



Building Regional Capacity for Biodiversity & Protected Area Management:

**BIOPAMA - An approach
from Africa, the Caribbean,
and the Pacific**

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Partners



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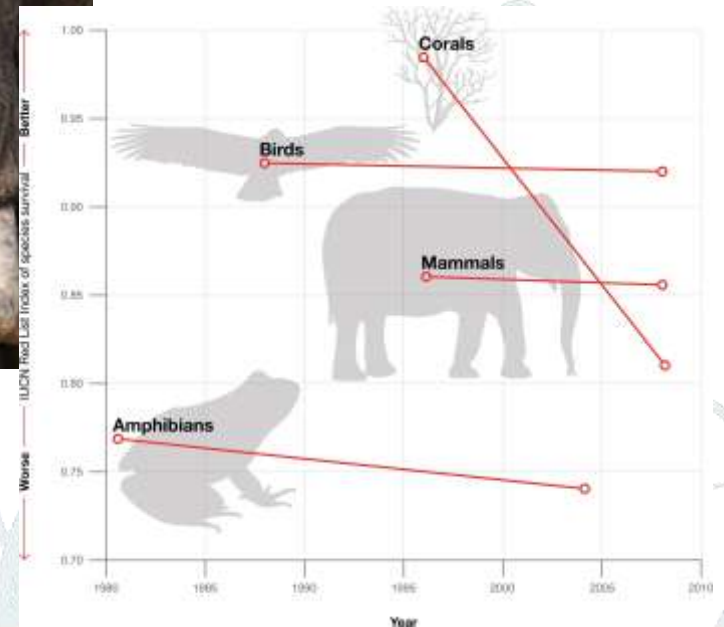
Why?

Huge and increasing threats to biodiversity despite major investments in conservation in Protected Areas

IVORY apocalypse

The African elephant is an instantly recognizable symbol of the natural wonders of our continent. The most mega of the earth's terrestrial megafauna, these behemoths have stirred the imagination, awe, and adoration of humans for centuries. But our relationship with them is – and has been since before the time of the Romans – tainted by our obsession with their teeth. In pursuing the magnificent tusks that we carve and admire (and occasionally use), humans have slaughtered elephants in their millions.

After a brief respite following the carnage of the 1970s and '80s, which halved the population, elephants are once again in the crosshairs. In an attempt to get to grips with the scale of the crisis, science editor Tim Jackson interviewed scientists, researchers, NGOs and policymakers across the conservation and trade spectrum, and filed this special report.



Immediate Context

Increasing international commitments and need for coordination

- Decision XI/24 CBD CoP11 2012 – references BIOPAMA



Immediate Context

Need for better information to *respond* to threats and *plan* management strategies



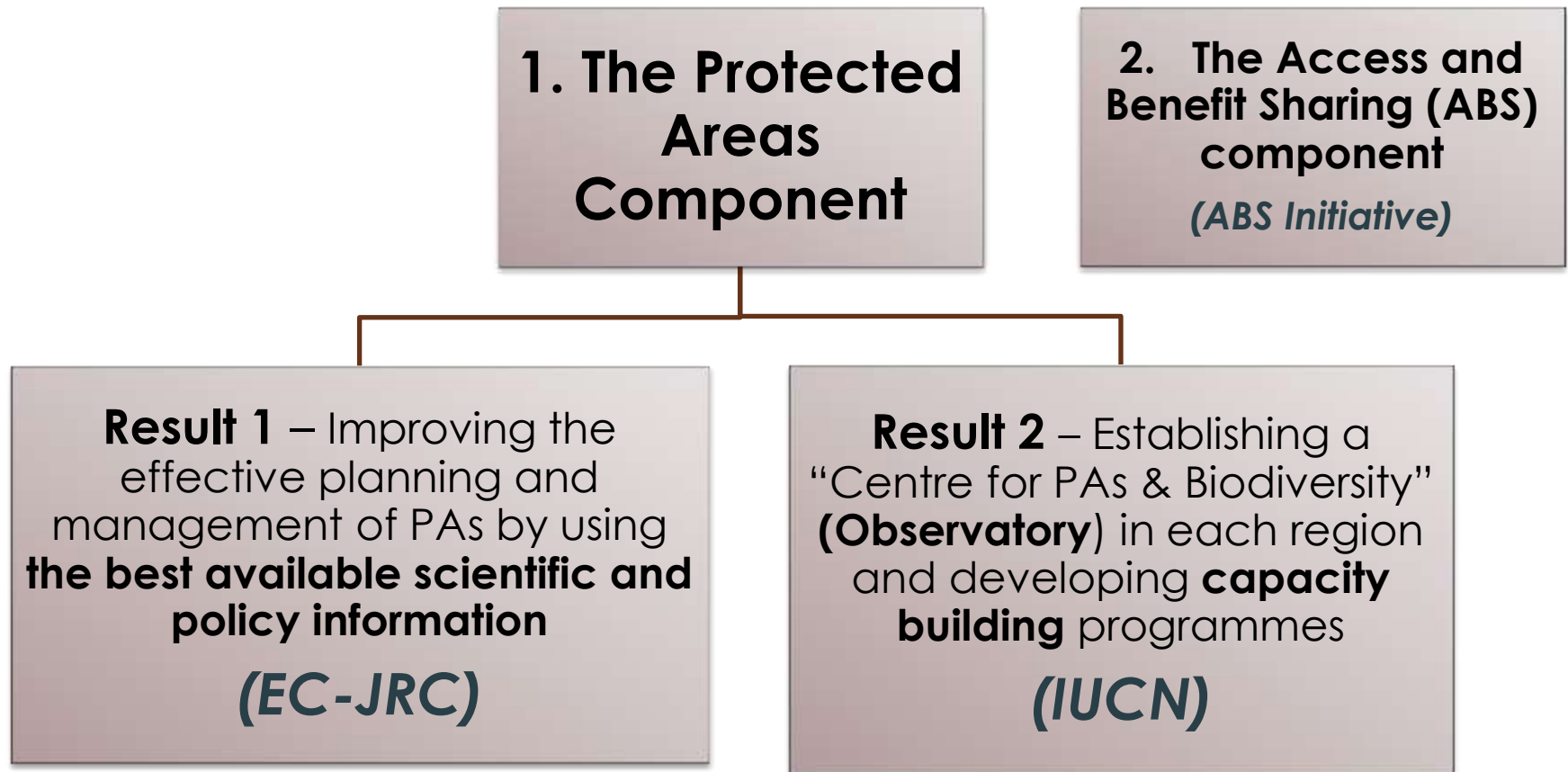
- Impact of climate change on habitat and species distribution?
- Effect of land use changes on ecosystem values?



Programme Outline and Objectives

- Improve long-term conservation of biodiversity in ACP regions and improve livelihoods of populations in and around protected areas
- Enhance policy and decision making through best available science and knowledge
- Focus on enhancing existing institutions and networks

Structure of the programme



Protected Areas Component

- 1. Regional 'Observatories' for Protected Areas and Biodiversity**
- 2. Regional Reference Information System (RRIS)**
- 3. Supporting decision-makers at various levels (regional, national, and local – PA level)**
- 4. Capacity Building Programmes**



Pacific – 15 countries

Caribbean – 16 countries

Africa – 48 countries

What exists already?

- Tools for biodiversity assessment and protected areas
 - Digital Observatory of Protected Areas
 - <http://dopa.jrc.ec.europa.eu>
 - Species
 - Habitats
 - Ecosystem services
 - Land Cover Changes
 - Environmental monitoring (AMESD-MESA)

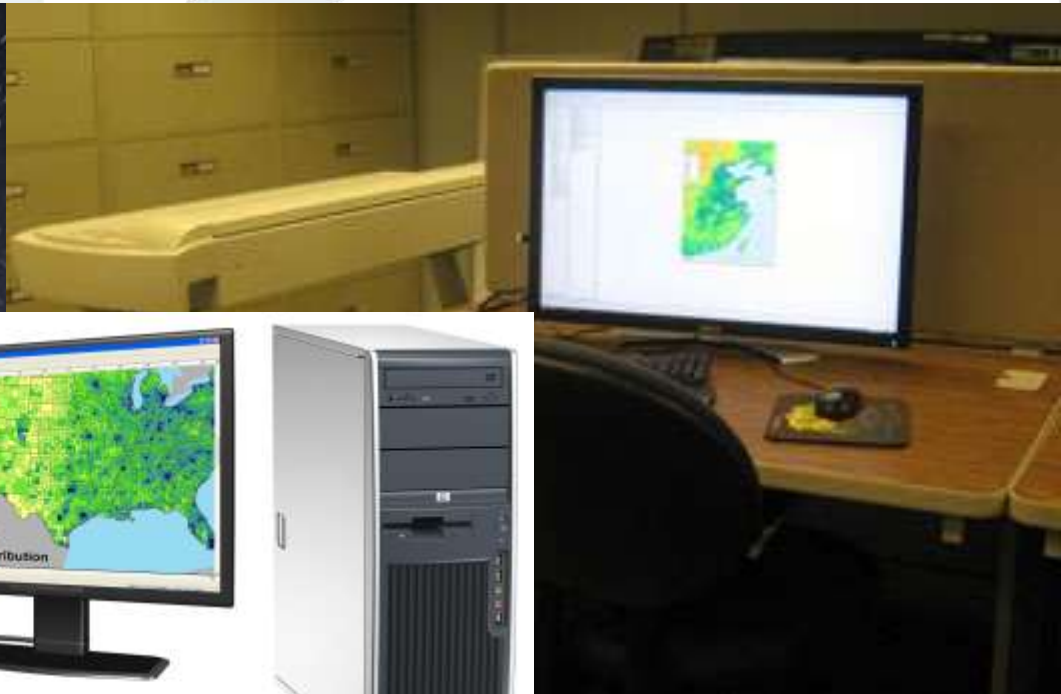
What exists already?

- Regional reviews on information needs and gap analysis
- Established cooperation and agreements with key mandated institutions
- Ongoing capacity building programmes in all regions

Impacts of Information on Decision Making

- PA funding prioritisation (ACP/EU ++) and addressing Aichi targets and national reporting obligations to MEAs
- Assessment of ecosystem services – arguments for protection
- Support to REDD+,REDD++
- Support to assessment of biodiversity values – mainstreaming biodiversity
- Potential to improve PA Management Effectiveness

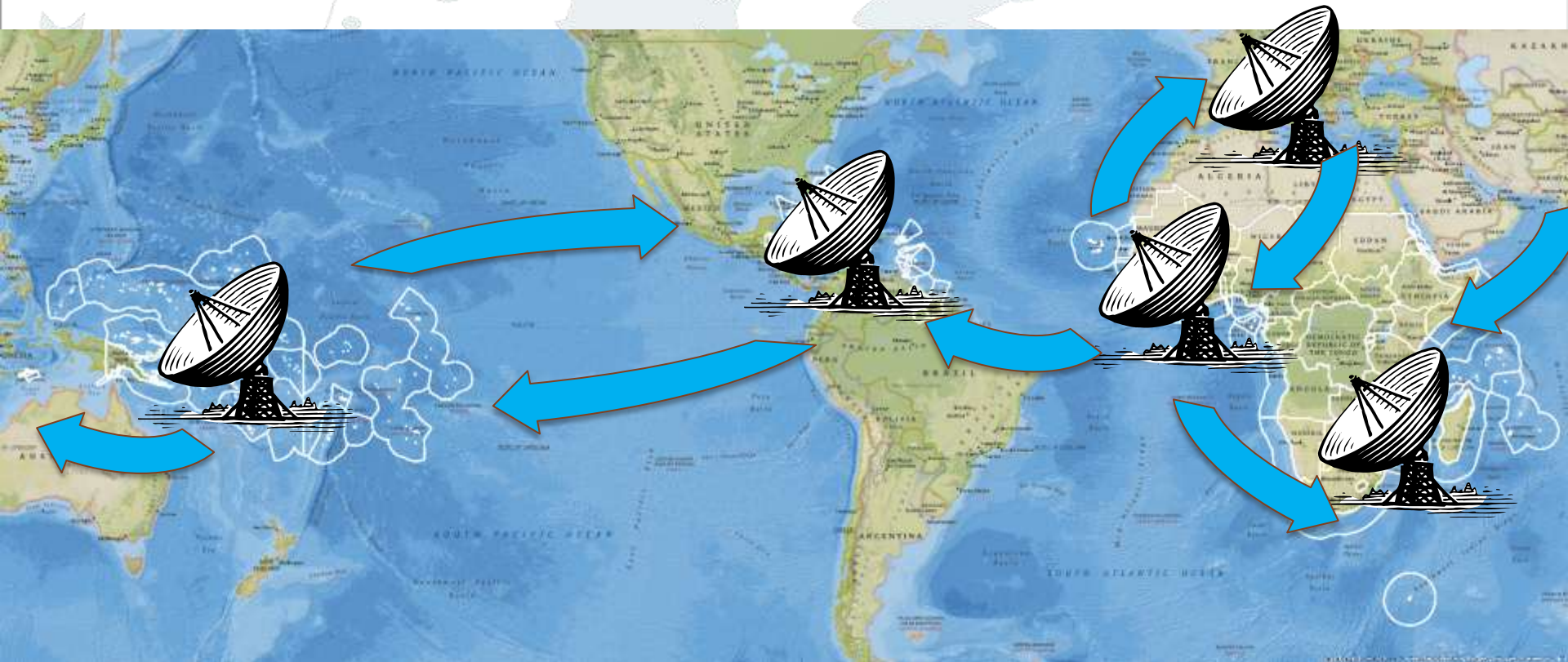
Regional Observatories for Protected Areas and Biodiversity



Regional Observatories for Protected Areas and Biodiversity

- Information centres
- Technical nodes
- Build awareness of regional political institutions to strengthen biodiversity conservation and PA management through
 - Facilitating data access
 - Developing knowledge products
- Effective implementation of the Regional Capacity Building Programmes

Regional Observatories for Protected Areas and Biodiversity



Capacity building needs

- Input from regional stakeholder workshops
 - Governance (including legal frameworks)
 - Assessing management effectiveness of protected areas
 - Options for Sustainable livelihoods (e.g. tourism, fisheries)
 - Climate change adaptation and mitigation
 - Restoring and maintaining ecological connectivity to support ecosystem management

Some commonalities across the ACP regions

Themes:

- Economic values of PAs and Provision of Ecosystem Services
- Integrated land use planning
- Early Warning / Response systems (e.g. For coral bleaching events; intensive poaching operations)
- Managing ecosystems for climate change resilience
- Finding solutions to tackle invasive alien species

BIOPAMA Expected Outcomes

- **Enhanced Inter-sectoral coordination and integrated land planning and management**
 - Biodiversity, energy, minerals, agriculture, urban and rural development, infrastructure, tourism, fisheries, extractive industries...
- **Effective input from Regional Observatories to enhance planning, policies and decision making**
 - Effective input from RRIS
 - Capacity of key people and national/ regional institutions enhanced.
 - Enhanced coordination and reporting to MEAs, e.g. CBD

Current BIOPAMA priorities

- **Regional Capacity Building Programmes**
 - Prioritization of issues and further consultations with regional stakeholders
 - Capacity Building Strategy 2013
- **Establishing Regional Observatories**
 - Consult existing regional institutions
- **Technical development of Regional Reference Information System (RRIS)**
 - Design guided by regional priorities (demand driven)

Beyond BIOPAMA Phase I (2016...)

- Supporting long term needs and commitments to biodiversity and sustainable development
- BIOPAMA driven by stakeholders in ACP countries
- Maintain and extend the functions of the Regional Observatories
- Keep operational monitoring and alert systems running
- RRIS tools increasingly supporting integrated land planning for sustainable livelihoods
- Wider application of approach – Asia?

BIOPAMA

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Implemented by:

