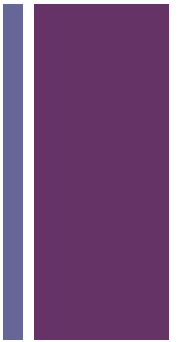




## **Towards developing the World Parks Congress: What Asia can teach the world about the role of culture and knowledge systems in area-based management**

Marjo Vierros, Sam Johnston and Wataru Suzuki, United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies; Joe Morrison, North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance

# Introducing WPC



# + Introducing the World Parks Congress

- Landmark global forum on protected areas
- Takes place once every 10 years
- Theme: Parks, People, Planet – Inspiring Solutions
- Objectives:
  - Position protected areas within goals of economic and community wellbeing
  - Achieve understanding of their vital role in conserving biodiversity while delivering ecosystem services
  - Demonstrate how this can be achieved
- The WPC will communicate most compelling and inspiring solutions to global challenges and influence policy worldwide
- Takes place 12-19 November 2014 in Sydney, Australia



IUCN  
WORLD PARKS CONGRESS  
SYDNEY 2014



# World Parks Congress schedule

(12-19 November 2014)



Thursday 13 November	Friday 12 November	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November
Opening plenary	Opening sub-plenary	Concurrent Stream sessions	Concurrent Stream sessions	Concurrent Stream sessions	Closing plenary
Introduction to three main issues of Parks; People and Planet,	Concurrent Stream sessions	Concurrent Stream sessions	Concurrent Stream sessions	Closing sub- plenary	Closing ceremony



# Why input from Asia is important?



- Countries around the world are trying to meet Aichi Biodiversity Targets in order to reduce loss of biodiversity
- Asia is vast and has rich biological and cultural diversity
- High population density may lead to conflicts, but also provides experience from a long history of "sustainable uses" about approaches that consider people and their traditions as part of the land/seascape
- Asia has few "conventional" protected areas, but instead many areas conserved as part of customary management systems. This is a different approach to the "western" concept of wilderness conservation
- Thus Asian experience can provide models for cost-effective, culturally-relevant alternatives to top-down conservation that can contribute to biodiversity, local livelihoods and Aichi Target



# WPC Streams



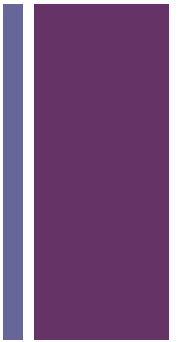
1. Reaching conservation goals
2. Responding to climate change
3. Improving health and well-being
4. Supporting human life
5. Reconciling development challenges
6. Enhancing diversity and quality of governance
7. **Respecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge and culture**
8. Inspiring a new generation

# + Cross-cutting themes

- Marine
- World Heritage
- Capacity development
- New social compact



# Introducing Stream 7



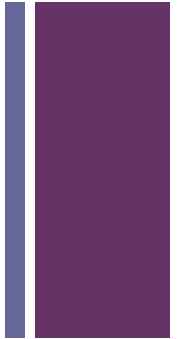


# + Stream 7: Objectives

"Respecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge and culture"

- Recognize the role of traditional knowledge and practices in sustaining and enhancing resilience of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in and beyond protected areas
- Engage members of Indigenous and local communities
- Demonstrate how cultural landscapes and traditional management systems contribute to the long-term well being of communities and protected areas
- Support Indigenous and local community rights in natural resource management/protected areas

(Lead organizations: UNU, NAILSMA, SOTZ'IL & IPACC)





# Stream 7: Major ambitions

"Respecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge and culture"

- **Acceptance and recognition of multiple innovative culturally-driven approaches** that contribute to conservation and livelihoods locally and globally
- **Produce tangible outcomes** (tools, resources, capacity development in both short and long term) for communities
- **Provide research and policy analysis that will increase the visibility** of cultural landscapes, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), traditional management systems and other locally managed areas at the international level





# What can WG-3 of the Asia Parks Congress contribute to the WPC?



- Asian experience might demonstrate to the WPC that
  - **Customary use and knowledge has significance** for protected areas and beyond and can contribute to reaching Aichi Biodiversity Target
  - **Sustainable use and livelihoods benefits need to be part of management activities**
  - **Local solutions are important** for addressing biodiversity decline and sustainable livelihood of local communities



# Stream 7: Potential activities



- Presentations, workshops, knowledge cafes and dialogue sessions
- Case studies, success stories and discussion
- Short training courses on relevant topics
- Development of tools and toolkits
- Community dialogue space (talking circles)
- Community film, video, arts, theatre
- Field trip to an Indigenous Protected Area



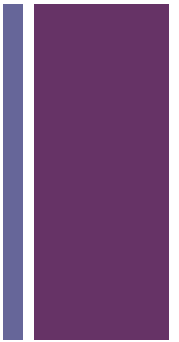


# Draft themes for workshop and dialogue sessions – Stream 7



- Taking stock of progress since the last World Parks Congress
- **Biocultural landscapes**, corridors and scaling up
- **Traditional knowledge, its transfer and application**
- Indigenous peoples and local community **rights and leadership in protected areas**
- **Sustaining resilient livelihoods in protected areas and beyond**
- **Traditional management systems in an international context** (such as Aichi Biodiversity Target)
- **Sacred sites**
- **Cultural heritage**
- Regional dialogues
- **Developing sustainable partnerships** with indigenous peoples and local communities
- **Tools and technologies for assessment, monitoring and management**
- **Leadership dialogue and youth dialogue**

# How to participate





# How to participate in the World Parks Congress Stream 7



- Contact Stream 7 leaders with expressions of interest:
  - United Nations University (UNU)
  - North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA)
  - SOTZ'IL (MesoAmerica Indigenous Leaders Coalition)
  - Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee (IPACC)
- **Common e-mail for Stream 7 leaders:**  
[WPCindigenous@iucn.org](mailto:WPCindigenous@iucn.org)
- **A formal call for submissions will be announced soon on the conference website:** [worldparkscongress.org](http://worldparkscongress.org)





# Key dates



- **Early December 2013 – 15 March 2014:** Applications can be put forward for contributions to the programme **content**
- **Early December 2013 – 15 March 2014:** Applicants can nominate to play a **role** in the congress
- **From early 2014:** Applicants will be able to put forward expressions of interest to hold on-site **side events**





Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you....

[WPCindigenous@iucn.org](mailto:WPCindigenous@iucn.org)

