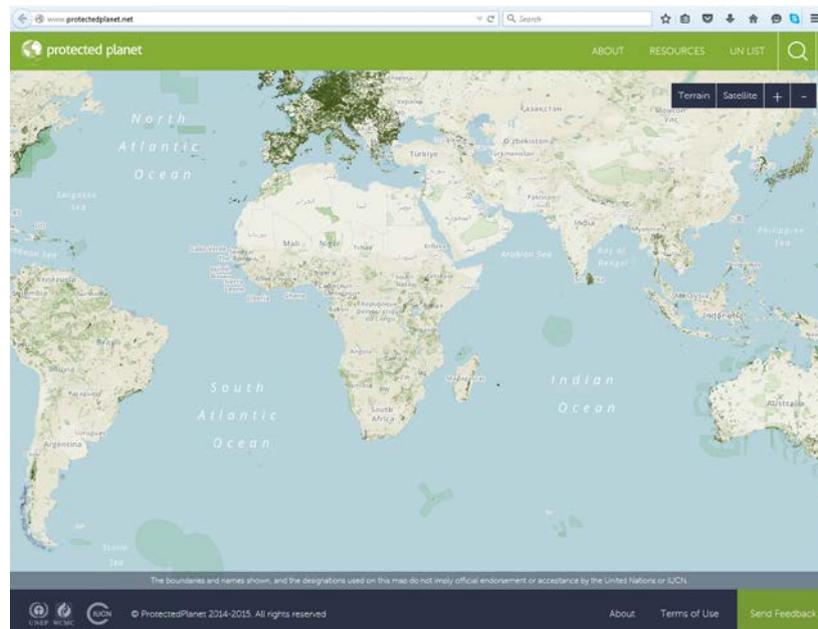


## Call for information on indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs)

The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) stores information on over 210,000 protected areas worldwide. It is managed by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, a UK-based charity, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The WDPA can be viewed by people from all over the world at its website, [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net)



There are many different types of protected areas in the WDPA. These can be divided into broad types based on who makes the decisions about how they are managed. These types are government, private, shared, and indigenous peoples and local communities.

The WDPA is missing a lot of information about protected areas where the decision maker is an indigenous people or local community – otherwise known as ICCAs (indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas). We want to fix this. With the help of the ICCA Consortium, we hope to encourage local communities and indigenous peoples to tell us about their ICCAs. All information submitted will be peer-reviewed by members of the ICCA Consortium or by the national government, depending on the wishes of the community.

### There are a number of benefits to providing information on your ICCA:

- Inclusion may contribute to **security, ownership, and potential legal status** of land and resources.
- Discussing and documenting an ICCA can **strengthen community ties** and help communities to appreciate the multiple values of their ICCAs.
- Supports **communication** within the community and between generations, potentially helping to **preserve traditions** and **encourage participation** of youth.

- Contributes to a **growing body of knowledge** that can inform conservation and other policies regarding the positive influence of community-based environmental management and governance.
- Enhances documentation of ICCA sites and systems, and their contributions to conservation.
- Provides clarity on progress towards international **conservation targets**.

#### **Considerations:**

Although measures are in place to prevent negative outcomes, it is difficult to predict all potential issues resulting from participation. The following are some things to consider:

- Information, including the location, of ICCAs can be **viewed by anyone**.
- Some communities who are working with economically **valuable resources** (e.g. species vulnerable to poaching) may not wish to incorporate their ICCA into a map.
- Exposing the location of some vulnerable communities on the internet may open them to **unwanted or increased attention**.
- Communities undertaking the process of documenting their ICCA should be aware that this action might spark a **conflict of interest** with neighbouring communities or other stakeholders (e.g. private sector/governments/NGOs/military etc.)
- The WDPA **cannot assist communities** with local or immediate threats to their area, such as boundary disputes with other communities or national entities, or extractive activities.
- We cannot guarantee that Governments will accept/support the incorporation of data into national datasets, or the UN List of Protected Areas.

#### **To include your information in the WDPA, we need:**

- A boundary for your ICCA, in the form of a shapefile, or coordinates

#### **And answers to the following questions:**

- Does the ICCA meet the following definition? ‘a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values’
  - What is the name of the ICCA?
  - What is its designation (type)? E.g. ‘Community Conserved Area’
    - Is it nationally recognised (i.e. by the government)?
      - What is its IUCN management category?
    - Is the ICCA on land, in the sea, or a mixture of both?
  - What is the area, in km<sup>2</sup>, of the ICCA? How much of this area is in the sea?
- If part or all of the ICCA is in the sea, is any part of it no-take (i.e. no natural resources can be taken out). What area is no-take, in km<sup>2</sup>?
- Is the ICCA legally designated or proposed as part of the national conservation system?
  - If yes, in what year did this happen?
  - Who makes the decisions about how the ICCA is managed?
    - Who owns the land?
    - What is the name of the management authority?
  - Is there a management plan on the internet? What is its URL?
    - What country is the ICCA in?

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