



## **Capturing First User Requirements for BIOPAMA**

### **Introduction**

#### **About BIOPAMA**

The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Project (BIOPAMA), an initiative of the ACP Secretariat funded by the European Union through its European Development Fund (EDF), is working to develop capacity in protected areas in the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

BIOPAMA seeks to address this challenge, providing skills, tools, training and information to managers and others in the countries so that they can more effectively manage their protected areas and garner their benefits. It will contribute to improving implementation of global and national nature conservation policy, particularly in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). BIOPAMA will run for four years starting in 2012. The initiative will include two main components – one on protected areas, implemented by IUCN and the EC-JRC, and another on access and benefit sharing, implemented by the ABS Capacity Development Initiative managed by GIZ.

#### **Your input is valuable**

We seek your input to this important first phase of this major project, by providing information on your key user requirements, with emphasis on issues of data and information management. By compiling input from this survey, we hope to better understand the interactions and processes supporting the exchange of information between the main actors in the field of biodiversity conservation in protected areas, from protected area managers to NGOs, researchers, policy makers and community leaders. This process is essential for allowing us to connect with the existing networks and identify scientific, technical and institutional requirements for data and information that could enhance these networks and institutions. You can make a direct contribution to this by replying to the survey.

All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be passed to third parties. Published results from the survey will make no reference to individual replies and contributions. All personal information stored will be done in accordance with the European Commission regulations on data protection.

We have endeavoured to make the survey as concise as possible. Should you have any questions about the survey, or about the BIOPAMA project, you can contact us directly at [biopama@jrc.ec.europa.eu](mailto:biopama@jrc.ec.europa.eu)

BIOPAMA will work through training regional experts and staff and providing technical support and advice to protected area agencies and policy makers. A number of key regional training centres will also benefit, with support provided to improve their curricula and capacities. In addition, observatories for biodiversity and protected areas will be established in the regions to facilitate networking, serve as training centers, coordinate policy and develop and implement regionally tailored protected areas awareness programs.

### **About IUCN**

IUCN helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges. IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization, with more than 1,200 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. IUCN's work is supported by over 1,000 staff in 45 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world.

[www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org)

### **About the European Commission and the Joint Research Centre**

The European Commission (EC) is the executive body of the European Union (EU), which is the world's largest donor of official development assistance. As the in-house science service of the EC, the Joint Research Centre (JRC) provides EU policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support, including policies and programmes at global level and specifically those focusing on the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).

<http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/jrc/index.cfm>

### **About the multi donor ABS Capacity Development Initiative managed by GIZ**

The ABS Capacity Development Initiative aims to contribute to poverty reduction, food security, technology transfer, social development including equity and rights, and biodiversity conservation through implementing the Nagoya Protocol (NP) on ABS and the third objective of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in its entirety. Established in 2006, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and funded by the governments of Germany, Norway and Denmark, the Institute de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie and the European Union.

<http://www.abs-initiative.info>

**Welcome message:**

Thank you for taking your time and sharing your knowledge. We very much want to use the information from the questionnaires to ensure we get the most out of the regional workshop and are able to address the issues that are a priority for you. In order to give us time to do this in advance, we kindly request that you submit the completed questionnaire no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November.

Please send your completed survey form to:

Joint Research Centre - European Commission  
Institute for Environment and Sustainability  
Via Fermi 2749, TP 440, I-21027 Ispra (VA), ITALY  
Fax : +39 0332 789960

Email: [biopama@jrc.ec.europa.eu](mailto:biopama@jrc.ec.europa.eu)

All information we receive is used confidentially and serves for non-commercial purposes only.

Please use separate sheets if your replies need more space than that which is provided in this form.

Thank you!

The BIOPAMA project team

**A. ABOUT YOU AND YOUR ORGANISATION**

Name	
Surname	
Email	
Tel Number	
Fax Number	
Professional Address	
Organization Type	
Name of the organization/institute you work for	
How is your organization involved in the management of Protected Areas?	
What are your main functions and tasks in the management of Protected Areas?	

What are the key institutions and/or other actors with whom your organization interact on PAs management?

<b>Related Organization</b>	<b>Interaction Type</b>	<b>Comments</b>

***Interaction Type Categories***

- a. Technical support
- b. Provision of Scientific Information/Research
- c. Policy making
- d. Development of laws and regulations
- e. Enforcement
- f. Other (please specify in the comments)

## **B. WHAT ARE THE MAIN INFORMATION NEEDS AND GAPS THAT BIOPAMA SHOULD ADDRESS?**

We have identified the following main data types that are often used in biodiversity and protected areas management. To help us assess the availability, quality and usefulness of these datasets we would be grateful if you can indicate these aspects for each information type in the table below.

<b>Information Type</b>	<b>Information Availability</b>	<b>Information Quality</b>	<b>Information Relevance</b>	<b>Information Source Type</b>	<b>Information Format</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Protected Area Boundaries (current)						
Protected Area Boundaries (historic)						
Protected Area legal status						
Protected Area cultural value						
Protected Area income and expenditure						
Protected Area capital resources						
Protected Area Management Plans						
Research / Survey Projects in Protected Areas						
Infrastructure and capital investment projects in Protected Areas						
Species occurrence						
Species populations						
Species distributions						
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)						
Poaching						
Agricultural cultivation						
Livestock						
Pollution						

Habitat degradation						
Exploitation through mining						
Exploitation through forestry						
Local conflicts						
Transport infrastructure						
Population distribution						
Topography (elevation, slope)						
Background satellite / aerial imagery						
Biomass						
Burned areas / fires						
Habitat extent / change						
Habitat quality / change						
Land Use / Land Cover						
Atmospheric & Meteorological conditions (temperature, precipitation, wind speed, evapotranspiration)						
Vegetation						
Nutrients						
Ocean salinity						
Soil type and condition						
Water bodies (rivers and lakes)						
Water quality						
Water resources / usage						
Invasive species						
Extreme weather events						
Climatic variability						

Energy production						
Bio-prospecting						
Disease						
Land tenure						

***Information Availability Categories***

- a. Does not exist
- b. Classified
- c. Other
- d. Subject to payment
- e. Public domain
- f. Public authorities only
- g. Restricted by licence

***Information Quality Categories***

- a. Accurate and complete
- b. Accurate, but incomplete
- c. Contains inaccuracies, complete
- d. Contains inaccuracies, incomplete

***Information Relevance Categories***

- a. Not required
- b. Regularly used
- c. Essential
- d. Don't know
- e. Unused but has future relevance
- f. Unused due to fundamental data problems

***Information Source Type Categories***

- a. In-house
- b. Environment Ministry
- c. Commercial
- d. Local authority
- e. NGO
- f. Other / Unknown
- g. Other Gov. Dept.
- h. National Mapping Agency

***Information Format Categories***

- a. Data file download
- b. Downloadable electronic report / map
- c. Direct internet query
- d. Paper map / report
- e. Data file on CD / DVD
- f. Other

### **C. CURRENT PORTFOLIO OF PROTECTED AREAS**

This section is intended to provide a broad overview of the Protected Area network in your country, and how data and information on Protected Areas are used.

#### **Describe the protected area network in your country:**

What is the total number and size of protected areas in the country? If you are able to provide separate figures for terrestrial and marine, please do so.	
What are the main government ministries/agencies or other organizations responsible for protected areas governance and management?	

#### **Describe existing dataset(s) on national protected areas:**

In section B.1 we asked about the availability and quality of national dataset(s) of protected areas available in your country. If such datasets exist, can you please indicate the following:

Is the dataset(s) comprehensive of all national protected areas or are you aware of any major gaps?	
Which organisations manage and/or maintain the national dataset(s) in the country? List all relevant ministries, agencies, other organizations.	
Does the dataset(s) include digital information on the boundaries of protected areas?	
If digital boundaries are available, please indicate which file formats the datasets are typically delivered in, e.g. shapefile, KML etc	
Do you know what is the approximate scale at which the protected area boundaries have been generated? If so, please specify	
What type of software/technology (SQL, ArcGIS, PostGIS, etc.) are used to store and maintain the national dataset?	



## **D. STRATEGIC PRIORITY NEEDS FOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

The BIOPAMA project foresees the setting up of a reference information system and Regional Observatories for Biodiversity and Protected Areas. In order to assist defining the scope of these, which will be the subject of a detailed assessment exercise later in the project, we would ask you to assess the importance of their potential role in the following areas:

<b>Support Role</b>	<b>Agreement Level</b>
Provide tools to support protected area network design and ecological gap analysis	
Provide large-scale computing infrastructure for complex data processing	
Provide a hub to encourage collaboration between stakeholders	
Provide a forum to address issues of data availability and licensing	
Provide tools for data compilation and harmonization	
Develop procedures for standardised data collection	
Provide tools for ranking and comparison of protected areas according to multiple criteria	
Facilitate data collection at local level, including community involvement	
Provide specific tools for reporting obligations under MEAs	
Act as a "one-stop shop" for biodiversity information information – searching catalogues, providing access to data	

### ***Agreement Level Categories***

- a. Strongly agree
- b. Agree
- c. Neutral
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly disagree

Thank you for participating in this survey