



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON PROTECTED AREAS

Second meeting

FAO, Rome, 11-15 February 2008

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

### **REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SOUTH AND WEST ASIA SUBREGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE REVIEW OF AND CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Secretary with the financial support of the European Union and the Government of India, and in collaboration with the World Commission on Protected Areas of the IUCN-World Conservation Union, The Nature Conservancy, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the World Wide Fund convened a South and West Asia sub-regional workshop on the review of, and capacity-building for the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, from 2 to 4 April 2007, at the Wildlife Institute of India in Dehradun, India, in response to the request of the Conference of the Parties contained in paragraph 10 of decision VIII/24.
2. The objectives of the workshop were to provide: (i) an overview of the progress in country level implementation of the programme of work on protected areas and identification of constraints and opportunities to promote implementation; (ii) strengthening of capacity for (a) conducting ecological gap analysis, (b) developing sustainable financing and (c) using guidelines for improving/assessing management effectiveness through exchange of country experiences, case-studies, available tools and resources; and (iii) inputs to the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, to be held in February 2008 at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.
3. The workshop was attended by Government-nominated experts from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Syria and Yemen, and representatives of three indigenous and local communities and two non-governmental organizations from South and West Asia. The IUCN-World Commission on Protected Areas, The Nature Conservancy, the World Wide Fund International and the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Wildlife Institute each provided a resource person. A list of participants is attached as annex I below.

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\* UNEP/CBD/WG-PA/2/1.

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**ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

4. A representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary. With reference to an article published on 2 April in the Times of India on the impact of climate change on the flora and fauna and human well-being, he described the role of biodiversity and protected areas. Emphasizing the linkages between effective implementation of the programme of work on protected area, achieving the 2010 biodiversity target, the Millennium Development Goals and poverty alleviation, he informed the participants about the early action project of the Global Environment Facility, for the programme of work on protected area.

5. Mr. Parsheera, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, recalling decision VIII/ 24 on protected areas reiterated the importance of protected areas and called for measures for effective implementation of the programme of work. Dr. R.B. Lal, Director of Wildlife Preservation, Government of India, offered opening remarks. Mr. Balachandran, National Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity, proposed vote of thanks.

6. The Workshop was then opened by His Excellency Mr. Sudarshan Agarwal, Governor of Uttarakhand, India. In his inaugural address, he welcomed the participants and thanked the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological diversity for the initiative. Recounting the role of ecosystem services in the welfare of humankind, he highlighted the perils of unsustainable development and its debilitating impact on ecosystems. He also referred to the projected devastating impact of climate change described in the article on Climate Change from the Times of India and emphasized the pivotal role of protected areas in biodiversity conservation and maintaining the ecological integrity and preventing the expansion of environmental refugees. He appealed to the countries to undertake concrete actions towards implementation of the programme of work.

7. During the opening ceremony the executive summary of India's third national report was released and mementos were offered by the Wildlife Institute of India to His Excellency Mr. Sudarshan Agarwal, the representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Mr Parsheera, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

8. The participants elected Dr. R. B. Lal, Director of Wildlife Preservation, Government of India, as the Chair for the Workshop by consensus. Participants considered and adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/WS-PA/SWA/1/1).

9. Representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention described the programme of work, the progress so far, and the context, purpose and expected outputs of the workshop.

**ITEM 2. OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS IN COUNTRY-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION**

10. Under this item, participants after listening to country presentations from India, Iran, Bangladesh and Syria, divided into three working groups for interactive and in depth discussions. Group 1 included Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka; group 2 Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nepal and group 3 included Iran, Syria and Yemen. The three groups reviewed the progress in implementing each of the target for 2006, described in the programme of work, identified challenges and capacity-building needs, using the matrix annexed to the notification of 30 November 2006 as the basis. The resultant matrix is attached as annex II. The progress on each target was expressed on a scale of 0 to 3 and participants agreed to submit detailed reports describing the progress, challenges and capacity-building needs in their respective countries, to the Secretariat by 30 April 2007.

**ITEM 3. STRENGTHENING OF CAPACITY FOR: (i) CONDUCTING ECOLOGICAL GAP ANALYSIS; (ii) DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE FINANCING; (iii) USING GUIDELINES FOR IMPROVING/ASSESSING MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS, THROUGH EXCHANGE OF COUNTRY EXPERIENCES, CASE-STUDIES, AVAILABLE TOOLS AND RESOURCES**

11. Under this item, the workshop provided and discussed practical hands-on-tools and training in (i) ecological gap assessments; (ii) sustainable finance plans; and (iii) management effectiveness. For each of these items, a general introduction was given by the resource persons; the critical steps and tools were reviewed; case-studies presented and discussed; and interactive sessions held during which country-specific activities challenges, opportunities and ways and means to address these challenges were discussed. In the interactive sessions, the participants were provided with key framing questions for each topic. The representatives from (i) The Nature Conservancy led the work on gap analysis; the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on sustainable finance; and (iii) WWF International, the Wildlife Conservation Society and Wildlife Institute of India on management effectiveness. The outcomes of the interactive sessions are attached as annexes III to IV.

**ITEM 4. INPUTS TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON PROTECTED AREAS**

12. Under this item, based upon the small group discussions under item 2, the participants agreed on key points to be recommended for consideration by the second meeting of the Working Group on Protected Areas, including in particular the challenges and capacity-building needs for effective implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, identified under item 2 above.

**ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS**

13. Under this item, the workshop listened to the statements from IUCN-WCPA, IIFB and ICSF.

**ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

14. This report of the workshop was adopted on Wednesday, 4 April 2007, with an understanding that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will finalize the report with the Chair of this meeting to include the last day's proceedings.

15. After some remarks by Mr Jo Mulongoy on behalf of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Namo Narayan Meena, Minister of State, Environment and Forests, Government of India closed the workshop at 1 pm on Wednesday 4 April 2007.

*Annex I*

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**A. Countries**

**Afghanistan**

Mr. M. Hashim Barezai  
Mr. Faqirullah Safi

**Bangladesh**

MS. Tajkera Khatu  
Mr. Abdus Samad

**India**

Dr. Sujata Arora  
Mr. G. Balachandran  
P.B. Gangopadhyay  
Mr. Anmol Kumar  
Mr. R.B. Lal  
Mr. V.B. Mathur, also as a resource person from WII  
Mr. B.S. Parsheera  
Mr. K.S. Rao

**Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

Mr. Ali Reza Najimi  
Ms. Mahboobeh Tohidi

**Maldives**

Ms. Aishath Farhath Ali  
Ms Aminath Nileysha

**Nepal**

Mr. Laxmi Prasad Manandhar  
Ms. Neera Pradhan

**Pakistan**

Mr. Rizwan Irshad  
Mr. Syed Mahmood Nasir

**Sri Lanka**

Ms. Lathika Hapuarachchi  
Mr. Gaminie Vijith Samarakoon

**Syrian Arab Republic**

Dr. Akram Issa Darwish  
Ms. Mayadaa Saad

**Yemen**

Mr. Ali Abdulbari Ahmed Al-Adimi  
Mr. Gamal A. Al-Harrani

**B. Non-governmental organizations**

**International Collective in Support of Fish Workers**

Ms. Ramya Rajagopalan

**C. Indigenous and local community organization**

**Chittagong Hill Tracts**

Mr. Goutam Kumar Chakma

**Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous**

**Peoples**

Mr. Pratap Singh Nachhiring

**Naga Peoples' Movement for Human Rights**

Mr. A. Kenneth

*D. Resource persons*

**IUCN - World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN - WCPA)**

Dr. Uday Raj Sharma

**The Nature Conservancy (TNC)**

Dr. Jamison Ervin

**Wildlife Conservation Society Asia Program**

Dr. Madhu Rao

**WWF International**

Mr. Alexander Belokurov

**Winrock International India**

Mr. Sanjeeva Pandey

**Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity**

Dr. Jo Mulongoy

Dr. Sarat Babu Gidda

## Annex II

## PRELIMINARY ELEMENTS FOR THE PROGRESS REPORT ON CBD PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
<b>1.1</b> <i>Comprehensive, representative and effectively managed protected area system</i>	<b>Afghanistan</b>	1 – Primary stage; preliminary survey/workshop,	Stability of security; community contribution; Boundary fencing; Insufficient staffing; Wildlife compensation; Inadequate infrastructure and equipment	Capacity-building – workshops, seminars, community relations; training
	<b>Bangladesh</b>	1	Lack of experts, No effective management measures, lack of funds, Sea level rise, lack of good data base, natural disasters, population pressure, Emphasize marine protected areas	Marine diversity/ecosystems; regular recruitment & Training of field staff; Good database, funds, staff
	<b>India</b>	2	Under-representation (mainly marine), Effective mgmt, data, lack of infrastructure, lack of co-ordination, shortage of field staff, Uncontrolled tourism;	Marine diversity/ecosystems; regular recruitment & Training of field staff; Good database, funds, staff;
	<b>Iran</b>	2	Conflicts between Ministries. Limited financial resources.	Human and financial resources
	<b>Maldives</b>	1	Social conflicts, climate change; encroachment	Marine diversity/ecosystems; regular recruitment & Training of field staff; Good database, funds, staff
	<b>Nepal</b>	2 4 ecoregions; NP, Wildlife Reserve and Community areas representing every Ecosystem 1 hunting reserve,	Stability of security; community contribution; Boundary fencing; Insufficient staffing; Wildlife compensation; Inadequate infrastructure and equipment	Capacity-building – workshops, seminars, community relations; training

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
		new buffer zone management in all Pas, except a few (19.7% coverage)		
	<i>Pakistan</i>	12% in some protection; (various types); most addressed except coastal and marine	Stability of security; community contribution; Boundary fencing; Insufficient staffing; Wildlife compensation; Inadequate infrastructure and equipment	Capacity-building – workshops, seminars, community relations; training
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>		Wet zone poorly rep; insurgency;	Marine diversity/ecosystems; regular recruitment & Training of field staff; Good database, funds, staff
	<i>Syria</i>		Lack of finances for Pas and technical expertise	Extra budget and trained staff
	<i>Yemen</i>		Filling the representation gaps (mountains). Staff. Lack of coordination and networking	Mobilization of extra resources (including private sector) and trained staff
<i>1.2 Integration into wider landscape and seascape</i>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	1 Some progress in West Afghanistan especially in forest management programs (integrated project to convince communities); explained value of PA re protection of environment (UNEP/WCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to have adequate capacity and incentives</li> <li>• Coordination = major challenge between various sectors, operational agencies, enforcement</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>1</i>	Heavy livelihood dependence/ over population in coastal belts; competition with mechanized fishing; Confusion over State/ Centre jurisdictions; geographical distribution, funding levels; Lack of	Strengthening on priority; databases, strong policies; funds

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			understanding;	
	<i>India</i>	1	Same as above	Same as above
	<i>Iran</i>	2	Broader involvement of stakeholder	Training on sustainable land-use
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Heavy livelihood dependence/ over population in coastal belts; competition with mechanized fishing; Confusion over State/ Centre jurisdictions; geographical distribution, funding levels; Lack of understanding;	Strengthening on priority; databases, strong policies; funds
	<i>Nepal</i>	1 19.7% of land area; no more Pas; concept of landscape approach from E. Baghmata to India west; Himalayan landscape approach covers 7 Pas in Tibet, 4 India, 1 Bhutan, 4 Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to have adequate capacity and incentives</li> <li>• Coordination = major challenge between various sectors, operational agencies, enforcement</li> <li>• Ecosystem approach difficult to integrate into Pakistan systems and biodiversity conservation not tested in field; EA = “utopia”</li> <li>• <i>Nepal: migration of elephants from/to India (villager conflict)</i></li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	1 12% of land area as protected; achieved MDG target of declaring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to have adequate capacity and incentives</li> <li>• Coordination = major challenge between various sectors, operational agencies, enforcement</li> <li>• Ecosystem approach difficult to integrate into and biodiversity conservation not tested in field; EA = “utopia”</li> <li>• Unable to declare marine Pas (problem = different agencies and interest groups)</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Heavy livelihood dependence/ over population in coastal belts; competition with mechanized fishing; Confusion over State/ Centre jurisdictions; geographical distribution, funding levels; Lack of understanding;	Strengthening on priority; databases, strong policies; funds
	<i>Syria</i>	2	Land tenure issues for some PA surrounding areas	Mechanisms for involving surrounding land owners in PA management
	<i>Yemen</i>		Cooperation between stakeholders	Establish partnerships
	<b>1.3 Transboundary protected areas</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	1 TB; (between China, Tarjikstan and Pakistan; and N. Afg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smuggling of wildlife parts and medicinal plants (eg. Cordiceps)</li> <li>• Grazing</li> <li>• Migration</li> <li>• Capacity to address complexity</li> <li>• Logistics; difficult to approach certain geographies</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Difficult to reach areas – inaccessible</li> <li>• Public not aware of T/B parks</li> <li>• Haven't finalized laws and policies</li> </ul>
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Inter governmental consensus on priority/ modalities etc.	
	<i>India</i>	1	Inter governmental consensus on priority/ modalities etc.	
	<i>Iran</i>	0	Lack of regional coordination, lack of understanding from decision makers for benefits of transboundary	Regional meetings, workshops, help from CBD secretariat, need to raise awareness of

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			cooperation	decision makers, improve technical expertise in managing transboundary Pas (knowledge exchange) – all countries
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Inter governmental consensus on priority/ modalities etc.	
	<i>Nepal</i>	2 Series of TB Pas seminars, workshops with India, Tibet; 2 TBs (India/Sikkim; Tibet); 7 TB in south (10 total TB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smuggling of wildlife parts and medicinal plants (eg. Cordiceps)</li> <li>• Grazing</li> <li>• Migration</li> <li>• Capacity to address complexity</li> <li>• Logistics; difficult to approach certain geographies</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Difficult to reach areas – inaccessible</li> <li>• Public not aware of T/B parks</li> <li>• Haven't finalized laws and policies</li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	No TB at present; having negotiations with China, last year; another preliminary proposal for TB in Pameer region (4 countries)	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	0	Inter governmental consensus on priority/modalities etc.	
	<i>Syria</i>	0	Lack of regional coordination, lack of understanding	Regional meetings, workshops, help from

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			from decision makers for benefits of transboundary cooperation	CBD secretariat, need to raise awareness of decision makers, improve technical expertise in managing transboundary Pas (knowledge exchange) – all countries
	<i>Yemen</i>	1	Same as above	Same as above
<b>1.4 Site based PA planning and management</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	1 Site plan only for protection of Pas (those legally identified by Government); Bandiamier, Ajar Valley, Pamir-i-Buzurg; Dashte Nawar; Koliehashmatkhan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget constraints cut off programme</li> <li>• Plans not implemented adequately</li> <li>• Capacity in PA management planning, coordination</li> <li>• Land-use change (conversion of NP to other land use) – lack of secure legal tenure</li> <li>• Political influence needs to be sustained over time</li> <li>• Unavailability of funds</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	2	Community involvement in Planning & Mgmt; Funds	Capacity & resources needed; expertise; Research
	<i>India</i>	2	Same as above	Same as above
	<i>Iran</i>	2	Lack of funding for the management plans effective implementation, lack of skills  Weak management planning skills at local levels	Training on PA planning and management skills for park managers
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Community involvement in Planning & Mgmt; Funds	Capacity & resources needed; expertise; Research
	<i>Nepal</i>	3 – Planning from grassroots level; every year regional planning workshop – grassroot level participates (all sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget constraints cut off programme</li> <li>• Plans not implemented adequately</li> <li>• Capacity in PA management planning, coordination</li> <li>• Land-use change (conversion of NP to</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
		have MPs)	other land use) – lack of secure legal tenure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political influence needs to be sustained over time</li> <li>• Unavailability of funds</li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	1 Declared haphazardly, no site-based planning (yet)	Same as above	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	2	Community involvement in Planning & Mgmt; Funds	Capacity & resources needed; expertise; Research
	<i>Syria</i>	1	Lack of funding for the management plans effective implementation, lack of skills Weak management planning skills at local levels	Training on PA planning and management skills for park managers
	<i>Yemen</i>	2	Lack of funding for the management plans effective implementation, lack of skills Weak management planning skills at central and local levels	Decentralized PA management, enforcement of decentralisation law
<i>1.5 Negative impacts of key threats</i>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Very little progress in threat reduction; working with local communities	Law enforcement; respect of law/rule of law	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	People’s livelihoods; conflict; grazing; fire; invasive species; development projects; law enforcement;	Awareness; involvement of community and social organizations
	<i>India</i>	1	Same as above	Same as above
	<i>Iran</i>	1	Lack of funding for the management plans effective implementation, lack of skills Weak management planning skills at central and local levels	Training of stakeholders (local authorities), incentives for law enforcement
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	People’s livelihoods; conflict; grazing; fire; invasive	Awareness; involvement of community and

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			species; development projects; law enforcement;	social organizations
	<i>Nepal</i>		Law enforcement; respect of law/rule of law. No provision or legal mechanisms for compensation for communities from wildlife; hunting; buffer zone have made provision for loss of life (25k Rupees	
	<i>Pakistan</i>		Law enforcement; respect of law/rule of law Ecosystem fragmentation and loss of species and habitat	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	<i>1</i>	People's livelihoods; conflict; grazing; fire; invasive species; development projects; law enforcement;	Awareness; involvement of community and social organizations
	<i>Syria</i>	<i>1</i>	Lack of funding for the management plans effective implementation, lack of skills  Weak management planning skills at central and local levels	Training of stakeholders (local authorities), incentives for law enforcement
	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>1</i>	Lack of the legislation enforcement and coordination between development and conservation sector	Incentives for law enforcement, better coordination between development and environmental Ministries
<b>2.1 Sharing of both costs and benefits</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>0</i> No cost sharing by Government and community (no investment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complicated subject; difficult to coordinate – hard to communicate and digest</li> <li>• Subject itself demands multiple laws, policies, integration</li> <li>• NGOs have no capacity in ABS, -- they need capacity</li> <li>• Definitions (to accept CBD definitions of indigenous communities)</li> <li>• Training of government staff</li> <li>• Lack of funds</li> <li>• Lack of experts</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>1</i>	Government driven & controlled; Lack of shared decision making; Inequity in social situations leading to inequitable sharing; accountability;	Coordination; Understanding between staff & people;

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<i>India</i>	1	Same as above	Same as above
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Government driven & controlled; Lack of shared decision making; Inequity in social situations leading to inequitable sharing; accountability;	Coordination; Understanding between staff & people;
	<i>Nepal</i>	1 Introduced wildlife farming and research policy; introduced management of PA system to NGOs; adapted elephant management policy; buffer zone management policy (50% of total revenue to community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complicated subject; difficult to coordinate – hard to communicate and digest</li> <li>• Subject itself demands multiple laws, policies, integration</li> <li>• NGOs have no capacity in ABS, -- they need capacity</li> <li>• Definitions (to accept CBD definitions of indigenous communities)</li> <li>• Training of government staff</li> <li>• Lack of funds</li> <li>• Lack of experts</li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	1 Prepared draft law on ABS, prepared draft law on farm rights; intellectual property law in place; seed act in progress	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Government driven & controlled; lack of shared decision making; inequity in social situations leading to inequitable sharing; accountability;	Coordination; Understanding between staff & people;
	<i>Syria</i>	1		
	<i>Yemen</i>	3		

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
<b>2.2. Effective participation of all stakeholders</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poverty, literacy</li> <li>• Lack of resources, no funds, no expertise</li> <li>• Geographical zone – difficult to attend meetings, participate</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>1</i>	Identifying and reaching primary stakeholders; Govt dominated proceedings; Gender discrimination; (Attendance confused as participation); Unplanned meetings; ineffective communication esp. feedback; Not adequately and institutionally engaging community and social organizations;	
	<i>India</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Iran</i>	<i>1</i>		
	<i>Maldives</i>	<i>1</i>	Identifying and reaching primary stakeholders; Govt dominated proceedings; Gender discrimination; (Attendance confused as participation); Unplanned meetings; ineffective communication esp. feedback; Not adequately and institutionally engaging community and social organizations;	
	<i>Nepal</i>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>Large participation of stakeholders in management of buffer zone; mgmt of buffer zone involved.</p> <p>Community forestry = success story</p> <p>Handed over management to community for one PA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poverty, literacy</li> <li>• Lack of resources, no funds, no expertise</li> <li>• Geographical zone – difficult to attend meetings, participate</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<i>Pakistan</i>		<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Identifying and reaching primary stakeholders; Govt dominated proceedings; Gender discrimination; (Attendance confused as participation); Unplanned meetings; ineffective communication esp. feedback; Not adequately and institutionally engaging community and social organizations;	
	<i>Syria</i>	2		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		
<b>3.1 Comprehensive policy review</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	By support of UNEP, developed with NBSAP, an action plan for Pas, and have prepared (UNEP) draft law of Pas and submitted to Ministry of Justice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough NGOs putting pressure on government</li> <li>• Government endorsement.</li> <li>• Lack of expertise; capacity.</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Policy process; institutional; marine areas; implementation & review;	
	<i>India</i>	2	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	1	Policy process; institutional; marine areas; implementation & review;	
	<i>Nepal</i>	Conservation Action plan for snow leopard prepared and implemented. Adapted in initial process. Also for black buck. Also drafted CITES law, but not endorsed by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough NGOs putting pressure on government</li> <li>• Government endorsement.</li> <li>• Lack of expertise; capacity.</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<p data-bbox="430 414 535 446"><i>Pakistan</i></p> <p data-bbox="430 901 535 933"><i>Sri Lanka</i></p> <p data-bbox="451 966 514 998"><i>Syria</i></p> <p data-bbox="451 1015 514 1047"><i>Yemen</i></p>	<p data-bbox="619 381 745 414">government</p> <p data-bbox="619 414 850 836">Done irregularly; it is done through a project approach, not institutionalized; but have done one comprehensive project on forest policy review that tries to establish a regular system for policy review (includes PA policies) under FAO (NFP-facility)</p> <p data-bbox="724 901 745 933">1</p> <p data-bbox="724 966 745 998">1</p> <p data-bbox="724 1015 745 1047">1</p>	<p data-bbox="1081 414 1249 446"><i>Same as above</i></p> <p data-bbox="892 901 1333 966">Policy process; institutional; marine areas; implementation &amp; review;</p>	
3.2 Capacity-building for Pas	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Many programmes in natural resources department; (English, computer, laws.); organized workshop for survey of medicinal plants and food value plants; with WCS have field trips (especially field id); no needs assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxonomic capacity</li> <li>• Short-term donor consultancies (poor standard procedures)</li> <li>• Don't know subjects properly; no forum for coordination</li> <li>• Need more case-studies to quantify</li> <li>• Right staff not necessarily in the right place (political appointments)</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Community left out; sufficient trainers/expertise/resources; high staff turnover; low esteem in wildlife wings; funds;	Range of resources – persons / institutions; tech support;
	<i>India</i>	2	<i>Same as above</i>	<i>Same as above</i>
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Community left out; sufficient trainers/expertise/resources; high staff turnover; low esteem in wildlife wings; funds;	Range of resources – persons / institutions; tech support;
	<i>Nepal</i>	Major issue: Government = insufficient staff, trained are retired, new are untrained. Big gap between experienced and inexperienced staff. No needs assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxonomic capacity</li> <li>• Short-term donor consultancies (poor standard procedures)</li> <li>• Don't know subjects properly; no forum for coordination</li> <li>• Need more case-studies to quantify</li> <li>• <i>Right staff not necessarily in the right place (political appointments)</i></li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	Many projects, ongoing process; needs assessment in final stages.	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	2	Community left out; sufficient trainers / expertise/ resources; high staff turnover; low esteem in wildlife wings; funds;	<i>Range of resources – persons / institutions; tech support;</i>
	<i>Syria</i>	1		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		
<b>3.3 Appropriate technologies</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Have established GIS programme, but staff has training but haven't used yet;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poaching detection/prevention</li> <li>• Dependent upon foreign projects – when they disappear to does technology</li> </ul>	

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
		beginning stages of using camera traps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with transboundary country</li> </ul>	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Lack of incentives; poor public private interface; poor back up support & local skilled persons; funds;	Training; demystify?; facilitate; incorporate local knowledge / methods;
	<i>India</i>	1	<i>Same as above</i>	<i>Same as above</i>
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	0	Lack of incentives; poor public private interface; poor back up support & local skilled persons; funds;	Training; demystify?; facilitate; incorporate local knowledge / methods;
	<i>Nepal</i>	Use a range of appropriate technologies (telemetric tracking, total count, radio etc., sample plotting, translocation ;) (70 rhinos translocated disappeared) other translocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poaching detection/prevention</li> <li>• Dependent upon foreign projects – when they disappear to does technology</li> <li>• Coordination with transboundary country</li> </ul>	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	Very early stages of these technologies (GIS, telemetry, radio collaring);	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Lack of incentives; poor public private interface; poor back up support & local skilled persons; funds;	Training; demystify?; facilitate; incorporate local knowledge / methods;
	<i>Syria</i>	1		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		
<b>3.4 Sustainable financing</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Has master plan for agriculture and development (2005-		

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
		2010); from master plan have 159\$mm for nature resource development (part for biodiversity protection); no identified sustainable financial resources, ACC, WCS, ICIMOD, sustainable finance assessment ongoing		
	<b>Bangladesh</b>	1	Govt. dependent; poor access to institutional finance; non viable enterprises; donor driven; miniscule budget allocation;	More resources; bankable projects; enabling laws;
	<b>India</b>	1	<i>Same as above</i>	<i>Same as above</i>
	<b>Iran</b>	1		
	<b>Maldives</b>	1	Govt. dependent; poor access to institutional finance; non viable enterprises; donor driven; miniscule budget allocation;	More resources; bankable projects; enabling laws;
	<b>Nepal</b>	Management and conservation, financed by WWF Nepal program, IUCN, Eco-Himalayan, Nature Trust for Nature Conservation; no sustainable finance plan/assessment		
	<b>Pakistan</b>	Management and conservation,		

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
		financed by WWF Nepal program, IUCN, Eco-Himalayan, Nature Trust for Nature Conservation; no sustainable finance plan/assessment		
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	0	Govt. dependent; poor access to institutional finance; non viable enterprises; donor driven; miniscule budget allocation;	More resources; bankable projects; enabling laws;
	<i>Syria</i>	1		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		
<b>3.5 Communication, education and public awareness</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Different programmes, esp. for protection of forestry, overuse of range lands; and harvesting of pistachios; training center – workshop for PA but this year plans to establish training for PA community	No limit to doing this; an ongoing challenge  Lower overall levels of education, need higher level of investment	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	2	Communication confused with dissemination; no or little feedback; lack M&E mechanisms;  Limited education; funds; training;	Local languages; translation; strong feedback systems & use of learning;
	<i>India</i>	2	<i>Same as above</i>	<i>Same as above</i>
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	2	Communication confused with dissemination; no or little feedback; lack M&E mechanisms;	Local languages; translation; strong feedback systems & use of learning;

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			Limited education; funds; training;	
	<i>Nepal</i>	2	No limit to doing this; an ongoing challenge Lower overall levels of education, need higher level of investment	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	1 A lot of activities in this subject by NGOs and government, need more b/c if develop indicators of effectiveness of programs, not achieving desired results	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	2	Communication confused with dissemination; no or little feedback; lack M&E mechanisms; Limited education; funds; training;	Local languages; translation; strong feedback systems & use of learning;
	<i>Syria</i>	1.5		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		
<b>4.1 Standards and criteria for Pas</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	0 No standards, no standard criteria for site selection, monitoring, etc.	Need local participation in management to be successful	
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Lack of skilled persons; limited land; expertise; limited application / replication of good practices; documentation mainly in selected pas;	Training; documentation ; Exposure visits ; Governance structures ;
	<i>India</i>	2	<i>Same as above</i>	<i>Same as above</i>

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
	<i>Iran</i>	1.5		
	<i>Maldives</i>	1	Lack of skilled persons; limited land; expertise; limited application / replication of good practices; documentation mainly in selected pas;	Training; documentation ; Exposure visits ; Governance structures ;
	<i>Nepal</i>	1  Some indicators at some site levels; management plans and tourism plans have some indicators	Need local participation in management to be successful	
	<i>Pakistan</i>	1  Have had practices for indicators for sustainable forest management, but not for sustainable protected areas.	<i>Same as above</i>	
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Lack of skilled persons; limited land; expertise; limited application/replication of good practices; documentation mainly in selected pas;	Training; documentation ; Exposure visits ; Governance structures ;
	<i>Syria</i>	1		
	<i>Yemen</i>	2		
<b>4.2 PA Management effectiveness</b>	<i>Afghanistan</i>	0  No assessment undertaken (yet)	Lack of capacity	Capacity-building, training
	<i>Bangladesh</i>	1	Good governance; training/education for evaluators; skewed distribution; anthropogenic pressures;	Funds; expertise;
	<i>India</i>	2	Good governance; training/education for evaluators;	Funds; expertise;

TARGETS	COUNTRIES	PROGRESS <i>0 (no progress) – 1 (some progress) – 2 (considerable progress) – 3</i>	MAIN CHALLENGES	CAPACITY AND RESOURCES NEEDS
			skewed distribution; anthropogenic pressures;	
	<i>Iran</i>	1		
	<i>Maldives</i>	1	Good governance; training/education for evaluators; skewed distribution; anthropogenic pressures;	Funds; expertise;
	<i>Nepal</i>	2 Country level (RAPPAM) completed; every 5 years review management plans		
	<i>Pakistan</i>			
	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	1	Good governance; training/education for evaluators; skewed distribution; anthropogenic pressures;	funds; expertise;
	<i>Syria</i>	2		
	<i>Yemen</i>	1		

*Annex III*

**PRELIMINARY STATUS OF ACTIVITIES ON ECOLOGICAL GAP ASSESSMENT**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Status of Gap Assessment-Steps till date</b>	<b>Challenges/Needs</b>	<b>Plans for the future</b>
Afghanistan	8 biogeographic provinces- Classification. 9 Pas recognized.	Lack of public awareness, financial resources, expertise, drought, facilities.  Technical expertise  Financial resources	Gap assessment is in process and will be completed by 2010. To protect representative areas of high biodiversity, surveys, national red lists. Recovery
Bangladesh	Not yet. Identified PA system. Identified ecologically critical areas (only 2 under management)	Lack of financial resources, expertise, human resources. Land use zoning policy not yet identified for PA purposes.  Pas are very small in size. Transboundary Pas- shared resources- difficulties of PA management. Overpopulation, lack of alternative opportunities for forest dependent populations. Need to manage tourism. Need for coordination between National and Local laws. Good governance is required (reduce corruption)	
India	Mid 80s developed a framework for conservation planning- biogeographic classification. 10 zones and further 26 provinces. Distribution of Pas in zones and provinces- non-uniform coverage of zones. PA coverage inadequate for many species. There are gaps of various types: species distribution (absent, unevenly distributed, lack of viable populations).	Information earlier available a coarse level. Now- better information on status of species. Now – better information on boundaries and coverage of Pas. Need to look at landscape level approach- PA integration into larger landscapes. Marine PA coverage is inadequate. Andaman and Nicobar: paper Pas (105)- need to consolidate small Pas. Resistance from local people- E.g. Fishing rights. Vastness of area and number of Pas is a challenge. Traditional rights within Pas. No problems related to expertise, financial resources, information.	Overlay of PA boundaries on existing biodiversity layers. In the process of reviewing by State. 2 years for completion of Gap assessment (able to complete in Andamans using various biodiversity layers).
Iran	PA distribution in relation to Iranian floristic zones is available. PA areas available. Mapping is complete. Not yet completed gap assessment. Management plans for 49 PAs.	Lack of perfect information for Pas, inadequate financial, human resources, unclear PA boundaries, lack of public awareness, participatory conservation, access and benefit sharing for local people.	Increasing PA coverage to 10% by 2010. Prepare management plans for all Pas and implementation at national level.

		Inadequate law enforcement.	
Maldives	Not yet.	Lack of expertise, primary dated data, financial resources. Small Pas (small islands)- seascapes- integration of existing marine pas. Have site based management plan for terrestrial areas not marine areas.  Expertise-  Institutional strengthening  Financial resources	
Nepal	Not yet developed land classification (biodiversity). Prepared and implemented management plans; Terai landscape level conservation program	Indigenous peoples rights for access to Pas not clear/ not ensured. Equity issues need to be considered.  Lack of expertise, financial resources, information. Overexploitation of natural resources. Lack of appropriate laws.	Unable to proceed unless laws are in place.
Pakistan	Concept was not known. Not included in questionnaire for 3 <sup>rd</sup> report. Data is available and needs to be put together.	Article 8(j). Indigenous peoples rights. Need to involve anthropologists/social scientists- not a pure ecological analysis.  Lack of resources; loss of technical capacity to other projects (WB projects for example). Lack of attention to people issues. Need to incorporate other disciplines	Will begin the process with colleagues in Pakistan
Sri Lanka	Completed ecological gap assessment. In the process of reviewing existing PA network.	Lack of information/database was a challenge. Need for coordination between relevant agencies for implementation especially corridors. Identify new categories of Pas perhaps (e.g. concession areas)	Complete review of PA network planned
Syria	PA gap assessment in comprehensive manner yet to be implemented. Monitoring and evaluation of Pas using Remote sensing. Begun to identify land-use zoning systems.	Absence of financial resources, technical skills.	To coordinate between national institutions, governmental and NGOs, international organizations, to show the need the implementation of gap assessment. Plan to expand PA network to cover all sites with significant biodiversity (24- 49—new sites). To expand areas of declared Pas through corridors. To work with Ministry of Agriculture and RS Agency to identify new areas. Need 2-3 years to implement gap

			assessment.
Yemen	Identified 15 sites- declared 4 until now with clear management plan.	No evaluation of management, financial and technical resources.	Effectively manage 6 Pas- then begin assessment in 2008.

### Major Regional Recommendations to the Working Group for advancing ecological gap assessments

1. Need for lot of knowledge from various disciplines; cannot be done only by PA managers. Shift from multidisciplinary approach to meta-disciplinary approach. PA managers burdened with data from multiple disciplines. Capacity-building for PA managers and developing capacity of relevant institutions. Paradigm shift in capacity-building and development of interventions.
2. Need to bring local and indigenous people on board with relevant laws. Need to bring technical experts to help communities.
3. Need information on legal provisions about livelihood issues of local people in Pas- how do we seek their cooperation in this context. Existence of legal framework for equity, access and benefit-sharing in Pas. To convert resistance to cooperation. Sharing of lessons/experiences in this area within the region.
4. Need to take socio-economic and political factors and Concerns of indigenous peoples into consideration during gap analysis
5. Decentralization of the process of PA creation- need for incentives. New categories of Pas- Community conserved areas. More Pas to be declared at a local level. (For eg. HEMA Lebanese-Syrian system)
6. Countries need to share databases/information on priority species with neighbouring countries.
7. Gap analysis on a temporal scale. Majority of habitats have undergone massive change- low PA coverage in grasslands for e.g. Past habitat change analyses as guide for future habitat change.
8. Gap assessment studies may generate non-pragmatic outcomes. Gap analysis to take into consideration feasibility in addition to biodiversity.
9. Main threat is from land-use change from Pas to development uses. Need for international pressures.

## Annex IV

## PRELIMINARY STATUS OF ACTIVITIES ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

	<b>Who should be involved in the sustainable finance planning process (e.g. critical steps) for your country? What can these individuals or institutions contribute to the process</b>	<b>Who will coordinate the process?</b>	<b>Where is your country in the process?</b>	<b>Where would your country like to be at the end of 2007? By the end of 2008? And what is the timeline for getting to that point?</b>	<b>What resources (financial, capacity) does your country need to complete the process? What are potential sources to meet these needs?</b>	<b>What are the constraints to your financial planning and implementation process</b>
Bangladesh	MOEF, MOF, CBD Secretariat, donor countries and local experts	DG, Dept. of Environment. And CCF	Initiated	Complete by 2008	Institutional capacity and resources. They have experience in micro-credit and Income generating activities that could be used for developing plans	Lack of experience, trained man power, training need for personnel including local communities
India	MOEF, Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission, State Governments	MOEF	Initiated	2009	Finances	Finances
Iran	DOE, Finance, consultants and scientists	DOE	Initiated	2008	Finances, Technical, training and capacity	Finances, Technical, training and capacity
Maldives	Ministry of Environment . Water and energy. MOF, Planning	MOEF	Initiated	2009	Capacity-building, financial sources, expertise	Lack of data, experts coordination within stakeholders
Nepal	Ministry of Forests and soil Conservation; MOF, community organizations	Dept. of National Parks & wildlife	Initiated	2008	Finances, training and expertise	Not getting there
Pakistan	Senior management of	MOEF	Just initiated	It is difficult to	Capacity more than	Communication gap

	the MOEF, with technical personnel, MOF			forecast, slow process, security and social reasons also influence.	money. Finances additional	between focal people and technical people. Institutional practices and weaknesses.
Sri Lanka	Ministry of Environment., dept of wildlife, DOF,	Ministry of Environment	Not yet initiated	End of 2008	Finances, capacity and training.	Not ready to change system-mind set. Lack of law enforcement and reforming policies. Attitudes of local people
Syria	Min of Agriculture; Ministry of local administration and environment	Min of Agriculture; Ministry of local administration and environment	Just initiated	Complete by 2008	Finance, capacity and training	Capacity, trained manpower as well as resources
Yemen	Ministry of planning, EPA	EPA	Proposal developed and submitted to donors	By end of 2008	Capacity-building for ecotourism services, local people, finances and training	Lack of capacity

Annex V

**PRELIMINARY STATUS OF ACTIVITIES ON PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENTS**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Status of Management Effectiveness Assessments Steps taken till date</b>	<b>Challenges/Needs</b>	<b>Plans for the future/ Next steps</b>
Afghanistan	In 1970s, 6 PAs recognized. Recently 10 others have been recognized. No assessments have been conducted. Some initial surveys in 6 PAs.	Security issues; funds, expertise, resources, lack of appropriate PA laws and policies.	With sufficient funds, will conduct assessments for 6 PAs
Bangladesh	Initiatives undertaken, not completed Have plan to assess- political will exists; government support is available.	Lack of expertise, lack of awareness, funds.	By 2008- all 35 PAs to be assessed
India	30 PAs assessed; 3 World Heritage Sites assessed through EOH project	To sensitize PA managers about the utility of evaluation; building capacity to take up assessments; to improve the assessment process. Alternate strategy for quick assessments in collaboration with WII- training of individuals (other than PA managers) to conduct assessments.	30-50 PAs per year
Iran	Completed management plans for 49 PAs. Started preliminary steps for assessments but not complete as yet.	Lack of technology, expertise, capacity, financial resources, need training courses, need help understanding methodologies.	Implementation of the management plans for PAs, complete assessments over the next 5 years.
Maldives	Started the process, not much progress. Some stakeholder workshops have been conducted.	Coordination, technical expertise, resources, funds	Difficult to put a time-frame. Need more coordination to make a progress. Agency needs to take a lead role for coordination.
Nepal	Started the process; preliminary work is satisfactory, need more community leaders involved in the future for realistic outcomes. Part of EOH project in Chitwan	Getting local people involved, access to more resources, expertise	Completion by 2008
Pakistan	Started a project-based assessment strategy for 3 NPs (PA Management project)- addresses effectiveness of management. Development of indicators. Park	No pressures to do the assessments; More international pressure would be useful in	

	managers have monthly evaluations.	enabling action. Need long-term rather than project-based approach. Funds are not a problem. Need to sensitize relevant people.	
Sri Lanka	Some PA assessments have been done. Overall assessments need to be conducted. 7 sites have been covered (>80).	Institutional capacity, training, funds.	Need 5-6 years to complete
Syria	7 out of 24 have good management. In 5 out of 7, projects implemented to train managers. Assessment based on main biodiversity components. No comprehensive mechanism yet.	Need trained staff, better relations with local people. Need funds for training. In newly declared PAs, face difficulties with local communities- need to address this challenge. Need to do gap assessment first and then management effectiveness (can do in parallel).	At least 3 years to build human capacity to manage all PAs. Priority to train national staff to assess ME in the first 7 PAs
Yemen	Not yet except for 1 area. Plans are under implementation; 4 management plans in development.	Lack of expertise, funds	Complete plans for PAs by 2008.

India: Involvement of previously trained managers; of PA managers from other areas- suggestions for dissemination of training.

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