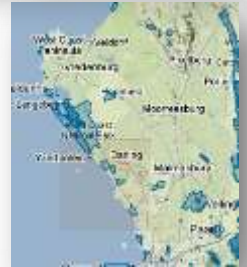




The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)

- understanding the protection of our planet

Naomi Kingston & Brian MacSharry
Protected Areas Programme, UNEP-WCMC



**United Nations
Environment Programme
World Conservation Monitoring Centre**

- UNEP's specialist Biodiversity Assessment Centre
- Strategic objectives
 - Provide the data and information that supports decision-making
 - Strengthen capacity for biodiversity decision-making

“A World Where Biodiversity Counts”



History



1962
 UN List of National Parks
 and Equivalent Reserves

1981
 Protected Areas Data
 Unit (PADU) established

2003
 UN List Mandate Renewed
 and updated to include WDPA



2010
 ProtectedPlanet.net
 Online data portal for WDPA



1959
 27th Session of the UN
 Economic and Social Council

1975
 IUCN Categories system
 began to be developed



1994
 Six IUCN Categories
 published



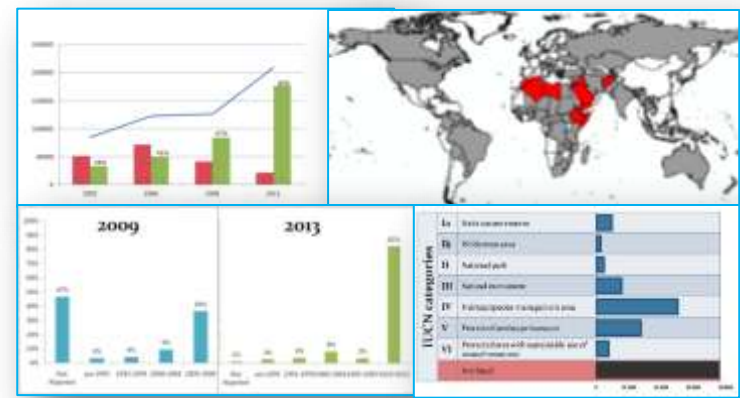
2008
 Revised IUCN
 categories published

2014
 World Parks Congress, Sydney





14.6% land; 2.8% marine



WDPA uses

Numerous publications & indicators

- Millennium Development Goals (Goal 7)
- CBD Aichi Targets
- Global Biodiversity Outlook
- Protected Planet Report (bi-annual)

Online systems

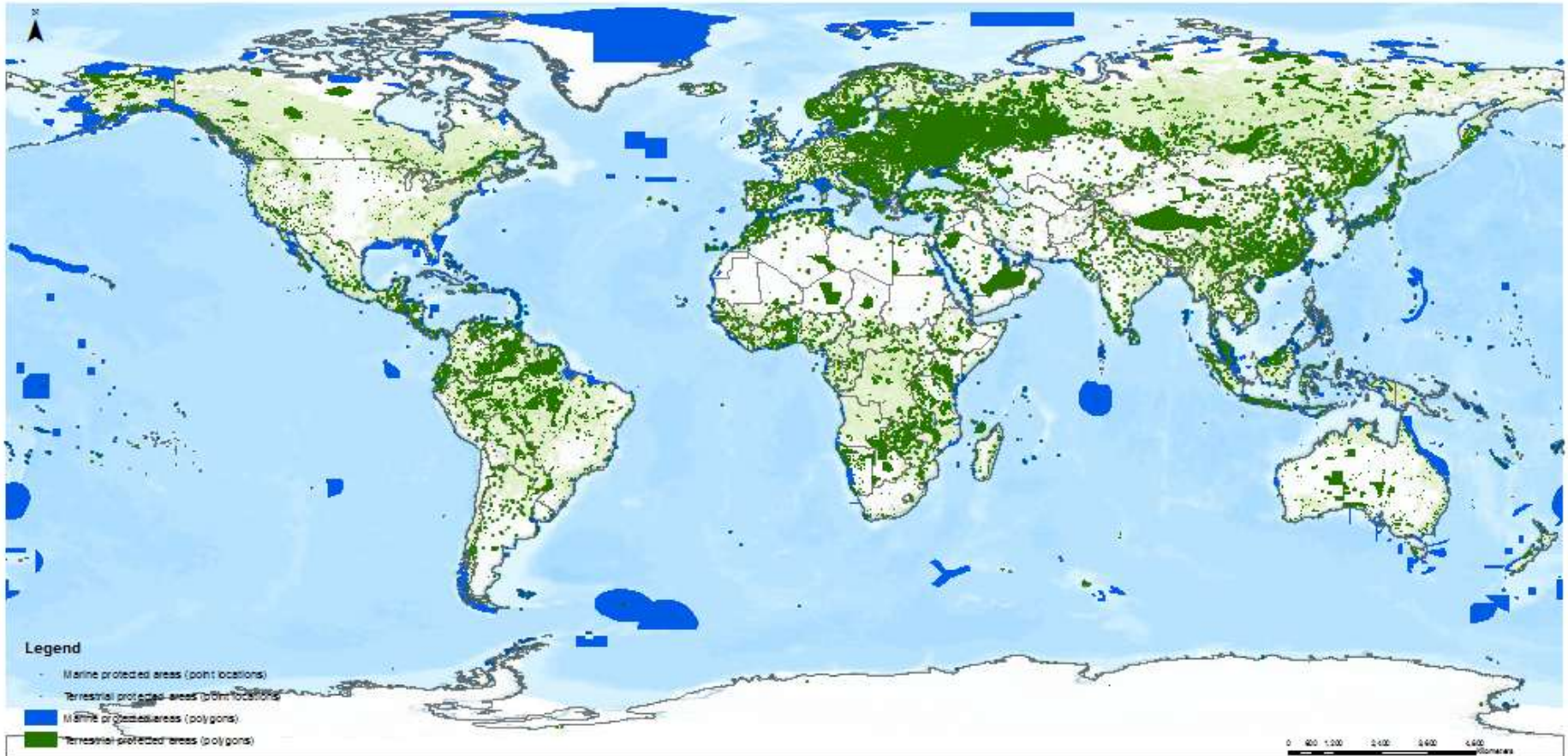
- MPA Atlas
- DOPA
- Protected Planet

Multiple sectors

- Business, bank & industry users
- Scientists & researchers
- Government, NGO & communities

<i>Points</i>	<i>13%</i>
<i>Polygons</i>	<i>87%</i>

WDPA Oct. '13: 193,583 records



Attribute Data Standards

22 attributes for each site

Uses ISO & IUCN terminology

Sets Clear Requirements:

- Minimum
- Core
- Enhanced

9 attributes for each source



Designation type



“National”

National laws

Private Protected Areas

Community Conserved Areas

“Regional”

ASEAN Heritage

Natura 2000

Barcelona Convention

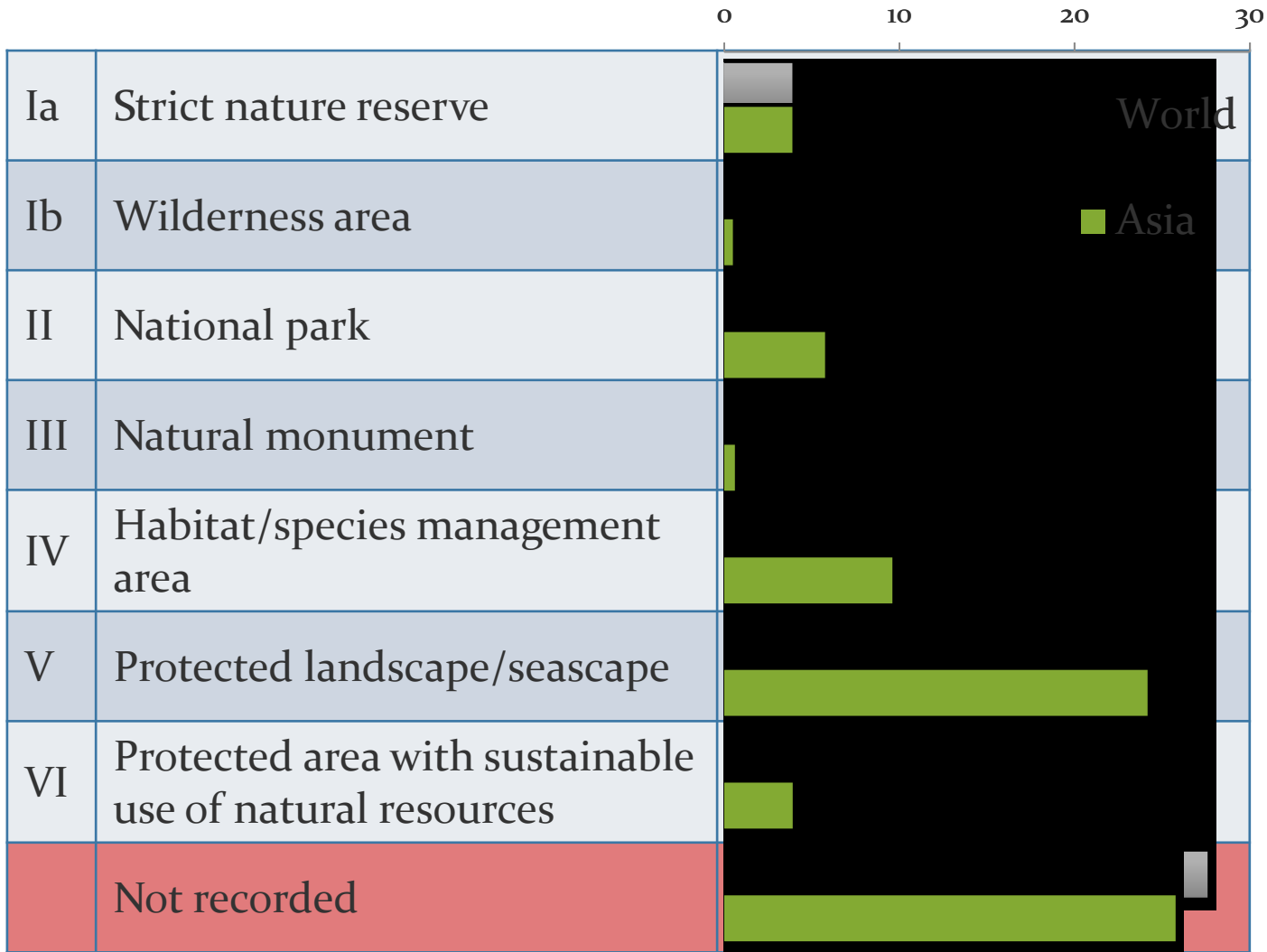
“International”

World Heritage Convention

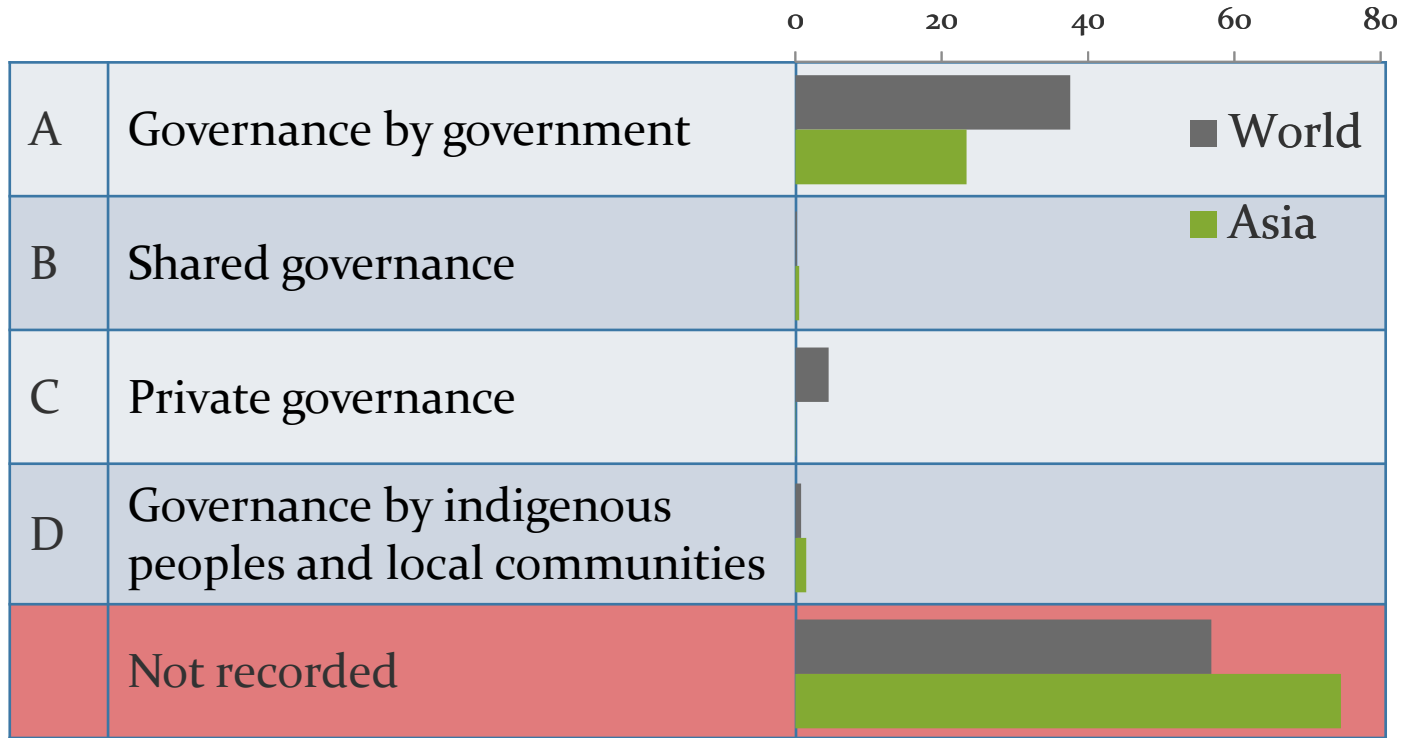
Ramsar Wetlands

Man & Biosphere Reserves

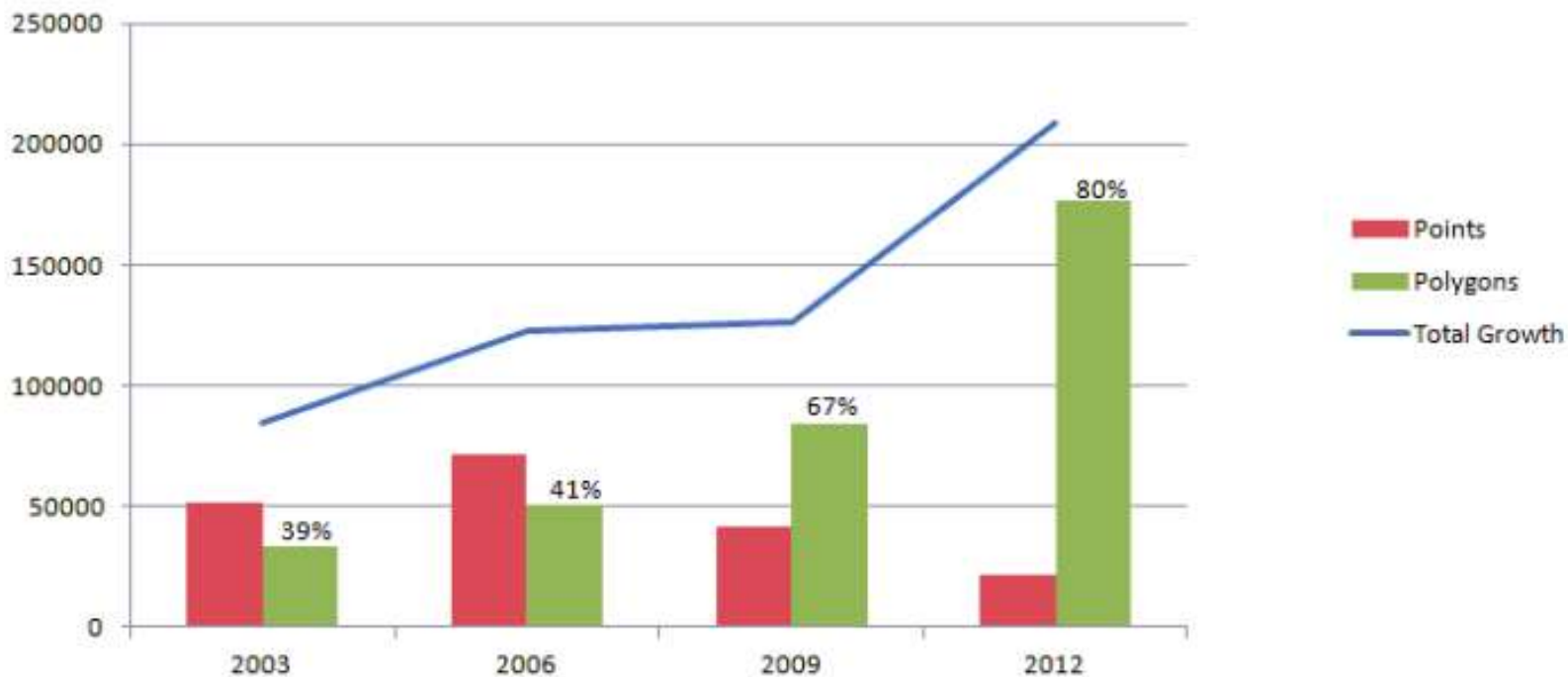
IUCN Management categories



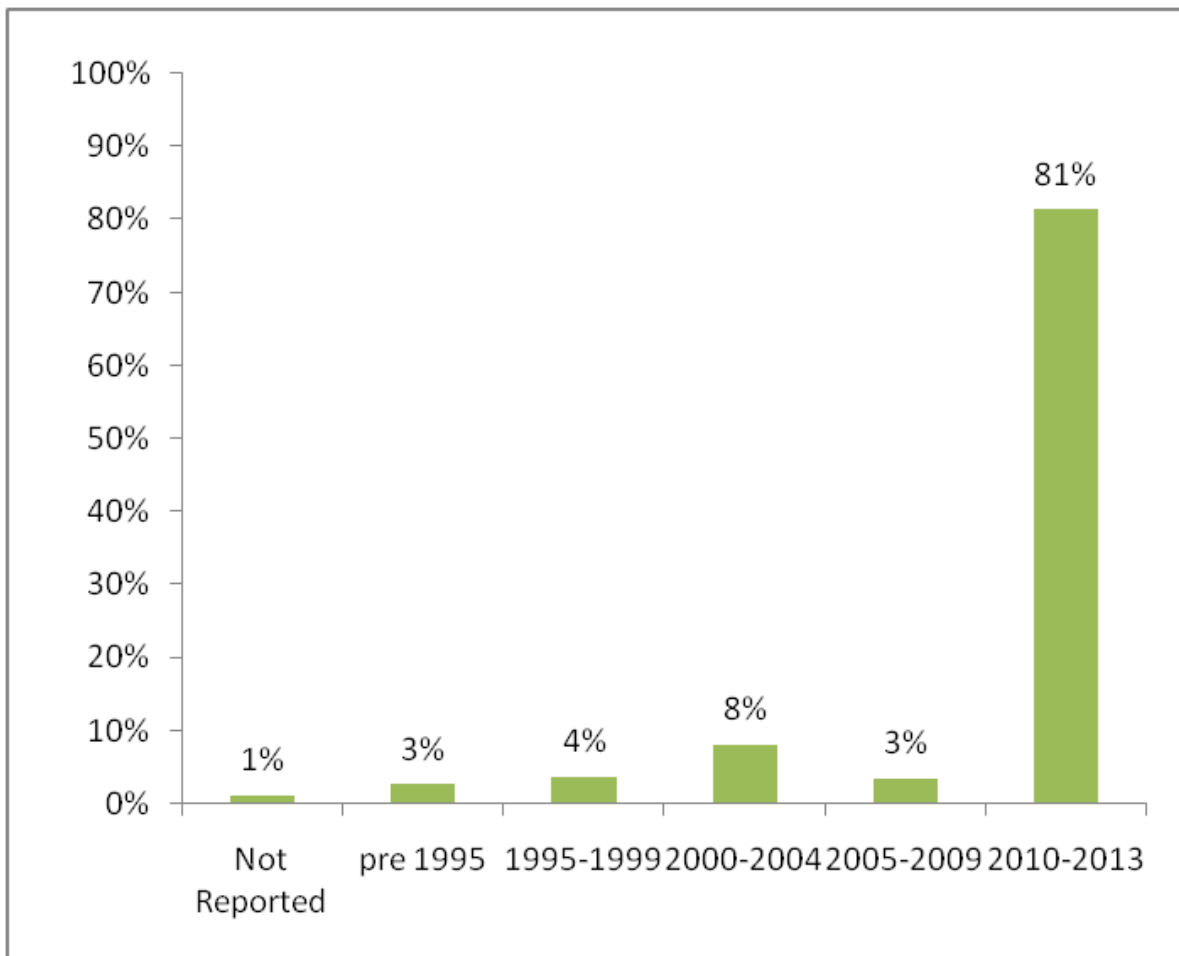
IUCN Governance categories



Data Improvements 2003 - 2012



How often are the site data updated?



Challenges

Reporting is voluntary

- Mandated by CBD
- Inconsistent interpretation of definitions
- Figures reported to CBD by countries differ to those generated by WDPA for global analyses

Sites missing from 'national' datasets

- Reported via an international convention
- Difference of opinion between agencies...
- Under-reporting in the marine

Legacy Data Integrity

- If it hasn't been updated in a long time is it still valid

Challenges

Legacy Data Integrity

- If it hasn't been updated in a long time is it still valid

Quality Assessment checks consistency

- How complete/comprehensive/accurate?
- Duplicates in the dataset

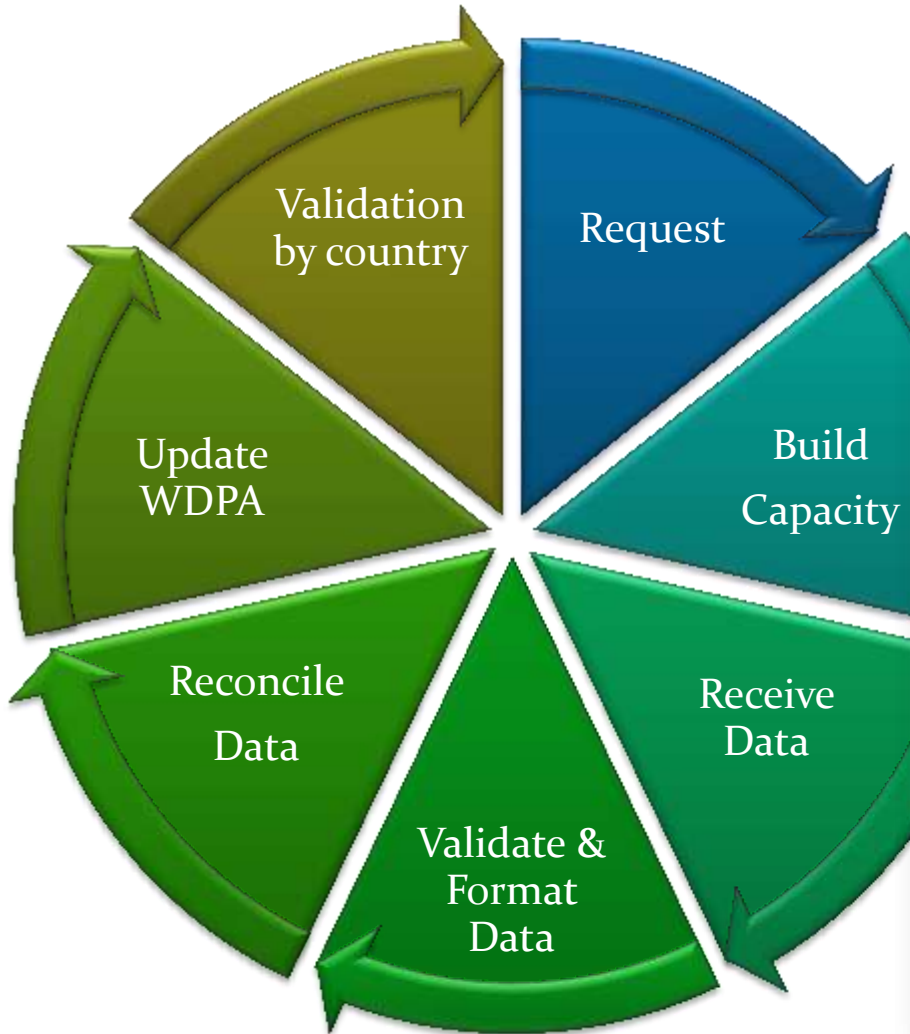
Quality dependant on source data provider

- Changes are not made to the data by UNEP-WCMC
- Refer back to source if identify issues

Restrictions on data access & use

- Sensitivity/privacy

WDPA Update Process



WDPA Workflow - [insert country]

Data received from:

Data received:

TASK	RESULTS	COURSES FOR DATA PROVIDER
Check and repair geometry		
Transform to WGS84		
Check all sites within country		
Check if areas contain themselves		
Check all inner L2CN definition		
Match to WDPA schema		
Check for name		
Check for protected areas to be merged		
Calculate GIS area		
Check within the proposed		
Reconcile with WPAK file		
Transfer attributes from current WDPA		
Check sites to be removed from WDPA		
Other		
Minimize #Problems		
Country	Match to original	
Name	Check ISO code Check complete Check for duplicate names Check codes/ numbers not used If not used not in file Remove designation from the file and check same as designation file Check characters not compressed	
Designation	Check complete Check not plural Check characters not compressed	
Marine	Check complete Check if in marine location	
Reported	Check complete	
Marine Area	Check not larger than Reported Area	
Reported Area	Check complete Check compared to GIS area	
Status	Check complete Convert to "designated" or "recognized"	
Status Year	Check complete Check displayed as year not date	
Designation Type	Check complete Convert to "national" or "international" Check international sites and if also recognized at national level	
Other Attributes		
Original Name	Check characters not compressed	
Sub-National Location	Check in ISO code	
Designation (English)	Check translation	
ISLIS Category	Check not in file not used	
International Criteria	Check if needed	
Representation Type	Convert to one of 12 sub-types	
Management Authority	Check for consistency	
Management Documents	Check either link or reference	

Planning for the future

Distinction between 'official' & 'unofficial' data

- Capture what is protected outside state sites
- Mechanism for identifying sites that meet PA definition
- Expand database to include 'Other Effectively Conserved Areas'

Publish quality statements

- Quality, accurate & comprehensive data
- Accurate change over time

Effective management & management effectiveness

- Assessments of management and its effectiveness
- Biodiversity 'outcomes'

Plans for 2013/2014

Technical & guidance

- Publish new documentation, manual & quality reviews
- Launch web-services
- Review & expand functionality in www.protectedplanet.net

Promotion

- Attendance at regional and thematic PA meetings
- High profile at World Parks Congress
- Publish Protected Planet 2014 report, UN List 2014

Capacity Building

- WDPA workshops
- Expert review to build national capacity
- Indigenous & Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Registry



Thank you!

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