



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



# Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossier: KENYA

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## GLOSSARY

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AZEs	Alliance for Zero Extinction sites
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GD-PAME	Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
ICCAs	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area Area (may also be referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”)
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
MEOW	Marine Ecosystems of the World
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
OECD	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
PA	Protected Area
PAME	Protected Area Management Effectiveness
PPA	Privately Protected Area
PPOW	Pelagic Provinces of the World
ProtConn	Protected Connected land indicator
SOC	Soil Organic Carbon
TEOW	Terrestrial Ecosystems of the World
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WD-OECD	World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures

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This country dossier is compiled by the UNDP and SCBD from publicly available information. It is prepared, within the overall work of the Global Partnership on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, for the purpose of attracting the attention of the Party concerned and other national stakeholders to facilitate the verification, correcting, and updating of country data. The statistics might differ from those reported officially by the country due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Furthermore, the suggestions from the UNDP and SCBD are based on analyses of global datasets, which may not necessarily be representative of national policy or criteria used at the national level. The analyses are also subject to the limits inherent in global indicators (precision, reliability, underlying assumptions, etc.). Therefore, they provide useful information but cannot replace analyses at a national level nor constitute a future benchmark for national policy or decision-making.

The preparation of this dossier was generously supported by: the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*; the European Commission; the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and the Government of Japan (Japan Biodiversity Fund). The dossier does not necessarily reflect their views.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This document provides information on the coverage of protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), as currently reported in global databases (the World Database on Protected Areas ([WDPA](#)) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures ([WD-OECM](#))). It also includes details on the status of the other qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 based on this data. These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage, differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory, or if global datasets differ from the criteria and indicators used at the national level. This dossier also provides a summary of commitments made under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and a summary of potential opportunities regarding elements of the target for future planning.

The dossier has been developed in consultation with the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which manages the WDPA, WD-OECM and Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness ([GD-PAME](#)). Parties to the CBD are requested to contact [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org) with any updates to the information in these databases.

### Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Elements: Current status and opportunities for action

#### Coverage - Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** as of May 2021, terrestrial coverage in Kenya is 72,889.9 km<sup>2</sup> (12.4%) and marine coverage is 857.5 km<sup>2</sup> (0.8%).
- **Opportunities for action:** opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and the recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.

#### Ecological Representativeness— Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** Kenya contains 13 terrestrial ecoregions, 2 marine ecoregions, and 1 pelagic province: the mean coverage by reported PAs and OECMs is 15.0% (terrestrial), 5.5% (marine), and 0.0% (pelagic); 1 terrestrial ecoregion has no coverage (but covers <1 km<sup>2</sup> within the country).
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Kenya to increase protection in terrestrial and marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or OECMs.



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### Areas Important for Biodiversity

- **Status:** Kenya has 109 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs): the mean protected coverage of KBAs by reported PAs and OECMs is 36.1%, while 49 KBAs have no coverage by reported PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Kenya to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.

### Areas Important for Ecosystem Services

- **Status:** coverage of areas important for ecosystem services: In Kenya, 16.5% of aboveground biomass carbon, 15.9% of belowground biomass carbon, 15.1% of soil organic carbon, 0.4% of carbon stored in marine sediments is covered by PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** for carbon, there is opportunity for Kenya to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.
- For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

### Connectivity and Integration

- **Status:** coverage of protected-connected lands is 5.4%.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for a targeted increase in connecting PAs or OECMs and to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.
- As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).

### Governance Diversity

- **Status:** the most common governance type(s) for reported PAs in Kenya is: 18.0% under Government (Federal or national ministry or agency).
- **Opportunities for action:** increase efforts to identify the governance types for the 65.5% of sites that do not have their governance type reported. If applicable, explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation.





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- There is also opportunity for Kenya to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

### Protected Area Management Effectiveness

- **Status:** 41.5% of terrestrial PAs and 8.7% of marine PAs have completed Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessments reported.
- **Opportunities for action:** the 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has not** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs. Therefore, there is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness (PAME) evaluations for both terrestrial and marine PAs to achieve the target.
- There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'sound management') and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.



## INTRODUCTION

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The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan from 18-29 October 2010. The vision of the Strategic Plan is one of “Living in harmony with nature” where *“By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”* (CBD, 2010). In addition to this vision, the Strategic Plan is composed of 20 targets, under five strategic goals. Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 states that *“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.”*

With the conclusion of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in 2020, Target 11 on area-based conservation has seen success in the expansion of the global network of protected areas (PA) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). The negotiation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and its future targets provide an essential opportunity to further improve the coverage of PAs and OECMs, to improve other aspects of area-based conservation, to accelerate progress on biodiversity conservation more broadly, while also addressing climate change, and the Sustainable Development Goals. This next set of global biodiversity targets are to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. These new targets must aim to build upon lessons learned from the last decade of progress to deliver transformative change for the benefit of nature and people, to realize the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have developed the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossiers, which provide countries with an overview of the status of Target 11 elements, opportunities for action, and a summary of commitments made by Parties over the last decade. Each dossier can support countries in assessing their progress on key elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and identifying opportunities to prioritize new protected areas and OECMs.

This dossier provides an overview of area-based conservation in Kenya. Section I of the dossier presents data on the current status of Kenya’s PAs and OECMs. The data presented in Section I relates to each element of Target 11. Section I also presents the PA and OECM coverage for two critical ecosystem services: water security and carbon stocks. In addition, the dossier presents potential opportunities for action for Kenya, in relation to each Target 11 element. The analyses present options for improving Kenya’s area-based conservation network to achieve enhanced protection and benefits for livelihoods and climate change. Section II presents details on Kenya’s existing PA and OECM commitments as a summary of existing efforts towards achieving Target 11. This gives focus not only to national policy and actions but also voluntary commitments to the UN. Furthermore, where data is



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available, this dossier provides information on potential OECMs, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs; also, often referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”) and Privately Protected Areas (PPAs) and the potential contribution they will have in achieving the post-2020 targets.

The information on PAs and OECMs presented here is derived from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM). These databases are joint products of UNEP and IUCN, managed by UNEP-WCMC, and can be viewed and downloaded at [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net). Parties are encouraged to provide data on their PAs and OECMs to UNEP-WCMC for incorporation into the databases (see e.g., Decisions 10/31 and 14/8). The significant efforts of Parties in updating their data in the build up to the publication of the Protected Planet Report 2020 (UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2021) were greatly appreciated. UNEP-WCMC welcomes further updates, following the data standards described here ([www.wcmc.io/WDPA\\_Manual](http://www.wcmc.io/WDPA_Manual)), and these should be directed to [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org). The statistics presented in this dossier are derived from the May 2021 WDPA and WD-OECM releases, unless explicitly stated otherwise. Readers should consult [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net) for the latest coverage statistics (updated monthly).

Some data from the WDPA and WD-OECM are not made publicly available at the request of the data-provider. This affects some statistics, maps, and figures presented in this dossier. Statistics provided by UNEP-WCMC (terrestrial and marine coverage) are based upon the full dataset, including restricted data. All other statistics, maps, and figures are based upon the subset of the data that is publicly available.

Where data is less readily available, such as for potential OECMs, ICCAs and PPAs, data has also been compiled from published reports and scientific literature to provide greater awareness of these less commonly recorded aspects. These data are provided to highlight the need for comprehensive reporting on these areas to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM. Parties are invited to work with indigenous peoples, local communities and private actors to submit data under the governance of these actors, with their consent, to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM.

Overall, PAs and OECMs are essential instruments for biodiversity conservation and to sustain essential ecosystem services that support human well-being and sustainable development, including food, medicine, and water security, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The data in this dossier, therefore, aims to celebrate the current contributions of PAs and OECMs, whilst the gaps presented hope to encourage greater progress, not just for the benefit of biodiversity and the post-2020 GBF, but also to recognize the essential role of PAs and OECMs to the Sustainable Development Goals and for addressing the climate crisis.



## SECTION I: CURRENT STATUS

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Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 refers to both protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). This section provides the current status for all elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 where indicators with global data are available. Statistics for all elements are presented using data on both PAs and OECMs (where this data is available and reported in global databases like the WDPA and WD-OECM). It is recognized that statistics reported in the WPDA and WD-OECM might differ from those reported officially by countries due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Details on UNEP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage area available [here](#). The global indicators adopted here for presenting the status of other elements of Target 11 may also differ from those in use nationally.



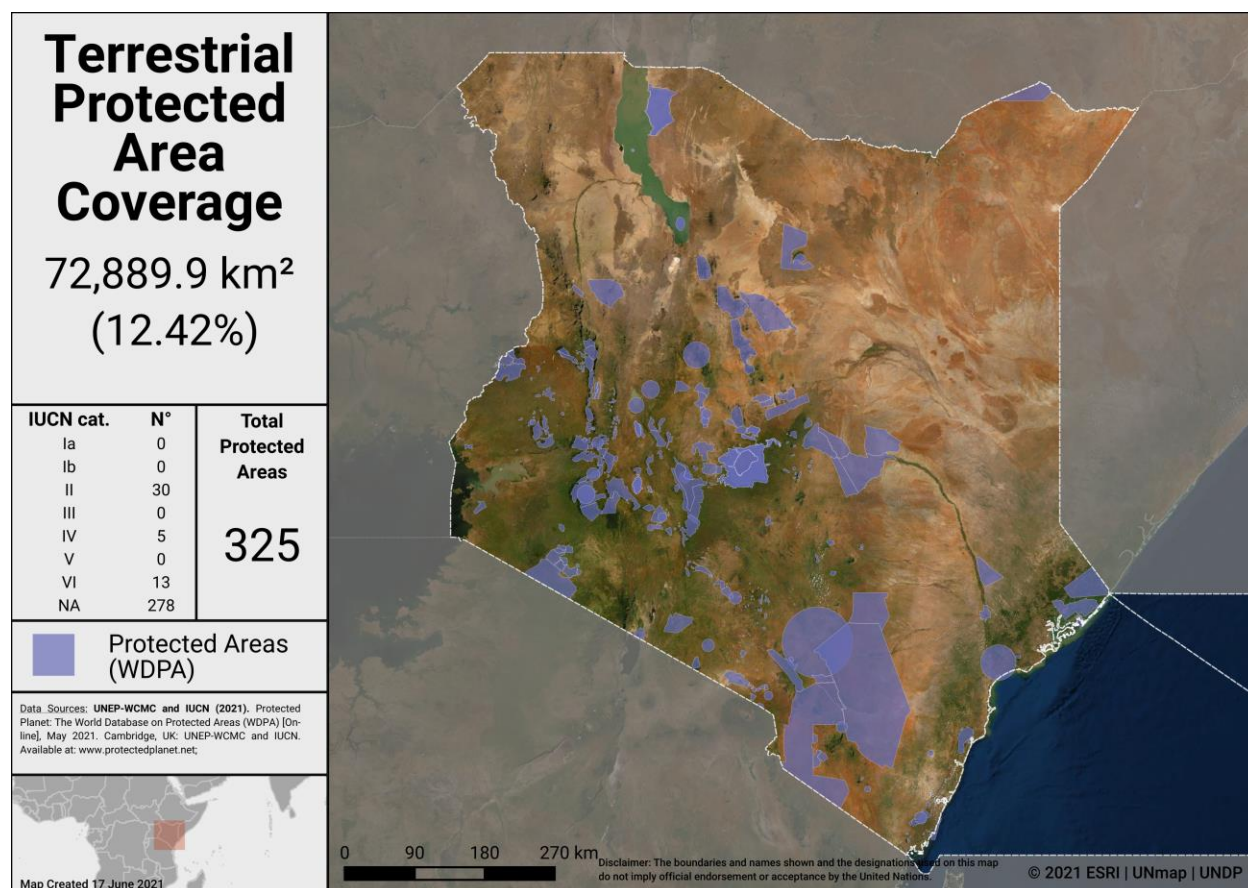
## COVERAGE - TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

As of May 2021, Kenya has **412** protected areas reported in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). 68 PAs that are proposed or have a status of 'not reported', and a further 6 UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves, are not included in the following statistics (see details on UNWP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage [here](#)).

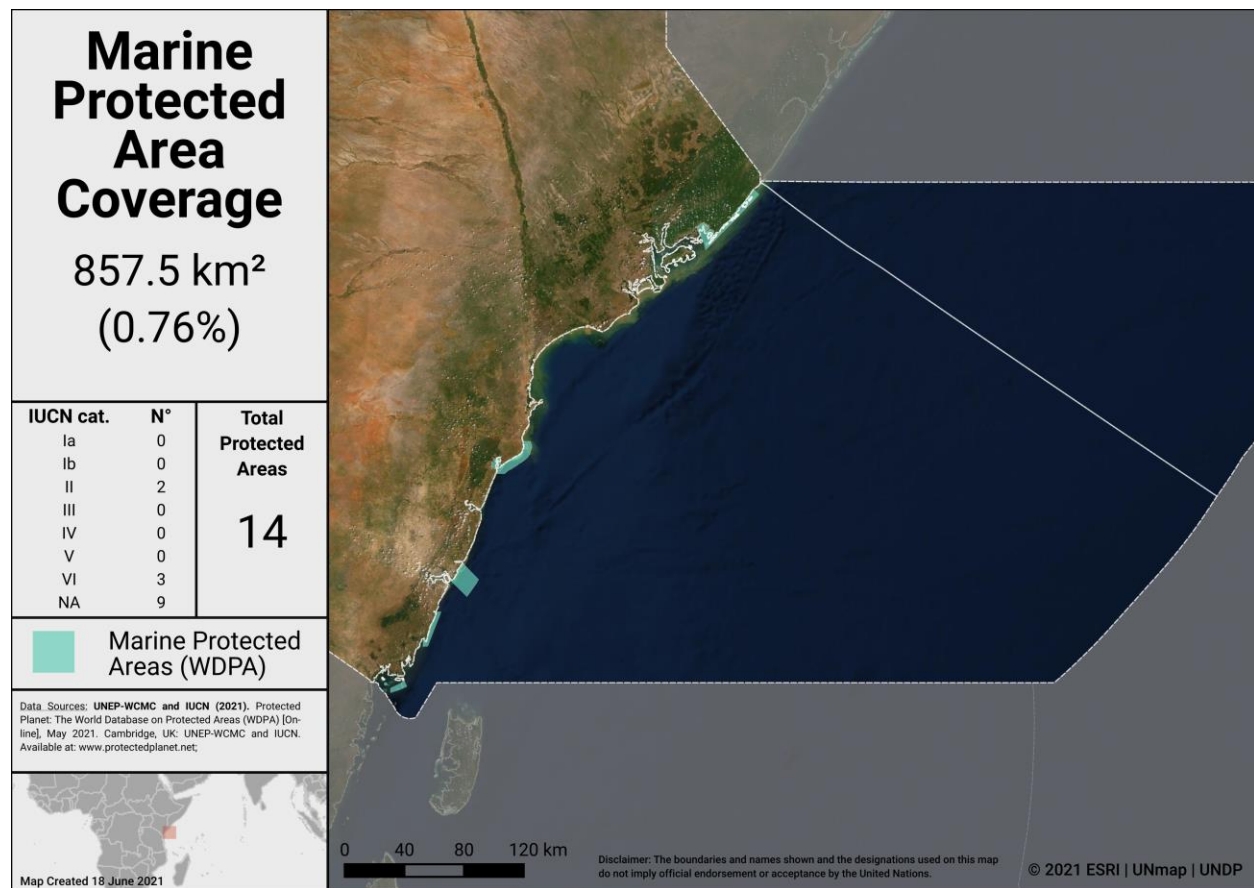
As of May 2021, Kenya has **0** OECMs reported in the world database on OECMs (WD-OECM).

Current coverage for Kenya:

- 12.4% terrestrial (325 protected areas, 72,889.9 km<sup>2</sup>)
- 0.8% marine (14 protected areas, 857.5 km<sup>2</sup>)



Terrestrial Protected Areas in Kenya



Marine Protected Areas in Kenya

### Potential OECMs

There are **51** unprotected Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Kenya managed in a way consistent with the OECM definition (see Donald et al 2019 for further details, including a full list of sites).

Other examples of potential OECMs in Kenya:

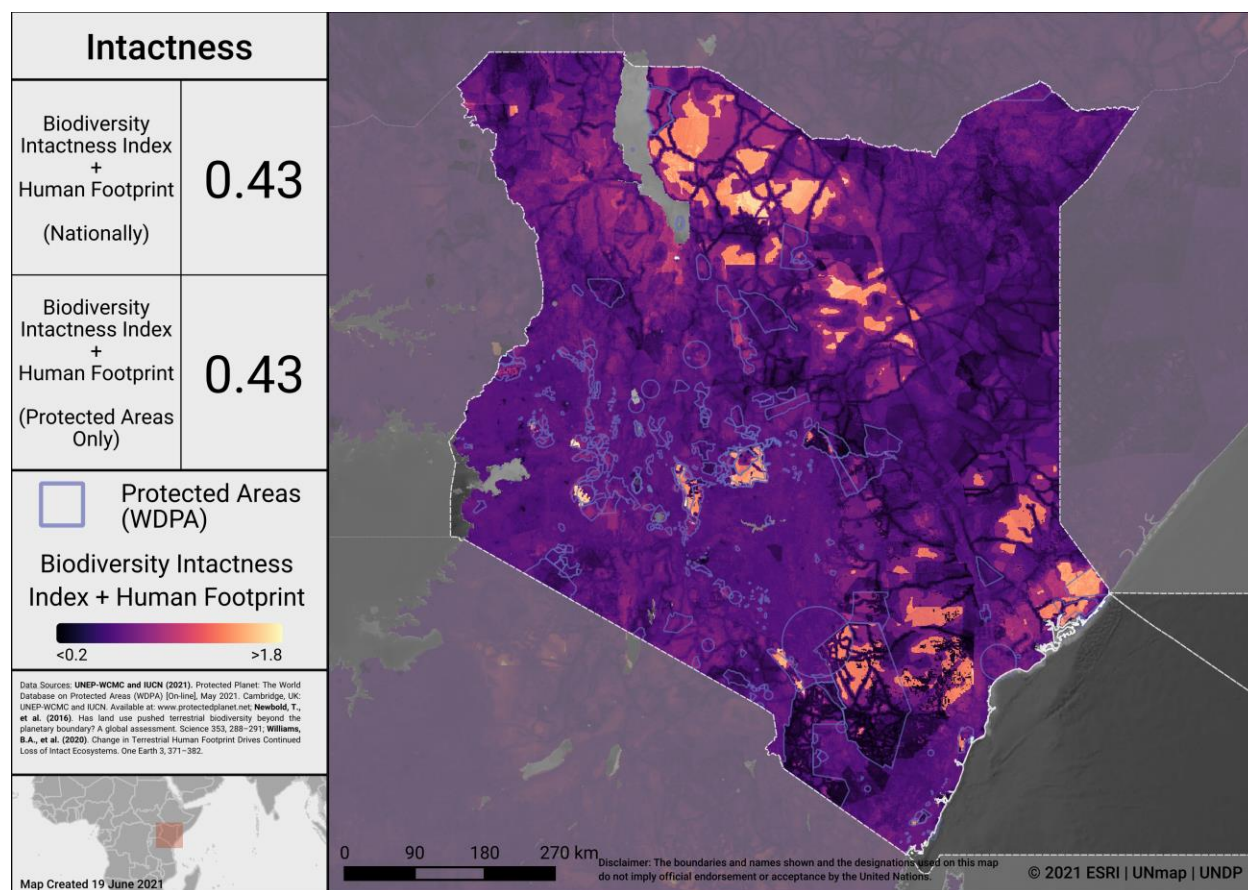
Potential OECM example	Area covered
Wildlife conservancies.	11% of Kenya's land area (~6.5 mil ha)

For additional details on these potential OECMs, see Collation of OECM Case Studies (IUCN, 2017), summarized in Annex I in this dossier.



Opportunities for action

Opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and the recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, as Kenya considers where to add new PAs and OECMs, the map below identifies areas in Kenya where intact terrestrial areas are not currently protected. Focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.



Intactness in Kenya

To explore more on intactness visit the UN Biodiversity Lab: [map.unbiodiversitylab.org](http://map.unbiodiversitylab.org).

## ECOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIVENESS – TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

Ecological representativeness is assessed based on the PAs and OECMs coverage of broad-scale biogeographic units. Globally, ecoregions have been described for terrestrial areas (Dinerstein et al, 2017), marine coastal and shelf ecosystems (to a depth of 200m; Spalding et al 2007) and surface pelagic waters (Spalding et al 2012).

Kenya has 13 **terrestrial** ecoregions. Out of these:

- 12 ecoregions have at least some coverage from PAs and OECMs.
  - The 1 remaining ecoregion cover <0.5km<sup>2</sup> within the country
- 5 ecoregions have at least 17% protected within the country.
- The average coverage of terrestrial ecoregions is 15.0%.

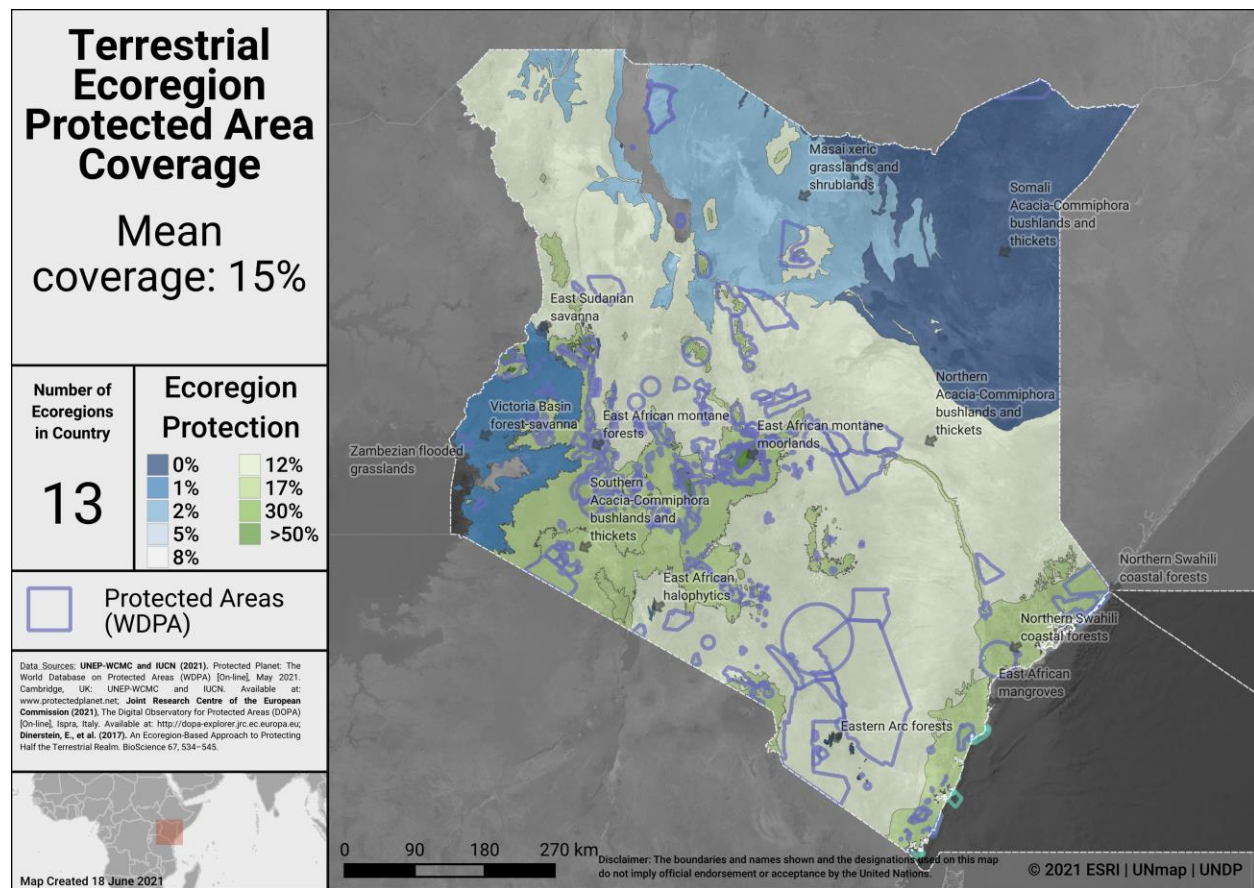
Kenya has 2 **marine** ecoregions and 1 **pelagic province**. Out of these:

- All 2 marine ecoregions and 1 pelagic province have at least some coverage from reported PAs and OECMs.
- 0 marine ecoregions and 0 pelagic provinces have at least 10% protected within Kenya's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
- The average coverage of marine ecoregions is 5.5% and the coverage of the 1 pelagic province is <0.1%..

A full list of terrestrial ecoregions in Kenya is available in Annex II.

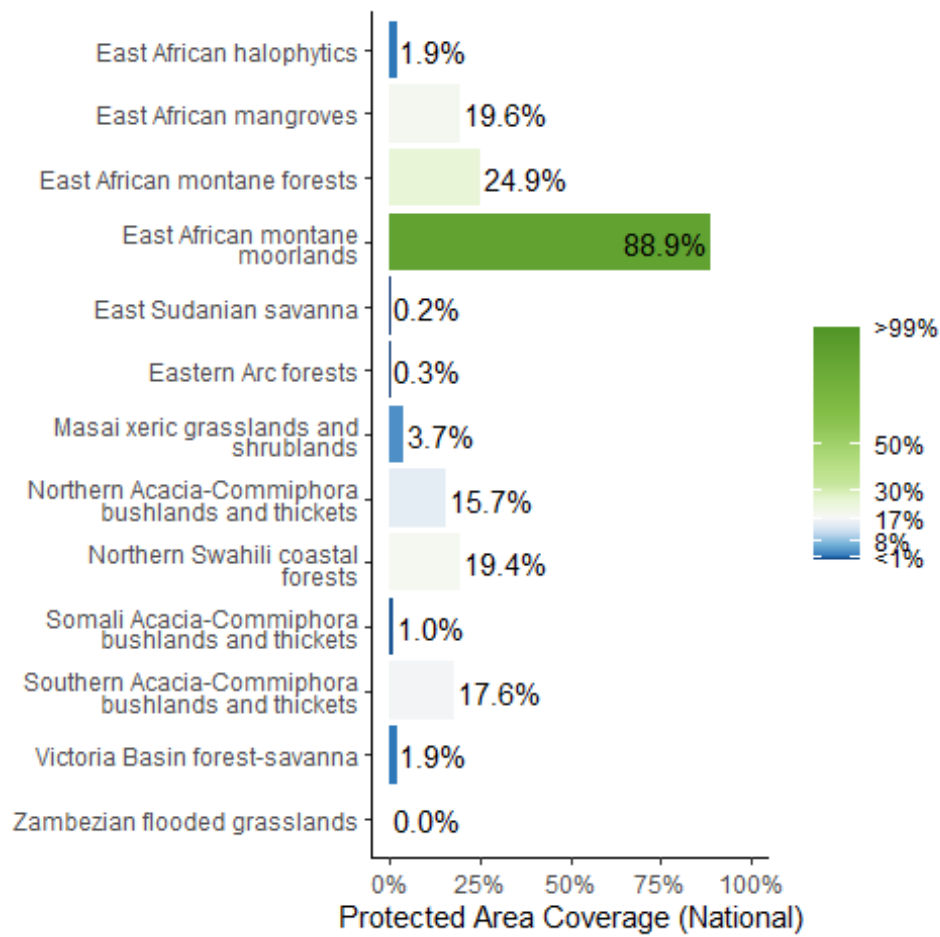






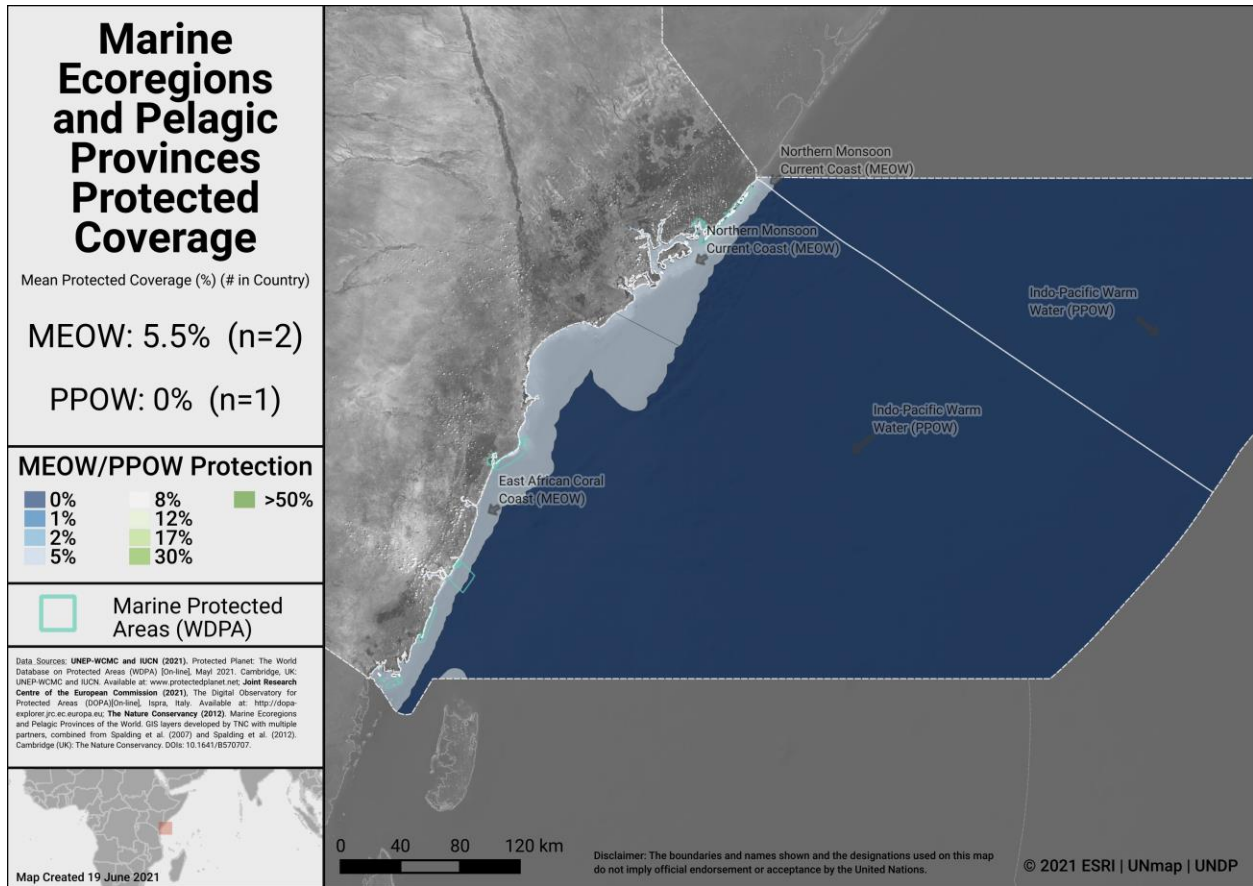
Terrestrial ecoregions in Kenya



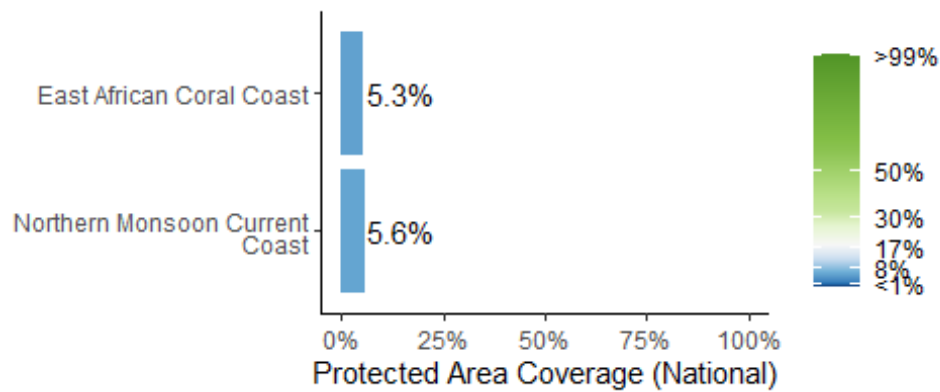


Terrestrial ecoregions of the World (TEOW) in Kenya





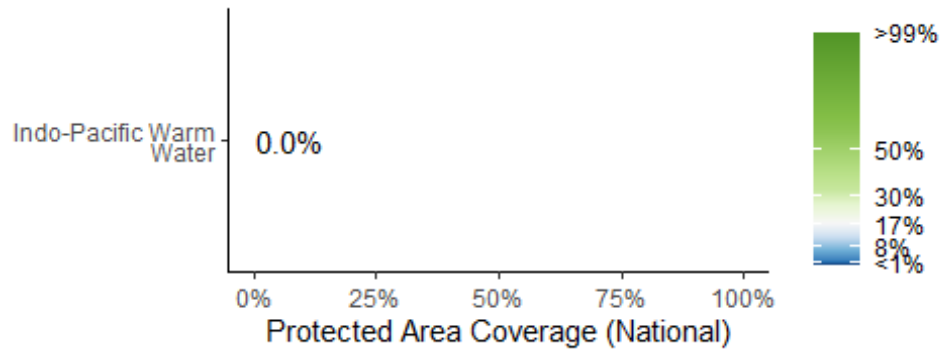
Marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces



Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW) in Kenya



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Pelagic Provinces of the World (PPOW) in Kenya

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Kenya to increase protection in terrestrial and marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or OECMs.



## AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY

### Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

Protected area and OECM coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) provide one proxy for assessing the conservation of areas important for biodiversity at national, regional and global scales. KBAs are sites that make significant contributions to the global persistence of biodiversity (IUCN, 2016). The KBA concept builds on four decades of efforts to identify important sites for biodiversity, including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, Alliance for Zero Extinction sites, and KBAs identified through Hotspot ecosystem profiles supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Incorporating these sites, the dataset of internationally significant KBAs includes Global KBAs (sites shown to meet one or more of 11 criteria in the Global Standard for the Identification of KBAs, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and irreplaceability), Regional KBAs (sites identified using pre-existing criteria and thresholds, that do not meet the Global KBA criteria based on existing information), and KBAs whose Global/Regional status is Not yet determined, but which will be assessed against the global KBA criteria within 8-12 years. Regional KBAs are often of critical international policy relevance (e.g., in EU legislation and under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), and many are likely to qualify as Global KBAs in future once assessed for their biodiversity importance for other taxonomic groups and ecosystems. To date, nearly 16,000 KBAs have identified globally, and information on each of these is presented in the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas: [www.keybiodiversityareas.org](http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org).

This country has established a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) National Coordination Group which brings together a wide range of stakeholders, from government agencies, NGOs, academia and wider society. The group oversees and coordinates the identification, delineation, monitoring and promotion of conservation of KBAs, and is currently undertaking a national assessment of KBAs across all taxonomic groups and ecosystems for which data exist, building on the existing network of KBAs in the country.

Kenya has 121 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) [**109 KBAs** included in analysis]

- Mean percent coverage of all KBAs by PAs and OECMs in Kenya is **36.1%**.
- **14** KBAs have full (>98%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **46** KBAs have partial coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **49** KBAs have no (<2%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- *12 KBAs lack spatial data to allow PA and OECM coverage to be determined*

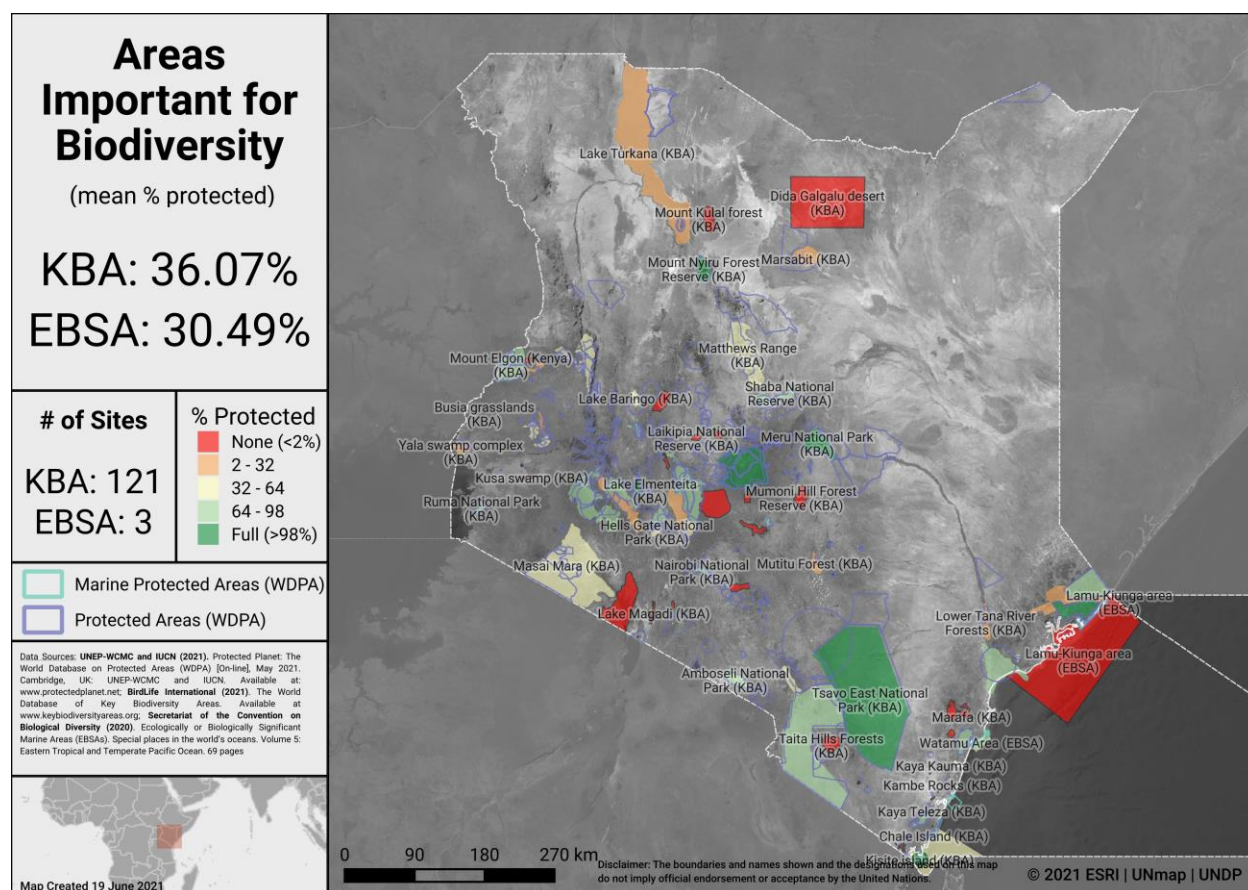
The unprotected portion of **51** of the KBAs with low coverage from reported PAs (<50%) are managed in a way that is consistent with the OECM definition (See Donald et al., 2019 for full details, including the full list of sites and information on their management).



### Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)

Other important areas for biodiversity may also include Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), which were identified following the scientific criteria adopted at COP-9 (Decision IX/20; see more at: <https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/>). Sites that meet the EBSA criteria may require enhanced conservation and management measures; this could be achieved through means including MPAs, OECMs, marine spatial planning, and impact assessment.

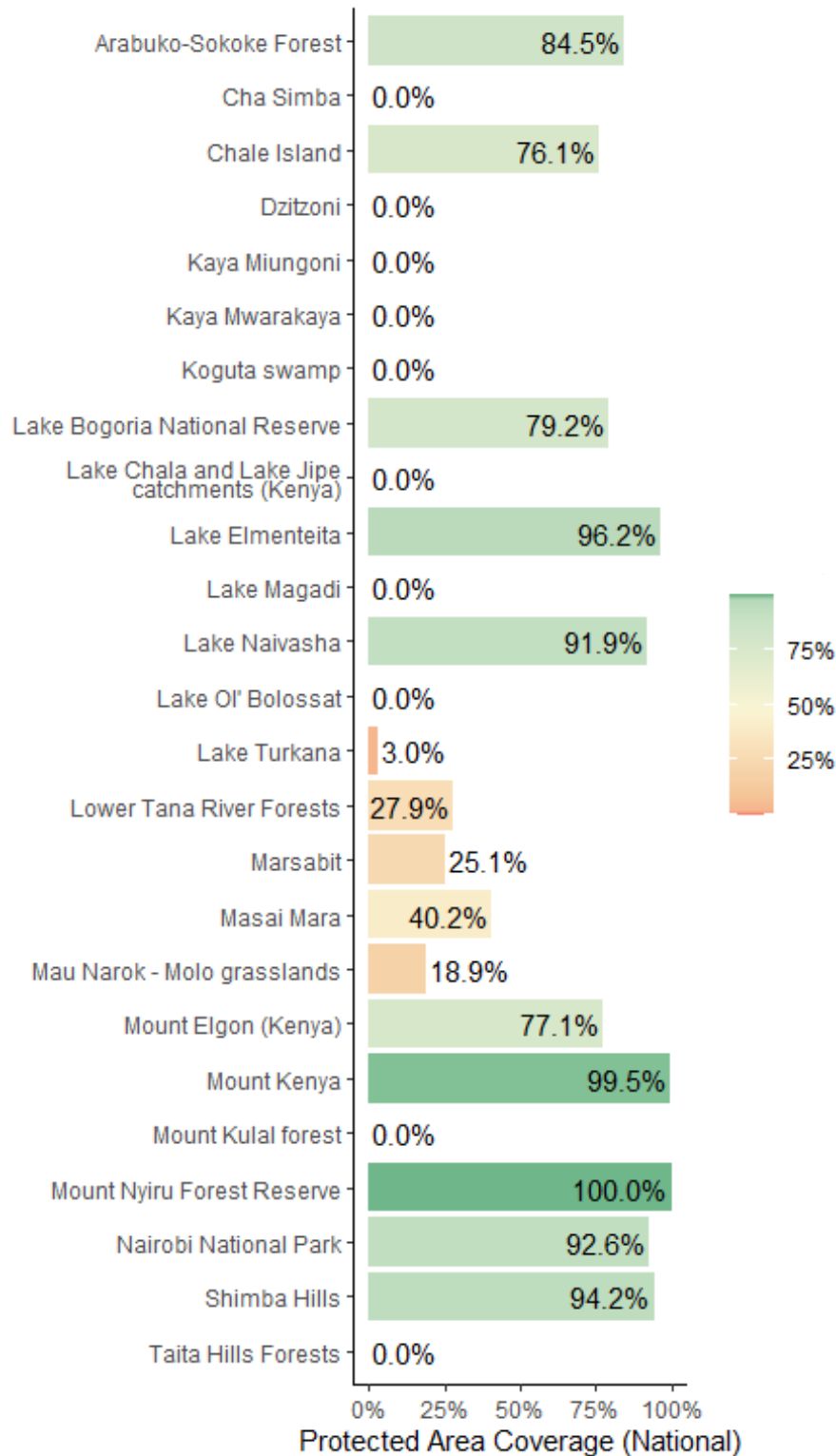
There are 3 EBSAs with some portion of their extent within Kenya’s EEZ, of which all EBSAs have at least partial (>2%) coverage from PAs or OECMs.



Areas Important for Biodiversity in Kenya

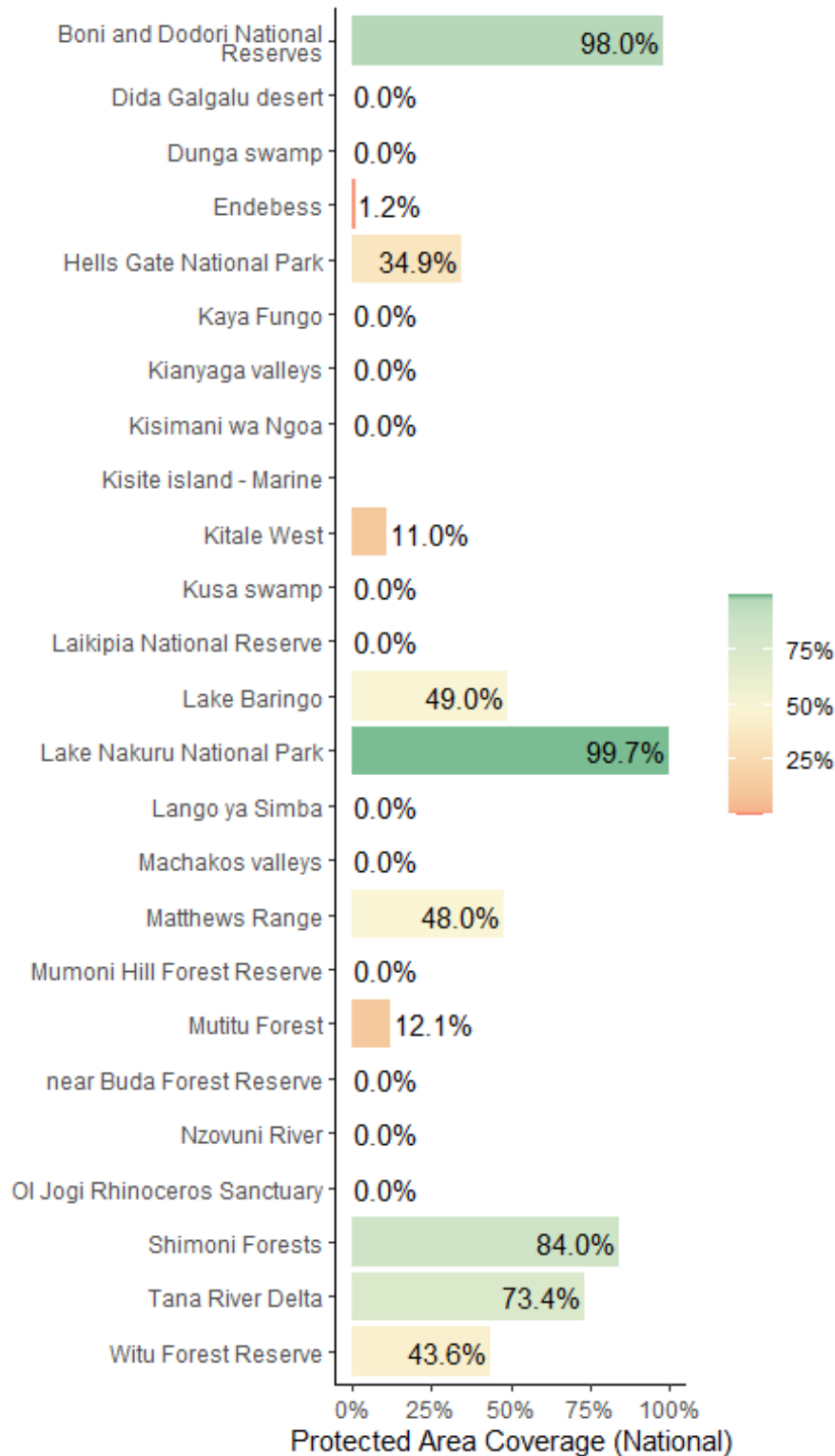


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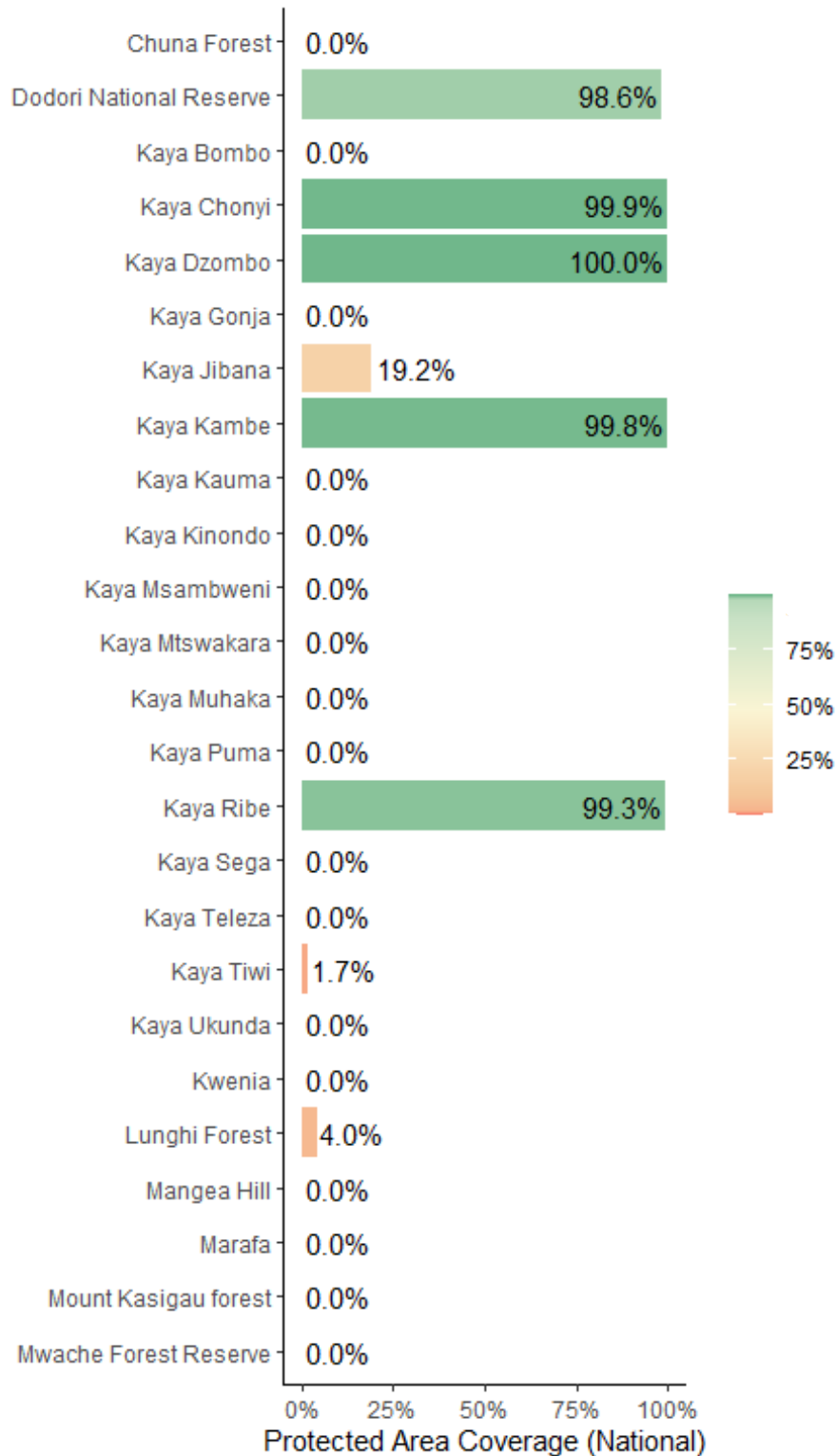
Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Kenya

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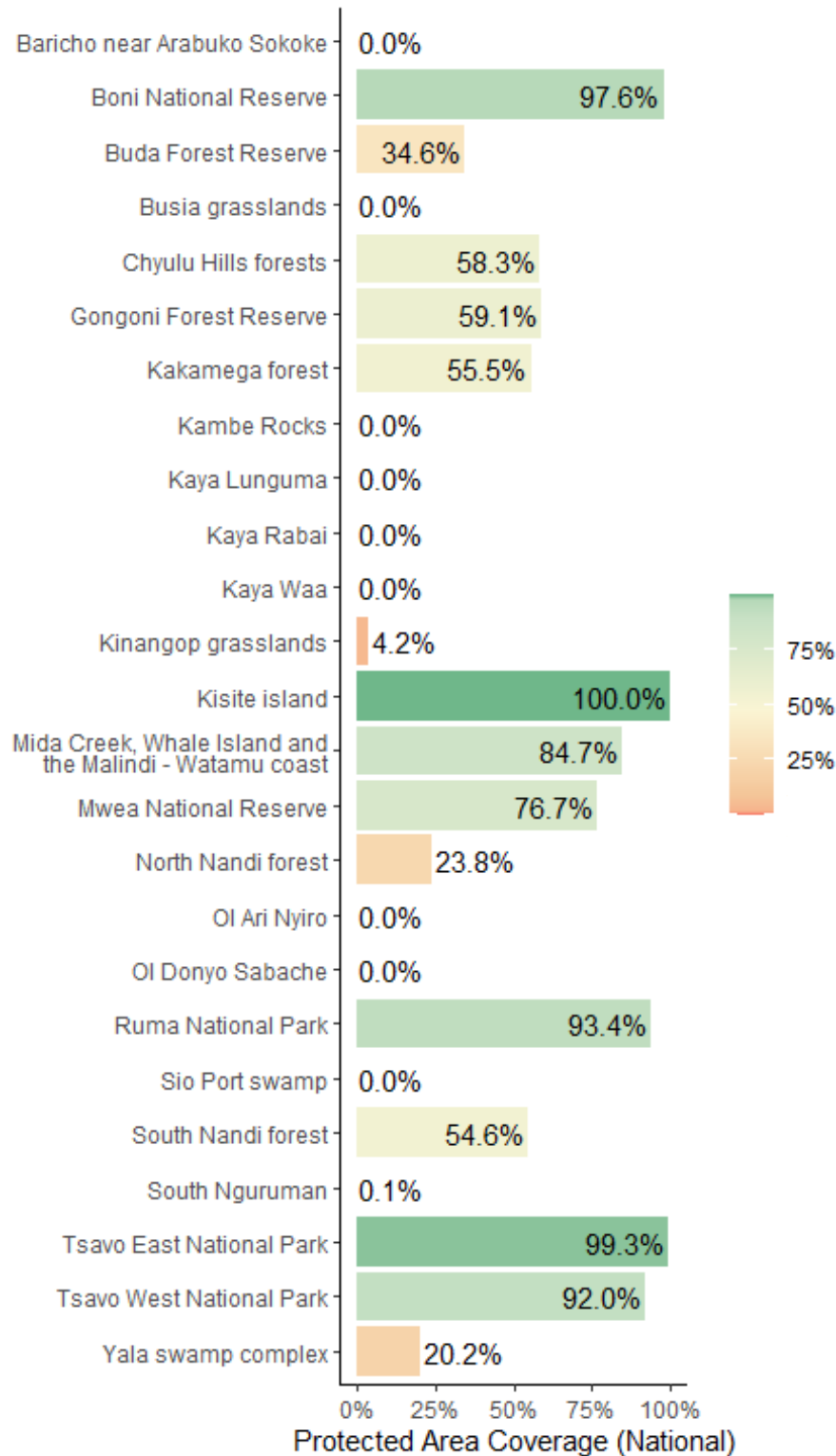
Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Kenya (continued)

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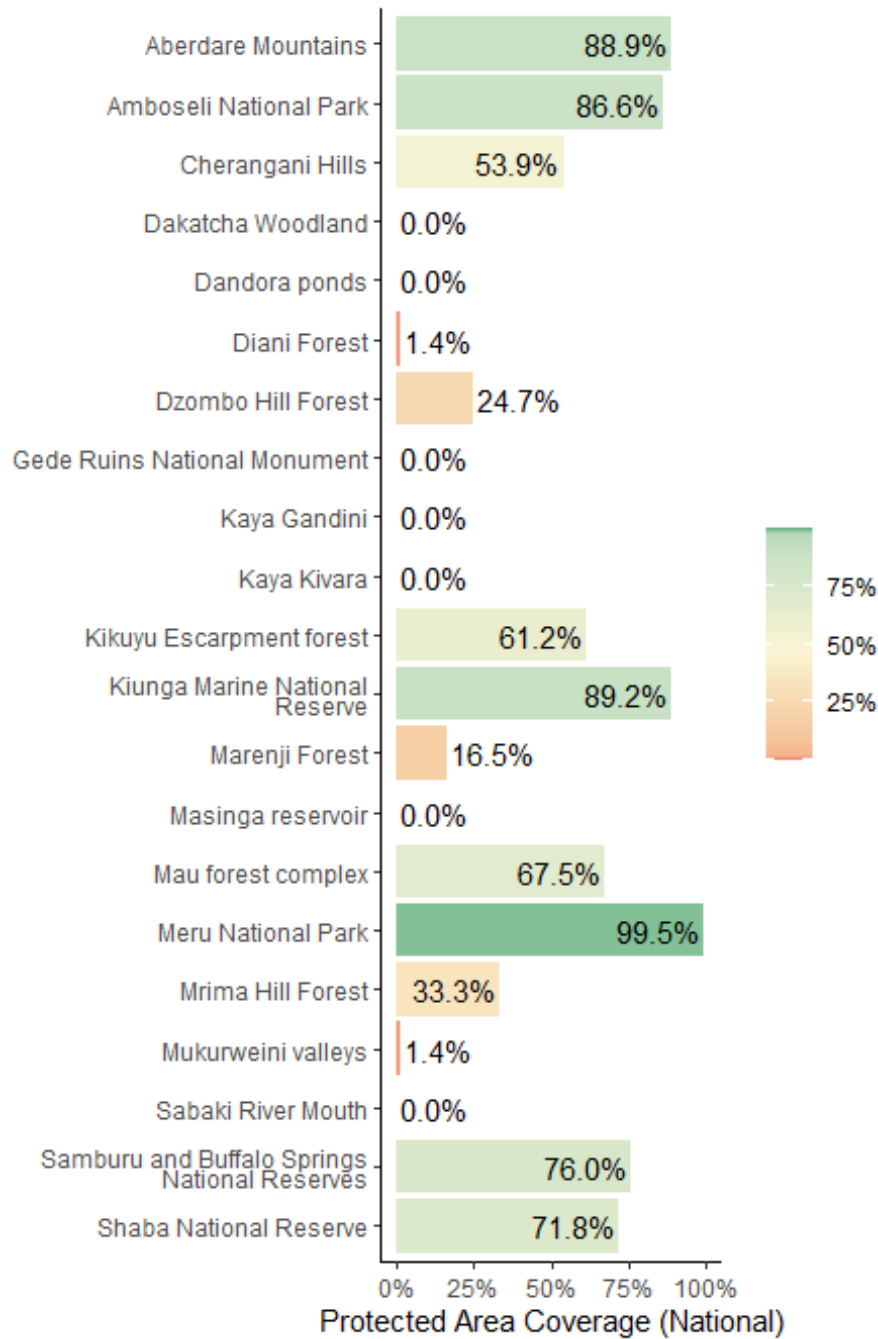


Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Kenya (continued)

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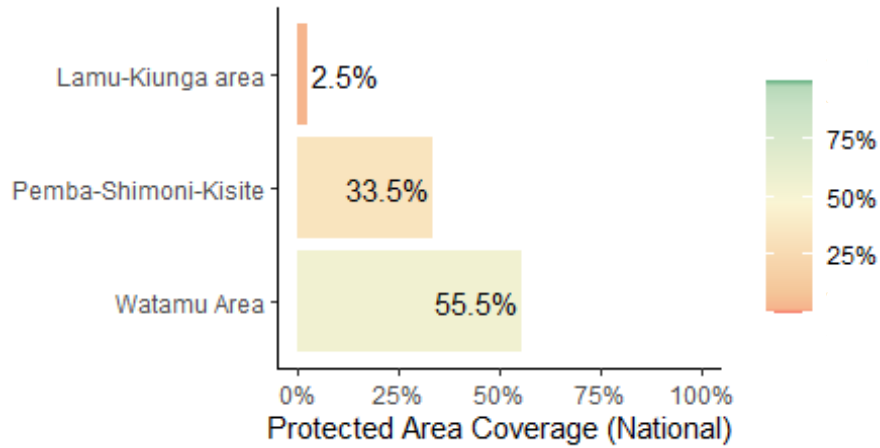


Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Kenya (continued)



Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Kenya (continued)





Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in Kenya

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Kenya to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.



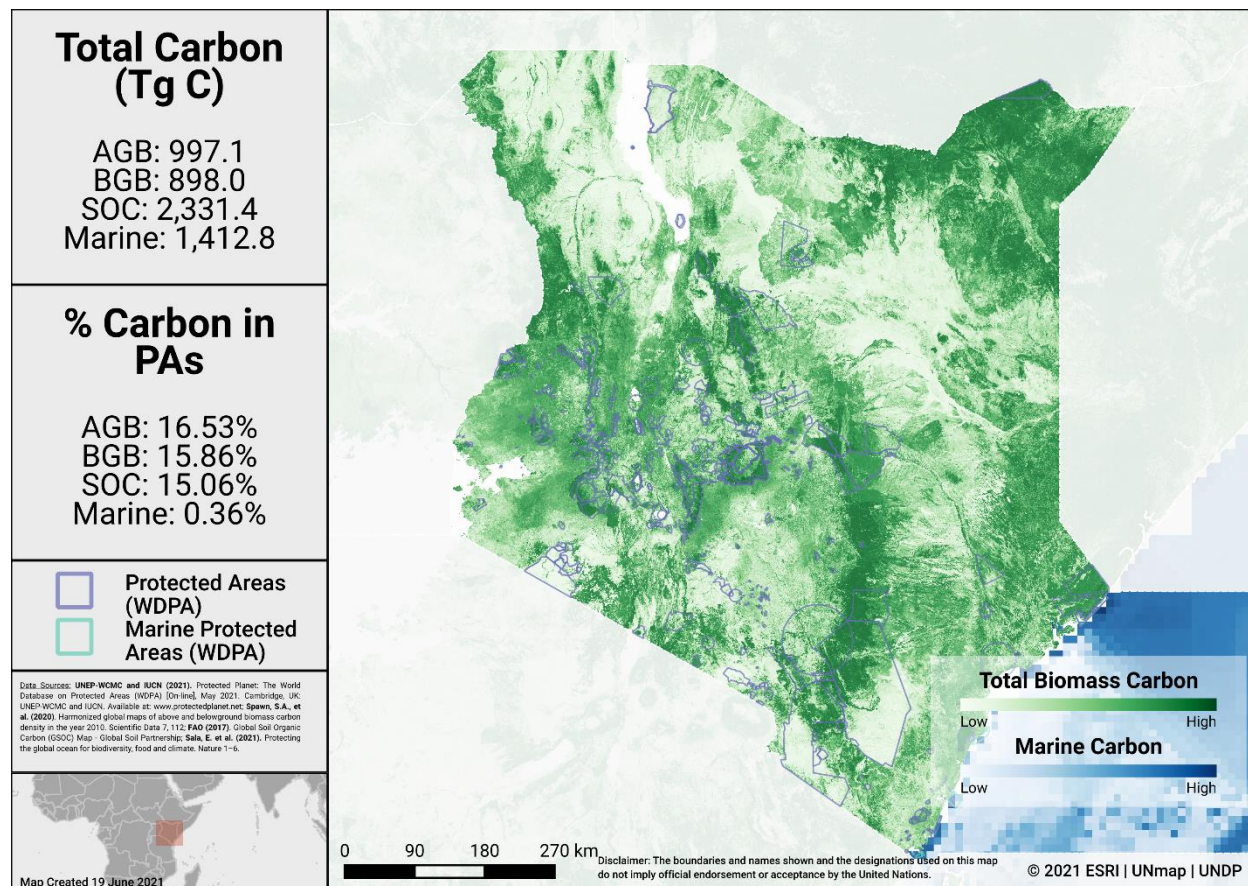
## AREAS IMPORTANT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

There is no single indicator identified for assessing the conservation of areas important for ecosystem services. For simplicity, two services with available global datasets are assessed here (carbon and water). In future, other critical ecosystem services could be explored.

### Carbon

Data for biomass carbon comes from temporally consistent and harmonized global maps of aboveground biomass and belowground biomass carbon density (at a 300-m spatial resolution); the maps integrate land-cover specific, remotely sensed data, and land-cover specific empirical models (see Spawn et al., 2020 for details on methodology). The Global Soil Organic Carbon Map present an estimation of SOC stock from 0 to 30 cm (see FAO, 2017). Data is also presented from global maps of marine sedimentary carbon stocks, standardized to a 1-meter depth (see Sala et al., 2021, and Atwood et al., 2020).

The map below presents the total carbon stocks in Kenya and the percent of carbon in protected areas. The total carbon stocks is 997.1 Tg C from aboveground biomass (AGB), with 16.5% in protected areas; 898.0 Tg C from below ground biomass (BGB), with 15.9% in protected areas; 2,331.4 Tg C from soil organic carbon (SOC), with 15.1% in protected areas; and 1,412.8 Tg C from marine sediment carbon, with 0.4% in protected areas.



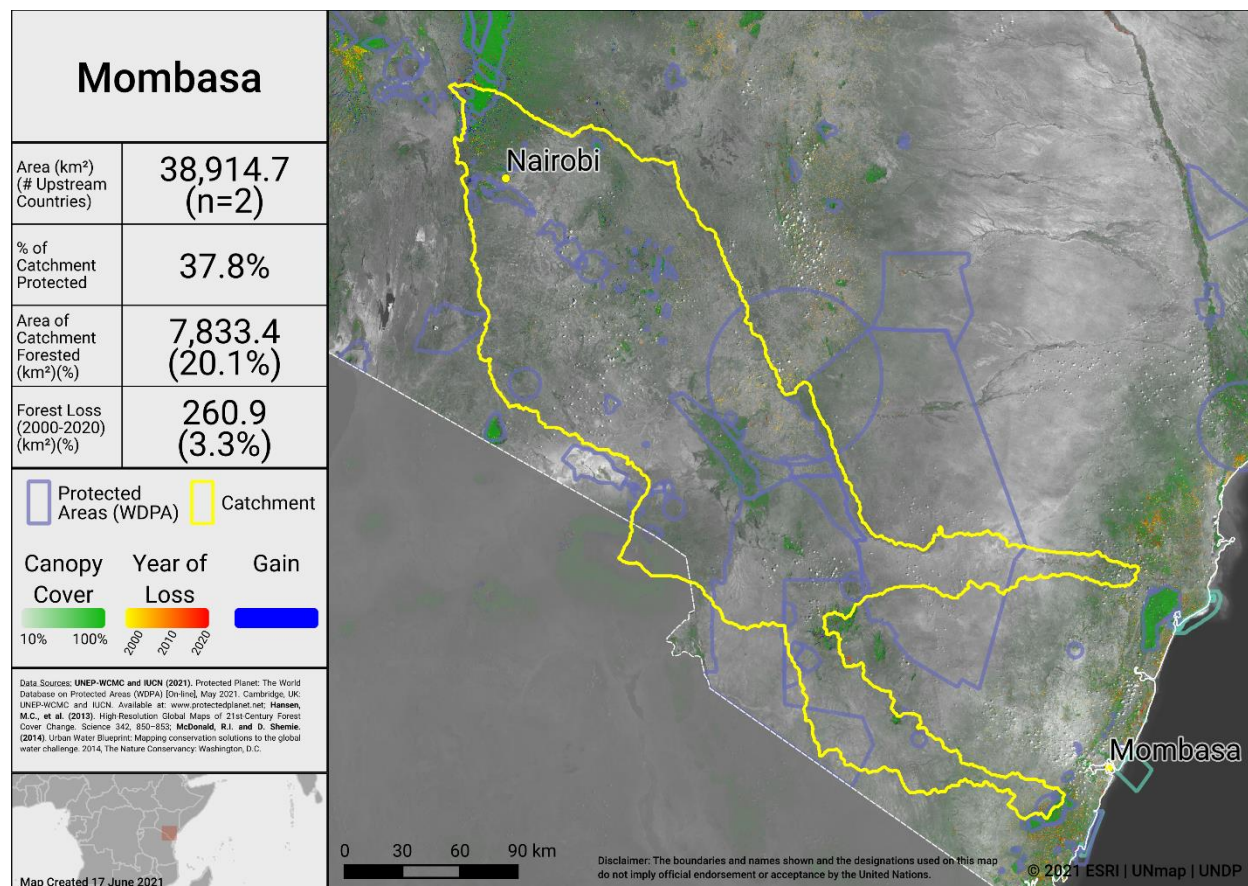
Carbon Stocks in Kenya

Water

Information on the water sources for 534 cities is available via the City Water Map (CWM) and provides details on the catchment area of the watershed that supplies these cities (see McDonald et al., 2014 for details on methodology).

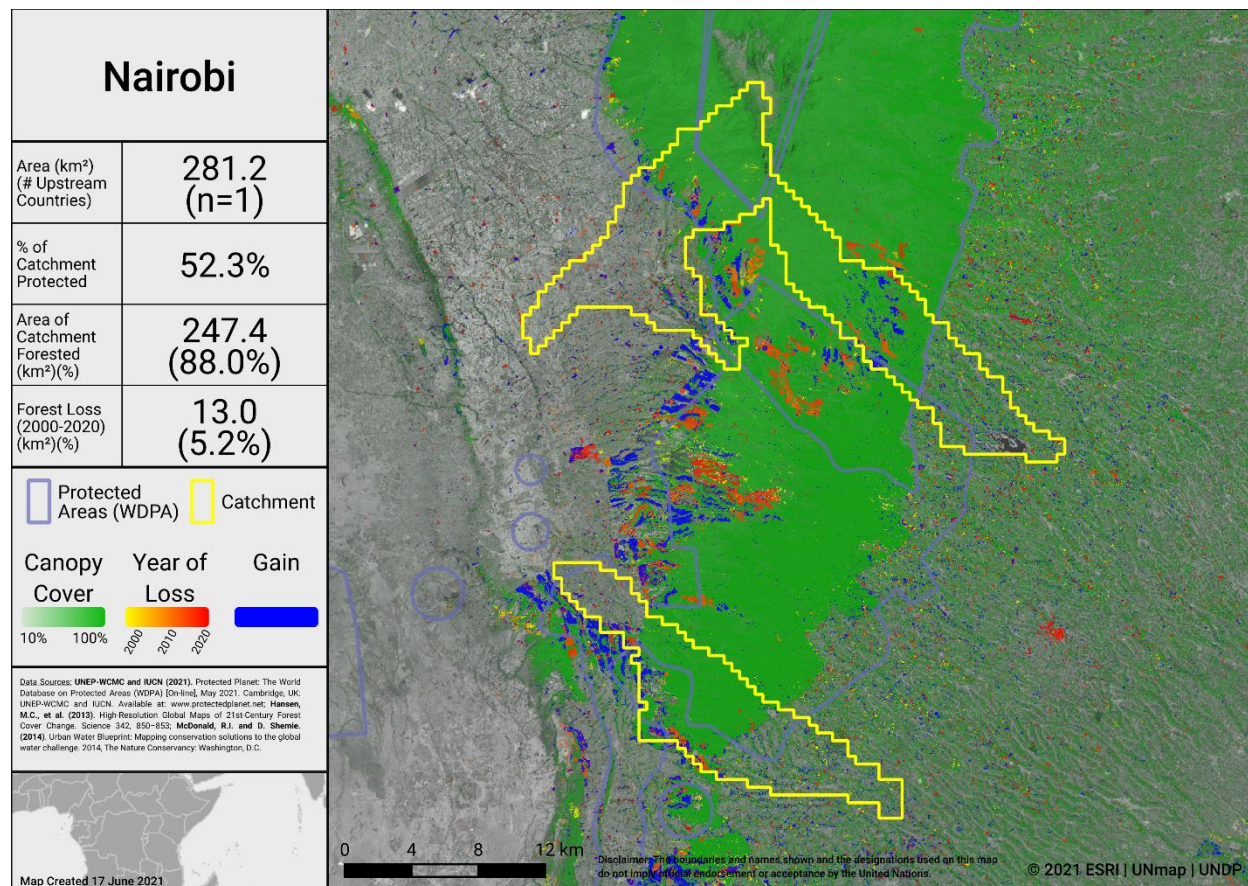
Forests and intact ecosystems support stormwater management and clean water availability, especially for large urban populations. Research that has examined the role of forests for city drinking water supplies shows that of the world’s 105 largest cities, more than 30% (33 cities) rely heavily on the local protected forests, which provide ecosystem services that underpin local drinking water availability and quality (Dudley & Stolton, 2003).

Drinking water supplies for cities in Kenya may similarly depend on protected forest areas within and around water catchments. The maps below show the percentage forest and PA cover and the forest loss from 2000-2020 in the most heavily populated water catchments of Kenya. Intact catchments can support more consistent water supply and improved water quality.



Water catchment in Mombasa





Water catchment in Nairobi

### Opportunities for action

For carbon, there is opportunity for Kenya to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks, as identified in the map above. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.

For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

## CONNECTIVITY & INTEGRATION

Two global indicators, the Protected Connected land indicator (ProtConn; EC-JRC, 2021; Saura et al., 2018) and the PARC-Connectedness indicator (CSIRO, 2019), have been proposed for assessing the terrestrial connectivity of PA and OECM networks. To date there is no global indicator for assessing marine connectivity, though some recent developments include proposed guidance for the treatment of connectivity in the planning and management of MPAs (see Lausche et al., 2021).

### Protected Connected Land Indicator (Prot-Conn)

As of January 2021, as reported in the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission's Digital Observatory for Protected Areas (DOPA) (JRC, 2021), the coverage of protected-connected lands (a measure of the connectivity of terrestrial protected area networks, assessed using the ProtConn indicator) in Kenya was 5.4%.

### PARC-Connectedness Index

In 2019, as assessed using the PARC-Connectedness Index (values ranging from 0-1, indicating low to high connectivity), connectivity in Kenya is 0.51. This represents no significant change since 2010.

### Corridor case studies

Below are details of a case study on corridors and connectivity in Kenya:

Case study title	Type of study region	Greatest threat to connectivity	Approaches to conserving ecological corridors
Kilimanjaro Landscape: Ensuring the viability of wildlife populations	terrestrial, rural	habitat loss and fragmentation	• conservation lease programme for private landowners

Further details are available in Hilty et al 2020.

### Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for a targeted designation of PAs or OECMs in strategic locations for connectivity and to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.

As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).



## GOVERNANCE DIVERSITY

There is a lack of comprehensive global data on governance quality and equity in PAs and OECMs. Here, we provide data on the diversity of governance types for reported PAs and OECMs.

As of May 2021, PAs in Kenya reported in the WDPA have the following governance types:

- 18.0% are governed by **governments** (by federal or national ministry or agency)
- 0.2% are under **shared** governance (by joint governance)
- 3.9% are under **private** governance
  - 0.0% by individual landowners
  - 3.6% by non-profit organisations
  - 0.2% by for-profit organisations
- 12.4% are under **IPLC** governance
  - 6.6% by Indigenous Peoples
  - 5.8% by local communities
- 65.5% **do not** report a governance type

### OECMs

As of May 2021, there are **0** OECMs in Kenya reported in the WD-OECM, however, for 51 potential OECMs overlapping unprotected KBAs:

- 24 are governed by **governments**
- 24 are under **IPLC** governance (17 by Indigenous groups; 7 by Local communities)
- 3 are under private governance (1 managed by Business/corporate interests, 2 under other private governance)

See details in Donald et al., 2019.

### Privately Protected Areas (PPAs)

From the country reviews presented in Stolton et al. (2014):

- 140 PPAs have been established or recognized in Kenya.
  - These PPAs cover > 60,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCAs)

From Kothari et al. (2012) potential ICCAs (or similar designation) in Kenya include:

- 41 Conservancies: this includes 1.58 mil ha under Conservancies (including 402,141 under strict conservation zones)
- 70 Kayas (sacred forests): total of 6000 ha. under Kayas (10% of coastal forests)
  - In total these cover 15,860.0 km<sup>2</sup>.
- Other potential ICCAs include: Several million hectares under pastoral landscapes, much of which falls under Group Ranches (collectively managed rangelands).





Examples of ICCAs in Kenya include the *Il Ngwesi* (a Group Ranch covering 9,471 hectares, located in Mukogodo Division in Laikipia District, north of Mount Kenya) and the *Kaya Kinondo* (a gazetted National Monument located in the south of the Kenyan coast in Msambweni District, is communally owned and managed through a set of traditional rules and regulations enforced by a council of elders) among others. See full case study details for these and other ICCAs in the [ICCA Registry](#).

### Other Indigenous lands

Lands managed and/or controlled by Indigenous Peoples cover an area of 374,408.0 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 354,144.0 km<sup>2</sup> falls outside of formal protected areas. Indigenous lands with a human footprint less than 4 (considered as ‘natural landscapes’) cover an area of 139,045.0 km<sup>2</sup> (for details on analysis see Garnett et al., 2018).

For Kenya, evidence for the presence of Indigenous Peoples comes from: Indigenous Work Group on Indigenous Affairs. Indigenous World 2017 (Indigenous Working Group on Indigenous Affairs, 2017).

Boundaries of the lands Indigenous Peoples manage or have tenure rights over come from:

*Endorois*: Ashamu, E. Centre for Minority Rights Development (Kenya) and Minority Rights Group International on behalf of Endorois Welfare Council v Kenya: a landmark decision from the African Commission. *Journal of African Law* 55, 300–313 (2011)

*Waata/Sanya*: Kassam, A. & Bashuna, A. B. The predicament of the Waata, former hunter gatherers of east and northeast Africa: etic and emic perspectives. Ninth International Conference on Hunters and Gatherers, Edinburgh, 9–13 (2002)

*El Molo*: Kiura, P. El-molo: the forgotten people of Lake Turkana. *Kenya Past and Present* 35, 11–16 (2005)

*Yaaku*: Lind, J. & Barrero, L. R. Into the fold: what pastoral responses to crisis tell us about the future of pastoralism in the Horn (Future Agricultures Consortium, 2014); and Mous, M. Yaaku and Ma’á: an endangered language and the way out (Leiden University Centre of Linguistics, 2005)

*Boni/Aweer, Borana, Daholo, Daasanach, Maasai, Ogiek, Pokot, Rendille, Sabaot, Samburu, Somali Terik, Tugen, Turkana, Waata/Sanya*: Simons, G. F. & Fennig, C. D. (eds). *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*. Twentieth ed. (SIL International, 2017)

*Ogiek*: Simons, G. F. & Fennig, C. D. (eds). *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*. Twentieth ed. (SIL International, 2017); and Mutugi, M. & Kiiru, W. Biodiversity, local resource, national heritage, regional concern, and global impact: the case of Mau Forest, Kenya. *European Scientific Journal* 11, 681–691 (2015).

### Opportunities for action

Increase efforts to identify the governance types for the 65.5% of sites that do not have their governance type reported. If applicable, explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation.



There is also opportunity for Kenya to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. Examples of existing tools and methodologies include: Governance Assessment for Protected and Conserved Areas (Franks & Brooker, 2018), Social Assessment of Protected Areas (Franks et al 2018), and Site-level assessment of governance and equity (IIED, 2020). As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

### Equator Prize Projects

The Equator Initiative brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.

The Equator Prize projects provide examples of unique and locally based governance of natural resources. Kenya has the following Equator Prize winners that showcase examples of local, sustainable community action:

Organization	Year	Project Description
Il Ngwesi Group Ranch - Kenya	2002	<p>This Maasai group ranch in the central Kenyan district of Laikipia has established an 8,645-hectare community-conserved area that balances the needs of local pastoralists with wildlife conservation and the operation of a lucrative eco-lodge. One of the pioneering and most successful of Kenya's Maasai-owned ecotourism initiatives, Il Ngwesi has served as a model for replication across the country. Its sanctuary rangers ensure a high level of security for the conserved area, which has played a key role in a network of connected wildlife protected areas and corridors in central Kenya.</p> <p>In addition to the areas of freshwater management and education, ecotourism revenues have been invested in targeted health interventions. The group is a lead partner in a health campaign which offers awareness-raising, testing and counseling, for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, the campaign has targeted thirteen local group ranches for a combined population of 40,000 people.</p>



Organization	Year	Project Description
Mara River Water User's Association	2010	<p>Mara River Water Users Association is a community-based water resources management organization whose primary objectives are to promote the protection and conservation of the Mara Catchment area, support the sustainable and efficient use of water, assist relevant authorities with water resources management and issuance of water use permits, and water conflict resolution.</p> <p>The Association provides demonstrations and training in water and soil conservation and has established tree nurseries at local schools, placing a particular emphasis on the socioeconomic benefits of biodiversity conservation. River banks (previously subject to erosion) are being protected through the planting of high-value fruit trees along riparian buffer strips. The Association also promotes the use of rainwater harvesting systems, water pans, and protected springs as alternative sources of water.</p>
Mikoko Pamoja	2017	<p>Started in 2013, Mikoko Pamoja brings together two communities in Gazi Bay in Southern Kenya to sell carbon credits from mangrove conservation, trading 3,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent per year in the voluntary carbon market. Mikoko Pamoja is the first community-based project of this kind in the world to successfully trade mangrove carbon credits. Benefits are reinvested in the community to improve clean water access for 3,500 community members, provide educational materials to 700 school children, and to ensure the 117 hectare mangrove forest remains protected. Ecotourism provides a further source of income for this initiative, which is in the process of being replicated in other regions in Kenya and other countries.</p>



Organization	Year	Project Description
Nashulai Maasai Conservancy	2020	<p data-bbox="537 254 1430 365">Among the first Indigenous owned and managed conservancies in East Africa, Nashulai Maasai Conservancy is at the forefront of a paradigm shift towards a mixed-use conservation model.</p> <p data-bbox="537 394 1430 632">This 2,400 hectare protected area forms an important ecological corridor in the Maasai Mara and has attracted elephants, zebras, giraffes, lions and numerous other species. Combining Indigenous ecological knowledge with cutting-edge science, local Maasai communities are also engaged in economic development and cultural programming, so humans, livestock, and wildlife all prosper in harmony.</p> <p data-bbox="537 661 1430 898">An elephant nursery and a bird sanctuary support the restoration of wildlife diversity and density. Traditional agricultural practices such as rotational grazing and use of a drought-resistant cattle species have helped adapt to climate change. Profits from ecotourism have been used to build two schools, increased access to clean water, and supported entrepreneurship and leadership training for women, who hold half of the leadership positions.</p> <p data-bbox="537 928 1430 1003">A sense of pride in preserving Indigenous culture is evidence of the success of the model, which has already been replicated.</p>
Ranchi Ya Il Ngwesi (Il Ngwesi Group Ranch)	2002	<p data-bbox="537 1010 1430 1331">This Maasai group ranch in the central Kenyan district of Laikipia has established an 8,645-hectare community-conserved area that balances the needs of local pastoralists with wildlife conservation and the operation of a lucrative eco-lodge. One of the pioneering and most successful of Kenya's Maasai-owned ecotourism initiatives, Il Ngwesi has served as a model for replication across the country. Its sanctuary rangers ensure a high level of security for the conserved area, which has played a key role in a network of connected wildlife protected areas and corridors in central Kenya.</p> <p data-bbox="537 1360 1430 1604">In addition to the areas of freshwater management and education, ecotourism revenues have been invested in targeted health interventions. The group is a lead partner in a health campaign which offers awareness-raising, testing and counseling, for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, the campaign has targeted thirteen local group ranches for a combined population of 40,000 people.</p>

Organization	Year	Project Description
Shompole Community Trust	2006	<p>Shompole Group Ranch covers almost 62,700 hectares of grassland and savannah in the Magadi Division of southern Kenya. The Group Ranch, under the management of the legally-registered Shompole Community Trust, has 2,000 registered members representing around 10,000 Loodokilani Maasai dependents, and is legally registered to undertake wildlife conservation within its boundaries.</p> <p>Since the late 1990s, the Shompole communities have sought to generate income from ecotourism, leveraging the ranch's unique biodiversity values for the benefit of local residents. The community has set aside 10,000 hectares for strict conservation, and in partnership with a private investor manages a luxury eco-lodge that attracts visitors from across the globe. Revenue from ecotourism has been directed through the Shompole Community Trust into protecting and restoring the environment and funding healthcare services, education, and water projects.</p>
The Kuruwitu Conservation & Welfare Association	2017	<p>KCWA was set up in 2003 by members of the community who were concerned about the degradation of their seas. Overfishing, climate change and uncontrolled fish and coral collection by the aquarium trade needed to be addressed before the marine ecosystem was damaged beyond repair.</p> <p>Elders who could remember how healthy and productive the sea had been decades ago felt it necessary to take action before it was too late. In 2005 they took the unprecedented step of setting aside a 30 hectare Marine Protected Area (MPA). This was the first coral based Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) in Kenya. 12 years on, the area has made a remarkable recovery.</p> <p>With fishing prohibited within the MPA, fish have grown in abundance, size and diversity. The area has become a breeding ground, leading to an increase in fish outside the MPA. As such, fishermen see greater catches due to a spillover effect. At the same time, biodiversity has increased dramatically making Kuruwitu a destination for eco-tourism creating jobs for guides, boat captains and rangers.</p> <p>KCWA is working with the local Beach Management Unit (BMU), the Kenyan State Department of Fisheries and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to develop a co-management plan that will cover a 800 hectare area of ocean off the Kenyan coast. Through this co-management plan, KCWA will work with local fishermen to promote the sustainable use of marine resources, to reduce post-harvest losses and improve fish marketing systems.</p>





Photo from the Equator Prize Winner



## PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

This section provides information on the coverage of PAs and OECMs with completed protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments as reported in the global database (GD-PAME). The proportion of terrestrial and marine PAs with completed PAME assessments is also calculated and compared with the 60% target agreed to in COP-10 Decision X/31. Information is also included regarding changes in forest cover nationally within PAs and OECMs.

### Protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments

As of May 2021, Kenya has 411 PAs reported in the WDPA; of these PAs, 40 (9.7%) have management effectiveness evaluations reported in the global database on protected area management effectiveness (GD-PAME).

- 5.2% (30,225 km<sup>2</sup>) of the terrestrial area of the country is covered by PAs with completed management effectiveness evaluations.
  - 41.5% of the area of terrestrial PAs have completed evaluations.
- 0.1% (74 km<sup>2</sup>) of the marine area of the country is covered by PAs with completed management effectiveness evaluations.
  - 8.7% of the area of marine PAs have completed evaluations.

The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has not** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs.

### OECMs

As of May 2021, there are 0 OECMs in Kenya reported in the WD-OECM; however, there are 51 unprotected KBAs which may fit the OECM definition. Responding to 'How effective is the management in conserving biodiversity?':

- 38 potential OECMs are 'Effective'
- 12 potential OECMs are 'Partly effective'
- For the remaining 1 potential OECM, there is no info

See details in Donald et al., 2019.

See further details on the conservation effectiveness of other potential OECMs (Wildlife conservancies) in the Collation of OECM Case Studies (IUCN, 2017), and summarized in Annex I.

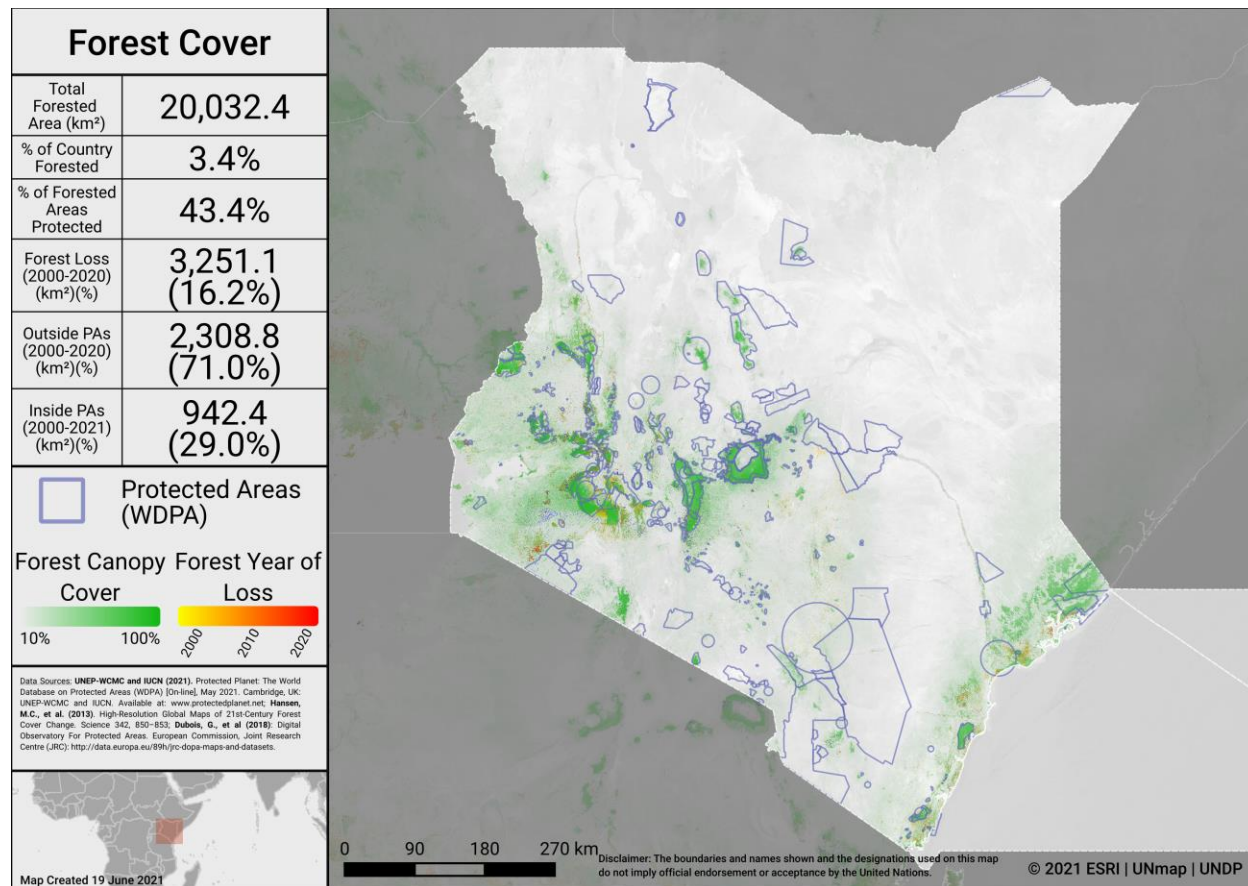
### Changes in forest cover in protected areas and OECMs

Forested areas in Kenya cover approximately 3.4% of the country, an area of 20,032.3 km<sup>2</sup>. Approximately 43.4% (8,691.7 km<sup>2</sup>) of this is within the protected area estate of Kenya. Over the period 2000-2020 loss of forest cover amounted to over 3,251.1 km<sup>2</sup>, or 0.6% of the country (16.2% of forest area), of which 942.4 km<sup>2</sup> (29.0% of forest loss) occurred within protected areas. The map below shows how forest cover has changed in Kenya from





2000-2020 both inside and outside of PAs. This can indicate how effective PAs are in reducing forest cover loss.



### Forest Cover and Forest Loss in Kenya

#### Opportunities for action

The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has not** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs. Therefore, there is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness (PAME) evaluations for both terrestrial and marine PAs to achieve the target.

There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting ‘sound management’) and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.

## SECTION II: EXISTING PROTECTED AREA AND OECM COMMITMENTS

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### PRIORITY ACTIONS FROM 2015-2016 REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

National priority actions for Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 were provided by Parties following a series of regional workshops in 2015 and 2016. The Capacity-building workshop for Africa on achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12 took place 21 - 24 March 2016 in Entebbe, Uganda. Progress towards the quantitative targets for marine and terrestrial coverage has been assessed based on data reported in the WDPA and WD-OECM as of 2021. For more information, see the workshop report at:

<https://www.cbd.int/meetings/>

The following actions were identified during the workshops:

**Terrestrial and marine coverage:** Complete identification of all areas that meet the definition of a protected area in Kenya but which are not currently reported in national reports to the CBD, and submit to the World Database on Protected Areas.

**Ecological representation:** Carry out an ecological gap assessment and identify biodiversity hotspots and place the key ecosystems and habitats under protected area status. This will include additional Important Bird Areas (IBAs) outside currently protected areas.

**Areas Important for biodiversity and ecosystem services:** Carry out an ecological gap assessment and identify biodiversity hotspots and place the key ecosystems and habitats under protected area status. This will include additional Important Bird Areas (IBAs) outside currently protected areas. Bringing unprotected IBAs under protection by expanding existing PAs or establishing new PAs. This will include 7 IBAs in danger from impact by agriculture/aquaculture, human disturbance.

**Connectivity:**

- 1) Identify key wildlife corridors and secure them for improved maintenance of ecological connectivity
- 2) Improve cross border cooperation and collaboration in the management of transboundary protected areas and ecological processes, such as wildlife migrations.

**Management effectiveness:** Build capacity on management effectiveness assessment to identify threats and develop strategies for further actions.

**Governance and Equity:** Build the capacity and awareness of stakeholders and interest groups to achieve recognition and participate effectively in equity negotiations.



**Integration into the wider landscape and seascape:** No actions were identified for this element of Target 11.

**OECMs:**

- 1) Promote the formation of additional community based and private wildlife conservancies
- 2) Draft management plans for biosphere reserves which will integrate the conservation of biodiversity into the wider landscapes and seascapes
- 3) Build capacity on Nagoya Protocol and ABS to legislators, policy makes and judiciary in Kenya for effective implementation and fairer and equitable benefit sharing of benefits arising from the use of biodiversity.

## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPs)

Kenya has not submitted an NBSAP during the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (most recent NBSAP is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/search/>).

*NBSAP submitted prior to the adoption of the Strategic Plan (1999) - revision underway*



## APPROVED GEF-5, GEF-6, & GCF PROTECTED AREA PROJECTS

### Approved GEF-5 and GEF-6 PA-related biodiversity projects

This includes biodiversity projects from the fifth and sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-5 and GEF-6) with a clear impact of the quantity or quality of PAs; also including some projects occurring within the wider landscapes/seascapes around PAs. Only those with a status of 'project approved' or 'concept approved' as of June 2019 were considered. The qualifying elements likely benefiting from each GEF project is assessed based on a keyword search of Project Identification Forms (PIF). Where spatial data for the proposed PAs was available, further details (based on an analysis by UNDP) regarding their impacts for ecological representation, coverage of KBAs, and coverage of areas important for carbon storage is included.

GEF ID	PA increase?	Area to be added (km <sup>2</sup> )	Qualitative elements potentially benefiting (based on keyword search of PIFs)
4362	No	N/A	All Qualitative Elements
4827	No	N/A	All Qualitative Elements
5083	No	N/A	All except Connectivity
5626	No	N/A	Equitably managed; Integration
9241	No	N/A	All Qualitative Elements

### Approved Green Climate Fund (GCF) Protected Area-related biodiversity projects

The Green Climate Fund's investments listed as approved projects as of May 2021 were considered. The GCF supports paradigm shifts in both climate change mitigation and adaptation that may impact quality of PAs or contribute to better integration within the wider land- and seascapes around PAs. Only projects with result areas for either or both *Forest and Land Use and Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services result areas* were included.

GCF ID	Project theme	Result area	Target 11 element
FP113	Adaptation	Ecosystems and ecosystem services	PA/OECM coverage; Effectively managed; Areas important for biodiversity; Ecosystem Services; Integration





## UN OCEAN CONFERENCE VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

Voluntary commitments for the UN Ocean Conference are initiatives voluntarily undertaken by governments, the UN system, non-governmental organizations, among other actors—individually or in partnership—that aim to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 (here we focus in particular on SDG 14.5). The registry of commitments was opened in February 2017, in the lead up to the first UN Ocean Conference (5 to 9 June 2017).

### Ocean Actions improving MPA or OECM coverage:

*#OceanAction16178*: Protecting 1 million sq kms through the \$15 million WCS Marine Protected Area Fund, by Wildlife Conservation Society (Non-governmental organization).

- Area to be added: **11,960 km<sup>2</sup>**.
- Notes on area added: support the establishment of one large MPA, Kenya's first offshore MPA, see country profile for WCS MPA project: <https://mpafund.wcs.org/>.
- Progress report: Yes (2019), status=On Track.
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=16178>.

### Ocean Actions improving MPA or OECM coverage post-2020:

*#OceanAction21560*: Strengthening the Blue Economy platform for sustainable development of the blue spaces in Kenya, by Kenya (Government).

- Area to be added: 0 km<sup>2</sup> [10% target will be surpassed if WCS MPA Fund project completed (see OA#16178)].
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=21560>.

### Other Ocean Actions

Other Ocean Actions submitted as voluntary commitments for SDG 14.5, will also create benefits for the qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11:

*#OceanAction17644*: Sustainable Fisheries and Marine Environment Governance for Socio-economic Benefits, by Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, State Department for Fisheries & the Blue Economy, (Government).

- Types of actions involved: Governance/community co-management; MPA management and/or enforcement; strengthen monitoring control and surveillance systems; integrated development; sustainable fisheries; capacity-building.
- Target 11 element addressed: Integration; Effectively managed; Equitably managed; Ecosystem services.
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of May 2021).
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=17644>





## OTHER ACTIONS/COMMITMENTS

### Leaders' Pledge for Nature

Kenya **has** signed onto the Leaders' Pledge for Nature.

Political leaders participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 88 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. By doing so, these leaders are sending a united signal to step up global ambition and encourage others to match their collective ambition for nature, climate, and people with the scale of the crisis at hand.

### High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People

Kenya **has** joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People.

The High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC) is an intergovernmental group, co-chaired by France and Costa Rica [currently including 65 countries and the European Commission]. Its objective is to support the adoption of a target aiming to protect 30% of the planet's land and 30% of its oceans by 2030 (30x30 target), within the future global framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for the protection of biodiversity, which is to be adopted at the next COP in China this autumn.

### Global Ocean Alliance

Kenya **has** joined the Global Ocean Alliance: 30by30 initiative.

The Global Ocean Alliance 30by30 is a UK led initiative [currently containing 53 countries as signatories]. Its aim is to protect at least 30% of the global ocean as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) by 2030.



## ANNEX I

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### ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON POTENTIAL OECMs

Wildlife conservancies:

- **Overview:** Militant and confrontational conservation policies and practices during and immediately after the colonial era in Kenya undermined later efforts by the government to establish new, or expand existing protected areas. However, a different conservation approach that engaged communities and private landowners living in priority wildlife areas in the mid-1990s resulted in the creation of wildlife conservancies that have more than doubled the area under some form of protection in just 20 years. These conservancies, mainly located adjacent to national parks and reserves, host a large proportion of the national biodiversity and are contributing to the long-term viability and ecological integrity of Kenya's protected area system. These conservancies were established in areas identified as important for conserving Kenya's biodiversity using a scientific approach based on biological, social and economic considerations. More conservancies continue to be established.
- **Boundaries & Geographical Space:** Wildlife conservancies exist in 28 out of the 47 counties in Kenya and cover 11 per cent of Kenya's land surface.
- **Governance Type:** 54% of the conservancies are on community land and cover 89% of the total area under conservancies, 32% are on private land, while 16% are on group land (which are an amalgamation of privately held lands).
- **Permanence:** Sections of Kenya's Conservancy and Sanctuary Regulations allowed conservancies to be deregistered on weak grounds, but these regulations have since been amended to enhance compliance with the OECM Guidelines.
- **Management Objectives:** A strong national umbrella body called the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association has been set up to influence conservation and management policies and regulations, enable conservancies to safeguard wildlife and deliver benefits to local communities, unite communities, strengthen governance, provide a platform to exchange information and best practice, preserve cultures and traditions that support conservation, and support the growth of the conservancy movement. The conservancies are increasingly being seen as a way to achieve rural development, attain better land management, and conserve wildlife and biodiversity into the future. They provide a pathway for devolving the rights and responsibilities for biodiversity conservation from national to local levels and making wildlife an important component of livelihoods based on maximising the benefits and minimising costs and conflicts.
- **Conservation Effectiveness:** Before the establishment of these wildlife conservancies, there were only a few, relatively small and ecologically isolated protected areas. Within the last 20 years, the entire landscape has been connected through a system of conservancies which are now offering protection to many species and ecosystems.

See further details in Collation of OECM Case Studies (IUCN, 2017).

## ANNEX II

### FULL LIST OF TERRESTRIAL ECOREGIONS

Ecoregion Name	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	% of Global Ecoregion in Country	% of Country in Ecoregion	Area Protected (km <sup>2</sup> )	% Protected in Country
East African halophytics	115.6	3.1	0.0	2.2	1.9
East African mangroves	587.5	26.8	0.1	115.4	19.6
East African montane forests	49,292.6	80.2	8.5	12,278.6	24.9
East African montane moorlands	1,970.2	63.8	0.3	1,752.2	88.9
Eastern Arc forests	277.2	2.5	0.0	0.7	0.3
East Sudanian savanna	430.9	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.2
Masai xeric grasslands and shrublands	70,646.9	94.9	12.1	2,619.4	3.7
Northern Acacia-Commiphora bushlands and thickets	290,027.4	79.5	49.8	45,590.2	15.7
Northern Swahili coastal forests	23,768.4	16.6	4.1	4,619.8	19.4
Somali Acacia-Commiphora bushlands and thickets	89,872.2	12.0	15.4	874.4	1.0
Southern Acacia-Commiphora bushlands and thickets	21,907.0	9.4	3.8	3,852.2	17.6
Victoria Basin forest-savanna	22,324.1	13.5	3.8	427.1	1.9
Zambeziian flooded grasslands	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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