



6th APAP Technical Workshop

Identifying, recognising, supporting and reporting Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in Asia

13 August 2020

Summary Report



Asia Protected Areas Partnership

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Table of contents

Table of contents.....	iii
1 Background and introduction	1
2 Opening	1
3 Summary of sessions.....	2
3.1 Introducing OECMs	2
3.2 Malaysia case study	4
3.3 Group work to identify potential OECMs and discussion.....	6
3.4 Reporting OECMs	7
4 Closing	9
Annex I: Agenda.....	10
Annex II: List of Participants.....	11
Annex III: Template used for the group work.....	19

The Asia Protected Areas Partnership

The Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) has been designed as a key platform to help governments and other stakeholders collaborate for more effective management of protected areas in the region.

APAP was initiated in 2013 at the first Asia Parks Congress held in Japan and was formally launched the following year at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Australia. It is chaired by IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, and co-chaired by an APAP member-organisation on a rotational basis. The Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea, is the current co-chair.

The goal of APAP is to facilitate improved conservation outcomes for protected areas in Asia by:

1. Promoting best practices and innovative solutions to the challenges facing the region's protected areas, through knowledge sharing and capacity building;
2. Strengthening transboundary and regional cooperation; and,
3. Raising awareness about the multiple benefits of Asia's protected areas, both within and outside the region.

APAP also aspires to support national and regional efforts to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, a global set of goals and targets, which has been adopted by countries around the world to halt the loss of biodiversity.

List of acronyms and abbreviations

APAP	Asia Protected Areas Partnership
BfN	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Bundesamt für Naturschutz)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
IBAT	Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KNPS	Korea National Park Service
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPA	National Protected Areas
OECD	Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEARRP	South East Asian Rainforest Research Partnership
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WD-OECD	World Database on Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas

1 Background and introduction

On 13 August 2020, over 60 participants attended the 6th Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) Technical Workshop, on the subject of “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures” (OECMs). Because of COVID-19 travel restrictions, the workshop was conducted as an online webinar. The aim of the workshop was to strengthen APAP members’ understanding of OECMs and improve their capacity to identify and report sites that meet the OECM criteria. This included presentations and an interactive exercise to:

- Explore the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Decision 14/8 and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Technical Report;
- Learn about existing tools to support the identification and assessment of OECMs;
- Identify an initial list of potential OECMs on a thematic/country basis (both terrestrial and marine);
- Elaborate and discuss examples and case-studies of potential OECMs (both terrestrial and marine) within national contexts in the region; and
- Begin consideration of appropriate means by which to recognise, support and report OECMs.

The webinar was organised by the IUCN Asia Regional Office and supported through technical inputs by the IUCN WCPA OECM Specialist Group, the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the South East Asian Rainforest Research Partnership (SEARRP). APAP is generously supported by the Ministry of Environment of Korea, the Korea National Park Service (KNPS), and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan. The workshop was funded by the Korea National Park Service. The OECM materials, methodologies and expertise in the workshop were developed and made available with the support of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Bundesamt für Naturschutz - BfN). The agenda is in Annex I and the participants are listed in Annex II. The webinar was facilitated by Minsun Kim, Programme Officer, Protected Areas, IUCN.

2 Opening

Scott Perkin, Head, Natural Resources Group, IUCN Asia Regional Office, opened the meeting, welcomed participants to the session and made the following points.

Firstly, OECMs are referenced in Aichi Target 11, which was adopted as part of the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity by the Parties to the CBD in late 2010. However, the term remained quite undefined until 2018, when a formal definition of OECMs was adopted at the CBD’s 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-14) in Egypt ([Decision 14/8](#)). This was a crucial milestone. There is now a global upsurge of interest in OECMs. They have the potential to complement and support protected areas in many ways, and to make an important contribution to conservation.

However, because the concept is so new, there is still a great deal of uncertainty and a lack of clarity about OECMs. Common questions include: What, exactly, is an OECM? How can OECMs be identified? How can they be recognised in policy and law, or through other types of arrangements? How can they best be supported? And how can they be reported to the World Database on Protected Areas? He noted that the workshop had been designed to help answer some of these questions.

In closing, Perkin thanked KNPS for their support to the workshop. He also acknowledged BfN, the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, which has been supporting the development of materials and information on OECMs; he expressed his gratitude to Minsun Kim, who had devoted many days of hard work to organise the workshop; and thanked Harry Jonas, the Co-Chair of the IUCN WCPA Specialist Group on OECMs, for offering to lead the event.

3 Summary of sessions

3.1 Introducing OECMs

Harry Jonas, Co-chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) OECM Specialist Group, provided an overview of OECMs and made the following points.

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, adopted in Nagoya, provides a framework for the effective implementation of the CBD with 20 targets covering the period 2011-2020. Aichi Target 11 states that conservation will be achieved through “effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures”. While there were already clear definitions and criteria for protected areas, this was not the case for “other effective area-based conservation measures”.

In November 2018, this situation was remedied when Parties to the CBD adopted a definition of an “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure” (OECM) as well as guiding principles, common characteristics and criteria for identification of OECMs (CBD/COP/DEC/14/8). Decision 14/8 defines an OECM as:

“A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values.”

While protected areas must have a primary conservation objective, this is not necessary for OECMs. OECMs may be managed for many different objectives but they *must* deliver effective conservation. They may be managed with conservation as a primary or secondary objective or long-term conservation may simply be the ancillary result of management activities.



Figure 1. Protected areas and OECMs © Harry Jonas

Recognition of OECMs offers a significant opportunity to recognise *de facto* effective long-term conservation that is taking place outside currently designated protected areas under a range of governance and management regimes, implemented by a diverse set of actors, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector and government agencies. OECMs can contribute to ecologically representative and well-connected conservation systems, integrated within wider landscapes and seascapes, and in doing so, generate a range of positive conservation outcomes, such as:

- Conserving important ecosystems, habitats and wildlife corridors;
- Supporting the recovery of threatened species;
- Maintaining ecosystem functions and securing ecosystem services;
- Enhancing resilience against threats; and
- Retaining and connecting remnants of fragmented ecosystems within developed landscapes.

The WCPA Task Force on OECMs has produced guidance to assist Parties in interpreting and operationalising Decision 14/8 and to start to develop a body of good practice for OECMs: [Recognising and reporting OECMs](#).

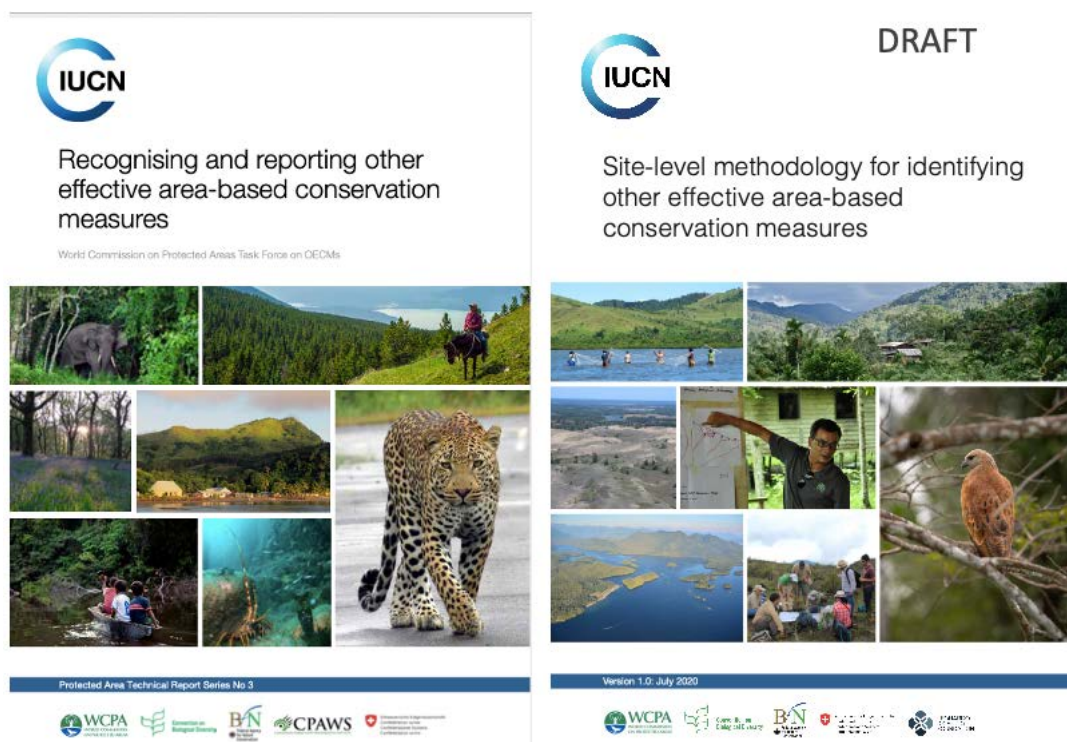


Figure 2. IUCN WCPA Task Force's publications on good practice for OECMs © Harry Jonas

As with any 'new' framework, there will likely be a need for ongoing interpretation and implementation. Maintaining the full value of OECMs in promoting effective conservation is likely to require substantial efforts to build capacity at national and regional levels to identify, monitor and maintain their biodiversity values. OECMs provide an exciting opportunity to recognise and expand the conservation estate, under a range of governance and management regimes, as envisaged under Aichi Target 11 (as well as the future Target 2 of the Global Biodiversity Framework currently under negotiation). A key challenge will be how to recognise and support these fully conserved areas while also fulfilling national obligations for more sustainable management of production activities, including in areas of industrial forestry, agriculture and fishing that do not meet the OECM criteria but can also contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Harry Jonas concluded by saying that more information is available on the [Specialist Group's website](#).

3.2 Malaysia case study

Melissa Payne, Science Impacts Manager, South East Asia Rainforest Research Partnership (SEARRP), provided an update on work underway to identify, recognise and report OECMs in Malaysia. She made the following points.

SEARRP is running a project, funded by the GEF Small Grants Programme, to determine the policy and institutional pathways needed for Malaysia's OECMs to contribute towards area-based *in-situ* biodiversity conservation in a more formal manner. The project's duration is two years, ending in September 2021 and includes stakeholders and partners from government,

NGOs, private sector, institutions and local communities. It is being supported through an advisory group comprised of a range of experts, including experts from the IUCN Specialist Group on OECMs. The project's core objectives are to:

- Investigate and identify potential OECMs in Malaysia;
- Analyse and recommend strategies to recognise OECMs;
- Seek consensus on pathways to report OECMs in Malaysia and to the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA); and
- Engage stakeholders to explore the potential for an OECM approach in Malaysia.

The process began with socialisation through a number of workshops, a call for case studies and shortlisting of sites.

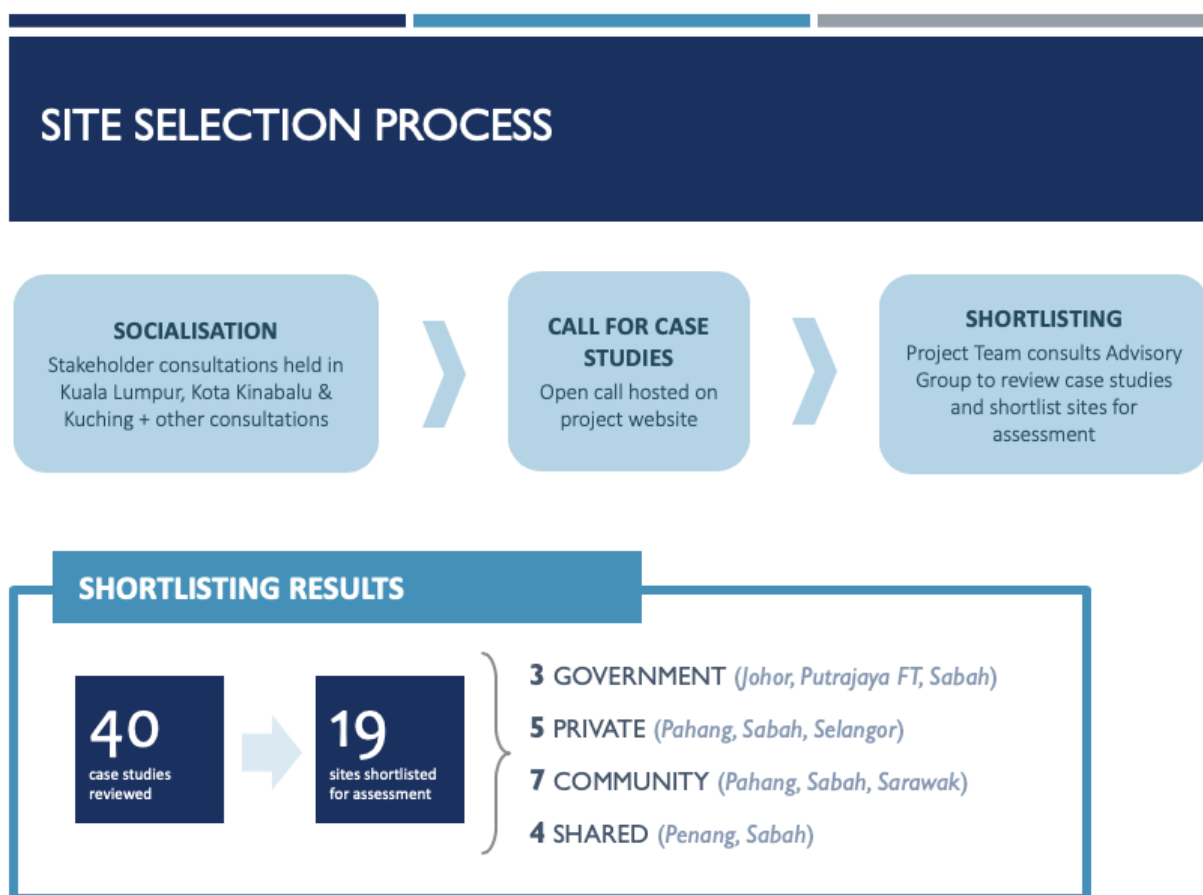


Figure 3. Site selection process © Melissa Payne

The project is paying close attention to the consent process, which has included social entry, an invitation to participate and signing of consent forms. Where these have been completed, site-level assessment processes are being undertaken and include a desk review, a site visit and a final assessment. IUCN's guidance and draft site-level methodology for identifying OECMs are being adapted to inform the process and the final results are emerging based on the "green, yellow, red" approach in the draft IUCN methodology.

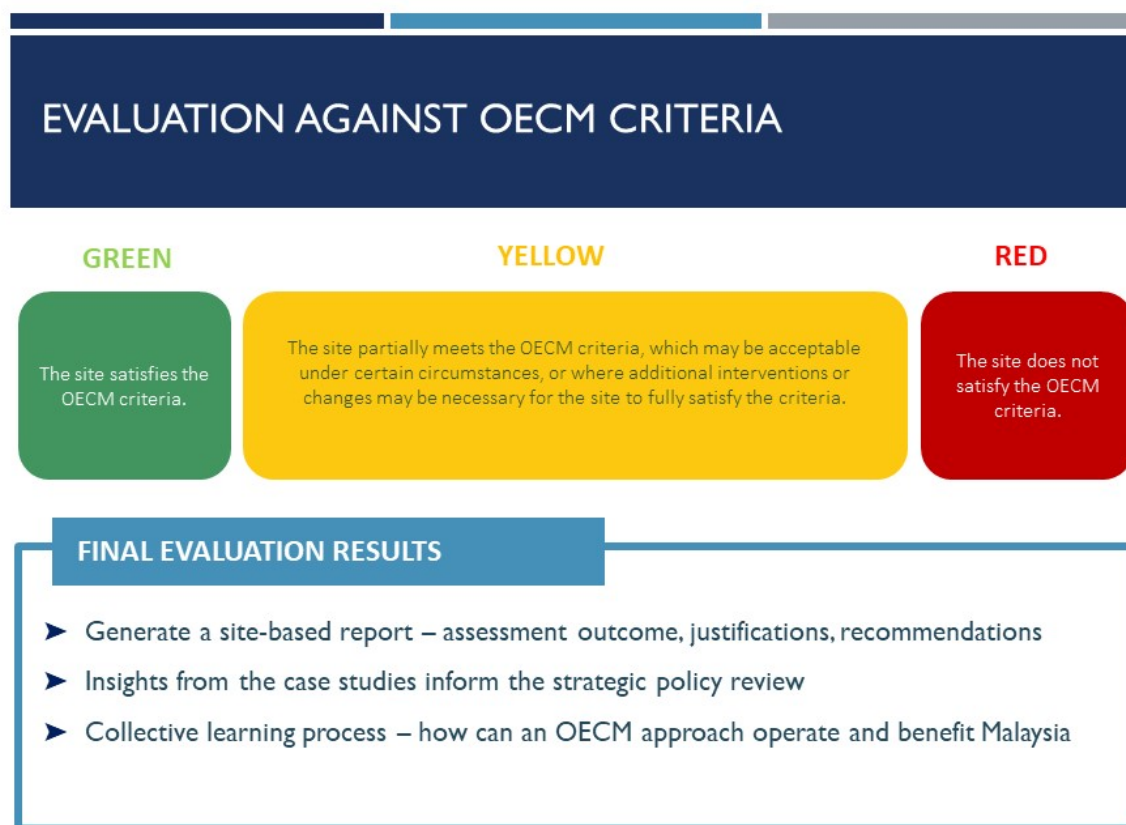


Figure 4. Evaluation against OECM criteria © Melissa Payne

Payne concluded by saying that early results show that OECMs in Malaysia may:

- Enable inclusion of non-state actors in delivering conservation outcomes;
- Strengthen conservation of biodiversity outside PAs;
- Improve landscape connectivity & permeability; and
- Enable better alignment with the SDGs.

3.3 Group work to identify potential OECMs and discussion

The assessment of OECMs should be conducted on a site-by-site basis and with the free, prior and informed consent and participation of the governance authority. During the workshop, a training exercise was carried out to help participants learn more about the process of identifying OECMs. Participants were divided into country groups and were invited to complete a template, consisting of a series of questions (Annex 3).

Based on the presentations and the group work, participants spoke about the opportunities and challenges they could foresee for the identification, recognition, support and reporting of OECMs in their national contexts. Individuals from the following countries spoke: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Nepal. There was a general consensus that using OECMs as a framework could lead to a greater number of areas outside protected areas being identified as important to broader conservation networks. It was also a

generally held view that the framework could be a useful means to engage with indigenous peoples, local communities and the private sector, either to recognise their ongoing conservation contributions or to help enhance local or sectoral practices. This will be particularly important in some countries, such as Bhutan, where there is already a high percentage coverage of protected areas and it is becoming increasingly difficult to designate additional PAs. Additionally, a number of countries have run processes to identify their Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), biodiversity hotspots or areas important for biodiversity within and beyond their protected areas. In these cases, OECMs may help to secure the areas beyond the protected area systems.

Participants also raised the issue of whether developing laws for OECMs might help or hinder their early development. Some countries might benefit from a new law to help catalyse work on OECMs. In other jurisdictions, it was felt that there were sufficient laws to support OECMs without having to develop a new one, at least at this stage, which might in fact limit innovation at this crucial juncture.

Additionally, participants from India presented information about the work already underway in that country to identify OECMs, using the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) alongside IUCN guidance.

Many speakers also suggested that additional funds and capacity building will be required to support in-country initiatives on OECMs. Jonas closed the session by stating that the IUCN Specialist Group on OECMs is fully committed to supporting such work and suggesting that lesson sharing across the region will be a useful means to learn from others and ensure implementation of the best emerging practices.

3.4 Reporting OECMs

Heather Bingham, UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), gave a presentation on how to report OECMs to the World Database on OECMs (WD-OECM) and made the following points:

OECMs are being recognised in many countries across the world. When this happens, they should also be reported to the World Database on OECMs. The database was developed at the request of the CBD COP. UNEP-WCMC manages the database to ensure the areas are recorded and counted, including towards Aichi Target 11 (and future Target 2) and SDGs 14 and 15. Data can only be provided by a representative of the OECM governance authority or a representative of the national government.

Why report?

- OECMs are likely to be widespread but they cannot be factored into decision-making until they are identified and mapped



Moorhen © UNEP-WCMC Stephanie Foote

Figure 5. The importance of reporting OECMs © Heather Bingham

Reporting is important because it means:

- OECMs can be counted towards the above targets and goals;
- OECMs can be factored into decision-making across multiple sectors;
- OECMs can be considered when prioritizing and planning future conservation initiatives (and other land/sea uses).

It is important to be aware that data will not automatically be added to the database. Quality checking will be carried out first, and additional verification steps are needed in some cases. There are several steps involved in providing data to the database, as follows:

- **Obtain consent:** Consent must be provided by the governance authority before an area is recognised as an OECM and before any data is sent to the database;
- **Verify that the area is an OECM:** The site must meet the definition of an OECM. This can be verified using the OECM Assessment Methodology;
- **Format the data:** The data should be formatted according to the standards described in the User Manual (link below). Geographic Information System (GIS) and tabular data should be provided, along with a signed data contributor agreement;
- **Provide data:** Send the data or any questions on the above to the database by contacting UNEP-WCMC protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org

More information is contained in the User Manual, which can be downloaded via www.wcmc.io/WDPA_Manual

Next Steps

Jonas presented a range of possible next steps that countries could take towards identifying, recognising, supporting and reporting OECMs. He noted that countries could:

- Translate the IUCN guidelines into national languages;
- Hold ministerial/departmental meeting to discuss OECMs;
- Engage other related agencies to run a similar process;
- Raise awareness of OECMs amongst key stakeholders;

- Engage with governance authorities of lands and waters adjacent to protected areas that are “potential OECMs”;
- Work towards a national assessment to identify potential OECMs; and
- Begin to consider legal recognition, support and reporting of OECMs.

He closed by highlighting the fact that the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas is applicable to OECMs (as they are “conserved areas”) and explained that there is a process currently underway to align the site-level methodology for identifying OECMs with the Green List.

What is the IUCN Green List?
Key objectives

Strengthen	Connect	Facilitate
Strengthen successful area-based conservation outcomes by providing a suitable mechanism & measure	Connect local and global communities of PA and CA practitioners through an accessible channel for conservation capacity-development	Facilitate collaboration and investment across a global community for the improvement of the management performance and governance of PAs and CAs

Al Shouf Cedars Nature Reserve, Lebanon
© Alaa Rihan

Figure 6. Key objectives of the IUCN Green List © Harry Jonas

4 Closing

Minsun Kim thanked all participants, speakers and funders for making the event a success. She noted that the summary report of the technical workshop would be shared as soon as it had been prepared. She also informed participants that a set of FAQs on OECMs was being developed for the APAP website and would be posted in the near future.

Annex I: Agenda

<u>Identifying, recognising, supporting, and reporting OECMs</u>		
Time (BKK)	Activity	Speakers
10:45	Log in (15 minutes before the start time)	
11:00	Opening and introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Perkin, Head, Natural Resources Group, IUCN
11:10	Session 1: What is an OECM? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background and definition of an OECM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harry Jonas, Co-chair, IUCN WCPA OECMs Task Force
11:30	Session 2: Identifying 'potential OECMs' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences from Malaysia Introduction to the OECM methodology Group work to identify 'potential OECMs' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melissa Payne, Science Impact Manager, South East Asia Rainforest Research Partnership (SEARRP) Harry Jonas, Co-chair, IUCN WCPA OECMs Task Force
13:00	Break	
14:00	Session 2: Identifying potential OECMs (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group work to identify potential OECMs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harry Jonas, Co-chair, IUCN WCPA OECMs Task Force
14:30	Reflections on exercise	
15:00	Session 3: Reporting OECMs, Green List <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting OECMs IUCN Green List 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Bingham, Programme Officer, UNEP-WCMC Harry Jonas, Co-chair, IUCN WCPA OECMs Task Force
15:25	Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minsun Kim, Programme Officer, Protected Areas, IUCN

Annex II: List of participants

	Country	Department	Position	Name
1	Bangladesh	Forest Department	Assistant Chief Conservator of Forests, Management Plan unit	Md. Ariful Haque Belal
2	Bangladesh	IUCN Bangladesh	Programme Coordinator	Khalid and Motaleb
3	Bangladesh	Wildlife Conservation Society Bangladesh	Country Representative	Md. Zahangir Alom
4	Bhutan	Nature Conservation Division, Department of Forests and Park Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests	Sr. Forestry Officer	Namgay Bidha
5	Bhutan	Department of Forests and Park Services	Sr. Forestry Officer	Letro
6	Bhutan	Department of Forests and Park Services	Sr. Forestry Officer	Tandin
7	Bhutan	Department of Forests and Park Services	Forestry Officer	Norbu Yangdon
8	Cambodia	Department of Southern Tonle Sap Terrestrial Protected Areas Conservation, Ministry of Environment	Technical officer	Bun Dalin
9	Cambodia	Department of Southern Tonle Sap Terrestrial Protected Areas Conservation, Ministry of Environment	Officer	Thao Chanthearyradh

	Country	Department	Position	Name
10	Cambodia	IUCN Cambodia	Programme Officer	Lou Vanny
11	Cambodia	IUCN Cambodia	Wetlands and Water Coordinator	Sorn Pheakdey
12	Canada	CBD/Self-employed	Former Individual Contractor at the CBD	Marc Attallah
13	China	National Forestry and Grassland Administration, International Cooperation Center	Deputy Division Director	Linyun Rong
14	China	National Forestry and Grassland Administration, International Cooperation Center	Staff	Xi Li
15	China	Chinese Academy of Forestry	Professor	Diqiang Li
16	China	IUCN China	Country Coordinator	Yan Zhang
17	China	IUCN China	Programme Manager, South China	Cheng Zhang
18	Germany	BfN		Andrea Hoeing

	Country	Department	Position	Name
19	India	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi	Joint Secretary	Sujit Kumar Bajpayee
20	India	National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	Chairman	V.B. Mathur
21	India	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi	Director	Shri Tarun Kathula
22	India	Forest Survey of India, Dehradun	Director General	S. Ashutosh
23	India	National Biodiversity Authority	Secretary	J. Justin Mohan
24	India	Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Director	Dhananjai Mohan, IFS
25	India	National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM)	Director	Ramesh Ramachandran
26	India	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi	Scientist 'B'	Ranjeet Singh
27	India	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi	Executive Grade-II	Kaveri Chaudhary
28	India	United Nation Development Programme	Head, Natural Resource Management & Biodiversity	Ruchi Pant
29	India	World Wide Fund, India	Director, Governance Law and Policy	Vishaish Uppal
30	Malaysia	Sabah Parks	Director	Maklarin Lakim

	Country	Department	Position	Name
31	Malaysia	Sabah Parks	Deputy Director	Ludi Apin
32	Malaysia	IUCN WCPA Specialist Group on OECM	Co-chair	Harry Jonas
33	Maldives	Environmental Protection Agency	Assistant Director	Aishath Farhath Ali
34	Maldives	Environmental Protection Agency	Assistant Director	Mariyam Rifga
35	Maldives	Ministry of Environment	Assistant Director	Ilham Atho Mohamed
36	Maldives	Ministry of Environment	Senior Environment Analyst	Muhsina Abdul Rahman
37	Maldives	Ministry of Environment	Fund Manager	Abdulla Shibau
38	Maldives	IUCN Maldives	Chief Technical Officer	Najfa Shaheem

	Country	Department	Position	Name
39	Maldives	IUCN Maldives	Social Science Officer	Shihany Habeeb
40	Myanmar	Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division, Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	Staff Officer	Khin Nyein San
41	Myanmar	IUCN Myanmar	TRI -CTA	Bo Lager
42	Myanmar	IUCN Myanmar	Head	Zin Myo Thu
43	Nepal	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Director General (Officiating)	Ram Chandra Kandel
44	Nepal	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Ecologist	Haribhadra Acharya
45	Nepal	IUCN Nepal	Programme Coordinator	Narendra Man Babu Pradhan
46	Nepal	IUCN Nepal	Senior Communication & Outreach Officer	Amit Poudyal

	Country	Department	Position	Name
47	Nepal	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Ecosystem Specialist	Sunita Chaudhary
48	Pakistan	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Wildlife Department	Divisional Forest Officer Extension Wildlife	Haseena Anbarin
49	Pakistan	Ministry of Climate Change		Raja Omer Sb.
50	Pakistan	IUCN Pakistan	Country Representative	Mahhmood Akhtar Cheema
51	Pakistan	IUCN Pakistan	Project Manager Sustainable Forest Management Project/ Manager-Islamabad Office	Fauzia Bilqis Malik
52	Pakistan	IUCN Pakistan	Project Manager, State of Nature & Biodiversity Safeguarding Actions in Northern Pakistan Project	Saeed Abbas
53	Philippines	Programme Development and Implementation, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity	PA Management Specialist	Nosrat Ravichandran
54	Philippines	Programme Development and Implementation, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity	Programme Associate	Mira Mei Lontoc

	Country	Department	Position	Name
55	Republic of Korea	Korea National Park Service	Chief Programme Officer	Heejin Kang
56	Republic of Korea	Korea National Park Service	Programme Officer	ByeongCheon Ko
57	Republic of Korea	Korea National Park Service	Senior Research Fellow	Hagyoung Heo
58	Sri Lanka	Department of Wildlife Conservation		M.S.O.M. Amararathna
59	Sri Lanka	Forest Department	Conservator of Forests (Biodiversity and Watershed Conservation)	Nishantha Edirisinghe
60	Sri Lanka	IUCN Sri Lanka	Programme Officer, B&E	Naalin Perera
61	Sri Lanka	IUCN Sri Lanka	Programme Officer, IWRM	Dinithi Samarathunga
62	Switzerland	IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme (GPAP)	Lead, Governance, Equity and Rights	Jennifer Kelleher
63	Thailand	Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)	Scientist (Senior Professional Level), Forest and Plant Conservation Research Office	Voradol Chamchumroon
64	Thailand	IUCN Thailand	Head	Supranee Kampongsun

	Country	Department	Position	Name
65	Thailand	IUCN Asia Regional Office	Programme Coordinator, Natural Resources Group	Alexander McWilliam
66	Thailand	IUCN Asia Regional Office	Head, Natural Resources Group	Scott Perkin
67	Thailand	IUCN Asia Regional Office	Programme Officer, Protected Areas	Minsun Kim
68	Vietnam	Vietnam Administration of Forestry (VNForest)		Nguyen Manh Hiep
69	Vietnam	IUCN Indo-Burma Group	Head	Jake Brunner

Annex III: Template used for the group work

IDENTIFYING, RECOGNISING, SUPPORTING AND REPORTING OECMs

APAP Webinar on OECMs | Group exercise



INSTRUCTIONS

- In country-groups, please work through this resource methodically.
- Fill out each page of this file, with the relevant details.
- If required, please use the IUCN guidelines for **Recognising and reporting OECMs**:

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/48773>

PART 1

IDENTIFYING CATEGORIES OF POTENTIAL OECMs

CATEGORIES OF 'POTENTIAL OECMs'

An OECM is: *A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values.*

Please add a list of types of areas that might be potential OECMs by governance type (e.g. community forests).

Responses

- Government:
- Private:
- Indigenous and community:
- Joint governance arrangements:

(You could also arrange this by biome: terrestrial, freshwater, marine, other)

PART 2

SELECT A POTENTIAL OECM

SITE DETAILS

Select one potential OECM from your list in **Part 1**. What is the name, location and governance authority of the 'potential OECM'?

Responses

- Name:
- Location:
- Governance authority:

PART 3

CONSENT

CONSENT

How will you engage with the legitimate governance authority/ies to discuss OECMs and whether they would like to be involved in an assessment of their area?

Responses

- ...

PART 4

MOCK ASSESMENT*

*NB: Assessments of OECMs should be conducted on a site-by-site basis and with the free, prior and informed consent and participation of the governance authority. Here we go through the key steps of such as assessment remotely as a training exercise.

1. GEOGRAPHICALLY DEFINED

How will you ascertain the area's boundaries?

Responses

- ...

2. NOT A PROTECTED AREA

Is the area a protected area? How will you clarify this issue?

Responses

- ...

3. GOVERNED

- Who are the governance authorities? Is it government agencies, private actors or Indigenous peoples/local communities?
- Do they have rights to govern the area (including customary rights), or are the governance, land and/or natural resource rights contested?
- Is the area equitably managed? Are any rightful governance authorities being marginalized?

Responses

- ...

4. MANAGED

- What are the management objectives?
- How are the management objectives contributing to the conservation of biodiversity?

Responses

- ...

5. BIODIVERSITY VALUES (1)

- How will you assess the biodiversity values of the area?
- What kinds of biodiversity values does the area have? (*Please see next page*)

Responses

- ...

5. BIODIVERSITY VALUES (2)

Non-exhaustive list of biodiversity values

- Rare, threatened or endangered species and habitats, and the ecosystems that support them, including species and areas identified on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, Red List of Ecosystems, or national equivalents.
- Representative natural ecosystems.
- High level of ecological integrity or ecological intactness, which are characterised by the occurrence of the full range of native species and supporting ecological processes. These areas will be intact or be capable of being restored under the proposed management regime.
- Range-restricted species and ecosystems in natural settings.
- Important species aggregations, including during migration or spawning.
- Ecosystems especially important for species life stages, feeding, resting, moulting and breeding.
- Areas of importance for ecological connectivity or that are important to complete a conservation network within a landscape or seascape.
- Areas that provide critical ecosystem services, such as clean water and carbon storage, in addition to in-situ biodiversity conservation.
- Species and habitats that are important for traditional human uses, such as native medicinal plants, in addition to in-situ biodiversity conservation.
- Other biodiversity features recognized through biodiversity planning.

6. EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION

How will you measure the conservation effectiveness of the area, with a focus on:

- How are internal and external threats addressed?
- Is the management regime intended to sustained over the long-term, or subject to change?
- Is the area large enough to large enough on its own, or as part of an established and integrated conservation network, to conserve biodiversity *in-situ* over the long term?
- Is the management regime in place year-round, or on another basis?
- Is the biodiversity outcome being monitored?

Responses

- ...

7. ASSOCIATED VALUES

- Are there any associated ecosystem functions and services?
- Are there any spiritual, socio-economic or other values associated with the area?

Responses

- ...

PART 5

RECOGNISING, SUPPORTING AND REPORTING OECMs

RECOGNISING OECMs

Under which laws or other legal/policy mechanisms can you recognise OECMs in your country?

Responses

- ...

SUPPORTING OECMs

How can you determine the kinds of support this area needs (if any)?

Responses

- ...

REPORTING OECMs

What are the mechanisms in your country for reporting areas to the World Database on Protected Areas? How will this work for OECMs?

Responses

- ...

PART 6

REFLECTION

OPPORTUNITIES

What opportunities are offered by identifying, recognising, reporting and supporting OECMs?

- **Responses**
- ...

CHALLENGES

What are the associated challenges?

Responses

- ...

NEXT STEPS

What are the next steps that can be taken at the local-to-national levels to promote the identification, recognition, reporting and support for OECMs in your country or area?

Responses

- ...

YOUR QUESTIONS/SUGGESTIONS

Do you have any outstanding questions or suggestions?

Responses

- ...



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