



TERMS OF REFERENCE PURPOSE AND GOALS

IUCN WCPA CONNECTIVITY CONSERVATION SPECIALIST GROUP (CCSG)

Background

The IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group (CCSG) contributes to the implementation of the Promise of Sydney and aspects of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic plan including facilitating the recognition, establishment, spatial delineation and effective management of areas of connectivity conservation globally. CCSG prepares expert IUCN guidance material and provides specialist advice on all aspects of connectivity conservation including different types of areas of connectivity conservation. This role especially recognises the importance of interconnected protected area systems in the context of biodiversity conservation and climate change.

Purpose of the WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group

The Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group's purpose is to facilitate biodiversity conservation and species conservation through interconnecting protected areas and facilitating their enhanced conservation, management and protection through the identification, retention and effective management of areas of connectivity conservation.

The principal functions of the Specialist Group are:

1. To foster Specialist Group membership and the active participation of the IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group WCPA members as a basis for facilitating the establishment of new areas of connectivity conservation; for communicating the importance of these areas and for disseminating information about the effective management of areas of connectivity conservation;
2. To promote global awareness of the importance of areas of connectivity conservation and their role in helping to conserve biodiversity and protected areas in an environment of climate change through workshops, conferences, electronic media, targeted printed information and other appropriate methods;
3. To prepare, following full consultation and discussion, IUCN Guidance material for areas of connectivity conservation;
4. To collaborate and (as appropriate) develop partnerships within IUCN and beyond as part of facilitating connectivity conservation;
5. To facilitate areas of connectivity conservation that help achieve functional connectivity to assist species as temperatures and precipitation changes for both latitudinal and east-west connectivity.

PROMISE OF SYDNEY

The WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group activities, consistent with the Promise of Sydney and the IUCN Programme Areas, are described here.

IUCN PROGRAMME AREA – VALUING AND CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY

Achieving conservation goals

CCSG Activity Objective: To facilitate the establishment and spatial recognition of areas of connectivity conservation as a basis for achieving CBD Target 11: a “well-connected” system of protected areas.

Developing Capacity

CCSG Activity Objective: To facilitate the development of resource materials that define areas of connectivity conservation and identify types; that provide clear criteria for establishing areas of connectivity conservation and help facilitate the management of these areas.

CCSG Activity Objective: To facilitate the organisation of WCPA sponsored forums, events, conferences, launches and other activities that promote areas of connectivity conservation and facilitate their effective management.

Achieving Quality

CCSG Activity Objective: To facilitate the evaluation of areas of connectivity conservation relative to biodiversity conservation outcomes, connectivity conservation benefits; people and community benefits and connectivity conservation management effectiveness.

IUCN PROGRAMME AREA – GOVERNING NATURES USE AND SHARING ITS BENEFITS EQUITABLY

Respecting People

CCSG Activity Objective: To help facilitate, as appropriate, those processes that involve the wide range of peoples that are involved in the stewardship of areas of connectivity conservation as a basis for developing an agreed vision and broad management outcomes.

IUCN PROGRAMME AREA – DEPLOYING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Offering Solutions

CCSG Activity Objective: To facilitate establishment of a strategic areas of connectivity conservation that contribute to biodiversity conservation for KBAs, World Heritage Properties; RAMSAR Sites and Protected Areas and Marine Protected Areas around the World

2016-2018 IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group: Actions

ACTIONS

1. Conduct a public consultation process for the advanced draft of the “IUCN Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines” and upgrade and prepare final guidelines.
 2. Facilitate the spatial delineation of areas of connectivity conservation and the production of the first global map of areas of connectivity conservation areas.
 3. Facilitate the development of the WCPA CCSG and its WCPA membership.
4. Facilitate communication systems for the CCSG including a website and a regular Connectivity Conservation Newsletter.

IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group: Governance

Chairperson

Gary Tabor

CCSG Executive

(To be advised)

Connectivity Conservation Special Projects

Olivier Chassot

International Connectivity Conservation Network (ICCN) Administrator

To be advised

Senior Advisor

Graeme Worboys