



From Knowledge to Action for a Protected Planet

## Achieving Fair and Effective Protected Areas

### How to enable and measure improved performance in protected areas: A Global Workshop

IUCN Headquarters, Gland, Switzerland; and  
Gran Paradiso National Park, Cogne, Aosta, Italy,  
24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2019

The global workshop on how to enable and measure improved performance in protected and conserved areas is generously supported by the EU-ACP funded BIOPAMA Programme and it will be convened by IUCN with technical support from IUCN and the Joint Research Centre JRC. Participants will develop guidance and recommended actions to support fairer and more effective protected and conserved areas. The venue is **Gran Paradiso National Park** headquarters in the Gran Paradiso Foundation conference facility, Cogne, Aosta Valley, Italy.

#### Background

To date the BIOPAMA Programme has supported many of the 79 countries in the ACP region to better integrate good analysis and evaluation of data and assessments into decision-making for protected area sites and systems. Since 2012, BIOPAMA has included Protected Areas (PA) system data into regional reference information systems (RRIS) across the ACP, and has directly or indirectly supported over 100 protected areas to understand and enable improved management effectiveness. BIOPAMA II aims to move from assessments to support actions in the field, especially through direct support to priority protected areas. As this support would be guided by the recommendations from a diagnosis of management, governance and social issues, it is important to take stock of the current global context of PA equity and effectiveness, and propose how to integrate the best available tools, standards and practices into the BIOPAMA programme.

The global context is framed by the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 to 2020, and its associated Aichi Targets. Target 11 on Protected Areas contains two distinct elements: quantitative target for coverage of protected area systems in each country, both marine and terrestrial; and quality elements including 'effective and equitable management' of 'representative networks of protected areas' and integration into the 'landscape'.

Performance on the quantitative targets (percentage coverage) is globally on track for both terrestrial and marine biomes, with some caveats and exceptions. However, progress on qualitative targets such as global reporting on equitable and effective protected areas is largely cursory, and where data exists, the trend is not encouraging. An overall problem is that management and governance assessments often use different tools and standards, making it difficult to objectively understand and compare data. Furthermore, data from these assessments are not always available. In addition, there is not a single entry point for accessing this data.





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The BIOPAMA Programme can offer vital support to ACP countries and their reporting on Target 11. Equally, BIOPAMA can help influence, and advance, the post-2020 framework for protected areas that it is expected to raise the need to achieve equity and effective governance and management of protected area sites and systems. In this context it is also important to consider the EC Biodiversity Strategy which promotes rights-based approaches to achieve effective protected area systems, and highlights the global need for improved management effectiveness. BIOPAMA aligns to ongoing implementation of this Strategy in ACP countries and helping to measure impact and progress.

### **Tools used to assess and evaluate Protected Areas**

The principle vehicles for BIOPAMA to support countries in their pursuit of fair and effective protected areas are the Regional Reference Information Systems (RRIS) and the 'nursery' of methodologies for assessing protected area management effectiveness, including but not limited to the Integrated Management Effectiveness tool (IMET), the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Framework (PAME), and Enhancing our Heritage toolkit (EoH).

IMET, PAME and EoH assessments are also key to implementing the new IUCN Green List Standard for Protected and Conserved Areas. The Green List Standard describes successful site-based conservation through a number of criteria nestled within four major elements of success: good governance, sound design and planning, effective management, and successful conservation outcomes. It is adopted by IUCN Council and promoted through IUCN Resolutions. It is recognised by the CBD Text and several other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Several ACP countries are actively exploring and using the IUCN Green List Standard to frame strategy and investment into their protected areas, such as Benin, Belize, Kenya, Madagascar and Papua New Guinea. Some are successfully using IMET, EoH and other PAME tools to assess progress against the Green List Standard.

Other new and existing methodologies are being developed, adopted and integrated. These include new tools to assess governance and equity, such as the Protected Areas Governance Assessments for both sites and systems, under development through pioneering work in several countries, and most recently applied by IUCN in Viet Nam and Colombia. It is important to gain an understanding of the global trends in the application of such tools to provide governments, practitioners and donors with the best menu of options that best suit their context and objectives.

BIOPAMA's unique opportunity to address priorities through its Action Component grant mechanisms can potentially unlock the link between good planning and evaluation of priorities, and achieving better governance, equity and management effectiveness. Investment into performance-based planning, management and governance will likely lead to measurable impact in the conservation of key biodiversity values: as such, protected areas would have a much greater potential to demonstrate a tangible return on investment by public agencies and their donors, as well as private investors, at local and national levels.



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### Workshop objectives, themes and expected outputs:

The goal of the workshop is: *to provide guidance on how to help measure and enhance the performance of protected and conserved area sites and systems through the available standards, evaluation methodologies, and assessment toolkits*

### Specific objectives:

1. **Standards and principles:** to understand success in protected and conserved areas and to discuss a common approach and principles for assessments relating to:
  - a. Good Governance
  - b. Design, priority-setting and planning for key values
  - c. Management Effectiveness
  - d. Successful Conservation Outcomes
2. **Practice:** to develop recommendations for structuring, collecting and maintaining the data from specific protected and conserved area assessment toolkits, and from other relevant sources
  - a. Management Effectiveness Assessment
  - b. Governance Assessment
3. **Monitoring and metrics:** to recommend how to incentivize and improve monitoring of status, trends and conservation outcomes in protected and conserved areas and to discuss how to present and track their status for effective decision-making at protected area level and for upscaling to higher levels (e.g. national, regional, global)
4. **Data management:** to better be able to promote reference information systems and improved data management and integration to aid adaptive decision-making
5. **Incentives:** how to motivate uptake of standards and assessment methodologies, and use the results to secure political will and unlock transformational change

### Proposed Workshop outputs

- Guidance document – a proceedings report that provides:
  - A summary of workshop discussions and recommendations, including:
    - an overview of existing methodologies and tools, and their application;
    - case studies from the use of IMET, PAME, governance and other assessment tools
    - case studies from the application of the IUCN Green List Standard;
    - practical steps to improve site-level monitoring
    - reflections on data analysis, presentation and incentives for better decision-making and policy impact at system, national and regional levels
- A joint Gran Paradiso declaration statement to present to global community and conservation leadership (IUCN resolutions process, CBD post-2020 framework)
- Summary report to EC-Devco to include recommended actions for IUCN, JRC and other BIOPAMA partners, with work plans for specific follow-up; and
- Workshop evaluation and lessons-learned document
- At least 10 PANORAMA case studies on the role of PA Assessments in improving conservation results
- One publication outline for IUCN's *PARKS* journal



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## Tentative AGENDA

The programme is designed for minimal powerpoint and maximum interaction and discussion. Presenters and lead facilitators will be approached individually in terms of presentation, preparation and other inputs. Please see separate note on submitting a [PANORAMA Solutions](#) case study

DAY ONE (Monday June 24 <sup>th</sup> )	
<b>Morning</b>	2 transfers to GPNP from Geneva/Gland (9.00 and 12.30), and transport from Ispra.
<b>Afternoon</b>	<p><b>17:00 Opening session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opening address:</b> welcome presentation from Gran Paradiso National Park</li> <li>• <b>Keynote presentation:</b> global progress on fair and effective protected and conserved areas and our ambition beyond 2020</li> <li>• <b>Keynote presentation:</b> the contribution of BIOPAMA to regional and global biodiversity and protected area targets</li> <li>• <b>Keynote presentation:</b> JRC and the power of data in achieving fair and effective protected and conserved areas</li> </ul> <p>Rapid overview of programme Introduction to PANORAMA and other parallel sessions</p>
DAY TWO (Tuesday June 25 <sup>th</sup> )	
<b>Morning</b>	Participant introductions and review of agenda and expected outputs
<b>(10:00 to 12:00)</b>	<p><b>Session 1: What do we mean by fair and effective protected and conserved areas?</b></p> <p><b>Introductory presentation: Global Standards for successful nature conservation outcomes in protected and conserved areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good governance (criteria, case studies)</li> <li>- Sound design and planning (criteria, case studies)</li> <li>- Effective management (criteria, case studies)</li> <li>- Successful conservation outcomes (criteria, case studies)</li> </ul> <p>Discussion (groups and plenary)</p>
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>Session 2: Management effectiveness, from principles to practice</b>
<b>(14:00 to 18:00)</b>	<p>Introductory presentation: protected area management effectiveness principles</p> <p>Presentation: the evolution of PAME assessment tools</p> <p>Discussion: decision-point – how can we ensure that assessment data and metrics on protected and conserved areas help achieve better decision-making?</p> <p>Q&amp;A and discussion (groups and plenary)</p> <p>Brief introduction to protected area management effectiveness tools: EoH, METT, IMET</p> <p>Case studies presentations, Q&amp;A and discussion</p> <p><b>Session 3: Governance rights and equity – putting ‘fair’ into effective</b></p> <p>Presentation: governance assessment for sites and systems</p> <p>Case studies (4 x 15 minute presentations of governance assessments, worldwide)</p> <p>Discussion groups and Q&amp;A</p>
<b>Evening</b>	<p>Group dinner</p> <p>All day: PANORAMA Solutions sharing; Interviews and 1:1 sessions</p>
DAY THREE (Wednesday June 26 <sup>th</sup> )	





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<b>Morning</b>	<b>Session 4: Breakout discussions and assessment clinics</b>
<b>9:00 to 12:00</b>	To include group rotation to the following discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>IMET</b> interactive</li> <li>- <b>PAME tools</b> – a facilitated discussion</li> <li>- <b>Monitoring and metrics</b></li> <li>- <b>Doing the right thing</b> – evolving governance assessments</li> <li>- <b>IUCN Green List 101</b></li> </ul> Facilitated working groups; role playing and group exercises Case studies presentations
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>Field Trip:</b> Three options for the half-day field visit to Gran Paradiso National Park. <b>Optional working groups and sessions</b>
<b>Evening</b>	Side-meetings and group activities, as required All day: PANORAMA Solutions sharing Interviews 1:1
<b>DAY FOUR (Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup>)</b>	
<b>Morning</b>	<b>Summary of progress and presentation by EC DevCo</b>
	<b>Session 5:</b> data management for PAME and governance assessment
	Overview and case study presentations from BIOPAMA RRIS WDPA and global PAME database
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>Session 6: Cross walking results so far</b>
	To include group rotation to summarize and conclude the following discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>IMET</b> - recommendations</li> <li>- <b>PAME tools</b> – summary recommendations</li> <li>- <b>Monitoring and metrics</b> – summary recommendations</li> <li>- <b>Governance</b> – summary recommendations</li> <li>- <b>IUCN Green List</b> - summary recommendations</li> </ul> Plenary Activity: integrated results and recommendations from discussions
	<b>Session 7: Incentives for improved performance</b>
	Presentation: BIOPAMA Action Grants Discussion: recommendations from workshop to help achieve better decision-making for fair and effective protected and conserved areas?
<b>Evening</b>	Group dinner All day: PANORAMA Solutions sharing; Interviews and 1:1 sessions
<b>DAY FIVE (Friday June 28<sup>th</sup>)</b>	
<b>Morning</b>	<b>Session 8:</b> Concluding discussion <i>Facilitated group discussion on workshop results and recommendations</i>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Closing session</b> Keynote presentations:
	<b>DEPARTURE for participants with flights (bus to Geneva departs 14:00)</b>

