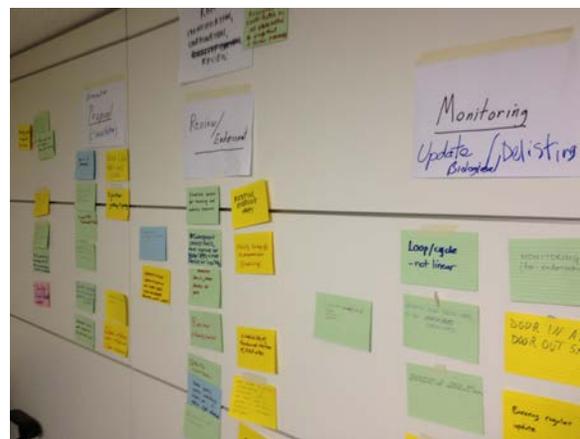


Development of the standard for identification of sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity (Key Biodiversity Areas): Recommendations from the Governance workshop

Ministério do Meio Ambiente, Brasilia, Brazil, 6-9 Nov 2013



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We would like to express our gratitude to the workshop participants for their invaluable contributions and for sharing their expertise and experience to enable the development of the Key Biodiversity Areas standard:

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While we have endeavored to address all comments on the reports herein, a number of broader comments on the methods overall remain to be addressed.

We would finally like to thank our donors:

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1. Introduction and meeting overview

In 2009, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) established a Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas. One of the two objectives of this Task Force is to convene a consultation process to consolidate the methodology by which sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity (“Key Biodiversity Areas” – KBAs) will be identified (see www.iucn.org/biodiversity_and_protected_areas_taskforce/ for more information). This standard will help government agencies, decision makers, resources managers, local communities, the private sector, donor agencies, and others to target the implementation of site conservation safeguards. It will also contribute to the fulfillment of Aichi Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2010-2020), which calls for the safeguarding of “...areas of particular importance for biodiversity...”.

Following the recommendations from a Framing Workshop held in Cambridge on 5-8 June 2012, several technical workshops were convened during 2013. This summary outlines the recommendations from the Governance workshop, hosted by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment in Brasilia, on 6-9 November 2013. The objective of this workshop was to address possible governance mechanisms of the new KBA standard (i.e. the “architecture” of the new system), in particular the role of the different stakeholders, the relationships between national and global processes, and the procedures required to confirm, validate, and endorse KBAs. Thirty-four participants, from 10 countries, representing academics, government agencies, national and international NGOs, the financial and private sectors, and three IUCN Commissions (Species Survival Commission, World Commission on Environmental Law, and World Commission on Protected Areas) were involved in this workshop.

Lincoln Fishpool of BirdLife International, chair of the Governance workshop, welcomed the participants and introduced Antonio Benjamin, Justice of the Brazil High Court and Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, who outlined the importance of legal considerations for the KBA process. This was followed by introductory remarks by Penny Langhammer, Joint Task Force Co-chair, Mike Hoffmann representing the Chair of the Species Survival Commission, Ernesto Enkerlin, Chair of the World Commission on Protected Areas, and Victor Hugo Inchausty, Director of the IUCN Regional Office for South America. Daniela Oliveira welcomed the workshop participants on behalf of the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, which kindly hosted the workshop, and made generous in-kind contributions to the workshop.

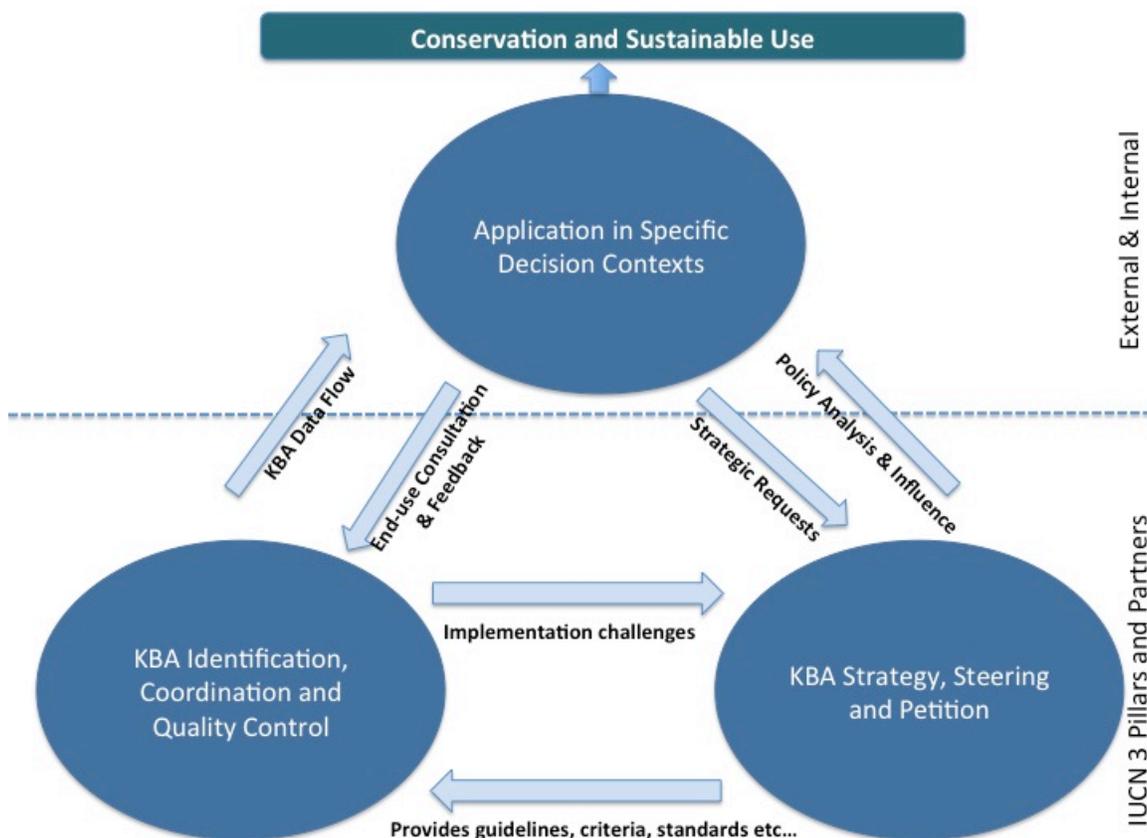
Jane Smart, Director of the IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Group, gave an overview presentation on the consultation process for KBAs to date, including the planned timetable up to November 2014 and longer-term aspirations. Lincoln Fishpool explained the agenda and presented possible components of the governance process, outlined in a background option paper sent to the participants beforehand. Leon Bennun of BirdLife International gave a presentation on lessons and issues arising from the Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas programme. This was followed by short remarks on lessons learned from other KBA or similar processes to date: Mike Parr of the Alliance for Zero Extinction, Randy Milton representing Ramsar, Mark Leighton discussing High Conservation Value Areas, Mary Klein from NatureServe, Jon Hutton of the UNEP-WCMC regarding the World Database on Protected Areas, Hesiquio Benítez Díaz on site identification in Mexico, Sheila Vergara speaking about the Philippines KBA process, and Carlos Scaramuzza covering the priority-setting exercises in Brazil.

Given the proposed governance model outlined in the background options paper and lessons learned from a number of KBA processes, as well as experience gained from other knowledge products mobilized through IUCN, participants were asked to write on notecards (1) the three key elements that must be in KBA governance and (2) the key challenges to governing a global KBA standard. The cards were then put on the wall and Stephen Woodley, Joint Task Force Co-chair, led an exercise to classify the issues and elements into broad categories or themes.

The themes that emerged from this exercise were as follows:

- Process for nomination, review, endorsement, and updating of KBAs
- Strategic direction and steering of the overall KBA initiative (including sustainability)
- Application in specific decision contexts (how to **link** to existing international and national processes)
- Data management and IT
- Priorities (taxa, regions, etc.)
- Branding and communications
- Training and capacity building

A graphic was developed to show how the first three of these themes relate to each other (see below). Working groups were established to tackle issues on the cards and the options paper related to these three major themes: nomination, review and endorsement processes (facilitated by Lincoln Fishpool); strategic direction/steering (facilitated by Jon Hutton of UNEP-WCMC); and application in specific decision contexts (facilitated by Stephen Woodley). A smaller working group addressed issues of data management later in the week (facilitated by Mary Klein). Issues of branding and priorities for KBA identification were rolled into the group on strategic direction and steering of the overall KBA initiative.



2. Process for nomination, review and endorsement of KBAs

This working group first tackled questions of how to handle existing sites with respect to the new KBA standard. For example, do all Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas and existing Key Biodiversity Areas identified for non-bird taxa have to be reassessed? What happens if some of these sites no longer meet the revised global thresholds of significance? How do we deal with overlapping, but non-identical site delineations, of which there are numerous examples? Once these issues were resolved, the group moved on to discussing the process for identifying KBAs for new taxonomic groups/biodiversity features or in new regions.

2.1 Process for handling existing KBAs

The recommendation from the Framing workshop, that the KBA methodology should also be applicable at national and regional levels of biological importance, was affirmed. In identifying Key Biodiversity Areas at national or regional levels, exactly the same criteria should be used but with lower thresholds. For example, Criterion A on threatened biodiversity would be “sites that contribute significantly to the *national* persistence of threatened biodiversity”. IUCN should give guidance on application of the KBA criteria at sub-global levels, but national/regional thresholds would likely be determined at the national or regional level rather than through this IUCN process.

IUCN does not have the capacity or mandate to acquire comprehensive KBA datasets at the regional/national level of importance, manage these data, and review or endorse regionally/nationally important KBAs. However, the recommendation is to allow sub-global KBA information to be held in the database, in the interest of not losing data, but they will not be shown on the website or shared with end-users, except in specific case-by-case situations, following some clear business rules.

2.1.1 Reassessment of existing sites against new criteria and thresholds

The criteria and thresholds for the new Key Biodiversity Area standard will not be identical to those currently used to identify Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas and existing Key Biodiversity Areas for other taxa. Given that there are more than 13,000 such confirmed Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas currently in the World Biodiversity Database, it is important to streamline reassessment of existing sites as much as possible.

Proposed process for re-assessment of existing sites:

- Cross-walk existing sites against the criteria, thresholds, and minimum documentation requirements for the new KBA standard
- Assess site status as one of three possibilities:
 - KBA at global level
 - KBA at sub-global level
 - Under review/proposed site (suggested timeline of 3-5 years to review)
- For sites assessed as sub-global or under review, check to see if they meet global thresholds for other (not yet assessed) taxa
- No boundary changes to be made at this point

BirdLife International has expressed its willingness to crosswalk existing Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas to the criteria and thresholds of the new Key Biodiversity Area standard. Alliance for Zero Extinction sites will meet global KBA thresholds, but they may require review with respect to delineation (section 3.1.2). KBAs already identified for non-avian taxa (e.g. through CEPF ecosystem profile processes) will likely need to follow the same

process as the one developed for new sites (section 3.2), because there is currently no constituency that has the mandate to reassess these sites.

2.1.2 Delineation with respect to existing KBAs

The identification of KBAs for non-avian taxa has sometimes resulted in non-identical boundaries where these sites overlap with existing Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. This is a result of non-bird trigger species at a site sometimes having different habitat requirements (different distributions, at the site scale) compared to the bird trigger species, as well as different organizations and experts being involved in the analyses, with differing levels of local knowledge/information available, thus delineations being at different levels of resolution. Much time and effort has gone into trying to resolve conflicting site delineations in some regions, and frequently the parties involved have not been able to reach agreement. There is a need to respect the work that has hitherto gone into site delineation, and the identities of existing key sets of KBAs, while aiming for congruence whenever possible. Striving for harmonized site boundaries, wherever feasible, is important for simplifying communication, unifying the biodiversity community around a concise set of sites, and supporting management of these sites.

Proposed process for handling overlapping KBA boundaries:

- In the short term, existing non-congruent boundaries will remain distinct.
- Over time (e.g. 3-5 years), boundaries of existing non-congruent sites will be reviewed and refined with the aim of convergence, wherever possible.
- Sites proposed for new taxa or under new criteria should align with existing boundaries wherever possible (or identify new sites that are congruent); any changes to the existing boundary should be justified (and agreed by originator), wherever possible.
- Petitions process may eventually be needed if parties cannot reach agreement on site delineation.

A data field will be required in the KBA database to explain the relationship between overlapping KBAs, analogous to that for different kinds of overlapping Protected Areas. A naming convention is needed to help avoid confusion generated by having more than one name for the same general site. The database should accommodate spatial data on areas of importance within a KBA for the different biodiversity features triggering the site.

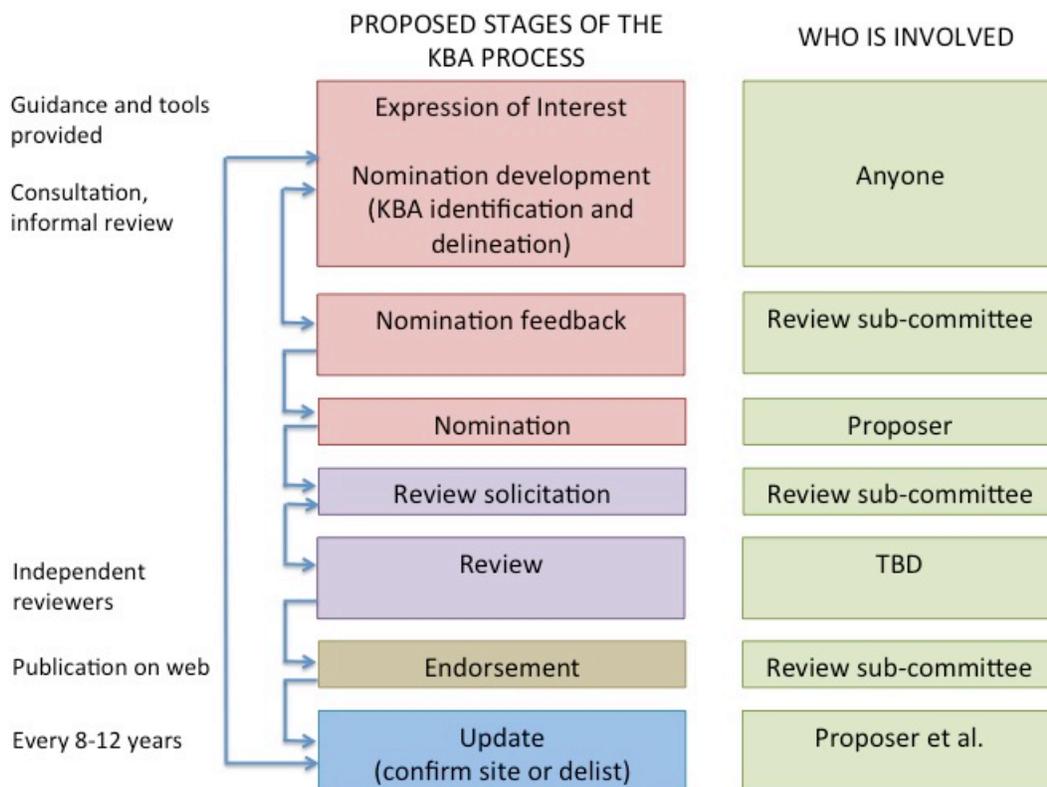
2.2 Process for identifying new KBAs

CAVEAT: The initial ideas laid out in this section will likely evolve substantially over the coming weeks. A process has been put in place (see section 6) to clarify the recommendations that emerged from the working group and to resolve various concerns surrounding the review and endorsement process that were raised

The working group discussed the process for identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for new biodiversity features (e.g. amphibians, freshwater fish, ecosystems) or in new areas. The group preferred the word “nomination” to “proposal”, so nomination will be used from this point forward, and “nomination development” refers to the identification, delineation, and compilation of data for sites proposed as triggering the KBA criteria.

The group recognized that individuals and organizations interested in nominating sites for KBA status will require technical support in the application of the criteria and thresholds, delineation of boundaries, and compiling a minimum set of data for each site. There is also a need for a review process (i.e. quality assurance) that is streamlined and practical and relatively inexpensive to implement, to avoid delays in getting new KBAs recognized (or existing KBAs recognized for new biodiversity features). Without technical help up-front, nomination data quality might be low and over-burden the review process. Thus, the group felt that the

nomination phase (i.e. KBA identification and delineation) should be as robust and simple as possible, involving sufficient input by experts in the region or taxonomic group, so that the final review / quality assurance phase can be quick and efficient. The group discussed 4 distinct phases of the process for identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for new biodiversity features or in new regions – Nomination, Review, Endorsement, and Update – which are summarized in the following figure:



2.2.1 Nomination

The working group affirmed that, providing that minimum data standards are met and the site appears to meet at least one criterion, nominations may be submitted by anyone.

The group suggested that organizations or individuals interested in nominating KBAs for new biodiversity features or in new areas submit an Expression of Interest, which would be submitted via the KBA committee to a “KBA focal point”. This would trigger a process, presumably supported by staff members, of providing guidance and tools to the interested parties in the required steps to nominate sites as KBAs. This would also enable connections to be made with organizations that have already been involved in KBA identification in the country or region (e.g. BirdLife Partners), so that effort is not duplicated. The nomination process in a particular region could be guided by a KBA focal point, and these individuals should have considerable knowledge of KBA criteria and thresholds and of the data required to identify and delineate KBAs. These focal points could be drawn from regional IUCN structures, Red List Authorities, or organizations involved in KBA work.

The group strongly recommended that nominations should be eventually submitted online, and that submissions requires the provision of a minimum set of data, including at least provisional boundaries, for all

sites meeting one or more KBA criteria and global thresholds. The group reviewed the data requirements compiled at the Criteria and Delineation workshop. It was agreed that data fields needed for review should be *required* and those that add value but that are not essential for review should be *optional*. Care must be taken to ensure that this process does not become too onerous and demanding. The online submission system should try to accommodate more than one language so that proposers could submit details of sites in their national language, or at the very least in one of the three official IUCN languages. The working group envisioned that KBA nominations (including species-site relationships) could receive upfront input by SSC Specialist Groups and other regional/taxonomic experts through an online forum or wiki consultation, as is currently being used by some Red List Authorities for species re-assessments. This e-consultation would be a mechanism for engaging stakeholders in the KBA nomination process. Nominations should be as complete as possible before they are submitted.

2.2.2 Review

It is important to ensure that the data supporting all Key Biodiversity Areas endorsed by IUCN are of high quality. In the process of nomination development (above), the regional KBA focal point and regional/taxonomic experts would provide an initial review of all aspects of the nominations. Once the nominations are submitted, the focal point would solicit reviews by 1-2 independent experts who had not been involved in nomination development. At this stage, most of the work should comprise consistency checking of the data.

The working group envisioned that the following aspects are subject to review:

- Criteria and thresholds - at least one KBA criterion and its associated threshold is met and that
 - Species-site relationships are appropriate
 - Appropriate taxonomy standards met
- Data - Minimum data requirements are met
- Stakeholders - adequate information exchange with key stakeholders is demonstrated
- Delineation - provisional delineation indicated, with sensible boundaries.

Once the data are reviewed, proposers revise the submission to address any concerns or omissions and then resubmit.

There was a proposal to use the Red List Authorities within the Species Survival Commission as the first point of contact for independent review, because these structures already exist and KBA review could be built into their terms of reference. As the Red List Authority for birds, BirdLife International would thus be responsible for the focal point and reviewer roles for avian KBAs. However, it was recognized that some Red List Authorities are overwhelmed with Red List assessment work and may not have the capacity and willingness to take on a KBA review function. Regardless, there would need to be a time limit for review, to avoid excessive delay. The working group did not achieve consensus on the independent expert review process – who these reviewers should be, what exactly should they review, and at what stage they should be involved. More work is required to resolve these issues as soon as possible.

2.2.3 Endorsement

Nominated KBAs would be endorsed by IUCN and made available in the online database once any remaining issues raised in the review process had been addressed. Endorsement will be discussed in more detail, along with the review process, over the coming weeks.

2.2.4 Monitoring and Updating

Monitoring and updating are distinct but related processes. Monitoring of sites, either through field survey or by using remotely-sensed data, is used to assess the effects of conservation actions, assess changes in land-cover, give warning of threats etc. It also provides information relevant to the *update* of KBA data sets. For example, monitoring may show that site degradation has reduced population numbers of KBA trigger species below the required threshold, or reveal that a species has been erroneously recorded at the site. In addition, independent of what happens at the site lists of trigger species and their thresholds change with time, as a result, for example, of taxonomic and Red List decisions. These changes require that KBA data are updated periodically. The working group discussed monitoring briefly but then focused on the process for updating sites. Responsibility for the data management aspects of this will reside with the custodians of the IUCN-endorsed database of KBAs.

The KBA data management system should accommodate new information as it becomes available, but more thought is required on how to operationalize this. It may be advisable for individuals or organizations with new or better data on existing sites to submit them through a process similar to KBA nomination. Given the significant time and effort involved in updating KBA data, the group recommended that updates (criteria re-assessments) be made every 8-12 years. There was some discussion as to whether KBA accounts would “expire” after 12 years, but it may be better to follow the BirdLife model and retain the sites in the database, marking them as in need of update.

3. Strategic direction and steering of the overall KBA initiative

The background options paper for KBA governance focused on the process for nomination, review, endorsement, and petition of KBAs. The workshop participants recognized quickly that a high-level governance function was missing, which is to provide strategic direction and decision-making for the overall KBA initiative. Over the course of two days, the working group developed a terms of reference for this high-level governance mechanism and a proposed structure to deliver it.

3.1. Terms of reference for high-level governance mechanism (“KBA committee”)

A high-level governance mechanism for KBAs should have the following **purposes**:

- **Serve as the custodian of the KBA criteria/standards/guidelines**
 - Establish rules for data validation
 - Establish policies /rules for terms of use of data
 - Quality assurance
- **Define, establish and oversee processes**
 - Establish, authorize and oversee subsidiary bodies
 - Establish and oversee KBA Partnership (of institutions supporting the KBA process)
 - Appoint KBA authorities
- **Develop and help oversee strategy and work program**
 - Advise on priorities within the agreed program
 - Establish financial model and assist with fundraising
 - Accountability and reporting on strategy

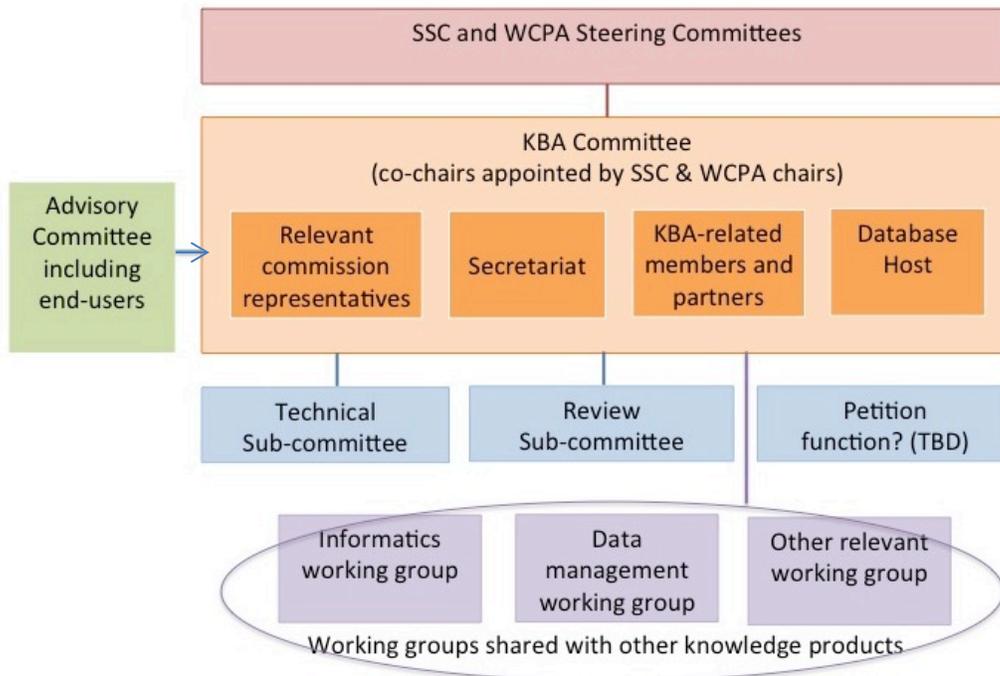
- **Promote appropriate use of KBAs**
- Catalyze and promote appropriate synthesis of KBA information
- Develop best-practice advise on the application of KBAs
- Secure regular feedback from end-users
- Promote the value and application of existing KBA datasets
- **Develop, promote and represent the KBA brand**
- Lead in the promotion of the KBA approach and cultivate KBA champions
- Help ensure effective and accurate communication

This mechanism should be guided by the following **principles**:

- Ensuring that conservation value of existing KBA list is promoted, and not undermined
- Clear articulation of authority, accountability and responsibility at all stages
- Clear simple structure including roles, responsibilities and timeline for action
- Credible and stands up to scrutiny and challenge
- Need to be manageable and easy to be implemented in different realities
- Clear statements of support from all partners
- Transparency
- Adaptability – governance is a learning process
- Focus on the conservation imperative
- Every member will have their input “heard”
- Leadership and structure will evolve as needed
- Explore potential for sharing committees with other knowledge products mobilized through IUCN (i.e. data management advice, technical advice, and other bodies which currently exist for the Red List)
- Clear data policies will be developed and adhered to
- Ensure that communication over WCPA and SSC leadership does not imply that KBAs focus solely on species or protected areas, but includes all levels of biodiversity, as well as non-protected areas.

3.2 Proposed structure of KBA committee

The working group took the purposes and principles in the terms of reference and proposed a structure to deliver them. The group proposed the creation of a “KBA committee” reporting to the WCPA and SSC steering committees (and with co-chairs appointed by the chairs of the WCPA and SSC). The committee would be comprised of 4 main components – relevant IUCN commission representatives, IUCN Secretariat, IUCN Members and partner organizations compiling KBA data, and the host of the KBA database. A Technical Sub-Committee would be in charge of setting the scientific standards for Key Biodiversity Areas and develops guidelines on the application of these standards, while the Review Sub-Committee would oversee the review of the site nominations and the Petition Sub-Committee would address challenges to sites nomination in an independent way. Working groups dealing with issues of data management and policies, terms of use, and legal issues, could be shared with other knowledge products (e.g. the IUCN Red List) dealing with similar issues. The KBA committee would receive input from an advisory committee that included end users. There was also considerable discussion about observers (potential partners and donors) as well as a fundraising sub-group or role. The petition function was not discussed in during the Governance workshop and requires further thought and discussion. The following diagram presents the proposed structure of a KBA Committee:



3.3. Sustainability

The working group discussed issues of sustainability and resources:

Sustainability Principles (for coordination/business planning)

- Sustainability is about more than just money.
- Sustainability increased by formal sign off by IUCN Council.
- Formal agreement with partners (Secretariat, KBA partners and database host) in a “KBA Partnership”, similar to the “Red List Partnership”.
- An established KBA brand is necessary for sustainability (and brand promotion/management).
- Diversity of funding models.
- Generate revenue for commercial uses.
- Agreed upon mechanism for directing money back to data providers.
- Use IBAT as a data access / benefit sharing model.
- Look at global public good and pay as you go models.
- Watch out for internal competition for limited resources (i.e. between IUCN knowledge products).
- Look for synergies and bring external organizations on board whenever possible.

Sustainability (for supply)

- Promoting engagement of potential proposers – incentives (including how partners can use the brand for fundraising).
- Brand use and brand strategy.
- Exert no claims of data ownership.

Sustainability (for demand)

- Demand for KBA brand crucial for success – will overcome reticence (e.g. large numbers).
- Better understanding of user needs required.
- Promoting the brand.

- Corporate engagement model (Proteus type approach, or potential for this to span across knowledge products).
- Creating a need – influencing processes

Additional points

- Best practice guidelines needed to deal with numbers and prioritization of KBAs.
- Issues regarding government vs. NGO data and where to ultimately house this information.
- Support needed for fundraising, developing a sustainable financial model and helping partners and proposers and governments to submit.
- Address that the number of KBAs can be perceived as being very large and this can be off-putting. Different ways to view and access the information.

4. Application in specific decision contexts

The workshop participants felt that governance mechanisms could not be discussed without considering what we are trying to achieve with KBAs and the specific decision contexts (e.g. development) that we are trying to influence. Recognizing that Nigel Dudley, who could not participate in the workshop, has led an End-User Applications working group to compile information on end-use applications of KBAs, the working group did some brainstorming on specific decision contexts to inform its discussion on strategic direction and steering of the KBA initiative. The results of this discussion are presented in the table below, however not all scales were addressed due to time constraints:

Decision context/scale	Standards and Safeguards (e.g. private and public sector)	Biodiversity-positive decisions (e.g. CEPF, NGOs)	Land and sea-scape planning	International, national and sub-national policy processes (e.g. CBD)
International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying business risk - IFC Performance Standard 6 etc... - High Conservation Value - Global Reporting Initiative - Demonstrating environmental risk aspects of KBAs - REDD+ investment - Industry Standards (e.g. RSPO) - Providing development decision-makers with simple yes/no answers from KBA datasets - Aggregated offset systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund - Global Environment Facility - etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Man and the Biosphere Programme (MABs) - Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSAs), - Gap analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KBAs for crop wild relatives (ITPGRES) - UNCLOS World Heritage - CBD reporting requirements (WGRI + SBSTTA) - Go to CBD once IUCN process is moving ahead. - LIFEWEB - Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals - Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) + Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) - Timing relative to CBD COP process. - The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity - Reporting Global Biodiversity Outlook - Payments for Ecosystem/Environmental Services (e.g. Conservation agreements) - Poverty Reduction Strategy - Natural capital accounting - National land use/tenure policy - EIA/SEA - Offset policy
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying business risk - Legal backing especially at country level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGO strategy - PES - Protected Areas - National natural capital accounting - Conservation incentive payments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Systematic conservation planning - Gap analysis - National land and sea-scape planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) - Reporting to MEAs
Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying business risk - Customary laws - Identifying potential offset sites - Managing business risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manageability to enable (local) government body to manage it effectively - Local conservation groups - community PAs - private PAs - Regional /municipal PAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local land and sea-scape planning. - Integration with national conservation priorities. 	

It was noted that now is the time to integrate and address end-user needs, where possible. However, it was also noted that the KBA standard will not be able to address all needs and should consider taking a proactive role to inform the most relevant decision contexts that are in need of better data. A clear indication of what needs the KBA standard intends to address and how it can do this for each relevant decision context would be very useful and will help to manage expectations and inform different end-users. The importance of stakeholder engagement for creating demand was also emphasized. Participants discussed the fact that the KBA standard should not be prescriptive about specific conservation interventions; however, they mentioned that the proposer could provide some additional information regarding the type of actions that might be suitable for a given area that they know well.

The iterative nature of the KBA standard and process should allow for end-user needs to continue to inform the evolution of the process. There was an understanding that we should begin with the information that is currently available and continue to build from there by targeting particular gaps and areas in need of improved data.

5. Data management

The working group on data management recognized a tradeoff between the efficiency of a centralized data management system (one-stop shop) and giving custodians of information the ability to manage their own data. One option would be to have a minimum set of data fields housed in a centralized system, which would be capable of serving as the main data system for proposers, but also be able to link to a distributed database. The working group recommended building on the existing World Bird and Biodiversity Database (WBDB) and scoping how much change is needed and what the cost would be. No specific recommendation was made for the database host, but the host organization needs to make a commitment to the overall KBA process for the long term and would need resources.

Regarding data input, it will be important to keep track of who contributors are so that attribution can be provided and to enable electronic submission of data.

A number of lessons have been learned from other data management initiatives (e.g. NatureServe): (1) data validation rules/processes are essential, (2) site name divergence is a source of confusion, and (3) avoid inequality in treatment of contributors.

The following principles were articulated in terms of data access:

- Build on existing Terms of Use established for Red List and current KBA data, including for integrated presentations such as IBAT
- Minimum dataset freely available to any user for non-commercial use
- Nominators need access to existing KBA data (to shape their proposal)
- If data are confidential or sensitive, don't provide it to clearing house (or instead generalize it)
- Absolutely no selling of underlying data itself
- Provide access to the latest/best GIS layers (valuable but hidden)
- Possibly develop an alliance of several organizations that could provide KBA data
- Avoid inequality in treatment of contributors

6. Next steps

The Task Force Co-chairs were asked to convene a follow-up mechanism to achieve agreement on the recommended process for KBA review. The petition process also requires further work. Recommendations from the Governance workshop (this report) will be circulated to invitees of all the KBA workshops for review and comment. In early 2014, the KBA standard will be written, most likely as two documents: a short booklet summarizing the methodology and companion guidelines with more detailed explanation and examples that could be a living electronic document. Everyone who has attended or been invited to a workshop will be invited to review the standard, and the SSC and WCPA steering committees will be engaged in review during this time. Then there will be a period of wide public review in June-July 2014. The standard will be put before IUCN Council for approval around the time of the World Parks Congress in November 2014, where it will be launched and presented as part of Stream 1 on Reaching Conservation Goals.