NAPA
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Edito

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Idealism versus Realism

One of the lessons learnt from our MOOC's first edition, which ran from October to December of last year, is the enthusiasm of many participants for community solutions to common problems faced by protected areas.

The forum, which attracted over 1,200 participants, some daily visitors, was particularly active when the topic of community governance for protected areas was discussed. And the direction of this intense discussion nearly always pointed to the involvement of local communities to resolve most of the problems that exist in and around protected areas. This assertion is based on the idea that through dialogue, discussion, involvement of those communities in the decisions, we can rally them to the cause of the site conservation. In order for this model to function, the communities should benefit from the potential impacts, including economic, of conservation.

This has become common truth for many years, particularly since the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) enshrined it as the third goal of its first article: to share the benefits derived from the sustainable use of resources (this use being the second objective, the first one being about conservation).

It is a truth that it is now very difficult to challenge. First, because it is an attractive one, one we'd like to believe in. What better indeed than to think that if everybody is associated to the resolution of a particular problem, it is immediately going to be fixed? This line of thought became more than a postulate, a philosophy. There is currently no congress, no convention which does not provide a chair or even the whole amphitheater to its supporters. It is also now a rule. I think there does not exist a single project funded by a major donor that hasn't got its "community" facet, even when it makes no sense.

It is also just obvious. If problems arise from the community, then certainly the community has to be a part of the solutions. The problem is that many of these problems have other origins, and relying on local people to resolve them is a risky gamble. Or is it a cynical calculation? A good example is when we consider the major mining projects that seek approval from locals despite knowing they will be disowned at broader scale...

Anyway, community governance of natural resources, or shared governance when communities are one of the players around the table, has its place in the arsenal of conservation. Yes, it is a fact, a truth. But does it always work?

A study conducted in 2013 in Tanzania in 20 villages bordering the Serengeti ecosystem (http://jed.sagepub.com/content/22/1/51) is indicative of the situation. While the populations are associated with the management of resources through what is called the Community-based conservation, the conclusions of the study are as follows (excerpts):

"*This study examined the income generated from conservation relative to the costs incurred by the*

communities and investigated the governance of the income received by the Village Committee. The main conclusions are that very little of the income reached the communities and virtually nothing reached the households… In contrast, communities are paying a heavy price for conservation due to the loss of agricultural and grazing land as well as the destruction of crops and livestock by wild animals… In addition, there is generally poor governance of the funds received at village level. A small team of about 3 to 4 people allocate the money in the way they wish. There is no participatory planning and quite often gender inequality. The expenditure did not tally with the income received and there was no satisfactory explanation for that…The inadequate benefits from conservation have led to a negative attitude to it by the communities surrounding the Serengeti ecosystem, which has contributed to a high level of poaching in the area."

In the end, there is nothing surprising here. The limitation of community-based conservation is the same as that of all other forms of governance: it is linked to the men and women who implement it. Let us not be naive about its ability to do better and let's give it the same level of performance requirement. This is the least of the services we can render to those who engage in this model of conservation honestly and with good will.

Papaco is also on:

Twitter = @Papaco_IUCN
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And on:

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(https://www.facebook.com/IUCNpapaco)

Reminder: 12th edition of our University Diploma on PA management and governance

18 April to 10 June 2016 in Ouagadougou
In partnership with IUCN-PACO

A new session of our 8 week training course on PA management and governance will take place in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) from the 18th April to the 10th June 2016. The course is open to PA managers and their partners (private sector, NGOs, research etc.). The course is held in French and is composed of theory and practice on the ground (2 weeks). The program covers environmental policies, planning, management effectiveness, governance, ecological survey, GIS, ecology, local consultation and negotiation, economy etc.

The cost of the training and students' participation is fully supported by the **MAVA foundation**.

To apply: http://continue.senghor.refer.org

Deadline for inscription: 20th February 2016

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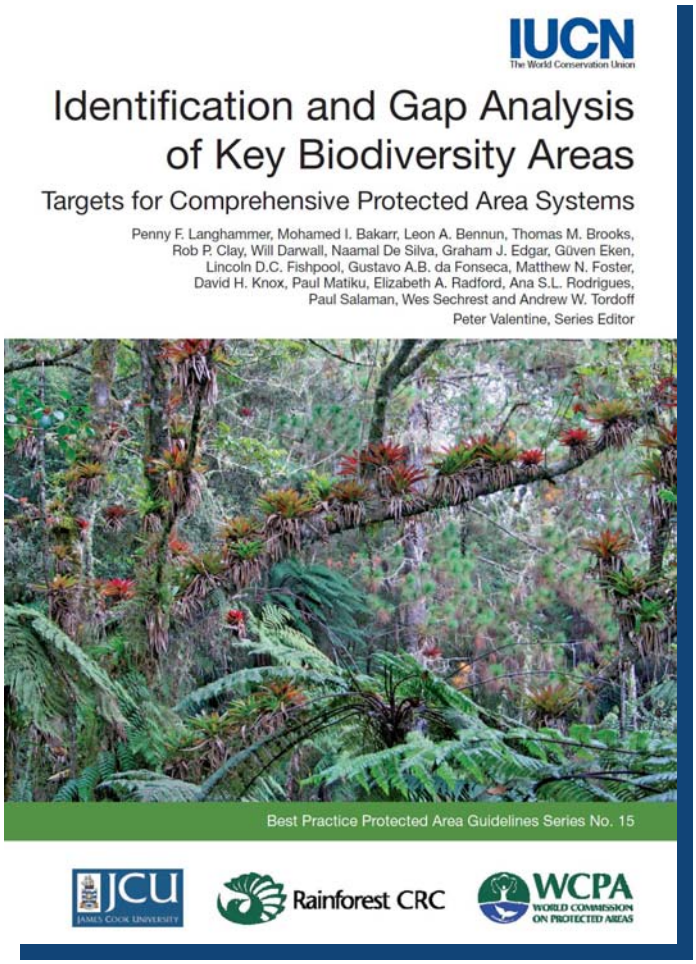

Identification and Gap Analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas - Targets for Comprehensive Protected Area Systems

WCPA - Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 15

Penny F. Langhammer and coll.

Direction 5 of the Road Map on African PA

A global analysis of conservation gaps reveals that quite a lot of biodiversity is currently living outside of protected areas. Advances in knowledge about species distribution and the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) indeed show that hundreds of terrestrial vertebrate species are not represented in any protected area. Hence the need to extend the coverage of protected areas (and thus achieve the Aichi target n°11 - 17% of land covered by PAs) but to do it in a strategic way in order to expand the network and to better address the threats that biodiversity faces. The gap analysis, which is the subject of the WCPA guidelines n°15 (World Commission on Protected Areas), is a tool that aims at achieving this, based on the concept of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA). This NAPA presents excerpts from this book, it will however be essential to consult it in full to understand the whole process.

Download the full Guidelines on www.papaco.org, page publications

(Extracts from the guidelines)

KBAs are sites of global significance for biodiversity conservation. They are identified using globally standard criteria and thresholds, based on the needs of biodiversity requiring safeguards at the site scale. These criteria are based on the framework of **vulnerability** and **irreplaceability**, widely used in systematic conservation planning.

1) Key Biodiversity Areas in conservation priority-setting

No biodiversity is dispensable or redundant – every population of every species, in fact all of nature, is worth conserving. Prioritization is not about selecting which elements of biodiversity deserve conservation attention and which do not, but about deciding which elements need attention first. It is based on the rationale that biodiversity elements do not all have the same conservation needs, nor do they all provide the same contribution to the conservation of global biodiversity. Prioritization is needed because resources available for conservation efforts are scarce and therefore need to be invested in strategic ways to ensure that our conservation efforts make the greatest contribution to preserving global biodiversity…

2) Principles for setting conservation priorities

Two main variables determine how we prioritize conservation targets and actions: **irreplaceability** and **vulnerability**.

a) The irreplaceability (or uniqueness) of a site is the degree to which geographic (or spatial) options for conservation will be lost if that particular site is lost. In an extreme example, a site is completely irreplaceable if it contains one or more species that occur nowhere else. In contrast, when sites contain only species that are widely distributed, many alternatives exist for conserving these species. Sites that hold significant fractions of a species' entire population during particular periods of the year (e.g., migratory bottlenecks and routes) are also highly irreplaceable.

b) Vulnerability (or threat) refers to the likelihood that a site's biodiversity value will be lost in the future. Thus, vulnerability can also be seen as a measure of irreplaceability, but over time, rather than space. Thus, highly vulnerable sites can either be protected now or never. Sites facing low threat will retain options for conservation in the future. Vulnerability may be measured on a site basis (likelihood that the species will be locally extirpated from a site) or a species-basis (likelihood that the species will go globally extinct).

High irreplaceability + high vulnerability = high conservation urgency

Sites of high irreplaceability and high vulnerability have the highest conservation urgency: protection must occur right there, right now, to prevent imminent and irreversible biodiversity loss.

3) Additional principles governing the priority-setting process

a) *Complementarity* – In order to maximize conservation investment, prioritization exercises must evaluate how much each site contributes towards achieving conservation objectives by complementing existing investment. The priority level of each site is thus not simply based on its biological composition but on that of other sites as well, and on the previous conservation decisions. The principle of complementarity means that the priority level of each given site may change depending on previous decisions. In the most classical sense, gap analysis identifies sites that best complement the existing network of protected areas. In these guidelines, we broaden the concept of gap analysis to identify where existing protected areas might best be strengthened as well as where new ones should be established…

b) *Iteration* – Prioritization must be an iterative process, one that is continuously updated to ensure the best conservation decisions at each moment in time.

- *New decisions: a*ddressing complementarity requires considering how much each site contributes to overall conservation objectives, by complementing previous investment. This means that new decisions on which sites are already protected are likely to change the relative priority value of unprotected sites. For example, if two sites contain 50% each of the global population of a threatened species, they are both highly irreplaceable and thus very high priorities for conservation planning. However, as soon as one of those sites becomes protected, the priority value of the second drops in relation to other sites containing species in equal circumstances occurring outside of any protected areas.
- *New data:* if new data reveal the existence of previously unknown populations or the absence of a species from sites it previously occupied, or if conditions change (e.g., a species goes locally extinct in some sites, or more rarely, colonizes others), the priorities will need to be updated accordingly.

c) *Accountability* – Solutions for conservation planning should be obtained in a transparent way, so that others can understand why and how the result was derived and, if desired, challenge the findings.

d) *Repeatability* – Related to accountability, repeatability ensures that others with the same data and the same set of criteria would derive similar solutions.

Accountability and repeatability are important because protected area networks chosen objectively can be more easily justified and defended, which is particularly crucial when there are many competing interests for the same land.

4) Methods for setting conservation priorities

Ad hoc decision-making

In the past, protected areas have generally been selected on a site-by-site basis, in an *ad hoc* way, often based on factors such as opportunity (i.e., the site is not seen as valuable for major commercial land use such as agriculture), scenery, recreation, tourist potential, the influence of lobby groups, and historical protection for uses such as hunting or water supply. This approach is not strategic: it does

not ensure that the sites with the most important contributions to global biodiversity are adequately protected, and it has already resulted in protected area networks that do not safeguard the most vulnerable habitats in favor of less biodiverse regions that have low human pressure. It also often neglects to involve the breadth of stakeholders necessary for conservation to succeed in the long term.

Conservation priority-setting workshops

Priority-setting workshops, in which experts from a wide range of taxonomic, biological, ecological and socio-economic disciplines identify priority areas based on their specialist opinions, have become a major tool in conservation planning in recent years. These workshops offer many advantages over *ad hoc* decision-making:

- They define priorities on a regional scale instead of looking at each site in isolation.
- They provide fora to exchange information and ideas, particularly useful in poorly studied regions where most data are not yet published.
- They are key in building a broad consensus amongst stakeholders (scientists, government agencies, resource users, NGOs and donors) and a sense of ownership of the results, thus creating favorable conditions for implementation.

Nonetheless, workshops do have some limitations:

- There is great margin for subjectivity, as priorities are frequently identified based on intuition and opinion rather than biological data and explicit criteria. Thus, accountability and repeatability are compromised, and results often don't effectively target the most urgent conservation investments.
- There is a tendency to prioritize data-rich areas over data-poor ones, although this is not a limitation unique to workshops.

Priority-setting workshops have thus been evolving towards integrating more explicit data and criteria.

Data-driven systematic conservation planning

Data-driven, systematic analysis is necessary for strategic and sound conservation planning. As with all analytical processes, the quality of the results depends directly on the quality of the input data; no methodology, however sophisticated, can extract good results from bad data (the GIGO rule, "Garbage In Garbage Out"). The reality is that there are gaps and biases in the data currently available for conservation planning:

- Data availability and quality vary tremendously spatially (e.g., amongst countries, or even within regions of a country) and between different types of data (e.g., between different groups such as birds and plants). Often those regions of the world with poorer data are those most in need of conservation planning.
- Although strategic investments in acquiring new data can fill crucial gaps in knowledge, conservation planning is often required too urgently to allow time for extensive data collection.
- Reviewing and spatially referencing all relevant existing data may also be time consuming and reveal many gaps and biases in the existing data, perhaps discouraging planners from using these methods.

Nonetheless, conservation planning must proceed, despite these gaps and biases, making the best use of the available data, as is done for KBAs; shortcomings should be acknowledged explicitly and provisions taken for reducing them, not hidden under subjectivity.

Workshops combined with data-driven conservation planning

Data-driven conservation planning is not a replacement for expert input, but a way to formalize and make the best use of such input. Expert workshops are one way of consolidating, synthesizing and, especially, reviewing and interpreting these data, particularly unpublished information. A successful approach delivering objectivity and buy-in has been used by the BirdLife International partnership in identifying IBAs: it starts with initial data collation by an expert team, followed by a workshop where data are presented, supplemented, revised, and applied to criteria, before being finalized by an expert team. In this way, the advantages of priority-setting workshops (consensus building, stakeholder engagement and result ownership) are combined with the

accountability and repeatability of data-driven planning.

5) Errors in priority-setting

Conservation planning based on perfect data is impossible even in the best-known parts of the world; thus, results are always affected by error, which can be divided into two classes:

a) **Omission errors** (false negatives) result when conservationists fail to realize that a species occurs in a particular site, where it could be protected. These often result from incomplete information and are particularly associated with point locality data. The less well-known a species or a region is, the more likely that the species occurs beyond the places where it has been confirmed. The risk in using data with a geographic bias in defining conservation priorities is that areas that have been heavily sampled tend to be highlighted as higher priorities than areas with little sampling. Point locality data are thus plagued by false negatives (or omission errors), in which species are considered to be absent from sites at which they are, in fact, present. It is tempting to try to 'correct' for sampling effort through statistical modeling, in particular by extrapolating from known species localities to modeled distributions. There are serious dangers, however, in this approach. Models have less statistical power for species with very few records and with small ranges in relation to the resolution of the environmental data, making them less useful and reliable for application to rare or poorly known species, which are often among the most in need of conservation attention.

b) **Commission errors** (false positives) result when a species is considered adequately protected in a site where it is not actually present. These errors tend to result from data extrapolation. For example when fitting point data to a grid format, people sometimes assume that cells in between known records are also occupied. They may also result from habitat suitability models, which extrapolate from point localities into un-sampled regions based on environmental similarity. While extrapolations are predictions of habitat suitable for occupancy, not of actual current occupancy, these models are often interpreted as the latter. Applying such modeled data to gap analyses can potentially result in an overestimate of the species' current coverage by the existing network of protected areas and in the diversion of conservation action towards sites where species do not exist.

Commission errors are more serious in conservation planning than omission errors. False negatives are precautionary in that they assume that conservation efforts should be aimed at places where we know that species are present (even if more appropriate places are found subsequently). False positives, on the other hand, could lead to a species' extinction because we assume we are conserving it where it does not actually occur. These consequences are particularly vital for species with small ranges and/or globally threatened species. Omission errors can also result in extinctions if species are lost before their locations are mapped, but correcting for these errors must rely on field data, rather than solely on predictions that can lead to commission errors. Predicted occurrences, on the other hand, are invaluable in identifying priorities for research.

6) Rationale for the KBA criteria and considerations in setting thresholds

We saw previously the importance of using an approach driven by species locality data to identify site-scale targets for biodiversity conservation, and thence as a starting point for national gap analysis. The KBA identification process uses the two criteria: **vulnerability** and **irreplaceability**. Under these criteria, KBAs are selected based on the

presence of species that require site-scale conservation.

A site meets the vulnerability criterion for KBAs if it holds globally significant numbers of one or more globally threatened species according to the IUCN Red List. These species, by definition, are threatened with extinction; thus, all areas where they occur in significant numbers must be considered global priorities for site-scale conservation.

A site meets the irreplaceability criterion for KBAs if it maintains a globally significant proportion of a species' total population at some point in that species' lifecycle. This criterion covers multiple components of irreplaceability, for species that are geographically concentrated and consequently depend on a network of sites within at least part of their ranges or life cycles. This includes many species that have restricted ranges, have highly clumped distributions within large ranges, congregate in large numbers, have source populations on which significant proportions of the global population depend, or are restricted to particular biomes or bioregions. Viewed another way, these highly irreplaceable sites are those most important for proactive conservation to prevent biodiversity loss, should threats intensify or if threats are stochastically distributed.

A KBA can be identified under the vulnerability and the irreplaceability criteria simultaneously (see Table here after); indeed, many individual species trigger both the vulnerability and the irreplaceability criteria. A KBA network defined according to the presence of species meeting the vulnerability or the irreplaceability criteria would be expected to include all sites that play a crucial role in maintaining the global population of these species.

Table: summary of criteria and thresholds for KBAs

Criterion	Sub-criterion	Provisional threshold to qualify as a KBA
Vulnerability Regular occurrence of a globally threatened species (according to the IUCN Red List) at the site	N/A	Critically Endangered (CR) and Endangered (EN) species – presence of a single individual Vulnerable species (VU) – 30 individuals or 10 pairs
Irreplaceability Site holds X% of a species' global population at any stage of the species' lifecycle	a) Restricted-range species	Species with a global range less than 50,000 km*2* 5% of global population at site
	b) Species with large but clumped distributions	5% of global population at site
	c) Globally significant congregations	1% of global population seasonally at the site
	d) Globally significant source populations	Site is responsible for maintaining 1% of global population
	e) Bioregionally restricted assemblages	To be defined

We foresee that the process for establishing definitive thresholds for KBA criteria will evolve, in a fashion similar to the development of the IUCN Red List criteria. In particular, application of the proposed KBA criteria to marine and freshwater environments requires much further testing.

7) Concept and purpose of gap analysis

Over the last couple of decades, two distinct strands of 'gap analysis' have emerged in the literature and in practice. The first, institutionalized by the US Gap Analysis Program, assesses coverage of existing protected areas by comparing maps of land classes and/or of (frequently modeled) species distributions with maps of land stewardship and management status. Percentage-based representation targets are used to assess extent of coverage for each land class or species within existing protected areas.

The second strand of gap analysis has been largely driven through the Australian, South African and European systematic conservation planning literature. It assesses priorities for establishing new protected areas that best complement existing networks. Explicit representation targets are

established for the features that will be analyzed, then the existing protected areas are reviewed to assess how well they meet those targets; finally priorities for expanding the protected area network are identified to achieve the targets for all features. Priorities are established based on the principles of irreplaceability and vulnerability.

The framework for gap analyses presented in these guidelines has deep roots in both of these approaches. However, our framework has been developed to deal with the practical constraints in which most national and regional gap analyses take place.

Benefits of a KBA-based gap analysis:

- A KBA-based gap analysis starts with reliable data on species occurrence at sites, rather than broad generalizations (e.g., broad polygons of extent of occurrence or mapping across arbitrary grid cells) or inferred distribution (e.g., modeled data). This minimizes commission errors, where species are presumed protected in places where they do not occur.
- KBAs focus on those species that are most likely to need conservation investment: globally threatened species; species with restricted ranges; species that congregate; and bioregionally restricted species.
- KBA-based gap analysis encourages the use of the best information available (even if not in a standardized format) to prioritize those sites where conservation is likely to be more effective (i.e., sites with larger populations, higher abundance, better habitat, etc. for the trigger species).
- KBA-based gap analysis does not presume a binary distinction between protected and unprotected sites. Instead, it encourages the use of the best available information to understand the variations in site-based vulnerability (i.e., the probability that species will persist at a site). Conservation priorities are not defined simply as the sites that should receive legal protection but, more broadly, as the sites that require conservation action that best complements ongoing efforts (including reinforcing existing protected areas).
- KBA-based gap analysis explicitly recognizes that data are not perfect and will be continually improved. Rather than oversimplifying the data to the lowest common denominator (e.g., by using broad generalizations of species presence or protected area status), it clearly distinguishes between what is known and what is presumed, striving to make the best use of the available information, while highlighting priorities for improving it strategically.

A straightforward overlay between KBAs and legally designated protected areas provides useful information as a first cut to a national or regional gap analysis. However, the binary distinction between (legally) protected and unprotected areas assumed by most gap analyses is an oversimplification of conservation effort in any given region, and such an analysis is likely to overestimate the true degree of species representation and protection.

Indeed, existing protected areas have been placed under a wide diversity of management regimes, from strict protection to multiple-use. Irrespective of legal status, such protection often has little or no correspondence on the ground. In contrast, some sites that are not legally considered part of a protected area network have a high level of effective protection. Acknowledging this complexity, the framework proposed in these guidelines does not simply focus on expanding networks of legally protected areas but also on defining priorities to strengthen and consolidate existing networks. The term 'protected area' in these guidelines is not used in the narrow sense of a legally protected site, but in the broader one, defined by IUCN and recognizes a diversity of tools for the *in situ* conservation of species, going beyond protected areas in the classical sense, to include other approaches, such as protection of sites by local and indigenous communities.

Therefore, this framework does not assume that all KBAs should necessarily become protected areas in the strict sense but, rather, that appropriate site-level conservation measures should be put in place most urgently for the highest priority KBAs.

Read the full WCPA guidelines n°15 on www.papaco.org

Earth Skills Network
Training Opportunities in 2016

The Earth Skills Network: Training and Mentoring to Support Management Effectiveness

African World Heritage Sites and Protected Areas are invited to apply to an innovative skill sharing programme that will develop the capacity of sites to meet organisational challenges. Earthwatch has launched the Earth Skill Network and applications for funded training in 2016 close on 26th February. Read on for more information, or visit the Earthwatch website to download your application pack

What is the Earth Skill Network?

The Earth Skills Network (ESN) is a unique collaboration between Earthwatch, UNESCO, IUCN and the business community. ESN connects leaders from the business and conservation world through mentoring and skill-sharing opportunities, focusing on strengthening protected area management.

ESN arises from an understanding that, although protected area managers have a wealth of ecological knowledge and practical skills, there are a wider suite of business skills, which do not typically form a large part of staff training.

Companies have a wealth of experienced staff and spend a lot of resources on training for effective business management, so the Earth Skills Network brings together experienced business mentors, recruited from the corporate world, with managers from protected areas, World Heritage Sites and management authorities, in a mentor-mentee relationship to transfer key business skills.
This training helps to ensure that sites have a strong organisational foundation and a strategic approach to management. It also increases understanding within the business community of the important role that sites play in safeguarding vital ecosystem services, upon which communities and businesses depend.
ESN builds on five years of training UNESCO World Heritage Sites through the 'Business Skills for World Heritage' programme. Here's what Kishore Rao, Director of the World Heritage Centre had to say about this initiative, *"In a world where an MBA is considered a pre-requisite to managing any private sector company, it seems odd that management training is not readily available to those looking after some of the planet's most precious wilderness areas. I am delighted that this unique collaboration is building the expertise of the custodians of our natural heritage."*

Mentee from Makira Natural Park, Madagascar during the financial planning session

Why is the ESN relevant to me and my organisation?
Most protected area site managers are trained biologists with several years of field experience, giving them solid grounding to respond to the wide range of challenges they face, from managing forest fires to counteracting poaching. However, effectively managing protected areas requires additional skill sets, which that are not always part of traditional staff training. Management challenges go beyond ecosystem health and include those related to running a site's organisational systems and processes. If a protected area lacks organisational effectiveness then it will be compromised in its ability to deliver on management objectives.

By training staff in essential business management skills the ESN can help to ensure effective operations at your site. Applying these skills will help your organisation to make better use of available resources, identify and prepare responses to potential risks, develop the foundations for sustainable financing of activities, and much more.

By joining the Earth Skills Network your organisation can:

- Access a fully-funded, in-depth training programme in business planning and effective management.
- Receive mentoring from an expert with significant business experience in an international

organisation, helping your site to take a strategic approach to tackling specific issues.

- Support the professional development of staff, helping them to develop the leadership competencies required to put the skills they have developed into practise.
- Network, connect with and support staff from other African protected areas.
- Have an opportunity for constructive dialogue with members of the business community, potentially with companies that are operating in your region.

Mentee Case Study: Dubiure Umaru Farouk, Mole National Park, Ghana

As the manager of Mole National Park, Farouk's responsibilities include income generation through fundraising and ecotourism. Despite this being a priority, staff at the site, along with the Wildlife Division of Ghana, felt that they lacked some of the tools to take advantage of the opportunities for revenue generation at Mole. Training on market analysis and planning was of particular interest to Farouk, and since the training he has continued to focus on this with support from his business mentor Andrew (pictured).

Over the past year, Farouk has used new marketing tools and knowledge to establish partnerships that will support income generation, for example through the creation of a website to promote the site, funding for management of the elephant population and a proposal for development of the road and bridge infrastructure. Farouk and his team will continue to build on these successes, attracting new investment and tourism to Mole National Park.

How is the programme structured?

The ESN training is focused around a 10 day intensive residential training, which takes place in South Africa and is co-delivered by a team of learning and business professionals. During the residential training, three staff representing a protected area, or group of protected areas, work with a business mentor to review the specific business challenges they face, and to develop a plan for applying the skills developed during the training. Representatives may be from site management, management authority or government level. After the residential training, protected area representatives continue to work with a business mentor to achieve their objectives for at least 12 months. Support, guidance and encouragement from the mentor and Earthwatch, combined with senior management support on the ground ensures effective outcomes.

What is the impact of the training?

Earthwatch have been running skills sharing programmes for six years, and have trained over 90 staff. These individuals return to their site with new skills and motivation, and the support of a business mentor to help them put what they have learnt into practise. On the ground ESN is helping in numerous ways (see the case studies for some examples).

Here's what one protected area manager had to say about his experiences, *"Every success story starts with a dream. Do you dream of a better future for your protected area? Joining this course was the best decision in my professional life. The content and experience was rich and more importantly the networking has been amazing."*

Business Mentor from Shell working with mentees on stakeholder mapping

Mentee Case Study Siyabonga Dlulisa, Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa

Siyabonga is the Manager for Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and Marine Protected Species for the Department of Environmental Affairs in South Africa. The creation of new MPAs and the expansion of existing MPAs is a key priority for the Department. Following his participation on the programme, Siyabonga has been developing a new network of Marine Protected Areas.

The ESN programme has been instrumental in Siyabonga's professional development. Prior to

attending the ESN programme important stakeholder engagements were handled by external providers. The ESN equipped Siyabonga with the skills to manage stakeholders, and since returning to his role he has been leading these complex engagements. This includes working to secure buy in from communities and companies operating in the areas, to ensure the successful creation or expansion of the MPA network. Siyabonga was able to utilise the expertise gained through ESN to achieve positive outcomes for the Department and for the protected area estate of South Africa.

How can I find out more?

The application period for ESN is open until **February 26th** and Earthwatch are pleased to be able to offer funded training bursaries to 6 sites in Africa. Training will take place in October 2016.

For more information and to apply visit the **Earthwatch website** (http://eu.earthwatch.org/corporate-partnerships/partnering-with-earthwatch/earth-skills-network-introduction), or contact Stacey Baggaley (sbaggaley@earthwatch.org.uk).

Reminder

To learn and discover about the World Heritage Sites in Africa, please consult the African WH sites website. The website has been thoroughly updated with additional technical information on conservation values and threats, as well as annotated portfolios of maps and satellite images. Follow the link:

www.AfricanWorldHeritageSites.org

CONSULTANCY ON ILLICIT TRADE IN WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE PRODUCTS African Development Bank

Addressing the Illicit Trade in Africa's Natural Resources

Introduction

The African Development Bank Group's Ten Years Strategy places a renewed emphasis on Natural Resources Management (NRM) as a transformational platform. This strategy emphasizes the role of natural resources in delivering inclusive growth by widening access to resources, promoting green growth and improving the efficiency and sustainability of the use of natural assets.

To respond to these challenges and promote progress towards the Ten Years Strategy, the AfDB Group has created the African Natural Resources Center (ANRC), bringing together under one roof the delivery of technical assistance, advisory services, knowledge generation and advocacy in the field of renewable and non-renewable resources.

The AfDB's ANRC will launch its flagship publication series with a volume addressing the illicit trade in natural resources in Africa. See Appendix 1.

The publication is intended to highlight continuities between the illicit trade as it manifests in Africa's most economically important natural resources subsectors. It will generate awareness of the scale and impact of the trade and assess the effectiveness of different approaches taken to manage it in different sub-sectors and at different points in trade pipelines from production through to end-user consumers. The publication will be developed with a view to catalyzing the development of new initiatives in addition to supporting existing sector wide and sub-sector specific initiatives to curb the illicit trade and recapture the economic social and environmental value lost as a result of it.

The publication's primary focus will be defined by the AfDB's goals of achieving green and inclusive growth and the ANRC's strategic pillars. A critical differentiator between this and other publications on the illicit trade in natural resources will be its focus on evaluating the effectiveness of different strategies employed to manage the illicit trade in different natural resources sub-sectors. It will also emphasize the importance of identifying points of synergy and potential harmonization across them. As importantly it will seek to evaluate the overall impact of the illicit natural resources trade in Africa and correspondingly articulate the value-gain of effective management in terms of economic, social and environmental capital to African communities and states.

Addressing the Illicit Trade in Africa's Natural Resources will be the first of the ANRC's flagship publications series. To this extent the development, launch and follow up of this publication will serve as a pilot process for similar future publications.

All the reports in this series will focus on driving and delivering innovative policy and initiatives aligned to its strategic pillars and the AfDB's goals of creating green and inclusive economic growth across the continent.

Objective and duty of the consultancy

To draft the chapter on the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products in Africa of the flagship report. Under the overall guidance of the Director of the ANRC, reporting to the Centre's expert in charge of natural resources management and under the editorial direction of the consultant in charge of the final drafting and editing of the flagship report, the consultant will carry out the following tasks:

- Describe the scale and impact of the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products in Africa:
  - o Identify key products of the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products (ivory, rhino horn, pangolin, hides, bushmeat etc.);
  - o Give an overall picture of the scale of the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products in Africa and quantify its costs, regionally, nationally and continent-wide;
  - o Quantify and account for the total lost value to African economies as a result of the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products with a particular focus on the potential value-add of tourism, community based natural resources management and sustainable harvesting and hunting;
  - o In addition to the above accurate quantitative data will on the sources of income into the illicit trade and its primary beneficiaries (criminal syndicates, terrorist organizations etc.).
- Assess the potential value add of regulation and control, both in revenue and developmental terms and identify the most effective avenues for this e.g. community based management; preservation etc.;
- Identify key sustainability implications of the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products and include specific reference to implications in respect of ecosystem integrity, conservation issues, endangered species;
- Identify and qualify any related human rights risks associated with the illegal trade;
- Provide a qualitative assessment of the role of governance, corruption and enforcement capacity in enabling the illicit trade of wildlife and wildlife products:
  - o Describe how the illicit trade relates to the ANRC's strategic pillars and broader questions relating to driving sustainable, inclusive and green growth in Africa;
  - o More broadly explore the relationship between economic, social and environmental governance, corruption and capacity issues in sustaining the sector and the potential value of remedying these concerns.
- Review and evaluate the merits and drawbacks of major ongoing local and international initiatives to manage the illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products, and identify potential areas of synergy between them as well as make recommendations for further support and action;
- Explore challenges and opportunities relating to enforcement taking into account broader concerns relating to governance, corruption and capacity. Explore potential obstacles to co-operation and identify realistic avenues for overcoming these;
- The consultant will be expected to work closely with the editor and the ANRC Team throughout the course of the assignment and contribute to the overall success and direction of the publication as a whole in accordance with the project TOR (Appendix 1);
- The consultant will be expected to participate in and present their plans, findings and recommendations to the ANRC and other contributors at relevant workshops and conferences organised by the ANRC specifically in respect of this publication.

Outputs

The consultant will be expected deliver a complete, publication ready chapter on the illicit trade of wildlife and wildlife products of the ANRC Flagship report: "Addressing the Illicit Trade flows in Africa's Natural Resources". The consultant will be expected to fully integrate review recommendations made by the editorial team in the production of a final draft.

Criteria

- A minimum of an appropriate Post-graduate degree in a relevant subject area (environment and conservation; natural resources development and management etc.);
- At least ten (10) years of work experience in African conservation and enforcement or a related field including publishing on wildlife related issues in Africa ideally in respect of aspects of the illegal trade;
- Detailed knowledge of development issues relating to wildlife and environmental management in Africa as well as knowledge of the illicit trade of wildlife and wildlife products and programmes aimed at combatting or managing the illicit wildlife and wildlife products trade in Africa;
- Experience of working with development and conservation organizations;
- Excellent analytical, writing and oral communication skills in English.

Info and contact

Mme Maali Harrathi : m.harrathi@afdb.org
Deadline for submission is the **14th of February**

BirdLife INTERNATIONAL | Partnership for nature and people

Birdlife is offering two positions in Senegal

West Africa Policy and Advocacy Officer - Coastal Migratory Birds

Location: Dakar, Senegal

BirdLife International is the world's largest nature conservation partnership. Through our unique local-to-global approach, we deliver high impact and long-term conservation for the benefit of nature and people.

BirdLife is seeking to recruit an experienced individual for the position of Policy and Advocacy Officer for West Africa region to assist develop and implement a policy and advocacy plan for the Coastal Migratory Birds Project (CMB Phase 2), lead mainstreaming of migratory birds into national and sub-regional policy processes and strengthening of Partner's policy advocacy capacity

within the framework of Coastal Migratory Birds project (CMB2) funded by MAVA Foundation.

The ideal candidate will have:
• Established track record of relevant work experience, preferably with governments and NGOs at the national or international level related in conservation of environment, political affairs, development, public relations, communications, media and/or advocacy with experience in a bilateral, multilateral or international organization..
• University Degree level.
• Good understanding of tools and approaches for influencing decision and policy makers, politicians, donors, and other key actors.
• Sound understanding of conservation issues in West Africa and operating context for national and international organisations.
• Knowledge of the media and its role in raising awareness and shaping public policy.
• Good organizational and planning skills and an ability to adhere to deadlines, ability to work with diverse sectors, including government officials, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local stakeholders, experts and consultants.
• Good computer skills including the use of internet. Ability to update material on the web an advantage;
• Fluency in oral and written French and English, speaking Portuguese will be advantageous

A detailed job description can be found here (http://www.birdlife.org/job/west-africa-policy-and-advocacy-officer-coastal-migratory-birds)

West Africa IBA Monitoring Officer - Coastal Migratory Birds

Location: Dakar, Senegal

We are looking for someone to assist in coordinating the Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) Programme at sub-regional level, administering the small grants and supporting technically implementation of site and species projects in West Africa region within the framework of Coastal Migratory Birds project (CMB2) funded by MAVA Foundation.

This person will support the development of partners' capacity in IBA monitoring, information management and reporting; publish IBA status and trends reports and contribute to scientific publication on IBA and species. He/she will support integration IBA monitoring and Africa Waterfowl Census (AfWC) and data entry into World Biodiversity Data Base (WBDB and International Waterfowl Census (IWC) database, in collaboration with Wetlands International. He/she will also administer and oversee implementation of small grant for conservation and livelihood projects.

The ideal candidate will have:
• Established track record of experience in biodiversity monitoring, project management, related to conservation and the conservation of habitats and/or their biological diversity especially those of birds.
• University Degree level.
• Knowledge on IBA monitoring protocols/common standards and field protocols for waterbirds monitoring; field experience in conducting field surveys, data analysis and compilation of scientific reports, familiarity with National reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and GIS/Remote Sensing.
• Previous experience in management of project cycles, including project development and implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation.
• Ability to work with diverse sectors, including government officials, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local stakeholders, experts and consultants.
• Good computer skills including the use of internet. Ability to update material on the web an advantage;
• Fluency in oral and written French and English, speaking Portuguese will be advantageous

A detailed job description can be found here. (http://www.birdlife.org/job/west-africa-iba-monitoring-officer-coastal-migratory-birds)

For both positions: Closing date: **19 February 2016**

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications and in accordance with BirdLife International/Africa Division terms and conditions.

Application: Applications should include a covering letter summarizing the applicant's suitability for the position, a detailed CV and contact details of two referees known to the applicant in a professional capacity. Applications should be sent by email, stating where the advert was seen, to: Evans.siaw@birdlife.org

Interviews: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

NAPA – CONTACTS **www.papaco.org and www.iucn.org**

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