December 2025

IUCN submission of views and information relating to the strategic review and analysis of the current Programme of work on protected areas (PoWPA) in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

CBD Notification 2025-135

IUCN welcomes the opportunity to provide views in response to Notification 2025-135 on the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA). The submission has been coordinated by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), in consultation with its specialist groups and task forces, the IUCN Secretariat and other IUCN Commissions.

The current PoWPA, was adopted in Decision VII/28 in 2004. Since then, the CBD has expanded the official scope of area-based conservation of biodiversity beyond protected areas (PAs) to include other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) (Decision 14/8, 2018), and introducing in 2022 indigenous and traditional territories (ITTs) in the context of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF, Decision 15/4).

IUCN recognizes that while the PoWPA has proved instrumental in increasing the coverage of protected areas, a revision is warranted so that it can continue to support the implementation of the KMGBF, and in particular Target 3 (and other targets linked to area-based conservation). It is the view of IUCN that some aspects of the PoWPA remain relevant to date, and that efforts should prioritise implementation. Therefore, IUCN's submission consists of updates to the current PoWPA, rather than a proposal for a brand-new programme.

Since the adoption of the PoWPA in 2004, IUCN has adopted over 200 Resolutions and Recommendations related to protected and conserved areas, providing directions for IUCN and its members to continuously improve area-based conservation, with inclusive governance models, effective and equitable management, robust planning, monitoring and evaluation systems, etc. For the purpose of the review of the Programme of Work, relevant Resolutions are highlighted in **Annex 2**.

In relation to the three guiding questions proposed by the CBD Secretariat in the notification, IUCN notes the following points:

1. **Aspects to be incorporated or reinforced in the current review of the Programme of Work to improve alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.**

   - The Programme of Work needs to be updated to reflect a) decisions over the past two decades, b) the new terminology for bounded, geo-specific conservation (specifically OECMs and ITTs) and c) the specific language of the KMGBF. However, the goals and targets identified in 2004 have not been achieved, and many of the activities intended to achieve them are either incomplete or needing update. Thus, the most important point in the review is to reinforce and renew the commitment to *implementing* the Programme of Work, rather than in any new target setting.
   - Further, as most goals and targets have not been achieved, we recommend revising them (for greater clarity and alignment to the KMGBF) and maintaining all. WCPA further suggests

updates to activities, and proposes 35 new activities to address elements of the KMGBF, especially Target 3. Please refer to the table in **Annex I** for more detailed responses to this question.

2. Revised approaches to implementing the Programme of Work to better contribute achieving Target 3 of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

- *Ensure coverage of areas recognised within Target 3 includes the most significant areas for biodiversity conservation*. Care should be taken to not focus simplistically on the numerical target of "at least 30 per cent", and there is a clear concern that this global figure has been translated as single national targets, even though biodiversity is not evenly distributed. Many Key Biodiversity Areas remain outside the scope of effective protection measures, and it is also essential that the drive to meet the numerical target does not skew coverage to those areas that are easiest to designate, rather than ensuring protection of the most threatened species and ecosystems.
- *Prioritize effectiveness, with a focus on outcomes.* Beyond numerical targets, the major challenge has been the effectiveness in delivering outcomes within areas that are recognised. Target 3 can only be achieved if the PAs, OECMs and ITTs are "effectively conserved and managed." In this context, IUCN has developed internationally recognised standards and tools to support the measurement and continuous improvement of protected and conserved areas performance, notably the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas, which is recognised in CBD Decision XIII/25 as a voluntary standard to promote and encourage protected area management effectiveness, and serves as a complementary indicator for monitoring progress towards Target 3. Thus Goal 4.2 should be a high priority.
- *Prioritize equitable governance, with a focus on outcomes, and incorporate a human rights-based approach*. PoWPA Element 2 includes references to governance and equity but this needs to be updated to reflect CBD Decisions and related guidance developed since 2004, including in Decision 14/8. The KMGBF includes various provisions that emphasise the importance of human rights-based approaches, as well as the need for whole-of-society participation in conservation, and the Convention increasingly recognizes the centrality of Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and other non-state actors. Equitable governance and human rights-based approaches go hand-in-hand with duty-bearer responsibility and respect for the rights of nature. This includes recognition of the rights and contributions of Indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories, as specified in Target 3, and supporting the implementation of other relevant KMGBF targets. The PoWPA should complement guidance coming from the Subsidiary Body of 8j, including related to Indigenous and Traditional Territories (ITTs). Further, it should align with and reference IUCN WCPA Guidance[1] on areas and territories traditionally governed by Indigenous Peoples and by local communities that are partially or totally overlapped by protected areas. Thus Goals 2.1 and 2.2 should be priorities.
- *Conservation areas as natural solutions to climate and human health*. Parties can most efficiently meet societal needs and their commitments by coordinating their efforts under several multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) at the same time. Thus, activities under Goals 1.4 and 1.5 (specifically activities 1.4.5 and 1.5.5) regarding climate, new suggested activity 3.1.x on One Health, and 4.3.7 on reporting under MEAs are important.

[1] Recognising territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas (2024). https://doi.org/10.2305/RSLY2962

- *Direct contributions of IUCN and WCPA*. The 2004 PoWPA lists several partner organizations in its introduction, including IUCN WCPA. As one of few entities referenced in the suggested activities, IUCN, in particular through WCPA, has since developed the definition of OECMs adopted by the Parties, as well as associated guidance, toolkits, and capacity-building activities to support their recognition and implementation. We have also partnered with the CBD Secretariat (as well as the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People) on various initiatives, recently providing technical support to the CBD's series of subregional workshops on implementing Target 3, drawing on expertise from across IUCN's commissions and 1,400 IUCN member organizations. IUCN also hosts regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres that can contribute to implementation efforts under the Programme of Work. See new suggested activities 1.1.x, 1.2.x, and 1.4.x, and revised 1.3.6, 4.2.1, and 4.2.6.

3. Goals, targets, or activities of the Programme of Work to be prioritized to support national implementation of the Framework by 2030

In addition to the above,

- Financing of PAs, OECMs and ITTs – conservation areas, whether governed and managed by Parties or others, require resources to pursue their activities and achieve their conservation outcomes. Few protected areas are sufficiently funded, and the rationale for recognizing OECMs and (where appropriate) ITTs is so that they can be supported and continue to be effective. We take special note of Goal 3.4 and associated suggested activities, plus 3.2.5.
- Human workforce / rangers – similarly, all conservation areas require people in those places to stewards nature. These people include rangers, which may be government, Indigenous, local or private (in the case of some PAs and OECMs). Studies have shown that workforce numbers globally are woefully insufficient to manage or steward (at least) 30% of the surface of the Earth. See Goal 3.2 and activities, plus 1.4.6.

Finally, we remind ourselves of the original and continuing purposes of the Convention on Biological Diversity, especially that "the fundamental requirement for the conservation of biological diversity is the in-situ conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings"[2]

[2] Preamble to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992. LINK

ANNEX I - DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS OF IUCN WCPA

A detailed review of the PoWPA has been compiled by WCPA, both reflecting the above priorities as well as adding detailed proposals. The recommendations of WCPA are presented as an annex in the table below containing the 2004 PoWPA in one column and the updates in an adjacent column, for ease of reference. In developing these suggestions, we sought to:

1. Analyse implementation priorities, successes and challenges in the current PoWPA
2. Provide guidance to Parties on how to implement Target 3 and other KMGBF targets.
3. Provide guidance to the CBD Secretariat on how to assist Parties.
4. Suggest specific actions that can improve the integrity of Target 3 implementation.
5. Identify priorities for action in the remaining four years of the KMGBF.
6. Showcase technical guidance and standards available from IUCN WCPA and other reliable sources, and recommend sources of such advice that can best assist implementation.
7. Clarify, and simplify where possible, the definitions of the main elements of Target 3 to aid comprehension (including issues of translation of these terms into different languages).
8. Clarify the relationship of the PoWPA to other PoW of the CBD, and the synergies with implementation of other biodiversity conventions and agreements (e.g. World Heritage, Ramsar, Biosphere Reserves, CMS etc.),
9. Identify the most effective channels for implementation support, and the priorities that WCPA (and IUCN more generally) can offer to support more effective implementation of a revised PoWPA.

Target 3 of the KMGBF refers to “protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures and indigenous and traditional territories, as appropriate.” In an effort to simplify terminology, without changing the scope of Target 3, WCPA proposes the use of *conservation areas* as an all-encompassing term, interpreted here to include all areas that qualify to be recognised under Target 3 of the KMGBF.

While the term conservation areas is not currently part of the language of the Convention, a Programme of Work on Conservation Areas, POWCA, is a good place to start to bring all of that together around the common goal of sustaining the nature that sustains us. An umbrella term of conservation areas provides a concise way to refer to the rich diversity of actors, knowledge, traditions and approaches to restoring biodiversity without prejudice or favour towards any.

We welcome any opportunity to expound on any of the points in this table, and remain available to provide further technical input if requested.

Table 1. Suggested updates to the 2004 PoWPA. (Goals are in blue with associated targets in lighter blue.)

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	PROGRAMME ELEMENT 1: Direct actions for planning, selecting, establishing, strengthening, and managing, conservation area systems and sites	
Goal 1.1	To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of protected areas integrated into a global network as a contribution to globally agreed goals	To ensure and enable the establishment and strengthening of national and regional systems of conservation areas (understood to include protected areas, other effective area-based conservation areas (OECMs) and indigenous and traditional territories, as appropriate) in order to enable delivery of Target 3 of the KMGBF, and contribute significantly to other KMGBF Targets.

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
Target 1.1	By 2010, terrestrially / and 2012 in the marine area, a global network of comprehensive, representative and effectively managed national and regional protected area system is established as a contribution to (i) the goal of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and the World Summit on Sustainable Development of achieving a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010; (ii) the Millennium Development Goals - particularly goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability; and (iii) the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.	By 2030, at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of conserved areas, integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes in accordance with Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and other linked KMGBF Targets.[3]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
1.1.1	By 2006, establish suitable time-bound and measurable national and regional level protected area Targets and indicators.	By 2026, establish or revise suitable time-bound and measurable national and regional level conservation area targets and indicators through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. Specify the minimum contribution of protected areas, OECMs and ITTs to these targets
1.1.2	As a matter of urgency, by 2006, take action to establish or expand protected areas in any large, intact or relatively unfragmented or highly irreplaceable natural areas, or areas under high threat, as well as areas securing the most threatened species in the context of national priorities and taking into consideration the conservation needs of migratory species.	By 2027, take action to establish, expand, or connect conservation areas in any large, intact or relatively unfragmented or highly irreplaceable natural areas, key biodiversity areas (“areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services”) and areas under high threat, as well as areas important to many threatened species in the context of national priorities, and taking into consideration the conservation needs of migratory species.
1.1.3	As a matter of urgency, by 2006 terrestrially and by 2008 in the marine environment, take action to address the under-representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in existing national and regional systems of protected areas, taking into account marine ecosystems beyond areas of national jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law, and transboundary inland water ecosystems.	As a matter of urgency, take action to address the under-representation of marine and inland water ecosystems, and all poorly represented bioregions, in existing national and regional systems of conservation areas, taking into account marine ecosystems and biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law and transboundary inland water ecosystems.
1.1.4	By 2006, conduct, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, national-level reviews of existing and potential forms of conservation, and their suitability for achieving biodiversity conservation Goals, including innovative types of governance for protected areas that need to be recognized and promoted through legal, policy, financial institutional and community mechanisms, such as protected areas run by Government agencies at various levels, comanaged protected areas, private protected areas,	By 2027, conduct, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, national-level reviews of existing and potential forms of conservation, and their suitability for achieving Target 3, including innovative types of governance for conservation areas that need to be recognized and promoted through legal, policy, financial institutional and community mechanisms, such as protected areas run by Government agencies at various levels, comanaged protected areas, privately protected areas, indigenous and traditional conserved areas. (POW8j tasks 1.1 and 1.2)

[3] 30x30: A Guide to Inclusive, Equitable and Effective Implementation of Target 3of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework LINK

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	indigenous and local community conserved areas.	
1.1.5	By 2006 complete protected area system gap analyses at national and regional levels based on the requirements for representative systems of protected areas that adequately conserve terrestrial, marine and inland water biodiversity and ecosystems. National plans should also be developed to provide interim measures to protect highly threatened or highly valued areas wherever this is necessary. Gap analyses should take into account Annex I of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria such as irreplaceability of Target biodiversity components, minimum effective size and viability requirements, species migration requirements, integrity, ecological processes and ecosystem services.	By 2027 complete revised and updated conservation area system gap analyses at national and regional levels based on the requirements for representative systems of conservation areas that adequately conserve terrestrial, marine and inland water biodiversity and ecosystems. National plans should also be developed to provide interim measures to protect highly threatened or highly valued areas wherever this is necessary. Gap analyses should take into account Annex I of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria such as irreplaceability of Target biodiversity components, minimum effective size and viability requirements, species migration requirements, integrity, connectivity, ecological processes and ecosystem services.
1.1.6	By 2009, designate the protected areas as identified through the national or regional gap analysis (including precise maps) and complete by 2010 terrestrially and 2012 in the marine environments the establishment of comprehensive and ecologically representative national and regional systems of protected areas. 1 Terrestrial includes inland water ecosystems 2 Parties may wish to use IUCN Red List of Threatened Species criteria, version 3.1	By 2030, designate the protected areas as identified through the national or regional gap analysis (including precise maps), or recognize Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures, or recognize Indigenous and traditional territories, as appropriate. Parties may wish to use the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species criteria, version 3.1.[4]
1.1.7	Encourage the establishment of protected areas that benefit indigenous and local communities, including by respecting, preserving, and maintaining their traditional knowledge in accordance with article 8(j) and related provisions.	Encourage the recognition of conservation areas that benefit indigenous and local communities, including by respecting, preserving, and maintaining their traditional knowledge in accordance with article 8(j) and related provisions and according to conservation criteria [expected to be adopted at] COP 17 (Yerevan, 2026).
1.1.x	-	By 2030, establish national enabling frameworks for the recognition of and support to OECMs and screen for potential OECMs.[5]
1.1.x	-	Prioritize establishment, recognition of and investment in conservation in areas particularly important for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.
1.1.x	-	Prevent the downgrading, downsizing and degazettement of protected areas and other conservation areas.[6]
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
1.1.8	Identify options for quantitative and qualitative protected areas Targets and indicators that should be used at the global level that could	Identify options for quantitative and qualitative indicators that differentiate between measuring activities and measuring impact of those activities on people's behaviours and on target wildlife species.

[4] IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria LINK
[5] IUCN WCPA guidance on OECMs LINK and OECM Site-level Identification Tool LINK
[6] PADDDtracker LINK

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	contribute to the 2010 Target and the Millennium Development Goals.	
1.1.9	Invite relevant international and regional organizations to offer their assistance to the Parties in conducting national-level gap analyses.	(Unchanged).
1.1.10	Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism and other relevant media relevant approaches, frameworks and tools for system planning and promote and facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in applying and adapting them to different ecological and social settings.	Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism, 30x30.solutions, and other relevant media approaches, frameworks and tools for system planning and promote and facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in applying and adapting them to different ecological and social settings.
1.1.x	-	Working with the IUCN, and in particular IUCN WCPA, and relevant bodies, undertake a review of common characteristics, from a biodiversity outcomes perspective, of the three forms of conservation specified in Target 3 ("systems of protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable"[7]).
		Invite collaborative and aligned efforts of international partners, such as IUCN (Including WCPA and the other IUCN commissions) to provide technical advice and support to Parties to support implementation of the POWCA.
Goal 1.2	To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function	To integrate conservation areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function
Target 1.2	By 2015, all protected areas and protected area systems are integrated into the wider land- and seascape, and relevant sectors, by applying the ecosystem approach and taking into account ecological connectivity 3 / and the concept, where appropriate, of ecological networks.	By 2030, all conservation areas and conservation area systems are effectively integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, and/or the ocean, through spatial planning (Target 1), by applying the ecosystem approach, and maintaining, enhancing, or restoring ecological connectivity through ecological networks and ecological corridors.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
1.2.1	Evaluate by 2006 national and sub-national experiences and lessons learned on specific efforts to integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectoral plans and strategies such as poverty reduction strategies.	Evaluate by 2027 national and sub-national experiences and lessons learned on specific efforts to integrate conservation areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectoral plans and strategies such as poverty reduction strategies.
1.2.2	Identify and implement, by 2008, practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land- and seascapes, including policy, legal, planning and other measures.	Identify and implement, by 2028, practical steps for improving the integration of conservation areas into broader land- and seascapes, including policy, legal, planning and other measures.
1.2.3	Integrate regional, national and sub-national systems of protected areas into broader land- and seascape, inter alia by establishing and managing ecological networks, ecological	Integrate regional, national and sub-national systems of conservation areas into broader land- and seascapes, inter alia by establishing and managing ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones, where appropriate,

[7] IIFB position on Target 3 LINK

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	corridors4 and/or buffer zones, where appropriate, to maintain ecological processes and also taking into account the needs of migratory species.	to maintain ecological processes and also taking into account the needs of migratory species.[8]
1.2.4	Develop tools of ecological connectivity, such as ecological corridors, linking together protected areas where necessary or beneficial as determined by national priorities for the conservation of biodiversity.	Develop tools of ecological connectivity, such as ecological corridors, linking together conservation areas where necessary or beneficial as determined by national priorities for the conservation of biodiversity.
1.2.5	Rehabilitate and restore habitats and degraded ecosystems, as appropriate, as a contribution to building ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones.	Rehabilitate and restore habitats and areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems, as appropriate, as a contribution to building ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones, in accordance with Target 2.
1.2.x	-	Working with the IUCN WCPA and others, undertake a review of the role of conservation areas in maintaining and restoring ecological integrity[9] in key biodiversity regions.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
1.2.6	Encourage the organization of regional and sub-regional workshops for the exchange of experiences on integration of biodiversity and protected areas into relevant sectoral and spatial plans.	Encourage the organization of regional and sub-regional workshops for the exchange of experiences on integration of biodiversity and conservation areas into relevant sectoral and spatial plans.
1.2.7	Compile and disseminate, using the CHM and other media, case-studies of best practices and other reports regarding the application of the ecosystem approach in relation to protected areas at the international, regional, national and sub-national levels. 3 The concept of connectivity may not be applicable to all Parties 4 Ecological corridors may not be applicable to all Parties	Compile and disseminate, using the CHM, 30x30 Solutions, PANORAMA and other media, case-studies of best practices and other reports regarding the application of the ecosystem approach in relation to conservation areas at the international, regional, national and sub-national levels.
Goal 1.3	To establish and strengthen regional networks, transboundary protected areas (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries	To establish and strengthen regional networks, transboundary protected areas (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national and other boundaries, especially for transnational threats to biodiversity such as crimes against the environment, including wildlife crime, and zoonotic disease risk[10]
Target 1.3	Establish and strengthen by 2010/20125 / transboundary protected areas, other forms of collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries and regional networks, to enhance the conservation and	By 2030, establish and strengthen transboundary conservation areas (including large scale conservation areas), other forms of collaboration between neighbouring conservation areas across national boundaries and regional networks, to enhance the conservation and sustainable use

[8] Guidelines for conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors LINK; Marine Connectivity Conservation Rules of Thumb for MPA and MPA Network Design LINK

[9] See KMGBF Goal A, "The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050;"

[10] Target 5 of KMGBF aims to prevent the overexploitation of wild species and minimize the associated negative impacts. Key elements of this target include: Legality: Ensuring that all harvesting and trade of wild species comply with national and international laws, directly tackling illegal wildlife trade; Sustainability: Managing the use of wild species to ensure it does not compromise the long-term survival of the species or the integrity of ecosystems; Safety: Reducing the risk of pathogen spill-over from wildlife to humans (relevant for preventing zoonotic diseases); Respect for Customary Use: Protecting and respecting the customary sustainable use of biological resources by Indigenous peoples and local communities.

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	sustainable use of biological diversity, implementing the ecosystem approach, and improving international cooperation.	(fully consistent with conservation outcomes) of biological diversity, implementing the ecosystem approach, and improving international cooperation.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
1.3.1	Collaborate with other parties and relevant partners to establish effective regional networks of protected areas, particularly in areas identified as common conservation priorities (e.g. barrier reef systems, large scale river basins, mountain systems, large remaining forest areas and critical habitat for endangered species), and establish multi-country coordination mechanisms as appropriate to support the establishment and effective long term management of such networks.	Collaborate with other parties and relevant partners to establish effective regional networks of conservation areas, particularly in areas identified as common conservation priorities (e.g. barrier reef systems, large scale river basins, mountain systems, large remaining forest areas, migratory routes, and critical habitat for endangered species), and establish multi-country coordination mechanisms as appropriate to support the establishment and effective long term management of such networks.
1.3.2	Collaborate with other Parties and relevant partners through the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) to establish and manage protected areas in marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and based on scientific information.	Collaborate with other Parties and relevant partners through the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) to establish and manage conservation areas in marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, including the BBNJ Agreement, UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and based on scientific information and traditional knowledge.
1.3.3	Establish, where appropriate, new TBPAs with adjacent Parties and countries and strengthen effective collaborative management of existing TBPAs.	Establish, where appropriate, new transboundary conservation areas with adjacent Parties and countries and strengthen effective collaborative management of existing TBPAs.
1.3.4	Promote collaboration between protected areas across national boundaries.	(Unchanged)
1.3.x	-	Incorporate strategies for crime prevention.[11]
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
1.3.5	Collaborate and consult with relevant organizations and bodies for developing guidelines for establishing transboundary protected areas and collaborative management approaches, as appropriate, for dissemination to Parties.	Collaborate and consult with relevant organizations and bodies providing guidelines for establishing transboundary conservation areas and collaborative management approaches, as appropriate, for dissemination to Parties.
1.3.6	Compile and disseminate information on regional networks of protected areas and transboundary protected areas, including, as far as possible, their geographical distribution, their historical background, their role and the partners involved.	Compile and disseminate information on regional networks of conservation areas and transboundary conservation areas, including, as far as possible, their geographical distribution, their historical background, their role and the partners involved. Undertake, with IUCN WCPA and UNEP WCMC, a global stocktake of PAs, OECMs, ITTs, in all forms (sacred groves, transboundary areas, privately protected areas) ahead of the World Protected and Conserved Areas Congress in 2027.
1.3.7	Review the potential for regional cooperation under the Convention on Migratory Species	Review the potential for regional cooperation under the Convention on Migratory Species with a view to linking of

[11] Pop Center LINK; IUCN WCPA Wildlife Crime Prevention Specialist Group LINK

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	with a view to linking of protected area networks across international boundaries and potentially beyond national jurisdiction through the establishment of migratory corridors for key species.	conservation area networks across international boundaries and potentially beyond national jurisdiction through the establishment and management of ecological networks and ecological corridors for migratory routes for key species.
1.3.x	-	Review the potential for regional cooperation under CITES to target specific threats like the illegal exploitation of natural resources with a view to uniting protected area networks across international boundaries in their strategic responses to these species-specific threats.
Goal 1.4	To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management	To substantially improve adaptive management of conservation areas, including planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and learning, to reduce threats, maintain biodiversity values and support human well-being
Target 1.4	All protected areas to have effective management in existence by 2012, using participatory and science-based site planning processes that incorporate clear biodiversity objectives, Targets, management strategies and monitoring programmes, drawing upon existing methodologies and a long-term management plan with active stakeholder involvement.	By 2030, all conservation areas to have effective management in existence using participatory science and/or traditional knowledge. Site-level planning processes shall incorporate clear biodiversity and human well-being goals, threat reduction and restoration objectives where appropriate, and coherent problem-analysis strategies, monitoring and evaluation programmes directed at long/term conservation goals; using existing methodologies and ensuring active, inclusive stakeholder participation.[12]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
1.4.1	Create a highly participatory process, involving indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, as part of site-based planning in accordance with the ecosystem approach, and use relevant ecological and socio-economic data required to develop effective planning processes.	Create a highly participatory and rights-based process, involving indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, as part of site-based planning in accordance with the ecosystem approach, and use relevant ecological, social, cultural, economic data to develop effective planning processes and evidence-led responses.
1.4.2	Identify appropriate measurable biodiversity conservation Targets for sites, drawing on criteria laid out in Annex I to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria.	Identify appropriate measurable biodiversity conservation targets for sites, drawing on criteria laid out in Annex I to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria.
1.4.3	Include in the site-planning process an analysis of opportunities for the protected area to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at local and regional scales as well as an analysis of threats and means of addressing them. As appropriate, but no later than 2010, develop or update management plans for protected areas, built on the above process, to better achieve the three objectives of the Convention.	Include in the site-planning process an analysis of opportunities for the areas to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at local and regional scales, as well as risks assessments using problem analysis and means of addressing these threats. As appropriate, but no later than 2027, develop or update management plans for protected areas, built on the above process, to better achieve the three objectives of the Convention.
1.4.4	As appropriate, but no later than 2010, develop or update management plans for protected areas, built on the above process, to better achieve the three objectives of the Convention.	As appropriate, but no later than 2028, develop or update management plans for protected areas, built on the above process, to better achieve the three objectives of the Convention.

[12] Protected Area Governance and Management LINK

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
1.4.5	Integrate climate change adaptation measures in protected area planning, management strategies, and in the design of protected area systems.	Integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in conservation area planning, management strategies, and in the design of conservation area systems, in accordance with Target 8.
1.4.6	Ensure that protected areas are effectively managed or supervised through staff that are well-trained and skilled, properly and appropriately equipped, and supported, to carry out their fundamental role in the management and conservation of protected areas.	Ensure that conservation areas are effectively managed or supervised through workforces that are sufficient in number, well-trained and skilled, properly and appropriately equipped, and supported, demonstrating relevant competencies, to carry out their fundamental role in the effective management of conservation areas.[13]
1.4.x	-	As appropriate, and no later than 2030, develop or update management plans for all protected areas. These plans shall be based on an outcome-oriented approach, incorporating clear biodiversity and human well-being goals, threat reduction and restoration objectives, and supported by coherent strategies and monitoring programmes—all aligned with long-term conservation visions and integrated with the three objectives of the Convention.
1.4.x	-	Develop,promote, and support the application of guidance for strategic planning at all levels, aligned with updated outcome-based effectiveness assessment frameworks, to establish a clear foundation within planning instruments that enables implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, and ensures consistency with Target 3.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
1.4.7	Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism current relevant approaches, frameworks and tools for site planning and promote and facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in applying and adapting them in different ecological and social settings.	Compile and disseminate, through the clearing-house mechanism, 30x30 Solutions and other tools, current relevant approaches, frameworks and tools for site planning, governance, administration and management, and promote and facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in applying and adapting them in different ecological and social settings.
1.4.8	Disseminate information on successful management models of protected areas which serve to further the three objective of the Convention and may also contribute to poverty reduction and the pursuit of sustainable development.	Disseminate information on successful management models of conservation areas which serve to further the three objectives of the Convention and may also contribute to poverty reduction and the pursuit of sustainable development.
1.4.x	-	Compile and disseminate current guidance, norms and standards and tools for establishing and maintaining adequate staffing of Conservation Areas, in terms of numbers, professional standards, resources, conduct, capacity, training, welfare, terms of employment/engagement and support.
1.4.x	-	With IUCN WCPA and others, prepare guidelines to ensure “that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such [conservation] areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes.”

[13] The role of rangers as essential planetary health workers in particular to achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework LINK

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Goal 1.5	To prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas	To prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to conservation areas (protected areas and OECMs) and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Target 1.5	By 2008, effective mechanisms for identifying and preventing, and/or mitigating the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas are in place.	By 2028, effective mechanisms for identifying, understanding through problem analysis, preventing, and/or mitigating the negative impacts of key threats to conservation areas are institutionalized as part of the adaptive management system; with progress demonstrated towards achieving KMGBF Targets 4, 6, 7 and 8.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
1.5.1	Apply, as appropriate, timely environmental impact assessments to any plan or project with the potential to have effects on protected areas, and ensure timely information flow among all concerned parties to that end, taking into account decision VI/7 A of the Conference of the Parties on guidelines for incorporating biodiversity related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessments.	Apply, as appropriate, timely environmental impact assessments to any plan or project with the potential to have effects on conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, and ensure timely information flow among all concerned parties to that end, taking into account decision VI/7 A on guidelines for incorporating biodiversity related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessments; and Decision VIII/28 on biodiversity-inclusive impact assessment.
1.5.2	Develop by 2010 national approaches to liability and redress measures, incorporating the polluter pays principle or other appropriate mechanisms in relation to damages to protected areas.	Develop by 2030 national approaches to liability and redress measures, incorporating the polluter pays principle or other appropriate mechanisms in relation to damages to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
1.5.3	Establish and implement measures for the rehabilitation and restoration of the ecological integrity of protected areas	Establish and implement measures for the rehabilitation and restoration of the ecological integrity and connectivity of conservation areas, in accordance with Target 2.
1.5.4	Take measures to control risks associated with invasive alien species in protected areas.	unchanged
1.5.5	Assess key threats to protected areas and develop and implement strategies to prevent and/or mitigate such threats.	Assess and understand the mechanisms behind key threats to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, and develop and implement strategies to prevent and/or mitigate such threats, including species extinction, loss of genetic diversity and human-wildlife conflict (Target 4); alien species invasion (Target 6); pollution (Target 7); and impacts of climate change (Target 8).
1.5.6	Develop policies, improve governance, and ensure enforcement of urgent measures that can halt the illegal exploitation of resources from protected areas, and strengthen international and regional cooperation to eliminate illegal trade in such resources taking into account sustainable customary resource use of indigenous and local communities in accordance with article 10(c) of the Convention.	Develop policies, improve governance, and ensure enforcement of urgent measures that can halt the illegal exploitation of resources from conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, and strengthen international and regional cooperation to eliminate illegal trade (ideally through a mix of enforcement, crime prevention, and restorative justice practices) in such resources taking into account sustainable customary resource use of indigenous and local communities in accordance with article 10(c) of the Convention and Target 5. Encourage active participation of communities in these elimination efforts to ensure local support.

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Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
1.5.7	Address issues specific to protected areas, in the guidelines for incorporating biodiversity considerations in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment, procedures and regulations.	Address issues specific to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones in the guidelines for incorporating biodiversity considerations in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment, procedures and regulations.
1.5.8	Collaborate with the International Association for Impact Assessment and other relevant organizations on further development and refinement of the impact assessment guidelines particularly to incorporate all stages of environmental impact assessment processes in protected areas taking into account the ecosystem approach.	Collaborate with the International Association for Impact Assessment and other relevant organizations on further development and refinement of the impact assessment guidelines particularly to incorporate all stages of environmental impact assessment processes in conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones taking into account the ecosystem approach.
1.5.9	Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism and other means case studies, best practices and lessons learned in mitigating the negative impacts of key threats and facilitate the exchange of experiences.	Compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism, 30x30 Solutions, Panorama and other means case studies, best practices and lessons learned in mitigating the negative impacts of key threats and facilitate the exchange of experiences.
	PROGRAMME ELEMENT 2: Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing	
Goal 2.1	To promote equity and benefit-sharing	To promote equity and benefit-sharing within the context of conservation areas
Target 2.1	Establish by 2008 mechanisms for the equitable sharing of both costs and benefits arising from the establishment and management of protected areas.	By 2030, meet or exceed Targets 11 (natures contributions to people) and 13 (increase the sharing of benefits from genetic resources, digital sequence information and traditional knowledge) as they related to conservation areas.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
2.1.1	Assess the economic and socio-cultural costs, benefits and impacts arising from the establishment and maintenance of protected areas, particularly for indigenous and local communities, and adjust policies to avoid and mitigate negative impacts, and where appropriate compensate costs and equitably share benefits in accordance with the national legislation.	Assess the economic and socio-cultural costs, benefits, opportunities and impacts arising from the establishment and maintenance of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, particularly for indigenous and local communities, and adjust policies to avoid and mitigate negative impacts, optimise positive impacts, and where appropriate compensate costs. Equitably share benefits in accordance with the national legislation and Target 13.
2.1.2	Recognize and promote a broad set of protected area governance types related to their potential for achieving biodiversity conservation Goals in accordance with the Convention, which may include areas conserved by indigenous and local communities and private nature reserves. The promotion of these areas should be by legal and/or policy, financial and community mechanisms.	Recognize and promote a broad set of conservation area governance types related to their potential for achieving biodiversity conservation goals in accordance with the Convention, which may include areas conserved by indigenous and local communities, private nature reservesand other actors. The promotion of these areas should be by legal and/or policy, financial and community mechanisms.
2.1.3	Establish policies and institutional mechanisms with full participation of indigenous and local communities, to facilitate the legal recognition and effective	Establish policies and institutional mechanisms with full participation of indigenous and local communities, to facilitate the legal recognition and effective management of indigenous and local community conserved areas in a

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	management of indigenous and local community conserved areas in a manner consistent with the Goals of conserving both biodiversity and the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities.	manner consistent with the goals of conserving both biodiversity and the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities. (POW8j Task 1)
2.1.4	Use social and economic benefits generated by protected areas for poverty reduction, consistent with protected-area management objectives.	Use social and economic benefits generated by conservation areas for poverty reduction, consistent with protected-area management objectives, in accordance with Targets 9, 11 and 13.
2.1.5	Engage indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in participatory planning and governance, recalling the principles of the ecosystem approach.	Engage indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in participatory planning and governance, recalling the principles of the ecosystem approach.
2.1.6	Establish or strengthen national policies to deal with access to genetic resources within protected areas and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, drawing upon the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization as appropriate.	Establish or strengthen national policies to deal with access to genetic resources within protected areas and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, drawing upon Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization as appropriate and in accordance with Target 13.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
Goal 2.2	To enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders	To enhance and secure involvement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders, recognizing self-determination, where applicable
Target 2.2	Full and effective participation by 2008, of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations, and the participation of relevant stakeholders, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, protected areas	Full and effective participation by 2026, of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations, and the participation of relevant stakeholders, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
2.2.1	Carry out participatory national reviews of the status, needs and context-specific mechanisms for involving stakeholders, ensuring gender and social equity, in protected areas policy and management, at the level of national policy, protected area systems and individual sites.	Carry out participatory national reviews of the status, needs and context-specific mechanisms for involving stakeholders, ensuring gender and social equity, in conservation areas policy and management, at the level of national policy, protected area systems and individual sites and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
2.2.2	Implement specific plans and initiatives to effectively involve indigenous and local communities, with respect for their rights consistent with national legislation and applicable international obligations, and stakeholders at all levels of protected areas planning, establishment, governance and management, with particular emphasis on identifying and removing barriers preventing adequate participation.	Implement specific plans and initiatives to effectively enable indigenous and local community leadership and stewardship, with respect for their rights consistent with national legislation and applicable international obligations, and stakeholders at all levels of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones planning, establishment, governance and management, with particular emphasis on identifying and removing barriers preventing adequate participation.

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2.2.3	Support participatory assessment exercises among stakeholders to identify and harness the wealth of knowledge, skills, resources and institutions of importance for conservation that are available in society.	Support participatory assessment exercises among stakeholders to identify and harness the wealth of knowledge, skills, resources and institutions of importance for conservation that are available in society (Target 21), and support assessment of "indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable" (in the language of Target 3) according to conservation criteria decisions of COP 17 (Yerevan, 2026).
2.2.4	Promote an enabling environment (legislation, policies, capacities, and resources) for the involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders [73]/ in decision making, and the development of their capacities and opportunities to establish and manage protected areas, including community-conserved and private protected areas.	Promote an enabling environment (legislation, policies, capacities, and resources) for the involvement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders in decision making, and the development of their capacities and opportunities to establish and manage conservation areas, including community-conserved and privately protected areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones (Target 22).
2.2.5	Ensure that any resettlement of indigenous communities as a consequence of the establishment or management of protected areas will only take place with their prior informed consent that may be given according to national legislation and applicable international obligations.	Ensure that any proposed management action, including resettlement of indigenous communities as a consequence of the establishment or management of protected areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones will only take place with their prior informed consent that may be given according to national legislation and applicable international obligations.
2.2.x	-	Recognise of the rights, roles and responsibilities of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities, including over Indigenous and traditional territories, in accordance with Targets 1, 3, 5, 9 and 22.
2.2.x	-	Institutionalize recognition and respect for traditional knowledge, innovations, and practice, and diverse value systems, upholding rights to free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with Targets 21 and 22)
		Follow, where applicable, the first strategy of the IPBES assessment report on transformative change,[14] conserving areas of high value for people and nature across wider landscapes and seascapes, including through ecological networks and ecological corridors, using sustainable stewardship that includes communities and Indigenous rights.
2.2.x	-	Improve the accuracy and completeness of reporting of governance types to the World Database on Protected and Conserved Areas.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
2.2.6	Make available to Parties case-studies, advice on best practices and other sources of information on stakeholder participation in protected areas	Make available to Parties case-studies, advice on best practices and other sources of information on stakeholder participation in protected areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones. Facilitate the compilation of community led case studies.

[14] IPBES Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity LINK

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2.2.7	Promote, through the CHM, technical publications and other means, the international sharing of experience on effective mechanisms for stakeholder involvement and governance types in conservation in particular with regard to co-managed protected areas, indigenous and local community conserved areas and private protected areas.	Promote, through the CHM, technical publications and other means, the international sharing of experience on effective mechanisms for stakeholder involvement and governance types in conservation in particular with regard to shared governance protected areas, indigenous and local community conserved areas and privately protected areas, and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.[15]
	PROGRAMME ELEMENT 3: Enabling Activities	
Goal 3.1	To provide an enabling policy, institutional and socio-economic environment for protected areas	To provide an enabling policy and institutional and socio-economic environment for conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones that is coherent across government
Target 3.1	By 2008 review and revise policies as appropriate, including use of social and economic valuation and incentives, to provide a supportive enabling environment for more effective establishment and management of protected areas and protected areas systems.	By 2027 review and revise policies as appropriate, including use of social and economic valuation and incentives, to provide a supportive enabling environment for more effective establishment and management of conservation areas and conservation areas systems, with demonstrable progress on achieving KMGBF Targets 14 (Integrate Biodiversity in Decision-Making) and 18 (Reduce Harmful Incentives and Scale Up Positive Incentives for Biodiversity).
Suggested activities of the Parties		
3.1.1	By 2006, identify legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede the effective establishment and management of protected areas, and by 2009, effectively address these gaps and barriers.	By 2027, identify legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede the effective establishment and management of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, and by 2030, effectively address these gaps and barriers.
3.1.2	Conduct national-level assessments of the contributions of protected areas, considering as appropriate environmental services, to the countrys economy and culture, and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the national level; and integrate the use of economic valuation and natural resource accounting tools into national planning processes in order to identify the hidden and non-hidden economic benefits provided by protected areas and who appropriates these benefits.	Conduct national-level assessments of the contributions of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones as key nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation, as providers of ecosystem services, economic value-added and costs avoided, cultural heritage, and human well-being. These assessments should be integrated into conservation area monitoring systems and management effectiveness evaluations, which help quantify both visible and hidden economic benefits and identify who benefits (or incurs costs) from them.
3.1.3	Harmonize sectoral policies and laws to ensure that they support the conservation and effective management of the protected area system.	Harmonize sectoral policies and laws to ensure that they support the conservation and effective management of the conservation area system and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, and to encourage active participation of communities in these elimination efforts to ensure buy-in from them.
3.1.4	Consider governance principles, such as the rule of law, decentralization, participatory decisionmaking mechanisms for accountability	Consider governance principles, such as the rule of law, decentralization, participatory decision-making mechanisms for accountability and equitable dispute resolution

[15] Guidelines for privately protected areas LINK

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	and equitable dispute resolution institutions and procedures.	institutions and procedures. Revise and reinforce recognition and support for diverse governance[16] [17]including governance by Indigenous Peoples, by local communities, and in shared governance arrangements,[18] as well as private actors.
3.1.5	Identify and remove perverse incentives and inconsistencies in sectoral policies that increase pressure on protected areas, or take action to mitigate their perverse effects. Whenever feasible, redirect these to positive incentives for conservation.	Identify and remove perverse incentives and inconsistencies in sectoral policies that increase pressure on conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones and undermine funding, or take action to mitigate their perverse effects, in accordance with KMGBF Target 18. Whenever feasible, redirect these to positive incentives for conservation.
3.1.6	Identify and establish positive incentives that support the integrity and maintenance of protected areas and the involvement of indigenous and local communities and stakeholders in conservation.	Identify and establish positive incentives that support the integrity and maintenance of conservation areas, reward nature-positive activities and benefits, and promote the involvement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and stakeholders in conservation. Combine these with appropriate disincentives that prevent and limit opportunities for threats to biodiversity to increase. Furthermore, create capacity for joint threat and harmful activity reduction between IPLCs and the state.
3.1.7	Adopt legal frameworks to national, regional and sub-national protected areas systems of countries where appropriate.	Adopt legal frameworks to national, regional and sub-national conservation areas systems and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones of countries where appropriate.
3.1.8	Develop national incentive mechanisms and institutions and legislative frameworks to support the establishment of the full range of protected areas that achieve biodiversity conservation objectives including on private lands and private reserves where appropriate.	Develop national incentive mechanisms and institutions and legislative frameworks to support the establishment of the full range of conservation areas that achieve biodiversity conservation objectives including on private lands and private reserves where appropriate.
3.1.9	Identify and foster economic opportunities and markets at local, national and international levels for goods and services produced by protected areas and/or reliant on the ecosystem services that protected areas provide, consistent with protected area objectives and promote the equitable sharing of the benefits.	Identify and foster economic opportunities, markets and investments at local, national and international levels for goods and services produced by conservation areas, and/or reliant on the ecosystem services that conservation areas provide, consistent with conservation area objectives and promote the equitable sharing of the benefits.
3.1.10	Develop necessary mechanisms for institutions with responsibilities for conservation of biological diversity at the regional, national and local level to achieve institutional and financial sustainability.	Develop necessary mechanisms for institutions with responsibilities for conservation of biological diversity at the regional, national and local level to achieve institutional and financial sustainability.
3.1.11	Cooperate with neighbouring countries to establish an enabling environment for transboundary protected areas and for neighbouring protected areas across national	Cooperate with neighbouring countries to establish an enabling environment for transboundary conservation areas and for neighbouring conservation areas across national boundaries and other similar approaches including regional

[16] See decision Decision 14/8 on protected areas and OECMs, including voluntary guidance on governance diversity LINK
[17] Governance of protected areas: from understanding to action LINK
[18] IUCN WCPA guidelines on Recognising territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas LINK

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	boundaries and other similar approaches including regional networks.	networks and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
3.1.x	-	Maintain a human rights-based approach (including respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights), in the identification, establishment, recognition of new conservation areas, and ensure equitable governance in all.[19]
3.1.x	-	Adopt a One Health approach to managing conservation areas to reduce risks and provide benefits to wildlife and people.[20]
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
3.1.12	In collaboration with key partners such as OECD, IUCN, WWF and the secretariats of other conventions compile information on relevant guidance, resource kits and other information on incentive measures including those relating to the development of incentive options.	In collaboration with key partners such as OECD, IUCN, WWF and the secretariats of other conventions compile information on relevant guidance, resource kits and other information on incentive measures including those relating to the development of incentive options.
3.1.13	Compile and disseminate, through the CHM and other media, case-studies on best practices on the use of incentive measures for the management of protected areas.	Compile and disseminate, through the CHM and other media, case-studies on best practices on the use of incentive measures for the management of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
3.1.14	Compile and disseminate through the CHM and other media best practices on ways and means to integrate the use of incentive measures into protected area management plans, programmes and policies including opportunities for the removal or mitigation of perverse incentives.	Compile and disseminate through the CHM and other media best practices on ways and means to integrate the use of incentive measures into conservation area management plans, programmes and policies including opportunities for the removal or mitigation of perverse incentives.
3.1.x	-	Establish a national coordination platform linking mining, forestry, infrastructure, energy, and conservation area agencies
3.1.x	-	Implement laws and policies to ensure full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making and a gender-responsive approach overall
Goal 3.2	To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas	To build and sustain capacity for the planning, establishment, management, administration and governance of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Target 3.2	By 2010, comprehensive capacity building programmes and initiatives are implemented to develop knowledge and skills at individual, community and institutional levels, and raise professional standards.	By 2030, all personnel working in and for conservation areas have access to and are engaged in relevant capacity building programmes that develop and maintain necessary knowledge and skills at individual, community and institutional levels, and to raise professional standards, in line with KMGBF Targets 20 (Strengthen Capacity Building)

[19] Toolkit on Social Safeguards for Conservation areas (*forthcoming*)
[20] IUCN WCPA Assessing and Reducing Infectious Disease Risks in Protected and Conserved Areas: the MAP-ACT-CREATE for One Health Toolkit (in prep)

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		and 21 (Ensure that Knowledge is Available and Accessible)[21]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
3.2.1	By 2006 complete national protected-area capacity needs assessments, and establish capacity building programmes on the basis of these assessments including the creation of curricula, resources and programs for the sustained delivery of protected areas management training.	By 2030 adopt and make use of standard methods for assessing conservation area capacity and competence needs, based on, and adapting established global frameworks. Collaborate as appropriate with national education authorities, training colleges, training departments and training providers to develop and deliver long-term curricula, training and learning programmes and materials, and to establish rosters of approved national trainers
3.2.2	Establish effective mechanisms to document existing knowledge and experiences on protected area management, including traditional knowledge in accordance with Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, and identify knowledge and skills gaps.	Conduct collaborative reviews of the knowledge, experiences, practices and capacity needs of owners and stewards of conservation areas and community conserved areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones (including Indigenous and traditional owners and stewards), and collaborate to develop programmes to recognise, reinforce and build their capacities as required and appropriate. in accordance with Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, and identify knowledge and skills gaps.
3.2.3	Exchange lessons learnt, information and capacity-building experiences among countries and relevant organizations, through the Clearing-house Mechanisms and other means.	Support and promote establishment of mechanisms for peer-to peer-learning, communities of practice, knowledge and skills sharing, exchanging lessons learned, information and capacity building experiences nationally and internationally
3.2.4	Strengthen the capacities of institutions to establish cross-sectoral collaboration for protected area management at the regional, national and local levels.	[incorporated above]
3.2.5	Improve the capacity of protected areas institutions to develop sustainable financing through fiscal incentives, environmental services, and other instruments.	Improve the capacity of conservation areas institutions, to develop sustainable financing from sources and through mechanisms that are appropriate to their situation, paying particular attention to the financial circumstances and needs of those in ITTs and managed by IPLCs.
3.2.x	-	By 2030 ensure that all conservation area personnel have clearly defined job descriptions, duties and required job competences
3.2.x	-	By 2030 ensure that all conservation areas personnel complete standard foundation training upon recruitment and have access to regular refresher and additional training, based on their duties and competence requirements
3.2.x	-	By 2030 ensure that all conservation areas budgets and projects include specific line items for training and capacity development (NEW, but substituting for the original 3.2.5 on sustainable financing which as written is to relevant to this section as sustainable financing is covered under Goal 3.4

[21] Global Ranger Competencies LINK; Global Registry for Protected Area Practitioners LINK, and Global Register of Competencies for Threatened Species Recovery LINK

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3.2.x	-	Assess and where necessary develop the institutional capacity of conservation areas agencies to ensure that adequate personnel, resources, systems and processes are in place to ensure that capacity development activities can be applied and sustained
3.2.x	-	Lead and support the establishment and strengthening of programs, products and knowledge exchange platforms to support countries in developing individual and institutional capacity to plan, implement, monitor, assess, and report using updated outcome-based effectiveness assessment frameworks for conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
3.2.6	Cooperate with IUCN and other relevant organizations to compile and disseminate available information.	Cooperate with IUCN and other relevant organizations to compile and disseminate available information.
3.2.7	Cooperate with initiatives such as the Protected Areas Learning Network (PALNet-IUCN) and explore lessons learned from those experiences, in collaboration with relevant organizations.	Cooperate with Parties, IUCN and other relevant organisations and initiatives (such as IUCN Panorama) to enable sharing of good practice, lessons learned and experiences of individual and organisational capacity development.
3.2.x	-	Cooperate with Parties, IUCN and other relevant organisations and initiatives (including those representing conservation area rangers and other personnel) to draft and disseminate norms, standards and frameworks for conservation area capacity assessment, training and learning that can be adapted and adopted as required by Parties
3.2.x	-	Cooperate with Parties, IUCN and other relevant organisations and initiatives to draft and disseminate norms, standards and frameworks for assessing and developing the institutional capacity of bodies responsible for conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, that can be adapted and adopted as required by Parties
3.2.x	-	Cooperate with Parties, IUCN and other relevant organisations and initiatives to develop and apply standard metrics for monitoring and reporting on conservation area capacity and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Goal 3.3	To develop, apply and transfer appropriate technologies for protected areas	To develop, apply and transfer appropriate sciences and technologies for conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, that are applied in a socially responsible way and with the right working conditions
Target 3.3	By 2010 the development, validation, and transfer of appropriate technologies and innovative approaches for the effective management of protected areas is substantially improved, taking into account decisions of the Conference of the Parties on technology transfer and cooperation.	By 2030 the development, validation, and transfer of appropriate and socially responsible sciences, technologies and innovative approaches for the effective management of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones is substantially improved, demonstrating substantial progress towards attaining KMGBF Target 20 (Strengthen Technology

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		Transfer and Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Biodiversity).[22]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
3.3.1	Document and make available to the Executive Secretary appropriate technologies for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of protected areas and management of protected areas.	Document and make available to the Executive Secretary socially responsible[23] and appropriate technologies for conservation, sustainable use, and management of biological diversity of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
3.3.2	Assess needs for relevant technologies for protected area management involving indigenous and local communities and stakeholders such as the, research institutions, non-Governmental organizations and the private sector.	Assess needs for relevant technologies for conservation area management and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones involving indigenous and local communities and stakeholders such as the research institutions, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Assess working conditions and the capacity and competences needed to use new technologies.[24] Assess the need for relevant sciences and technologies.[25]
3.3.3	Encourage development and use of appropriate technology, including technologies of indigenous and local communities with their participation, approval and involvement in accordance with Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, for habitat rehabilitation and restoration, resource mapping, biological inventory, and rapid assessment of biodiversity, monitoring, in situ and ex situ conservation, sustainable use, etc.	Encourage development and use of appropriate technology, including technologies of Indigenous Peoples and local communities with their free, prior and informed consent, for habitat rehabilitation and restoration, resource mapping, biological inventory, and rapid assessment of biodiversity, monitoring, in situ and ex situ conservation, sustainable use, etc.
3.3.4	Promote an enabling environment for the transfer of technology in accordance with decision VII/29 of the Conference of Parties on technology transfer and cooperation to improve protected area management.	Promote an enabling environment and working conditions for the transfer of technology in accordance with decision VII/29 of the Conference of Parties on technology transfer and cooperation to improve conservation area management and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones and Target 20 of the KMGBF.
3.3.5	Increase technology transfer and cooperation to improve protected area management.	Increase technology transfer and cooperation to improve conservation area management and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, on a foundation of good basic working conditions.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
3.3.6	Compile and disseminate information provided by Parties and relevant international organizations on appropriate technologies and approaches for efficient management of protected areas and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of protected areas.	Compile and disseminate information provided by Parties and relevant international organizations on socially responsible and appropriate technologies and approaches for efficient management of conservation areas and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.

[22] Principles for socially responsible use of conservation monitoring technology and data LINK; global working conditions of rangers LINK; global standard for ranger employment and working conditions LINK; URSA Rangers LINK; POP Centre and evidence for crime science to be applied for threat and harm reduction LINK

[23] Socially responsible use of conservation monitoring LINK

[24] A global standard for ranger employment and working conditions LINK

[25] Rangers and tech LINK

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Goal 3.4	To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas and national and regional systems of protected areas	To ensure financial sustainability of conservation areas and national and regional systems of conservation areas
Target 3.4	By 2008, sufficient financial, technical and other resources to meet the costs to effectively implement and manage national and regional systems of protected areas are secured, including both from national and international sources, particularly to support the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States.	By 2028, sufficient, appropriate, stable and long-term financial, technical and other resources to meet the direct and indirect costs of effectively implementing and managing national and regional systems of conservation areas are secured, from national and international sources, particularly to support the conservation area needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States, for ITTs and IPLCs, and in line with KMGBF Target 19 (Mobilize $200 Billion per Year for Biodiversity).
Suggested activities of the Parties		
3.4.1	Conduct a national-level study by 2005 of the effectiveness in using existing financial resources and of financial needs related to the national system of protected areas and identify options for meeting these needs through a mixture of national and international resources and taking into account the whole range of possible funding instruments, such as public funding, debt for nature swaps, elimination of perverse incentives and subsidies, private funding, taxes and fees for ecological services.	By 2028, develop and document national and site-level systems for measuring conservation area financial needs, flows and gaps, and for identifying options for meeting these needs through a mixture of national and international resources, public and private funding, market-based instruments and investments, including for conservation areas in ITTs and managed by IPLCs, and on private and communal lands
3.4.2	By 2008, establish and begin to implement country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas, including necessary regulatory, legislative, policy, institutional and other measures.	By 2027, establish and begin to implement country-level and site-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of conservation areas, including those located in ITTs and managed by IPLCs, and on private lands.
3.4.3	Support and further develop international funding programmes to support implementation of national and regional systems of protected areas in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States.	Support and further develop international funding programmes and fund mechanisms from public, private and market sources to support implementation of national and regional systems of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States, including those located in ITTs and managed by IPLCs, and on private lands.
3.4.x		Support and develop domestic funding instruments to support implementation of national and site-level conservation areas, including those based on public funding and fiscal instruments, markets, investments and private funding sources, and for conservation areas located in ITTs and managed by IPLCs, and on private lands.
3.4.4	Collaborate with other countries to develop and implement sustainable financing programmes for national and regional systems of protected areas.	Collaborate with other countries to develop and implement sustainable financing programmes for national and regional systems of conservation areas, including those located in ITTs and managed by IPLCs , and on private lands.
3.4.5	Provide regular information on protected areas financing to relevant institutions and mechanisms, including through future national reports under the Convention on Biological	Provide regular information on the national status, trends, gaps, challenges and opportunities in financing for conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones to relevant

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	Diversity, and to the World Database on Protected Areas.	institutions and mechanisms, including through future national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to the World Database on Protected Areas.
3.4.6	Encourage integration of protected areas needs into national and, where applicable, regional development and financing strategies and development cooperation programmes.	Encourage and wherever possible track integration of conservation areas needs into national and, where applicable, regional development and financing strategies and development cooperation programmes.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
3.4.7	Convene as soon as possible, but not later than 2005, a meeting of the donor agencies and other relevant organizations to discuss options for mobilizing new and additional funding to developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States for implementation of the programme of work.	Convene as soon as possible, but not later than 2027, a meeting of donor agencies, international financial institutions and other relevant organizations to discuss options for mobilizing new and additional funding to developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States for implementation of the programme of work.
3.4.8	Compile and disseminate case-studies and best practices concerning protected area financing through the clearing-house mechanism and other media.	Compile and disseminate case-studies and best practices concerning conservation area and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones financing, especially those located in ITTs and managed by IPLCs, through the clearing-house mechanism and other media.
3.4.9	Review and disseminate by 2006 studies on the value of ecosystem services provided by protected areas	[now redundant]
Goal 3.5	To strengthen communication, education and public awareness	To strengthen targeted communication, education and public awareness and behaviour change
Target 3.5	By 2008 public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the importance and benefits of protected areas is significantly increased.	By 2027 public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the importance and benefits of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones is significantly increased; and by 2030, communities living near to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones are supportive of conservation efforts and visitors to conservation areas are engaged in positive behaviours and collaborative threat reduction[26]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
3.5.1	Establish or strengthen strategies and programmes of education and public awareness on the importance of protected areas in terms of their role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable socioeconomic development, in close collaboration with the Communication, Education and Public Awareness Initiative (CEPA) under the Convention on Biological Diversity and Targeted towards all stakeholders.	Establish or strengthen strategies and programmes of education and public awareness on the importance of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones in terms of their role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable socioeconomic development, in close collaboration with the Communication, Education and Public Awareness Initiative (CEPA) under the Convention on Biological Diversity and targeted towards all stakeholders.
3.5.2	Identify core themes for education, awareness and communication programmes relevant to protected areas, including *inter alia* their	Identify core themes for education, awareness and communication programmes relevant to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or

[26] Behaviour Change Task Force LINK

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	contribution to economy and culture to achieve specific end results such as compliance by resource users and other stakeholders or an increased understanding of science-based knowledge by indigenous and local communities and policy makers and an increased understanding of the needs, priorities and value of indigenous and local communities knowledge, innovations and practices by Governments, non-Governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders.	buffer zones, including *inter alia* their contribution to economy and culture to achieve specific end results such as compliance by resource users and other stakeholders or an increased understanding of science-based / traditional knowledge by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (and vice versa) and policy makers and an increased understanding of the needs, priorities and value of Indigenous Peoples and local communities knowledge, innovations and practices by Governments, non-Governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders. Prioritize human-nature connection through promoting worldviews and values that emphasize care, reciprocity, and harmony with nature. These worldviews include those associated with Indigenous and local knowledge systems.[10]
3.5.3	Strengthen, and where necessary, establish information mechanisms directed at Target groups such as the private sector, policy makers, development institutions, community-based organizations, the youth, the media, and the general public.	Strengthen, and where necessary, establish information mechanisms directed at target groups such as the private sector, policy makers, development institutions, community-based organizations, the youth, the media, and the general public.
3.5.4	Develop mechanisms for constructive dialogue and exchange of information and experiences among protected-area managers, and between protected area managers and indigenous and local communities and their organizations and other environment educators and actors.	Develop mechanisms for constructive dialogue and exchange of information and experiences among conservation area managers, and between conservation area managers and indigenous and local communities and their organizations and other environment educators and actors. Exchange of information and experiences from fields with expertise in specific threats, like criminology for wildlife crime and other crimes against the environment.
3.5.5	Incorporate the subject of protected areas as an integral component of the school curricula as well as in informal education.	Incorporate the subject of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones as an integral component of the school curricula as well as in informal education.
3.5.6	Establish mechanism and evaluate the impacts of communication, education and public awareness programmes on biodiversity conservation to ensure that they improve public awareness, change behaviour and support the achievement of protected area objectives.	Establish mechanism and evaluate the impacts of communication, education and public awareness programmes on biodiversity conservation to ensure that they improve public awareness, change behaviour and support the achievement of conservation area and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones objectives.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
3.5.7	Collaborate with IUCN and other relevant organizations to collect and disseminate educational tools and materials for adaptation and use in the promotion of protected areas as an important means of achieving the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	Collaborate with IUCN and other relevant organizations to collect and disseminate educational tools and materials for adaptation and use in the promotion of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones as an important means of achieving the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
3.5.8	Establish, in collaboration with the IUCN and other relevant partners, an initiative to engage the global news and entertainment industry (television, film, popular music, internet, etc.) in a global campaign to raise awareness of the consequences of biological diversity loss and	Establish, in collaboration with the IUCN and other relevant partners, an initiative to engage the global news and entertainment industry (television, film, popular music, internet, etc.) in a global campaign to raise awareness of the consequences of biological diversity loss and the important role of conservation areas and their ecological

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	the important role of protected areas in biodiversity conservation.	networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones in biodiversity conservation.
	PROGRAMME ELEMENT 4: Standards, assessment, and monitoring	
Goal 4.1	To develop and adopt minimum standards and best practices for national and regional protected area systems	To develop and adopt minimum standards and best practices for national and regional systems of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Target 4.1	By 2008, standards, criteria, and best practices for planning, selecting, establishing, managing and governance of national and regional systems of protected areas are developed and adopted.	By 2030, standards, criteria, and best practices for planning, selecting, establishing, administering, managing, and governing national and regional systems of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones are further refined and adopted.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
4.1.1	Collaborate with other Parties and relevant organizations, particularly IUCN, on the development, testing, review and promotion of voluntary protected areas standards and best practices on planning and management, governance and participation.	Collaborate with other Parties and relevant organizations, particularly IUCN, on the promotion and implementation of voluntary conservation areas standards such as the IUCN Global Standard for protected and conserved areas v.2.0 [27] and best practices on planning and management, governance and participation.
4.1.2	Develop and implement an efficient, long-term monitoring system of the outcomes being achieved through protected area systems in relation to the Goals and Targets of this work programme.	Develop and implement an efficient, long-term system or framework to connect monitoring and reporting of ecological outcomes at the site and system level with KM-GBF reporting frameworks for overall status and trends for species and ecosystems.
4.1.3	Draw upon monitoring results to adapt and improve protected area management based on the ecosystem approach.	Draw upon monitoring results to adapt and improve conservation area and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones management based on the ecosystem approach.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
4.1.4	In collaboration with the key partners and based upon the best practices promote available guidance for parties minimum standards for planning, selecting, establishing, managing and governance of protected area sites and systems.	In collaboration with key partners and parties, establish and promote a recommended framework [register?] of internationally acknowledged norms and minimum standards for selection, establishment, planning, management, administration and governance of conservation areas and systems and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones. Develop and disseminate guidance and case studies on appropriate adaptation and adoption of the framework.
4.1.5	Compile information on best practices and case-studies on effective management of protected areas and disseminate it through clearing-house mechanism and facilitate exchange of information.	Compile information on best practices and case-studies on effective management of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones and disseminate it through clearing-house mechanism and facilitate exchange of information.
Goal 4.2	To evaluate and improve the effectiveness of protected areas management	To evaluate and improve the effectiveness of conservation areas management and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones
Target 4.2	By 2010, frameworks for monitoring, evaluating and reporting protected areas	By 2027, updated operational framework and methodologies for monitoring, evaluating and reporting

[27] The IUCN Global Standard for protected and conserved areas v.2.0 LINK

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	management effectiveness at sites, national and regional systems, and transboundary protected area levels adopted and implemented by Parties	conservation areas management effectiveness and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones at all levels (sites, national and regional systems, and transboundary conservation areas) are adopted and implemented by Parties, in collaboration with relevant partners[28]
Suggested activities of the Parties		
4.2.1	Develop and adopt, by 2006, appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected area management and governance, and set up a related database, taking into account the IUCN-WCPA framework for evaluating management effectiveness, and other relevant methodologies, which should be adapted to local conditions.	Establish, by 2026, national effectiveness monitoring systems for biodiversity, ecosystem integrity, governance, and ecological connectivity, taking into account the IUCN WCPA frameworks (e.g., Global Standard for Protected and Conserved Areas, (v2.0 in development), IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas, METT4, World Heritage Outlook) for evaluating management effectiveness, and other relevant methodologies. Measures of effectiveness should be values-focused, primarily outcome-oriented and adapted to local conditions. Enable seamless information flow from site-based data collection to conservation area effectiveness assessments at subnational, national, and global levels.
4.2.2	Implement management effectiveness evaluations of at least 30 percent of each Partys protected areas by 2010 and of national protected area systems and, as appropriate, ecological networks.	Implement management effectiveness evaluations of at least 50 percent of each Party's conservation areas by 2030 and of national conservation area systems and, as appropriate, their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
4.2.3	Include information resulting from evaluation of protected areas management effectiveness in national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	Include information resulting from evaluation of conservation areas management effectiveness in national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity, to WCMC and the Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness (GD-PAME) and in updating National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans.
4.2.4	Implement key recommendations arising from site- and system-level management effectiveness evaluations, as an integral part of adaptive management strategies.	Implement key recommendations arising from site- and system-level management effectiveness evaluations, as an integral part of adaptive management strategies.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
4.2.5	Compile and disseminate information on management effectiveness through the clearing-house mechanism and develop a database of experts in evaluation of protected area management effectiveness and consider the possibility of organizing an international workshop on appropriate methods, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected area management.	[Redundant with ongoing work by IUCN and others.]
4.2.6	In cooperation with IUCN-WCPA and other relevant organizations, compile and disseminate information on best practices in protected area design, establishment and management.	In cooperation with IUCN WCPA and other relevant organizations, compile and disseminate information on best practices in conservation area and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones design, establishment and management and effectiveness evaluation.

[28] Assessing and reporting on the effectiveness element of Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework, May 2024 LINK

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4.2.x	-	In collaboration with relevant partners, develop an outcome-oriented, evidence-based, user-friendly, and multi-level approach and guidance for monitoring, evaluating and reporting management effectiveness of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, building on existing methodologies and standards, and ensuring alignment with KMGBF Target 3, by 2030.
4.2.x	-	Develop and promote guidance for the harmonization and alignment of existing PAME methodologies, including digital applications and reporting platforms, to ensure comparability, commensurability, and usability of assessment results, drawing in particular on internationally recognised standards such as the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas. Foster innovation in management effectiveness evaluation across all levels.
Goal 4.3	To assess and monitor protected area status and trends	To assess, monitor and evaluate biodiversity status and trends in conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Target 4.3	By 2010, national and regional systems are established to enable effective monitoring of protected-area coverage, status and trends at national, regional and global scales, and to assist in evaluating progress in meeting global biodiversity Targets.	By 2028, national and regional systems are established to enable effective monitoring of coverage of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, biodiversity status and trends at national, regional and global scales, and to assist in evaluating progress in meeting KMGBF Target 3 and other targets.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
4.3.1	Implement national and regional programmes to monitor and assess the status and trends of biodiversity within protected area systems and sites.	Implement national and regional programmes to monitor, assess, [and report on] the status and trends of biodiversity within conserved area systems, ensuring integration of relevant datasets used for reporting to other MEAs and alignment where possible with indicators identified for the KMGBF 2030 targets and 2050 goals on outcomes for species and ecosystems.
4.3.2	Measure progress towards achieving protected area Targets based on periodic monitoring and report on progress towards these Targets in future national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as in a thematic report at COP-9.	Implement national and regional programmes to monitor, assess, [and report on] the status and trends of biodiversity within conservation area systems and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones, ensuring integration of relevant datasets used for reporting to other MEAs and alignment where possible with indicators identified for the KM-GBF 2030 targets and 2050 goals on outcomes for species and ecosystems.
4.3.3	Improve and update national and regional databases on protected areas and consolidate the World Database on Protected Areas as key support mechanisms in the assessment and monitoring of protected area status and trends.	Improve and update national and regional databases on conservation areas and consolidate the World Database on Protected and Conserved Areas as key support mechanisms in the assessment and monitoring of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones status and trends.
4.3.4	Participate in the World Database on Protected Areas maintained by UNEP-WCMC, and the United Nations List of Protected Areas	Participate in the World Database on Protected and Conserved Areas and the World Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness maintained by UNEP-

Goal/ Target/ Action #	2004 PoWPA	Suggested 2026 revision
	and the State of the World Protected Areas assessment process.	WCMC. Include data on effectiveness of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones as per UNEP-WCMC guidance wherever possible.
4.3.5	Encourage the establishment and establishment use of new technologies including geographic information system and remote sensing tools for monitoring protected areas.	Encourage the establishment, use and integration of new technologies including automated site-based data collection and processing, geographic information systems and remote sensing tools for monitoring conservation areas.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
4.3.6	Develop and consolidate working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions that have developed and maintained monitoring systems and databases on protected areas, in particular with the UNEP-WCMC and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.	Develop and consolidate working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions that have developed and maintained monitoring systems and databases on conservation areas, in particular with the UNEP-WCMC and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.
4.3.7	Explore establishment of a harmonized system and time schedule for reporting on sites designated under the Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, and UNESCO MAB programme, and other regional systems, as appropriate, taking into account the ongoing work of UNEP-WCMC on harmonization of reporting and the IUCN protected area management category system for reporting purpose.	Explore establishment of a harmonized system and time schedule for reporting on sites designated under the Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, and UNESCO MAB programme, and other regional systems, as appropriate, taking into account the ongoing work of UNEP-WCMC on harmonization of reporting and the IUCN protected area management category system for reporting purpose.
4.3.8	Prepare an updated format for the thematic report on protected areas covering, inter alia, integration of protected areas and national systems of protected areas into relevant sectors and spatial planning taking into account decision VII/25 on national reporting.	Prepare an updated format for the thematic report on conservation areas covering, inter alia, integration of conservation areas and national systems of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones into relevant sectors and spatial planning taking into account decisions 15/6 and 16/32 on national reporting, Target 1 on spatial planning, and Target 3 on conservation areas “integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean.)
4.3.x		Prepare an updated format and support the strengthening of the CBD platform to report on Target 3.
Goal 4.4	To ensure that scientific knowledge contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of protected areas and protected area Systems	To ensure that scientific knowledge contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of conservation areas and conservation area systems and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones
Target 4.4	Scientific knowledge relevant to protected areas is further developed as a contribution to their establishment, effectiveness, and management.	By 2027, scientific knowledge relevant to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones is further developed as a contribution to their establishment, effectiveness, and management.
Suggested activities of the Parties		
4.4.1	Improve research, scientific and technical cooperation related to protected areas at national, regional and international levels.	Improve research, scientific and technical cooperation related to conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones at national, regional and international levels.

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4.4.2	Promote interdisciplinary research, to improve understanding of the ecological social and economic aspects of protected areas, including methods and techniques for valuation of goods and services from protected areas	Promote interdisciplinary research, to improve understanding of the ecological social and economic aspects of conservation areas, including methods and techniques for valuation of goods and services from conservation areas, taking account multiple values and diverse conceptualisations of conservation area benefits and costs.
4.4.3	Encourage studies to improve the knowledge of the distribution, status and trends of biological diversity.	Encourage studies to improve the knowledge of the distribution, status and trends of biological diversity.
4.4.4	Encourage collaborative research between scientists and indigenous and local communities in accordance with Article 8(j) in connection with the establishment and the effective management of protected areas	Encourage collaborative research between scientists and indigenous and local communities in accordance with Article 8(j) in connection with the establishment or recognition and the effective management of conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
4.4.5	Promote the dissemination of scientific information from and on protected areas including through the clearing-house mechanism.	Promote the dissemination of scientific information from and on conservation areas, including through the clearing-house mechanism.
4.4.6	Promote the dissemination of, and facilitate access to, scientific and technical information, in particular publications on protected areas, with special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States.	Promote the dissemination of, and facilitate access to, scientific and technical information, in particular publications on conservation areas, with special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States.
4.4.7	Develop and strengthen working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions which undertake research studies leading to an improved understanding of biodiversity in protected areas.	Develop and strengthen working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions which undertake research studies leading to an improved understanding of biodiversity in conservation areas and their ecological networks, ecological corridors, and/or buffer zones.
Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary		
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Annex II - IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations relevant to the review of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Since the adoption of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas in 2004, IUCN has adopted over 200 resolutions and recommendations related to protected and conserved areas.

Together, these resolutions and recommendations provide directions for IUCN and its government members to continuously improve area-based conservation, with inclusive governance models, effective and equitable management, robust planning, monitoring and evaluation systems, etc. These can also inform the revision of the Programme of Work to strengthen and integrate rights-based governance, scientific rigour, ecological connectivity, climate relevance, and strengthened implementation capacity—ensuring that protected and conserved areas contribute meaningfully and fairly to global biodiversity goals. For the purpose of the review of the Programme of Work, we highlight the following resolutions as they feature the core elements now recognised as indispensable for achieving Target 3 of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework:

8th IUCN World Conservation Congress (2025)

WCC-2025-Res-006 Promoting the models of regional or sub-national protected natural areas to achieve the global target of 30% protected and conserved areas by 2030

WCC-2025-Res-012 Advancing the IUCN Green List Standard of protected and conserved areas to enhance effective and equitable in situ conservation

WCC-2025-Res-088 Mobilising resources and strengthening evaluation to ensure the effective management of protected and conserved areas for global biodiversity goals

WCC-2025-Res-095 Setting area-based targets on scientific evidence and reversing historic injustices

WCC-2025-Res-101 The role of rangers as essential planetary health workers in particular to achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

WCC-2025-Res-106 Scaling-up Indigenous leadership in the protection of nature and the sacred

WCC-2025-Res-126 Recognising and reporting ecological corridors

WCC-2025-Res-136 Recognising unequivocally and effectively supporting the crucial conservation role of territories of life and their custodians

7th IUCN World Conservation Congress (2020)

WCC-2020-Res-073 Ecological connectivity conservation in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: from local to international levels

WCC-2020-Res-081 Strengthening national spatial planning to ensure the global persistence of biodiversity

WCC-2020-Res-083 Ensuring the compatibility of human activities with conservation objectives in protected areas

WCC-2020-Res-084 Global response to protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD)

WCC-2020-Res-093 A call for increased consideration of genetic diversity in IUCN planning and actions

WCC-2020-Res-125 Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive

WCC-2020-Res-118 Recognising and supporting indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and roles in conservation

6th IUCN World Conservation Congress (2016)

WCC-2016-Res-030 Recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas

WCC-2016-Res-033 Recognising cultural and spiritual significance of nature in protected and conserved areas

WCC-2016-Res-035 Transboundary cooperation and protected areas

WCC-2016-Res-036 Supporting privately protected areas

WCC-2016-Res-039 Protected areas as natural solutions to climate change

WCC-2016-Res-041 Identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for safeguarding biodiversity

5th IUCN World Conservation Congress (2012)

WCC-2012-Rec-147 Sacred natural sites – support for custodian protocols and customary laws in the face of global threats and challenges

WCC-2012-Res-035 Facilitating conservation through the establishment of protected areas as a basis for achieving Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

WCC-2012-Res-045 Broadening awareness of benefits and relevance of protected areas

WCC-2012-Res-077 Promoting Locally Managed Marine Areas as a socially inclusive approach to meeting area-based conservation and Marine Protected Area targets

WCC-2012-Res-094 Respecting, recognizing and supporting Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas

4th World Conservation Congress (2008)

WCC 2008 RES 048 Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord

3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (2004)

WCC 2004 RES 055 Indigenous peoples, protected areas and the CBD Programme of Work