

**KBA**  
KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS

# Key Biodiversity Areas Programme

*Sustaining the most important sites for Nature*



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND



GLOBAL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

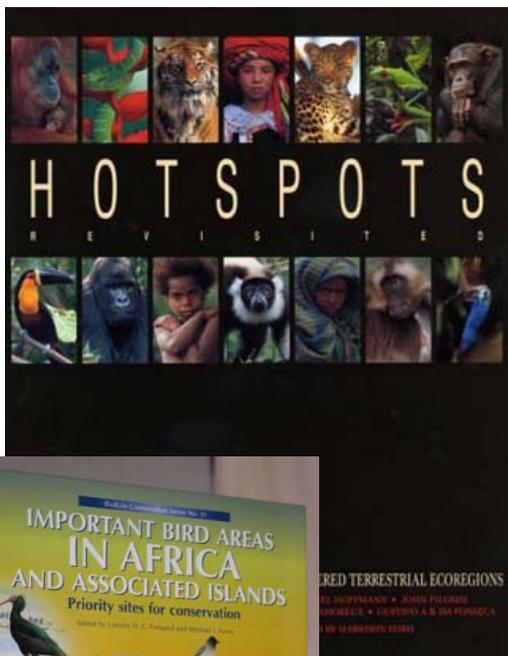


## What are KBAs?

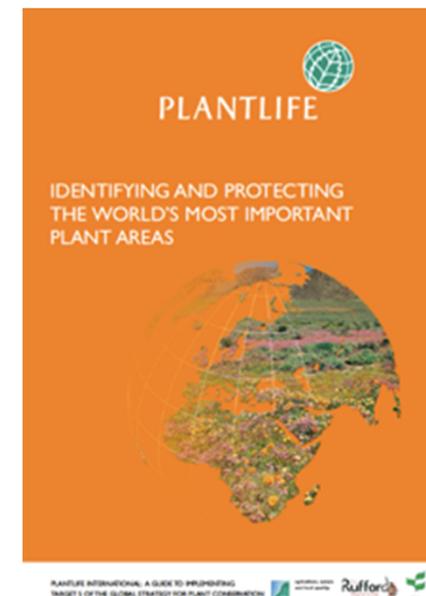
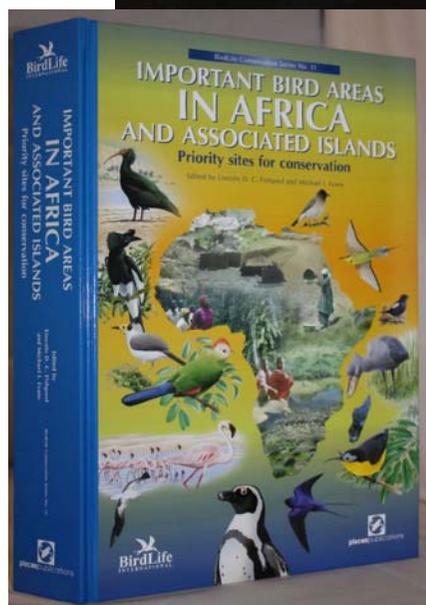


- Sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity
- Identified by national constituencies using globally standardized criteria

# Long history of approaches to identifying important areas on Earth



WWF Global 200 Ecoregions  
 ■ Terrestrial and Freshwater  
 ■ Marine





## World Conservation Congress (2004) Resolution 3.013



REQUESTS the SSC, working in partnership with IUCN members, to convene a worldwide consultative process to ***agree a methodology to enable countries to identify Key Biodiversity Areas***, drawing on data from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and other datasets, and ***building on existing approaches***

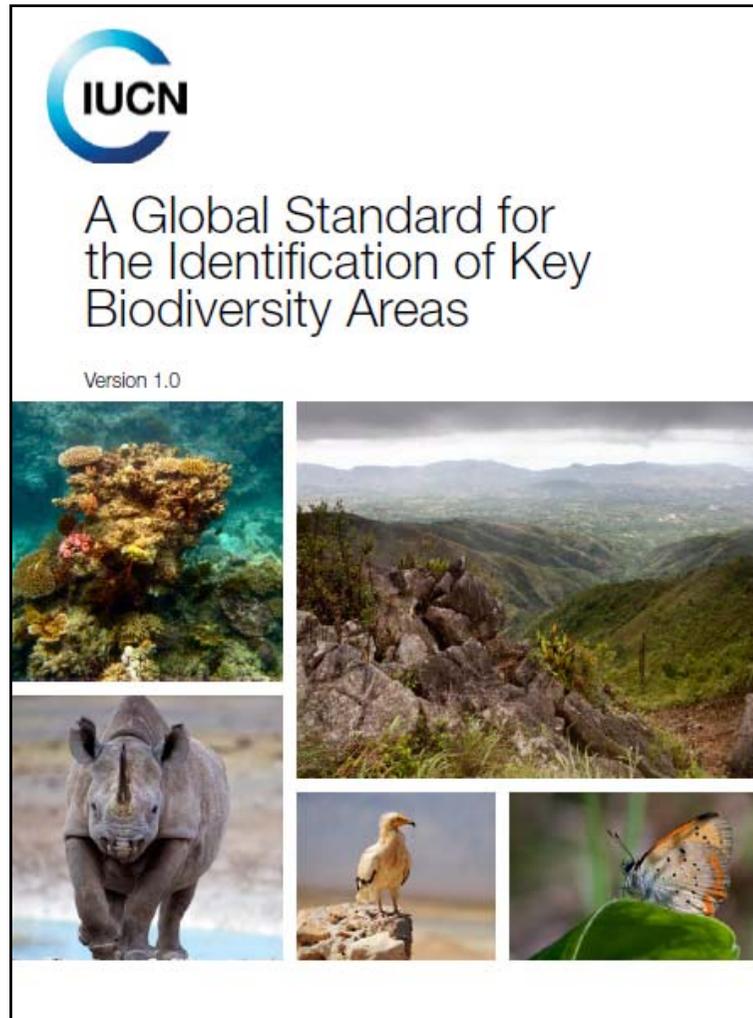
IUCN WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force on  
Biodiversity and Protected Areas



# Global consultation process



## KBA Standard



- First time conservation community has agreed on a common approach to identifying important sites for biodiversity
- KBAs are “sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity”

# KBA Criteria and Thresholds

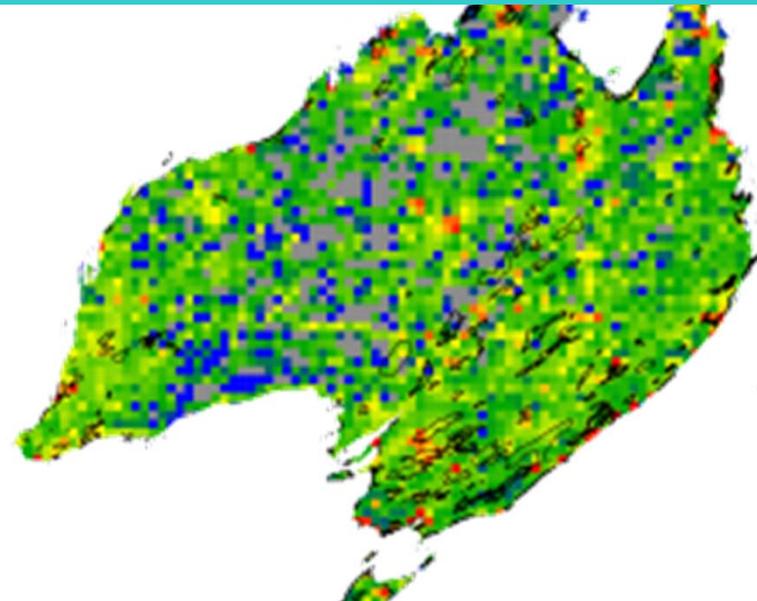
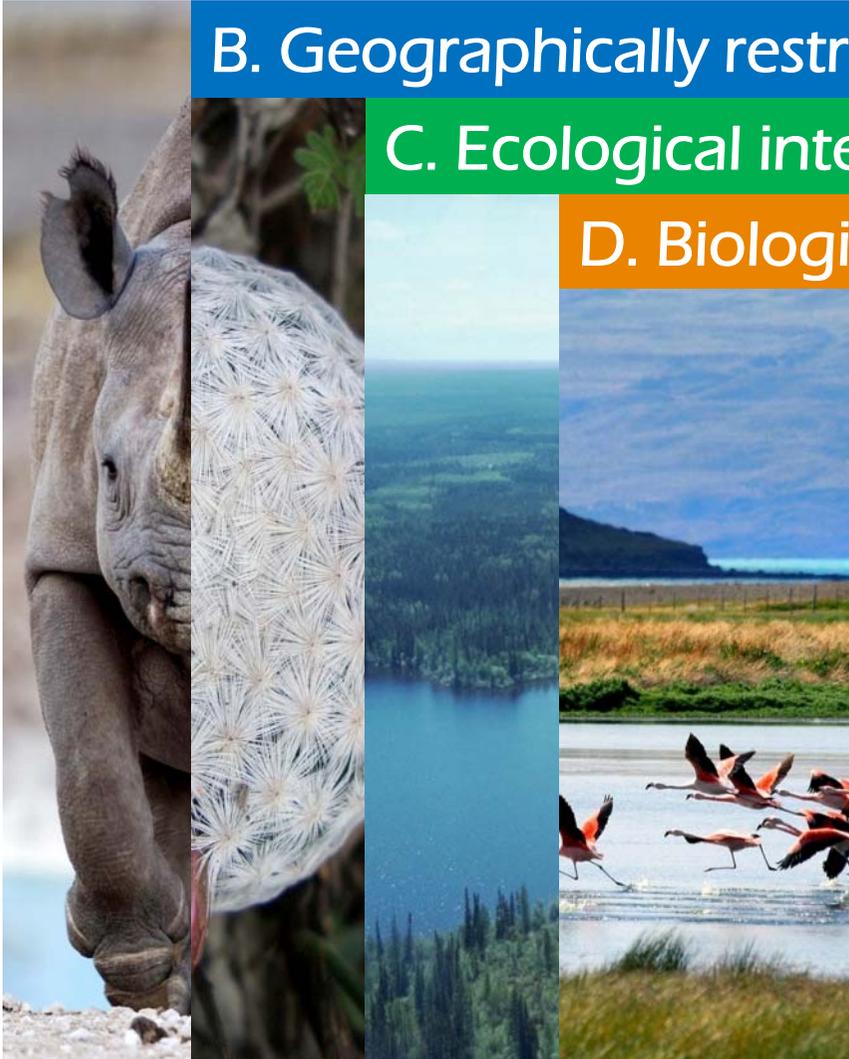
A. Threatened biodiversity

B. Geographically restricted biodiversity

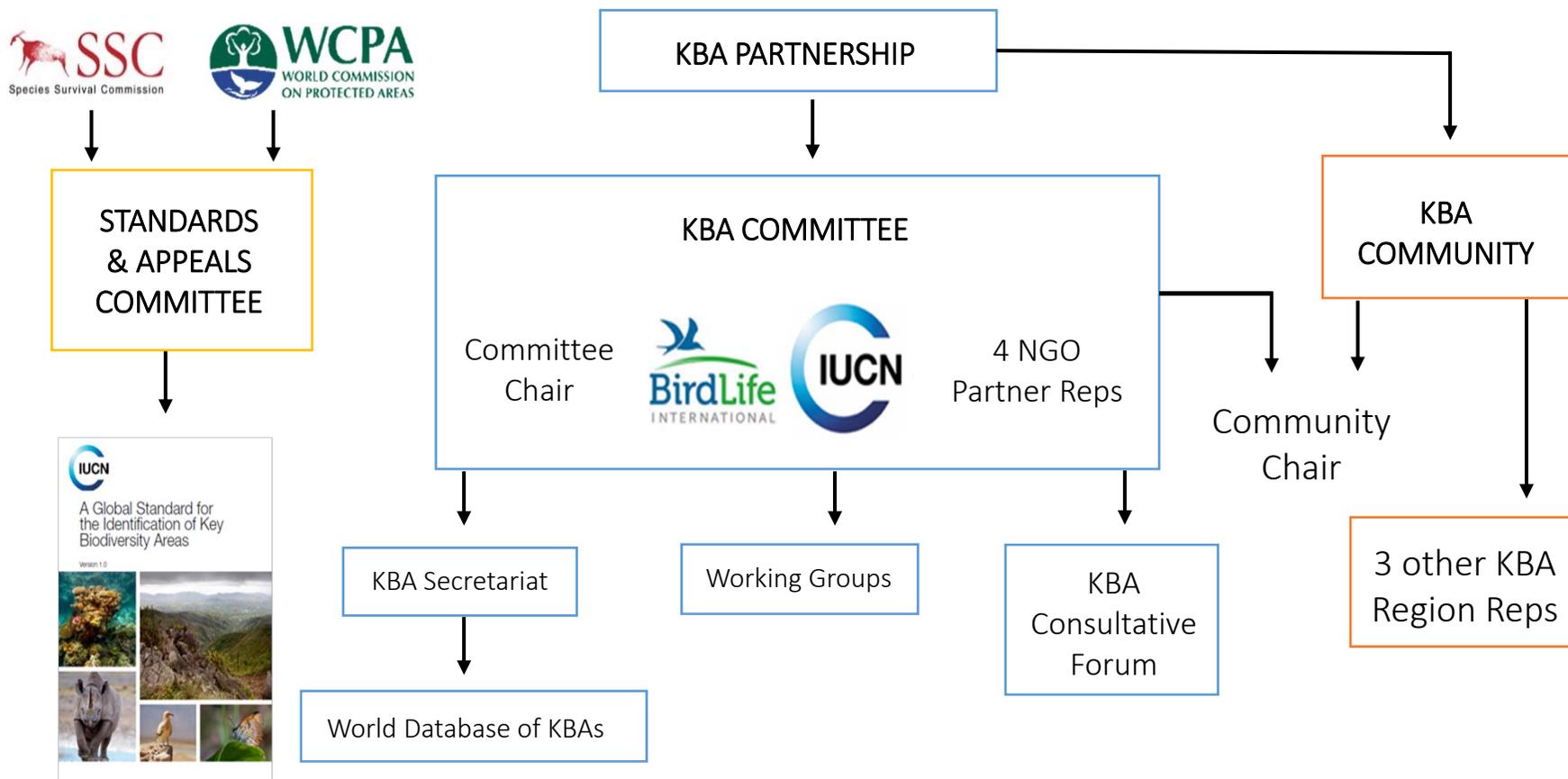
C. Ecological integrity

D. Biological processes

E. Irreplaceability through quantitative analysis

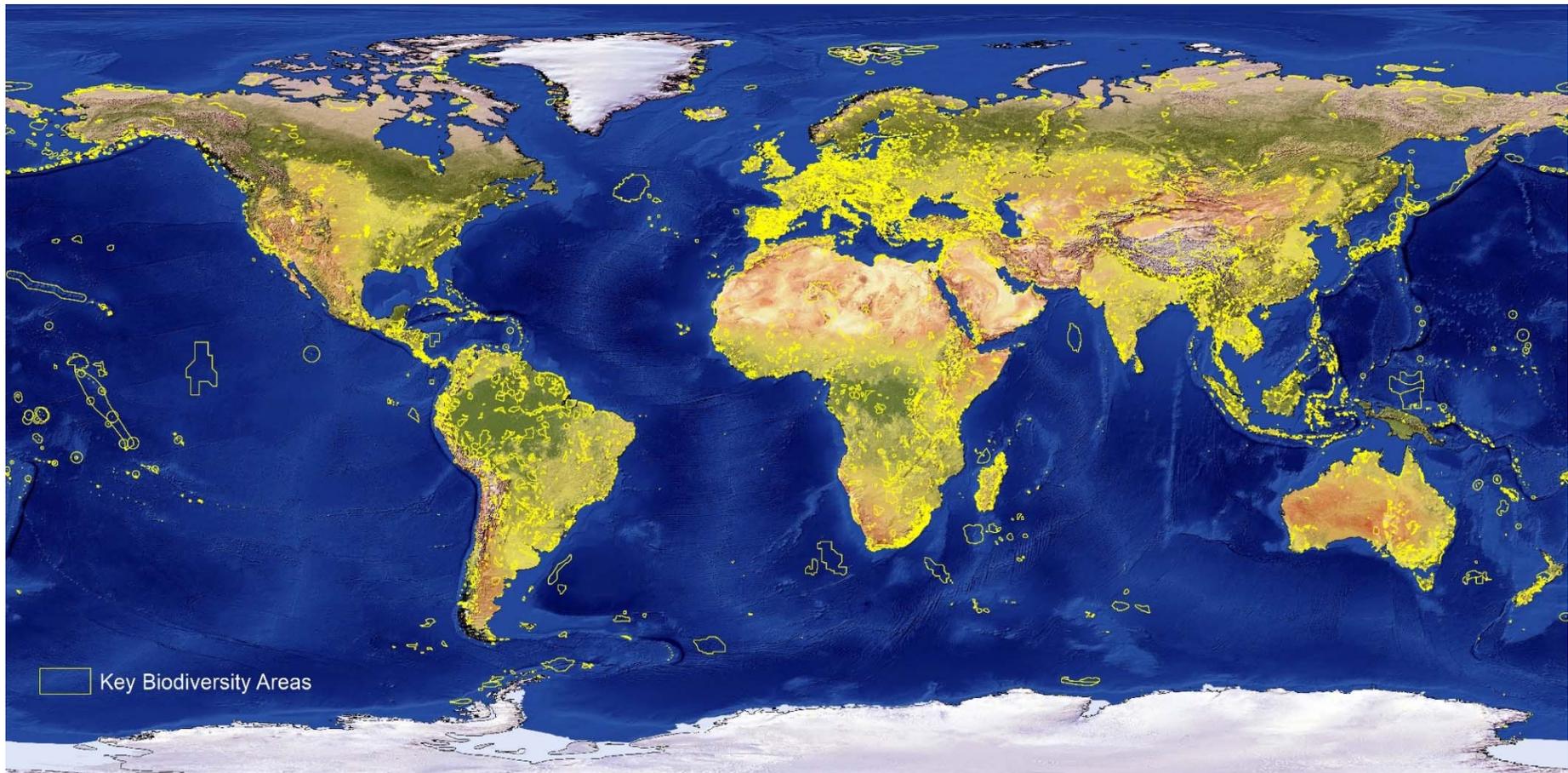


# KBA Programme: main structures

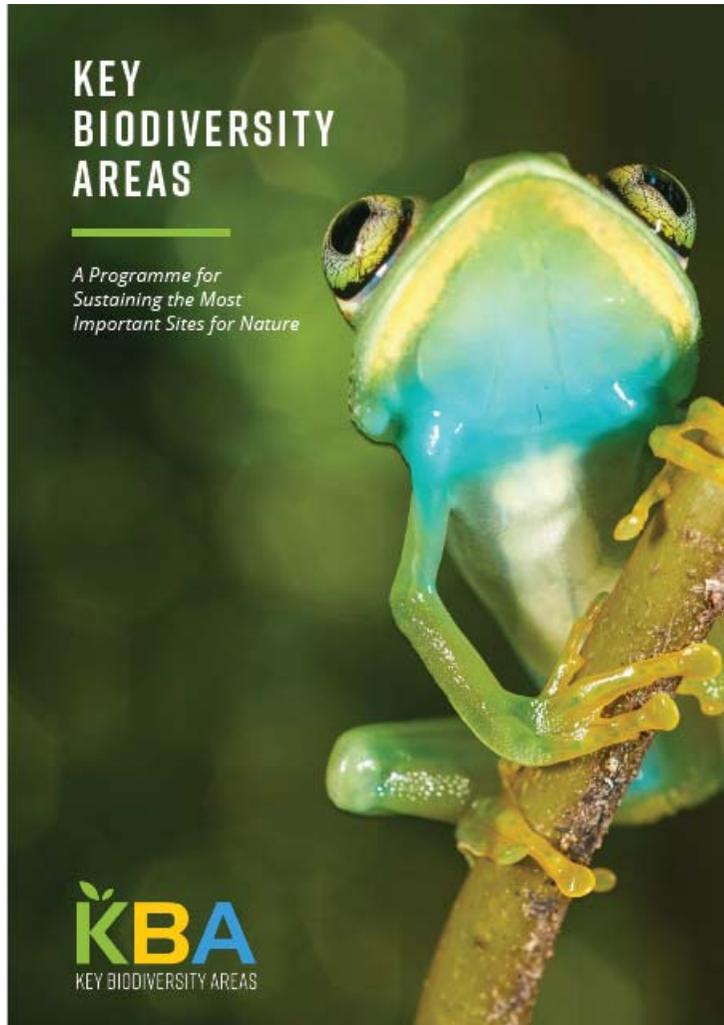


# World Database of KBAs

More than 16,000 sites identified to date  
Database managed by BirdLife International on behalf of the KBA  
Partnership



## KBA Programme



- Vision of *'a comprehensive network of sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity is appropriately identified, correctly documented, effectively managed, sufficiently resourced and adequately safeguarded'*
- Seven-year goal: *'to implement a programme to develop and maintain an up-to-date, fully documented list of sites identified against the KBA Standard, and to communicate, promote and*

# KBA Strategic Plan



1. KBA Programme structures established & fully functioning
2. Tools and guidance widely available
3. National capacity in KBA identification
4. Widespread recognition and communication of KBA importance
5. KBAs widely used to inform plans, decisions, agreements & actions
6. Conservation of KBAs promoted & monitoring

# KBAS INFORM NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL DECISION- MAKING

- Designation of sites under international conventions
- Targets and indicators for CBD biodiversity targets and Sustainable Development Goals
- Protected area creation & expansion
- Allocation of conservation funding
- Private and public sector environmental safeguards



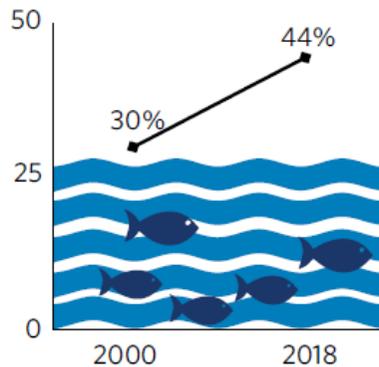
# KBAs contributing to achievement of Sustainable Development Goals

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)



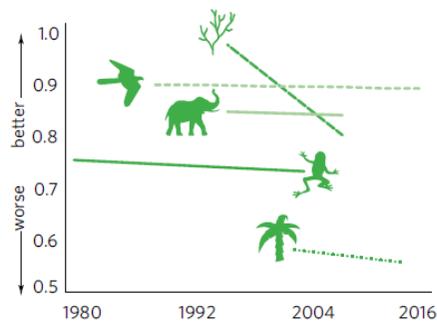
## SDGs 14 and 15

Mean coverage of **marine KBAs** under protection increased between 2000 and 2018



- SDG 14: *Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources*

The Red List Index shows alarming trend in **biodiversity decline** for mammals, birds, amphibians, corals and cycads



- SDG 15: *Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*



# KBAs contributing to Convention on Biological Diversity

2011-2020: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 - Aichi Targets



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

## Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020: Target 12



- *By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained*
- KBA identification and conservation of identified sites for threatened species would achieve this target.

## Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020: Target 5 & 14



- *By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.*



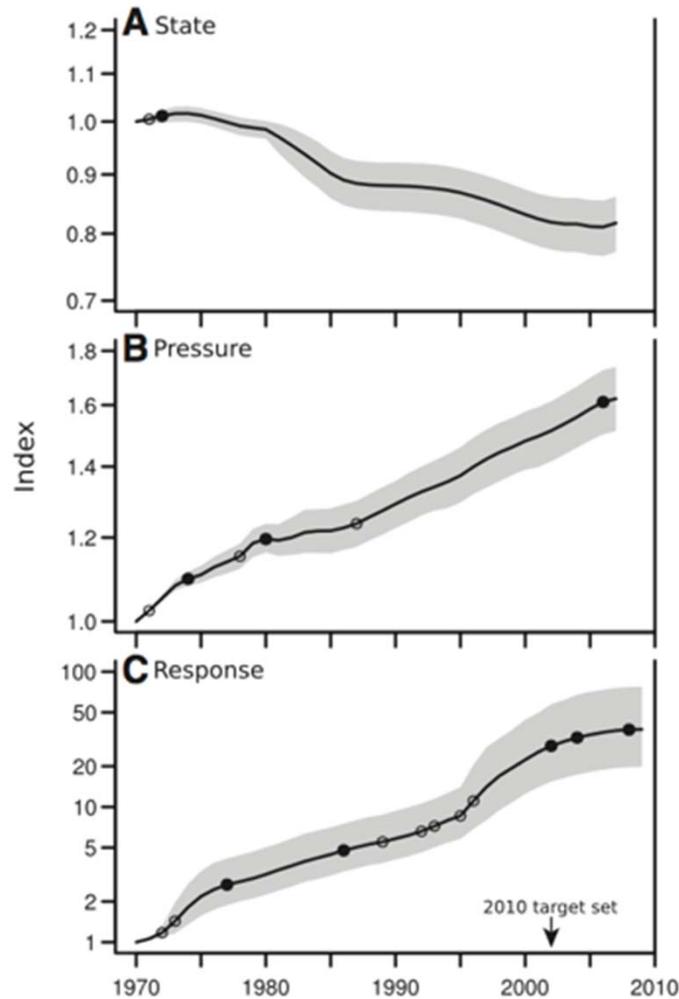
- *By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.*
- KBA identification and conservation of identified sites for ecosystems would contribute to these targets.

## Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020: Target 10



- *By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.*
- KBA identification and conservation of identified sites for ecosystems and species would contribute to this target.

# Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020: Target 11



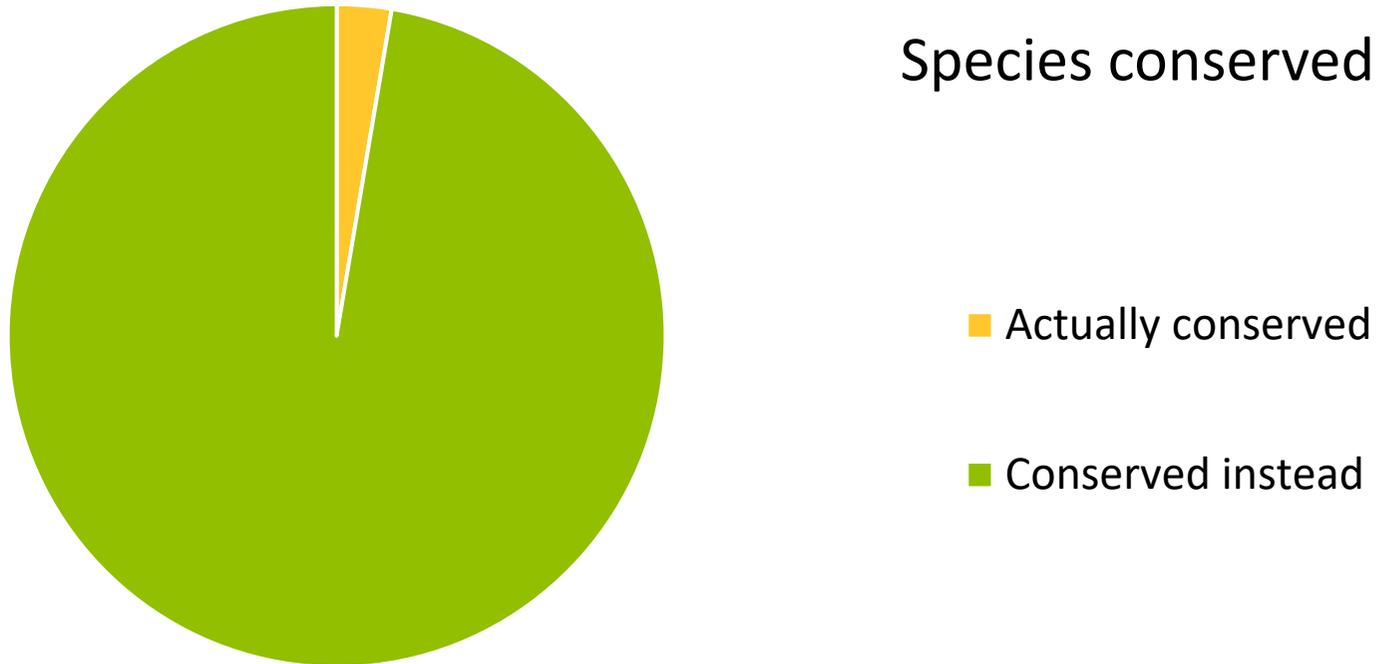
- *By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape.*

# KBAs – indicator for SDGs and Aichi Targets

Operational BIP Indicators	Aichi Biodiversity Targets**	SDGs and Targets
Protected area coverage		 11.4  14.5  15.4
Protected area coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas		 11.4  14.5  15.1 (SDG indicator no. 15.1.2), 15.2, 15.4, 15.5, 15.7
Protected area coverage of ecoregions		 6.6  11.4  14.5 (SDG indicator no. 14.5.1)  15.1 (SDG indicator no. 15.1.1), 15.2, 15.4, 15.5, 15.7
Protected Area Management Effectiveness		 11.4  14.5  15.1 (SDG indicator no. 15.1.2)
Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type		 15.1 (SDG indicator no. 15.1.2)
Protected Area Representativeness Index (PARC-Representativeness)		 15.1, 15.4
Protected Area Connectedness Index (PARC-Connectedness)		 15.1, 15.4

- Specific indicator for SDGs and Aichi targets on percentage area of coverage of KBAs by protected areas

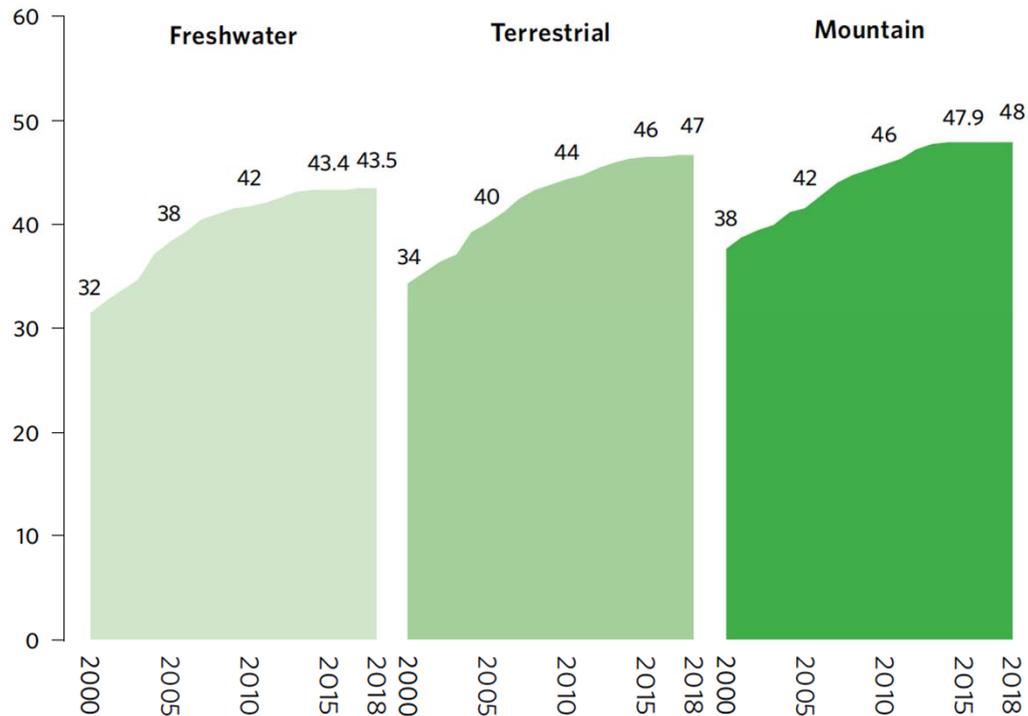
## Target 11: Protecting Quality



Targeted Protected area establishment aiming to conserve biodiversity since 2004 could have saved an additional 3,086 instead of 85 species.

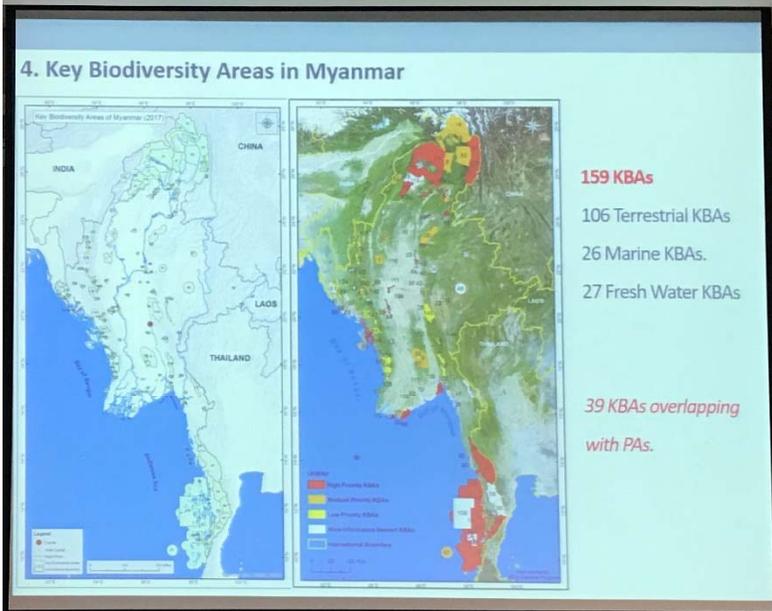
# Protected area creation

Average proportion of each freshwater, terrestrial and mountain KBA that is covered by protected areas, 2000–2018 (percentage)



- Targeting creation of new protected areas at KBA sites would greatly improve the quality of biodiversity conserved in protected area estate
- Post2020 agenda of CBD could be greatly facilitated with a KBA focused target

# Already being used in national planning

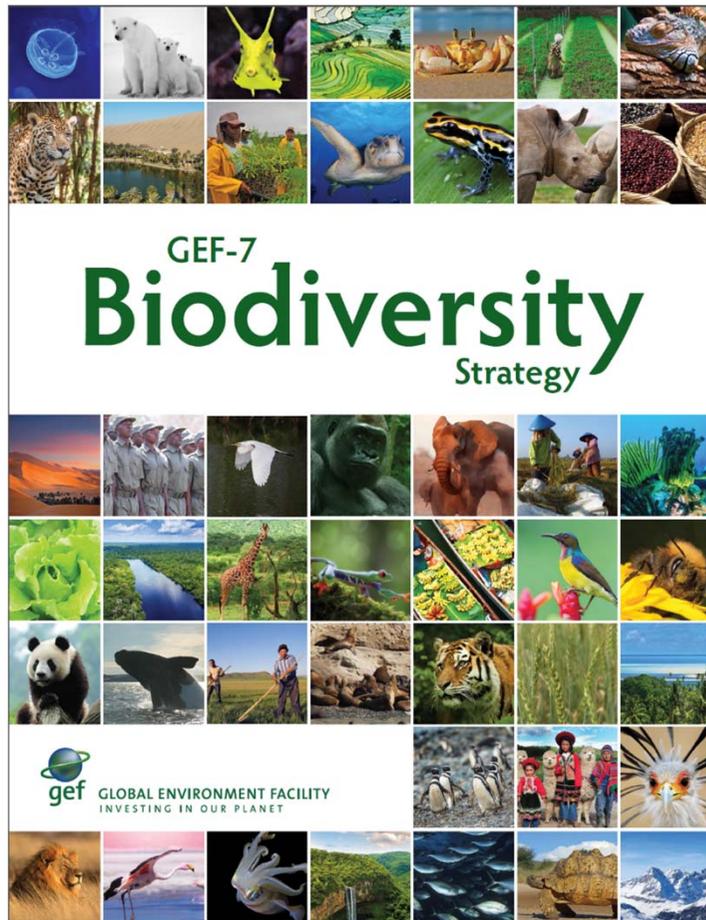


## 5. Using KBAs to Aid Conservation Activities

- Next stage was to prepare Key Biodiversity Areas.
- Most important criterion used to defined KBAs was the regular occurrence of significant numbers of one or more globally threaten species and on the basis of the occurrence of restricted-range and congregatory species.
- The sites which meet the KBA standards are planned to be improved management or expansion of existing PAs or creation of new PAs.

ASEAN workshop on Identification of Sites and Areas Critical to the Persistence of Biodiversity  
11-15 March 2019, Bangkok, Thailand

# Allocation of funding

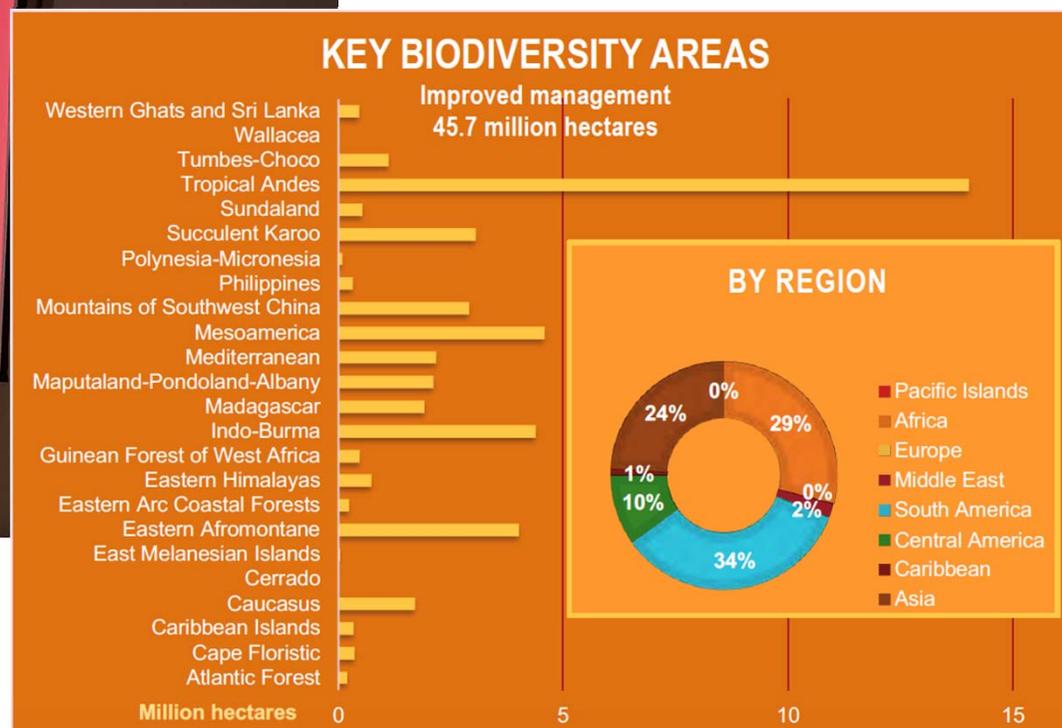


- “..new protected areas established with GEF support must be globally significant, as defined by the Key Biodiversity Area standard”

# CEPF programme



## CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

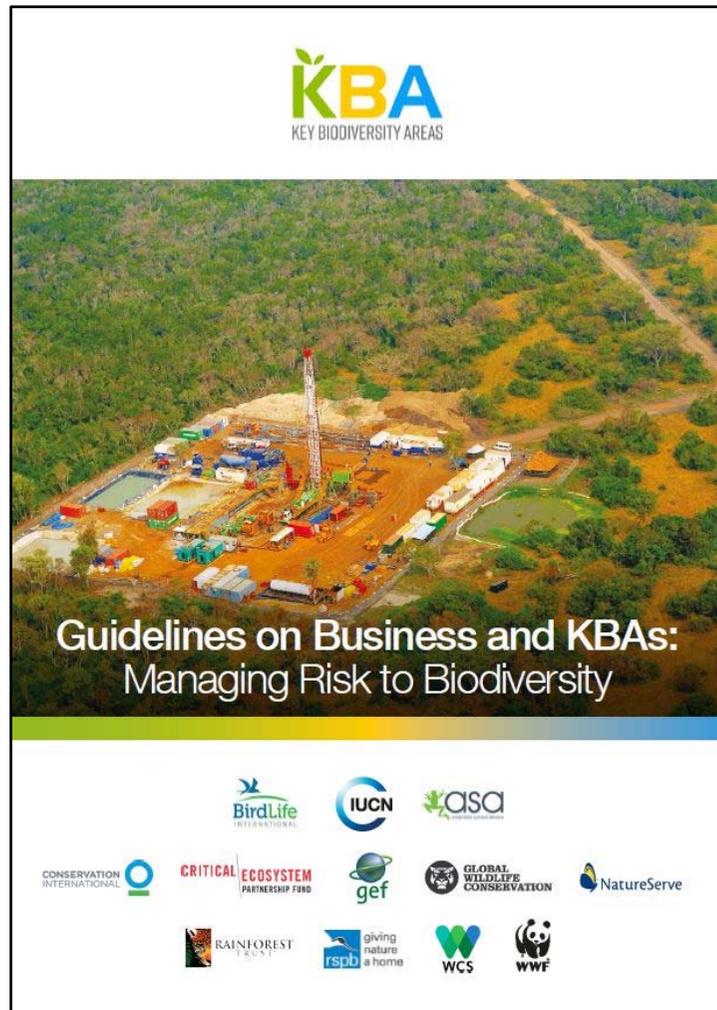


# Environmental safeguards



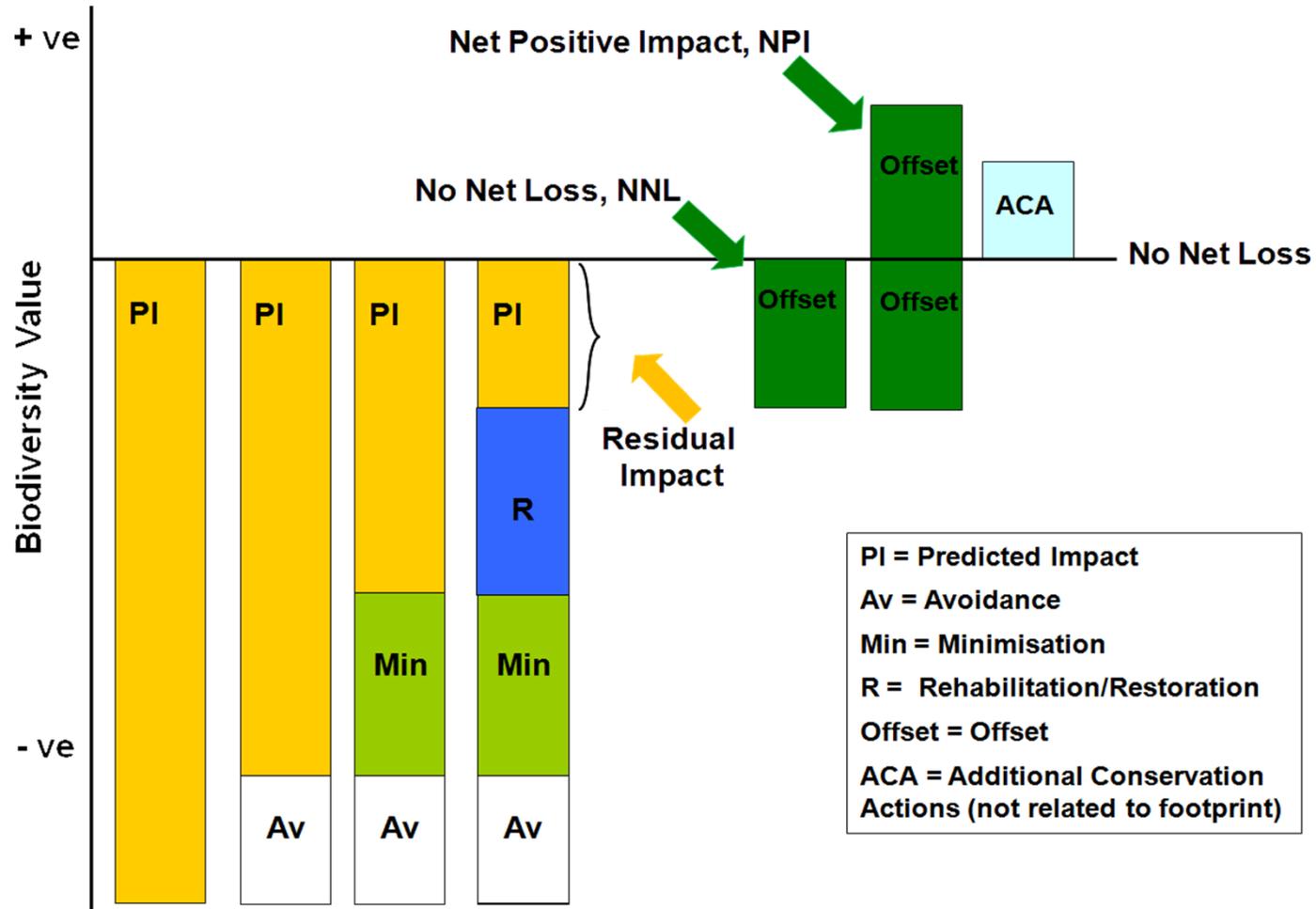
- KBAs are now recognised as likely Critical Habitat under International Finance Corporation PS6 guidelines
- Recognised in Equator Principles as Critical Habitat
- KBA status therefore provides much stronger safeguarding

# Guidelines for Businesses



- Guidelines for Businesses and governments developed around KBAs
- 15 guidelines to encourage use of mitigation hierarchy and identify how companies can support KBAs

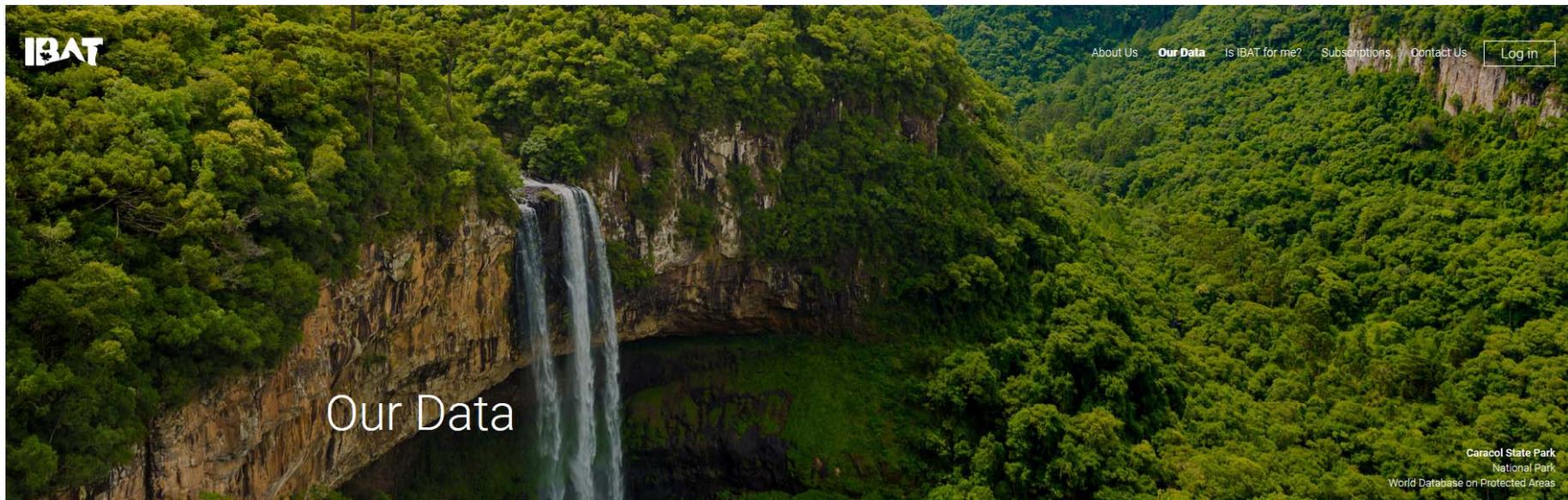
# Application of Mitigation Hierarchy





# Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool

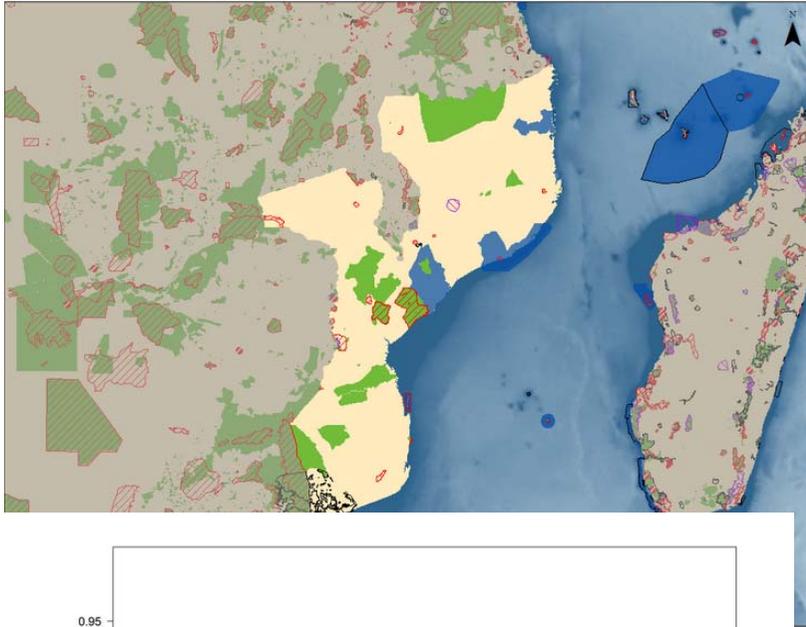
IBAT – Supporting business to scope potential impacts, identify critical habitat and apply the mitigation hierarchy: [www.ibat-alliance.org](http://www.ibat-alliance.org)



We host and maintain the three key global biodiversity datasets

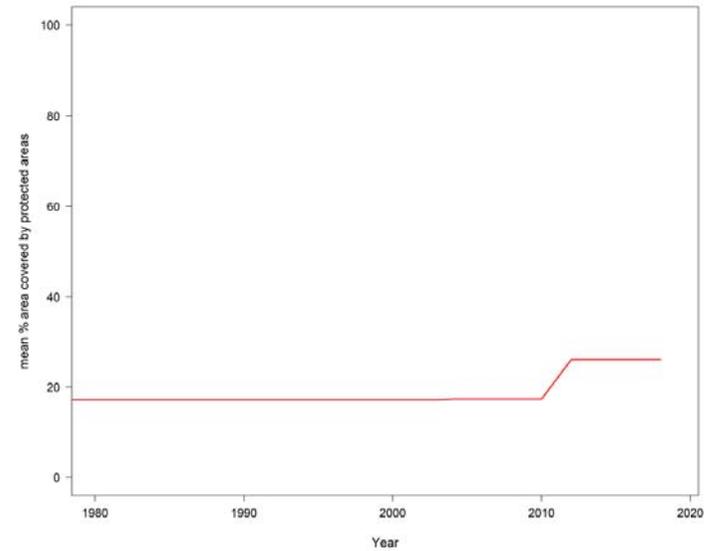
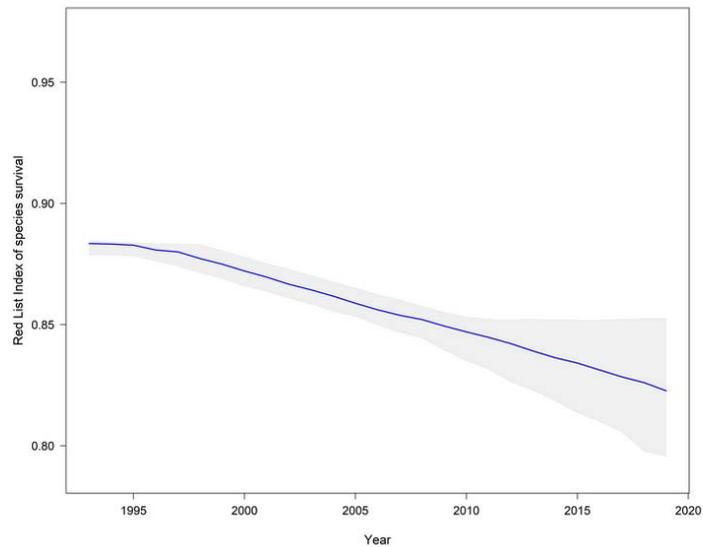


# Country Reports



**Table 1.** Species occurring in your country with extinction risk assessments published on The IUCN Red List (Version 2016-2). Red List Categories: **EX** = Extinct, **EW** = Extinct in the Wild, **CR** = Critically Endangered, **EN** = Endangered, **VU** = Vulnerable, **NT** = Near Threatened, **LC** = Least Concern, **DD** = Data Deficient.

Taxonomic Group	Total assessed species	Total known threatened species (CR, EN & VU)	EX & EW	CR	EN	VU	NT	LR/cd	LC	DD
<b>VERTEBRATES</b>										
Amphibians	71	5	0	0	2	3	0	0	65	1
Birds	675	30	0	3	13	14	26	0	619	0
Fishes	1391	67	0	3	14	50	31	0	1189	103
Mammals	239	17	0	1	6	10	7	0	197	18
Reptiles	68	13	0	3	3	7	3	4	47	0
Subtotal (Vertebrates)	2444	132	0	10	38	84	67	4	2117	122
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>										
Arachnids	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
Corals	328	53	0	0	0	53	100	0	157	18
Crustaceans	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	4
Horseshoe Crabs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insects	256	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	238	15
Molluscs	169	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	138	23
Velvet Worms	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	48	9	0	0	4	5	0	0	19	20
Subtotal (Invertebrates)										80
<b>PLANTS</b>										



# Tailored reports



## IUCN Red List

(within 50km)

This shows the number of species assessed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species that potentially occur within the area. This information can be used to inform conservation review, e.g. to identify areas of concern or to assess the effectiveness of these species assessment additions.

**4** CR Critically Endangered ?

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## Protected Areas

(within 50km)

The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) is the most comprehensive global database of terrestrial and marine protected areas. WDPA is collected and managed by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Secretariat, Gland, Switzerland. The WDPA uses the area as the main unit of the database.

**4** National ?

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## Key Biodiversity Areas

(within 50km)

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) are 'sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity', in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Sites qualify as global KBAs if they meet one or more of 11 criteria, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and, irreplaceability.

**2** Important Bird And Biodiversity Areas ?

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**0** Alliance For Zero Extinction Sites ?

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**0** Other ?

# 2

Key Biodiversity Areas

Create a new report to view full list



# KBA management



- Many approaches possible
  - Protected areas – protected area authority manages
  - Indigenous reserves
  - Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs)
  - Community managed sites
  - Only trigger species is monitored and managed when necessary
  - Some left unmanaged where not necessary

# KBAs - Where Nature needs conserving



Image from  
internet