



Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme



Partners



Joint Research Centre • Sito di Ispra



Summary

BIOPAMA

- Will improve access to and availability of information on biodiversity and socioeconomic issues to improve decisions for protected area management
- Funded under the EC/ Intra ACP Envelope for Biodiversity
- Geographical focus is on ACP (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific) Countries
- Jointly implemented by IUCN, EC-JRC and the ABS Initiative managed by GIZ



Objectives

Overall Objective

- To improve long-term conservation of biodiversity in ACP regions and reduce the poverty of populations surrounding protected areas

Specific objective

- Enhance existing institutions and networks, based on ***the best available science and knowledge***, by ***building their capacity*** to strengthen policy and to implement well informed decisions on **biodiversity conservation, protected areas management and Access and Benefit Sharing.**

Rationale

- ACP countries host a huge share of the planet's **biodiversity**
- The programme recognizes **well-managed protected areas (PAs)** as a key tool for **in-situ conservation**, for **maintaining ecosystem services**, and for helping **adaptation to climate change**
- Recognizes challenges of biodiversity conservation in ACP countries
- **Biodiversity loss** in ACP countries continues in **spite of national efforts to establish PAs**

Key problems

- **Limited** human and institutional **capacity**
- **Lack of coordination**



Structure of the programme

1. The Protected Areas Component

Result 1 – Improving the effective planning and management of PAs by using the best available scientific and policy information
(JRC)

Result 2 – Establishing a “Centre for PAs & Biodiversity” (Observatory) in each region and developing capacity building programmes
(IUCN)

2. The Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) component *(ABS Initiative)*

Key principles of implementation

- Action oriented
- Capacity building (CB) guided by general principles but tailored to the specific demands of each region and implemented at different levels
- Coherence of actions at global and regional levels and across key partners
- Create political buy-in by working with regional institutions
 - **Africa:** African Union, RAPAC, OFAC, COMIFAC, SADC
 - **Caribbean:** CARICOM, CARIFORUM, OECS, UNEP-CEP
 - **Pacific:** SPREP

Key principles of implementation

- **Close inter-institutional coordination**
- **Synergies with other projects and initiatives are welcomed**
- **CB activities should increase the understanding and recognition of the values of protected areas**
- **Synergies at national/local levels**

Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries

- Regional and national institutions in charge of PAs planning and management
- PA managers

Indirect beneficiaries

- Training Centres and national and regional schools, colleges and universities providing training to PA managers

Expected outcomes

1) Better policy and decision making

- By making use of available science and knowledge centred in regional observatories

2) Improved technical and institutional approaches

- To better plan and manage PAs through capacity building
- This will enhance their contribution to biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods



Expected outcomes

3) Enhanced regional cooperation

- Building **political support for biodiversity conservation** and to achieve **greater coherence** for implementing/negotiating Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)
- Building up **regional networks of experts** and enhanced networking to reduce external dependency



In practice:

The Regional Observatories (ROs)

- Information centres
- Dedicated structures hosted in existing institutions
- Technical nodes

Objectives

Building awareness of regional political institutions to strengthen biodiversity conservation and PA management through

- Facilitating data access
- Developing knowledge products

In practice:

The Regional Observatories (ROs)

Additional roles

- **Reality-check assessment:** Balancing political expectations and challenges on the ground
- **Practical advice:** regarding challenges in conservation and PA management
- Effective implementation of the **Regional Capacity Building Programme**
- **Regional experts:** for membership in existing international expert networks

BIOPAMA

Developing capacity for a Protected Planet



www.biopama.org
www.iucn.org/biopama



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