



## THEME ON GOVERNANCE, EQUITY AND RIGHTS (TGER)

### ***TGER 2007 Work Report***

It was a full year of work for TGER members, who continued their collaboration with other CEESP members, in particular [TILCEPA](#) and [TSL](#). We covered two main areas:

- governance of natural resources and protected areas (with a focus on Community Conserved Areas and co-management);
- conservation and human rights.

The year we focused on project work, developing and carrying out international symposia and workshops, developing a few new initiatives, and identifying strategic steps for both Community Conserved Areas and for conservation and human rights. We continued active fundraising and welcomed many new members (we are more than 560 now!)

### **Governance of natural resources and protected areas**

#### **Participatory action research on governance and biodiversity conservation in nine different sites/ countries**

TGER has been busy coordinating participatory action research on governance of biodiversity in nine areas/ sites around the world for the GEM-CON-BIO initiative supported by the European Union. Most of the sites exemplify *situations where indigenous peoples and local communities struggle to gain recognition and support as governance actors*. They are located in Mongolia, Iran, Niger, Ethiopia, Turkey, Bolivia, Argentina, Indonesia and Nepal. Key TGER members in charge are Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org), Taghi Farvar [taghi@cenesta.org](mailto:taghi@cenesta.org), Barbara Lassen [barbara@cenesta.org](mailto:barbara@cenesta.org), Janis Alcorn [janisalcorn@yahoo.com](mailto:janisalcorn@yahoo.com), Marco Bassi [bassimarco@tiscali.it](mailto:bassimarco@tiscali.it); Jill and Kees Vogt [cracgrn@intnet.ne](mailto:cracgrn@intnet.ne); Sabine Schmidt [sms@nzni.org.mn](mailto:sms@nzni.org.mn); Suade Arancli [sarancli@yahoo.com](mailto:sarancli@yahoo.com); Linda Yuliani [l.yuliani@cgiar.org](mailto:l.yuliani@cgiar.org) and Naya Paudel [nspaudel@gmail.com](mailto:nspaudel@gmail.com). Syntheses of results and recommendations have been developed for international/ national policy and specifically for the aid policy of the European Union.

#### **The “IUCN Protected area matrix”: understanding and using the concept of governance of protected areas**

TGER members have been active in refining the concept of protected area governance, through both “type” and “quality” considerations. After IUCN Best Practice Guidelines no.11 <http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Publications/TILCEPA/guidelinesindigenouspeople.pdf> a number of papers were finalized and posted in the IUCN website in preparation of the IUCN Summit in Almeria. The papers offer a basis for an IUCN position on governance of protected

areas, to be included as part of the forthcoming revised version of the IUCN Best Practice Guidelines on protected areas categories (and governance types). The papers include:

- **The “IUCN protected area matrix”— A tool towards effective protected area systems]**  
<http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/theme/categories/summit/papers/papers/Governancepaper4.pdf>
- **Community Conserved Areas**  
<http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/theme/categories/summit/papers/papers/Communityconservedareas4.pdf>

### **Symposium on governance innovations for protected areas at the Society for Conservation Biology (Port Elizabeth, July 2007)**

TGER has organised and run a **symposium on “Sharing rights and responsibilities in new approaches to protected area governance”**, which addressed progress and effectiveness of shared governance of protected areas in achieving multiple objectives at different levels. Conditions for effective shared governance and recommendations for key steps for implementation have been discussed on the basis of diverse experience of shared governance in different ecosystems and social and institutional contexts. Contact Joanna Durbin [joanna.durbin@durrell.org](mailto:joanna.durbin@durrell.org) and [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org).

### **Understanding, Strengthening and Promoting Community Conserved Areas (CCAs)**

As part of the first phase of the joint TGER/TILCEPA Global CCA initiative *Understanding, Strengthening and Promoting Community Conserved Areas (CCAs)* the following regions have been documented: Eastern/Central Africa (including Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and Rwanda) ; SW China Biodiversity Hotspot; Mesoamerica (with a particular focus on Mexico, Belize and Guatemala); and the Arctic tundra region (Canada, Russia, Scandinavia). A synthesis paper drawing consequences for CCAs and governance of PAs in general has been produced: [http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/CCA/Reviews/Regional\\_CCA\\_reviews\\_Synthesis.pdf](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/CCA/Reviews/Regional_CCA_reviews_Synthesis.pdf).

The interest generated by the CCA initiative, and the discussion that was motivated by its launching in the TGER, TILCEPA and TSL discussion lists, are producing some important results: the GEF Small Grant Program has been considering CCAs as a focus in its overall activities; regional conservation workshops have been extensively dealing with the topic (e.g., as organised by Birdlife International in the Philippines, at the annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology in South Africa, etc.) and the CBD Secretariat has planned for end of 2007 and 2008 a series of training events on governance of protected areas where CCAs are expected to figure prominently. The CBD training events target national personnel in charge of implementing the CBD programme of work on protected areas in all signatory countries, and are thus a powerful avenue to spread awareness and capacity in relation to CCAs.

### **International workshop on Community Conserved Areas (Kastamonu, Oct 2007)**

The GEM CON BIO and CCA initiatives mentioned above joined forces with the GEF Small Grant Program, CIFOR and the Gov. of Turkey to organize an international meeting in Kastamonu, Turkey on 01-05 October 2007. The meeting, “Strengthening Community Conserved Areas—lessons, needs and recommendations for policy and practice” gathered 30 professionals who pulled together the results of current participatory action research, drew lessons, identified challenges and developed recommendations for policy and practice at the global, intermediate and local levels. Taking immediate action to implement these recommendations, the workshop participants identified the need for a worldwide “Alliance” in support of CCAs, and outlined its first steps and requirements.

### **Launching a Global Alliance for Community Conserved Areas**

One of the main topics debated at the international meeting mentioned above was the need for a strategy to promote the **appropriate recognition and support of Community Conserved Areas**. It was decided that this could deserve the development of a dedicated worldwide “Alliance”, which could take advantage of international events to consolidate and strengthen itself (those include international conventions and government-sponsored gatherings such as the World Conservation Congress of 2008) but would hopefully constitute an **independent, international movement of civil society** (community-based organisations, indigenous bodies, non-governmental organisations, concerned groups and individuals). The Alliance is expected to act in a decentralised manner, on the basis of the capacities and initiatives of its members. Its very lean coordination would only provide a focal point for networking, diffusion of information, coordination of activities and organisation of international events. Throughout 2008, field-based discussion of the idea, networking and fundraising will take place and dedicated meetings will be held at various international and regional forums (in particular at the second gathering of the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Working Group on Protected Areas). All activities will lead towards a culminating event at the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, where what is now an *ad hoc* network of committed experts and organisations will be re-discussed and possibly formalised. The members of the CCA Alliance are expected to include Community Based and Indigenous Peoples’ Organisations, NGOs, civil society networks and research institutions. The purpose of the Alliance is to increase the visibility of CCAs and to promote their recognition and support, as appropriate. Key TGER/TILCEPA members involved are Mike Jones ([mjones@zol.co.zw](mailto:mjones@zol.co.zw)) Helen Newing ([H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk](mailto:H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk)) Terence Hay-Edie ([terence.hay-edie@undp.org](mailto:terence.hay-edie@undp.org)) Barbara Lassen ([Barbara@cenesta.org](mailto:Barbara@cenesta.org)) Grazia BF ([gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org)) Taghi Farvar ([taghi@cenesta.org](mailto:taghi@cenesta.org)) Marco Bassi ([bassimarco@tiscali.it](mailto:bassimarco@tiscali.it)) Gary Martin ([gmartingdf@gmail.com](mailto:gmartingdf@gmail.com)) Seema Bhatt ([seemabhattach@vsnl.com](mailto:seemabhattach@vsnl.com)) Fred Nelson ([fnelson@habari.co.tz](mailto:fnelson@habari.co.tz)) Linda Yuliani ([L.yuliani@cgiar.org](mailto:L.yuliani@cgiar.org))

### **Webpage on Community Conserved Areas**

The results of the CCA related studies and initiatives mentioned above are all available on our newly created CCA website. The site gives access to relevant documents and publications, discussions and data on the CCA phenomenon worldwide: [www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/cca](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/cca)

### **West Africa**

TGER continued to provide technical support to a learning **network of marine protected areas engaged in developing co-management arrangements** in association with the [IUCN Regional Office for West Africa](#) and [FIBA](#). The involved countries include Cap Vert, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal (contact: Mathieu Ducrocq [mathieu.ducrocq@iucn.org](mailto:mathieu.ducrocq@iucn.org)). An intensive, field-based **training on negotiation and conflict management for marine protected areas** took place in the Parc National du Banc d’Arguin (Mauritania) in November 2007, gathering representatives of government authorities, local communities and NGOs from marine PA sites from the six countries in the learning network. As part of the training, the participants developed negotiation and conflict management plans. (Contact [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org)). Linked to both TGER and the RAMAO network, Mariana Oliveira ([oliveira.mariana@gmail.com](mailto:oliveira.mariana@gmail.com)) is continuing a **study of traditional conservation practices in Guinea Bissau** and has sent papers to a number of professional events

### **South-East Asia**

A regional workshop of the **Learning Network on Co-management of Protected Areas with Indigenous Peoples in South East Asia** took place in **The Philippines in December 2007**. The learning network involves 7 countries (Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia, The Philippines and Vietnam). The December 2007 workshop focused on negotiation and conflict management skills and took place in Subic Bay, where indigenous peoples are struggling to affirm their rights, despite some legislative recognition. They are, in fact, currently pitted against some of the most powerful economic forces of the countries, engaged in a Trade Free Zone and active industrial and tourism development at the heart of the Ancestral Territory. Contacts: Dave De Vera [ddevera@zpdee.net](mailto:ddevera@zpdee.net) ; Jeremy Ironside [jeremyi@camintel.com](mailto:jeremyi@camintel.com); Jannie Lasimbang [jannielasimbang@hotmail.com](mailto:jannielasimbang@hotmail.com); Maurizio Farnan Ferrari [maurizio@forestpeoples.org](mailto:maurizio@forestpeoples.org). The resource person in both workshops has been TGER's Chair [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org) .

### **Latin America**

In Latin America TGER's members and partners work on a variety of settings to improve the governance of natural resources and of protected areas in particular. Many initiatives deal with marine and coastal environments, but others also with forest environments. The TGER networking is crucial to facilitate communication among professionals and the sharing of information. Occasionally members develop joint initiatives on specific topics. Central American members have also provided views and technical advice to the IUCN, in particular regarding the Latin America Protected Area Congress, that just took place in Bariloche (Argentina) in October 2007. Contacts Pippa Heylings ([pippa.heylings@ffla.net](mailto:pippa.heylings@ffla.net)) Vivienne Solis [vsolis@coopesolidar.org](mailto:vsolis@coopesolidar.org) and Patricia Madrigal [pmadrigal@coopesolidar.org](mailto:pmadrigal@coopesolidar.org)

The Grupo Solidario de Acción y Propuesta de Peten (GSAPP) is working in Peten (Guatemala) to build **alternatives to the dominant economic model** in the country to try out in practice a new model central to TGER's values: solidarity, participatory democracy, equity and environmental sustainability. Community governance of natural resources and development controlled by the communities are being actively supported (contact: Ileana Valenzuela [ileanaval@yahoo.com](mailto:ileanaval@yahoo.com))

### **China**

TGER is engaged to **improve governance of natural forests in China** through capacity building and the accompanying of **co-management processes in Sichuan** as part of an EU-sponsored initiative. TGER has been providing technical advice (training, manuals tailored to the local conditions, etc.), developing a county-based social communication campaign and providing technical assistance for policy meetings in Beijing and Chengdu. Policy analysis was provided by Li Bo [qianhushan@gmail.com](mailto:qianhushan@gmail.com) . JunZuo Zhang [junzuo@yahoocom.cn](mailto:junzuo@yahoocom.cn) is in charge of plans for a Chinese translation of the CEESP book Sharing Power. Technical support has been provided by Taghi Farvar [taghi@cneesta.org](mailto:taghi@cneesta.org) and [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org). A policy meeting on co-management is expected to take place in 2008.

### **Morocco / West Africa**

A new training program for protected area managers in Morocco/ West Africa – run by the Ecole Nationale Forestière of Salé -- has been continuing in 2007 with the technical support of TGER members and the financial support of GEF. The program includes new subjects such as “Human development and conservation”, “Governance of protected areas” and “Participatory management of protected areas”. The second experimental year of training of trainers and dispensation of the course, has included field-based training in the High Atlas in May 2007. The year has also seen the beginning of the project phase dedicated to continuing education, with a training workshop in

Agadir (November 07).Contact: Olivier Hammerlynck [olivier.hamerlynck@wanadoo.fr](mailto:olivier.hamerlynck@wanadoo.fr) Taghi Farvar ([taghi@cenesta.org](mailto:taghi@cenesta.org)). Grazia BF [gbf@cenesta.org](mailto:gbf@cenesta.org), Abdellah Herzenni [abherzenni@wanadoo.net.ma](mailto:abherzenni@wanadoo.net.ma)

## Conservation and Human Rights

### **Symposium and workshop on conservation and human rights**

TGER and TILCEPA organized a symposium entitled *Conservation and Human Rights: Exploring Key Promises, Challenges, and Questions* at the annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology (1-5 July 2007, Port Elizabeth, South Africa). Most of the seven speakers were presenting papers published in *Policy Matters No. 15 - Conservation and Human Rights*.

The symposium, and a related symposium on governance innovation for protected areas (also co-sponsored by TGER/TILCEPA), fed into a two-day workshop on **conservation, human rights, and protected area (PA) governance** in the **Baviaanskloof Mega-Reserve** (South Africa) on 6-7 July, 2007. In addition to TGER and TILCEPA, workshop co-organizers and supporters included the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Mac Arthur Foundation, Cape Action for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). Our **workshop report** – which stresses, among other things, the need to find space for positive synergies between conservation and human rights - is now available on the TGER Conservation and Human Rights webpage ([www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm)).

### **Policy Matters No.15: Conservation and Human Rights:**

*The latest issue of Policy Matters, no. 15 on [Conservation and Human Rights](#) shows, among other things that certain conventional approaches to conservation can have negative human rights impacts, most often through protected areas related displacement and oppressive enforcement measures. It is also true, however, that conservation can help ensure sustainable availability of resources and ecosystem services that are critical to fulfilling human rights. Complicating these dynamics is the fact that the links between conservation and human rights are shaped by their history and larger (cultural, economic, social, and political) contexts. This issue, while leaving open questions, furthers a substantive debate on an issue whose time has surely come.*  
Contact : Jessica Campese [jessica@cenesta.org](mailto:jessica@cenesta.org)

### **TGER Task Force on Conservation and Human Rights**

This Task Force was created in 2007 and has been engaged in a number of activities, including:

- Developing options and tools to support conservation organizations interested in adopting rights based approaches to their work. (These may contribute to a policy statement by the IUCN on the subject)
- Developing a proposal and plans for initiatives and events at the forthcoming WCC in Barcelona 2008.

For more information, please contact Hanna Jaireth ([mhsjaireth@netspeed.com.au](mailto:mhsjaireth@netspeed.com.au)) or Jessica Campese ([jessica@cenesta.org](mailto:jessica@cenesta.org)).

### **TGER Webpage on Conservation and Human Rights:**

We've launched a new web page, linked to the TGER page, on conservation and human rights: [www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm) Here one can access and share activity

reports, event announcements, working papers, reflection pieces, and other material and related links on conservation and human rights. The site includes a compilation of TGER and TILCEPA member responses to questions on conservation and human rights, and a rights-based approach more specifically ([www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation & HR.htm)).

## Alerts

In cooperation with TILCEPA and TSL, TGER developed and agreed on a policy to organize and respond to urgent calls for action from members and partners. The “alert initiatives” supported in 2007 include follow up to prior alert concerning the environmental destruction and human rights abuse related to mining in the Philippines, risks of involuntary resettlement of indigenous peoples to make room for protected areas in Ethiopia and the preparation of a letter to the President of Paraguay to plea for the conservation of forests where indigenous people live and find their livelihoods.

## The life of the network

- The TGER web site has been maintained and enriched throughout 2007. See <http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/TGER.html>
- The TGER e mail **discussion list** has been active throughout the year and many members have taken advantage of their privileges (e.g. suggesting new members).
- TGER members have been active **lecturing about governance of natural resources and protected areas** throughout the world (e.g., at the Latin America Congress of Protected Areas, at the Annual meeting of the Society on Conservation Biology, at international meetings in Cambridge (UK), Milan (Italy), Kusadace (Turkey), Cape Town (South Africa), etc.).
- **Preparations for World Conservation Congress (WCC) 2008.** TGER has prepared and submitted several proposals for Alliance Workshops and other events at the upcoming WCC in Oct 2008 (see those under TILCEPA)
- A new Task Force is being developed on **avoiding deforestation and promoting the conservation of biodiversity by local communities**. This will explore the appropriateness and usefulness of conservation incentives through carbon sequestration payments to communities. Key members involved Simone Lovera ([simonelovera@yahoo.com](mailto:simonelovera@yahoo.com)), Nigel Crawhall ([kalahari.culture@gmail.com](mailto:kalahari.culture@gmail.com)), Joanna Durbin ([durbin.jc@gmail.com](mailto:durbin.jc@gmail.com)).
- An exploration of the meaning of nature from the perspective of different cultures has also been promoted in close collaboration with TILCEPA. Key contact: José Maria Mallarach ([mallarach@silene.es](mailto:mallarach@silene.es))

## TGER publications in 2007

The publications by TGER members are many and unfortunately we cannot report about them all as we are not always kept informed. TGER members were very active in submitting papers and as part of the editorial board of *Policy Matters no. 15 on Conservation and Human Rights*  
<http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Publications/Publications.htm>

The CEESP publication *Sharing Power* has been commercially re-published by Earthscan, and a translation into French is being developed.  
<http://www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Publications/sharingpower.htm>

Borrini-Feyerabend, G., "Summary theme: Shared Stewardship", pages 93-105 in Day, J.C., J. Senior, S. Monk and W. Neal (eds.), *First International Marine Protected Areas Congress, 23-27 October 2005, Conference Proceedings: IMPACI 2005*, Geelong, Victoria (Australia), 2007.  
<http://www.impacongress.org>

Several articles written by TGER members are included in Lockwood, M., G. Worboys and A. Kothari (eds.), *Managing Protected Areas: A Global Guide*, Earthscan, London, 2006.

### **In the pipeline at the end of 2007:**

A continuation of the CCA initiative financed, by the GEF Small Grants Programme in Iran, has recently started and will cover three more world regions.

Finalization of the publication *Co-management of Natural Resources* in Arabic.

Finalization of the publication *Sharing Power* in French

Continued fundraising for a project proposal to support grassroots discussions on the development of the CCA Alliance throughout 2008.

Analysis of issues of Access and Benefit Sharing to genetic resources (CBD-related) from a "governance perspective"

Support to IUCN Nepal in developing and running a workshop on "Building an effective and equitable system of protected areas in Nepal"

Finalization of a CEESP Briefing Note entitled "Governance as key for effective and equitable protected area systems", printing and distribution.

Participation in the forthcoming meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Rome (February 2008) and organization there of a side event on governance of protected areas.

Continuation of CCAs regional studies in Melanesia/ Polynesia, South Asia, Central Asia and possibly South America.

Completion of a project proposal for the EU on Improving Governance of Natural Resources- from "co-management experiments" to "mainstreaming equity, accountability and environment-related rights".