

Stewards of Diversity

RECOGNISING AND SUPPORTING TERRITORIES AND AREAS CONSERVED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES



FACT 1

Indigenous peoples and local communities are the grassroots champions of biodiversity.

FACT 2

Traditional knowledge, customary practices, and systems of stewardship have developed over generations of interaction with specific territories and areas.

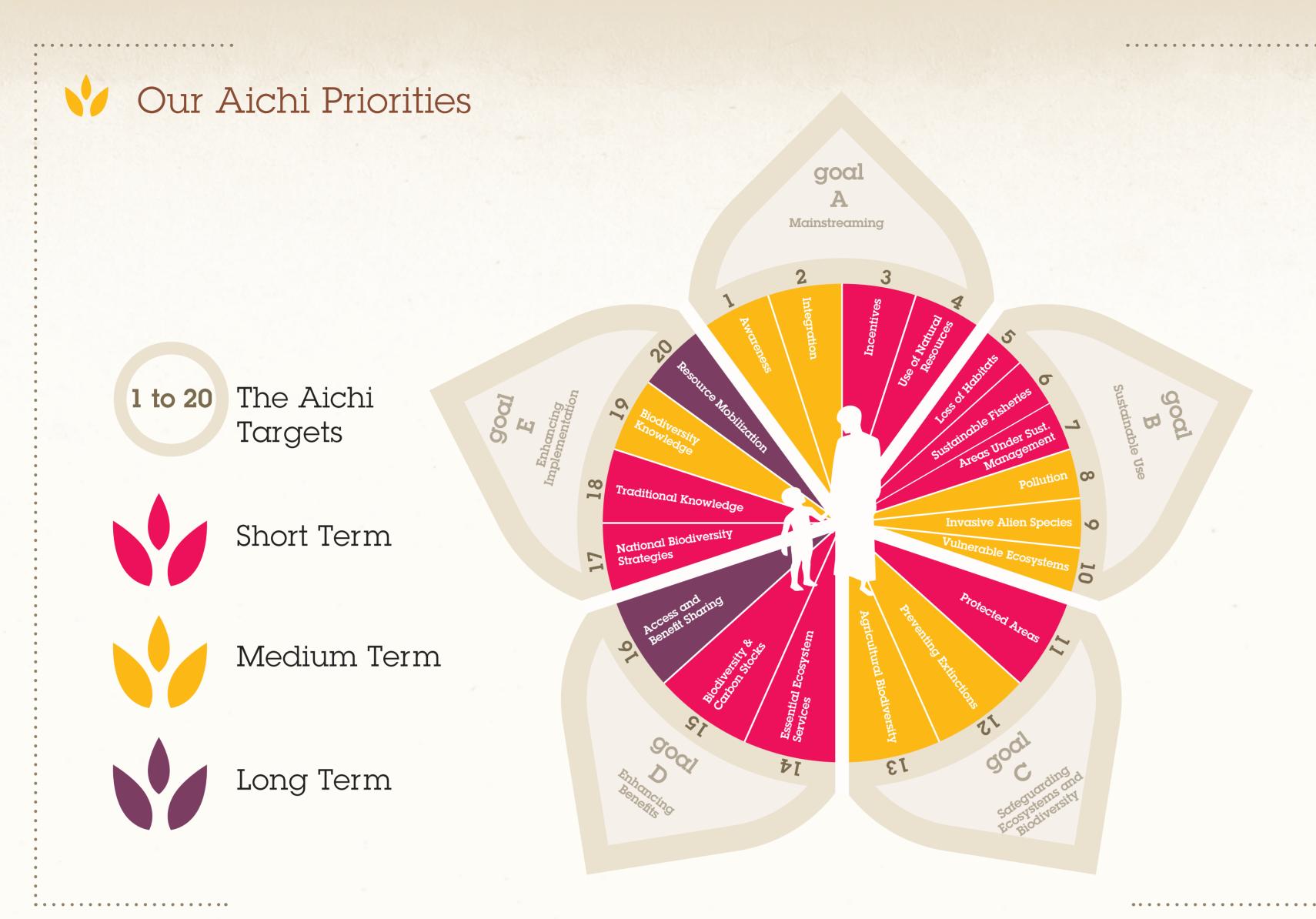
FACT 3

The most effective way to conserve biodiversity is to respect and recognize indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and ways of life.





Our Initiatives on Biodiversity for Development...

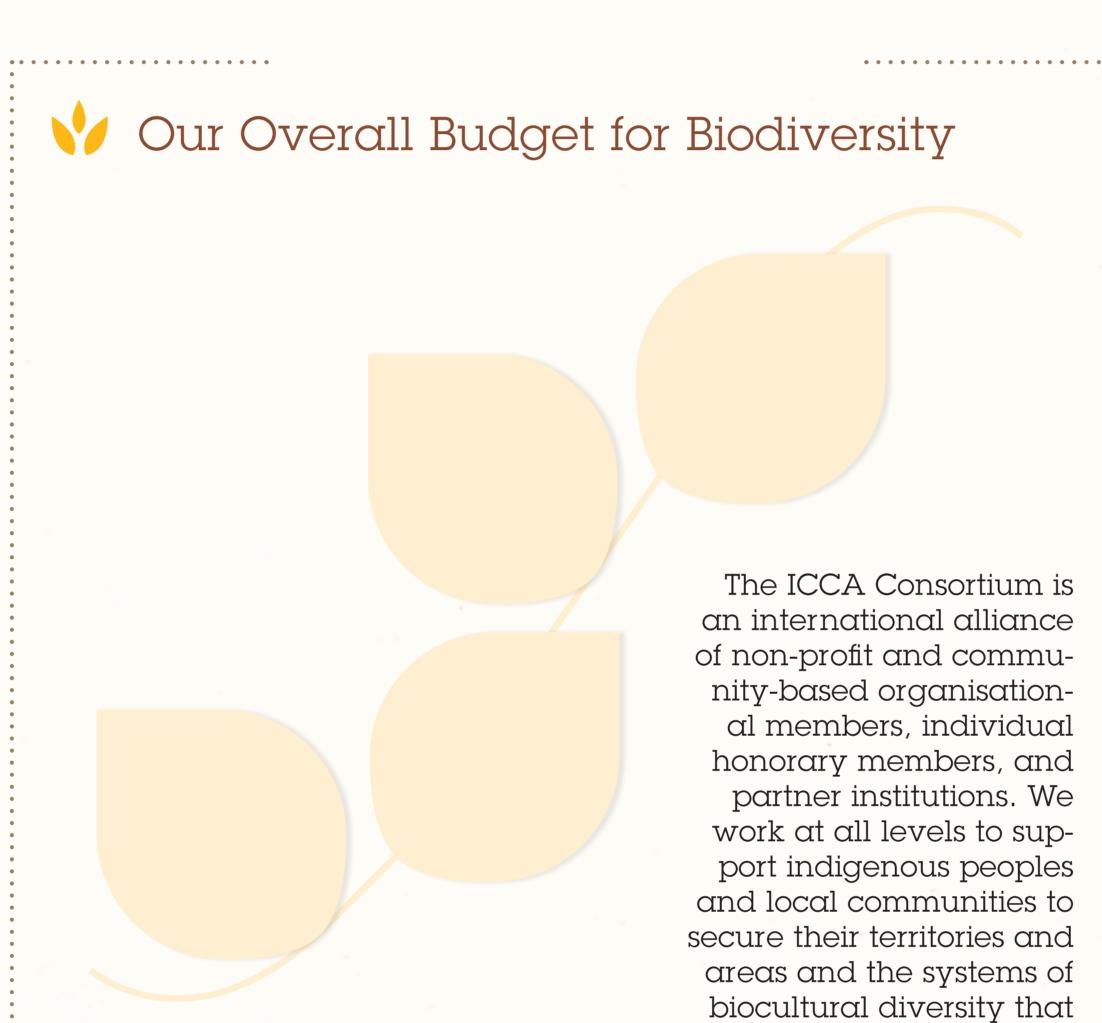






At the first national conference on ICCAs in the Philippines, the Manila Declaration was adopted by leaders of indigenous communities and representatives of indigenous peoples' organisations. The Declaration affirms that "for millennia, we have played a critical role in conserving a variety of natural environments and species, for a variety of purposes, including economic as well as cultural, spiritual and aesthetic, through customary laws and other effective means..."

"It calls on the government to "view ICCAs as strategies for protection, management, development, and peace-building", "respect the integrity and dignity of the whole territory", and uphold customary law as the "highest standard" when recognizing ICCAs."









By 2020 I want you to:



How do government and other

organisations recognize and

support your community's efforts?

Place your post-its with

your answer below:

..and more Initiatives:

Securing rights to community forest resources under the 2006 Forest Rights Act (Mendha Lekha Village, Maharashtra, India) Aichi Targets 11, 14, 15

Community-restored riverine ecosystem recognized as country's first coastal ICCA (Mangagoulack, Casamance, Senegal) Aichi Targets 6, 14, 15

(Wet'suwet'en Nation, British Columbia, Canada) Aichi Target 3, 14, 19

First Nations are protecting

sensitive ecosystems from

destructive developments

A ©Eco-Red Turismo, B ©Stacy Jupiter, C ©Brodsko Ekolosko Drustvo/BED, D ©Craig Wheeler, Mapoon Ranger

and AREAS

that involve the active participation of

local communities in conservation efforts are more effective than

exclusionary PROTECTED AREAS. DID YOU KNOW?

LIVELIHOODS, and community WELL-BEING.

Biodiversity

and healthy ecosystems

are the foundation

for CULTURAL DIVERSITY,

Our Outcomes

From 2011-2012, Kalpavriksh, Natural Justice, and the ICCA Consortium undertook two major studies on legal and non-legal forms of recognition and support for ICCAs, which will be launched at COP11. Both studies illustrate the critical importance of securing appropriate recognition of and support for indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and ways of life, particularly their customary laws and decision-making processes and systems of stewardship, governance and management of ecosystems and natural resources therein. The studies are available at www.iccaconsortium.org.





underpin them.



Our Main Approaches for Mainstreaming

and area-based stewardship.

Respect, recognize and support indigenous peoples' and

Recognizing and supporting indigenous peoples' and local

laws and territories) increases their capacity to respond to external

threats such as industrial developments, as well as to opportunities

communities' systems of stewardship (including customary rights,

local communities' rights and their systems of territorial



and development.

such as new partnerships.

outcomes. It also embeds

the ecosystem approach

into the development and

implementation of laws

and policies by ensuring

that communities are an

integral part of conservation

It increases participation

in biodiversity planning

processes and public

ownership over the





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