From Knowledge to Action for a Protected Planet - BIOPAMA in Eastern and Southern Africa

www.biopama.org

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) is the largest trans-national intergovernmental organisation of developing countries in the international system, with 79 member countries from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Today, the main goal of the Group is to drive South-South solidarity and North-South cooperation for the sustainable development of ACP countries and their successful integration into the world economy.

www.acp.int

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual Freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

www.europa.eu

IUCN is a membership Union composed of both government and civil society organisations. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,300 Member organisations and the input of more than 10,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

www.iucn.org

The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) was established in 1975 under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Union (AU). RCMRD’s mission is to promote sustainable development through generation, application and dissemination of Geo-information and allied Information Communication Technology (ICT) services and products in the Member States and beyond.

https://www.rcmrd.org/

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The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) programme (2017-2023) aims to improve conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, in protected areas and surrounding communities by providing tools, services and funding. The BIOPAMA partnership combines the protected areas and the biodiversity conservation expertise of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the scientific know-how of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC).

Where BIOPAMA Works in Eastern and Southern Africa


Regional Priority Needs

In Eastern and Southern Africa, BIOPAMA will work toward addressing regional needs within the following five themes identified by participants at the two 2018 Regional BIOPAMA Inception Meetings:

1) Policy and legislation related to protected area governance and equity (PAGE) and protected area management effectiveness (PAME);
2) PAGE and PAME assessments, including management effectiveness, social and governance assessments and the collection, analysis and reporting of data related to these; focusing on management planning, implementation and reporting – also related to theme 3 below;
3) Practical action in terms of management effectiveness, governance and equity, including specifically the engagement of communities;
4) Innovative financing and resourcing solutions and business capacity;
5) Strengthening the integration of PAGE and PAME into multiple sectors, relevant policies and across political boundaries (e.g. transboundary conservation).

BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services, products and funding to address the protected and conserved area needs in Eastern and Southern Africa.

The Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Resource Hub

The “Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Resource Hub” is a one-stop shop for protected and conserved area research, learnings and data/information in the region to promote effective decision-making. The Regional Resource Hub (RRH):

• Is an innovation and knowledge hub focused on country-specific priorities for biodiversity and protected areas data, information and research;
• Provides relevant and practical data, tools, information, and services;
• Promotes capacity building, knowledge sharing and technical expertise;
• Contributes to effective, equitable and sustainable management and governance of protected and conserved areas; and
• Promotes networking and communications.

Regional Focus

In Eastern and Southern Africa, the IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) is implementing BIOPAMA alongside the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD). The programme works with its national and regional partners and stakeholders to improve and reinforce management effectiveness, governance and equity of protected and conserved areas in the region.

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Capacity Development

BIOPAMA aims to develop the capacity of stakeholders on protected and conserved area management effectiveness, governance, equity and data management, in collaboration with partners and initiatives, through:

• Promoting and facilitating relevant training and learning exchanges in management planning, management effectiveness, negotiation skills, governance, equity, business planning, sustainable financing;
• Providing technical support in completing management effectiveness, social and governance assessments, as well as introducing and promoting the IUCN Green List of Protected Areas;
• Promoting protected and conserved area management effectiveness at the national and site level;
• Identifying, promoting and providing training in the use of relevant data analysis tools, products and services;
• Building capacity in protected and conserved area-related data collection, analysis, reporting and management through the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Resource Hub.

The BIOPAMA Action Component

The BIOPAMA Action Component is a grant-making facility that will support on-the-ground actions aimed at strengthening protected area and natural resource management effectiveness, governance and equity. Learn more about it on the dedicated website: action.biopama.org.