STATISTICS ON PROTECTED AREAS

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Workshop on
Environment statistics

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Programme Global

Headlines of the presentation

- ➢ **The WCPA mission**

- ➢ **Protected Areas related- Databases**

- ➢ **The World Database on Protected Areas**

- ➢ **The World Database on Protected Areas website**

- ➢ **Protected Areas Statistics**

- ➢ **Information support to Millennium Development Goal7:Ensure environmental sustainability**

- ➢ **MDG target and indicator**

- ➢ **Protected Areas - Definitions and Categorisation**

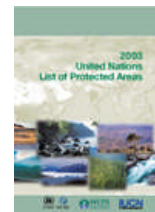- ➢ **Protected Areas National Management Categories**
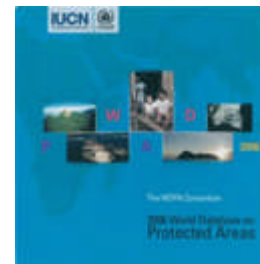
The WCPA mission is:

"To promote the establishment and effective management of a world-wide representative network of terrestrial and marine protected areas, as an integral contribution to the IUCN mission."

Protected Areas related- Databases

➤ **UN List of Protected Areas 2003**

➤ **World Database of Protected Areas 2006**

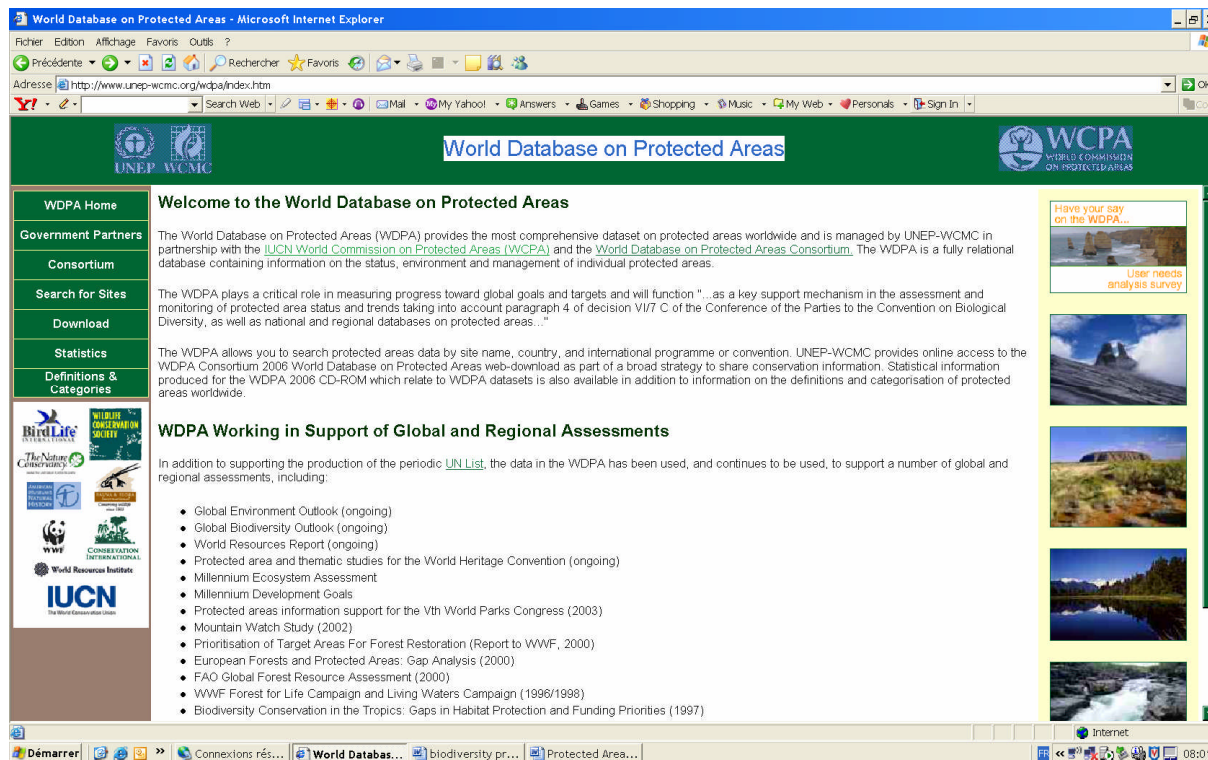➤ **MPA Global: A database of the World's Marine Protected Areas**

➤ **ECOLEX :A database provinding the most comprehensive, global source of information on environmental law.Website**

The World Database on Protected Areas

➢ **The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) provides the most comprehensive dataset on protected areas worldwide and is managed by UNEP-WCMC in partnership with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the World Database on Protected Areas Consortium. The WDPA is a fully relational database containing information on the status, environment and management of individual protected areas.**

➢ **The WDPA plays a critical role in measuring progress toward global goals and targets and will function "...as a key support mechanism in the assessment and monitoring of protected area status and trends taking into account paragraph 4 of decision VI/7 C of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as national and regional databases on protected areas..."**

➢ **The WDPA allows you to search protected areas data by site name, country, and international programme or convention. UNEP-WCMC provides online access to the WDPA Consortium 2006 World Database on Protected Areas web-download as part of a broad strategy to share conservation information. Statistical information produced for the WDPA 2006 CD-ROM which relate to WDPA datasets is also available in addition to information on the definitions and categorisation of protected areas worldwide.**

➢ *WDPA Working in Support of Global and Regional Assessments*

The World Database on Protected Areas website

Protected Areas Statistics

Current List of the 20 Largest Nationally Designated Protected Areas Worldwide

Country	Site Name	Size (square kilometres)	IUCN Management Category	Designation
Greenland	North-East Greenland	972,000	II	National Park
Saudi Arabia	Ar-Rub'al-Khali	640,000	VI	Wildlife Management Area
Australia	Great Barrier Reef	344,400	VI	Marine Park
United States	Northwestern Hawaiian Islands	341,362	VI	Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve
China	Qiangtang	298,000	V	Nature Reserve
Australia	Macquarie Island	162,060	IV	Marine Park
China	Sanjiangyuan	152,300	V	Nature Reserve
Ecuador	Galápagos	133,000	VI	Marine Reserve
Saudi Arabia	Northern Wildlife Management Zone	100,875	VI	Wildlife Management Area
Australia	Ngaanyatjarra Lands	98,129	VI	Indigenous Protected Area
Venezuela	Alto Orinoco-Casiquiare	84,000	VI	Biosphere Reserve
Brazil	Vale do Javari	83,380	No Category	Indigenous Area
Italy	Mouths of Bonifacio - Bonifacio Straits	80,000	No Category	International Marine Park
Chad	Ouadi Rimé-Ouadi Achim	80,000	IV	Faunal Reserve
Brazil	Yanomami (AM-RO)	77,519	No Category	Indigenous Park
United States	Yukon Delta	77,425	IV	National Wildlife Refuge
United States	Arctic	72,843	IV	National Wildlife Refuge
Venezuela	Sur del Estado Bolívar	72,624	V	Protective Zone
Algeria	Tassili N'Ajjer	72,000	II	National Park
United States	Tongass	67,404	VI	National Forest

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Have your say on the WDPA...

User needs analysis survey

Information support to Millennium Development Goal7:Ensure environmental sustainability

> ➤ *Habitat conservation is vital for stemming the decline in biodiversity. The establishment of protected areas is an important mechanism for achieving this aim. In addition to protecting biodiversity, protected areas have become places of high social and economic value. Since 1981 UNEP-WCMC has been compiling information from competent regional, national and sub-national agencies on the protected areas of the world. This information is then used to produce a comprehensive global dataset (the World Database on Protected Areas) and support the development of relevant indicators. Data is available for 233 countries and territories, including marine and coastal areas and can be aggregated and presented in many ways (e.g. by country or region). Explicit quality control criteria are applied to ensure consistency and comparability between national datasets*

MDG target and indicator

➢ *Target addressed: Target 9 - 'Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.'*
There are 5 indicators for measuring progress towards this target (indicators 25 to 29). Indicator 26 is defined as follows:

➢ *'Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area'*

➢ *The methodology to calculate this indicator can be found is provided here. UNEP-WCMC currently provides protected areas information to support the development of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 'Indicator 26'. A recent report from the UN Statistics Division demonstrating the use of this data, and can be found by clicking here.*

➢ *The table below provides a snapshot of the information held within the WDPA. This was last updated on the 1st March 2006 , incorporating information on all designated protected areas.*

Protected Areas - Definitions and Categorisation

➤ *The definition of a protected area adopted by IUCN is:*

An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means.

➤ *Although all protected areas meet the general purposes contained in this definition, in practice the precise purposes for which protected areas are managed differ greatly.*

Defining Nationally Designated Protected Areas

Understanding International Convention and Programmes

Protected Areas National Management Categories

The following are the main purposes of management:

- *Scientific research*
- *Wilderness protection*
- *Preservation of species and genetic diversity*
- *Maintenance of environmental services*
- *Protection of specific natural and cultural features*
- *Tourism and recreation*
- *Education*
- *Sustainable use of resources from natural ecosystems*
- *Maintenance of cultural and traditional attributes*

IUCN has defined a series of six protected area management categories, based on primary management objective. A summary of categories and their definitions is provided below. Definitions of these categories, and examples of each, are provided in Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories (IUCN, 1994). Notes relating to how categories are defined are also available.

- **Full Document available at: UNEP-WCMC Website**

THANKS