



Guiding Principles and Recommendations for business operating in and around KBAs – Draft 2 for Consultation

Giulia Carbone, Global Business and Biodiversity Programme, IUCN



What we are doing

- Provide individual businesses, voluntary certification schemes and financial institutions with **universally applicable principles and recommendations for business operating in and around KBAs.**
- Developed by a coalition of conservation organizations, they will inform new/existing standards and guidelines, on how to manage impacts on identified biodiversity elements in KBAs.



What we are not doing

- We are **not designing** a new standard
- We are **not designing a stand alone module** but will have to be integrated in existing systems (at corporate or sectoral levels)



Roles & responsibilities

The **Scientific Committee** representing a sub set of KBA Partners prepares the drafts of the KBA Guiding Principles and Recommendations.

End Users (especially representatives from diverse sectors, Financial institutions and certification bodies) provide comments on the Guiding Principles and Recommendations and the Technical Guidance.

KBA Partners approve Guiding Principles and Recommendations and the Technical Guidance.

IUCN coordinates the project.



Target audience

- 1) Individual businesses: to be used as part of their corporate policies and operational guidelines.
- 2) Sector-specific or commodity-specific voluntary certification systems: to strengthen the section on biodiversity of their standards.
- 3) Financial institutions: to strengthen and harmonise their safeguards for projects in areas of high biodiversity (e.g. Critical Habitats; KBAs; HCV...).



Applicability

- All sectors; all business sizes.
- Existing and new business operations in and around KBAs having or potentially having direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the KBA elements.
- The entire project life cycle of existing and new business operations (including transfer of commitments in case of acquisition).



Some important considerations

- Governments have an important role to play by ensuring effective regulations, land use planning processes, and spatial area management suitable for the conservation of KBAs.
- The Module will be aligned with all relevant IUCN Policies, Resolutions and Recommendations: the Union's most effective means of influencing conservation policy at species, site, national and global levels.



Process thus far

- **1st Scientific Committee Meeting**, 31 May -02 June, IUCN HQ (Gland, Switzerland)
- **End-User Consultation Meeting**, 04-05 July, IUCN HQ (Gland, Switzerland)
- **2nd Scientific Committee Meeting**, 06 July, IUCN HQ (Gland, Switzerland) and subsequent conference calls
- **Public consultation** during the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Honolulu, Hawai'i on Draft 1
- **Consultation** with the KBA Scientific Committee and IUCN on Draft 1 (September to December 2016)
- **Launch** of Draft 2 during the CBD Business and Biodiversity Forum (Cancun, 2 December 2016)



A closer look to Draft 2

Goal: Business contributes to the long term maintenance or enhancement of the biodiversity of KBAs and the supporting ecological and socio-cultural contexts.

Principle 1. Business causes no long term negative impact and ideally positive impact on the biodiversity element(s) for which the site qualifies, or it is expected to qualify, as a KBA, or on its supporting ecological context.



A closer look to Draft 2

Principle 2. On the biodiversity elements, and the supporting ecological context, which have not or may not trigger KBA thresholds defined by the standard but are nevertheless important components of the site, the business achieves No Net Loss and preferably Net Gain.

Principle 3. Business eliminates, reduces and compensates for residual impacts on the biodiversity element(s) for which the site qualifies as a KBA resulting from business operations prior to XXX 2017 (date of approval of this module).



A closer look to Draft 2

Principle 4. Business carries out early scoping and assessment of potential impacts to plan all mitigation actions before measurable impacts take place, and sets aside funds for any required restoration and offsets as a precautionary action to demonstrate that successful outcomes are both technically and financially feasible.

Principle 5. Business applies a landscape, watershed, or seascape approach in the assessment and management of risks and impacts, and in the design and implementation of activities to maintain and/or enhance the biodiversity elements triggering the identification of a KBA.



A closer look to Draft 2

Principle 6. Business considers and respects the needs, rights, livelihoods and sociocultural values of local communities and indigenous peoples associated with the KBA/s.

Cross cutting practices:

- Stakeholder engagement
- Transparency & Integrity
- Integrated Management



Consultation ends on 10 March 2017

Download the document and feedback form from:

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-approaches-and-tools/key-biodiversity-areas>

Contact Giulia.carbone@iucn.org



Next steps

- The comments and analysis will be shared with the KBA Partners
- The KBA Partners will then convene for a 2 day face to face meeting (May 2017) to revise Draft 2 in light of the comments received and generate a new version.
- At the end of the 2 day meeting, the Partners will have to decide if:
 - They are satisfied with the new version and feel that they can launch it as a final version; or
 - They need to further discuss specific points, and therefore need more time.



QUESTIONS?

Also contact me at giulia.carbone@iucn.org