



Protected Areas and Local livelihoods: Monitoring global trends with the World Database on Protected Areas

Vision 2020

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United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre

◆ About UNEP-WCMC:

- Biodiversity arm of the United Nations Environment Programme
- Located in Cambridge in the United Kingdom

◆ UNEP-WCMC mission

- To evaluate and highlight the many values of biodiversity and put authoritative biodiversity knowledge at the centre of decision-making.



UNEP-WCMC Work

- ◆ Policy analysis
- ◆ Private sector support
- ◆ Support to multi-lateral environmental agreements
 - Convention on Biological Diversity
 - Convention on Migratory Species
 - Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species
 - Ramsar, World Heritage, etc.
- ◆ Development of indicators at national, regional and global level to support
 - UN Millennium Development Goals
 - UN Commission on Sustainable Development
 - GEF 2010 Biodiversity Indicators partnership
- ◆ Manage conservation data and information to support above work

UNEP-WCMC Protected Areas Programme

■ Protected Areas Programme

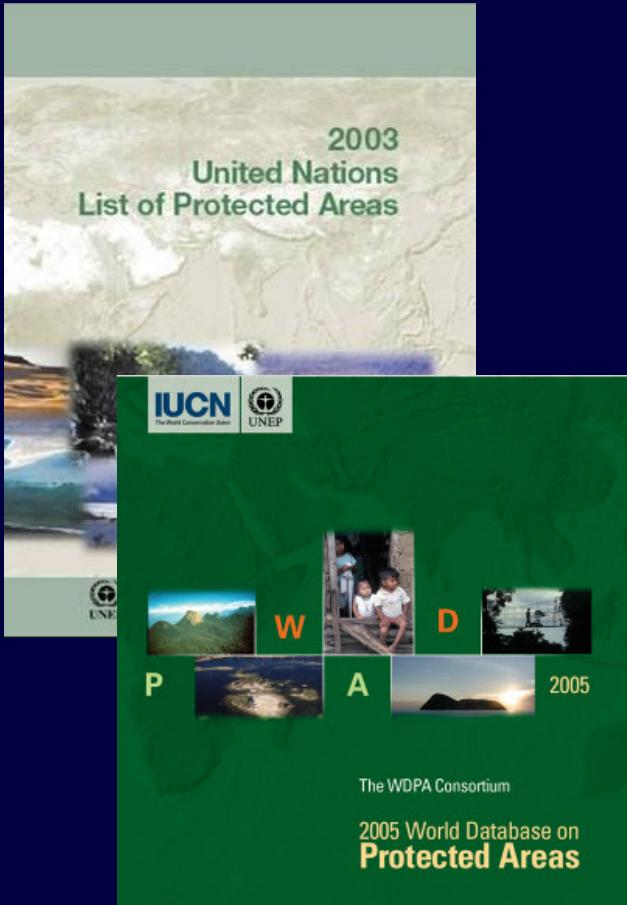
- 6 staff, several consultants, cross cutting work with other programmes
- Working to assess the contribution of protected areas to biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, increasingly working with private sector
- Most projects done in cooperation with IUCN and commissions, big conservation NGOs
- Biggest project to manage the **World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)**

What is this presentation about?

- ◆ About protected areas and livelihoods
- ◆ Not about Climate Change, RED or anything else remotely red.
- ◆ About focussing in on social impact studies of protected areas done at local level and making them useful at national, regional and global level.

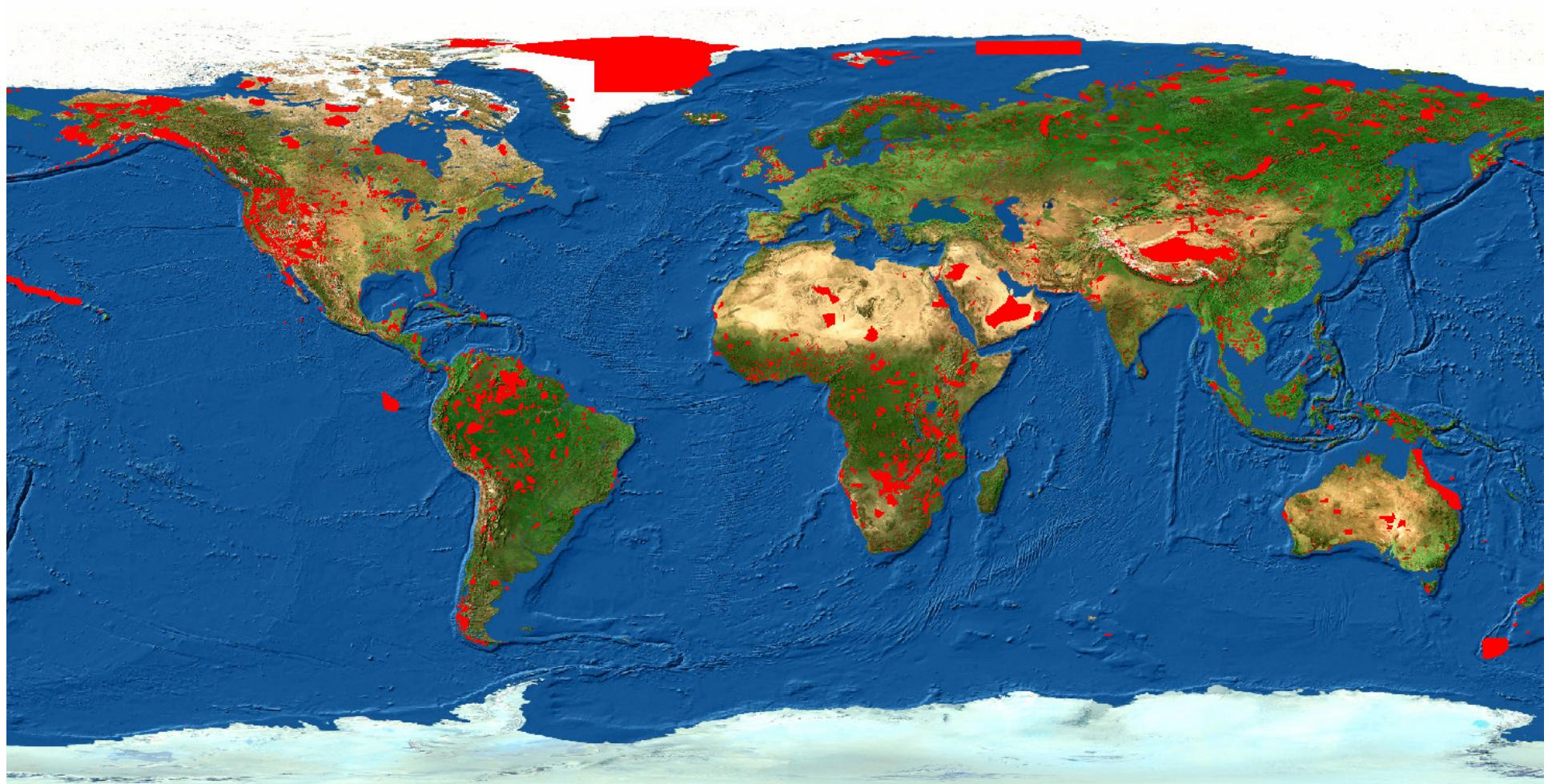


World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA): Origins



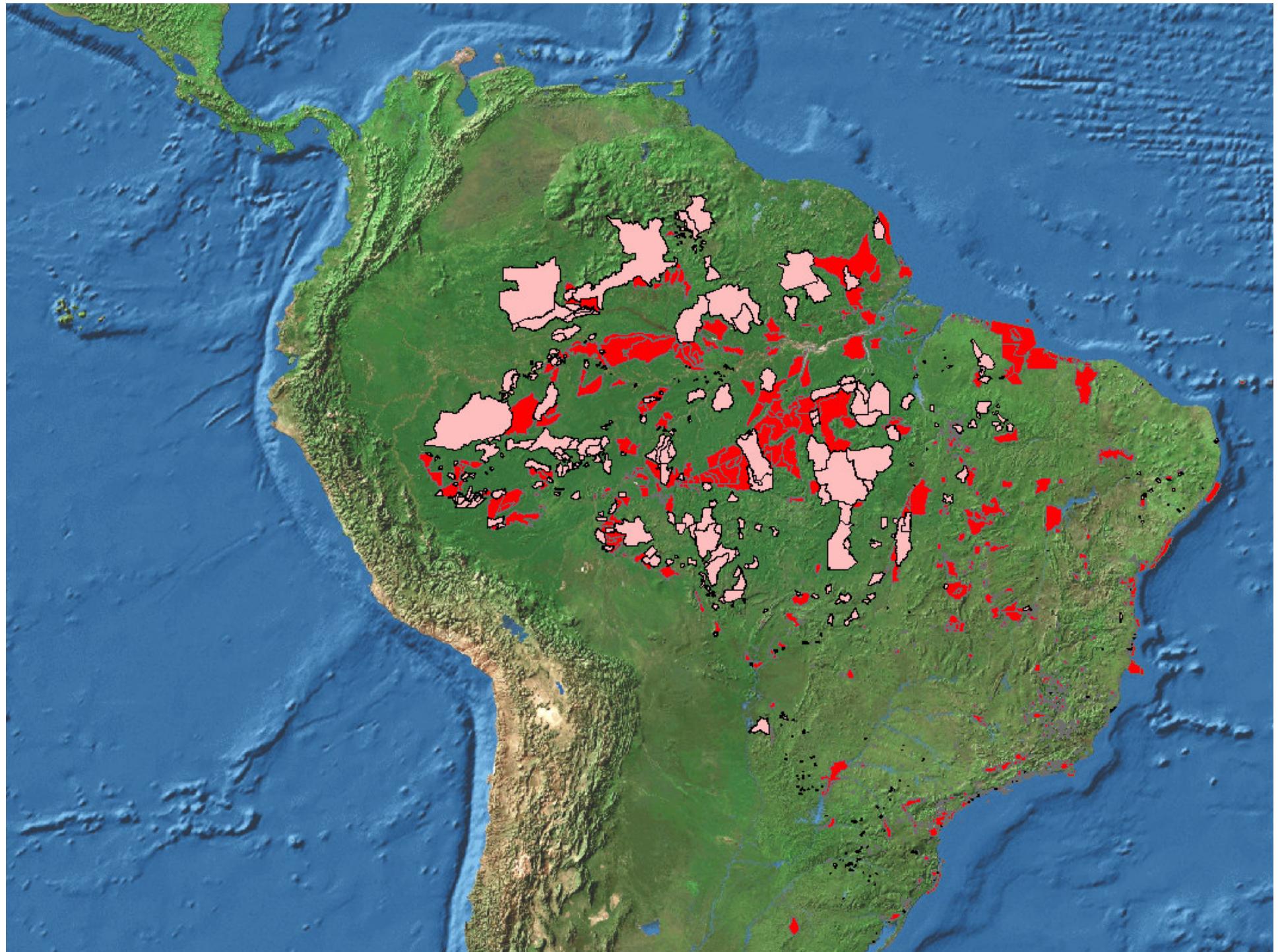
- ◆ UN General Assembly resolution of 1962 called for the first UN List of protected areas
- ◆ Only comprehensive global inventory of the world's protected areas
- ◆ 13 editions
- ◆ Database established in 1981
- ◆ Launched as WDPA in 2001
- ◆ Since 2002, WDPA provides regular statistical and analytical information for:
 - The UN Millennium Development Goals,
 - Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
 - Convention on Biological Diversity PoWPA
- ◆ Approximately 120,000 records and growing
- ◆ Foundation dataset for conservation
- ◆ Managed by UNEP-WCMC in partnership with IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

World Database on Protected Areas



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WDPA Mandates

- ◆ CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (annexed to COP Decision VII/28):
- ◆ Suggests that Parties:
 - Improve and update national and regional databases on protected areas and consolidate the World Database on Protected Areas as key support mechanisms in the assessment and monitoring of protected area status and trends
 - Participate in the World Database on Protected Areas maintained by UNEP-WCMC, and the United Nations List of Protected Areas and the State of the World's Protected Areas assessment process
- ◆ Several additional World Parks Congress recommendations

Main audiences for WDPA

- ◆ Conservation:
 - Biologists
 - NGOs
 - Planners
 - Funders
- ◆ Advocacy groups
- ◆ Tourists
- ◆ Academia
- ◆ UN Agencies
- ◆ Private sector
 - Extractive industries
 - Development planners



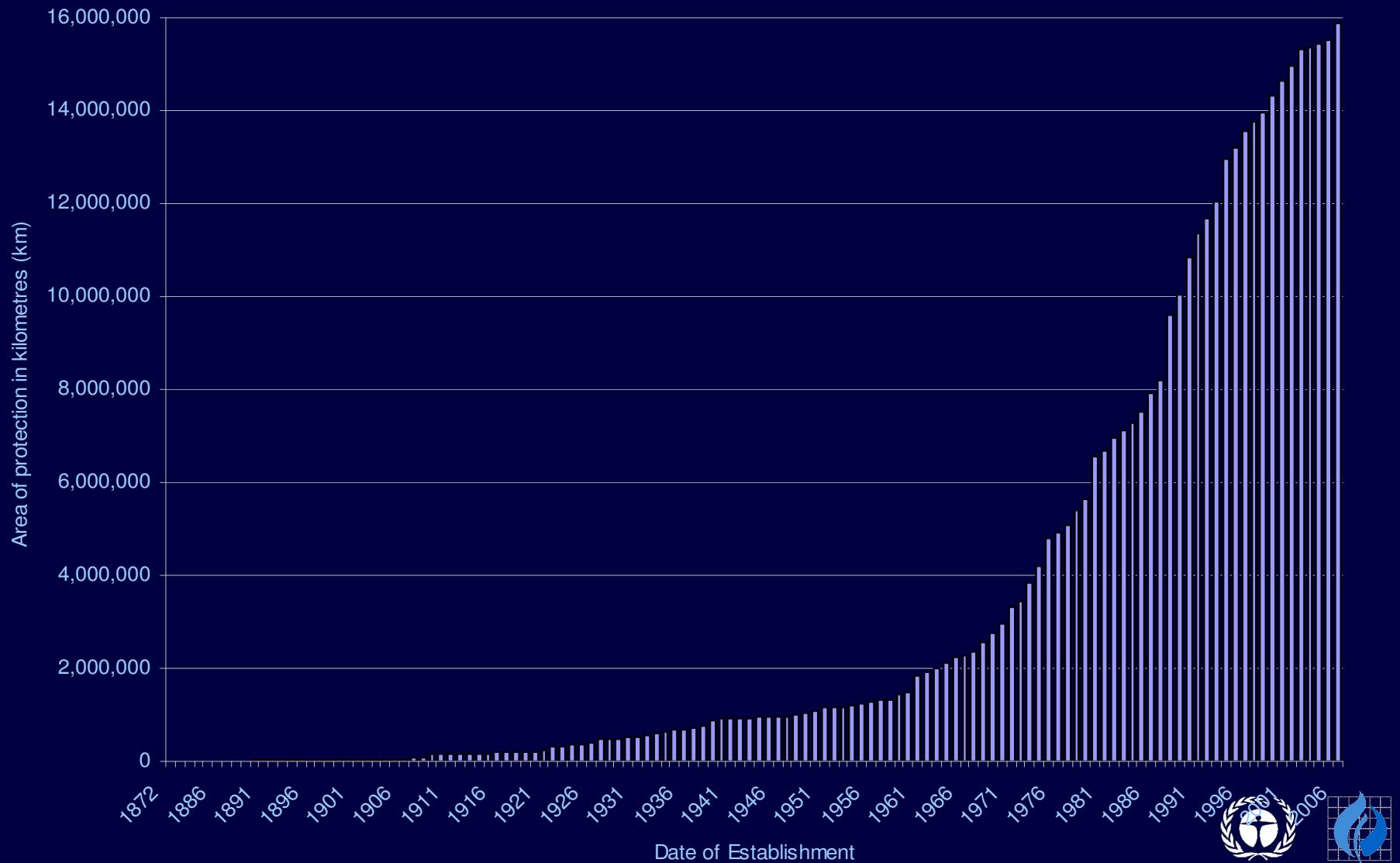
Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park - South Africa

WDPA: How is it used?

- ◆ Coverage calculations at all scales
- ◆ Gap analysis
- ◆ Assessment of biodiversity threat
- ◆ Environmental Impact Assessment
- ◆ Extractive industry planning
- ◆ Foundation layer for many kinds of other maps
- ◆ etc.



Global Growth in National Parks and Protected Areas (km²)



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Date of Establishment

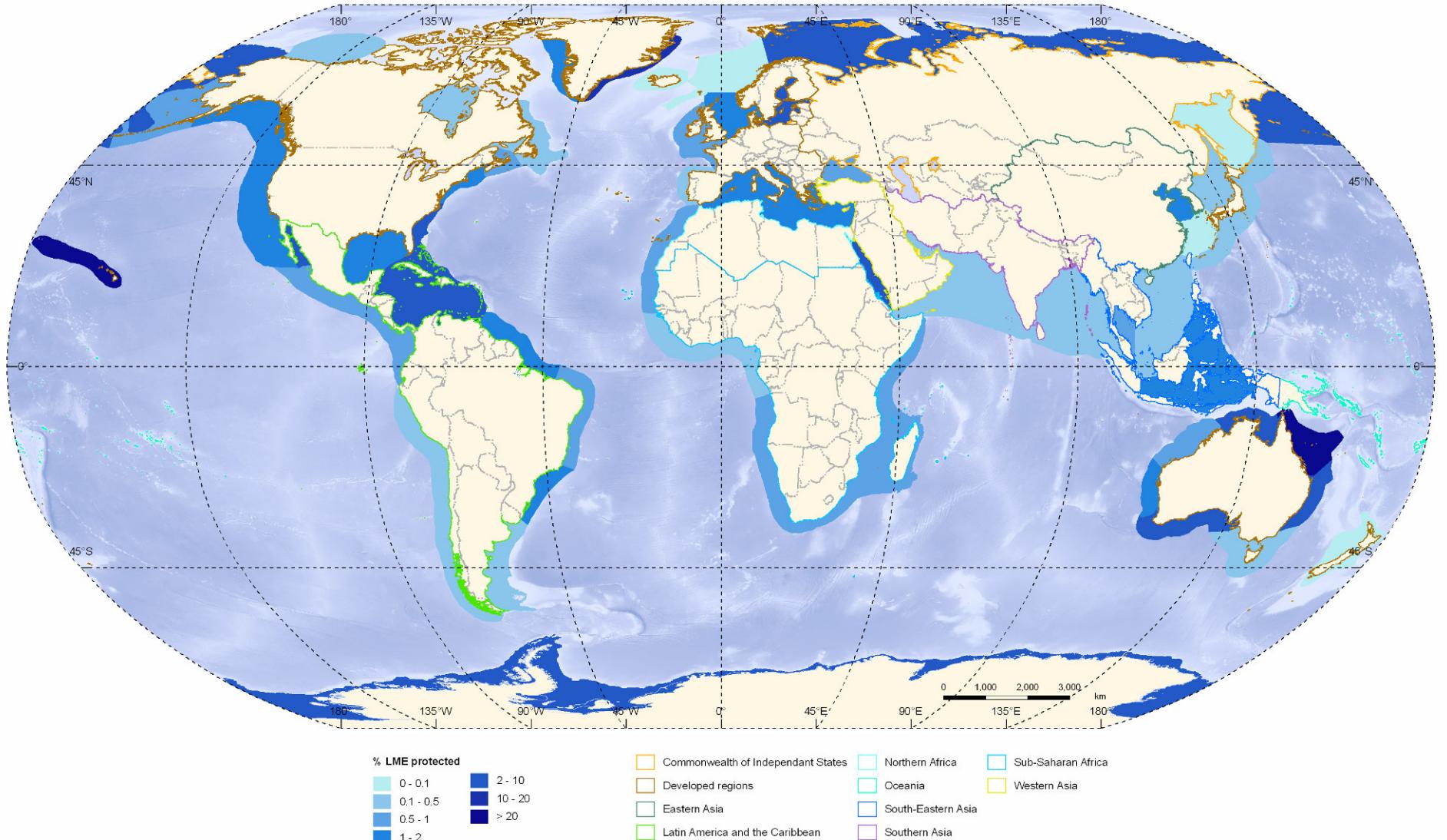


Global Parks and Protected Area Coverage (%)

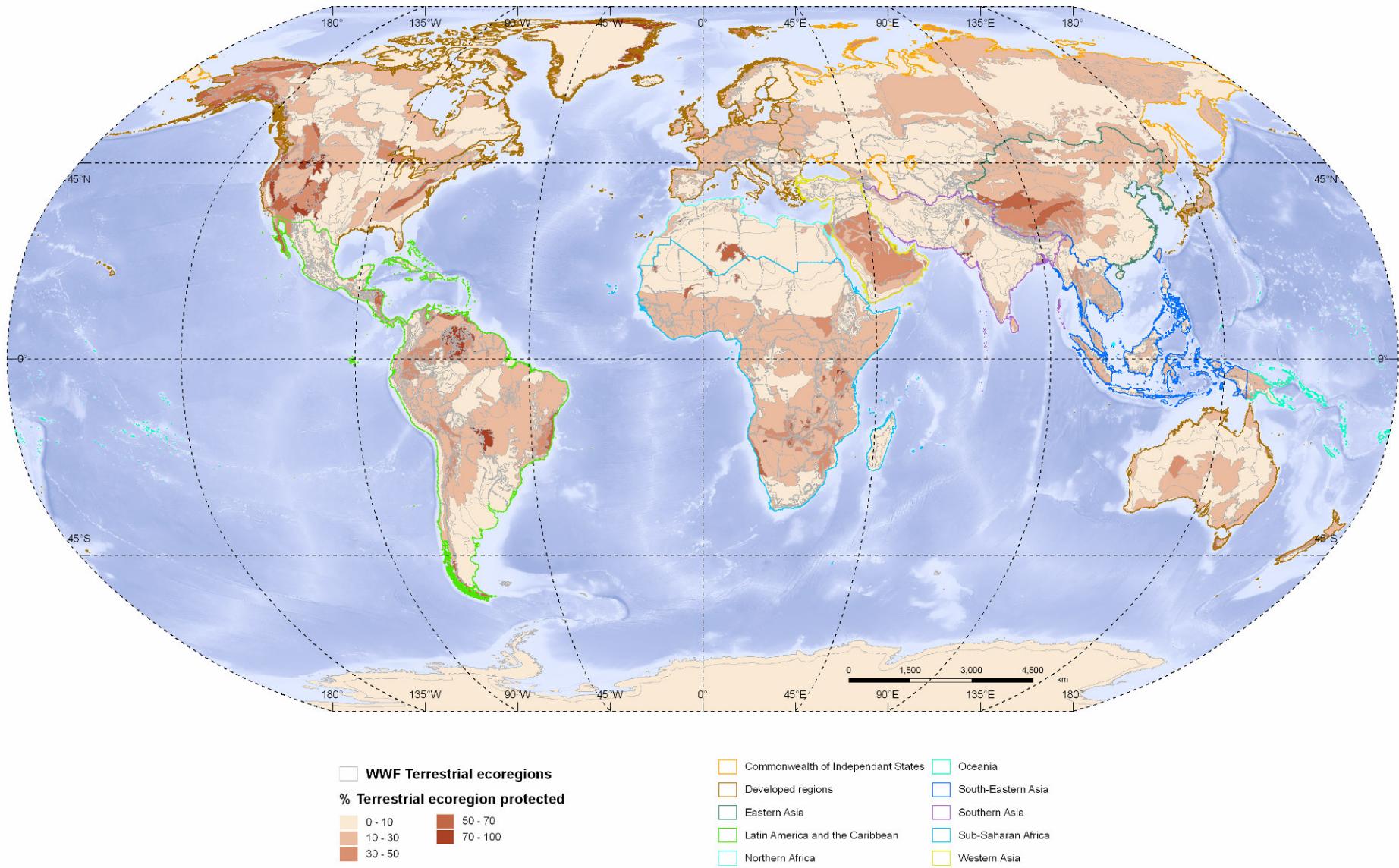
Millennium Development Goals Goal 7, Target 9, Indicator 26				
Terrestrial and Marine Areas Protected				
Protected area ratio to total territorial area, percentage				
	1990	2000	2006	Total
World	6.43	8.68	9.42	11.63%
Developing Regions	6.90	9.73	10.36	14.36
Northern Africa	2.57	3.42	3.76	4.07
Sub-Saharan Africa	8.64	9.13	9.42	12.91
Latin America & the Caribbean	9.19	13.34	14.47	21.20
Eastern Asia	7.22	10.24	11.21	16.52
Southern Asia	4.58	5.43	5.74	5.92
South-Eastern Asia	4.16	7.12	7.90	10.98
Western Asia	3.84	18.10	18.22	18.33
Oceania	0.54	1.23	1.25	3.71
Commonwealth of Independent States	1.83	3.07	3.08	11.88
Developed Regions	10.00	12.32	13.82	15.09
Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	7.51	8.37	8.51	11.02
Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)	8.31	10.91	10.98	12.27
Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	3.42	15.20	15.34	17.33



Large Marine Ecosystems protected

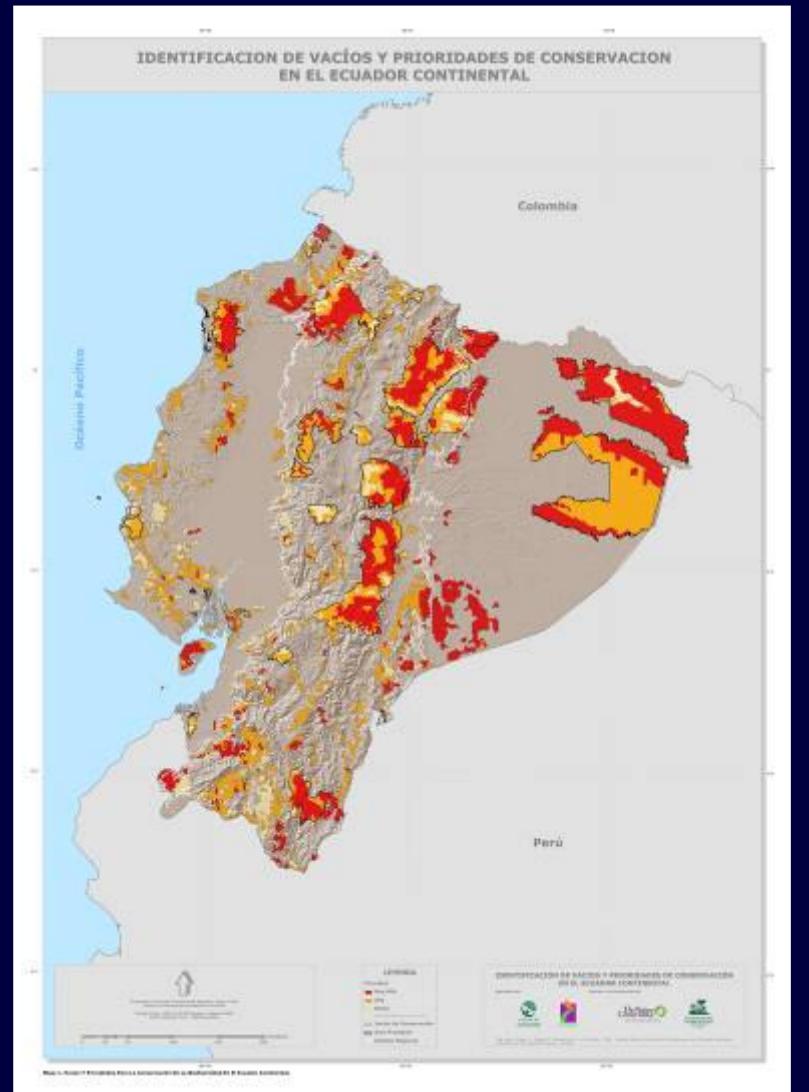


WWF Ecoregions protected

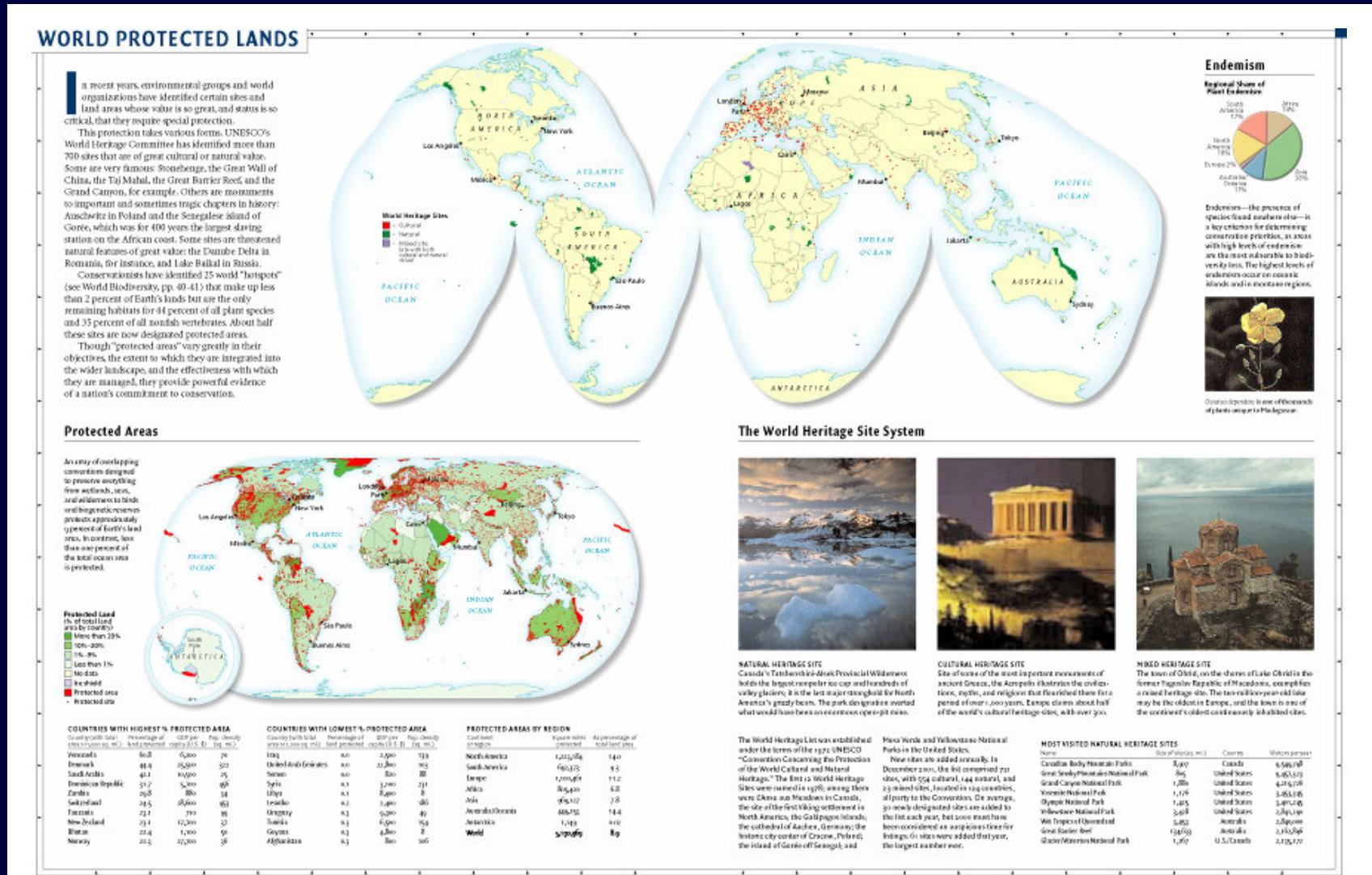


Gap Analysis

- Used with other conservation datasets including species, habitats, demographic data, etc.
- Prioritization based on threat, leverage, opportunity, irreplaceability, feasibility



National Geographic



Updating the WDPA

- ◆ National Level
 - UNEP-WCMC working with government agencies
 - ♦ E.g. Official National agency
- ◆ Regional Level
 - UNEP-WCMC working with inter-governmental partners
 - ♦ E.g. European Environment Agency, ASEAN
- ◆ International Level
 - Formation of a Consortium of co-operative stakeholders
 - ♦ WDPA Consortium



The Great Protected Area Debate:

Protected Areas are great!

- ◆ Deliver socio-economic benefits to local communities
- ◆ Protect species
- ◆ Sustainable development!
- ◆ Ecosystem services
- ◆ Spiritual benefits
- ◆ etc.



Protected Areas are bad!

- ◆ Eviction, exclusion, displacement
- ◆ Front for outside commercial interests
- ◆ Inadequate local involvement in governance
- ◆ Little flow of benefits to local communities
- ◆ Usually top-down!



What is the relationship between protected areas and local livelihoods?

- ◆ The situation is quite variable and complex
- ◆ May depend on:
 - Country government structure
 - Government corruption
 - National legislation support for PAs
 - Local poverty
 - Natural resource abundance
 - Presence/absence of conflict
 - etc.

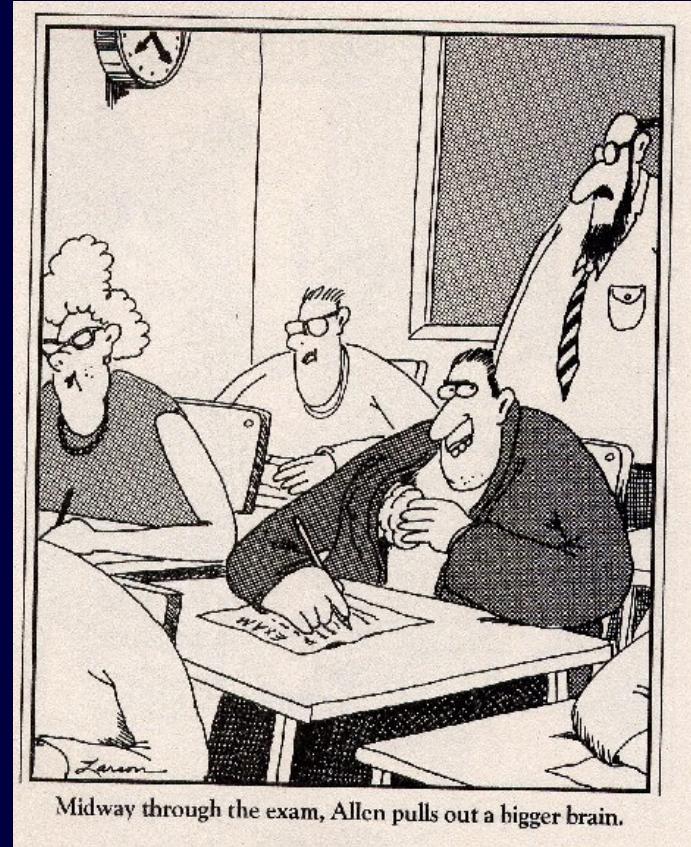


What do Protected Areas Tell Us?

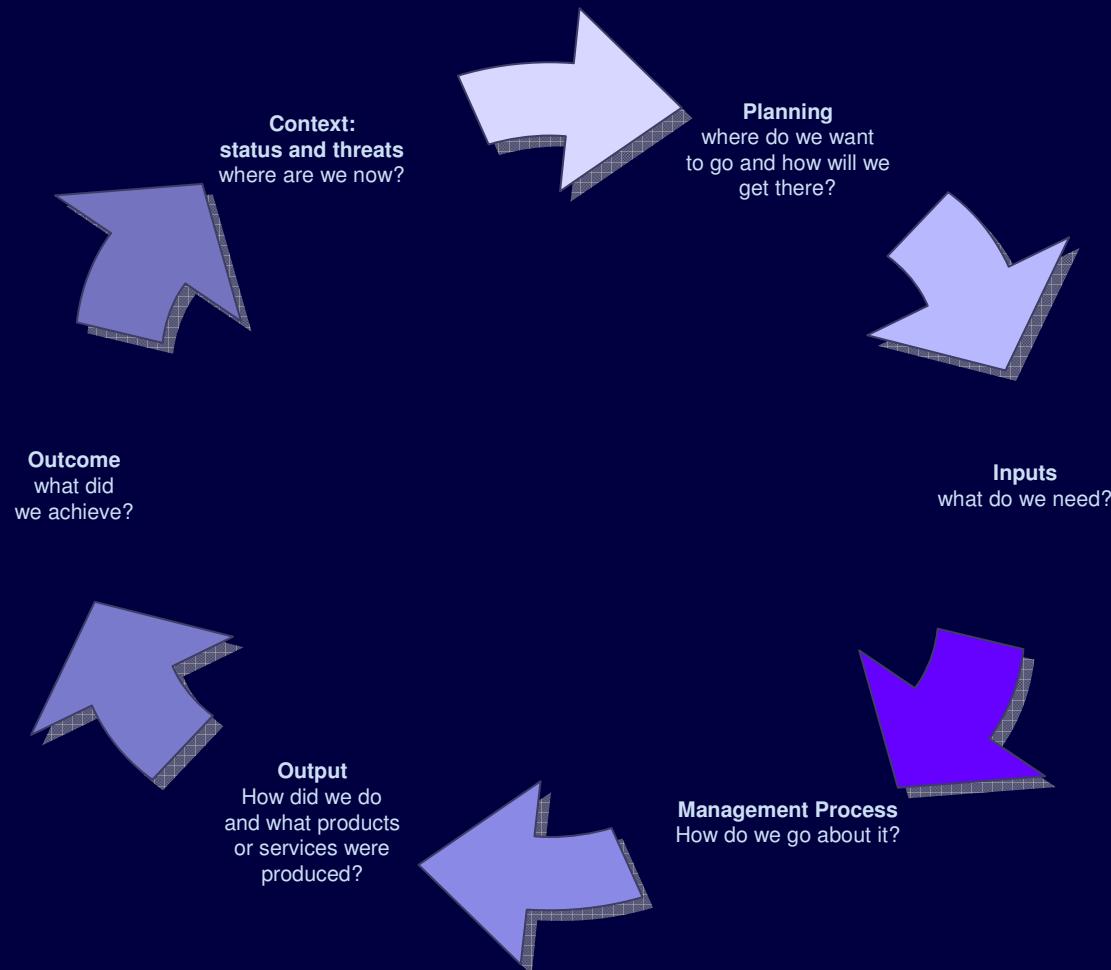
- ◆ A country's commitment to conservation
- ◆ "Coverage of PAs" is only of limited value
 - Shows boundary location, size etc.
- ◆ Important information missing
- ◆ We don't know
 - Are boundaries in the right place for effective conservation?
 - Is the area of sufficient size to conserve biodiversity, sustain livelihoods, provide ecosystem services, etc?
 - Is the area being managed effectively?
 - What PAs (or system of PAs) impact on human livelihoods?

Addressing Deficiencies

- ◆ GEF, TNC, WWF, CI, etc.
investing heavily in “Gap Analysis”
 - Identifying locations of high conservation priority that are unprotected and filling the gaps by creating new protected areas
- ◆ Development of new PA Management Effectiveness Indicator
 - Lessons to be learned about this for livelihoods and poverty discussion
- ◆ (Vision 2020)

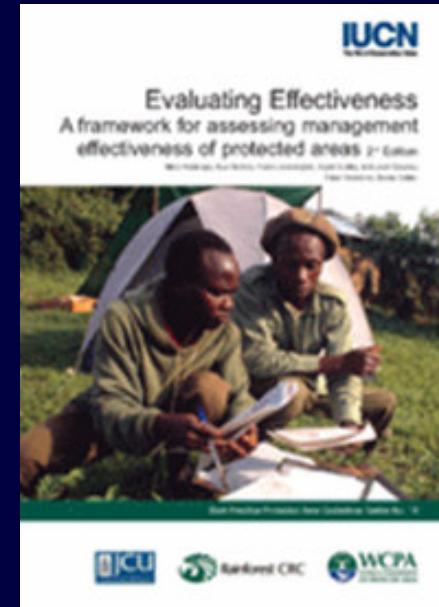


Framework for assessing Protected Area management effectiveness



PA Management Effectiveness Assessments

- ◆ Systems for determining how well protected areas are being managed
- ◆ 40 different methodologies from various conservation NGOs and national governments
- ◆ To date, 5800 assessments on individual protected areas completed
- ◆ 2100 different indicators



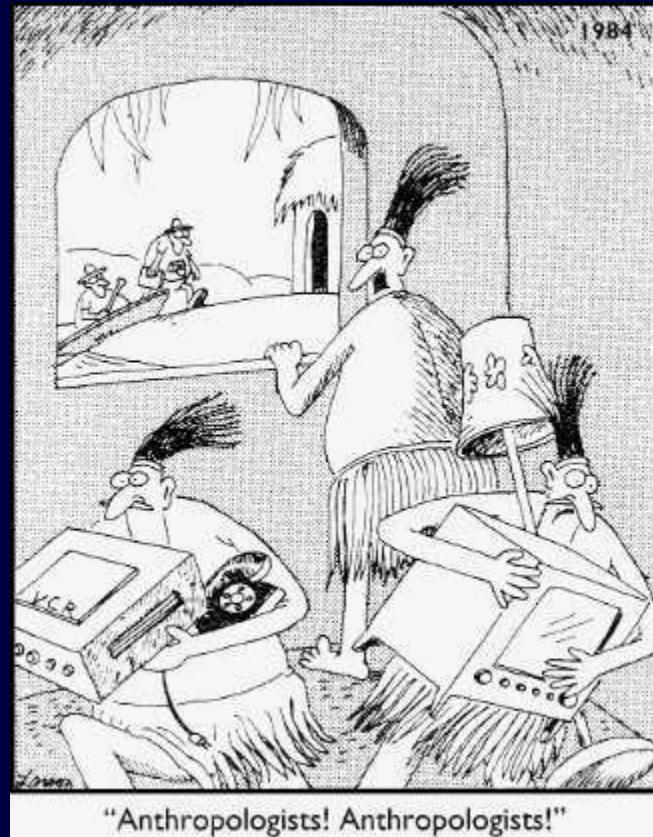
PA Management Effectiveness Indicator

- ◆ Part of Global Environment Facility's Biodiversity Indicator Partnership project (GEF's BIP 2010 project)
- ◆ With IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (and partners TNC, WWF, World Bank, UNEP-WCMC)
- ◆ Developing mechanism that allows for translation of different methodologies and the subsequent aggregation of data for assessment and monitoring purposes



Developing Global Indicator for Social Impact of Protected Areas (Vision 2020)

- ◆ Suggestion to utilise similar development approach to that of PA management effectiveness
- ◆ Use already conducted social impact analyses
- ◆ Develop first an assessment programme, then a monitoring system to track changes over time
- ◆ Look at impact of protected areas on local livelihoods
- ◆ Develop index to include alongside other accessible data on poverty and impact variables



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- ◆ Steps to achieve goals of project

1. Form Partnership (IUCN, TNC, WWF, CI, WCS, IIED, CIESIN, etc.)
2. Assessment
 - ◆ Develop agreed upon methodology for data translation into common reporting format
 - ◆ Collection and preparation of data
 - ◆ Conduct analysis and report for 2010
3. Monitoring
 - ◆ Repeat periodic assessment
 - ◆ Deliver assessments at periodic intervals
4. Reporting
 - ◆ Make data available at different scales:
 - ◆ Biome;
 - ◆ Continent;
 - ◆ National;
 - ◆ Ecoregion; etc.
 - ◆ UNCBD, UNCSD, UNMDGs, etc.



Thank You!



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