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EXPERT WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATING PROTECTED AREAS INTO WIDER LAND- AND SEASCAPES AND SECTORS
Isle of Vilm, Germany, 1-4 November 2008

REPORT OF THE EXPERT WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATING PROTECTED AREAS INTO WIDER LAND AND SEASCAPES AND SECTORS

Note by the Executive Secretary

- 1. The Expert Workshop on Integrating Protected Areas into Wider Land- and Seascapes and Sectors was organized by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity from 1 to 4 November 2008, with the generous financial support of the Government of the Netherlands. It was hosted by the International Academy for Nature Conservation on the Isle of Vilm, Germany.
- 2. The purpose of the Workshop was to develop a draft guide for the integration of protected areas into wider land- and seascapes and relevant sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function, and enhance protected area effectiveness. Development of this guide responds to the need to achieve goal 1.2 of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28, annex) and its related activities 1.2.1 to 1.2.7 also taking into account relevant activities under goal 1.3, on the establishment and strengthening of regional networks and transboundary protected areas.
- 3. The draft guide will subsequently be subjected to peer-review. Once completed, the guide will be disseminated widely and used in training workshops to facilitate the achievement of the agreed target under goal 1.2 of the programme of work of integrating, by 2015, all protected areas and protected area systems into the wider land- and seascapes, and relevant sectors, by applying the ecosystem approach and taking into account ecological connectivity and the concept, where appropriate, of ecological networks.
- 4. The use of the guide will also address the concern raised by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting that for the period 2004-2006 there was a lack of implementation, *inter alia*, in integrating protected areas into wider landscapes and seascapes due to capacity-building constraints for developing countries (decision VIII/24, paras. 9 and 11). In this view, the Conference of the Parties, at its ninth meeting, invited Parties to promote the application of appropriate tools and policy measures including, as appropriate, integrated spatial planning in order to better integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and relevant sectors and plans, including aiming at poverty eradication (decision IX/18, para. 4 (a)).
- 5. The Workshop was attended by government-nominated experts from Argentina, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, Grenada, Japan, Liberia, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam, Zambia, an expert

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from the European Commission, an expert each from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), experts from the International Academy for Nature Conservation, a representative of indigenous and local communities and representatives of the non-governmental organizations The Nature Conservancy and Conservation International.

- 6. Mr. Peter Bridgewater of the Global Garden Consulting Team, Mr. Graham Bennett of Syzygy and Ms. Jamie Ervin of The Nature Conservancy participated as resource persons.
- 7. The full list of participants is attached as annex I below.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

- 8. Mr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity officially opened the meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1 November, and welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary. Highlighting the importance of integrating protected areas into wider land- and seascapes and sectors, he described the purpose of the Workshop and the need for developing the practical guide for achieving goal 1.2 of the programme of work on protected areas. He thanked the Government of the Netherlands for their financial assistance and the International Academy for Nature Conservation of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation for hosting the Workshop. He also thanked the resource persons and experts from United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations for accepting the invitation and for their participation in the Workshop.
- 9. It was agreed that Mr. Mulongoy would serve as Workshop Facilitator.
- 10. Ms. Gisela Stolpe of the International Nature Academy for Conservation of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, described the cultural history and biological wealth of the Isle of Vilm, and also welcomed the participants.
- 11. After a brief self-introduction, the participants adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/EW-IPALS/1/1), and the organization of work for the meeting as contained in the annotations to the provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/CBD/EW-IPALS/1/1/Add.1). They agreed that the organization of work was going to be kept flexible.
- 12. Thereafter, participants exchanged their perspectives, from the point of view of protected-area practitioners, on the elements and contents of a draft guide for integrating protected areas into wider land-and seascapes and identified the following elements: keep it simple; consider a variety of formats; highlight key challenges; create a flexible framework; highlight the socio-political context; encourage protected-area managers to look outwards; ensure inclusion of seascapes/wetscapes; and identify a key for case-studies.

ITEM 2. BACKGROUND ON INTEGRATION OF PROTECTED AREAS INTO WIDER LAND- AND SEASCAPES, AND SECTORS

2.1. Why protected areas need to be integrated into wider land- and seascapes and sectors

13. To set the tone of the workshop, Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, made a presentation on "Why protected areas need to be integrated into wider landand seascapes and sectors". Highlighting habitat loss and fragmentation as among the main drivers of biodiversity decline and the consequences of reduced viability of protected areas that remain as isolated units, he described the need for restoring functional linkages between protected areas to strengthen

ecological coherence and resilience. The presentation can be found at http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWSIPALS-01.

2.2. Key concepts, including the ecosystem approach as a means of integration

- 14. Under this item Mr. Peter Bridgewater reviewed the meaning of key concepts such as landscape, matrix, landscape texture, design, corridor, connectivity and related concepts for integrating protected areas into wider land- and seascapes. He also explained the relevance of the application of the ecosystem approach as a framework.
- 15. Mr. Graham Bennett made a presentation on "Integrating protected areas into wider land and seascapes: implementation challenges". Highlighting experiences gained from the implementation of ecological networks and the impact of fragmentation on ecological coherence, he explained the relevance of the integration of protected areas in addressing climate adaptation.
- 16. The presentations can be found at http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWSIPALS-01.
- 17. After each presentation, participants discussed the topics and exchanged experiences.

ITEM 3. STEPS IN THE INTEGRATION PROCESS

3.1. Overview

- 18. Under this item, Ms Jamie Ervin made a presentation on the proposed structure of the practical guide, briefly introducing the eight steps for integration contained in the draft guide to integrating protected areas into wider land- and seascapes (UNEP/CBD/EW-IPALS/1/2). She said that the eight steps include: (i) Getting started; (ii) Assessing the ecological landscape; (iii) Assessing the protection and conservation landscape; (iv) Assessing the sectoral and policy landscape; (v) Designing an integrated landscape; (vi) Developing strategies; (vii) Implementing strategies; and (viii) Monitoring status and effectiveness. The presentation can be found at http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWSIPALS-01.
- 19. Participants engaged in discussions on a range of issues which, *inter alia*, include objectives, scope and nature of the guide; types of end-product and target audience; relevance of the step-by-step approach; stakeholder participation and the socio-political/economic/ecological context, reaching out other sectors to incorporate conservation aspects in their plans and the need for incorporating concerns of other sectors through connectivity; economic and conservation benefits from integration.

3.2. Detailed description of the steps including identification of relevant tools, resources, case-studies and best practices

- 20. Under this agenda item, the following experts introduced the steps in the integration process, including in the form of case-studies:
 - Step 1: Getting started: Ms Jamie Ervin
 - Step 2: Assessing the ecological landscape: Mr. Peter Bridgewater
 - Step 3: Assessing protection and conservation status: Mrs. Tran Nguyen Anh Thu
 - Step 4: Assessing related sectors and policies: Mr. Tim Hall
 - Step 5: Designing an integrated landscape: Mr. Kari Markku Lahti

- Step 6: Developing and prioritizing strategies: Mr. Marco Fritz
- Step 7: Implementing strategies: Mr. Graham Bennett
- Step 8: Monitoring status and effectiveness: Ms. Jamie Ervin
- 21. In addition, case-studies on the implementation of various projects and programmes regarding integration of protected areas into wider landscapes and seascapes were presented by the following participating experts:
 - Mr. Keith Lawrence, Corridor Economics and Planning, Conservation International;
 - Ms. Shirin Karryeva, Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan;
 - Mr. Mario Coto Hidalgo, National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), Costa Rica;
 - Mr. Chagat Didunovich Almashev, Foundation for the Sustainable Development of Altai;
 - Ms Anahi Alejandra Perez, Patagonia Regional Delegation, National Parks Administration, Argentina;
 - Mr. Joseph Nyahn Toah, Conservation Department, Forestry Development Authority, Liberia;
 - Mr. Anuwat Nateewathana, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand;
 - Mr. Tim Hall, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region; and
 - Mr. Edward Game, The Nature Conservancy, Indo-Pacific Resource Centre.
- 22. All presentations can be found at http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWSIPALS-01.
- 23. After each presentation, participants engaged in discussions and exchange of experiences by providing additional examples. Discussions centred on the relevance of the steps to integration, the nomenclature (e.g. to use "steps" or "elements"), and whether these need to be followed in a sequential manner, tools for planning and designing and enabling environment. Additional discussions were made on the definition of landscape and seascape and it was agreed to use the definition of the European Landscape Convention, adopted in Florence on 20 October 2000. 1/
- 24. To encourage detailed discussions, the participants were divided into two break-out groups to deliberate on the steps, elements and contents of the draft practical guide. Later, the participants discussed in plenary the recommendations resulting from the deliberations of the break-out groups and agreed on the revised structure and contents of the draft practical guide, as contained in annex II below.
- 25. The importance of selecting and using indicators as a means to measure local, national, and global success of implementing goal 1.2 was discussed following a brief presentation on some current indicators in use by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Conservation International. It was agreed that indicators should be selected in accordance with measurable targets that have been adopted by each country and should clearly address to what extent goals are being met, with due

consideration to how other sectors are involved. In addition, participants stated that the indicators should be simple, effective, and practical without need for extensive resources. It was recommended that some sample indicators be included in the guidelines and that capacity-building efforts should aim to provide guidance on selecting indicators that can be harmonized and build on monitoring practices already in use.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

- 26. Under this item, participants described the process for the finalization of the guide. It was agreed that:
- (a) The Secretariat, with the assistance of the resource persons will revise the draft guide (UNEP/CBD/EW-IPLAS/2) using the agreed structure and contents in annex II (version 1 of the draft guide). Additional guidance provided by the meeting was that the Secretariat should include elements that would make the guide useful and relevant to other sectors (see indicative list of sectors in paragraph 92 of the draft guide (UNEP/CBD/EW-IPLAS/2), for version 1 of the draft guide.
- (b) Each participant is expected to contribute, within two weeks, (**not later than 20 November**) examples, case-studies and/or information relevant to the chapters of the guide, to be included in version 1 of the draft guide.
- (c) The Secretariat should circulate version 1 of the draft guide to all the participants in the Workshop by mid-December and submit version 2 of the draft guide (incorporating comments from participants in the Workshop) to a wide peer-review.
- (d) The meeting recommended that the finalized guide (version 3 of the draft guide) be published and translated at least into Spanish, Russian and French.
- (e) While the guide being developed is for protected area practitioners, the Secretariat was requested to develop and publish: (i) a communications document, drawing on the executive summary of the guide, mainly for policy and decision makers; and (ii) an interactive Web version.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

- 27. The Workshop considered and adopted its draft report on Tuesday, 4 November 2008, on the understanding that the Secretariat would finalize the draft in order to reflect the proceedings of the final day.
- 28. Mr. Mulongoy expressed his gratitude to all participants for their excellent and constructive inputs on such a complex issue. Thanking the Governments of the Netherlands and Germany for their financial support and for hosting the Workshop, respectively, he invited representatives from donor countries and organizations to continue supporting the finalization, translation and, through capacity-building workshops, the promotion of the guide.
- 29. After those closing remarks, Mr. Mulongoy declared the Workshop closed at 12.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 4 November 2008.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Annex II

REVISED STRUCTURE AND ELEMENTS OF THE DRAFT PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR INTEGRATING PROTECTED AREAS INTO WIDER LAND- AND SEASCAPES

Introduction and background

- ➤ The relationship of the guide to the CBD programme of work on protected areas, in particular and target 1.2, and related actions
- Rationale for integrating protected areas into the wider landscape/seascape/sectors
- > Relationship of this guide to the ecosystem approach and biosphere reserves
- Purpose of this guide; audience and how to use it; link to shorter guide
- ➤ Overview of integration process five elements
- ➤ Relationship with other planning processes
- > Benefits of integrating protected areas into the wider landscape/seascape/sectors
- Challenges and opportunities in integrating protected areas into the wider landscape/seascape/sectors
- > Enabling environment for integrating protected areas into the wider landscape/seascape/sectors

Chapter 1: Getting started

- ➤ Identifying initial stakeholders and policy context (how, when, inclusive)
- > Setting a mission statement
- > Example of different scales
- > Setting parameters—leadership, roles, timeline, budget, scope
- > Establishing effective partnerships mechanisms
- > Characteristics of successful initiatives
- Enabling conditions, challenges and tools

Chapter 2: Assessing the wider landscape

Assessing the ecological and biological landscape

- ➤ Identifying focal conservation targets, goals, viability
- ► Identifying gaps in connectivity
- > Integrating climat- change adaptation and mitigation into target selection and goal-setting

Assessing protection and conservation status

Assessing the status of protected areas by category and governance type, sustainable use areas and management effectiveness

Assessing social, economic and cultural context

Assessing the social context, economic context and cultural context

Assessing policies and related sectors

- > Identifying constraints and opportunities to integrating protected areas into sectors and policies
- Mapping policy and sectoral constraints and opportunities

Putting it all together

Enabling conditions, challenges and tools

Chapter 3: Developing strategies and actions

- > Identifying strategies and processes for implementation
- > Screening and prioritizing strategies
- ► Best practices in developing strategies and actions
- Enabling conditions, challenges and tools

Chapter 4: Implementation

- > Developing a strategic implementation plan
- ➤ Mainstreaming strategies into natural-resource sectors
- Best practices in engaging stakeholders
- ➤ Enabling condition, challenges and tools

Chapter 5: Monitoring, evaluation and adaptation

- ➤ Difference between status monitoring and effectiveness monitoring (both spatial and sectoral)
- > Steps to developing a monitoring plan for integration initiatives
- > Sample indicators for monitoring integration initiatives
- ➤ Measuring progress on target 1.2 (indicators at the country level)
- > Learning and adaptive management
- ➤ Enabling conditions, challenges and tools

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Case-studies

Appendices
