

Developing capacity for a Protected Planet in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific

The Biodiversity and Protected Area Management Programme (BIOPAMA) aims to address threats to biodiversity in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, while reducing poverty in communities in and around protected areas.

Specifically, the programme will improve access to the best available science and knowledge to enhance the work of existing institutions and networks and build capacity to improve policy and decision-making on biodiversity conservation, protected areas management, and access and benefit sharing.

BIOPAMA is a four year-initiative (2012-2016) of the ACP Secretariat funded by the European Union.

BIOPAMA consists of two components:

1. *Protected areas component* (jointly implemented by IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and the EC-Joint Research Centre), that includes:
 - Capacity building for regional and national institutions and agencies, and protected areas managers;
 - Improved access to and availability of biodiversity data through the establishment of regional observatories and information systems to improve decision making.
2. *Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) component* implemented by the Multi-donor ABS Capacity Development Initiative managed by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The actions of the protected areas component will be implemented in the 4 BIOPAMA regions: West and Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.



Facts and Figures

11 of the world's 25 biodiversity hotspots are found in the ACP countries

Africa has roughly 10 times more terrestrial protected areas than marine protected areas

Over 3 billion people rely on coastal and marine biodiversity for their livelihoods

The Caribbean islands region has roughly 3 times more marine area protected than on land

The CBD Aichi target 11 goal is to increase global coverage to 17 % for terrestrial and 10 % for marine protected areas

In most Pacific island countries, land and often sea, tenure is more than 80% customary

Regional Observatories for Protected Areas and Biodiversity

The Regional Observatories for Protected Areas and Biodiversity will be regional resource hubs to support decision-making and more effective protected area management and biodiversity conservation in the regions. The observatories will build capacity and support the use of the best available scientific data and information in decision-making processes. The Observatories will:

- Serve as knowledge centres for the regions;
- Facilitate networking of experts and institutions;
- Coordinate technical and policy support to national agencies and regional organizations.

The Regional Reference Information System (RRIS)

The BIOPAMA RRIS will integrate a diverse range of relevant protected area and biodiversity data and information, and will be built using open-source software and use the Digital Observatory for Protected Areas (DOPA) as the main technical platform. The biodiversity and conservation communities will be encouraged to use and be part of the further development of these tools.

<http://dopa.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

BIOPAMA Capacity Building Programme tailored to each region

Capacity for protected areas management will be enhanced through:

- Training of conservation practitioners and protected areas staff;
- Technical support and advice to protected areas agencies and other sectors;
- Improving the curricula and capacity of regional training centres, and;
- Development and enhancement of regional technical networks.

Get involved, Contact us!

Join the discussions and networking at www.yammer.com/biopama

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About the European Union

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. <http://europa.eu/>

About the ACP Group of States

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) is the largest trans-national intergovernmental organisation of developing countries in the international system, with 79 member countries from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Today, the main goal of the Group is to drive South-South solidarity and North-South cooperation for the sustainable development of ACP countries and their successful integration into the world economy. <http://www.acp.int/>

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