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## Biodiversity Newsletter

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### Community Management of Protected Areas for Conservation (COMPACT) IUCN WCC (Sept 2012)



The GEF SGP [Community Management of Protected Areas for Conservation initiative \(COMPACT\)](#) was prominently featured at the IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC), attracting the interest of practitioners from all over the world concerned with balancing conservation and livelihoods, governance of natural resources, and protected areas. Held every four years, the IUCN WCC is considered by many the “world’s largest conservation event” that aims to improve how we collectively manage and govern our natural environment for human, social and economic development. people participated in the Congress. The 2012 WCC, which took place in Jeju, Republic of Korea (September 2012), brought together over 5,000 conservation experts from 153 countries, presenting over 600 events.

A series of events at the WCC marked 2012 as the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, inviting a particular focus and discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples' and local communities, stakeholder participation in UNESCO designation processes, and governance mechanisms to engage communities.

GEF SGP participated in a flagship panel convened by IUCN and UNESCO on [The World Heritage Convention at 40: Engaging the IUCN constituency for conservation and communities](#). Terence Hay-Edie (GEF SGP, Programme Advisor) and Jessica Brown (Chair, IUCN Protected Landscapes Specialist Group) provided an overview of the COMPACT model and lessons learned, while Nellie Catzim of the Southern Environmental Association in Belize (a GEF SGP partner organization) provided the perspective of a community partner working in support of the World Heritage (WH) marine seascape (see photo). In a special session in the IUCN Protected Planet Pavilion, GEF SGP announced its forthcoming benchmark publication [COMPACT: Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of World Heritage](#), featuring 12 years of GEF SGP work in the COMPACT programme co-financed by the United Nations Foundation (UNF).

GEF SGP also shared its experience through presentations on the landscape/ seascape conservation model and planning frameworks in a workshop on [New Models for Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of Protected Areas: Lessons from World Heritage](#). Vololona Rasoarimanana (GEF SGP National Coordinator, Madagascar) and Bonifacio Tobias (COMPACT Local Coordinator, Philippines) participated in this event where they highlighted the country level experiences of GEF SGP. Held in the 'Community Ma-eul' space hosted by the UNDP Equator Initiative, the session included presentations on the GiZ-supported [Go4BioDiv youth programme](#), which targets young people in 25 World Heritage Sites (WHS) across five continents. Staff from the IUCN World Heritage Programme and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre served as respondents, exploring potential new partnerships to replicate the model. A report on the workshop can be found on the website of the [UNDP Equator Initiative](#).

In addition, the GEF SGP team was active in a variety of other sessions at the WCC. Terence Hay-Edie gave presentations on SGP's work to support indigenous and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs), as well as SGP's efforts to promote agrobiodiversity conservation and local biodiversity products in a well-attended two-part session organized by The Christensen Fund on [Transforming Agriculture, Transforming Conservation: New Partnerships for global environmental resilience and food sovereignty](#). This session included a set of high-level speakers from the Sustainable Food Trust, FAO, indigenous representatives from the Potato Park in Peru, Ethiopian Highlands, and Philippines Rice Terraces, Bioersity International, and Hawaii Botanic garden.

Vololona Rasoarimanana also served as a panelist in Conservation Campus and an IUCN workshop on [More Effective and Equitable Nature Conservation: Lessons on Governance of Diverse Protected Areas](#), joining the directors of the national park agencies of Colombia and the United States respectively. Additional partnership discussions between GEF SGP, UNESCO WHC and IUCN were also elaborated by Delfin Ganapin (GEF SGP Global Manager) at the final event of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Heritage Convention which took place in Kyoto, Japan (Nov 2012).



## CBD COP 11 synthesis report and highlights (Oct 2012)

A team of SGP members represented the programme at the CBD COP11 in Hyderabad, India, in October 2012: Prabhjot Sodhi, SGP India NC, various India NSC members, 23 SGP-supported producer organizations in the biodiversity *Haat* (market place); Shireen Samarasuriya and 15 SGP grantee partners from SGP Sri Lanka; Singay Dorji, the new SGP NC for Bhutan; Leonel Requena, COMPACT Local Coordinator and one youth fisherfolk representative from Belize (as part of the Go4BioDiv youth delegation); Terence Hay-Edie and Delfin Ganapin, CPMT; as well as Vololona Rasoarimanana (on behalf of the UNDP CO). In total, the SGP organized and/or participated in over 20 different events.

A [UNDP synthesis report](#) provides full details about most of the many events (both for SGP plus other UNDP initiatives), including the high profile launch of the new [UNDP Biodiversity and Ecosystems Global Framework 2012-2020](#), developed in line with the CBD Aichi 2020 targets and goals. The UNDP Strategy will guide the work of UNDP in the area of biodiversity and ecosystems for the next 8 years. The GEF SGP will be expected to play a significant role in addressing the UNDP strategy structured around the CBD Aichi 2020 targets – in particular through the mention in both frameworks (plus the GEF5 biodiversity strategy) of the crucial importance of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs).



*UNDP 2020 strategy launch with Naoko Ishii, GEF CEO, Rebecca Grynspan, UNDP, Braulio Dias, CBD Exec Sec, and senior government representatives from Namibia and Brazil*

In a number of his interventions at CBD COP11, the new CBD Executive Secretary, Mr. Braulio Dias, repeatedly expressed his strong personal commitment to support community conservation, including through the mobilization of further support to ICCAs as part of the 'Target 11' to increase the global protected area coverage from 12% to 17% by 2020. Mr. Dias emphasized that the Aichi targets will only be met through a "*large coalition of civil society actors*" (see the dedicated [full-day workshop report](#)). An important element of this will be to ensure that ICCAs supported by the GEF SGP are also registered through the [UNEP WCMC Global Registry of ICCAs](#) (now explicitly mentioned in the COP11 outcome documents).



Many of the high level dignitaries, including the GEF CEO, Ms. Naoko Ishii, as well as UNDP Associate Administrator, Ms. Rebecca Grynspan, visited the 23 SGP-supported local producer organizations featured at the [biodiversity Haat](#). As recipients of the UNDP Equator Prize, a number of SGP partners also attended side events on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), along with the GIZ and the NGO Natural Justice; the *Satoyama* Initiative; small islands "bright spots" (organized by GLISPA); as well as bilateral meetings with the cosmetics industry.

Building upon on the positive experience of the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) and Africa/Arab States regional catalogues of BD-based products, the GEF SGP launched at CBD COP11 a new on-line [Biodiversity Products Web Platform](#) at the communications pavilion with community partners from Brazil, Sri Lanka and Kenya. A global promotion campaign for the platform is planned for 2013.



*Ms. Shireen Samarasuriya, GEF SGP NC Sri Lanka (in middle) with network of SGP grantee partners at CBD COP11*



## SGP Biodiversity Products Platform

**Progreso Network:** “Learn how to increase your organization's income while protecting the environment”

Join the **Biodiversity Products group** and learn how to integrate the protection of biodiversity into your business, hereby protecting the environment and making your organization more sustainable at the same time.

**SGP Central America in focus:** Maya Nut may be the most exciting women's products in the biodiversity markets today! Join the group for a closer look into the Maya Nut and how women in Central America are benefiting.



## Announcements

During a CPMT visit to the UN Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG) at the CBD Secretariat in Montreal in Nov 2012, Mr. Braulio Dias invited the GEF SGP and the UNDP Equator Initiative to assist in bringing its best experiences, ready for up-scaling and replication, to the attention of the states parties during plenary discussions of the next CBD COP12 in South Korea in October 2014.

In addition, the CBD Sec called upon GEF SGP to assist in raising awareness amongst civil society of the [Nagoya Protocol](#) on ABS offering financial assistance for the preparation of an e-training module.

GEF SGP has under two years to prepare for CBD COP12 which will complement preparations for OP6 due to commence in January 2015.

## Additional Resources

CBD Technical Series No. 64 ‘*Recognizing and Supporting Territories and Areas Conserved by Indigenous and Local Communities - Global Overview and National Case Studies*’ (produced by the ICCA Consortium, and supported by GEF SGP and numerous other partners) is available for [download](#).