Global Survey: Area-based conservation beyond 2020

One-hundred and ninety six countries (including the European Union) have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which has established three main goals; the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets is a framework for international collective action on biodiversity conservation. Area-based conservation, particularly protected areas and conserved areas, has been a key strategy for nature conservation.

This survey asks for your views on the next generation of area-based conservation targets under the post-2020 biodiversity strategy. Area-based targets aim to improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity. These include protected areas and other area-based conservation measures, as well as measures to ensure ecological connectivity at a landscape and seascape level (see definitions on page 2). The current Strategic Plan has area-based targets centred on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11:

"By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% 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 seascapes".

This target includes both quantitative (% area targets) and qualitative elements (e.g. connectivity and representivity) and we will use these elements as the foundation for the survey.

This survey is being conducted by IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA). The WCPA has established the Beyond the Aichi Targets Task Force (https://www.iucn.org/protected-areas/wcpa/what-we-do/beyond-aichi-targets) to conduct an evidence-based review and global dialogue on establishing new global conservation targets for area-based conservation that would be meaningful for achieving the CBD's basic purpose, which is the conservation of biological diversity.

You are being asked to complete this survey because of your knowledge of biodiversity and conservation measures. We expect this survey to take approximately 15-20 minutes. Thank you very much for participating!

Beyond The Aichi Targets Task Force, World Commission on Protected Areas, IUCN

Ethics Statement - Your views are solicited as an individual who is familiar with biodiversity and conservation. There is no expectation that the views expressed are anything but your own. There is no expectation that your answers represent the views of your employer, agency or country. The responses to this survey will be analysed together and not reported as individual responses. Any reporting from this survey will not attribute any response to an individual. There is an option at the

end of survey to leave your name and email for further communications, but this not a requirement.

Introduction - your role in conservation

Before answering some initial questions about your experience, here are the definitions for the terms used in this survey:

Area-based conservation – This includes spatially explicit areas that intentionally or effectively conserve biodiversity, including protected areas and other area based conservation measures, as well as measures to ensure ecological connectivity at a landscape and seascape level. The key elements are given below:

Protected Areas - The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition is, "a protected area is 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." (Dudley, 2008).

Other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). This a term that comes from the Aichi Target 11 (see page 1). It is currently undefined by the CBD, but the IUCN has been asked to develop guidance on the topic. After a series of global workshops, the working draft definition is: "A geographically defined space, not recognised as a protected area, which is governed and managed over the long-term in ways that deliver the effective and enduring in-situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem services and cultural and spiritual values". Example OECMs might include indigenous territories, watershed management areas, or fisheries closures that are providing effective long term biodiversity conservation.

Areas for Connectivity Conservation (ACCs)– This is developing conservation tool from the IUCN aimed at providing landscape-level connectivity, currently defined as "A clearly defined geographical space, beyond the protected areas network, that is governed and managed in ways that restore and conserve the long-term maintenance of ecological connectivity.'

* 1. In what country do you currently primarily work?

2. How are you involved with area-based conservation? **Mark only one oval that best fits.*

- ◯ Government (e.g. national or regional policy and decision-making)
- ◯ Protected area management and enforcement (e.g. park manager, ranger)
- ◯ Civil society (e.g. non-governmental or community-based organisations, etc.)
- ◯ Local or indigenous community (managing and/or living in or around protected areas)
- ◯ Private sector
- ◯ Academia; research
- ◯ I am not involved with area-based conservation

Other (please specify)

3. What spatial scale of conservation do you currently work at?*(please choose the one that best fits)*

- ◯ Local (e.g. on a specific protected area, conserved area, or a particular species population)
- ◯ Regional (e.g. on a series of protected areas on on a regional conservation program)
- ◯ National (on issues impacting your entire country
- ◯ International

The Value of Area-based Conservation

* 4. From your perspective, how important is area-based conservation to the conservation of biological diversity? *Please select only one answer*

- ◯ Not important at all
- ◯ Of minor importance
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Somewhat important
- ◯ Extremely important

* 5. In your opinion, why is area-based conservation important? *Please rank the reasons below. 1 is highest importance and 7 least important. Equal rankings among rows are allowed. Mark only one oval per row.*

	1. Highest Importance	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Lowest Importance
Safeguarding species and ecosystems	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Maintaining the our life support system	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Delivery of ecosystem services (e.g. water, carbon storage, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Preserving cultural practices, heritage and identity	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Maintaining local livelihoods	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Economic value and benefits from protected areas (e.g. tourism)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
To adapt to climate change	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Other (please specify)

Perspectives on the future of area-based conservation beyond 2020

In this section you will be asked a series of questions on what elements are important to have in the next generation of area-based conservation targets. There are number of elements within the existing Aichi Target 11. How important is it to retain these elements or add new ones.

* 6. Which elements of area-based conservation from the existing Aichi Target 11 are important to retain in a revised target, beyond 2020? *Please rank the elements below. 1 is highest importance and 7 least important. Equal rankings among rows are allowed. Mark only one oval per row.*

	1. Highest importance	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Lowest importance
Percentage coverage targets (e.g. x % of land and freshwater and x% marine)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Areas of importance for biodiversity (e.g. Key Biodiversity Areas)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Areas of importance for ecosystem services	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Areas are effectively managed (e.g. result in measurably positive outcomes)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Areas are equitably managed (e.g. fairness in decision making and benefit sharing)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
The protection system is ecologically representative (e.g. includes examples of all ecological types)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Protected and conserved areas are integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes. (Decisions outside protected areas consider the needs of the protected areas)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Ecologically well-connected systems of protected and conserved areas	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

* 7. Below is a list of additional elements that could potentially be added to a revised area based conservation target. *Please rate each of these elements on a scale of 1 (very high importance to add) to 7 (very low importance to add). Equal rankings among rows are allowed. Mark only one oval per row.*

	1. Of very high importance to add	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Of very low importance to add
Protection of threatened and endangered species or ecosystems (e.g. IUCN Red List)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Protection for geographically restricted species or ecosystems	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Protection of species aggregations that occur during breeding or migration	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Ecologically intact wilderness areas	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Large scale conservation networks that include connectivity between protected areas (e.g. Areas for Ecological Connectivity or ACCs)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Large conservation core areas in each ecological region that allow for ecosystem integrity and resilience	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Key ecological processes and functions (e.g. hydrological processes or natural disturbance regimes)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Comment

* 8. Are there any additional elements that are not in the list above that you feel should be added to a revised target? *Please write the element or elements in the space provided and say how important that you think it is.*

* 9. Based on your understanding of the current ecological challenge to conserve biodiversity (genes, species and ecosystems), what do you think of the level of effectiveness of the current Aichi Target 11? *Mark only one oval.*

Reminder - Target 11 - By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, 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 landscapes and seascapes.

- Target 11 is more than is required to conserve global biodiversity
- Target 11 is about right to conserve global biodiversity
- Target 11 is not sufficient to conserve global biodiversity
- Do not know / uncertain

Comment

* 10. In the development of conservation targets, there are a range of considerations for how the targets should be developed. Which of the considerations listed below should influence area-based conservation target beyond 2020? * *Tick all that apply.*

	1. very high importance	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. very low importance
Simple – the target should be less complex than the current Target 11							
Comprehensive – the target should include details on all the necessary elements							
Evidence Based – the target should be developed on the best available science and traditional knowledge							
Measurable - every element of the target should be able to be measured and tracked							

Other (please specify)

Large scale conservation targets

In recent years, there have been calls from the conservation community to dramatically scale up area-based conservation. The Nature Needs Half movement calls at least half the earth to be protected in an interconnected way (natureneedshalf.org/). A similar target is being proposed by the E.O Wilson Foundation detailed in the book Half Earth' (2016). At the World Parks Congress in 2012, the Promise of Sydney called for full protection of 30% of the oceans. These large area-based targets are a significant increase from the existing Aichi Target of 17% of land and freshwater and 10% of coastal marine ecosystems.

* 11. To what extent to do you agree with large area-based targets?

- ◯ Strongly disagree
- ◯ Disagree
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Agree
- ◯ Strongly agree

Comment

12. What might be the challenges/implications of large percentage area-based conservation targets for area-based conservation in your country?

13. If % area is to be established for a future area-based conservation target, what is the best approach to arrive at a % area of land or sea to protect? *For each of the approaches below, indicate a level of agreement with the utility of the approach to setting % areas based targets (on a scale of 1 (strongly agree) to 7 (strongly disagree). Equal rankings are allowed. Mark only one oval per row.*

	1. Highest value approach	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Lowest value approach
Species area curves that are calculated for each ecological region with an aim to represent a high % of all species in area-based conservation systems?	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Population viability analysis using area demanding species such as large carnivores and umbrella species	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Systematic conservation planning for each ecological Region using s series of ecological and social goals (e.g. find optimized solutions to maintain xx % of all species and xx% of all potential cropland)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Based on modelled outcomes for achieving all the elements of the new target, such as representivity, connectivity and areas important for biodiversity	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
All of the above have value	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
None of the above have value	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Comment

To conclude

14. Do you have any comments or advice on designing the next generation of area-based conservation targets

15. Thank you for participating in this survey. Would you like to add your name to the Task Force mailing list (optional)?

You name (optional)

Your email (if you want to be placed on the mailing list Task Force mailing list