

A large flock of flamingos and other birds flying over a body of water. The birds are in various stages of flight, with some landing and others taking off. The water is dark blue, and the background shows a line of green vegetation.

# Key Biodiversity Areas and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas: a support tool to implement Aichi Targets 11 and 12

Wouter Langhout



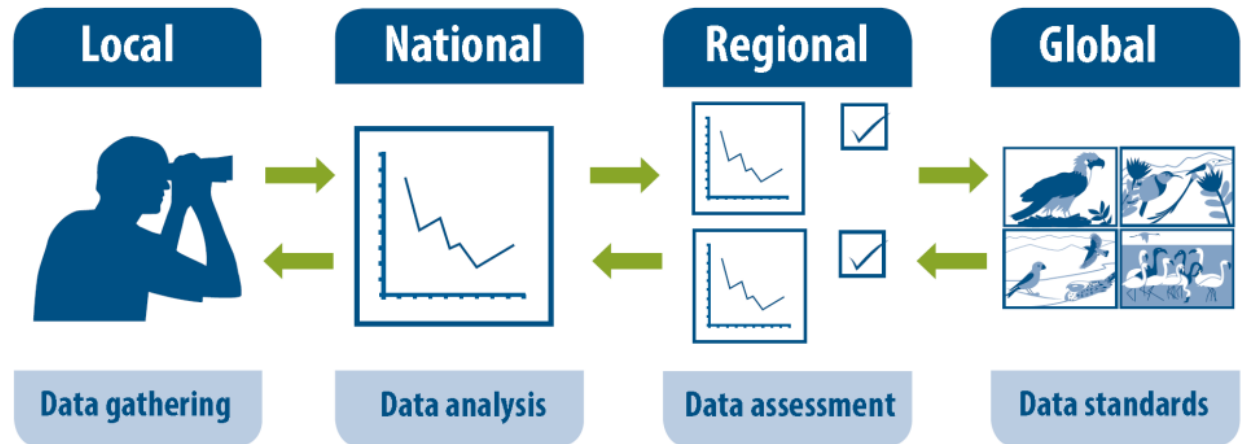
CBD Regional Workshop, Minsk, Belarus

# Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)



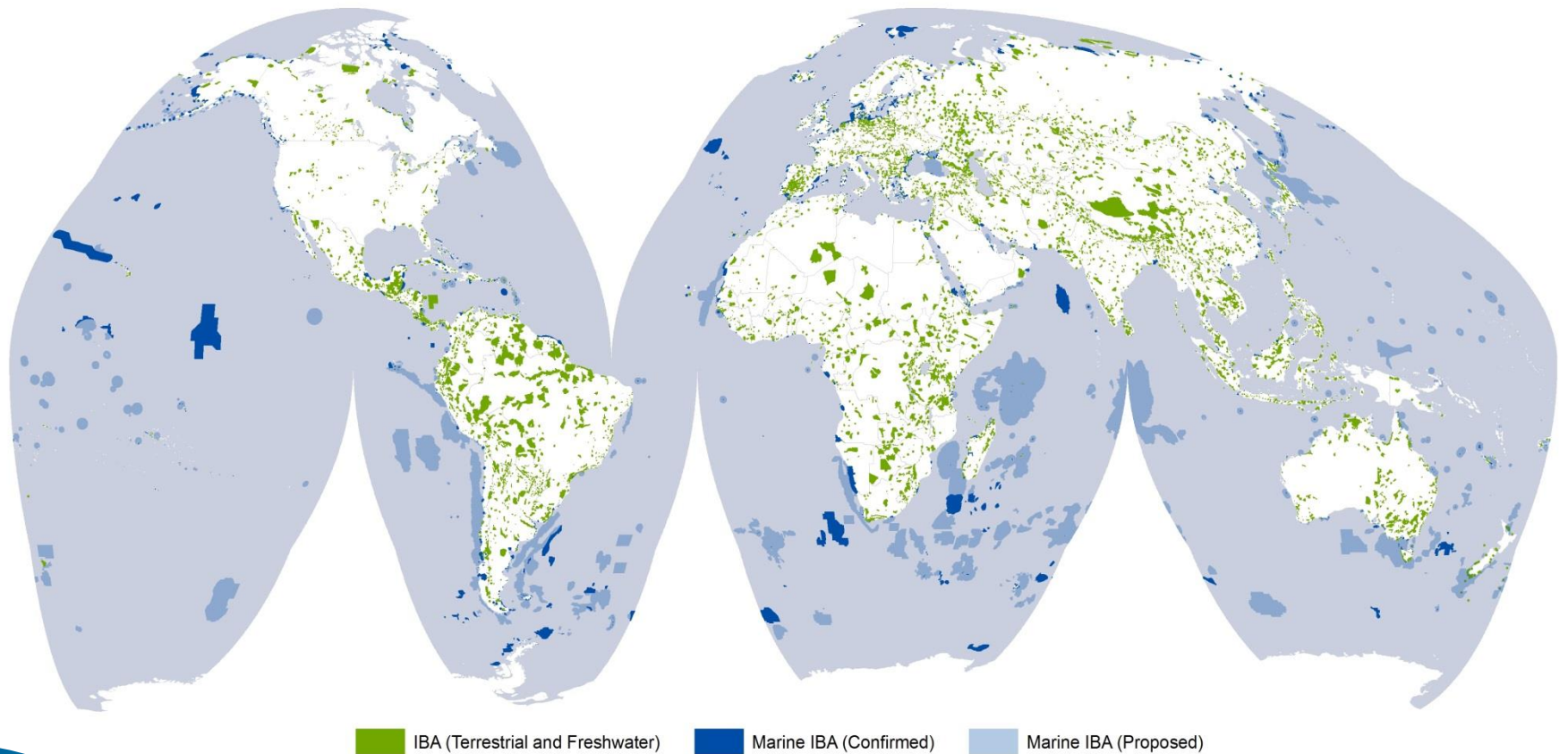
- The IBA Programme started in Europe in the late 1970s
- IBA global criteria are based on:
  - Threatened species, Restricted-range species, Biome-restricted assemblages, Congregations
- In Europe, also regional and sub-regional (EU level) criteria
- The IBA network captures a large proportion of species in other taxonomic groups

# Global science and local expertise



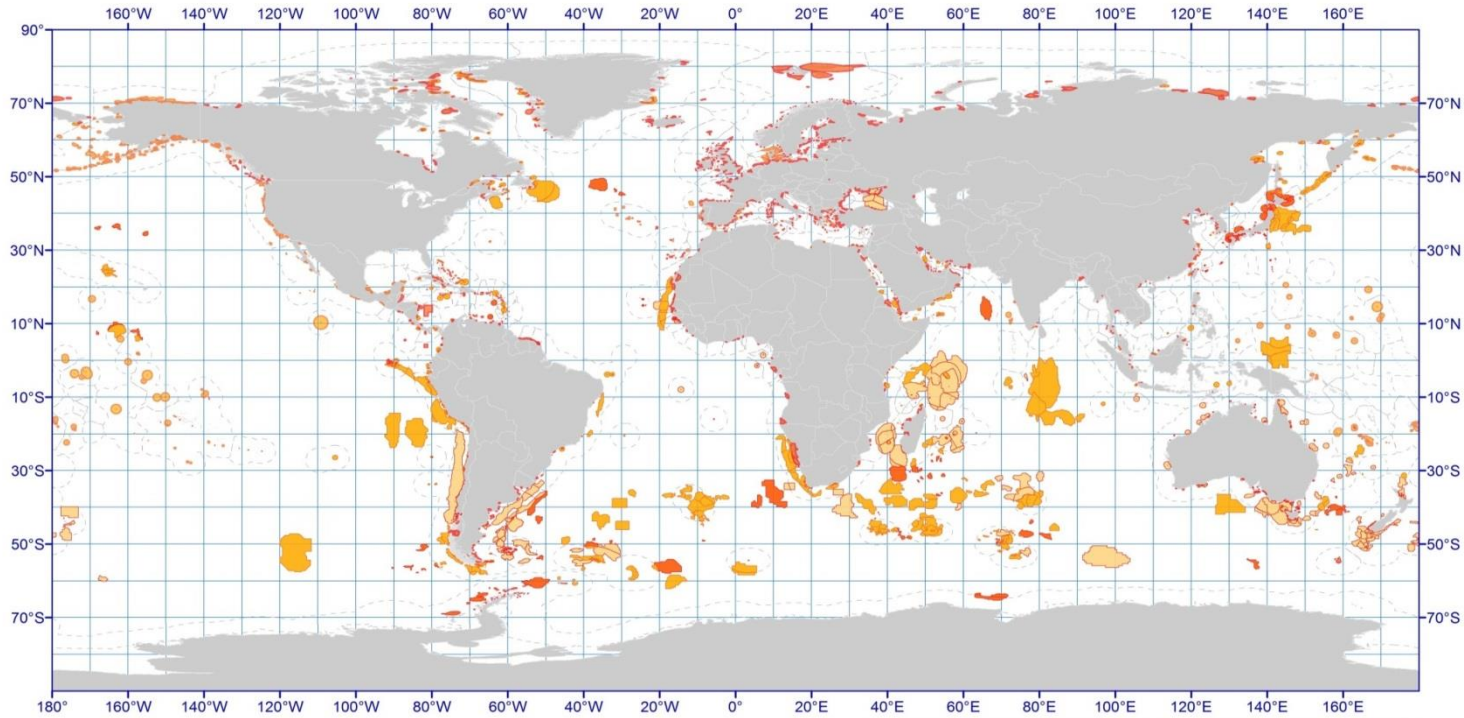
- Data for IBA identification is collected locally and analyzed at the national and regional levels
- IBAs are identified using the global or regional IBA criteria in a fully participative way, using expert knowledge
- Site information is up-dated using monitoring and other published and unpublished data
- BirdLife Partners find it difficult to raise funds for monitoring and up-dating, both of which are key for the continued provision of high-quality information

# Over 12,000 IBAs have been identified globally



**Terrestrial IBAs cover c. 7% of land surface**

# Marine IBAs: the marine e-atlas

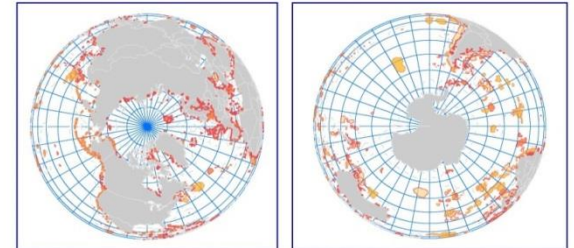


**3000 sites in 150 countries and on high seas – 6.5% of the oceans**

- Confirmed Sites
- Proposed Sites
- Candidate Site
- Exclusive Economic Zones

Date: 02/11/2012

Projection: Geographic, Datum: WGS84  
North and South Polar Orthographic





**AZE SITES:  
587 SITES  
920 SPECIES**



**ALLIANCE FOR Zero Extinction**  
Pinpointing and conserving epicenters of imminent extinctions - [www.zeroextinction.org](http://www.zeroextinction.org)

**2010 UPDATE**

2010 International Year of Biodiversity

# Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)



- KBAs are sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity
- The new global KBA Standard was approved in April 2016 and now provides the framework for KBA identification and revision
- The KBA Standard has 11 criteria grouped under five categories: Threatened Biodiversity, Geographically Restricted Biodiversity, Ecological Integrity, Biological processes and Irreplaceability through quantitative analysis
- A global KBA Partnership will be launched at the IUCN WCC in Hawaii “to implement a programme to develop and maintain an up-to-date, fully documented list of sites identified against the KBA Standard, and to communicate, promote and position this information to enable the achievement of the KBA vision.”
- Regional and national KBA criteria may be developed and used (e.g. regional IBA criteria)

# IBAs and AZE sites as Key Biodiversity Areas



- **ALL** IBAs are KBAs for birds at the global or regional level
- **ALL** AZE sites are also KBAs
- In selected regions it was found that the majority of KBAs identified to date are IBAs
- IBAs will need to be re-assessed against the global KBA criteria within the next 8-12 years

Within the five regions systematically assessed to date\*, IBAs constitute

**68%**

of all sites significant for biodiversity (KBAs), and make up

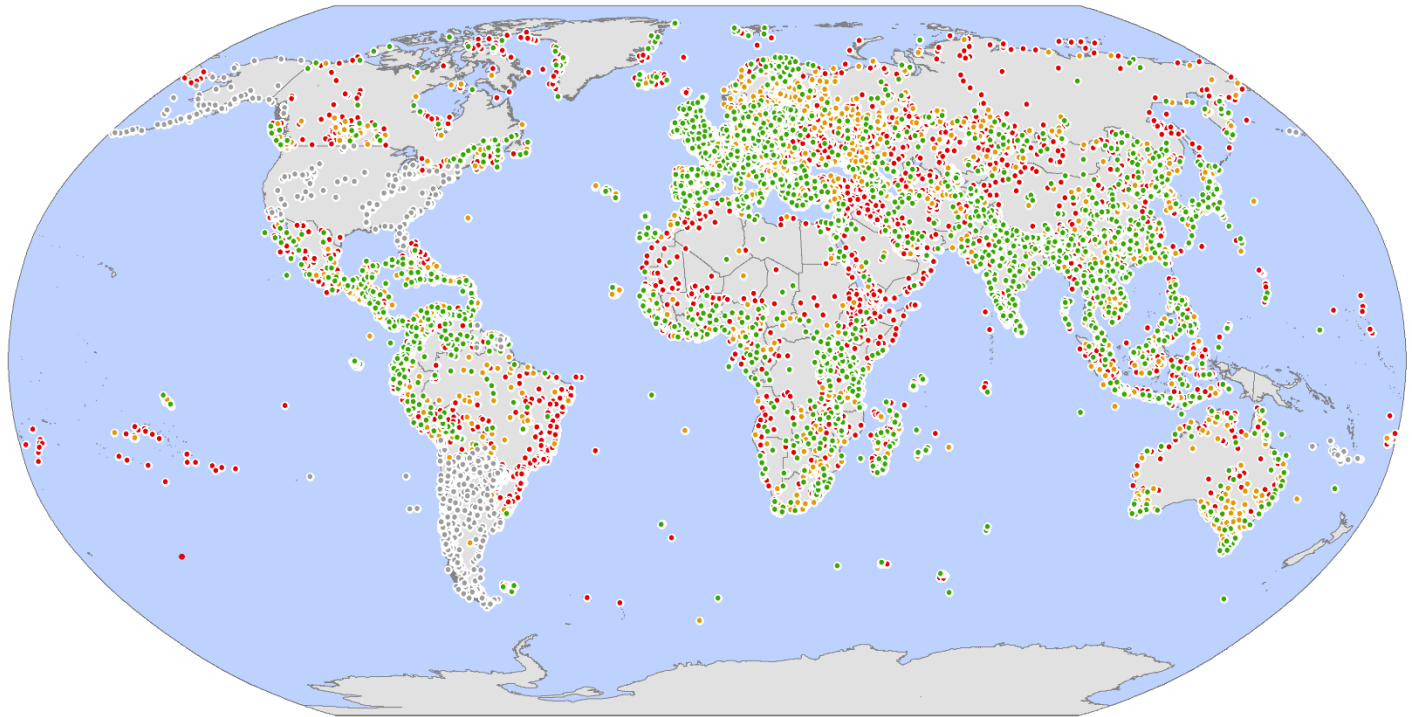
**76%**

of their combined area

Within these regions **3%** of KBAs are also AZE sites



# KBAs including IBAs and AZE sites need better protection



## Terrestrial IBA protection:

By area: 39% covered by national PA networks

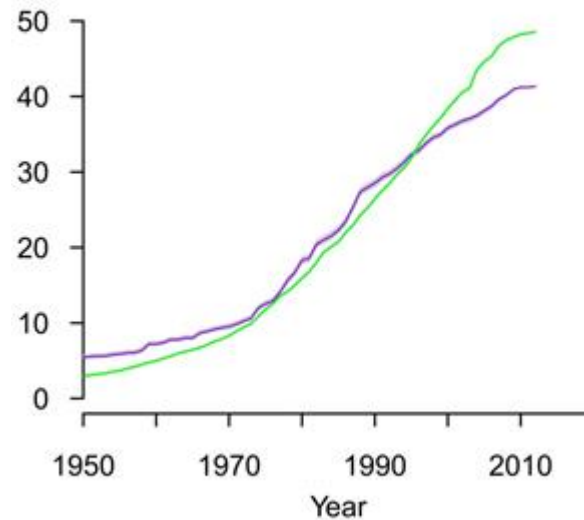
By number: 28% of IBAs completely covered by PAs

49% of IBAs are wholly unprotected

Approximately 60% of  
AZE sites identified so  
far are protected today.  
**We need 100% or c. 230**  
**more sites protected by**  
**2020 to meet the CBD**  
**Aichi Targets.**

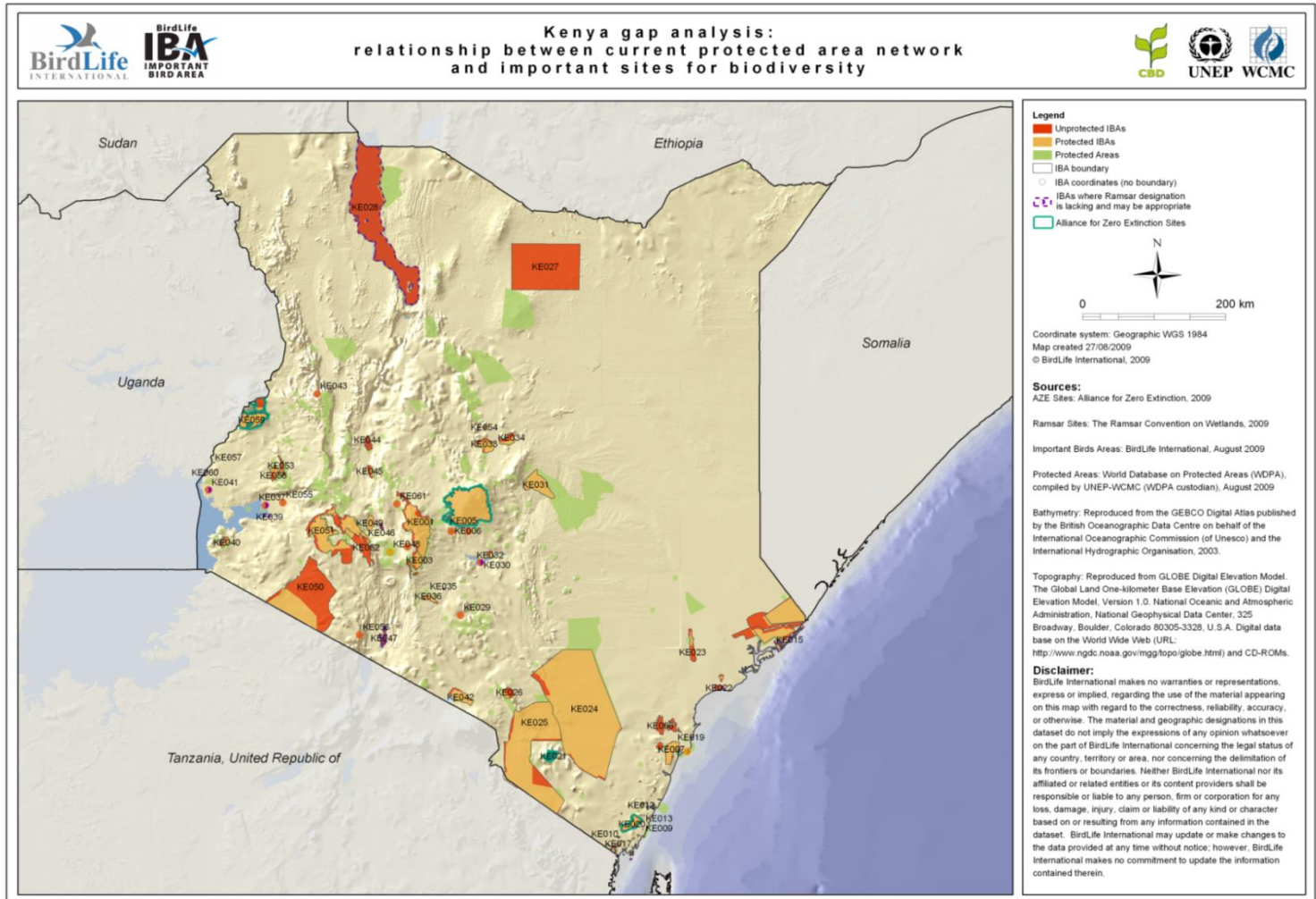


# Progress towards Target 11

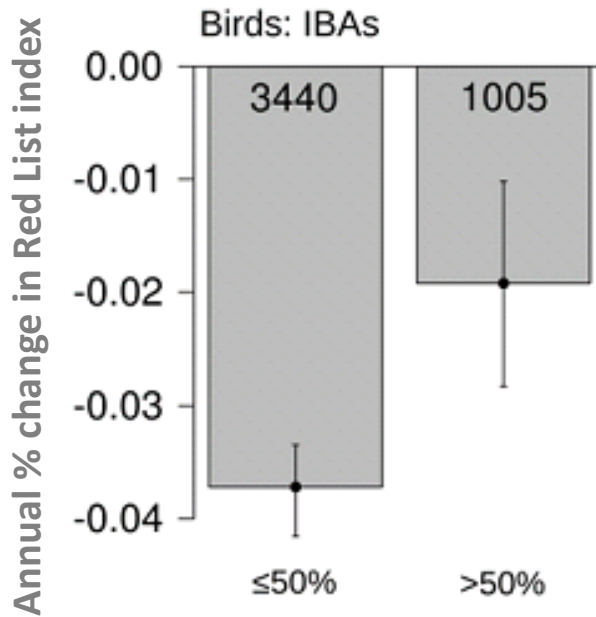


Temporal trends in mean percentage area IBAs (green) and AZEs (violet) covered by PAs.

# IBAs are a basis for PA gap analysis



# Protected IBAs are in better shape

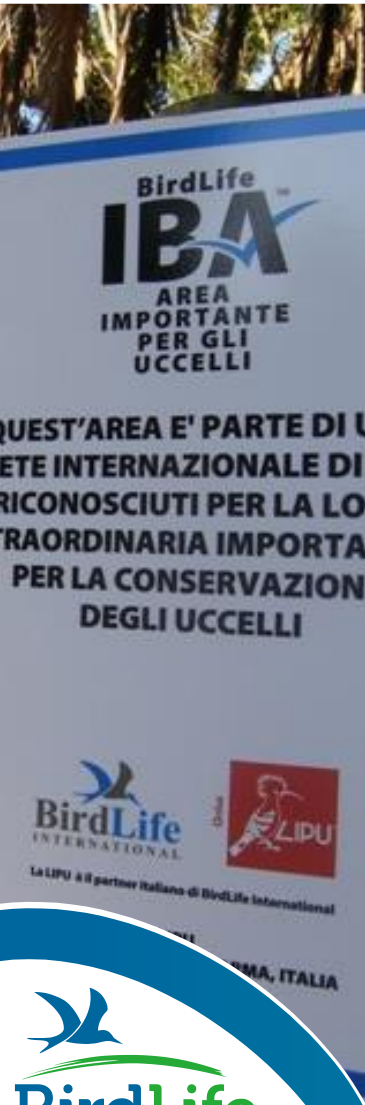


Coverage by Protected Areas

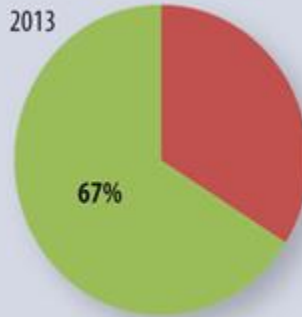
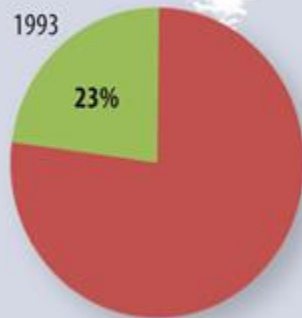
Extinction risk of birds is lower in better protected IBAs (Butchart *et al.* PLOS One 2012).

But as PA network grows, proportion of PAs covering IBAs is falling.

# IBA identification & SPA designation in EU

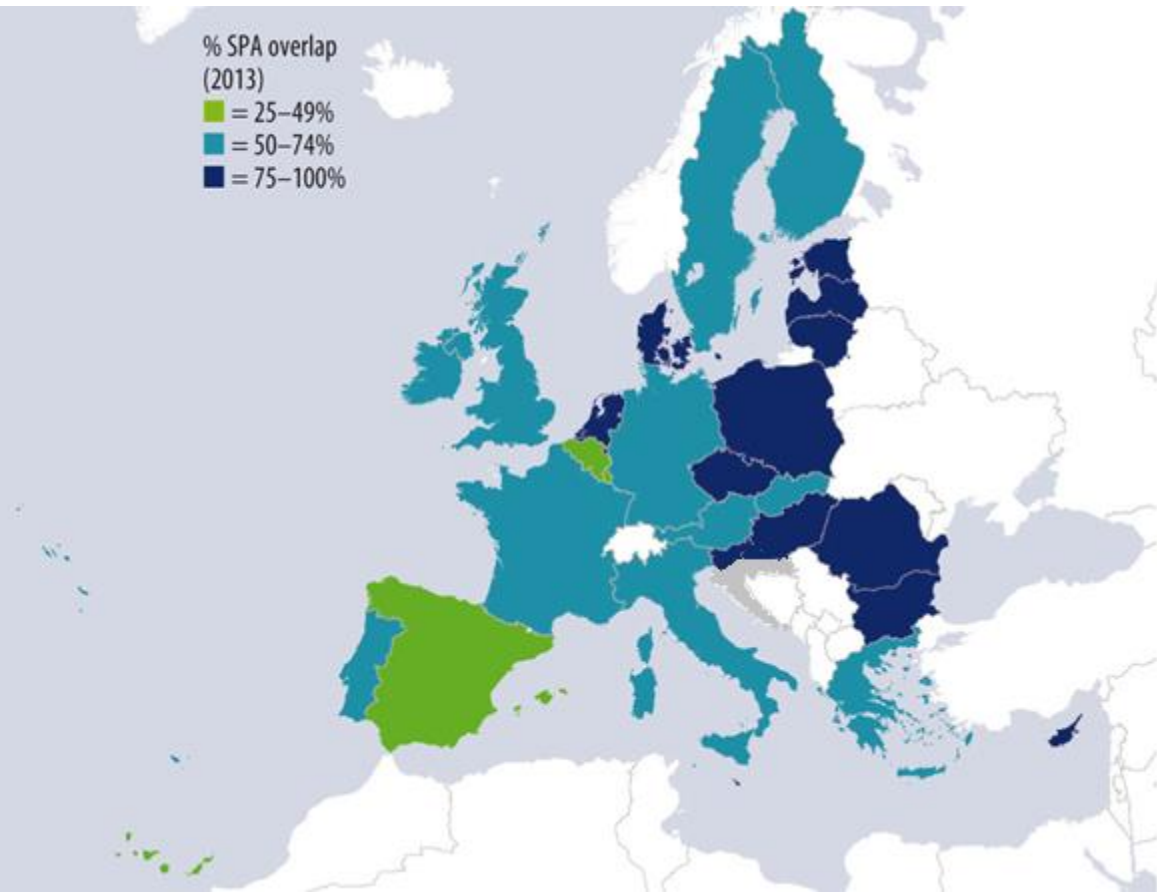


% of terrestrial IBA area designated as SPA



% SPA overlap (2013)

- 25-49%
- 50-74%
- 75-100%



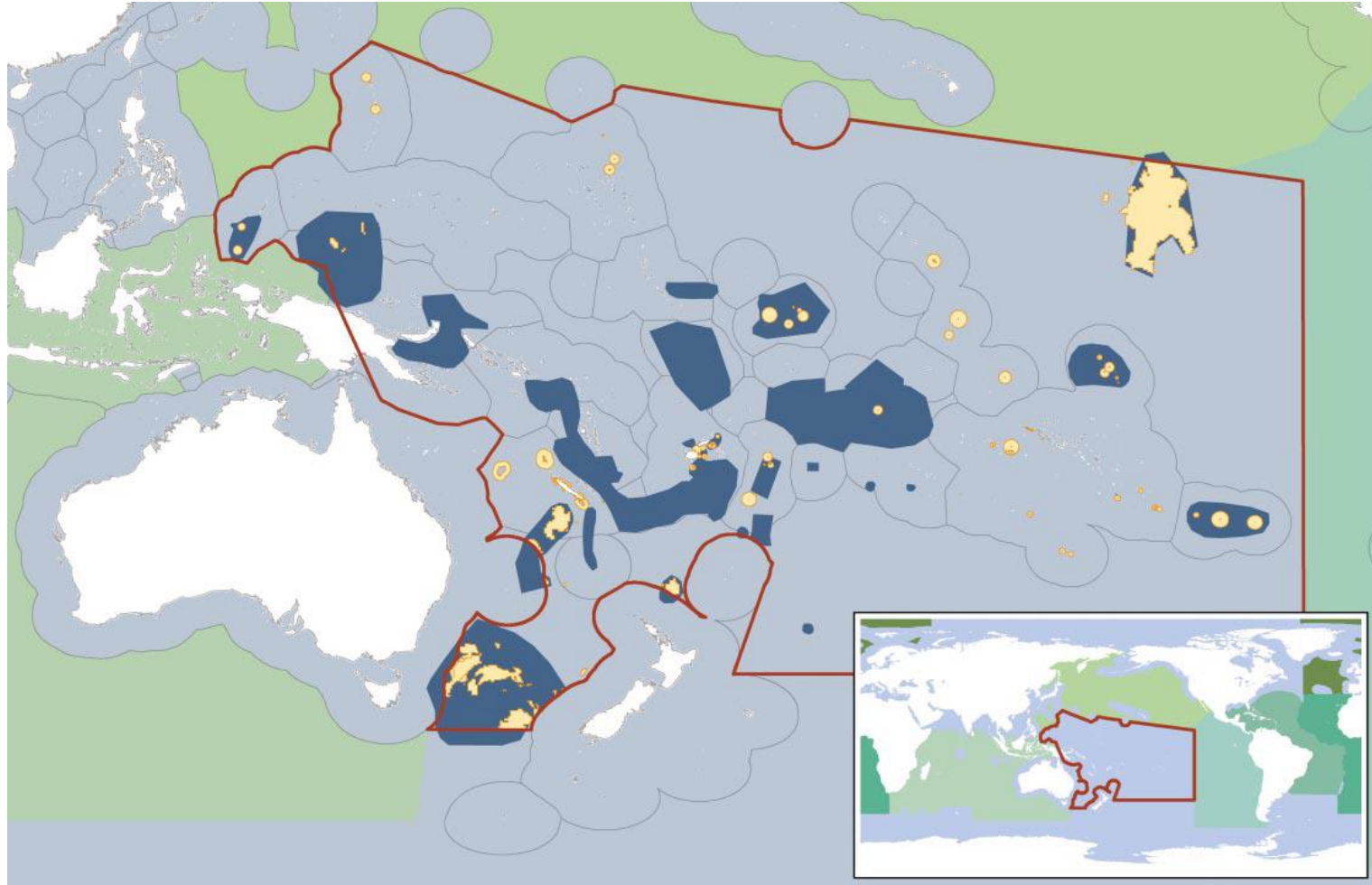
Nearly 47 million hectares of IBAs are now protected within the Natura 2000 network of protected Areas

IBAs have many other applications...

... for Target 11,  
Target 12 and other  
Aichi Targets



# Informing EBSA description



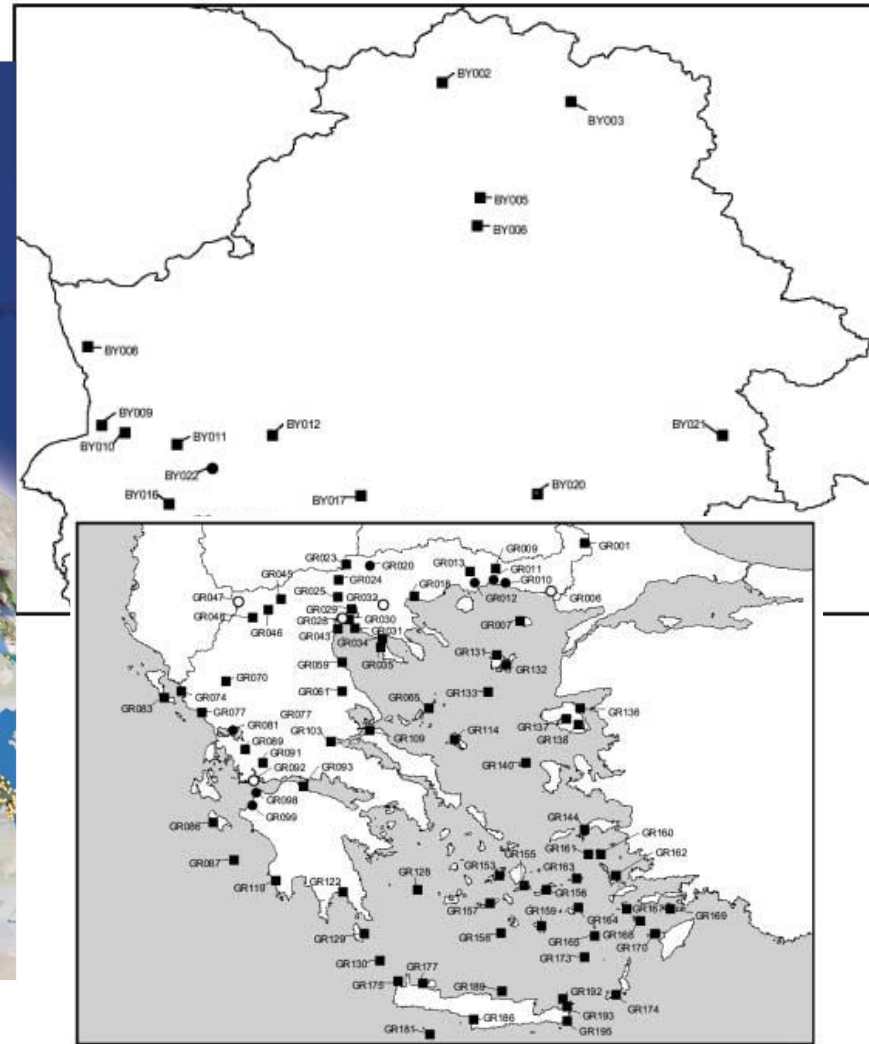
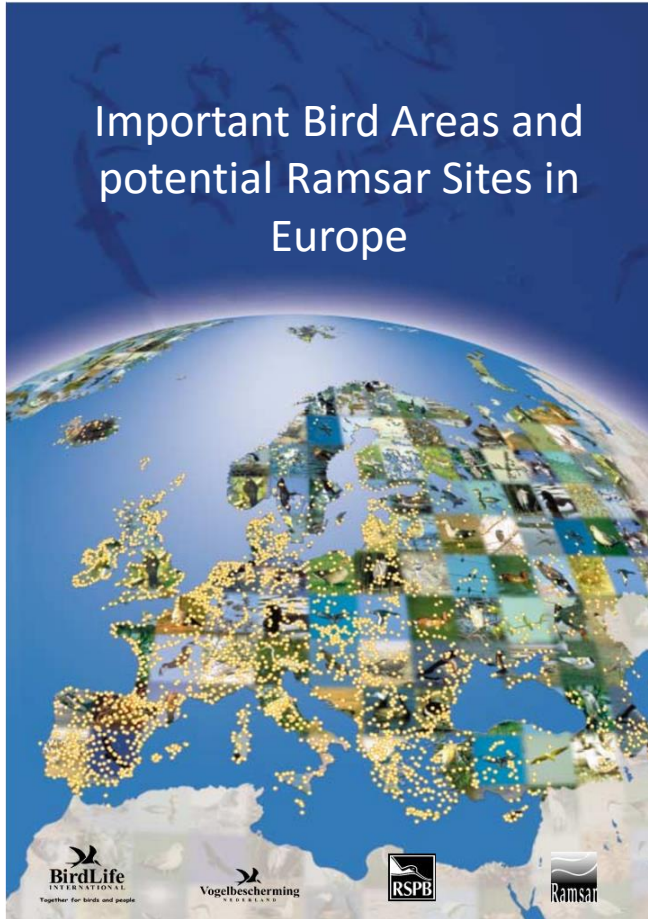
Over 600 IBAs have so far been included within EBSAs



# Supporting Ramsar site designation



Important Bird Areas and potential Ramsar Sites in Europe



Partnership for nature and people

# Safeguards and mainstreaming biodiversity



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Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool

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IBAT for business is an innovative tool designed to facilitate access to accurate and up-to-date biodiversity information to support critical business decisions. The tool is the result of a ground-breaking conservation partnership among BirdLife International, Conservation International and United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

To access this site, please use the link to the right to request a user name and password.

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**World Map**

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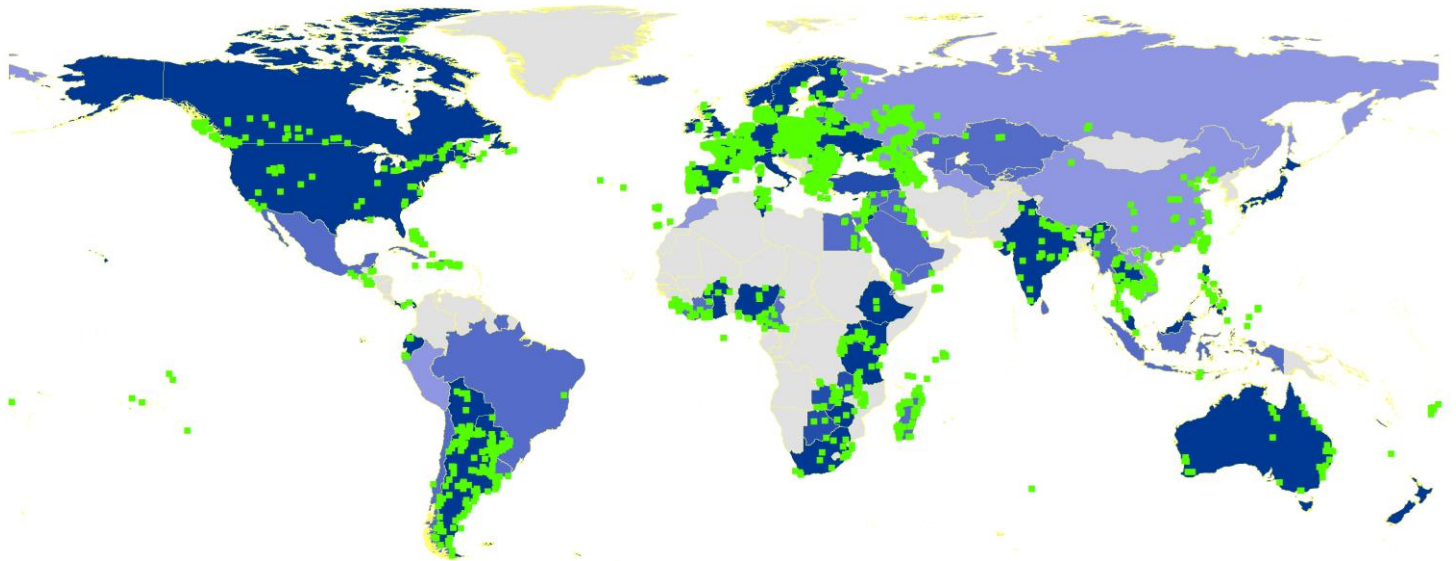
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# Promoting local engagement with conservation



Local Conservation Groups or IBA Caretakers are at over 2,700 IBAs around the world

# Thank you...

## Together we are BirdLife International



The global Partnership for nature and people



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Forest Partners INTERNATIONAL



FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN  
Exploring, Explaining and Conserving the World of Tropical Plants



WORLD PARKS  
An international collaborative to purchase and protect endangered ecosystems.