



# The First Asia Parks Congress: Report on the Proceedings

13th-17th November 2013, Sendai, Japan



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## List of Acronyms/Abbreviations

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
ACB	ASEAN Center for Biodiversity
ACFSF	Asian Conservation Field Staff Federation
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AMNet	ASEAN Mangrove Network
APAP	Asian Protected Areas Partnership
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APC	Asia Parks Congress
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
CA TS	Conservation Assured   Tiger Standards
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CEPF	The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CIHR	Conservation Initiative on Human Rights
CITES	The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMS	The Convention on Migratory Species
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSV	Creating Shared Value
CTC	Coral Triangle Center
CTMPAs	Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas System
CUZs	Community Use Zones
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EAAPF	East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership
Eco-RR	Ecologically-based Rehabilitation and Reconstruction
EE	Environmental Education
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESAs	Eco-Sensitive Areas (zones)
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GMS CFP-BCI	Greater Mekong Sub-region Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Corridors
HMFs	Human Modified Forests
HOB	Heart of Borneo initiative
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
ICCAs	Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPSI	International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JEAS	Japan Association of Environment Assessment
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KCNC	Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation
KNCF	Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund
LIPI	Indonesian Institute of Sciences
MAB	Man and Biosphere
MOEJ	Ministry of the Environment of Japan
MOP	Meeting of the Parties
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
NACS-J	Nature Conservation Society of Japan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSW	New South Wales
PMB	Research Center for Society and Culture
PoWPA	Programme of Work on Protected Areas
PPAs	Private Protected Areas

RCJ	Ramsar Center Japan
SEA	South East Asia
SEPLS	Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes
TEK	Traditional Ecological Knowledge
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TraMCA	Transboundary Manas Conservation Area
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRIP	UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNEP-WCMC	United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNU-IAS	United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WPC	IUCN World Parks Congress
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
YSESP	Yellow Sea Ecoregion Support Project
YSLME	Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project

## Section 1 - Introduction



*Mt Fuji. © Ministry of the Environment*

### Introduction

Between the 13th and 17th of November 2013, some 800 participants from 40 countries gathered at the Sendai International Center, Sendai city, Japan to attend the first ever Asia Parks Congress (APC). This landmark event was organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan and IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, with the aim of bringing together representatives of governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academia, and students to share knowledge and experiences relating to protected areas in Asia. The Congress sought to build consensus on future priorities for protected areas, to enhance regional capacity for addressing these priorities, and to develop a message and materials that would feed directly into the Twelfth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2014 and the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney.

### Regional Context

The Asia region is widely recognized as being both one of the most important regions of the world for biodiversity (thanks in part to a wealth of ecosystem types and habitats, and a biogeography that supports high levels of endemism), and one of the most threatened. Across the board - from forests, to agro-ecosystems, to mangroves and seagrass beds - ecosystems are under threat from industrial development, agricultural intensification, pollution, unsustainable levels of exploitation, and a host of other factors. As a result, globally significant populations of many threatened species are declining at an unprecedented rate. Protected Areas have an undeniable role to play in the mitigation of these threats. By ensuring their integrity and good governance, we can maximize their contribution not only to biodiversity conservation, but also to human resilience to natural hazards, the ecologically-sustainable development of tourism, the conservation of local culture and traditions, and the protection of the livelihoods of local communities.

In addition to its diversity of landscapes, seascapes, habitats, and ecosystems, Asia boasts an unparalleled socio-economic diversity. This, in turn, has generated a diversity of protected area management strategies and solutions - from centrally-managed "top-down" systems that seek to minimize human interaction with the site, to locally-led "bottom-up" systems that actively engage local communities in the co-management of the site, and allow some degree of human-use of the natural resources present. Only by sharing experiences and lessons-learned through the implementation of this diverse array of management strategies will we be able to improve the integrity and function of protected areas Asia-wide.

The APC was held in response to a recognition that no forum existed which brought together protected area practitioners and specialists at the Asia level, and a recognized need for improved coordination in order to address the common threats to protected area integrity and function in the region. In particular, the APC was held in response to the CBD COP 10 (Nagoya 2010) Decision X/31 (inviting parties to support regional initiatives for protected areas), and Aichi Target 11 (*"By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape"*).

In November 2011, the Preliminary Asia Parks Congress in Tokyo, Japan, agreed that the first Asia Parks Congress should be held in 2013, and called upon the Government of Japan to consider hosting the first Asia Parks Congress.

### Theme and Objectives

The theme of the APC was "Parks Connect", emphasizing the role of protected areas in connecting people and nature, connecting people and people, connecting cultural/spiritual values and natural values, and connecting parks and the wider landscape/seascape.

Specifically, the event sought to:

- Showcase the success and to advocate the values of protected areas in Asia, reinforcing their relevance and broadening the constituency of support;
- Share experience across the region and particularly to promote what Asia can offer to the world;
- Set the agenda for protected areas in Asia, and so facilitate action toward achieving the Aichi Targets and the objectives of the PoWPA (Programme of Work on Protected Areas);
- Build regional capacity, find solutions to problems, energize and catalyse the protected area community in Asia;
- Provide a regional perspective and specific Asian input to relevant regional and global events, including the World Parks Congress in 2014.

*"The Asia Parks Congress aims, for the first time, to connect protected area practitioners with the wider community to share experience, learn from each other and together respond to the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century."*

### Congress Structure

In order to achieve the APC's objectives, six Working Groups were formed, focusing respectively on the key issues of "natural disasters and protected areas", "tourism and environmental education in protected areas", "culture/tradition and protected areas", "collaborative management of protected areas", "international cooperation for protected areas", and "biodiversity and protected areas". A focus on the importance of protected areas for mitigating the impacts of disasters was particularly fitting in light of the 11th March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent initiative of the Government of Japan to create the Sanriku Fukkō (Reconstruction) National Park.

These Working Groups were a forum for presenting new work on these topics at protected areas across Asia, discussing the issues raised, sharing knowledge and experience on international best practices, and developing the text of what would become the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Each Working Group was responsible for finalizing their relevant section of this document - one of the key outputs of the Asia Parks Congress. This Message is a distillation of expert



knowledge, from the Asian context, on each of the Working Group topics, and will inform and guide the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014.

### Outcomes

By the close of the event, the Asia Parks Congress had produced (in addition to the aforementioned "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014"), and agreed by consensus, the "Asia Protected Areas Charter" ("Sendai Charter"), and the Youth Declaration to the first Asia Parks Congress - "Conservation of Protected Areas with the Hands and Energy of Asian Youth". These documents (covered in more detail in **Section 5**, and included in full in **Section 7**) are a declaration recognizing the importance of protected areas, recognizing the challenges faced by protected areas in Asia (and worldwide), and committing to immediately take action to address challenges, promote protected area integrity and effective management, enhance networks and promote collaboration, and "work toward a future where protected areas enhance human progress, resulting in people living in harmony with nature". They will be delivered to the CBD COP 12 (October 2014, Pyeong Chang, Korea), the IUCN World Parks Congress (Nov 2014, Sydney, Australia) and the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (March 2015, Sendai, Japan).

In addition to these more tangible outputs, another key outcome of the Asia Parks Congress was a general endorsement by participating governments of the development of an Asian Protected Areas Partnership (see **Section 5**). It is intended that this Partnership will provide a framework for regional cooperation and information-sharing, will consist of members from relevant government agencies, international organizations and development assistance agencies, and international NGOs, and will be managed by a Secretariat (potentially hosted by the IUCN Asia Regional Office).

## Section 2 - Proceedings



*Kinabalu Park, Malaysia © Our Place Photos*

Held at the Sendai International Centre between the 13th and 17th November 2014, the Asia Parks Congress included an opening ceremony and keynote speeches on Day 1, plenary sessions, working group sessions, youth sessions, side events and poster sessions on Days 2 and 3, a number of excursions to places of interest in the area on Day 4, and a closing plenary session and closing ceremony on Day 5.

### Day 1 (13th November)

#### *Opening remarks*

The APC was officially opened at 4pm on Wednesday the 13th November by Mr. Nobuteru Ishihara (the Minister of the Environment, Japan) and IUCN President Mr. Zhang Xinsheng. Mr. Nobuteru Ishihara opened the event welcoming the participants, offering his sincerest condolences to the victims of Typhoon Haiyan (which devastated the Philippines when it made landfall on the 8th November, 2013), introducing the theme of the event, "Parks Connect", and highlighting the work of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and IUCN in making the first APC a reality. In addition to outlining some of the expected outputs of the APC, he concluded by expressing his hope that this Congress would contribute to connecting the hearts of participants while also strengthening the connection of countries in Asia.



*Minister. Nobuteru Ishihara. © Ministry of the Environment*

Mr Zhang Xinsheng spoke on how protected areas are central to IUCN's Programme to achieve a *just world that values and conserves nature*, expressed how protected areas can form part of the solution to many of the challenges facing communities all over Asia, and asked how the exceedingly diverse peoples and countries of the world's most rapidly developing region can come together in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration to ensure that some of its richest natural assets – protected areas – thrive in harmony with its communities. He expressed his hope that the outcomes of the APC will set us on a path towards greater effectiveness in governing and managing the region's protected areas now and for years to come, and carry forward to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014.



Mr Zhang Xinsheng. ©IUCN/J Kemsey

In addition, remarks were made by Mr. Yoshihiro Murai (the Governor of Miyagi Prefecture), Ms. Emiko Okuyama (the Mayor of Sendai City), and Ms. Sally Barnes (Chief Executive, Office of Environment & Heritage, New South Wales, Australia).

Mr. Yoshihiro Murai expressed his appreciation that Miyagi prefecture had been chosen to host the first Asia Parks Congress, and his expectation that the event would be a great success. He thanked the international community for the support for the recovery process following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, emphasized the tremendous impact that the earthquake had on the prefecture, and outlined the on-going reconstruction process that had been undertaken - including the establishment of the Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park.

Ms. Emiko Okuyama congratulated all participants on the opening of the Congress, and expressed her happiness that such an event was taking place in the city of Sendai. She went on to highlight the human and ecological impact of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake on the city and surroundings, and the human and natural recovery that has been underway since then. Finally she introduced the "Sendai Ecosystem Restoration Consortium" which has been established to bring together a wide range of stakeholders with the common goal of securing the long-term recovery of the Sendai seashore.

Ms. Sally Barnes was present in order to represent Hon. Robyn Parker (the Minister for the Environment and Minister for Heritage of New South Wales, Australia), who was unable to attend the APC due to an important government debate being held in Australia. She emphasized the fact that productive 'conservation' work can only occur if there is a productive 'conversation' underway. She expressed her expectation that the APC would be valuable in

this regard, and welcomed the fact that outputs of the event would directly feed into the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 in Sydney.

#### *Keynote speeches*

Following the opening ceremony, keynote speeches were given by Ms. Junko Tabei (a famous Japanese Alpinist), Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi (Senior Vice-Rector of the United Nations University, Chair of the Central Environmental Counsel of Japan and Professor at the University of Tokyo), and Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and Professor, Monterrey Tech).



*Ms. Junko Tabei. © Ministry of the Environment*

Ms. Junko Tabei gave an inspiring keynote speech to the APC, titled "Let's Climb Japanese Mountains". On the 16th May 1975, Ms. Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest. At the APC, she spoke about some of the ecological issues facing Everest as a result of both global climate change and the huge numbers of climbers that now attempt to scale the mountain every year. She went on to talk about her more recent work with high school students whose lives have been seriously affected by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami. She and her team use mountain climbing as a means to restore their confidence and positive outlook on life.



*Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi. © Ministry of the Environment*

Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, an expert on the creation of eco-friendly environments for the harmonious co-existence of people and nature, gave a keynote speech to the APC, titled "Establishment of the *Sanriku Fukko* (Reconstruction) National Park: Toward a Society in Harmony with Nature". He spoke of the natural beauty of Sanriku coastline, its linkages with

traditional Japanese culture, the environmental impact that the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami had on the region, and the ways in which the new Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park will contribute to the reconstruction of the area (as part of the Ministry of the Environment's "Green Reconstruction" Project) and inspire future generations.

Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich is the current Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, and as such is well positioned to give a global perspective on the issues currently facing protected areas in Asia. His keynote speech to the APC was titled "Protected Areas: Meeting Human Aspirations and Global Challenges", and explained the critical role that protected areas will have to play in meeting current and future global challenges including water security, protecting against natural hazards and contributing to a 'greener' global economy. He spoke frankly about the likely ecological impacts of climate change in the coming decades, but emphasized how protected areas are a cost-effective solution, both in terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation.



*Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich. ©IUCN/J Kemsey*



### The Sanriku-Fukko National Park

*(adapted from "Green Reconstruction: Creating a new National Park", Ministry of the Environment, Japan 2012)*

The establishment of the new Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park is one of the measures by which the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) is implementing a programme of Green Reconstruction, following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. This work aims to maintain the natural environment and traditional lifestyle of the region for future generations - an environment fostered through linkages between Forests, Rivers, Sea & Satoyama.

The Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park has been established to include areas of outstanding natural beauty, such as the Rikuchukaigan National Park at its core. Alongside the reconstruction, the promotion of wise use of the natural environment (with a greater emphasis on consultation with stakeholders in the region) will contribute to the region's development.

This reconstruction will promote, on an unprecedented scale, new measures such as the provision of places for utilizing local culture and lifestyle, studies and reviews of protocols for preparing for natural disasters, and mechanisms for dealing with the waste generated by these events.

In order to hasten the organization of the new national park, revisions to regional classifications will be progressively introduced, placing priority on conservation efforts. Management plans, park boundaries, and conservation policies will be revised to ensure that the rich ecosystems remain intact, in accordance with the changes in the natural environment brought about as reconstruction proceeds.

The park has been assigned the provisional name Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park, in the light of the contributions made by many people, including those from outside Japan. In the future, as the reconstruction proceeds, alternative names will be considered.

Other work being carried out by MOEJ as part of the Green Reconstruction project includes: the establishment of the Tohoku Coast Trail; the promotion of Fukko (reconstruction) Ecotourism; public awareness campaigns - "Reconnecting the Forests, Rivers, Sea & Satoyama"; Education for Sustainable Development; environmental monitoring efforts; and the establishment of a Satoyama Satoumi Field Museum.

## Day 2 (14th November)

Day 2 saw the first plenary session and working group sessions of the APC, as well as a youth session, poster session, and thirteen side events. Highlights of the day included the presentation of a paper on "The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas" by Dr. Amran Hamzah (Professor at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and Former WCPA Vice-chair for Southeast Asia), and a paper on "Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia" by Mr. Peter Shadie (Senior Advisor with IUCN's World Heritage Programme and member of the WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group).

### *Approval of APC Joint-Chairs, and Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs*

The plenary opened with the approval of Joint-Chairs of the Asia Parks Congress, and Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs of the six Working Groups. The appointed APC Joint-Chairs were Mr. Kazuaki Hoshino, Director-General of Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ), and Dr. Yoshitaka Kumagai, Professor, Akita International University and Regional Vice-Chair for East Asia of IUCN-WCPA. The appointed Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs were as follows:

- **WG1: Natural Disasters and Protected Areas:** Dr. Kiyotatsu Yamamoto (Associate Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University) (Chair) and Dr. Vinod Bihari Mathur (Regional Vice Chair IUCN-WCPA (South Asia) and Dean at the Wildlife Institute of India) (Co-Chair);
- **WG2: Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas:** Dr. Yurie Kaizu (Professor, Faculty of International Studies, Bunkyo University/Director, Japan Ecotourism Society) (Chair) and Dr. Mihee Kang (Research Professor, Research Institute for Agriculture and Life Sciences, Seoul National University / Executive Board Member(Planning), Ecotourism Korea) (Co-Chair);
- **WG3: Culture/Traditions and Protected Areas:** Dr. Makoto Inoue (Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo) (Chair) and Dr. Herman Hidayat (Researcher, The Research Center for Society and Culture (PMB), Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)) (Co-Chair);
- **WG4: Collaborative Management of Protected Areas:** Dr. Toshiyuki Tsuchiya (Professor, Institute of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology) (Chair) and Dr. Madhu Rao (Regional Technical Advisor, Wildlife Conservation Society, Singapore) (Co-Chair);
- **WG5: International Cooperation for Protected Areas:** Prof. Susumu Takahashi (Professor, Faculty of Education, Kyohei University) (Chair), Ms. Clarissa Cabildo Arida (Director, Programme Development and Implementation, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity) (Co-Chair) and Mr. Yoshihiro Natori (Executive Director, Nagao Natural Environment Foundation) (acting Chair);
- **WG6: Biodiversity and Protected Areas:** Dr. Masahito Yoshida (Professor, World Heritage Studies, Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, University of Tsukuba) (Chair) and Ms. Cristi Marie Nozawa (Regional Director, Birdlife International (Asia) Limited) (Co-Chair).

The Joint-Chairs proceeded to introduce the structure and objectives of the APC, including its anticipated outputs (the "Asia Protected Areas Charter", the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014", and the Youth Declaration). The structure of the Charter was outlined, and participants were informed of the mechanism for submitting their comments on the content of the Charter.

### *Introduction to the Working Groups*

The Working Group Chairs then gave an introduction to the themes and sub-themes of each working group, including listing the presentations that would be made under each sub-theme. Please see **Section 3** for more information.

### *"The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas"*

Dr. Amran Hamzah (Professor at University Teknologi Malaysia and Former WCPA Vice-chair for Southeast Asia) presented a paper titled "The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas". Dr. Amran Hamzah is an international academic who specializes in the interface between biodiversity conservation and community-based tourism, as well as more general issues of urban and tourism planning and development. "The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas" is a publication currently in development, that has been funded by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and prepared for the IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia. The latest draft may be downloaded [here](#)\*. Once published, it is intended that it will be a useful tool for policy makers and other stakeholders in Asia to enhance the effectiveness of protected area management, and complement the so-called Western philosophy and approach to managing protected areas. It was presented at the APC in order to encourage interest, and stimulate discourse on this topic among participants.

Specifically, this research sought to carry out a literature review of the traditional concepts of protected areas in Asia, to review existing laws, policies and the governance of protected areas in Asia to identify common ground and best practice, and to recommend strategies and measures to further improve the effectiveness of the management of protected areas. In doing so it demonstrated how the 'colonial' model of protected areas (inherited by many countries in Asia) is generally not well suited to ensuring protected area integrity and compliance, and how 'traditional' models (such as sacred groves (India) or Chinju no mori (Japan)) and other aspects of traditional ecological knowledge have the potential to enrich existing approaches and complement the existing principles of protected area management in the region.

The key recommendations arising from this research are to recognize the contribution of Asia's traditional ecological knowledge, to adopt a more participatory approach to protected area management, to enhance the capacity of the local and indigenous communities to be effective joint custodians of protected areas, to educate the Asian youth to be aware, appreciate and rediscover the region's ancient wisdom and traditional ecological knowledge, to intensify and integrate research related to the wealth of traditional ecological knowledge in Asia, to harness traditional ecological knowledge with the use of technology, and to reinvigorate interest in Asia's traditional ecological knowledge as part of the 'new paradigm' in resource management and biodiversity conservation.

\*[https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/asian\\_philosophy\\_of\\_protected\\_area\\_reduced.pdf](https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/asian_philosophy_of_protected_area_reduced.pdf)

### *"Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia"*

Mr. Peter Shadie (Senior Advisor with IUCN's World Heritage Programme and Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group) presented a paper titled "Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia". Mr. Peter Shadie is an expert in protected areas and World Heritage, and is a former Head of the IUCN Protected Areas Programme, Asia. "Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia" is a discussion paper (based on Mr. Shadie's personal research, funded by MoEJ and commissioned by IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia) on potential mechanisms to promote pan-Asia protected area collaboration, which draws on the experience of other regional mechanisms and assesses their relevance to the Asian context. It is anticipated that this research may inform the development of an Asian Protected Areas Partnership (see **Section 5**), one of the potential long-term outcomes of the APC. The latest version of this document may be downloaded [here](#)\*.

This research recognized that the 21st century will be the "Asian Century", with huge increases in incomes and GDP in many countries. If this trajectory is to be maintained sustainably, then improved regional collaboration is key. Mr. Shadie looked at relevant international fora for collaboration, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and identified that the benefits of a potential pan-Asian collaborative system would include capacity development, the sharing of innovation, partnership building, and improved marketing and standard setting/benchmarking.



By looking at other models of protected area networks (such as Natura 2000, the Europarc Federation, and the ASEAN Heritage Parks), this research identified seven factors for success, which must be taken into account in any proposed Asian Protected Areas Partnership. These are to embrace diversity, to have a site level focus, to ensure that a network adds value, to build partnerships and alliances with care, to nurture the glue that holds the network together, to employ light and effective governance and bureaucracy, and to address the challenge of financial sustainability.

\* [http://asia-parks.org/pdf/discussion\\_paper\\_for\\_regional\\_collaboration.pdf](http://asia-parks.org/pdf/discussion_paper_for_regional_collaboration.pdf)

### Day 3 (15th November)

Day 3 saw the second plenary session and working group sessions of the APC, as well as a youth session, poster session, and twelve side events. The plenary session continued the theme of "Parks Connect" by including presentations linking the APC to the 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and 2014 CBD COP12 in Korea, the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme, the UNEP-WCMC World Database on Protected Areas, the Ministry of Environment, Japan's Green Reconstruction Project and Sanriku-Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park, and linking biodiversity and the Japanese business sector.

Mr. Carl Solomon (Director, Customer Experience Division, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage) spoke on the "IUCN World Parks Congress Sydney, Australia 2014". The IUCN World Parks Congress is a landmark global forum on protected areas that is held every ten years, organized by the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme and the World Commission on Protected Areas. It brings together the most influential people in parks and protected area management to set the direction and shape the global agenda for the decade ahead. Between the 12th and 19th November 2014, Sydney will host the Congress, with a theme of "Parks, People, Planet: Inspiring Solutions". Please see **Section 6** for more information.



*Mr. Carl Solomon. ©IUCN/J Kemsey*

Mr. Charles Besancon (Lifeweb Coordinator, Convention on Biological Diversity) and Mr. Chong-chun Kim (Executive Director, Korea National Park Service) spoke on "Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Korean CBD COP12 Preparations". Mr. Besancon delivered a statement from the CBD Executive Secretary, which underlined the importance of the establishment of representative and connected protected areas, and highlighted the role of protected areas in achieving numerous Aichi Biodiversity Targets. It praised Japan's initiative for designating the Sanriku Fukko National Park as a strategy for disaster recovery, as well as the Nijyuumaru Project as a comprehensive approach to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity

Targets. He emphasized that achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will require strengthened legislative and planning frameworks, as well as innovative financial mechanisms. He introduced "LifeWeb" as an example of such financial initiatives being conducted under the CBD to support biodiversity conservation in protected areas and beyond.

Mr. Chong-chun Kim spoke on preparations for the CBD Conference of the Parties 12 that will be held in Pyeong Chang, Republic of Korea between the 29th September and 17th October 2014 and will include the participation of approximately 20,000 people (please see **Section 6** for more information). In addition to the COP12, this event will also include the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (MOP-7), the first meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (MOP-1) (if the Nagoya Protocol comes into force in time), a high-level segment, and side events. COP12 is expected to include a mid-term review of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the development of a future roadmap for implementation of the Aichi Targets, the development of implementation systems for the Nagoya Protocol, discussions on connecting sustainable development and biodiversity, and an assessment of the implementation tools currently being used for achieving the objectives of the Convention.

Mr. Trevor Sandwith (Director, Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN) spoke on "Strategic Priorities for Protected Areas: IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme". He explained how, since the 2003 IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban, the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme has been called upon to support the Parties to the CBD to achieve the ambitious targets and goals of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (including the Aichi Targets), and the Programme of Work on Protected Areas. He explained how the reach of Aichi Target 11 goes far beyond the simple headline figures - *"17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas"* - and how IUCN products such as the "Protected Planet Report 2012", "Guidelines for Protected Areas Legislation", "Governance of Protected Areas", and the up-coming "IUCN Green List of Protected Areas" and "IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014" respond to this.



Mr. Trevor Sandwith. ©IUCN/J Kemsey

Ms. Naomi Kingston (Head of Protected Areas Programme, UNEP-WCMC) spoke on "The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) - Understanding the Protection of Our Planet". She gave an overview of the WDPA, including its roots in the 1960s United Nations List of Protected Areas, the type of information it includes, the sources of this information, and how it is used (including the "Protected Planet Report 2012" and the up-coming "Protected Planet-

Asia" report). The "Protected Planet-Asia" report will be launched at the 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress and will include a review of the status of protected areas in the Asia region, a assessment of Asia's progress towards the achievement of Aichi Target 11, and a review of protected area issues of particular relevance to the region. It has been commissioned by IUCN's Biodiversity Conservation Programme, with funding from MoEJ and KNCF.



*Mr. Hisae Tokumaru. © Ministry of the Environment*

Mr. Hisae Tokumaru (Director-General, Tohoku Regional Environmental Office, Ministry of the Environment of Japan) spoke on "Green Reconstruction Project and the New Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park". His presentation included an overview of Japan's system of protected areas (highlighting the diversity of landscapes, administration, and use), details of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan's Green Reconstruction Project, the new Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park and Michinoku Coastal Trail, and in particular the importance of fostering the natural environment through linkages between forests, rivers, sea, and Satoyama (a traditional Japanese agricultural production landscape).

Mr. Masatoshi Sato (Chairman, Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation) spoke on "Biodiversity Efforts by the Business Sector of Japan - Activities of the Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation (KCNC)". He explained that the KCNC is the nature conservation arm of the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren), and was established at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Their functions include grant-making to NGOs for work on nature conservation (\$32million spent on 1100 projects over 20 years), the promotion of collaboration between NGOs and the private sector, and awareness-raising on nature conservation and biodiversity. He went on to outline the work that has been supported, including support for protected areas (such as in the Shirakami Mountain Range by The Shirakami Mountains Preservation Society, and Gunung Halimun Salak National Park in Indonesia by the Japan Environmental Education Forum).

#### Day 4 (16th November) - Excursions

Day 4 saw the Congress participants invited to participate in excursions to places of interest in the area - Hachinohe (Aomori Prefecture), Miyako (Iwate Prefecture), Kesenuma Oshima (Miyagi Prefecture), and the Sendai coast (Miyagi Prefecture). These were organized in order to introduce efforts and initiatives of the Sanriku Fukko National Park.



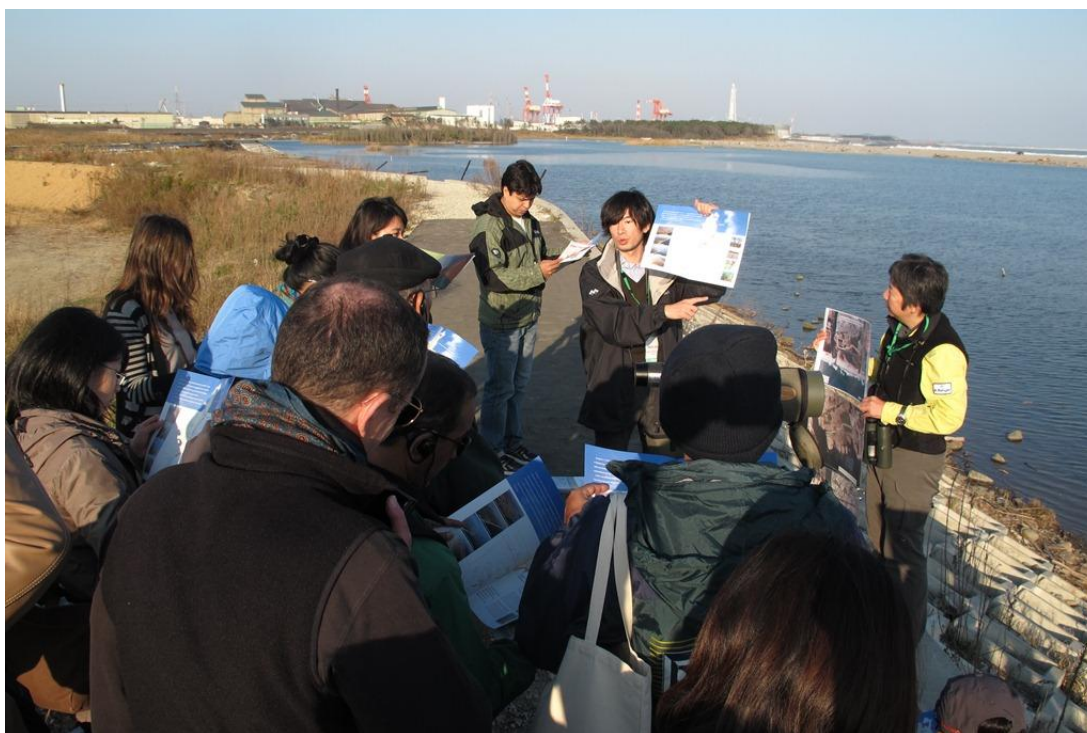
*Ashigezaki Observation Tower. © Ministry of the Environment*

The excursion to Hachinohe included visits to: Kabushima Shrine, located at an important breeding site for black-tailed gulls; the northern entrance to the Sanriku Fukko National Park and Michinoku Coastal Trail; the "Marient" Hachinohe Marine Science Museum of marine life and marine industry; the Ashigezaki Observation Tower, with its panoramic view of the Pacific ocean and coast; and the Tanesashi coast, an area of great artistic and literary significance for Japan.

The excursion to Miyako included visits to: Jodogahama Beach, one of the most popular tourist sites in the Sanriku Fukko National Park, known for its white rhyolites (a silica-rich, igneous rock); the former site of the Nakanohama Campsite, which was destroyed by the tsunami and is now being used by the Ministry of the Environment for disaster education and awareness-raising; and Tarou District, an example of disaster prevention-oriented urban planning and preparedness among the local population.

The excursion to Kesennuma Oshima included visits to: Tanakahama Beach, a popular site for recreation within the Sanriku Fukko National Park and now a focus for rehabilitation of damaged facilities and revitalization of the local economy; the Kesennuma Oshima Facility Complex Zone, an important site for disaster-relief immediately following the tsunami and now the site of temporary housing for affected people; and Mounewan Bay, the site of origin of "Mori wa Umi no Koibito" (a local organization that focuses on forest conservation and environmental education activities).





*Sendai coast © Ministry of the Environment*

The excursion to the Sendai coast included visits to areas that were seriously affected by the tsunami (which reached 5km inland in this area, due to the flat, tidal terrain), and to Matsushima - a nearby archipelago which is said to be one of the three most scenic places in Japan.

#### Day 5 (17th November) - Closing Plenary and Closing Ceremony

Day 5 saw the APC participants reconvene at the Sendai International Center for the final plenary session and closing ceremony of the Congress.

Dr. Kiyotatsu Yamamoto presented the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 1, including debates on the continued use of seawalls in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and issues of consistency in law enforcement and hasty recovery and land use planning, with respect to reconstruction efforts. Dr. Mathur then summarized the recommendations generated by this Working Group - the need to integrate approaches for disaster risk reduction (DRR), land use planning, and development and conservation across sectors; the need to take into account people living in and around protected areas when planning for DRR; that nature-based solutions should be prioritized above engineering solutions; and that ecologically-based rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches for disaster mitigation and reduction should be prioritized in the future

Dr. Yurie Kaizu presented the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 2, including means to engage local communities with tourism, the effective use of parks for environmental education, the challenges of visitor management (in particular carrying capacity management at World Heritage Sites), and options for securing funding for tourism management. The recommendations generated by this Working Group included calls to respect the role of protected areas in conserving nature and cultural values, develop tourism strategies and business plans for protected areas in collaboration with local communities, seek to manage access and promote the development and use of tourism guidelines, work closely with the tourism industry and relevant right-holders, and to build cooperative partnerships, support environmental education and develop authentic products.

Dr. Makoto Inoue presented the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 3, including on issues caused by large-scale development, the difficulties of transmitting traditional knowledge to the next generation, the importance of local solutions for addressing biodiversity

decline, and the importance of Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs). The recommendations generated by the Working Group included recommendations to recognize local practices and contribution of TEK in complementing mainstream approaches in conservation towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; to recognize the importance of traditional governance institutions; to recognize the value of local beliefs, religions, oral traditions and the culture of care of sacred natural sites both inside and outside formal protected areas; to recognize and document TEK with the full participation and consent of indigenous local communities in management; and to educate the youths of Asia on climate change, natural disasters, health, and human wellbeing.

Dr. Toshiyuki Tsuchiya presented the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 4, within the context of Aichi Target 11. He emphasized how collaborative management can be an important tool for stakeholder decision making, but how top-down management is still the mainstream. The recommendations generated by this Working Group include the role of diverse governance regimes in achieving biodiversity conservation, the need to develop sustainable approaches to enhance livelihoods for communities within and outside protected areas, the importance of building of capacity of institutions and actors for collaborative management of protected areas (including strong communication skills), the need to encourage the understanding and integration of privately management protected areas within national conservation strategies, and how the development of any management plan should include elements of collaborative management, and include measurable indicators for social, economic and biological outcomes.

Mr. Yoshihiro Natori presented the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 5, including the sharing of best practices, common threats in trans-boundary protected areas, international aid and training, examples of international cooperative protected area networks, the need for integrated approaches to protected areas and financial sustainability, and the need for capacity development. The recommendations generated by this Working Group included that Asian countries need to enhance collaborations across various fields of work including protected areas, that if this is to be successful the parties must embrace diversity, ensure a site level focus, ensure an added-value to the network, create light and effective governance, and face up to the challenge of financial sustainability.

Mr. Torii of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan made a brief presentation on the outcomes of the informal consultation on the possibility for the development of an Asian partnership for protected areas. He explained that the necessity for this kind of regional partnership was recognized, but that it is also necessary to consider the details of the partnership such as the management structure and membership. It was agreed to launch a Planning Committee with members including WCPA, IUCN, MOEJ, governments, and international organizations. The APC participants were invited to express their interest in participating in the Planning Committee.

Dr. Masahito Yoshida presented on the outcomes of discussions by Working Group 6, including how countries must share the responsibility of achieving Aichi Target 11, the generation of financial support for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), and how the effectiveness of protected areas may be measured. The recommendations generated by the Working Group included that we must ensure that protected areas are large enough and located in the right places, that protected areas should contribute to the sustainable livelihoods and poverty alleviation of communities in and around the protected areas, that we must ensure connectivity of protected areas and their integration to the wider landscape and seascape, and that we must improve capacity to identify important biodiversity areas and potential protected areas, and the capacity to manage them effectively.

The Representatives of Youth reported on the Youth Session and presented the APC Youth Declaration to the Plenary - "Conservation of Protected Areas with the Hands and Energy of Asian Youth". For more information, please see **Section 4** and **Section 5**. The Youth Declaration was welcomed by the Plenary.

The APC Joint-Chairs (Mr. Kazuaki Hoshino and Dr. Yoshitaka Kumagai) discussed the development of the Asia Protected Areas Charter (Sendai Charter), presented the Sendai

Charter to the Plenary, and made closing remarks. They discussed the process by which comments on the draft Charter were submitted, scrutinized, and used to inform the final text of the Charter. The full text of the Charter was read by Dr. Kumagai (see **Section 7**), and subsequently accepted by the Plenary, with no objections. Closing remarks by the Joint-Chairs included a recognition that this closing of the first APC represents the initiating of enhanced cooperation towards the WPC, a call for continuous support from the APC participants in the run-up to the WPC, a thanks to all participants for their hard work and engagement throughout the event, and a request for APC participants to give further input to the development of "The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas", which was presented on Day 2 of the Congress.

The outputs of the APC were delivered by the APC Joint-Chairs to Mr. Mark Taylor (Assistant Secretary, Parks Australia), Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas), Dr. Scott Perkin (Head, IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia), and Ambassador Masahiko Horie (IUCN Regional Councillor for South and East Asia), representing the organizers of the IUCN World Parks Congress. In their closing remarks, they summarized some of the key objectives and outputs of the APC, took the opportunity to thank the various people, bodies and organizations that have contributed to the successful organizing and running of the APC, and reiterated the fact that the outputs of the APC will directly feed into upcoming events including the WPC, and CBD CoP-12.

A Closing Address was made by Dr. Ryutaro Yatsu (the Vice-Minister of the Environment, Japan), in which he thanked the participants of the APC, emphasized the importance of the various outputs of the APC, and expressed his hope that the momentum generated by the APC could be built-upon, to turn the results of the congress into action - implementing nature-based solutions to issues including the conservation of biodiversity (to achieve the Aichi Targets), responding to climate change, and eradicating poverty.

## Section3 - Working Groups



*Ha Long Bay © Our Place Photos*

### *Working Group 1 - Natural Disasters and Protected Areas*

Chair: Dr. Kiyotatsu Yamamoto (Associate Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University)

Co-Chair: Dr. Vinod Bihari Mathur (Regional Vice Chair IUCN-WCPA (South Asia) & Dean at the Wildlife Institute of India)

Working Group 1 recognized that the number of people affected by disasters globally is increasing, asked how we can decrease the risk that natural hazards pose to communities, and support livelihoods, and asked what the role of protected areas should be in post-disaster ecosystem and livelihood rehabilitation in Asia. It was structured around the sub-themes of "Natural Disasters in Protected Areas", "Ecosystem Conservation and Disaster Risk Reduction", the "Great East Japan Earthquake", and "Management and Reconstruction of Protected Areas after a Disaster".

A total of 27 presentations were given by participants from a wide range of organizations, including The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), IUCN Nepal, CARE International, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, the Prince of Songkla University, and the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry. A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

Through these presentations, and accompanying discussions, the Working Group accepted the following facts:

- The Asia-Pacific region is the most disaster-prone region of the world.
- High population growth, urbanization of river courses and coastal areas, and concentration of land use in areas at high risk are major contributing factors.
- The prevalence of hydro-meteorological disasters will likely continue to increase globally, in particular in Asia, due to increased climate variability caused by climate change.
- The economic damages and losses from disasters in the region in 2011 were approximately \$293 billion.
- Ecosystem management is a vital component of disaster risk reduction. Protected areas can significantly contribute to preventing disasters, and to promoting post-disaster reconstruction and healing.



A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 1 proposed that the language of the Message be composed around the following set of best practice protected area policy and management principles:

As protected areas contribute to all phases of the 'Disaster Management Cycle', protected area authorities should:

- Establish sound risk management strategies to help preserve the area during and after a disaster. In doing so, they will strengthen the area's ability to contribute to protection of the lives and livelihoods of people nearby.
- Integrate approaches for disaster risk reduction, land-use planning, development and conservation into multiple sectors.
- Develop emergency response plans for protected areas, to facilitate rapid response in times of crises.
- Ensure that disaster recovery plans are in harmony with both culture and nature.
- Invest in developing natural infrastructure for buffering against future events (rather than hard engineering solutions).
- Engage and inform the local community in all post-disaster recovery programs, so that locally-led efforts may complement government-led efforts.
- Integrate protected areas into strategies aimed at making people less vulnerable and more resilient to natural hazards. Adopt Ecologically-based Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (Eco-RR) approaches for disaster mitigation/reduction.

#### *Working Group 2 - Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas*

Chair: Dr. Yurie Kaizu (Professor, Faculty of International Studies, Bunkyo University/Director, Japan Ecotourism Society)

Co-Chair: Dr. Mihee Kang (Research Professor, Research Institute for Agriculture and Life Sciences, Seoul National University / Executive Board Member(Planning), Ecotourism Korea)

Working Group 2 recognized that there has been a rapid rise in awareness of the importance of education for sustainable development (ESD), and efforts to promote ecotourism, and asked how the development of ecotourism in protected areas can be managed in a way that considers its impact upon communities, and considers issues of both development and protection. It was structured around the sub-themes of "Management of Ecotourism", "Participation of local residents", "Environmental education", and "Visitor management".

A total of 25 presentations were given, including presentations from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, the Hustai National Park Trust of Mongolia, the Coral Triangle Center (CTC), Bali, the Sabah Wildlife Department, Cat Ba National Park - Viet Nam, the Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ), The Nature Conservancy Indonesia, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, P.R. China. A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

Based on these presentations, the Working Group discussed issues of how to secure funding for tourism management (i.e. entrance fees), how to involve local people as certified nature guides (how to educate local people), how to measure the effect of environmental education, and how to control the number of visitors (with respect to the carrying capacity of the protected area).

A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 2 proposed that the language of the Message be composed around the following set of principles:

- Respect the role of protected areas to conserve nature and cultural values, and ensure that tourism at the site is compatible with this role.

- Develop tourism strategies and business plans for protected areas in collaboration with relevant rights-holders and stakeholders, and in the context of national, provincial and local development plans.
- Seek to minimize the negative impacts and optimize the positive benefits of tourism in protected areas.
- Carefully plan and manage access to and within protected areas.
- Promote the development and use of tourism industry guidelines, codes of conduct, and charters, to raise industry standards and increase compliance with environmental safeguards.
- Work with the tourism industry and relevant rights-holders and stakeholders to ensure that benefits arising from tourism are appropriately distributed.
- Build cooperative partnerships within communities and among stakeholders, to bestow pride in their region and identity.
- Support environmental education to develop authentic and creative tourism products and experiences.
- Promote the innovative use of Information Communication Technology to enhance tourism experiences and environmental education.
- Consider the quality of visitors' experiences in protected area planning, and monitor their responses via appropriate indicators.
- Invest in enhanced institutional and individual capacity to create client-focused and business-aware protected areas institutions, staff, rights-holders and stakeholders.
- Ensure that governments do not lose sight of their obligations to adequately staff and fund PAs.
- Invest in collaborative research and development of environmentally sustainable and ethical tourism.

### *Working Group 3 - Culture/Traditions and Protected Areas*

Chair: Dr. Makoto Inoue (Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo)

Co-Chair: Dr. Herman Hidayat (Researcher, The Research Center for Society and Culture (PMB), Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI))

Working Group 3 recognized that in Asia there are many cases of nature being protected due to its spiritual/cultural values, noted that there are many examples of human-influenced natural environments in which natural resources are used in a sustainable manner and linked to productive activities (such as the Japanese Satoyama/Satoumi landscapes), and asked how these traditional forms of environmental protection can inform and support the modern system of protected areas. The Working Group was structured around the sub-themes of "Protected areas management and the livelihood of local people", "Customary management of Satoyama-Satoumi (Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes)", "Utilization of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in protected area management", and "Sacred natural sites".

A total of 23 presentations were given by a diverse array of organizations, including Conservation International, Hokkaido University, National Taiwan University, the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), Public Service Department, Malaysia, the Ishikawa Museum of Natural History, and the Wetland Biodiversity Conservation Society Nepal. A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

Through these presentations, the Working Group discussed issues including the environmental impacts of large-scale development such as oil palm plantation and coal mining, the pros and cons of tourism development, the importance of local solutions for addressing biodiversity decline, documentation of traditional ecological knowledge, capacity building, and the importance of the concept of 'ICCAs' and Sacred Natural Sites.

A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 3 proposed that the language of the Message include the following key principles:

- Recognize local practices such as 'customary forest management' and the contribution of TEK in complementing mainstream approaches to biodiversity conservation. For example - adaptive management of Community Use Zones (CUZs).
- Recognize the importance of traditional governance institutions and local solutions to address biodiversity loss and sustainable use of natural resources.
- Recognize the value of local beliefs (including both animism and mainstream religion), knowledge, skill, wisdom, oral traditions, Sacred Natural Sites, and ICCAs both inside and outside formal protected areas.
- Document TEK with the full participation and consent of indigenous and local communities, to ensure the preservation and protection of this knowledge. This will allow it to be used for new innovation in the sustainable use of biodiversity, and enhance protected area management through the application of traditional practices.
- Recognize TEK, which is based on the practices of local people, including their own ontology and epistemology.
- Educate the Asian youth to be aware, appreciate, rediscover and revive the region's ancient wisdom and TEK in tackling contemporary environmental issues such as global warming, climate change, natural disasters, health and human well-being.

#### *Working Group 4 - Collaborative Management of Protected Areas*

Chair: Dr. Toshiyuki Tsuchiya (Professor, Institute of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology)

Co-Chair: Dr. Madhu Rao (Regional Technical Advisor, Wildlife Conservation Society, Singapore)

Working Group 4 recognized that collaborative management is becoming a more widely-recognized method for natural resources management, noted that the currently dominant government-led top-down approach creates issues of coordinating development and protection at the site level, and asked how protected area governance models such as collaborative management may provide solutions to these issues. It was structured around the sub-themes of "Method of Agreement", "Cooperative Management System", "Role of Enterprise, NGO, Local Government", and "Natural resources management and its contribution to regional development".

A total of 26 presentations were given, including talks by the Species Restoration Center of Korea National Park Service, the ICCA Consortium, the Ministry of Environment and Green Development, Mongolia, the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Afghanistan Program, the Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd., and Beijing Forestry University. A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

Through these presentations, the Working Group discussed issues such as the various institutional models that collaborative management can take in practice, and looked at a number of case studies of collaborative management.

A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 4 proposed that the language of the Message be composed around the following key tasks:

Countries should:

- Actively work to broaden existing governance types to include an appropriately balanced mixture of the four types of governance recognized by IUCN.
- Recognize that rights-holders, duty-bearers and stakeholders have differing entitlements and interests, and may require tailored policies and strategies for engagement and empowerment.
- Recognize that each governance regime is unique, and has an important role to play in achieving biodiversity conservation.
- Adopt and commit to IUCN's principles of good governance.
- Develop a forward-looking plan to improve governance for their systems of protected areas, consistent with the PoWPA and other CBD decisions.
- Systematically assess (at both the system and site level) the social costs and benefits of protected areas to the immediate surroundings, and wider communities.
- Seek out and incorporate the use of TEK in the establishment, planning and management of protected areas.
- Report all protected areas, whatever their management category or governance type, to the WDPA as a contribution to the CBD Aichi targets.
- Recognize the need to develop sustainable approaches to enhancing the livelihoods of communities within and outside protected areas, helping generate economic benefits while maintaining biodiversity resources.
- Build capacity of institutions and actors for collaborative management of protected areas. Strong communication skills are essential for stakeholders to achieve good governance.
- Encourage the understanding and integration of privately-managed protected areas into national conservation strategies.
- Developing a forward-looking plan that includes a framework outlining the determinants of effective collaborative management, and identify measurable indicators for social, economic and biological outcomes.

#### *Working Group 5 - International Cooperation for Protected Areas*

Chair: Prof. Susumu Takahashi (Professor, Faculty of Education, Kyohei University)

Co-Chair: Ms. Clarissa Cabildo Arida (Director, Programme Development and Implementation, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity)

Acting Chair: Mr. Yoshihiro Natori (Executive Director, Nagao Natural Environment Foundation)

Working Group 5 recognized that protected areas have an important role in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainability of the ecosystems that underpin development. It asked how international cooperation may provide avenues for promoting the good management of protected areas, particularly considering the variety of natural and social conditions that are found in Asia. The Working Group was structured around the sub-themes of "Regional cooperation for protected areas", "International framework for protected areas", "International aid and training", and "New construction of international cooperation for protected areas in Asia".

A total of 24 presentations were given by organizations such as WWF Japan, Seoul National University, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership, the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Parks Victoria, and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB). A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

Through these presentations, the Working Group discussed issues such as:

- the sharing of good practices and lessons from locally-based initiatives (such as joint biodiversity monitoring mechanisms, joint fundraising efforts, the development of joint management plans, and joint livelihood improvement programs);

- the identification of common threats to trans-boundary conservation areas (such as habitat loss, human-wildlife conflicts, livelihood issues, development pressures, weak law enforcement, and ineffective management);
- the need for comprehensive and sustainable approaches to conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems (such as Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS), and the upcoming IUCN Green List of Protected Areas);
- the need for integrated approaches to protected areas (such as mainstreaming biodiversity into policy, planning, management, and national development programs, the integration of protected areas into planning and management at the landscape/seascape level, and the active involvement of local communities (including indigenous peoples));
- financial sustainability (such as the need for financial commitments from governments, rather than depend only on international organizations/financial institutions, and the need for financial independence from donors after the initial stages);
- capacity development as a principle approach to development assistance, and carried out through technical assistance; and the fact that
- biodiversity and ecosystems drive sustainable development.

A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 5 proposed that the language of the Message be composed around the following key points:

- Protected areas have an important role in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainability of the ecosystems that underpin development. In order to properly fulfill these functions, Asia's protected areas need enhanced regional collaboration and international cooperation including with neighboring countries.
- Asia already possesses an impressive portfolio of 429 internationally and regionally significant protected areas. These include World Heritage Sites (natural and mixed), Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar Sites, Geoparks, and ASEAN Heritage Parks across the region's 24 countries. This wealth of natural assets demands greater collaboration to promote and better manage them at an Asian scale.
- The call for improved collaboration between protected areas in Asia has come over many years and from numerous quarters, some internal and some external to the region. All of the multilateral environmental agreements by definition enshrine principles of collaboration, with the CBD acting as the principal convention dealing with protected areas.
- ASEAN's Heritage Parks network, Transboundary Manas Conservation Area (TraMCA), Yellow Sea Ecoregion Support Project (YSESP), ASEAN Mangrove Network (AMNet), Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas System (CTMPAS), the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), Heart of Borneo initiative (HOB) and Greater Mekong Sub-region Core Environment Programme and Biodiversity Corridors (GMS CFP-BCI) are good examples of regional collaboration.
- An analysis of regional protected area collaborative networks from around the world has drawn lessons for Asia and suggested steps to further the creation of Asian protected area collaboration.
- The first Asia Parks Congress in Sendai, Japan leading one year later to the IUCN World Parks Congress (WPC) 2014 in Sydney, Australia offers an opportunity to move forward regional collaboration for Asia.

The Working Group also made the following recommendations

- Regional interventions must complement rather than compete with national efforts on protected areas which are now, more than ever, being driven through the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas;
- Global protected area gatherings such as the upcoming WPC should always incorporate regional perspectives into planning, deliberations and outcomes. Whilst the WPC is structured thematically, it should accommodate regional differences and needs in developing solutions to protected area challenges and opportunities;
- Recognize the need for comprehensive and sustainable approaches to conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems (such as the Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS), and IUCN Green List of Protected Areas);
- Call upon interested stakeholders to further develop an appropriate Asian protected area collaboration.

#### *Working Group 6 - Biodiversity and Protected Areas*

Chair: Dr. Masahito Yoshida (Professor, World Heritage Studies, Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, University of Tsukuba)

Co-Chair: Ms. Cristi Marie Nozawa (Regional Director, Birdlife International (Asia) Limited)

Working Group 6 recognized that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) highlights protected areas as places for in-situ biodiversity conservation, recognized that implementation of the PoWPA will require an analysis of the current gap between biodiversity in Asia, and what is already included in protected areas, and asked how we can identify priorities for the expansion and improvement of protected areas, and ensure more effective biodiversity management in and around protected areas. It was structured around the sub-themes of "Aichi Target 11", "PoWPA", "Utilizing Databases for Protected Areas", and "Protected Areas for Biodiversity Conservation".

A total of 27 presentations were given by organizations such as the Wildlife Institute of India, Birdlife International, the Ministry of Environment, Cambodia, the Biodiversity Conservation Agency, Viet Nam, the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), and The Nature Conservation Society of Japan, the National Parks Board, Singapore. A full list of presentations may be found in **Section 7**.

A key task of each working group was to finalize the language of the relevant section of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Working Group 6 proposed that the language of the Message be composed around the following key principles:

- Protected areas should contribute to the conservation of biological diversity; however, they can only do so if they are large enough, and located in important biodiversity areas. Responsibility for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 is shared by all countries.
- Protected areas should contribute to the sustainability of livelihoods and alleviation of poverty in communities in and around protected areas. This requires the prevention of unsustainable resource uses such as illegal fishing, logging, poaching, and mining.
- Protected areas should contribute to climate change adaptation, and resilience to disasters. For this to happen, ecological restoration, ensuring the connectivity of protected areas, and integration to the wider land and seascape will be essential.
- Governments must improve their capacity to identify internationally important biodiversity areas and potential protected areas, and their capacity to manage effectively their system of protected areas.
- Governments must increase public awareness, improve education, and secure sustainable financing for protected areas, by assessing and promoting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services of protected areas.

## Section 4 - Youth Session, Side Events and Poster Sessions



*Gokyo Lake, Sagarmatha National Park © IUCN*

### Youth Session

The APC Youth Session was held on Days 2 and 3 of the Congress (the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of November). It was coordinated by Dr. Tohru Nakashizuka (Professor, Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University), Dr. Katsue Fukamachi (Associate Professor, Laboratory of Landscape Ecology and Planning, Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University), Dr. Tsubasa Iwabuchi (Assistant Professor, School of Life Sciences, Toyo University), and Dr. Kohei Takano (Research Associate, Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University), and aimed to create a forum at which Asian youth could present their research on protected areas and related environmental conservation issues. The results of presentations and associated discussions were then compiled into the "Youth Declaration", one of the key outputs of the APC.

The Keynote Speech of the Youth Session, "Inspiring a New Generation", was given by Nikita Lopoukhine, former Chair of the IUCN WCPA, and former Director General of Parks Canada. This speech recognized that people's love and understanding of nature stem from experiences in the outdoors, and that as the world's population becomes more urban, diverse and sedentary, nature is less present but ever more needed in our lives. Through his speech, Mr Lopoukhine set out the genesis of a global movement dedicated to inviting people across the world to experience, be inspired by, value and conserve nature - a movement that will bring a powerful youth voice to the World Parks Congress, Australia 2014.

During the Youth Session, 19 presentations were given by participants from eight countries. Topics covered included the history and characteristics of national forest parks in China, the concession system of protected area management being used in Japan, the development of the Malaysia Protected Areas Master List, collaborative management of protected areas in Afghanistan, and the relationship between Mt. Fuji and communities living nearby. A full list of presentations given may be found in **Section 7**.

### Side events

A total of 25 side events were held in seven venues over Days 2 and 3 (the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>) of the APC. The purpose of these events was to provide a showcase for national and regional initiatives that fell within the APC's theme of "Parks Connect", and an opportunity for participants to hear in more detail about initiatives that had been mentioned in Plenary and Working Group sessions. In many cases, the topics of these events related closely to the key

themes and sub-themes of the Working Groups, or even built upon specific presentations from the Working Group sessions.

Topics covered in these side events included ecosystem and livelihoods restoration (and the link to Satoyama/Satoumi), collaborative management of protected areas, ICCAs, nature-based solutions to climate change, sacred natural sites, dialogue for better management of protected areas in Asia, and the Conservation Assured - Tiger Standards (CA|TS) and IUCN Green List of Protected Areas initiatives. Side events at the APC were well-attended, and provided a valuable opportunity for broader participation outside of the more formal Plenary and Working Group structures. A full list of side events may be found in **Section 7**.

Selected highlights from the side events include:

- **A Renewed Focus: Conserving coastal and marine ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB))**

Through the ASEAN Heritage Parks programme, ACB is improving the management of protected areas in the region. Of the current 33 ASEAN Heritage Parks, only three are specifically marine. ACB, as the Secretariat for the ASEAN Heritage Parks programme, is actively fostering the further nomination of marine and coastal protected areas. Through presentations by ACB, GIZ, and TNC's Coral Triangle Programme, and discussions with attendees, this side event covered mechanisms to scale-up the effectiveness of marine conservation areas and threatened species protection, mechanisms for setting up a knowledge transfer and capacity development platform for marine and coastal biodiversity, and mechanisms for improving the management of marine biodiversity and raising awareness for marine resource conservation.

- **Bouncing Back from Disasters: Working Together with Satoyama/Satoumi (a case of the Urato Islands) (Tohoku University)**

This side event was held in order to showcase the work of Tohoku University and UNU-IAS in collaboration with members of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), in efforts to rebuild the Satoyama and Satoumi communities of the Urato Islands. It included participation by representatives of two communities of the Urato Island, who shared their experiences during and following the disaster. Discussions following the presentations explored how lessons learned could inform communities elsewhere that may face similar disasters in the future.

- **Collaborative Management in Japanese National Parks (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)**

This side event included presentations on examples of collaborative management in national parks in Japan. These explained how the variety of land ownership that is included within the Japanese National Parks system results in a diversity of land-uses within the parks, and how the Ministry of the Environment seeks to build consensus with a large number of stakeholders. Collaborative activities were outlined, including environmental restoration, biodiversity conservation, control of invasive species, maintenance of facilities, and engaging with visitors.

- **Collaborative National Park Management in the Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)**

This side event included presentations from representatives of Iwate Prefecture, Tohoku Institute of Technology, and Matsukawaura Ecotourism, and discussed the establishment of the Sanriku Fukko National Park and other elements of the Ministry's Green Reconstruction Project. In particular, it highlighted activities relating to the National Park which are being led by private entities, in collaboration with the Ministry



- **Connecting protected areas and their adjacent Satoyama/buffer areas for people and sustainable nature (JICA)**

This side event considered practical approaches, strategies, and tools for connecting physically separated protected areas, linking protected areas with non-protected areas, and coordinating between stakeholders for securing long-term conservation of target ecosystems. Three examples of integrated approaches to the management of protected areas and surrounding areas were presented - from Costa Rica, Malaysia, and Vietnam. These included the establishment of integrated institutional frameworks, the "river-basin" approach connecting ecosystems within a watershed, and the use of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) and *Satoyama* Initiative as overarching frameworks supporting the establishment of community-based livelihood programs.

- **Creating a collaborative platform for the Yellow Sea Ecoregion (WWF Japan)**

This side event was held as an opportunity to introduce local, national, and regional level projects (in the context of relevant international agreements) aiming for biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource use in the Yellow Sea Ecoregion. It included presentations by representatives of WWF Japan, WWF China, BirdLife International, and the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project (YSLME), on topics including Community-Based Management for biodiversity conservation, research on the ecological linkages between migratory shorebirds, local fisheries and benthic organisms, the diversity of waterbirds found in the Yellow Sea, and the YSLME Strategic Action Programme for Adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management. It created a collaborative platform for the Yellow Sea Ecoregion aimed at motivating participants to identify areas of common interest, and sharing good practices.

- **Environmental Consideration in the Reconstruction Promotion Projects (Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS))**

This side event introduced some of the projects that are being undertaken for restoration of the area damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and included presentations on "Environmental Consideration in the Reconstruction Promotion Projects" and "Development of "Biodiversity Potential Map" for the Environmental Consideration in the Reconstruction Promotion Projects". JEAS proposed a simple checklist that can be used for analyzing the environmental considerations of these projects, introduced a "Biodiversity Potential Map", and discussed the environmental impacts of reconstruction projects such as large embankments.

- **Healthy Parks Healthy People – solutions for a healthy future in Asia (Parks Victoria)**

This side event focused on a park management approach that contributes to human well-being and nature conservation, demonstrates the links between human and environmental health, and inspires the development of cross-sector partnerships for sustainable development - "Healthy Parks Healthy People". The event consisted of a panel discussion with audience questions and answers. The panel consisted of representatives of the United Nations University, Yokohama, the National Parks Board, Singapore, and the Centre for Innovating Planning and Development, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, and was moderated by Kathryn Campbell of Parks Victoria. Panel members shared their experiences in Asia on health-related challenges, and the links with parks - highlighting some of the many links between human health and ecosystem health. The discussions, case studies and knowledge shared by panel members and participations will help to inform the "Improving health and wellbeing: healthy parks, healthy people" stream at the IUCN 6th World Parks Congress to be held in Sydney in November 2014

- **How to promote biodiversity conservation by the use of Marine Protected Area ~ examples and discussion~ (The Nature Conservation Society of Japan (NACS-J) and IUCN Japan)**

This side event looked at Japan's system of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and asked how they can be better utilized for biodiversity conservation and sustainable marine resource use, in the context of Aichi Target 11. NACS-J's Panel on Coastal Conservation and Management presented two proposals that have been drawn up - on reconstructing the MPA system, and on guidelines for future MPA designation.

- **Innovative Approaches to Promoting Nature Conservation and Improving Livelihood in the Protected Areas and Their Buffer Zones (Yokohama National University/United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific)**

This side event used examples from the Gobi desert, Mongolia, Cebu, Philippines, and Palawan, Philippines to highlight the importance of nature conservation being carried out in tandem with efforts to foster sustainable livelihoods for local people. Specific examples include the involvement of communities in the management of seedling nurseries, scaling up collective activities relating to non-timber forest products and eco-tourism, and the engagement of fishing communities in order to ensure that tourism development can be sustainable. Throughout, the importance of monitoring was emphasized, to ensure that successful models can be used to inform protected area management and local livelihoods improvement in Asia and worldwide.

- **New funding opportunities for building capacity for protected area conservation: the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in Asia (The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund)**

This side event was held in order to highlight the work of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in supporting biodiversity conservation and civil society capacity building across Asia. Presentations included an outline the global structure of CEPF (by the CEPF Secretariat), the importance of the work of CEPF (by two of the CEPF donors - GEF, and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan), the current process of developing an Ecosystem Profile for the Wallacea Hotspot (by the CEPF Secretariat), and the current process of proposal review and grant-making that is being carried out by IUCN, as the Regional Implementation Team for the second phase of investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot.

- **Private protected area enhancing PA systems - their importance and wider recognition (Japan Committee for IUCN/Equilibrium Research)**

This side event recognized the importance of Private Protected Areas (PPAs) in contributing to global targets including Aichi Target 11, outlined the diversity of conservation and management types that are included in this governance type, highlighted the fact that PPAs are generally underreported in national PA systems, discussed the terminology, definition, and recognition of PPAs through the developments undertaken by the PPA Futures project (which is undertaking a global review of PPAs), and called for the highlighting of PPAs at international meetings such as the CBD CoP12, and IUCN World Parks Congress 2014.

- **Protected Areas and ICCAs (Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas) in Asia: Towards Greater Harmony (Kalpavriksh/ICCA Consortium)**

This side event highlighted the huge number and variety of ICCAs that are found around the world, emphasized the fact that overlap between ICCAs and formal government-designated protected areas is currently inadequately documented and rarely discussed, and explained the issues of conflict and governance that result from this situation. Representatives from Forest Action and the Tao Foundation went on to highlight relevant examples from Nepal and Taiwan, Province of China.

- **Responding to Climate Change – Natural solutions for parks, people, the planet (US National Park Service/Parks Canada)**

This side event was held in order to introduce and encourage contribution from the Asian protected areas community to the Responding to Climate Change Stream of the World Parks Congress, and compilation of a *Best Practices Guidelines for Managing Protected Areas in the Face of Climate Change* that will be showcased at the WPC, and published shortly thereafter. As part of a substantial effort directed to recruiting informative, illustrative examples from protected area managers across the globe, participants at this event were invited to share their own projects and interests surrounding climate adaptation and protected areas. The event brought together Asian delegates and international representatives within the protected area community to collaboratively identify the audiences that should be met by this document, the most effective examples to potentially be included in the guidebook and/or presentations within the Responding to Climate Change stream at the WPC.

- **Restoration of the Livelihood and Spatial Use in Coastal Area based on Nature Conservation after the Great East Japan Earthquake (Iwate University)**

This side event was held to provide a forum for discussing the relationship between nature conservation and livelihood restoration/land use in coastal areas, and to share information among participants. Presentations were given by experts from Hokkaido University, Iwate University, and The Corporation for Environment Reconstruction, and included information on the importance of coastal dunes for disaster risk reduction, the biodiversity of the tidal ecosystems of the Japanese coast, and the restoration and rehabilitation of the Akazaki Coast of Kinkazan Quasi National Park.

- **Sacred Natural Sites and Protected Areas (The Sacred Natural Sites Initiative/World Commission on protected Areas - Japan)**

This side event looked at the role that sacred natural sites and their custodians have in conserving biodiversity and cultural diversity ("biocultural" diversity) in the context of the various policy statements and resolutions that have been developed on this topic in recent years. Participants split into three working groups, that produced a summary of issues important to Asian Sacred Natural Sites for further development towards the WPC, feedback and input into the Working Group 3 report and the Asian Protected Areas Charter, and an initial group of 40 professionals interested in Networking on Asian Sacred Natural Sites ([info@sacrednaturalsites.org](mailto:info@sacrednaturalsites.org)).

- **Threats and Challenges to ICCAs (Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas) in Asia (Tao Foundation/ICCA Consortium)**

This side event highlighted some of the main threats that are faced by ICCAs in Asia (such as unclear or weak legal status and tenure, and agriculture and infrastructure development), and the importance of ICCAs given the challenges that are being faced by national protected area systems. By drawing on examples of ICCAs in Taiwan, Province of China, Nepal, India, and China, the side event proposed a three-fold approach of rights-based, governance-based, and knowledge-based approaches to improving the

management and integrity of ICCAs, in anticipation of the World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014.

- **Tohoku Green Renaissance Innovation Partnership Kickoff Event (Tohoku Green Renaissance Innovation Partnership)**

This side event was held in order to launch the Tohoku Green Renaissance Innovation Partnership (Tohoku GRIP), and included presentation by representatives of Tohoku University's Graduate School of Life Sciences, the National Park Division of the Ministry of the Environment's Nature Conservation Bureau, NPO Rice Paddies Network Japan, the Theme Development Bureau of HAKUHODO Inc., and the Business Solution Company, Canon Marketing Japan Inc. Topics covered included the importance of ecosystem services, biodiversity monitoring of intertidal flats and rice paddies in Tohoku, the Urato Green Renaissance Project, the resilience of flooded rice paddy ecosystems, the background, concept and activities of Tohoku GRIP, and its plans for collaboration with Canon Marketing Japan Inc.

- **Urban Protected Areas and the Best Practice Guidelines – An Asian Experience Values, management and contributions of Urban Protected Areas in Asia (Urban Protected Area Specialist Group IUCN/WCPA)**

This side event included presentations on a forthcoming book - *"Urban Protected Areas – Profiles and Best Practice Guidelines"* by Dr. Ted Trzyna, and examples of protected area management in Yangmingshan National Park, Taiwan, Province of China (by the National Parks Division, Taiwan, Province of China), and in Hong Kong (by the Assistant Director Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China). Discussions following the presentations included the importance of urban protected areas in the global context, and the need for better management of urban protected areas.

#### Poster sessions

Poster sessions were held at two venues on Days 2 and 3 (the 14th and 15th) of the APC. A total of 135 posters were presented by participants from 29 countries, under the categories of: "Ministry of the Environment, Miyagi Prefecture, Sendai City" (three posters), "Working Group Related Subjects" (91 posters), "Representative of Each Country" (22 posters), "Tohoku Regions of Japan" (14 posters), and "Activities of Ministry of the Environment, Japan" (five posters).

## Section 5 - Outputs



*Kinabalu Park, Malaysia © Our Place Photos*

### Asia Protected Areas Charter (Sendai Charter)

The Asia Protected Areas Charter (hereafter referred to as the "Sendai Charter", and included in full in **Section 7**) is the primary output of the Asia Parks Congress. This five page document, produced during the APC and agreed by consensus, is a synthesis of regional expert knowledge on protected areas – a concise distillation of the various issues discussed at the event.

Backed by the internationally-recognized authority of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, IUCN, IUCN-WCPA, and the participating organizations of the Congress (governments, international NGOs, development assistance organizations, academic institutions, and others), the Sendai Charter highlights the value of protected areas for sustainable development, draws attention to the scale and intensity of the threats facing protected areas in Asia, and issues a call-to-arms for the global community to immediately address these challenges.

The Sendai Charter opens with a recognition that the dynamic development of the region has led to "unprecedented growth, but also unprecedented demands on nature" and natural resources. The Charter recognizes the scale of the issue at hand by explaining that the pace of growth and development is now such that species and whole ecosystems are at threat - "the very foundations upon which our development depends". There is an urgent need to enhance protected area management and– to mitigate the impact of these threats. This is "the Asia Challenge".

Subsequent sections of the Sendai Charter directly relate to the topics covered by the six Working Groups at the APC - "Protected Areas for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery", "Harmonization of Regional Development and the Conservation of Biodiversity", "Collaborative Management of Protected Areas", "Linkages between Protected Area Management and Cultures and Traditions", "Sustainable Tourism and Education for Environment and Sustainable Development", and "Strengthening Protected Area Collaboration". The language of these sections has been informed by the discussions of the six Working Groups (and comments by other participants), and includes topics which are



elaborated-on in the relevant sections of the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014".

The Sendai Charter concludes with a recognition that now is the time to seize the opportunities associated with Asia's unprecedented growth and dynamism, and makes a series of six key commitments. In summary, these are to: broaden our understanding of the role of protected areas in disaster risk reduction; increase the potential of protected areas to provide opportunities for responsible tourism and environmental education; enhance protected area networks; respect and integrate local cultures and traditions into protected area management; ensure the integrity of protected areas by reducing the threats to biodiversity and the ecosystems that they hold; and to increase collaboration among protected areas.

As mentioned in **Section 1**, the Sendai Charter will be delivered to the CBD COP12 (October 2014, Pyeong Chang, Korea), the IUCN World Parks Congress (November 2014, Sydney, Australia), and the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (March 2015, Sendai, Japan). The Sendai Charter will be presented as a statement of intent, demonstrating that Asia is taking the lead on these issues. Its presentation will be intended to stimulate and guide debate, and inspire other regions of the world to take similar steps. In the medium and long-term, it is envisioned that the Sendai Charter will support decision-making by governments and international organizations in the region, provide a tool for tracking Asia's progress on protected area issues, and lay the foundations for the development of an Asian Protected Areas Partnership.

#### "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014"

The "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014" (hereafter referred to as the "Message") is one of the key outputs of the APC. It is a 28-page document which expands on the themes contained within the Sendai Charter, and through six thematic messages (each produced by one of the six Working Groups at the APC) provides more detailed guidance on these issues.

The Message opens with an introduction to the APC, including an overview of its background, themes, goals, objectives and outputs, and a recognition that its timing created a deliberate opportunity to "feed Asia's perspectives into WPC being held in Sydney, Australia in November, 2014 and to other protected area gatherings on the international calendar". In addition, the Message highlights how the six thematic Working Groups of the APC align well with the eight Streams of the WPC.

The objectives of the Message are stated to be: to reinforce that the issues covered by the APC are priority concerns facing both the region and the world; to offer the Asia region's experience, expertise and traditional knowledge; to share learning and develop collaborative partnerships and solutions; to encourage the global protected area community to advocate consistent policy on these issues; to encourage the global protected area community to adopt the issue-specific best practice guidance framed by the APC Working Groups; to call upon the global protected area community to mobilize the necessary resources to address the issues identified; to call upon IUCN/WCPA to coordinate the roll-out of an implementation programme on these priority issues; and to encourage international and regional donors to prioritize investment in these issues.

The Message continues with six thematic messages, each developed by one of the APC Working Groups. The development of this text was one of the key roles of the Working Groups, informed by the work presented during the Working Groups, the associated discussions, and by additional comments by Working Group members. Each Working Group included internationally-recognized experts on each topic, ensuring that the final Message is representative of current knowledge and best practices on the issue.

At the closing of the APC, the Message was delivered by the APC Joint-Chairs Mr. Kazuaki Hoshino and Dr. Yoshitaka Kumagai to Mr. Mark Taylor (Assistant Secretary, Parks Australia), Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas), Dr. Scott Perkin (Head, IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia), and Ambassador Masahiko Horie (IUCN Regional Councillor for South and East Asia), representing the organizers of the IUCN World Parks Congress. The delivery of the Message demonstrates that Asia both recognizes its wealth of history and tradition with respect to protected areas, and is committed to playing a leading role on the global stage in terms of maximizing the positive role that protected areas can play in sustainable development, and ensuring that threats to their integrity are successfully mitigated.



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#### Youth Declaration to the first Asia Parks Congress - "Conservation of Protected Areas with the Hands and Energy of Asian Youth"

The Youth Declaration to the first Asia Parks Congress is one of the key outputs of the APC. It was produced following the presentations and discussions made during the Youth Session of the APC, and includes the following main topics: "Nature and Culture in Asia", "Involvement and Education", "Job Opportunity and Capacity Building", and "Networking". The Youth Declaration recognizes the value of Asia's traditional relationship with nature, stresses the importance of education for ensuring the sustainability of development, encourages stakeholders to focus on the implementation of recommendations arising from international conferences such as the APC, seeks commitments from the private and public sectors to enhance opportunities and incentives for employment in the field of nature conservation, and announces the creation of the "Asian Youth Network for Conservation". The full text of the Youth Declaration may be found in **Section 7**.

#### Asian Protected Areas Partnership

While not as immediately tangible as the other outputs of the APC, the proposed Asian Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) may in time become the output with the most lasting positive impact on protected areas in Asia. The idea of such a partnership is based upon the results of a 2010 survey of WCPA members in Asia, who responded overwhelmingly in favor of increasing regional collaboration between protected areas through such a structure. Following this survey, Mr. Peter Shadie was commissioned to undertake a review of existing models of protected area partnerships, and generate recommendations for ensuring the success of a potential Asia-wide partnership (see **Section 2**).

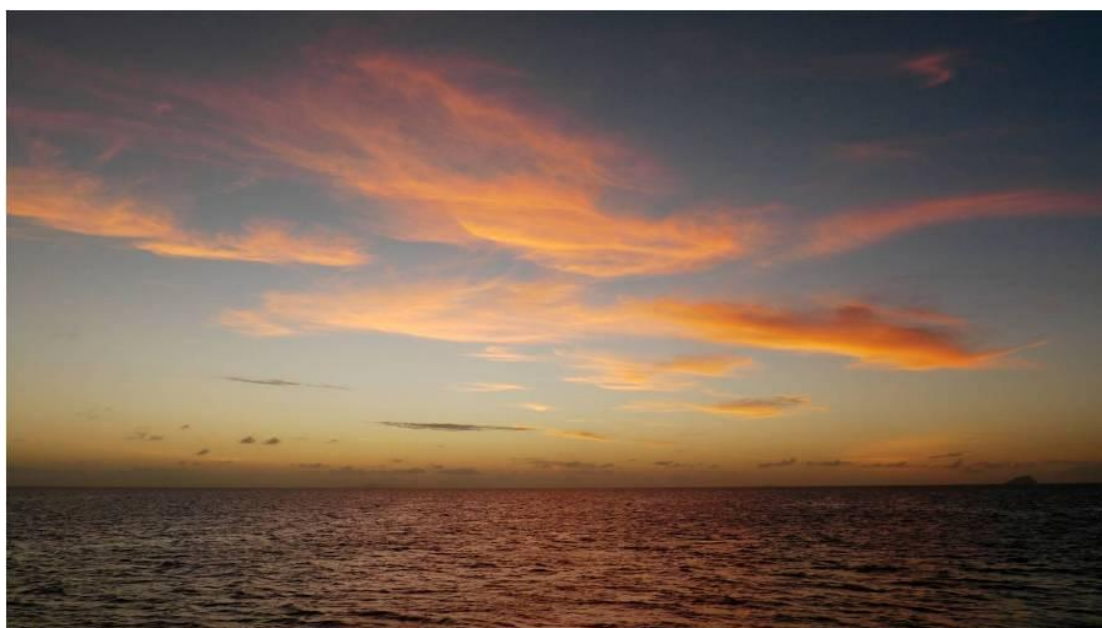
The idea of creating an Asian Protected Areas Partnership was explored in more detail at an informal meeting held on the evening of 15 November. The meeting was convened by MoEJ and IUCN, and included government representatives from many Asian countries and a number of inter-governmental organizations.

At the informal meeting, discussions about the proposed Partnership included questions of membership, the obligations of members, financial sustainability, the scale of the potential partnership, and the added-value that such a partnership would bring/the niche it seeks to fill. While it was accepted that much detail remains to be fleshed-out, the response from meeting attendees was positive, and the meeting ended with a general endorsement by participating governments and international organizations of the development of the APAP.

The next step will be the formation of a Partnership Planning Committee. The Committee will include members of the 1st APC Steering Committee, and will be open to government representatives from countries in the region as well as relevant inter-governmental organizations and development assistance agencies. If possible, the aim is to launch APAP formally at either the CBD COP12 in October 2014, or the IUCN World Parks Congress in November 2014.



## Section 6 - Looking Forward



*Great Barrier Reef, Australia © Our Place Photos*

From 2014 onwards, there will be a number of international events into which the outputs of the APC will naturally feed. These include the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014, the CBD CoP12, Pyeong Chang, 2014, the Mesoamerican Parks Congress, Costa Rica 2014, and the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Sendai 2015. Two of the most relevant are discussed below.

### IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014

The WPC will be held in Sydney, Australia, between the 12th and 19th of November 2014, and will be attended by over 3,000 delegates, from over 160 nations. Organized by the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme and World Commission on Protected Areas, and hosted by Parks Australia and the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, the upcoming WPC will be a landmark global forum on protected areas, bringing together the most influential people in parks and protected area management to set the direction and shape the global agenda for the decade ahead. The theme "Parks, People, Planet: Inspiring Solutions" has been chosen to create discussion and identify sustainable actions for parks and their communities around the world.

The programme will be delivered through eight thematic streams, each representing a challenge or opportunity. These are "Reaching Conservation Goals", "Responding to Climate Change", "Improving Health and Wellbeing", "Supporting Human Life", "Reconciling Developmental Challenges", "Enhancing the Diversity and Quality of Governance", "Respecting Indigenous & Traditional Knowledge and Culture", and "Inspiring a New Generation". There are also four cross-cutting themes: marine protected areas, World Heritage, capacity development, and social compact.

A key focus of the WPC will be on the legacy of the event. Even during its planning, there is already an emphasis on the solutions, commitments, partnerships, action, measurable improvement, and new audiences/bigger reach that will arise through the event.

The APC has been recognized as a crucial event in the lead-up to the WPC. As a result, the outputs of the APC have been designed to feed directly into the WPC - particularly the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014". Along with the Sendai Charter and Youth Declaration, this Message will inform and guide the discussions of the WPC, ensuring that the issues of most importance to protected areas in Asia are well represented at the event. In addition, it is envisioned that the WPC will

see the official launching of an Asian Protected Areas Partnership, alongside the launching of the Protected Planet Asia report (the first regional Protected Planet report to be produced), and the second edition of the global Protected Planet report.

Registration for the WPC is already open. In order to learn more about the event, and register, please see [www.worldparkscongress.org](http://www.worldparkscongress.org).

#### CBD CoP-12 Korea 2014

The Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-12) will be held in Pyeong Chang, Republic of Korea, between the 29th September and 17th October 2014. Organized by the Korea National Parks Service, this event will include the participation of approximately 20,000 people, and will consist of the CBD COP-12, the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (MOP-7), and the first meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (MOP-1) (if the Nagoya Protocol comes into force in time).

COP-12 is expected to include a mid-term review of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the development of a future roadmap for implementation of the Aichi Targets, the development of implementation systems for the Nagoya Protocol, discussions on connecting sustainable development and biodiversity, and an assessment of the implementation tools currently being used for achieving the objectives of the Convention.

The key outputs of the APC, the "Sendai Charter", the "Message", and the "Youth Declaration", will be delivered to the CBD COP-12, in order to stimulate debate, guide discussions, and ensure that the issues and solutions, challenges and opportunities identified by the APC may be included in the COP.

## Section 7 - Annexes

### Annex 1. Chairs' Summary

Kazuaki Hoshino  
Yoshitaka Kumagai

The first Asia Parks Congress (APC) was held in Sendai, Miyagi from 13 to 17 November 2013 under the auspices of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOE-J). The meeting was attended by approximately 800 participants from central and local governments, international organizations, NGOs, academia and students of 40 countries and regions across the World, including protected area authority officials from 22 Asian countries.

The participants of the first APC shared their rich experiences including current status, challenges and best practices of protected area management in Asia with the aim to facilitate the establishment of a regional partnership for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity, thereby sending a message from Asia towards the World Parks Congress to be held in November, 2014 (WPC 2014).

At the opening ceremony, remarks were made by Mr. Nobuteru Ishihara (Minister of the Environment, Japan), Mr. Zhang Xinsheng (President of IUCN), Mr. Yoshihiro Murai (Governor of Miyagi Prefecture), Ms. Emiko Okuyama (Mayor of Sendai City), and Ms Sally Barnes (Chief Executive, Office of Environment & Heritage, New South Wales, Australia), followed by Keynote Speeches by Ms. Junko Tabei (Japanese Alpinist), Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi (Senior Vice-Rector of the United Nations University, Chair of the Central Environmental Counsel of Japan and Professor at the University of Tokyo), and Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin-Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and Professor, Montrey Tech).

During Plenary sessions, participants shared information on; Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas; Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia; IUCN World Parks Congress Sydney, Australia 2014; Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Korean CBD COP12 Preparations; Strategic priorities for protected areas IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme; The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) - Understanding the Protection of Our Planet; Green Reconstruction Project and the Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park of Japan; Biodiversity Efforts of the Business Sector of Japan. The participants also affirmed their commitment to cooperate through the provision of their latest national information for the "Protected Planet Asia" Report which is under preparation by UNEP/WCMC.

Following six Working Groups (WGs) were organized to present and discuss advanced cases related to protected areas: WG1 Natural Disasters and Protected Areas; WG2 Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas; WG3 Culture/Tradition, and Protected Areas; WG4 Collaborative Management of Protected Areas; WG5 International Cooperation for Protected Areas; WG6 Biodiversity and Protected Areas.

In addition to Plenary and WG sessions, Youth sessions were also held.

The participants also deepened their understanding about the role for protected areas to play in post-disaster recovery, through field excursions by visiting the "Sanriku Reconstruction

(Fukko) National Park” established by MOE-J at areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

### **Outcomes of the first APC**

The participants agreed by consensus to “Asia Protected Areas Charter” as a guideline based on Asian experiences for the reconciliation between nature conservation and development in the region.

Productive and constructive discussions at six Working Groups also led to the formulation of “Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014”. Besides, young participants including researchers of the future concluded their rich discussion in the form of “The first Asia Parks Congress Youth Declaration”.

These documents were handed over to representatives of IUCN, the WCPA and the Government of Australia, so that these outcomes would be fully reflected in discussions at WPC 2014.

### **The Way Forward**

The participants affirmed that they would cooperate for the contribution to discussions at WPC 2014, by making good use of the outcomes of the first APC.

The participants recognized the need of a cooperative framework in relation to protected areas in Asia. This led to the creation of a partnership planning committee (tentative name) consisted mainly of IUCN Asia Regional Office, the WCPA and Japan (MOE-J), as well as interested governments and international organizations.

## **Annex 2. Full Agenda**

### 1. Opening Ceremony and Keynote speech (1600-1810, 13 November)

#### 1.1 Opening Ceremony (16:00-16:30)

##### Opening Remarks:

- Mr. Nobuteru Ishihara (Minister of the Environment, Japan)
- Mr. Zhang Xinsheng (President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN))

##### Guest Remarks:

- Mr. Yoshihiro Murai (Governor of Miyagi Prefecture)
- Ms. Emiko Okuyama (Mayor of Sendai City)
- Hon. Robyn Parker (Minister for the Environment and Minister for Heritage of New South Wales, Australia) (represented by Dr Sally Barnes)

#### 1.2 Keynote Speech (16:30-18:10)

- 16:30. "Let's Climb Japanese Mountains". Ms. Junko Tabei (Japanese alpinist)
- 17:10. "Establishment of the Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park: Toward a Society in Harmony with Nature". Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi (Senior Vice-Rector of the United Nations University, Chair of the Central Environmental Council of Japan and Professor at the University of Tokyo)
- 17:40. "Protected Areas: Meeting Human Aspirations and Global Challenges". Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas)

### 2. Reception (18:30-20:00, 13 November )

### 3. Plenary (9:00-11:00 on 14 and 15 November )

#### 14 November

- 09:00. Selection of Joint-Chairs and Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs
- 09:05. Objective of Asia Parks Congress. Joint-Chairs
- 09:25. Introduction of Working Group Sessions. Working Group Chairs
- 10:25. "The Asian Philosophy of Protected Areas". Dr. Amran Hamzah (Professor at University Technology Malaysia, and Former WCPA Vice-chair for Southeast Asia)
- 10:45. "Regional Protected Area Collaboration across Asia". Mr. Peter Shadie (Senior advisor with IUCN's World Heritage Programme and Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group)
- 10:55. Q&A

#### 15 November

- 09:00. "IUCN World Parks Congress Sydney, Australia 2014". Mr. Carl Solomon (Director, Customer Experience Division, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage)
- 09:20. "Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets". Mr. Charles Besançon (Lifeweb Coordinator, Convention on Biological Diversity)
- 09:40. "Strategic priorities for protected areas IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme". Mr. Trevor Sandwith (Director, Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN)
- 10:00. "The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) –understanding the protection of our planet". Ms. Naomi Kingston (Head of Protected Areas Programme, UNEP-WCMC)

- 10:10. "Green Reconstruction Project and the New Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park". Mr. Hisae Tokumaru (Director-General, Tohoku Regional Environmental Office of Ministry of the Environment of Japan)
- 10:30. "Biodiversity Efforts of the Business Sector of Japan". Mr. Masatoshi Sato (Chairman, Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation)
- 10:50. Q&A

#### 4. Working Group Session (12:45-18:00 on 14 and 15 November )

Six Working Groups under the following themes were organized and convened in parallel.

- WG1: Natural disasters and protected areas
- WG2: Tourism and environmental education in protected areas
- WG3: Culture/tradition and protected areas
- WG4: Collaborative management of protected areas
- WG5: International cooperation for protected areas
- WG6: Biodiversity and protected areas

Each Working Group consisted of four sessions (150 minutes per session). Each session consisted of about seven presentations (15 minutes per presentation and five minutes Q&A per presenter) and a short discussion.

#### 5. Poster Session (14 and 15 November )

Presentations were made from 11:00 to 12:30.

#### 6. Side Event (14 and 15 November )

Side events were held during the lunch break (11:15-12:15) and in the evening (18:30-19:30).

#### 7. Youth Session (15:15-19:30 on 14 and 15 November )

The youth session served as a forum for young Asian researchers to present their research on protected areas and to develop a "Youth Declaration" - a message to protected area practitioners in Asia and the world.

#### 8. Excursions (16 November)

Excursions were organized to introduce the Sanriku Fukko National Park.

1. Tanesashi Coast (Aomori Prefecture)
2. Miyako and Jodogahama Beach (Iwate Prefecture)
3. Kesennuma Oshima (Miyagi Prefecture)
4. Sendai Seashore (Miyagi Prefecture)

#### 9. Closing Plenary (9:00-12:00 on 17 November )

- 09:00. Report on discussion and outputs of each Working Group. Working Group Chairs
- 10:30. Report on the Youth Session and Presentation of the APC Youth Declaration. Representative of Youth
- 10:45. Discussion on the Asia Protected Area Charter.
- Closing remarks. Joint-chairs

#### 10. Closing Ceremony "Toward the World Parks Congress"(12:00-13:00)

Handover of the Outputs of the Asia Parks Congress. Joint-Chairs

Remarks by IUCN and the host country of the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014:



- Dr. Ernesto Enkerlin Hoeflich (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas)
- HE Masahiko Horie (IUCN Regional Councilor)
- Mrs Aban Marker Kabraji (IUCN Regional Director, Asia, represented by Dr Scott Perkin, Head, IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia)
- Mr. Carl Solomon (Director, Customer Experience Division, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage)

Closing Address

- Mr. Ryutaro Yatsu (Vice-Minister of the Environment, Japan)

## **Annex 3. Asia Protected Areas Charter (Sendai Charter)**

### **The Asia Challenge**

Asia is the world's most rapidly growing region as well as one of the most bio-diverse. This dynamic development has led to unprecedented growth, but also to unprecedented demands on nature and its bounty.

Asian peoples have historically lived in harmony with nature, developing cultures and traditions that benefit from it, while also respecting the power, beauty and delicate balance of the natural world.

However, the pace of growth and development is now such that this ancient balance is being destroyed, threatening species and ecosystems – the very foundations on which our development depends.

Throughout history, protected areas have proved to be one of the most successful approaches to conserve nature and associated cultural resources in Asia and worldwide. Now, as Asia emerges on the world stage, our protected areas – and the vital role they play in connecting people to nature, people to community and culture, and people to people – require our urgent attention if we are to build a brighter future for the region and guarantee human well-being for generations to come.

We, the delegates to the first Asia Parks Congress, recognize the crucial value of Asia's protected areas for both ecological and economic well-being, and for building a safe, harmonious and prosperous future for communities in Asia and worldwide. We further recognize that the Asia boom has resulted in a young continent, with a thriving population of youth to which we must pass on our current protected areas knowledge and work, and whose energy and innovation we must embrace to secure this future.

We recognize that Asia's extensive and diverse protected area systems have a crucial role to play in reaching global biodiversity goals, including Aichi Target 11, which calls for at least 17 per cent of the world's terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, to be equitably managed and conserved by 2020.

We are, therefore, acutely aware of the urgent need to enhance the management of Asia's protected areas, by increasing their share of human and financial resources, particularly for those on the ground at the conservation frontlines, and adopting global best practice approaches.

### **Protected Areas for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery**

We recognize that disasters in Asia are a significant and ever-present threat, as exemplified by the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, and typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in 2013, and that damage caused by disasters has become more severe as a result of population growth, urbanization, poorly planned development, inappropriate land use and climate change.

We also recognize that ecosystem based disaster risk reduction and protected areas enhance local resilience in areas at high risk of disasters. Such proactive approaches also contribute to disaster prevention and mitigation through utilization of ecosystem services. Furthermore, healthy ecosystems sustain industries which are underpinned by local biodiversity, such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and tourism.

We recognize that nature restoration efforts that contribute to local community recovery in disaster-affected areas can promote people's understanding of the natural environment and ecosystems. Robust systems of protected areas can help increase safety for people and communities, and help reduce damage to property and infrastructure.

### **Harmonization of Regional Development and the Conservation of Biodiversity**

We recognize that development in Asia is now accelerating. We must find a way to harmonize this development with the conservation of nature, by drawing upon and revitalizing the region's rich heritage of traditional practices, systems and beliefs. The region holds rich flora and fauna in its natural environments, and harbors some of the world's highest biodiversity. Its wide range of climatic regions stretches across an exceedingly wide terrestrial and marine range. Many biodiversity hotspots are found within these areas, and the effective management and expansion of protected areas in them is critical. The integrity of protected areas needs to be maintained within this development context.

We believe that protected areas are not only a means for the protection of the natural environment, but also a means for achieving harmony between humans and nature. They are also powerful engines for sustainable development and for securing human well-being. As such, human interventions through promoting best practices and good management in protected areas are instrumental to the maintenance of biodiversity in Asia's landscapes and seascapes.

### **Collaborative Management of Protected Areas**

We recognize that communities in Asia are traditionally connected to the land and sea, and that protected areas must take this into account. Protected areas must therefore also help provide economic benefits and improved livelihoods to the region in which they are located without compromising biodiversity.

We recognize that in order to prosper, protected areas in Asia must connect to the wider landscapes and seascapes within which they exist, and that governments must help facilitate this. Asia must extol traditional approaches that see protected areas not as isolated islands in a sea of development, but as blue and green threads that restore the fabric of nature. Beyond the physical landscapes and seascapes, a diverse range of individuals, local communities and institutions must be engaged and resourced to ensure protected areas benefit all. These include local governments, the private sector, indigenous peoples, NGOs and youth. Diverse governance regimes are necessary for protected areas in Asia and should contribute to effective conservation of biodiversity. Governance for protected areas should be based on their specific ecological, historical and political contexts.

### **Linkages between Protected Area Management and Cultures and Traditions**

We recognize that protected areas, especially sacred natural sites and indigenous peoples and community conserved areas, are often deeply rooted in local cultures and traditions and that these must be supported and encouraged in order to flourish and reconnect people with nature.

Furthermore, we recognize that many cultures and religions originating in Asia have a deep reverence for natural features and phenomena, and have created sacred natural sites that are protected and managed by local communities. These special places not only contribute to the spiritual richness and well-being of people and communities, but also play a valuable role in conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services.

### **Sustainable Tourism and Education for Environment and Sustainable Development**

We recognize that protected areas provide opportunities for tourism and education, and that nature contributes to human health and well-being. Protected areas also contribute to community welfare, by serving as ecotourism assets which benefit local peoples and businesses. As the pace of life in Asia quickens and more and more people live in cities, protected areas are becoming increasingly important as harbors of relaxation and refuge which reconnect people to nature's rhythms.

We recognize that protected areas with beautiful scenery, rich biodiversity, and strong local cultures and traditions are attractive destinations for tourism. Tourism in protected areas must be responsible and sustainable, and act as an incentive to encourage a sense of stewardship in visitors, managers, local communities, businesses and other stakeholders. Education for environment and sustainable development is a useful tool to help interpret the natural and cultural values of protected areas.

## Strengthening Protected Area Collaboration

We recognize that protected areas in Asia cannot address the challenges of Asia's growth and development without strengthening cooperation and collaboration. We must promote international collaboration to identify important places for biodiversity, especially in developing countries, so as to ensure resilience to climate change. Enhancing Asian protected area collaboration would increase the effectiveness of the region's protected areas, and lead to increased dialogue and strengthened ties among countries. We also recognize the importance of embedding protected areas into broader land use and sectoral planning. Furthermore, we also note the importance of stimulating national and site level alliances, and point to the necessity of increased coordination and cooperation with existing biodiversity related international and regional agreements and frameworks.

## Our Commitments

The time to seize the opportunities associated with Asia's unprecedented growth and dynamism is now. As Asia increasingly begins to lead on the world stage, it is imperative that our protected areas also take the lead, and that we use our wealth of cultures, traditions, and human and natural resources, coupled with our optimism and creativity, to actively address challenges here and worldwide.

We affirm our commitment to broaden understanding of the important role that protected areas play in disaster risk reduction and recovery.

We affirm our commitment to increase the potential of protected areas to provide opportunities for responsible tourism and environmental education in a way that is participatory, sustainable and beneficial to local communities.

We affirm our commitment to enhance protected area networks and cooperation through stronger engagement with central and local governments, business, indigenous peoples, NGOs and youth, to strengthen the efforts to mainstream protected area conservation and management in the developmental agenda, and to increase financial and technical support for protected areas.

We affirm our commitment to respect and integrate local cultures and traditions, and to listen to the voices of those practicing them, in the designation and management of protected areas.

We affirm our commitment to ensure the integrity of protected areas by reducing the threats to biodiversity and the ecosystem services they hold, in addition to strengthening their ability to serve as reservoirs of globally threatened biodiversity and to contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

We affirm our commitment to increase protected areas collaboration, to inspire and innovate through these enhanced relationships, to improve governance and management capacity, and to champion the value of protected areas in Asia.

Through these commitments, we will strengthen our collaborative spirit and heighten our resolve to ensure Asia remains a leader in protected area policy and practice. We will capture the energy and imagination of the current Asia boom to build a foundation of connection, respect, and momentum for protected areas to conserve biodiversity. We will work toward a future where protected areas enhance human progress, resulting in people living in harmony with nature.

*For the purposes of this Charter, 'protected areas' are as defined by IUCN: "A clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values". Protected areas include terrestrial, marine and freshwater systems and include protected areas established and managed under the four governance types recognized by IUCN, viz: governance by government (at various levels); governance by various rightsholders and stakeholders together (shared governance); governance by private individuals and organizations; and governance by indigenous peoples and/or local communities. Finally, this Charter also concerns the many private protected areas (PPAs), sacred sites, indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas (ICCAs), and other protected areas which may not yet have achieved formal recognition and recording within the UNEP-WCMC World Database on Protected Areas.*

#### **Annex 4. Message from the 1<sup>st</sup> Asia Parks Congress to the IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014**

The 1st Asia Parks Congress (APC) was convened in Sendai, Japan from 13th to 17th November, 2013. The APC was an ambitious undertaking developed in partnership between IUCN, its World Commission on Protected Areas and the Government of Japan who provided leadership and generous financial support in staging the Congress. The APC was a hugely successful and ground-breaking event which brought together, for the first time, the protected area community from across the entire Asia Region. About 800 participants from international organizations, central and local governments, NGOs, academia and donors gathered from 22 countries across Asia to celebrate, share rich experiences and debate challenging issues across a range of common concerns for protected areas. Together the participants worked to review the status of protected areas in the region and to chart a course for the future: one which will ensure a central role for these areas as foundations of Asia's future growth and development. These aspects were reflected in the APC's aspirational statement:

"The Asia Parks Congress aims, for the first time, to connect protected area practitioners with the wider community to share experience, learn from each other and together respond to the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century."

The timing of the Congress creates a deliberate opportunity to feed Asia's perspectives into the WPC being held in Sydney, Australia in November, 2014 and to other protected area gatherings on the international calendar. The Asian Development Bank forecasts that if the current trends continue Asia will see by 2050 a six-fold increase in per capita income and approximately 3 billion additional people considered affluent by today's standards. The APC participants hold a common view that the increasing global influence exerted by Asia across many spheres, the so called Asian Century, will also profoundly influence the future for protected areas worldwide. The challenges and opportunities for protected areas in Asia are similar to many other parts of the world and the APC participants hope that Asian perspectives can help to shape the critical deliberations and global directions that will emerge from the 2014 WPC. It is self-evident then that the crucial voice of Asia is heard at the world's seminal event for protected areas. Furthermore that this voice is heard more widely through influencing other multilateral environmental agreements like the Convention on Biological Diversity, World Heritage Convention, the Ramsar Convention and UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme and that Asia's priorities are reflected in the strategic directions taken by donors and key global financing instruments for biodiversity such as the Global Environment Facility.

The APC participants collectively believe that a regional approach to tackling protected area issues is the best way forward. A regionally tailored approach recognizes common philosophies and cultural traits at an appropriate scale and then translates global directions and best practice in a way that does not undermine important global principles yet is meaningful to regional stakeholders and sensitive to cultural ethos and practices.

The theme of the APC was "Parks Connect" a flexible yet unifying concept of the connections which link protected areas at many different levels: across biophysical land and seascapes; across sectors; across social and cultural diversity; across the generations; and across many partners. The Congress was structured around six working groups each addressing specific topics:

1. Natural Disasters and Protected Areas
2. Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas
3. Culture/Traditions and Protected Areas
4. Collaborative Management of Protected Areas
5. International Collaboration for Protected Areas
6. Biodiversity and Protected Areas

Each of the working groups has developed policy and management guidance centered on an issue of common relevance to Asia. The guidance derives from the Asian context and is founded on best practice approaches. As such it is a valuable resource that will benefit audiences both within and outside of the Asia Region. This message from the APC is directed specifically at the next WPC and is mindful of the thematic structure of the Congress which links well with the APC structure above, albeit in a number of integrated and cross cutting ways. The eight WPC Streams include:

1. Reaching Conservation Goals
2. Responding to Climate Change
3. Improving Health and Well Being
4. Supporting Human Life
5. Reconciling Development Challenges
6. Enhancing Quality and Diversity of Governance
7. Respecting Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge and Culture
8. Inspiring a New Generation

In light of the above, we the PARTICIPANTS of the 1st Asia Parks Congress commend the following best practice protected area policy and management guidance to the global protected area community, being those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas. This message to the 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress seeks to:

1. Reinforce that these issues which stem from the Asian context represent a number of priority and common concerns facing protected areas across the region and indeed the world. We therefore urge WPC organizers, the Australian host and stream/cross-cutting theme leaders to factor these issues into WPC planning, deliberations and outcomes;
2. Willingly offer the Asia Region's experience, expertise and traditional knowledge to share learning, explore options and develop collaborative partnerships and solutions to address these issues;
3. Encourage the global protected area community to advocate consistent policy on these issues in order to send clear messages to protected area decision-makers and to others in positions of influence so that the values of protected areas are taken into account more fully;
4. Encourage the global protected area community to adopt the issue-specific best practice guidance, as framed by the APC Working Groups, within global and regional protected area support programmes and strategies;
5. Call upon the global and Asian regional protected area communities to mobilize the necessary technical and financial resources to address these issues thereby strengthening national and site based capacity;



6. Call upon IUCN/WCPA through its members, expert networks and partners to coordinate the roll-out of a comprehensive, regionally tailored, implementation programme on these priority issues following the WPC; and
7. Encourage international and regional donors to prioritize investment in these issues of common concern to Asia and so support the best practice policy and management guidance relevant to each.

We, the protected area community of Asia, pledge our commitment to work closely with the WPC organizers, Australian hosts and stream leaders in furthering these aims. Asia has much to offer in support of the above including a unique protected area philosophy which seeks to harmonize spiritual values with nature and a wide range of socio-ecological approaches to managing protected areas in different cultural settings.

### **Protected areas, natural hazards and disaster recovery**

#### *Message from WG1 on Natural Disasters and Protected Areas*

The number of people affected by disasters is increasing. Almost half the world's population has lived through a disaster at some point in the past decade. Of those affected by disaster, it is now estimated that more people are affected by natural hazards than by warfare and conflict. Climate change and its impact on extreme weather patterns have focused much attention on the increasing frequency and severity of disaster caused by natural hazards. The number of geophysical disasters: earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions have remained steady, however, the number of climate-related disasters: including droughts, windstorms and floods is increasing steadily. Floods, hurricanes and droughts have increased dramatically over the last 20 years. From 1987 to 1998, the average number of climate-related disasters was 195. From 2000 to 2006, the average was 365, representing an increase of 87 per cent. Today, more than 70 per cent of disasters are related to changing weather.

UNISDR, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk, is the focal point in the UN system for disaster risk reduction. Established as the Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in 1999, UNISDR is also tasked to coordinate the implementation of the 'Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-15', the international blueprint on disaster risk reduction.

A disaster may be defined as "a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources" or put more simply "aspects of the physical world that have the potential to cause considerable harm to people." UNISDR note that, strictly speaking there is no such thing as a natural disaster, but there are natural hazards such as cyclones and earthquakes....a disaster takes place when a community is affected by a hazard...in other words the impact of the disaster is determined by the extent of the community's vulnerability to the hazard.

Natural hazards may be classified into six types: biological, geophysical, meteorological, hydrological, climatological and extra-terrestrial. For the purposes of this guidance on best practice protected area policy and management the focus is on those disasters most common in Asia and most commonly associated with protected areas: earthquakes; volcanic eruptions; land and mudslides; floods; glacial lake outbursts; tsunamis; fire; drought and desertification; storm events including typhoons and storm surges in coastal areas; and extreme weather events in high mountains.

Asia as a region has a relatively high number of developing nations. The region's densely populated lowlands, coasts and cities makes it a highly hazard prone environment. UNESCAP's 2013 report on Asia-Pacific resilience to natural disaster states that "Asia and the Pacific is the most disaster-prone region of the world. Almost two million people were killed by disasters in the region between 1970 and 2011, representing 75 per cent of global disaster fatalities. A person living in Asia and the Pacific is four times more likely to be affected by (natural) disasters than someone living in Africa, and 25 times more likely than someone living in Europe or North America. In 2011 alone, economic damages and losses from disasters in the region totaled more than \$293 billion." Exposure to natural hazards and the damage caused by disasters has become more serious and intense in Asia due to population growth, urbanization of river courses and coastal areas, and the concentration of land use in areas at high risk of disaster.

There has been a steadily growing awareness backed by mounting evidence that protected areas provide a very wide spectrum of values and benefits to nature and society. These values and benefits have always been there but, in the past, known only to a few and/or not well documented or widely accepted. The WWF and IUCN Arguments for Protection Series, commencing in 2000, assembled a significant body of information on the benefits of protected natural ecosystems and offered compelling evidence that such protection is a justified, cost effective and efficient way of delivering many social, cultural and biological services. It is clear that protected areas play a significant role in human health, water supply, recreation, food security, climate stabilization and disaster mitigation. With respect to disaster risk reduction the UNISDR acknowledge that "ecosystem management is a vital component of disaster risk reduction, a management regime to which protected areas can clearly contribute."

#### Disaster Risk Reduction for protected areas: disaster impacts/implications for protected areas themselves

Natural hazards have a direct impact on protected areas themselves. In addition to physical damage during the disaster, degradation from post disaster operations such as debris disposal, overexploitation of services, temporary shelter establishment and spread of invasive species that may have been transferred in relief operations also threaten protected areas. Such factors affect the ecosystem services provided by protected areas which may be critical in assisting communities to recover from the event. Therefore, such areas need disaster risk reduction planning and strategizing to reduce impacts on the area during and after the disaster. Ill prepared protected areas will have less resilience to disasters and likely fail to fulfil their potential to assist in post-disaster recovery efforts.

#### Disaster Risk Reduction for people, communities and livelihoods: protected areas as buffers against natural hazards

By their very nature, protected areas control land use and provide tenure stability in rapidly changing landscapes. Therefore, properly planned, established and well managed protected areas have proven to be one of the most effective tools we have to maintain natural systems that can shield communities from severe impact. The World Disasters Report, 2012 concludes that the Philippines could shield up to 20 million of its people—about a fifth of its total population—from disasters by improving the protection of its coral reefs, a primary line of defense against coastal hazards, including tsunamis.

#### Disaster Recovery: role of protected areas in post disaster rehabilitation

As evident from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake protected areas can become an important tool in post disaster reconstruction and healing

processes. The Sanriku Fukko Reconstruction National Park initiative in Japan is an example of a specific response using protected areas to aid in the post disaster healing process for both nature and humans. The initiative culminating in 2013 brings together several protected areas in the disaster affected area in cooperation with agricultural, forestry and fisheries interests. This so called “Green Reconstruction” is consistent with Japan’s interconnected forests, rivers and sea philosophy known as Satoyama .

Therefore, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on Natural Disasters and Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following set of best practice protected area policy and management approaches:

Disaster risk reduction and disaster management authorities should recognize, promote and help preserve the contribution of protected areas in all phases of the disaster management cycle (such as risk assessment, risk reduction, relief and reconstruction). Furthermore, protected areas authorities need to establish sound risk management strategies that help preserve the protected area during and after a disaster, and in doing so strengthen its role in contributing to protecting lives and livelihoods. Protected area managers also need to recognize this critical role of protected areas in the planning, establishment and management of new areas.

#### Disaster Response: post disaster impacts/implications for PAs

1. Undertake effective and collaborative hazard assessment to identify the risks to protected areas from natural hazards present in the area.
2. Work at land and seascape scale to better understand the underlying factors that exacerbate the impacts of disasters, which can also have dramatic impacts on protected areas. Efforts should be directed at working across sectors and jurisdictions to have a truly integrated approach for risk reduction, land-use planning, development and conservation.
3. Based on the above risk assessment prepare Protected Area Disaster Response Plans that:
  - a) articulate integrated spatial and policy responses to relevant disaster scenarios. Consider issues such as the location and design of park infrastructure, communication and collaboration with stakeholders, interim protection following disasters, pre-emptive area closures; asset insurance, rebuilding of park facilities, ecological restoration, post disaster revenue implications etc;
  - b) ensure that protected area response strategies are consistent with overall management plans and are feasible to implement including identifying sources of emergency support in the form of human and financial resources and equipment;
  - c) develop emergency response plans to allow for rapid responses in times of crisis. Many calamities arrive suddenly and unexpectedly and may catch protected managers unaware;
  - d) ensure that where possible post-disaster relief is planned for so that protected areas can continue to function and be managed whilst explicitly accounting for the needs of affected people. Following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami many park

management staff were killed or injured and park management infrastructure destroyed, leaving no capacity to manage the park in the immediate recovery phase and with no back-up plans to address this gap from elsewhere;

- e) ensure, where possible, that post-disaster recovery efforts do not irreversibly impact on key protected area values. For example following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami significant aid arrived to support recovery efforts in and around Laemson National park, Thailand. While this support was welcomed, an increased number of fishing boats was provided by aid relief agencies, which had a longer term negative impact on the governance and viability of fisheries in the area and their capacity to sustain livelihoods.
  - f) allocate/invest adequate resources to consistently monitor and adapt strategies according to changing circumstances.
- 4. Adopt IUCN principles of good protected area governance (legitimacy and voice; direction; performance; accountability; and fairness and rights) when preparing disaster response plans and in executing these. The links between protected areas and people will be thoroughly tested during disaster response. Collaborative approaches are essential as response roles will be shared by multiple institutions.
  - 5. Implement awareness raising, capacity building/training, educational and research programmes on disaster risk reduction in protected areas.
  - 6. Ensure that recovery plans are in harmony with both culture and nature.
  - 7. Involve local communities especially green NGOs in the planning of disaster recovery plans.

#### Disaster Risk Reduction: PAs as buffers against disasters

- 1. Invest in protected areas as part of disaster prevention/mitigation strategies. Whilst billions of dollars are spent on post disaster rehabilitation relatively little is spent on disaster prevention. Studies have shown that a \$1 investment in risk reduction can save between \$2 and \$10 in disaster response and recovery costs.
- 2. Recognize and promote the fundamental role that intact forest and coastal vegetation cover plays in reducing disaster risk. Both the area and quality of forest cover are important to moderate impact.
- 3. Recognize and support the critical role that protected areas can play in mitigating or buffering impact from the following disasters:
  - a) Flooding. Use of protected area systems to disperse floodwaters and maintain natural flooding regimes. For example floodplains act as natural overflow systems; integrated water basin management (IWBm) can restore natural catchment function. In addition the retention of natural forest cover, riparian and coastal estuarine ecosystems can mitigate against flood impacts.
  - b) Landslides, mudslides, avalanches and rock falls. Protected areas which maintain vegetated slopes can assist in stabilizing soil thereby mitigating against these types of disasters. In high mountain systems underlying natural landforms often pack snow in a more stable way that can prevent slippage. Whilst prevailing

geology, soils and climatic conditions are significant factors, the protection of vegetation cover can reduce the occurrences of slips and slow them when they do happen.

- c) Storm surges and coastal erosion defence. Protected areas which conserve reefs, seagrasses, mangrove forests, and saltmarshes can help buffer and filter sudden incursions of seawater from cyclonic, typhoon and tsunami activity. Offshore reef systems act as natural wave energy dissipaters. Undisturbed offshore sand erosion and depositional processes can moderate the impact of extreme weather events.
  - d) Drought and desertification. Protected areas can also buffer the impacts of drought and desertification through alleviating grazing pressure on land, providing a reservoir of important stocks of drought resistant species, providing refugia for species under pressure in surrounding landscapes, acting as emergency food stores and/or by maintaining natural groundwater dynamics during times of pressure.
  - e) Fire. Protected areas are often seen as the source of fires, however they can also buffer fires by retaining natural vegetation mosaics which moderate fire behaviour. Natural stocks of fire adapted species will also be replenished in protected areas with natural fire regimes which do not threaten human life and property. Sizable and well-designed protected areas also limit the interface threats to human settlements.
  - f) Glacial lake outbursts floods (GLOFs). Warming processes are triggering the widespread retreat of glaciers in the region's high mountain systems which have led to the formation and rapid growth of many glacial lakes which are vulnerable to outburst flooding causing immense flooding downstream. This downstream threat from GLOFs can be lessened to some extent by well-sited protected areas with the capacity to absorb floodwater surges and protect vulnerable communities. Transboundary protected area cooperation is often critical in forecasting and responding to downstream impacts and to early warning systems for communities.
4. Undertake a programme to build knowledge including actions such as:
- a) documenting information on the role of protected areas in past disaster events to catalyze policy and practice change;
  - b) investing in research to quantify the value of protected areas in disaster mitigation; and
  - c) collecting local knowledge and experience in tried and tested nature-based solutions to disaster risk reduction.
5. Work to reform policy and practice with respect to protected areas and disaster risk reduction including:
- a) building protected area manager capacities in enhancing the role of protected areas in disaster mitigation (risk assessments, hazard profiling, restoration etc);
  - b) foster capacity exchange between protected area managers, disaster risk managers, all levels of government and community interests to build better awareness and response;

- c) work to integrate planning for protected areas with disaster risk reduction planning; and
- d) promote stronger support for investment in integrated disaster risk reduction and protected area programmes.

#### Disaster Recovery: Role of PAs in post disaster rehabilitation

Invest in well managed protected area systems to restore natural infrastructure following a disaster. The tendency is to create hardened defence structures, often hard engineering solutions such as sea walls etc., against future disaster events instead of soft natural measures such as raising coastal forests. Natural infrastructure can be more effective in buffering future disasters and more cost effective than hard engineering solutions, especially in terms of maintenance and considering the many other benefits (such as livelihoods and recreational values) that natural infrastructure provide.

1. Commit to considering the re-introduction of green spaces that may have been destroyed or removed due to development before the disaster. While the impacts of a disaster can be devastating, it also provides a chance to 'build back better' and greener. It would be good to adopt ecological based rehabilitation and reconstruction (Eco-RR) approaches.
2. Engage full and informed community participation in post-disaster recovery programmes. The direct dependency of many local communities on natural resources strongly requires the use of protected areas as part of the recovery process. Many people in Asia have a long tradition and perception of protected areas as a source and succour in times of disaster. Community ownership and clear negotiated rights of access and benefit during critical times can also ensure that the protected area is not over-exploited in the recovery process.
3. Integrate protected areas into strategies that make people less vulnerable and more resilient to disaster. Protected areas can help individuals and communities better appreciate natural processes, removing the fear of disaster and helping them to quickly bounce back better than ever from impacts. Protected areas can make people aware of the blessings and threats of nature, a very important asset for the Asian pursuit of a life in harmony with nature.
4. Consider the therapeutic and healing role that exposure to nature can have in helping people recover from personal tragedy. Protected areas can be places of spiritual recovery and their perpetuity offers solace to communities which have been touched by disasters. Furthermore, protected areas also help nature heal itself. These areas act as the ecological foundations for broader scale recovery of natural systems that underpin livelihoods.

#### **Tourism and Environmental Education as Drivers for Sustainable Management of Protected Areas**

##### *Message from WG2 on Tourism and Environmental Education*

Tourism within protected areas is inextricably linked in a global business partnership of significant economic proportions. Travel and tourism's direct contribution to world GDP and employment in 2012 was 2.1 trillion USD and 101 million jobs. These figures balloon out to 6.6 trillion USD and 260 million jobs representing 9% of global GDP when one considers the indirect economic contribution. A staggering 1 in 11 jobs worldwide are associated with the



tourism sector which is forecast to grow at 4.4% p.a. over the next decade, a pace outstripping overall global economic growth.

In percentage growth terms, Asia, Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa were amongst the fastest growing destination markets in 2012. South East Asia (7.3%) was the fastest growing region in terms of travel and tourism's contribution to total GDP and half of the growth in total travel and tourism employment (4 million jobs) was in Asia alone. Three of the four top performing tourism economies in the world were in Asia – Korea, Indonesia and China.<sup>2</sup>

The World Travel & Tourism Council notes that “Asia will continue to lead growth of the global Travel & Tourism industry over the next decade, with annual average growth of over 6%. Asia's growth will be driven by increasing wealth among its middle classes. This will impact on the wider global industry via increased destination competition but also create opportunities to grow outbound spending. Destinations within and outside Asia will need to be prepared to invest in infrastructure suitable for these new sources of demand to achieve the clear growth potential that exists”<sup>2</sup>.

The tourism sector is highly diversified; however, nature and culture based tourism in and around protected areas has continued to be a growth area. The above forecasts for Asian tourism growth both within and outside the region amply reflect increasing affluence, leisure time and mobility leading to greater visitor pressure on the Region's protected areas. Across Asia, efforts to promote tourism, especially ecotourism, have been actively made in protected areas as a means to support the livelihoods of neighboring residents.

Planning, accommodating, managing the impacts of and capturing the benefits from the use of protected areas by tourists and other visitors was a pervasive topic woven throughout virtually all discussions at the 2003 Vth WPC. In acknowledging the widespread nature of the issue, tourism was treated as a cross-cutting issue at the WPC. Tourism aspects featured across all of the major WPC legacy outputs and a specific WPC Recommendation was adopted on the topic of tourism as a vehicle for conservation and support of protected areas. In addition, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Programme of Work on Protected Areas notes the positive contribution that protected areas make to tourism and the opportunities that exist to enhance this.

Education is the key to sustainable development and the world's citizens need to learn their way to sustainability. In response UNESCO suggested the concept of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) which is an umbrella for many forms of education that already exist and a framework for new forms that remain to be created. In the context of ESD, Environmental Education (EE) is the main element in fostering an enabling environment for conservation in protected areas. Opportunities for authentic and experiential education increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of the importance of protected areas and the ecosystem services they provide. Effective EE promotes a sense of community pride, ownership and responsibility for natural resources and cultivates support and engagement for the conservation initiatives which are so important for shifting destructive behaviours to those that contribute to sustainability and effective management of protected areas. EE initiatives should include locally appropriate experiential ecological education for all sectors of civil society, and capacity development for protected areas managers and practitioners.

Properly planned and managed, tourism can bring a range of benefits to both conservation and local people. Well managed tourism brings direct financial benefits to protected areas and creates a supportive clientele who value and champion the worth of protected areas.

There are several outstanding examples in Asia where local people are indeed deriving huge benefits from tourism in protected areas.

Poorly coordinated tourism can have disastrous consequences for protected areas with uncontrolled use pressures, unregulated tourism infrastructure development, poor marketing and poor visitor experiences all leading to a culture of exploitation rather than stewardship. In some cases opportunistic tourism activities may appear to be superficially benefiting local communities, however, without careful management these activities can deplete resources, adversely affect the cultural sensibilities of local communities and ultimately deliver only short lived benefits.

Many protected area site managers are suspicious of the tourism industry and understandably adopt defensive positions regarding the sector. Furthermore provincial and local tourism development aspirations can often ignore or override conservation considerations and the capacity of protected areas to deal with tourism use. These are familiar concerns in many areas of the world but nowhere more so than in Asia. The growth in protected area coverage across Asia has been impressive, however, many countries are struggling to find the resources to effectively manage these areas in the midst of competing priorities such as health, education, security and poverty alleviation. Increasingly governments are looking to tourism as a means to supplement or even replace scarce government funding. In Asia most protected areas are still heavily reliant on government funding and, with a few notable exceptions, tourism development has either not been optimized or benefits are not returned to the protected areas themselves.

Contemporary protected area practice calls for client focused protected area institutions and staff with new skill sets which allow them to engage with the tourism sector on an equal footing. Protected area policies, management and staff capacities need to improve to address issues such as:

- strategic policy and planning for tourism including park business planning;
- improved visitor management;
- improved interpretation, communication and awareness raising;
- better planned and environmentally sympathetic tourism infrastructure development;
- building stronger relationships with the tourism industry to establish healthy productive partnerships; and
- deepening the understanding of tourism benefits and how these can be equitably distributed to support inter-alia the welfare of local communities and so augment livelihoods.

In light of this, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following set of best practice protected area policy and management approaches:

1. Respect that the paramount role of protected areas is to conserve nature with associated ecosystem service and cultural values as enshrined in the IUCN definition of a protected area and ensure that any tourism use is compatible with this role. Tourism strategies and programmes within and adjacent to protected areas should foster a culture of resource stewardship rather than exploitation.
2. Develop tourism strategies and business plans for protected areas in collaboration with relevant rightsholders and stakeholders and in the context of national, provincial and local development plans. Strategies and plans should recognize the wider spectrum of tourism opportunities outside of the protected areas themselves.
3. Seek to minimize the negative impacts and optimize the positive benefits of tourism in protected areas. This should include:
  - a) respecting the precautionary principle when considering the impacts of tourism development and use;
  - b) strictly adhering to environmental impact assessment processes (EIA), both the letter of the law and in spirit, to mitigate negative impacts and optimize positive impacts;
  - c) ensuring tourism infrastructure is designed and developed to be environmentally and culturally sensitive and where possible located outside of protected areas and/or environmentally sensitive core zones.
  - d) managing visitor demand and access particularly in heavily used protected areas using a combination of mechanisms such as carrying capacity or other tools to regulate visitor impact, physical access restrictions and zonings, market based tools, booking systems and innovative transport solutions; and
  - e) promoting conservation awareness through an array of park interpretation services.
4. Plan and manage carefully for access to and within protected areas. Evidence suggests that opening up remote areas and their resident communities to increased access can have profound impacts on protected areas.
5. Promote the development and use of tourism industry guidelines, codes of conduct and charters to raise industry standards and compliance with environmental safeguards. This would promote a culture of stewardship as well as helping to regulate high visitation impacts. In highly sensitive areas visitor access should be only allowed if accompanied by a guide certified by the protected area authority.
6. Work with the tourism industry, relevant rightsholders and stakeholders to ensure that tourism benefits are equitably and appropriately distributed. In particular to ensure that:
  - a) tourism invests directly in the protection and management of protected areas which are the foundation assets of tourism businesses; and
  - b) tourism contributes to local economies and the livelihoods of local people through support to local businesses, local employment, local procurement of goods and services and fair and equitable partnerships with local people.
7. Build cooperative partnerships within communities and among stakeholders and bestow pride in their region and their identity through participatory tourism development. Support

EE, especially for youth, in partnership with local people to develop authentic and creative tourism products/experiences which respect the natural and cultural values of the protected area.

8. Utilize more innovative use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) to enhance tourism experiences and EE. Efforts should concentrate on converting satisfied park visitors to become more informed supporters of protected areas.
9. Consider the quality of visitor experiences when planning protected areas and monitor their responses with appropriate indicator.
10. Invest in enhanced institutional and individual capacity to create client-focused and business-aware protected area institutions, staff, rightsholders and stakeholders thereby improving understanding between protected area and tourism sectors. Conversely sensitize the tourism sector to conservation issues to place the relationship on a more equal footing. Capacity investment should also target local communities who may not have the know-how and resources to develop quality tourism products and services in and around protected areas.
11. Ensure Governments not lose sight of their obligations to adequately staff and fund protected areas despite the increasing reliance on revenue generated from tourism and visitor use. Protected areas are established first and foremost for conservation and not as tourist attractions. It is imperative that governments continue to invest in protected areas for the benefit of society at large.
12. Invest in collaborative research and development on environmentally sustainable and ethical tourism including development of green infrastructure within and surrounding protected areas. Such research should focus on better understanding the links between tourism and conservation with findings appropriately integrated back into protected area and tourism policy and management.

### **Recognizing the importance and role of traditional protected area systems**

#### *Message from WG3 on Culture / Traditions and Protected Areas*

Long before governments institutionalized national parks or policies in defining areas worth protecting, societies including those in Asia were already conserving their natural resources and landscapes, based on the identification and protection of sacred natural sites and indigenous and communal territories. Communal and indigenous territories have been maintained through local rule making and governance system. Sacred Natural Sites were believed to be of spiritual and religious significance, based on the common belief that the physical and spiritual worlds were intersected by “spiritual landscapes”. These spiritual and physical landscapes have co-evolved traditionally and are considered to be the fundamental pre-conditions that led to the conservation of biodiversity in Sacred Natural Sites and indigenous territories. In many countries, sacred natural sites have been shown to have a major effect on conservation, ecology and environment due to the special precautions and restrictions associated with them.

In the Asian setting, nature and culture have been woven together naturally like a single tapestry which today embodied into the concept of cultural landscape. Essentially it endogenously features an eternal relationship between the natural environment, humans and their culture. More often than not, Asian traditions and beliefs have been shaped by indigenous and folk faiths such as animism and ancestor worship, and mainstream religions

such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity which are evident in Thailand, India, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Just like sacred natural sites, communities in Asia had ancient practices of conserving landscapes and seascapes for various purposes, including livelihoods, cultural importance, water security, ethical reasons, political security, and so on; these Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs) are still extremely widespread and represent a crucial contribution to the conservation of biodiversity and the livelihood security of tens of millions of people.

Communities across Asia have ancient traditions, and newer practices, of governing and managing landscapes and seascapes, ecosystems and biodiversity, in ways that help conserve them over a long term. Such ICCAs include community forests, locally managed marine areas, sustainable fishing sites, wildlife nesting and roosting sites, sustainable agroforestry landscapes, and many others. There are a variety of motivations and reasons for ICCAs, including securing waters suppliers, maintaining the sustainable supply of forest and aquatic resources crucial for livelihoods, food and other needs, maintaining links with cultural aspects of their lives, sustaining an ethical sense of responsibility towards other elements of nature, and securing territories and areas as part of political industry. Many of these sites are age-old, many are more recent as communities rediscover the importance of conservation. Across Asia also there is a renewed interest in securing rights to and responsibilities over such sites, to tackle the various threats they face.

We can recognize both of sacred natural sites and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) regardless of the legal status of the land. It means that these two are topic oriented sub themes. Each country, however, has legally-designated protected areas such as national park. Then we should consider legal status oriented sub themes: management of inside and outside the protected areas.

#### Sacred Natural Sites

In traditional societies, oral stories and myths, especially in relation to their surrounding natural environment, are handed down from generation to generation, which created the awareness and recognition of the presence of sacred natural sites. These sacred natural sites are believed to contain 'numina' or spirits, deities or holy presence, which are highly respected and protected by the community even when they may not have legal jurisdiction over these site.

In the physical form, sacred natural sites may include forests, water bodies, caves, and vegetation within and its proximities. In addition, sacred natural sites have spiritual attributes according to a particular religion or belief system, or set aside for spiritual purposes which were arguably established by indigenous people, ethnic folk religions and spiritualities or mainstream religion co-optation. In essence, sacred natural places and spiritual landscapes have been created through traditional beliefs and taboos, and traditional societies in Asia believed that bad things would happen to them if such places are violated. Therefore, making the ecological richness of sacred areas worth conserving and protecting.

#### Utilization of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in protected area management

Asia's traditional approaches or TEK are now considered as being compatible with contemporary (and scientific) approaches to resource management such as Adaptive Management. TEK is 'local knowledge' that is based on the endemic traditions, cultures or beliefs of a particular local community or residents. Traditional Ecological Knowledge is often

seen as being local and holistic which integrates both the physical and spiritual worldviews with emphasis on the practical application of skills and knowledge.

Essentially, Asia's traditional systems and landscapes such as Satoyama (Japan), Tagal (Sabah, Malaysia), Subak (Bali, Indonesia), Tana' Ulen (Kalimantan, Indonesia) and Kattudel (Sri Lanka) resonate well with progress in other parts of the world in relation to complementing mainstream approaches with traditional ecological knowledge in essence, there is "extraordinary similarity of basic designs shared by different cultures in comparable ecosystems worldwide, coupled with remarkable diversity in practice even in adjacent areas".

#### Protected areas management and the livelihood of local people

The designation of protected areas affects various stakeholders, especially the local inhabitants who depend on the natural resources and land for their livelihood. Depending on the planning process adopted by a particular country (top down or bottom up/participatory), the local community may or may not be involved in the process of determining the geographical boundary of PAs or the scope as well as the extent of the protection measures including other effective area-based conservation measures.

In the case of a top down approach, there is always a lack of integration with traditional land uses and activities within and surrounding PAs, which could lead to conflicts in terms of management effectiveness. As demonstrated in many cases of PAs in Asia, the encroachment by local communities into legally established PAs is a common occurrence, which is often due to necessity forced upon local people by poverty but may also come from an unsustainable demand for traditional products by the newly rich. Various stakeholders are involved in areas designated as protected areas. In particular, their livelihood of local inhabitants who hunt and carry out various forms of agriculture has come into conflict with protected areas management. Besides this, various stakeholders such as people involved in illegal logging, development enterprises, and government agencies have often caused conflicts.

Customary management of Socio-Ecological Production Landscape and Seascape such as Satoyama-Satoumi Areas that are not designated as protected areas also maintain natural environments that are used and managed customarily by local communities. Rural communities conserve through the use and management of the natural resources in a sustainable manner, based on certain rules such as customary law. As a result, a rich natural environment equivalent to that in protected areas has often been maintained.

Satoyama is a Japanese traditional landscape resulting from effective and sustainable use of land and resources. Satoyama has been used to support the livelihood and well-being of local people through agricultural practices and other production activities that provide diverse goods and services, while conserving biodiversity. Human interaction with Satoyama has enhanced its productivity for food, compost, and wood and fuel wood.

There are many types of Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) around Asia including Satoyama in Japan. The Satoyama Initiative aims to maintain and revitalize SEPLS for human well-being and conserving biodiversity. The concept of Satoyama Initiative has been gaining international and broader recognition for nature and biodiversity conservation. The International Partnership for Satoyama Initiative was established for promoting and realizing the Satoyama Initiative at CBD COP10. The Satoyama Initiative can be best described as a community-based model of sustainable and efficient use of natural resources which promotes the sustainable use of biodiversity as a model of an alternative and



complementary approach to the conventional designation and management of protected areas.

Therefore, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on Cultures/Traditions and Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following set of best practice protected area policy and management approaches:

1. To recognize local praxis such as customary forest management and the contribution of TEK (traditional ecological knowledge) in complementing mainstream approaches in biodiversity conservation towards achieving the Aichi Targets. Adaptive management of Community Use Zone (CUZ) is a good example.
2. To recognize the importance of traditional governance institutions and local solutions to address biodiversity loss and wise use of natural resources on the ground.
3. To adopt a more participatory approach by having an institutional and governance framework which recognize self-determination of indigenous people and local communities, FPIC (free prior and informed consent) and clear channels of communication that include all stakeholders in the governance and decision making process in the protected areas such as Sacred Natural Sites and ICCAs. The participatory approach can include, for instance:
  - (i) involvement of stakeholders in decision-making, implementation and monitoring,
  - (ii) decentralization and delegation of management authority,
  - (iii) promotion of public access and disclosure of information,
  - (iv) benefit sharing at the local level and
  - (v) micro-financing and financial management at local level
4. To recognize the value of local beliefs (including animism and mainstream religion), knowledge, skill, wisdom, oral tradition and culture of care of Sacred Natural Sites and ICCAs and conservation both inside and outside formal protected area
5. To enhance the capacity and recognize the efforts of the local and indigenous communities to be effective joint custodians of protected areas on their own ICCAs, or jointly with other agencies as co-management by generating income (e.g. tourism) and providing sustainable, innovative and alternative financing as PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services), along with providing suitable training to equip local and indigenous communities in managing protected areas and contributing to the conservation of biodiversity
6. To apply appropriate local/site level access and benefit sharing measures from the utilization of biological resources (ABS) to enable research and the potential of generation of new source of wealth in line with the Nagoya Protocol.
7. To apply flexible management by allowing the local people to practise less-intensive production activities inside protected areas under a new paradigm in which conservation

value of SEPLS including Human Modified Forests (HMFs) is considered to be important for underpinning the livelihood of local community while conserving biodiversity.

8. To maintain various types of land use and landscape, including agroforests, to ensure that a bundle of ecosystem services provided to secure the livelihood and other critical bases of the life of local communities
9. To document Traditional Ecological Knowledge with the full participation and consent of indigenous and local communities to ensure the preservation and protection of this knowledge which will allow it to be used for new innovations from the sustainable use of biodiversity and also application of traditional practices in enhancing protected area management.
10. To recognize TEK, which is based on praxis of the local people who has their own ontology and epistemology.
11. To support the activities of International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiatives (IPSI) and similar schemes in the future for the purpose of promoting collaboration and information sharing among relevant organizations.
12. To educate the youths in Asia to be aware, appreciate, rediscover and revive the region's ancient wisdom and traditional ecological knowledge in tackling contemporary environmental issues such as global warming, climate change, natural disasters, health and human well-being, etc.
13. To recognize the value of animism, knowledge, skills, wisdom, oral tradition and sentimental vision related to Sacred Natural Sites for conservation in and outside protected areas.
14. To recognize and support a range of communities and indigenous people in governing and managing their ICCAs inside and outside protected areas, through appropriate legal and non-legal instruments.

### Conclusion

In Asia, there are various models of protected area management that it may not be possible to declare that there is a Pan Asian model of protected areas management.

Policy makers in Asia should rediscover and emphasize Asia's ancient wisdom and traditional knowledge by realigning the governance, strategies and mechanisms for PA management in their own countries to be more inclusive and effective. In this respect, the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Review revealed that conservation is more effective if it is integrated with local norms, values and community rights. This could be achieved by formal recognition of sacred natural sites and ICCAs which will assist in empowering the local and indigenous communities as joint-custodians of protected areas. Subsequently this approach could be scaled up once governments and policy makers in Asia fully embrace ICCAs and co-management as effective approaches towards conservation of biological and cultural diversity.

### **Achieving effective and equitable protected area governance**

#### *Message from WG4 on Collaborative Management of Protected Areas*

Governance is about the "interactions among structures, processes and traditions that determine how power and responsibilities are exercised, how decisions are taken and how

citizens or other stakeholders have their say". Governance is different from management wherein management is about what is done in the pursuit of objectives and the means and activities to achieve this, and governance is about who decides what those objectives are and what will be done to achieve them. Governance concerns the exercise of power, authority and accountability.

Governance has been an issue central to the international dialogue on protected areas in the past 10 years. The 2003 Vth IUCN World Parks Congress dedicated a major workshop stream to governance as well as a cross cutting theme on Indigenous/Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas. Several WPC Recommendations were adopted on protected area governance, local communities, rights and new types of protected area governance models. The Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) has one of its four core elements dedicated to governance, participation, equity and benefit sharing with 13 actions centered on goals that promote equity, benefit-sharing and the engagement of relevant stakeholders, indigenous and local communities. The 193 Parties to the CBD have, through their adoption of the PoWPA, committed to these principles in planning, establishing and managing protected areas, however this remains one of the least developed of the four PoWPA elements in terms of implementation.

IUCN encourages its members and partners to think about both protected area governance type and quality. Along with familiar State-governed protected areas, managed by government employees, there are now increasing numbers of areas being recognized as equivalent to protected areas but managed by indigenous peoples, local communities, ecotourism companies, non-profit trusts, private individuals, commercial companies and religious groups. Many government managed protected areas are also increasingly bringing rightsholders and stakeholders into decision-making processes<sup>1</sup>. Four protected area governance types have been formally recognized by IUCN, WCPA and UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). The Parties to the CBD have also agreed to report about governance of protected areas as part of their obligations. The voluntary conservation of areas and territories by private landholders, religious groups, indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) reflect this increasing diversity of governance types. In terms of governance quality IUCN recognize principles of good governance for protected areas as including: legitimacy and voice; direction; performance; accountability; and fairness and rights.<sup>1</sup>

Why then is protected area governance such a central issue in Asia? Most protected area systems in Asia have been established as classical Government centric systems, many modelled on western and/or colonial park systems. Outside of formal protected areas, there have been a number of notably successful programmes focused on community-based conservation and stewardship of natural resources (an example being Nepal's successful Community Forest Programme ), and a growing number of privately-managed protected areas owned and/or managed by NGOs, individuals, faith groups and corporations. In addition there are many more ICCAs which exist, and have existed for hundreds of years, outside of formal programmes. In Asia there is an increasing trend to see protected areas used for purposes which go beyond the protection of the natural environment to include the improvement of social cohesion, livelihoods and economic benefits. IUCN and the CBD advocate for a diverse set of governance types to build flexibility and resilience into national protected area systems.

Much of Asia's protected area legislation is also outdated and in need of reform. Laws and regulations which are often quite legally powerful have a strong regulatory tone, however, they are often weak, inflexible or even silent on recognizing community interests and/or

initiatives in protected area management. Customary law and, sometimes, even the very existence of communities is often not recognized. Compounding this is the fact that many protected area systems have large numbers of people either living inside the protected areas or in adjacent buffer zones with these communities heavily dependent on these areas for their livelihoods. In addition protected area laws are commonly not harmonized with, or may contradict, other laws relevant to communities and natural resource management.

Asia has a proud record of establishing protected areas (7,043 protected areas covering an average of 15.97% of land area) and several national protected area systems were created using best practice ecological gap filling processes (for example PDR Lao's system of National Biodiversity Conservation Areas and India's mid 1980s biogeographical classification system to enhance ecological representation in the protected area network). Nevertheless many areas, whilst well designed and ecologically representative, were regrettably created without due consideration to the needs of local people. In many countries support for protected areas has dwindled and reforms are underway to create more robust and flexible systems of protection that embrace different types of governance and are cognizant of the needs of local people. Again in Laos a process has been working to re-categorize the national protected area system to accommodate a diversity of IUCN Protected Area categories reflecting more flexible management objectives.

Asia is a region with an enormous diversity of religions, ethnic minorities, languages, cultures and indigenous groups with deep-rooted traditional associations to the land. Asian cultures display a long-held and strong tradition of religions that place emphasis on human duties of custodianship and on the sacred nature of certain landscapes, species and features. Again the model of Government centric, often top-down protected area planning establishment and management has not always served well the rights of these groups. There have in the past, and continue to be, cases where local people have been moved out of protected areas, with the consequent impact on traditional social structures and/or the disenfranchisement of communities from the natural resources on which they depend.

As with the international dialogue on governance, so too rights and duty-based approaches to conservation have increasingly become central to debates on protected areas. Nearly all the international conservation organizations have embraced conservation practice that respects human rights. For example the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (CIHR) is a consortium of international conservation organizations that seek to improve the practice of conservation by promoting integration of human rights in conservation policy and practice. IUCN's vision encompasses the concept of justice and its mission and policies fundamentally reinforce rights-based approaches to conservation. IUCN Resolution 4.056 adopted in 2008 speaks to rights-based approaches to conservation and reinforces the Union's overall objective to "work towards ensuring the protection of rights and biodiversity conservation become mutually reinforcing." When speaking of rightsholders in Asian cultures one must also speak of duty-bearers reflecting the custodial philosophies toward nature which pervade many Asian cultures. Here rights are often inseparable from duties.

In summary then there is a need to foster diversity in governance including co-management and ICCAs which empowers communities in a way that sustainably accommodates their needs with the conservation of biodiversity. Where the needs and rights of local people are sensitively accommodated the mutual benefits to both protected areas and people become evident. Protected areas become relevant and valued and so enjoy greater long-term security.

Therefore, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on Collaborative Management of Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following set of best practice protected area policy, governance and management approaches:

1. Actively work to broaden governance types to include an appropriately balanced mixture of the four types of governance recognized by IUCN. These include:
  - a) governance by government (at various levels);
  - b) governance by various rights-holders and stakeholders together (shared governance);
  - c) governance by private individuals and organizations; and
  - d) governance by indigenous peoples and/or local communities.
2. Recognize that rights-holders, duty-bearers and stakeholders are different with differing entitlements and interests and may require tailored policies and strategies of respect, engagement and empowerment. IUCN have defined the difference between rights-holders and stakeholders in the context of protected areas.
3. Recognize that each governance regime is unique. The specific ecological, historical and political contexts and the variety of worldviews, values, knowledge, skills, policies and practices that contribute to conservation should be reflected in different governance regimes in different regions and countries, and even among different protected areas in the same country. The hierarchy that exists in many Asian communities requires special consideration in engaging with the socially vulnerable and issues of equity need to be considered in order to ensure that collaborative management and ICCA regimes are genuinely equitable.
4. Adopt and commit to IUCN's principles of good governance (equitable governance) for protected areas<sup>1</sup> which include legitimacy and voice; direction; performance; accountability; and fairness and rights. Specifically consideration should be given to the principles of:
  - a) Legitimacy and voice: recognizing entitlements; keeping rightsholders, duty-bearers and stakeholders informed and empowering them to have a say.
  - b) Direction: setting a clear, appropriate and achievable vision (broad, long-term perspective) that is shared by all rightsholders, duty-bearers and stakeholders; direction should be inspiring and open to innovation.
  - c) Performance: ensuring protected areas are effectively and efficiently managed consistent with their objectives and in a way that builds resilience to change and impact; building the necessary capacity among rightsholders, duty-bearers, stakeholders and staff to achieve this.

- d) Accountability: applying the principles of integrity and transparency to decision making; ensuring independent oversight and review; ensuring clear lines of responsibility and reporting.
- e) Fairness and rights: operating in a way that does not discriminate; avoiding unfair shouldering of the cost burdens of protected areas; promoting equitable access to benefits; respecting human rights and the principles of free prior and informed consent (FPIC) with respect to protected area interventions.

See Table 8 of the Governance of Protected Areas<sup>1</sup> for more information.

5. Consistent with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas and other CBD decisions countries should develop a forward looking plan to improve governance for their systems of protected areas or for specific sites<sup>1</sup>. Such a plan should adopt a process for assessing, evaluating and planning for action on improving governance with the ultimate objective of effective biodiversity conservation. The process comprises:
  - a) a preparatory workshop to raise awareness and scope out the planning process;
  - b) a process of gathering information to systematically assess the diversity, quality and effectiveness of protected area governance
  - c) develop a framework outlining the determinants of effective collaborative management and identify measurable indicators for social, economic and biological outcomes,
  - d) identifying needed expertise, and supporting the self-organization of participants;
  - e) a core event (or series of events) pulling together information, expertise and concerned actors and institutions to assess, evaluate and plan for action; and
  - f) a follow-up period, where appropriate action is taken to improve governance in concrete ways.
6. Recognize the need for diverse governance regimes to conserve biological diversity consistent with the Aichi Targets. Diversely governed protected areas have an important role to play in achieving the area-based conservation goals of Aichi Target 11 and could do so effectively through measurable conservation outcomes.
7. Foster a rights or duty-based approach to the conservation of nature whilst respecting the overall IUCN principles of good protected area governance<sup>1</sup>. Such approaches should be consistent with international rights frameworks such as the 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP): a universal framework for the survival, dignity, well-being and rights of the world's indigenous peoples and the International Labour Organization's ILO Convention 169 on the rights of indigenous and tribal people . For instance, good governance principles should safeguard public rights in cases where voluntary conservation practices, driven by economic incentives, are formally recognized by the State and consequently impact rights and freedoms. These include the right to know about policies and expenditures related to the conservation of nature, and the right to demand clear management objectives and equitable and effective performance in protected areas. The UNDRIP enshrines the principle of free

prior and informed consent (FPIC) which should be appropriately applied in the context of protected areas.

8. Systematically assess, at system and/or individual protected area level, the social costs and benefits of protected areas on surrounding and wider communities. IUCN through its expert networks has recently developed methodologies to undertake such Social Assessments of Protected Areas. Processes of this type can quantify how costs are borne and the benefits derived from protected areas are distributed leading to strategies to address these issues in a more equitable fashion.
9. Recognize the need to develop sustainable approaches to enrich livelihoods for communities inside and around outside of protected areas, helping generate economic benefits while maintaining biodiversity resources.
10. Encourage to build capacity of institutions and actors for collaborative management of protected areas. Strong communication skills are essential for local government officials, NGOs and representatives of local communities to work collaboratively to achieve good governance.
11. Recognize the need for governance to work at a scale appropriate to protected area management. Managing protected areas requires an understanding of the wider ecological-social landscape for biodiversity conservation necessitating partnership approaches with relevant actors and a diversity of governance approaches. Connectivity conservation which seeks to build land and seascape scale interconnectedness also has a clear social dimension requiring social cohesion, a set of shared values and intentions. Scales may vary from a single forest grove up to transboundary landscapes and connectivity corridors under international treaties.
12. Actively seek out and incorporate the use of traditional knowledge from indigenous peoples and local communities in the establishment, planning and management of protected areas.
13. Actively encourage the understanding and integration of privately-managed protected areas within national conservation strategies and ensure private protected areas are recorded.
14. Report all protected areas, whatever their management category or governance type, to the World Database on Protected Areas as a contribution to the CBD Aichi targets.

### **International collaboration for protected areas in Asia**

#### *Message from WG5 on International Collaboration for Protected Areas*

As Asia continues to grow its global influence into the 21st Century the imperative for greater cooperation between nation states is strengthening across almost every field of endeavour. Asian countries are building stronger collaboration between themselves and with the world at large in matters of trade and economic development; on mutual security concerns; on human welfare; and on information technology to name but a few areas. Enhanced collaboration on the environment and natural resource utilization is also rapidly growing, along with the increasing threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as habitat loss and fragmentation.

Protected areas have an important role in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainability of the ecosystems that underpin development. In order to properly fulfil these

functions, Asia's protected areas need enhanced regional collaboration and international cooperation including with neighbouring countries. Asia's diversity of environments from boreal to tropical zones coupled with the fact that the region supports a majority of the world's major river systems adds weight to the arguments for greater transboundary action, regional collaboration and international support.

Collaboration for protected areas is a means to an end not the end in itself. Working across national boundaries, sharing experience, transferring capacity and jointly tackling issues is vital to the end goal of establishing effective protected area systems for Asia. An end goal that is best expressed within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD's) Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.

"By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes ."

Significant differences exist from country to country, however, many common protected area issues exist and addressing them calls for greater supra-national exchange of experience, learning and approaches. As the numbers and extent of protected areas continues to grow in Asia it is self-evident that greater regional collaboration will become more important than ever.

Asia already possesses an impressive portfolio of internationally and regionally significant protected areas. These amount to some 429 World Heritage Sites (natural and mixed); Biosphere Reserves; Ramsar Sites; Geoparks; and ASEAN Heritage Parks across the Region's 24 countries. This wealth of natural assets demands greater collaboration to promote and better manage them at an Asian scale.

The call for improved collaboration between protected areas in Asia has come over many years and from numerous quarters, some internal and some external to the region. All of the multilateral environmental agreements by definition enshrine principles of collaboration with the CBD acting as the principle convention dealing with protected areas. IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas has had a long history in Asia and has consistently worked toward supporting national efforts for protected areas through regional approaches. ASEAN's Heritage Parks network, Transboundary Manas Conservation Area (TraMCA), Yellow Sea Ecoregion Support Project (YSESP), ASEAN Mangrove Network (AMNet), Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas System (CTMPAS), East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), Heart of Borneo initiative (HOB) and Greater Mekong Sub-region Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Corridors (GMS CFP-BCI) are good practices of regional collaboration.

An analysis of regional protected area collaborative networks from around the world has drawn lessons for Asia and suggested steps to further the creation of Asian protected area collaboration.

The first Asia Parks Congress in Sendai, Japan leading one year later to the 6th WPC in Australia offers an opportunity to move forward regional collaboration for Asia.

In light of this, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on International Collaboration for Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic



institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following set of approaches to direct international collaboration for protected areas:

1. Asian countries need to enhance collaboration across various fields of work including protected areas. The regional level is an appropriate scale to focus international collaboration and support as it allows responses to be tailored to regional differences whilst recognizing the issues faced by protected areas. Regional interventions also complement rather than compete with national efforts on protected areas which are now, more than ever, being driven through the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas;
2. Reinforcing the importance of regional perspectives in various aspects of collaboration on protected areas is critical. Global protected area gatherings such as the upcoming WPC should always incorporate regional perspectives into planning, deliberations and outcomes. Whilst the WPC is structured thematically it should accommodate regional differences and needs in developing solutions to the protected area challenges and opportunities that lay ahead;
3. Recognizing the need for comprehensive and sustainable approaches to conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. Concrete examples are the Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS) and IUCN Green List of Protected Areas;
4. An analysis of regional collaborative networks for protected areas from around the world has identified following lessons for Asia:
  - a) Embrace diversity. Recognize that Asia is extremely diverse and different approaches to addressing protected area issues will be legitimate in different contexts. The natural sub-regions of Asia (South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia) should be accommodated whilst embracing Asian perspective on protected area issues. Regional collaboration should accommodate diverse membership including the institutions, sites and individuals who make up the protected area community in Asia. It should also consider commonalities among often very diverse members.
  - b) Ensure a site level focus. Experience shows that building a network around protected areas themselves has a galvanizing effect. Sites become emblematic symbols of collaboration and protected area stakeholders are reassured that efforts are directed at conservation on the ground, including engagement of indigenous and local communities. Integration of protected areas into planning and management at the landscape and seascape levels is also needed.
  - c) Ensure an added value. Regional collaboration should foster cooperation which adds value to what is already underway. Functions such as facilitating, convening, brokering and fostering innovation are known to be valued. In addition it should advocate for protected areas across the region, including transboundary collaboration.
  - d) Create light effective governance. Successful networks have a governance structure that is responsive to the needs of the network, including capacity development, without being overly complex and bureaucratic.

- e) Face up to the financial sustainability challenge. Most protected area collaborative networks struggle to achieve financial security; however, the pursuit of this goal is paramount. The development of shared commitments supported by specific national commitments should be pursued. Business models which are based on diverse funding sources and income streams, such as public private partnership for protected areas (PPP), are desirable.
5. Call upon interested stakeholders relevant to protected areas in Asia to further development of an appropriate Asian protected area collaboration.

### **Using the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to reconcile development challenges**

#### *Message from WG6 on Biodiversity and Protected Areas*

The Asian Region continues to experience a sustained period of economic growth which is forecast to continue into the foreseeable future. The Asian Development Bank concluded in 2012 that “Asia is in the middle of a historic transformation. If it continues to follow its recent trajectories, by 2050 its per capita income could rise six-fold in purchasing power parity terms to reach Europe’s levels today. It would make nearly 3 billion additional Asians affluent by current standards”

It is in Asia that 3.8 billion people live, some 60% of the world’s population, and some 70% of the world’s poorest people. Asia has some of the world’s richest countries and some of the world’s poorest and it is here that a disproportionate concentration of the world’s biodiversity resides. The cocktail of large human populations, rapid economic development and high levels of biodiversity is at the heart of reconciling the challenges of development and conservation.

As one of the proposed Streams at the upcoming 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress notes “Governments are focused on maintaining food and water security, ensuring jobs and sustainable livelihoods, maintaining the productivity of fisheries, forestry and agricultural sectors, and making trade-offs with sectors such as mining, energy and infrastructure development all in the face of rapid climate change” It is the “intersection between protected areas and these many development goals and challenges facing national governments” that presents some of greatest challenges to protected area policy makers, planners, managers and researchers. Nowhere is this more so the case than in Asia.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) remains at the forefront of international efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity. The CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted by the 10th Conference of Parties in Nagoya 2010 represents the global community’s aspirations and commitment to action with respect to biodiversity conservation. The Plan includes a shared vision, mission, strategic goals and some 20 targets to drive action. Protected areas have a significant role to play across all of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as they are known. Target 11, however, specifically deals with protected areas:

“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.”

Protected areas have proven to be an effective tool in the fight to save biodiversity. Whilst CBD Target 11 sets the strategic direction for protected areas detailed actions are articulated in the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA). Asia’s impressive drive to establish

protected areas has been a central feature of national strategies to combat the loss of biodiversity. Asia currently has 7,043 protected areas covering an average of 15.97% of land area. Target 11 “addresses multiple facets of protected areas including increased coverage, connectivity, management, governance and equity”. The Target is then an aspirational and all-inclusive statement which elegantly captures quantitative and qualitative aspects of an effective protected system operating in a complex biophysical and socio-economic landscape. It is clear that moving toward Target 11 warrants a holistic and integrated approach by governments and their partners together with all rights holders and stakeholders.

Balancing the needs of protected areas with those of development one can identify several aspects that benefit from best practice guidance. These include:

- how to articulate the overall national vision for protected areas and a strategy for achieving this;
- how to practice effective land use planning based on best available science and resource assessment thus ensuring that decisions to establish protected areas are sound;
- how to identify and design robust, representative protected area systems that encompass all of the aspects inherent in Target 11. In other words how to unpack what it takes to achieve Target 11;
- how to safeguard the established protected area system against on-going development pressure; and
- how to recover damaged ecosystems to strengthen conservation and bolster protected area systems against change.

In light of this, PARTICIPANTS in the Working Group on Biodiversity and Protected Areas at the 1st Asia Parks Congress, in Sendai, Japan (14- 17 November, 2013) commend to those international organizations, governments, NGOs, CBOs, academic institutions, businesses and donors who influence directly and indirectly the future of protected areas the following:

1. Protected areas should contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and we have to ensure that the protected areas are large enough and located in the right places to cover the important biodiversity areas. Biodiversity is not equitably distributed across countries therefore achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 is a shared responsibility.
  - a) Update the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and as appropriate, develop national protected area master plans that articulate the why, what, where, when and how (including funding) of national protected area systems. In particular, the master plans should be consistent with the CBD PoWPA and Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.
  - b) Establish comprehensive, adequate and representative national protected area systems that are based on sound scientific analysis to ensure ecological representativeness and/or cover species/genetic diversity and/or conserve threatened species rather than being based on political or economic rationales.
  - c) Incorporate a diverse range of IUCN protected area categories and recognize different protected area governance types as these contribute to a more equitable, flexible system that is more likely to enjoy long-term support;

- d) Develop institutional arrangements that allow protected area agencies platforms for wider engagement of other sectoral agencies and stakeholders.
  - e) Build constructive relationships and improved understanding between protected area institutions and jurisdictions responsible for development at local, provincial and national levels. It is critical that protected areas are factored into development planning strategies at an early stage, at all scales and that conservation as a land or sea-use is afforded equal status to other forms of use and thus respected.
2. Protected areas should contribute to the sustainable livelihood and poverty alleviation of communities in and around the protected areas, thereby preventing unsustainable resource use including illegal fishing, logging, poaching, mining, etc.
- a) Recognize other effective area-based conservation measures that conserve biodiversity and promote traditional knowledge, customary rights and enhance local livelihood opportunities, such as Satoyama and other similar approaches.
  - b) When conserving and re-introducing keystone species including large mammals to the protected areas, we have to consider the potential human-wildlife conflict and develop a programme to address this. The necessity of establishing wildlife corridors to prevent isolation of populations should be considered as well.
3. Protected areas contribute to climate change adaptation and resilience to natural disasters. Ecological restoration, ensuring connectivity of protected areas, and integration to the wider land and seascape is essential.
- a) Recognize that the maintenance and restoration of ecosystem integrity requires land and seascape scale conservation and so work to incorporate connectivity between protected areas at appropriate scales including transnational and/or transboundary protected areas; and
  - b) Build capacity and new skills on connectivity conservation to engage new stakeholders and rights-holders in appropriate governance structures, work across multiple tenures, explore innovative conservation mechanisms and ensure just and equitable distribution of benefits. Comprehensive guidance on establishing and managing connectivity conservation is available through IUCN and the CBD.
  - c) Adopt ecological restoration strategies where needed to recover ecological function, restore habitat and/or species. Restoration may assist in filling gaps in protected area systems, enhancing connectivity and building more resilient protected area systems against climate change. Restoration strategies may include allowing natural recovery to take place; actively restoring ecological processes through interventions; actively recovering species; and/or undertaking alien invasive species control programmes. Principles and best practice guidelines for ecological restoration for protected areas has been produced by IUCN.
  - d) Ensure that protected area management plans are prepared taking into account surrounding land and seascape contexts, wider legal, institutional and planning frameworks such that protected area plans are harmonized with the hierarchy of planning at scale. Too often protected area management plans have conflicting objectives with development plans in the surrounding land and seascape;

- e) Ensure that the conservation objectives of protected areas are respected and that incompatible development such as land conversion or overexploitation/illegal harvesting is not permitted within or adjacent to protected areas. Mechanisms such as buffer zones or eco-sensitive zones (ESAs) should be used to promote sympathetic development in areas adjacent to protected areas. Ensure that any developments are subject to rigorous environmental impact assessment (EIA) to assess both positive and negative impacts on park values and on surrounding local communities.
  - f) Adopt Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) to assess cumulative impacts at larger scales than individual development EIAs. SEAs have the advantage of forecasting progressive development pressure at a land or seascape scale and evaluating the potential impacts of this on protected area systems or sites. Advice on EIA and SEA best practice is available from the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA).
  - g) Ensure that established protected area systems are not eroded through reductions in size, weakening of protection status, trade-offs to accommodate other resource use and/or extraction, or de-gazettement of protected areas.
4. Improve capacity to identify the important biodiversity areas and potential protected areas, and capacity to manage effectively.
- a) Provide technical and financial support for identification of important biodiversity areas based on ecological representativeness and/or species diversity and conducting gap analysis especially in developing countries
  - b) Complete protected area management effectiveness evaluations (MEEs) using the internationally accepted IUCN framework and range of assessment tools on offer. Evaluations should cover both the conservation and social outcomes of protected area management at system and site level. Policies and procedures for the good governance of protected areas should also be adopted at both national and site level. Progressively benchmark management performance against recognized standards such as those being developed through IUCN Green List of Protected Areas and other appropriate methods.
  - c) Apply recommendations from management effectiveness evaluations at systems and site levels.
5. Improve public awareness, enhance education, and secure sustainable financing for protected areas by assessing and promoting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services of protected areas.

## **Annex 5. Youth Declaration to the first Asia Parks Congress - " Conservation of Protected Areas with the Hands and Energy of Asian Youth"**

We, the Asian youths, would like to thank the organizers of the first Asia Parks Congress for this opportunity to participate in this congress. The organizers of this congress have given the youths from countries in Asia and other areas a chance to discuss and present our thoughts, hopes, and concerns as follows;

### **1. Nature and Culture in Asia**

We respect our nature in Asia which have long been utilized and conserved. We also can find a variety of wisdom in Asia's relationship between nature within traditions and folklore. Such wisdom has been rooted deeply in our lives and nurtured the sense of respect and reverence for nature.

We would like to inherit those traditional knowledge, views, and experiences that were handed down through generations, in and around protected areas and the vicinities. We welcome and endorse the necessity of programmes that provide opportunities for the enhancement of such inheritance. Networking would also be critical to make these programmes effective.

We clearly realize the importance of such wisdom and appreciate the traditional old trails' pivotal role as an evacuation route during the Great East Japan Earthquake tsunami disaster of 2011. The reverence and wisdom are, however, being forgotten or lost with changes in lifestyle. Resurging abandoned traditional trails can provide an opportunity to learn history and culture as well as natural features and lead to disaster risk management based on such wisdom and traditional views. Also, the integration of traditional practices and contemporary practices can bring the balance and synergistic effects and provoke participation and sense of ownership among the local stakeholders.

### **2. Involvement and Education**

Experience with nature in one's childhood is the key to nurture imagination, sensing, and creativity which are required to make a sustainable society. To do so, school education is crucial, because most of younger generations are in schools. Schools should provide more opportunities (e.g. curriculum) for both students and teachers to learn about nature including protected areas.

In order to conserve protected areas, the participation of various stakeholders is necessary. There have been many conferences for nature conservation, though, we feel that the follow up of the meetings are not enough. More efforts should be made for better implementations of the recommendation. Moreover, participants of such meetings are those who are already interested in nature conservation. We need to create new outreach approaches which can attract those who are not directly involved in nature conservation. We will be able to change society by making people notice hidden interrelationship between the cause and effect at the local, regional and global conservation levels.

### **3. Job Opportunity and Capacity Building**

We expect commitments from both public and private sectors to enhance opportunities and incentives to work for nature conservation. For example, the number of rangers in protected areas should be increased with the increase in the number and the area of protected areas. Without such enhancement, it is difficult for youths to sustainably contribute to the conservation and management of protected areas. To encourage youths to get such jobs, social recognition and income standards related to nature conservation should be improved.

We hope for such a social environment that we can continue our studies and activities on nature and environment for longer time. It is important for us to have further opportunities to apply what we have learned at educational institutions and to build more capacity in conservation. For instance, we can create and participate in new activities or businesses such as wise use of the natural resources and tourism that can contribute to revitalise local societies. We welcome our increased opportunity for mutual collaboration with various kinds of stakeholders including private companies which are conscious about their CSV.

#### **4. Networking**

This Asia Parks Congress gave the youths of Asia an excellent opportunity for networking. We propose that more opportunities should be provided in interdisciplinary and international way. We knew through the discussions that communication through interactive network of flexible minded youths from different parts of the world accelerates the innovative creation, effective outreach and even fund-raising. Such activities also help local people re-evaluate their nature and culture that they have overlooked. In actual fact, we have established a social network named Asian Youth Network for Conservation among the participants. We will make the youth contribution more visible and popular to societies.

#### **Conclusion**

We, the Asian youths, appreciate the opportunity granted to us to deliver voices in the first Asia Parks Congress. We hope that the voices of the youths in Asia will be considered in the World Parks Congress. We would like to emphasize that the youths are indispensable for the future protected areas, and the agent for change. We keep what we have spoken and now strive for implementation. We expect collaborative and supportive opportunities from the Congress for a direct and better involvement of youths in establishing, managing and promoting protected areas. Last but not least, we would like to show our readiness and commitment to protect the natural environment and work for the conservation of protected areas.

*Representatives of the Youth Session of the first Asia Parks Congress*

## Annex 6. List of Working Group Presentations

Working Group 1: Natural Disasters and Protected Areas		
Title	Speaker	Organization
<b>1. Natural Disasters in Protected Areas</b>		
Global Efforts on Disaster Risk Reduction: UNISDR and HFA	Yuki Matsuoka (Japan)	The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
Volcanic disaster mitigation programs in Japan with special reference to large-scale eruptions	Shigeo Aramaki (Japan)	Yamanashi Institute of Environmental Sciences
Protected Areas and Climate Change in Asia: Challenges and Responses for a Creeping Crisis	Jeffrey A. McNeely (USA)	Thailand Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation. Cornell University, USA
Natural Disaster and Protected Areas, Managing Natural Disasters in Nepal's Protected Areas	Yam Malla (Nepal)	IUCN Nepal
Volcanic disasters on the area of the Geopark: an example of the Kirishima Geopark, Southern Kyusyu, Japan	Toru Ishikawa (Japan)	The Council for the Promotion of the Kirishima Geopark
<b>2. Ecosystem Conservation and Disaster Reduction</b>		
The Role of Ecosystem Services for DRR and CCA	Radhika Murti (Switzerland)	IUCN HQ
Mangroves and coastal community resilience Thanh Hoa province, Viet Nam	Yen Nguyen Thi (Viet Nam)	CARE International in Viet Nam
The West Java Watershed - Biosphere Reserve and Jakarta Urban Resilience Nexus: The Battle Ground for an Integrated Approach to Conservation and Disaster Risk Reduction	Jan Sopaheluwakan (Indonesia)	International Center for Interdisciplinary and Advanced Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences
Ecosystem-Based Integrated Coastal Resource Management through Multi-stakeholder Participation in Had Jaw Mai National Park, Trang Province, Thailand	Ravadee Prasertcharoensuk (Thailand)	Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF)
JICA's Experiences and Challenges to Eco-DRR in Development Assistance Context	Kei Jinnai (Japan)	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Challenges in Disaster Risk Reduction around Marine Parks in Aceh-Indonesia	Syamsidik (Indonesia)	Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center (TDMRC), Syiah Kuala University
Enhancing Resiliency in the Wake of Hurricane Sandy	Leigh Welling (USA)	US National Park Service
The Role of Those Living at the Foot of the Volcano -Handing Down the Wisdom to the Next Generation-	Saburo Mimatsu (Japan)	MIMATSU MASAO MEMORIAL MUSEUM. Toya-Usu Geopark Council
The way how disaster prevention should do from lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami ~Emergent report from developing huge seawall in Kesen-numa City~	Makoto Hatakeyama (Japan)	NPO Mori wa Umi no Koibito (Society to protect Forest for Oysters)
<b>3. The Great East Japan Earthquake</b>		



Change of Japanese land and construction of coastal forests	Takehiko Ohta (Japan)	University of Tokyo
Recovery efforts for coastal disaster-prevention forest from the Great East Japan Earthquake	Hiroshi Kusakabe (Japan)	Conservation Division, Forestry Agency
Coastal pine forests damaged from the tsunami caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake	Katsunori Nakamura (Japan)	Tohoku Research Center, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute
Huge earthquake/tsunami disturbance, autonomous eco system recovery and the human impact of reconstruction in the Sendai Bay sand-dune coastal ecotone	Yoshihiko Hirabuki and Minami-Gamou Ecotone Monitoring Network (Japan)	Department of Regional Design, Tohoku Gakuin University
A network of new links sets the tone for future culture conservation in the Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park	Katsue Fukamachi (Japan)	Kyoto University
Tradition of the Memory of the Earthquake Disaster— Who Conveys Memory?	Yusuke Sakuraba (Japan)	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
<b>4. Management of Protected Area and Rebuilt after Suffering</b>		
Significance of Sanriku Fukko National Park for Reconstruction from Great East Japan Earthquake	Junichi Hirota (Japan)	Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University
Research on the characteristics of the intention to participate in tourism on the "Michinoku Sea Breeze Trail"	Yutaka Yoshiyachi (Japan)	Japan Travel Bureau Foundation
Change of a land use by disaster and the role of a protected area	Akihiro Nakamura (Japan)	Division of Appropriate Technology and Sciences for Sustainable Development, Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba
Environmental education in the volcanic ruins of Mt.Usu	Sayaka Hara (Japan)	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Evolving National Park under Eruption of Mt. Shinmoedake: Cooperation with Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park and Kirishima Geopark	Akira Matsumoto (Japan)	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Post-Tsunami Conservation and Sustainable Rehabilitation of Coral Reefs in Marine National Park, Thailand	Sakanan Plathong (Thailand)	Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand
Program of Community Development of Forest Fire Control in Peat Land Area	Agus Haryanta (Indonesia)	Indonesian Ministry of Forestry
<b>Working Group 2: Tourism and Environmental Education in Protected Areas</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>1. Management of Ecotourism</b>		
Tanigawa-dake Ecotourism	Yoshimasa Kishi (Japan)	Tanigawa-dake Ecotourism Promotion Council
Ecotourism Development in Japan-Sustainable Use of Natural and Cultural Treasures in a Community	Fumiko Nakao (Japan)	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Developing a Global Guideline for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas: Input from Asia	Yu-Fai Leung (USA)	North Carolina State University

Wildlife management on Asian black bear and eco-tours in Karuizawa	Masaya Kusube (Japan)	Picchio Wildlife Research Centre
Tourism development of Hustai National Park of Mongolia	Dashpurev Tserendeleg (Mongolia)	"Hustai National Park" Trust of Mongolia
Baa Atoll Biosphere Reserve: A model for collaborated Marine Protected Area Management	Fazeela Ahmed Shaheem (Maldives)	Ministry of Environment and Energy
Tokyo Ecotourism	Toshiyuki Sato (Japan)	Tokyo Metropolitan Government
<b>2. Participation of Local Residents</b>		
Linking community-based tourism and conservation of nature - the cases of Japan's rural areas	Masaru Takayama (Japan)	Spirit of Japan Travel, Japan Ecolodge Association, The International Ecotourism Society
Enhancing local capacity for marine protected areas in the Coral Triangle region by establishing learning sites. Case-study Nusa Penida Marine Protected Area (MPA) in Bali, Indonesia	Rili Djohami (Indonesia)	Coral Triangle Center (CTC), Bali
Local community participation in ecotourism and management of wildlife sanctuary in Sabah	Augustine Tuuga (Malaysia)	Sabah Wildlife Department Sabah, Malaysia
Nature Guide Training in Peninsular Malaysia	Mohd Taufik Abdul Rahman (Malaysia)	Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), Peninsular Malaysia
Engaging youth in parks, examples of successful programs that engage youth from Parks Victoria, Australia and the Korean National Parks Service	Libby Jude (Australia)	Parks Victoria
<b>3. Environmental Education</b>		
Nature School at Mt. Fuji National Park Area: the case of educational program held by Japanese private company	Seiji Yamato (Japan)	Environmental Management Department, Oji Holdings Corporation
Management of natural resources through communication, education and community livelihood improvement	Thuong Pham Van (Viet Nam)	Cat Ba National Park - Viet Nam
Education for Sustainable Development: Education or Communication for Tourist	Bishnu B. Bhandari (Nepal)	Nepal Wetlands Society
Environment Education Programs for young generation in Korea National Park Service	Giho Do (Republic of Korea)	Korea National Park Service
Environmental Education and Protection through long-term ecological research and partnership: a Singapore case study	Shawn Lum (Singapore)	National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University
KODOMO Ramsar: International Wetland Exchange Programme, a driving force of ESD at the Ramsar Sites in Asia	Reiko Nakamura (Japan)	Ramsar Center Japan (RCJ)
Engaging a New Generation	Carl Solomon (Australia)	NSW National Parks, Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage
<b>4. Visitor Management</b>		

Interpretation System at National Park of China	Zhenpeng Li (China)	Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, P.R. China
In search of desired activities to demonstrate trajectory to achieve 'true' ecotourism in Park-based tourism	Arisetiarso Soemodinoto (Indonesia)	The Nature Conservancy Indonesia
Visitor center which evolved into the "resource share type" from the "resource guidance type" raises the sustainability of regional development and nature conservation	Yuichi Kameyama (Japan)	NOMURA Co,Ltd.
An Investigation of Inbound Nature-Based Tourism: the Case of Western Visitors to Kamikochi in the Japan Alps	Thomas E. Jones (UK)	Graduate School of Governance Studies, Meiji University
Introduction and the effects of visitor control system in the World Natural Heritage SHIRETOKO	Akimichi Matsunaga (Japan)	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
<b>Working Group 3: Culture/Traditions and Protected Areas</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>1. Protected Areas Management and the Livelihood of Local People</b>		
Protected Area and Livelihood of Local Community: A Study of National Park in Yakushima and Tanjung Puting	Herman Hidayat (Indonesia)	Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)
Conservation Challenges in the Cardamom Mountains and opportunities for forest monitoring systems	Toby Eastoe (Cambodia)	Conservation International
Conservation of Culturally Valuable Grassland Landscapes in the Aso Kuju National Park in Cooperation with Diverse Related Bodies	Reiko Machida (Japan)	Department of Landscape Architecture, Tokyo University of Agriculture
Potential conservation value of less-intensively managed human modified forests in and around National park: Focusing on interrelationships between local people and wild animal species formed through traditional arboricultural practices	Masatoshi Sasaoka (Japan)	Hokkaido University
Protected Area Management and the Livelihoods of Indigenous People in Nepal: Harmonizing Policies and Practices	Jailab Kumar Rai (Nepal)	Forest Action Nepal
Reconciling the Customary Practices of Indigenous Palawan People with the Management of Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape, Palawan, Philippines	Aya Uruguchi (representing Jeanne Tabangay (Philippines))	
Community Use Zone of Crocker Range Park, Sabah, Malaysia	Yassin Miki(representing Ludi Apin (Malaysia))	

<b>2. Customary Management of Satoyama-Satoumi (Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes)</b>		
Tana' Ulen, Customary Forest: A legacy of Indigenous Kenyah Dayak people for forest conservation	Ndan Imang (Indonesia)	Center for Social Forestry (CSF), University of Mulawarman, Indonesia
Living close to forests enhances people's perception of ecosystem services in a forest -agricultural landscape of West Java, Indonesia	Dendi Muhamad (Indonesia)	Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo
Working with Indigenous Knowledge and Satoyama Initiative: A Case Study of Cultural Landscape Conservation in Taiwan Indigenous Tribe	Lameru Kacaw (Taiwan, Province of China)	Cilamitay Community Development Association
Identify the Cultural Issues from Recognizing Indigenous and Community Conservation of Inland fishery ICCAs in Taiwan	Dau-Jye Lu (Taiwan, Province of China)	Department of Forestry & Resource Management, National Taiwan University, Taiwan
Conservation beyond protected areas: Contributions from the Satoyama Initiative	Kaoru Ichikawa (representing Wataru Suzuki (Japan))	
<b>3. Utilization of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in Protected Area Management</b>		
Towards developing the World Parks Congress: What Asia can teach the world about the role of culture and knowledge systems in area-based management	Wataru Suzuki (representing Marjo Vierros (Australia))	
Masters of Forest" --- Their Wisdom and Arts ---"	Yasuhiro Matsumoto (Japan)	Rural Development and Greening Office, Forest Multiple Use and Conservation Division Forestry Agency
Social and culture aspects as critical factors for the effectiveness of protected areas management in Lao PDR: A case study of multi village Mak Jong management group in Pathoumphone district	Latsamay Sylavong (Lao PDR)	Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University
ABS Interventions to Strengthen Protected Area Management, How are they going to effectively use the Alps?	Nagulendran Kangayatkarasu (Malaysia)	Diplomatic and Administrative Officer, Public Service Department, Malaysia
<b>4. Sacred Natural Sites</b>		
Sacred Natural Sites - An ancient and universal philosophy and cultural practice with fundamental significance to protected areas	Robert Wild (UK)	The Sacred Natural Sites Initiative
Taromak Tribal Nation declares the stream sacred sites as Indigenous Protected Area in Taiwan	Chiung Hsi Liu (Taiwan, Province of China)	National Taitung University. Taromak Tribal Nations. Indigenous Peoples' and Local Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA). Taiwan Forest Certification Association. Austronesian Community College Association
HAKUSAN, National Park and Eco Park of UNESCO as Sacred Natural Site	Akinori Mizuno (Japan)	ISHIKAWA Museum of Natural History

History and nature conservation of Mt. Fuji as a sacred natural site	Toshihiko Ono (Japan)	NPO Earth Bounder
Culture, Religious, Spiritual, Himalayan Sacred Lake for Conservation Nepal Salpa Pokhari	Kiranti Chituwa Kamal Sampang	
Tsum Sacred Conservation Area in Gorkha, Nepal	Nima Lama (Nepal)	Tsum Welfare Committee (TWC) and Jailab Kumar Rai
Animism and traditional knowledge disappear in Virachey National Park, Cambodia	Yi-Chung Hsu (Taiwan, Province of China)	National Dong Hwa University
Interface between sacred natural sites and formal protected for biodiversity conservation in Nepal	Jailab Kumar Rai	
<b>Working Group 4: Collaborative Management of Protected Areas</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>1. Method of Agreement</b>		
Collaborative Planning and Management for IUCN Category V Protected Areas in Taiwan	Kuang-Chung Lee (Taiwan, Province of China)	National Dong-Hwa University
The Promotion of Nature Restoration in Asia	Yukihiro Morimoto (Japan)	Natural Environment Coexistence Technology Association(NECTA). Kyoto Gakuen University. Kyoto University
Wildlife Conflict : Restoration of Asiatic Black bears in Jirisan National Park of Korea	Kim Seoundu (representing Baegun Lee (Republic of Korea))	
Protected Area Governance - Shifts in Global Paradigms and Implications for Asia	Ashish Kothari (India)	Kalpavriksh and ICCA Consortium
Implications for Participatory Park Management: Designing Local Ecotourism through the Ecotourism Strategy in Shiretoko	Asami Shikida (Japan)	Center for Advanced Tourism Studies
Stakeholder Collaboration in Establishing Marine Protected Areas in the Coral Triangle: Cases from Raja Ampat and Savu Sea, Indonesia	Aristiarso Soemodinoto (representing Abdul Halim (Indonesia))	
Islamic Republic of Pakistan Biodiversity and Protected Areas	Muhammad Samar Hussain Khan (Pakistan)	Forestry Wing, Climate Change Division, (Cabinet Secretariat), Government of Pakistan, Islamabad
<b>2. Cooperative Management System</b>		
Joint forest conservation activity in the habitat area of Tsushima Leopard Cat	Yasunari Takarabe (Japan)	Mayor of Tsushima city
Community-based forest management in Bidoup-Nuiba National Park-Viet Nam	Ngoc Do Van (Viet Nam)	Bidoup-Nuiba National Park-Viet Nam
Attitudes of visitors and local stakeholders toward introducing the new visitor restriction programs in a brown bear habitat in Japan	Tetsuya Aikoh (Japan)	Hokkaido University
"Aya Lucidophyllous Forest Project" -Cooperative Management of One of the	Masayuki Kondo (Japan)	Kyushu Regional Forest Office, Forestry Agency

Largest Lucidophyllous Forests in Japan-		
Reform in Protected Area Management in Mongolia	Erdenechimeg Tegshjargal (Mongolia)	Ministry of Environment and Green Development, Mongolia
A practice of wise use, achieved by collaborative work with different sectors in Asahidake area, Daisetsuzan National Park	Kazuhiro Arai (Japan)	NPO NEOS (Nature Experience Outdoor School Hokkaido)
Myanmar's Vision for Participatory Management of Protected Area	Naing Zaw Htun (Myanmar)	Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division, Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Republic of the Union of Myanmar
<b>3. Role of Enterprise, NGO, Local Government</b>		
TEPCO's Measures to Preserve the Nature of Oze	Yoshihiro Kageyama (Japan)	Tokyo Electric Power Company, Incorporated (TEPCO)
Establishing and Strengthening Conservation Co-management Institutions: A Case Study from Afghanistan	Richard Paley (Afghanistan)	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Afghanistan Program
Geopark Resources Protected by Multi-Sector Participation The Example of Collaborative Management by Government, Academic Groups and Local People in San'in Kaigan Geopark	Eiji Hasegawa (Japan)	San'in Kaigan Geopark Promotion Council
Shigetomi-higata tidal flat: an example of a National Park which resulted from local activities	Takahiro Okano (Japan)	Kagoshima University Education Center
Collaborative Management: Lesson from Leuser National Park and Ruteng Recreation Park in Indonesia	Wiratno (Indonesia)	Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation, Ministry of Forestry
Forest rehabilitation activity in the national park and relationship with local people	Masahiro Minoura (Japan)	Forestry & Environment Division, Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.
Collaborative Management of Protected Areas: The Philippine Experience	Atty. Ernesto D. Adobo, Jr. (Philippines)	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
<b>4. Cooperation with Local Community</b>		
MESCOT Forest Habitat Restoration in Kinabatangan Supu Forest Reserve, Sabah, Malaysia	Mohd Hasim Abd Hamid (Malaysia)	KOPEL Berhad, Kinabatangan, Sabah, Malaysia
Conflicts of large mammals with local community in nature reserves of rainforest in Yunnan Province, China	Kun Shi (China)	The Wildlife Institute, Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China
Land and Forest Use by Local Communities and the Involvement of External Stakeholders - Case Study of Protected Area in Laos	Kimihiko Hyakumura (Japan)	Institution of Tropical Agriculture, Kyushu University
People's participation in protected areas of Bangladesh	Md Tariqul Islam (Bangladesh)	Forest Department, Ministry of Environment and Forests
Local Residents-driven Village of Excellence in National Park	Seungho Lee (Republic of Korea)	Korea National Park Service

<b>Working Group 5: International Cooperation for Protected Areas</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>1. Regional Cooperation for Protected Areas</b>		
International cooperation for Protected Areas	Tenzin Wangchuk (Bhutan)	Royal Manas NP; Bhutan
Regional Cooperation for Protected Areas -Dalai Lake National Nature Reserve in China	Han Guorong (China)	Graduate School of Horticulture, Chiba University
The Yellow Sea Ecoregion Support Project for its marine biodiversity conservation	Shigeki Yasumura (Japan)	WWF Japan
ASEAN Mangrove Network: An initiative to shared the good practices and lessons on mangrove ecosystem management in ASEAN Region	Rika Novida (Indonesia)	Mangrove Ecosystem Conservation and Sustainable Use in the ASEAN Region (MECS-JICA)
Progress Towards the Development of the Coral Triangle Marine Protected Area System	Alan T. White (USA)	The Nature Conservancy
Protected Area Management and International Cooperation in Nepal	Megh Bahadur Pandey (Nepal)	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
<b>2. International Framework for Protected Areas</b>		
World Natural Heritage in Asia	Remco van Merm (Switzerland)	World Heritage Programme, IUCN
The Current Status of Biosphere Reserves of Republic of Korea and its Future Plans	Eunjung Kwon (Republic of Korea)	Korea National Park Service
Relationship between world heritage and biosphere reserve: a comparative study between Yakushima and Shiretoko	Hiroyuki Matsuda (Japan)	Yokohama National University
The Role of Protected Areas in the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds in the East Asian - Australasian Flyway	Spike Millington (Republic of Korea)	East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership
The LifeWeb Initiative: Building Partnerships to Implement the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Achieve the Aichi Targets	Charles Besançon (Canada)	Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>3. International Development and Training</b>		
The role of volunteer program to PA and challenges	Hiroto Mitsugi (Japan)	Japan International Cooperation Agency
Ten Years Sabah-JICA Technical Cooperation in Sabah Malaysia	Gerald Jetony (Malaysia)	Office of Natural Resources, Sabah, Malaysia
The Implementation of Collaborative Management In Gunung Halimun Salak National Park Through Kampong Conservation Model (MKK) and Special Zone	Atih Sundawati (Indonesia)	Gunung Halimun Salak National Park, Indonesia
Regional cooperation for the management of transboundary ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific	Bruce Dunn (Philippines)	Asian Development Bank
Protected Areas: Meeting Development Challenges	Midori Paxton (Japan)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Financing Protected Areas in Asia	Yoko Watanabe (USA)	Global Environment Facility (GEF)
<b>4. New Schemes for International Cooperation for Protected Areas in Asia</b>		
Options for improving Pan-Asia Protected Area Collaboration - a review of regional mechanisms	Peter Shadie (Australia)	IUCN WCPA Asia / Odonata Consulting
Ensuring well managed protected areas: introducing Conservation Assured   Tiger Standards (CA TS) and the IUCN Green List of Protected Areas	Sue Stolton (representing Vinod Mathur (India))	
Healthy Parks Healthy People - global solutions for a healthy future	Kathryn Campbell (Australia)	Parks Victoria
Building Regional Capacity for Protected Area Management: BIOPAMA - An approach from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific	Nick Cox (Switzerland)	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Fostering regional protected area cooperation: the case of the EUROPARC Federation and the establishment of the Naoli River Wetland Network in China	Jens Brüggemann (Germany)	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
ASEAN Heritage Parks: Managing the wonders of culture and nature	Clarissa Arida (Philippines)	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)
<b>Working Group 6: Biodiversity and Protected Areas</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>1. Aichi Target 11</b>		
Biodiversity, ecosystem services and ecosystem network in protected areas of Okinawa, Japan	Makoto Tsuchiya (Japan)	Faculty of Science, University of the Ryukyus, Japan
Identification of Important Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Areas to Strengthen the Marine Protected Areas Network in India	Sivakumar Kuppusamy (India)	Wildlife Institute of India
Viet Nam's Marine Protected Area Network: Challenges and Opportunities	Hien Thi Thu Bui (Viet Nam)	IUCN Viet Nam Office
Sabah Biocultural Community Protocols	Daniel Gaing (Malaysia)	Sabah Biodiversity Centre, Sabah, Malaysia
The Status of Palau's Marine Protected Areas And the Protected Areas Network	Kevin Polloi (Palau)	Palau International Coral Reef Center
How well do Asian Protected Area Cover Biodiversity ?	Cristei Nozawa (representing Stuart Butchart (UK))	
Plant Diversity Assessments Using a Standardized Transect Method in Protected Areas of Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam	Tetsukazu Yahara (Japan)	Center for Asian Conservation Ecology, Kyushu University
Japan's approach to scientifically promote the establishment of protected areas	Naoki Amako (Japan)	Biodiversity Policy Division, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
<b>2. PoWPA</b>		
The Management and Zoning of Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, Southwestern Cambodia	Srey Sunleang (Cambodia)	Department of Wetlands and Coastal Zones, Ministry of Environment
Assessing Management Effectiveness and Implementing the IUCN Green List Initiative for the Better Management of National Parks in Korea	Hag Young Heo (Republic of Korea)	Korea National Park Service



Ecological Corridor Initiative of Protected Areas in Thailand	Songtam Suksawang (Thailand)	National Parks and Protected Areas Innovation Institute, Expert for Forest and Wildlife Conservation, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
Conservation of the Critically Endangered Gharials ( <i>Gavialis gangeticus</i> ) by Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh State in the National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh, India	Sujoy Banerjee (India)	Forest Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, India
Viet Nam Spatial Master Plan for Biodiversity Conservation (To 2020 & Towards Vision 2030)	Tran Ngoc Cuong (Viet Nam)	Biodiversity Conservation Agency
National System of Conservation Areas - An Overview to the Costa Rican Protected Areas' Governance Model and Some of the Main Gathered Lessons to date	Gustavo Induni and Jeffery Castillo (Costa Rica)	Ministry of Environment and Energy
<b>3. Utilize Database for Protected Areas</b>		
The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) - Understanding the Protection of Our Planet	Naomi Kingstom (representing Siobhan Kenney (UK))	UNEP-WCMC
Key Biodiversity Area: A Way to Identify Sites of Significance for Biodiversity	Yoji Natori (Japan)	Conservation International
Utilizing Species Data to Inform Cost Effective Site Level Conservation: ASEAN Experiences	Sheila G Vergara (Philippines)	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Strengthening of Korea's Protected Areas Database and its Plan for the Achievement of CBD Aichi Target 11	Sung-gon Kim (Republic of Korea)	Korea Protected Areas Forum, Korea National Park Service
Data Collection, Management and Provision Concerning Biodiversity Information and Protected Areas	Ryo Mabuchi (Japan)	Biodiversity Center, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Natural Environment Survey and Biodiversity Conservation by Gap Analysis in Hokkaido, Japan	Masami Kaneko (Japan)	Rakuno Gakuen University
Perspectives of the Protected Areas in Japan -Current Situation and Gaps for Conservation of Biodiversity-	Takeharu Shumiya (Japan)	The Nature Conservation Society of Japan
<b>4. Protected Areas for Biodiversity Conservation</b>		
Implications of Mega-species Monitoring to Sustainable Protected Area Management: A Case of Tiger and Prey-base Monitoring in Nepal	Maheshwar Dhakal (Nepal)	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
Singapore's Eco-Link Biodiversity Overpass -Linking Nature Reserves, Connecting People	Gan Wan Ming James Terence (Singapore)	National Parks Board, Singapore
Eradication project of invasive alien mongooses on Amami-oshima Island, Japan	Shintaro Abe (Japan)	Naha Nature Conservation Office, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Achieving Nature Conservation in Hong Kong's Protected Areas System	Winnie Pik Wan Kwok (Hong Kong)	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, HKSAR

Viet Nam National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, vision to 2030	Hoang Thi Thanh Nhan (Viet Nam)	Biodiversity Conservation Agency
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## Annex 7. List of Youth Session Presentations

Title	Speaker	Organization
Masai Mara National Reserve, Kenya. Is it at the brink of precipice?	Melissa Wanjiru (Kenya)	University of Tsukuba
Conservation of Semenawi-Debubawi Bahri Protected Area of Eritrea: A Great Responsibility	Michael A. Gebreslassie (Eritrea)	University of Tsukuba, Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences
Evolutional Process and Characteristics of National Parks in China: as a Case Study of National Forest Parks	Fen Luo (China)	College of Tourism, Central South University of Forestry & Technology
Implication from the feasibility study on strategic park management using concession in Japan	Yuma Akaho (Japan)	Graduate School of International Media, Communication and Tourism Studies, Hokkaido University
Current state and future agenda of long-distance trails	Yumiko Yamamoto (Japan)	Kyoto University
Developing the Malaysia Protected Areas Master List - Challenges and Lessons Learned	Siti Zuraidah Abidin (Malaysia)	WWF-Malaysia
Landscape Management Inducing Local Potential	Tomoki Oyamada (Japan)	Department of Environment and Landscape (Junior College), Tokyo University of Agriculture
Japanese wildlife management and local community	Eri Kato (Japan)	United Graduate School of Agriculture Science, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
Collaborative Management of Protected Areas in Afghanistan: A Case Study from Band-e-Amir National Park, Bamiyan, Afghanistan	Ghulam Hussain Poya (Afghanistan)	Graduate School of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
Enriching the delivery of Environmental Education in Afghanistan's rural areas	Sorosh Poya-Faryabi (Afghanistan)	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Afghanistan Program
Learning environments and tradition of mountain worship	Yuta Kudo (Japan)	Yakushima Environmental Culture Foundation
Fuji-san and Life of communities in Hoku-sun	Yukinori Yamakawa (Japan)	Department of Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, University of Tsukuba
The Traditional National Village	Ayaka Nishitani (Japan)	Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences World Heritage Studies, University of Tsukuba
The contribution to the wetland conservation activities through musical performances	Yuika Ito (Japan)	Faculty of International Information, Kinjo Gakuin University
23 years of Students' Activities suggest a Unique Model of CEPA	Shota Furuya (Japan)	Field Assistant Network
Efforts of Yatsuhigata Youth	Shota Sawamoto (Japan)	Department of Economics, Aoyama Gakuin University
Potential of protected area and Ecotourism in Green Open Space of Jakarta	Yui Takase (Japan)	Chiba University
Community perceptions and attitudes toward conservation and tourism in Miyajima, Japan	Ifeoluwa Kayode (Nigeria)	Graduate School of Integrated Arts and Sciences, Hiroshima University
The Knowledge and Opportunities of Eco-tour Guides about Rare Species in Southern Kujuku-shima Islands in Japan	Masanori Take (Japan)	Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo

## Annex 8. List of Side Events

Date	Time	Country/ Region	Organizer	Title	Contact Person	Language	Room
14 Nov.	Noon 11 : 15 - 12 : 15	US	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund	New funding opportunities for building capacity for protected area conservation: the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in Asia	Patricia Zurita	English	Sakura Hall 2
		Japan	Ministry of the Environment, Japan	Collaborative Management in Japanese National Parks	Kei Osada	Simultaneous Interpretation	Shirakashi Conf. Room 1
		Japan	Japan Committee for IUCN / Equilibrium Research	private protected area enhancing PA systems - their importance and wider recognition	Teppey Dohke	English	Shirakashi Conf. Room 2
		ASEAN	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)	A Renewed Focus: Conserving coastal and marine ecosystems in the ASEAN Region	Sheila G. Vergara	English	Meeting Room 1
		India	ICCA Consortium / Kalpavriksh	Protected Areas and ICCAs: Towards Greater Harmony	Ashish Kothari	English	Meeting Room 2
		Japan	WWF Japan	Creating a collaborative platform for the Yellow Sea Ecoregion	Shigeki Yasumura	English	Meeting Room 3
		Japan	CEPA-JAPAN / Tohoku University	Cases of "Green Reconstruction" in Tohoku	Masahiro Kawatei	Simultaneous Interpretation	Meeting Room 8
	Evening 18:30- 19:30	Japan	Natural Environemt Coexistence Tecnology Association(NECTA)	Toward the Promotion of Nature Restoration in Asia Area	Yukihiro Morimoto	English	Sakura Hall 2
		Japan	Iwate University	Restoration of the Livelihood and Spatial Use in Coastal Area based on Nature Conservation after the Great East Japan Earthquake	Kiyotatsu Yamamoto	Simultaneous Interpretation	Shirakashi Conf. Room 1
		Japan	Miyagi Prefectural Government	Restoration and Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake	Masaki Orihashi	English / Consecutive Interpretation	Shirakashi Conf. Room 2
		Taiwan, Province of China	Tao Foundation & ICCA Consortium	The Threats and Chanllenge to ICCAs in Asia	Sutej Hugu	English	Meeting Room 1
		US	US National Park Service	Best Practice for Responding to Climate Change – Natural Solutions for Parks, People, the Planet	Leigh Welling	English	Meeting Room 2

		Japan	Japan Association of Environment Assessmet(JEAS)	Environmental Consideration in the Reconstruction Promotion Projects	Toru Kawai	Japanese / Consecutive Interpretation	Meeting Room 8
15 Nov.	Noon 11 : 15 - 12 : 15	Netherlands	Sacred Natural Sites Initiative	Sacred Natural Sites and Protected Areas	Bas Verschuuren	English / Consecutive Interpretation	Sakura Hall 2
		Japan	Ministry of the Environment, Japan	Collaborative National Park Management in the Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake	Nobukazu Naniwa	Simultaneous Interpretation	Shirakashi Conf. Room 1
		Hong Kong	IUCN / WCPA Urban Specialist Group	Urban Protected Areas and the Best Practice Guidelines – An Asian Experience	Fook Yee Wong	English	Shirakashi Conf. Room 2
		UK	UNEP-WCMC	How can we raise the profile of Asia's protected area systems at the World Parks Congress in 2014?	Naomi Kingston	English	Meeting Room 1
		Japan	Yokohama National University / UNEP Regional Office for Asia-Pacific	Innovative approach to promoting nature conservation and improving livelihood in the protected areas and their buffer zones	Masanori Kobayashi	English / Consecutive Interpretation	Meeting Room 2
		Malaysia	World Wildlife Fund –Tigers Alive Initiative	The lanch of the "An introduction to the Asian Conservation Field Staff Federation (ACFSF)"	Craig Bruce, Singh Rohit	English	Meeting Room 3
		Japan	The Nature Conservation Society of Japan / IUCN-J	The way how Marine Protected Area in Japan should be - discussion based on examples -	Mariko Abe	English	Meeting Room 8
	Evening 18:30 - 19:30	Japan	Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA)	Connecting protected areas and their adjacent <i>Satoyama</i> / buffer areas for people and sustainable nature	Koji Mitomori	Simultaneous Interpretation	Shirakashi Conf. Room 1
		Australia	Parks Victoria	Healthy Parks Healthy People – solutions for a healthy future in Asia	Kathryn Campbell	English	Shirakashi Conf. Room 2
		Republic of Korea	Korea National Park Service	Dialogue for Better Management of Protected Areas in the Asia Region	Gyusung Lee	English	Meeting Room 1
		Malaysia	WWF Tigers Alive Initiative / Equilibrium Research	The launch of the Conservation Assured-Tiger Standards (CA TS) and formalizing the link between CA TS and the IUCN Green List	Craig Bruce, Sue Stolton	English	Meeting Room 2
		Japan	Tohoku University	Bouncing Back from Disasters: Working Together with <i>Satoyama</i> / <i>Satoumi</i> (a case of the Urato Islands)	Masanori Kuniyoshi	Simultaneous Interpretation	Meeting Room 8

## **Annex 9. List of Steering Committee Members**

### **Chair:**

- Yoshitaka Kumagai  
(WCPA Regional Vice-chair, East Asia and Dean of International Collaboration, Akita International University, Japan)

### **Committee:**

- Cristi Nozawa  
(WCPA Vice-chair for Southeast Asia, and Regional Director at BirdLife International Asia Division)
- Vinod Mathur  
(WCPA Vice-chair for South Asia, and Dean at the Wildlife Institute of India)
- Scott Perkin  
(Head, IUCN Regional Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Asia)
- Jamie Kemsey  
(Protected Areas Regional Communications Network Manager, IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme)
- Toshio Torii  
(Director, National Park Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
- Keisuke Takahashi  
(Assistant Director, National Park Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
- Amran Hamzah  
(Professor at University Technology Malaysia and Former WCPA Vice-chair for Southeast Asia)
- Peter Shadie  
(Former Head of the Protected Areas Programme of the IUCN Asia Regional Office)
- Hag Young Heo  
(Korea National Park Service)

## Annex 10. List of Participants and Organizations

Family Name	Given Name	Middle Name	Title	Country	Organization
Abbas	Akmadi		Dr.	Indonesia	Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)
Abd Hamid	Mohd Hasim	Bin	Mr.	Malaysia	KOPEL (Koperasi Pelancongan Mukim Batu Puteh Kinabatangan Berhad)
Abdul Rahman	Mohd Taufik		Mr.	Malaysia	Department of Wildlife and National Parks
Abe	Mariko		Dr.	Japan	The Nature Conservation Society of Japan
Abe	Masahiro		Mr.	Japan	Tohoku University
Abe	Munehiro		Mr.	Japan	Natural Parks Foundation
Abe	Shintaro		Mr.	Japan	Ministry of the Environment
Abe	Koji				
Abidin	Siti Zuraidah		Ms.	Malaysia	WWF-Malaysia
Acharya	Hari	Bhadra	Mr.	Nepal	Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
Adachi	Tatsuya		Mr.	Japan	IDEA Consultants, Inc.
Adobo	Ernesto, Jr.	D.	Mr.	Philippines	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Adornado	Henry	Astoveza	Dr.	Philippines	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Ahmed	Shan		Mr.	Maldives	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Aikoh	Tetsuya		Dr.	Japan	Hokkaido University
Akaho	Yuma		Mr.	Japan	Hokkaido University
Akama	Aki		Ms.	Japan	Embajada del Japon en Espana
Akasaka	Munemitsu			Japan	Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
Akiba	Harumi		Dr.	Japan	UNU-IAS
Akiba	Keita		Mr.	Japan	Shiretoko Nature Foundation
Amako	Naoki		Mr.	Japan	Ministry of the Environment
Aoki	Naoyuki		Mr.	Japan	Miyagi Prefectural Government
Arai	Kazuhiro		Mr.	Japan	NPO NEOS (Hokkaido Nature Experience Outdoor School)
Arai	Emi		Ms.	Japan	Tohoku University
Araki	Miki		Ms.	Japan	JICA
Aramaki	Shigeo		Dr.	Japan	Yamanashi Institute of Environmental Sciences
Arias	Mauricio	Carlos	Mr.	Costa Rica	National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC).
Arida	Clarissa	Cabildo	Ms.	Philippines	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Ariga	Sayuri		Ms.	Japan	Tohoku University
Asai	Akane			Japan	Tokyo Electric Power Company
Asega	Jacqueline	Kasolani	Ms.	Kenya	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Aung	Pyi	Soe	Mr.	Myanmar	Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division
Awano	Takashi		Dr.	Japan	Tokyo University of Agriculture
Ayush	Namkhai		Dr.	Mongolia	Hustai National Park Trust of Mongolia
Badron	Zazarita		Mr.	Japan	Rakuno Gakuen University
Ballescaj	Maria	R.P.			Tokyo University

Baloch	Saeed	Akhtar	Mr.	Pakistan	Forest & Wildlife department Government of Sindh, Pakistan
Banerjee	Sujoy		Mr.	India	Forest Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh State, India
Barnes	Gillian (Sally)		Ms.	Australia	Office of Environment and Heritage
Basrul	Andi		Mr.	Indonesia	Ministry of Forestry
Besancon	Charles	David	Mr.	Canada	Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity
Bhandari	Bishnu	Bahadur	Mr.	Nepal	Nepal Wetlands Society
Bhatt	Seema		Ms.	India	Consultant. UNEP-WCMC
Blasiak	Robert		Mr.	USA	The University of Tokyo
Bruce	Craig			Malaysia	World Wildlife Fund
Bui	Hien	Thi Thu	Ms.	Viet Nam	IUCN
Campbell	Kathryn		Ms.	Australia	Parks Victoria
Cao	Le		Ms.	China	Tokyo Metropolitan University
Chan	Chia-Wen		Ms.	Taiwan, Province of China	Taiwan Environmental Information Association
Chang	Hung	Yi	Mr.	Taiwan, Province of China	Forestry Bureau
Chao	Chih-Liang		Dr.	Taiwan, Province of China	Providence University
Chen	Weili	Jasmine	Dr.	Taiwan, Province of China	Tamkang University
Chen	Ying		Ms.	China	Beijing Forestry University
Chen	Siyu		Ms.	China	Tohoku University
Chen	Siew Fong		Ms.	Japan	Regional Environmental Planning Inc.
Chiang	Pin-Chun		Ms.	Taiwan, Province of China	School of Forestry and Resource Conservation, National Taiwan University
Chiba	Nobuo			Japan	Tohoku University
Chibu	Takuo		Mr.	Japan	Regional Environmental Planning Inc.
Chino	Toru		Mr.	Japan	Pacific Rim Services, Alaska, USA
Chino	Mitsuyo		Ms.	Japan	Mckinley Chino Nature Center (MCC), Alaska USA
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