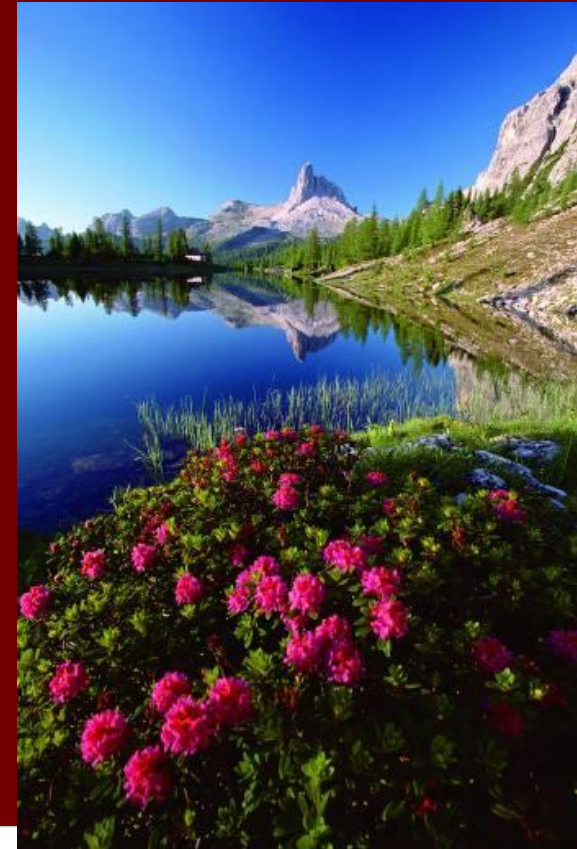


**Santiago de Covelo
neighborhood woodland, Spain**



**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: Territorio delle Regole of Cortina d'Ampezzo (Italy) – 16,000 ha alpine territory, about 1,000 years of recorded history, same governing institution, great diplomatic work, from extreme poverty to **extreme wealth**, tax free status, subsidies... recognised for its **conservation benefits** as protected area and **World Heritage Site**....



questions for you:

- In the history of your nation and peoples, do you find institutions, rules and practices for the sound governance and management of land, water & NRs?
- Recalling the three characteristics defining ICCAs, do ICCAs exist in your country?
- If yes, do you have any examples? Do you have only one or diverse types?



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!



but... are ICCAs under threat?



in recent history many ICCAs have been **destroyed or damaged**, and many others are being coveted or attacked today ...



- **expropriation of “the commons”** (nationalisation, privatisation, land and water grabbing...)
- **“development”** -- mining and fossil fuel extraction, industrial logging and plantations, industrial fishing, sea dredging, large-scale grazing, agriculture, water diversions and drainage, urbanisation, major infrastructure (roads, ports, airports, mass tourism...)
- **land encroachment and resource extractions** (poaching, stealing, illegal settlers...)

- War, violent conflicts, settlements of refugees, drug-related problems
- **Active acculturation** of ICCA communities into the consumerist culture (monetary culture, formal education, evangelisation, advertisements)...
- **Climate change** (natural disasters, etc.)
- **Inappropriate recognition by governments** – including forced incorporation into protected areas... or the imposition of “modern” governance structures....



threats can be *external* and *internal* to the communities governing the ICCAs



The most serious *external* threat is forced eviction and imposition of destructive practices on the ICCAs— often resulting from combined private interests and government decisions...

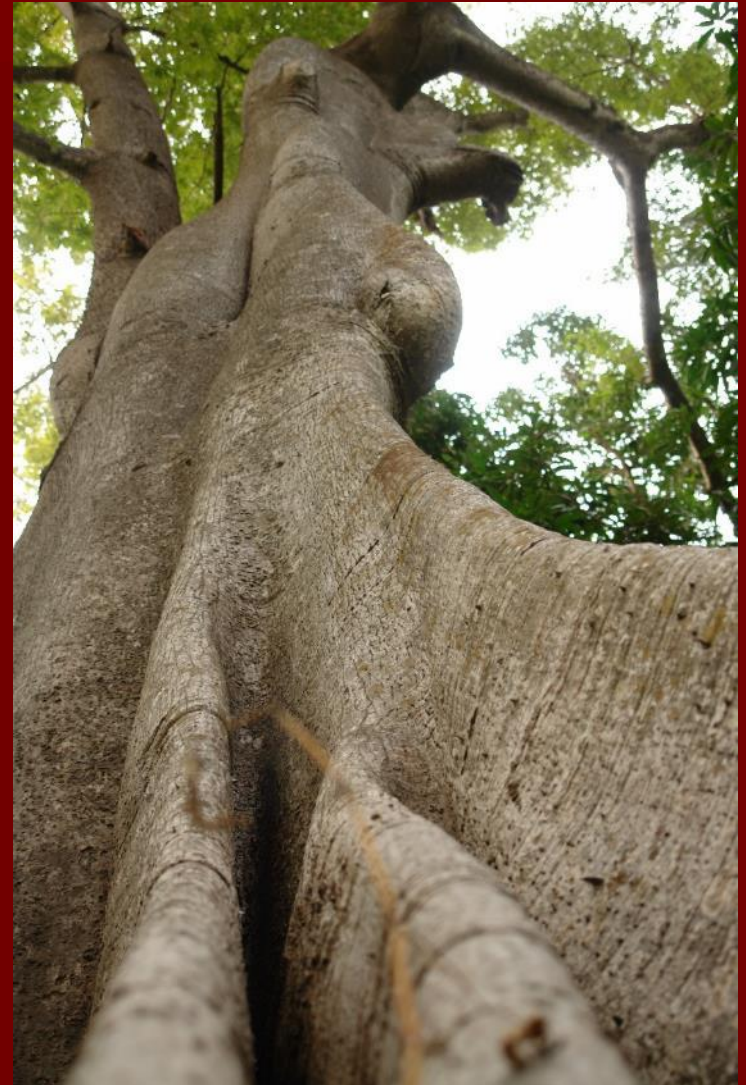
serious *internal* threat are the erosion of local knowledge and attachment to the local environment, the loss of local language and cultural practices, the abandonment of traditional learning processes within communities (elders and youth)

... & the ultimate threat is the loss of the institutions capable of governing the commons (deciding and acting together)



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



"emblematic" ICCAs— territories of life

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



questions for you:

- Going back to the examples you identified for your countries, are those defined, disrupted or desired ICCAs?
- Have you identified any emblematic ICCA? Why is it so?



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)

[illegible]

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



[illegible]



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

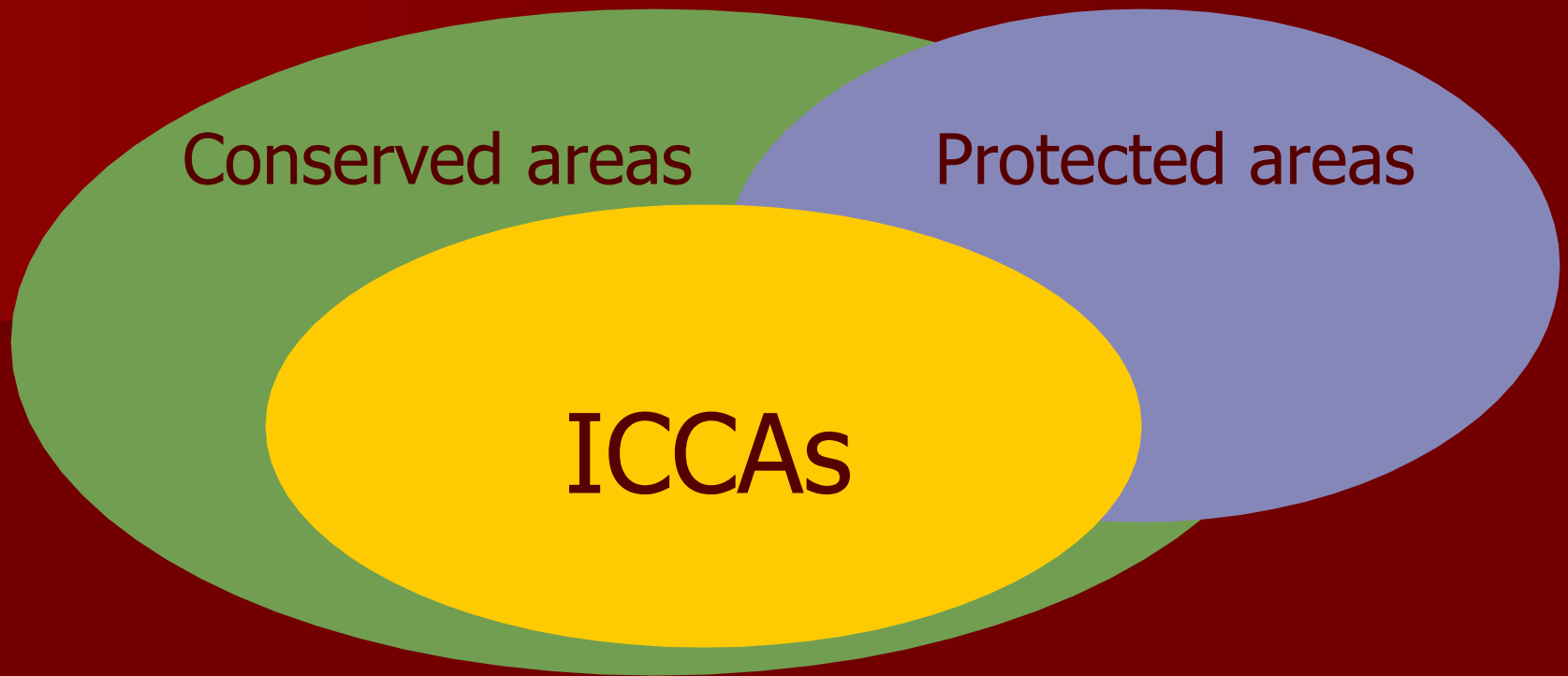
... CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (2010)...

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 and 14 (2016 & 2018) encourage to identify and recognize the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs), including in situations of overlap with protected areas + encourage governance diversity and quality



- 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)

...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!



Let us do our part in this workshop, designed to support the region going ahead with that!



Many thanks for your
attention and care!

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**The ICCA
Consortium**