

Draft Minutes of the Proteus Meeting
9th December 2009
IHS, London

Participants:

Attendance by Proteus Partners		Attendance by invited Observers	
Anglo American	Peter Coombes	IPIECA	Erica Dholoo
BP	Jim Clarke	ICMM	Anne-Marie Fleury
	Liz Rogers	University of Vermont	Ferdinando Villa
Eni	Juan Deffis	IBAT partner	Conrad Savy
ExxonMobil	Anita George-Ares	Kings College	Mark Mulligan
Repsol YPF	Toby Croucher		
RioTinto	Rob Piper		
Shell	Virpi Stucki	Apologies	
ESRI	James Crafts	Chevron	Sarah Connick
IHS	Marianne Berends		Jennifer Michaels
	Stuart Wood	Microsoft	Kate Facemire
	Jan Stringer-Quinn	Safe Software	Lakhvir Brar
	Rob Long		
Total	Jean-Francoise Vidalie	UNEP-WCMC Staff	
		Jon Hutton	Director
		Tim Johnson	Deputy Director
		Mike Adam	Head of Informatics
		Craig Mills	WDPA Manager
		Monica Barcellos Harris	Head of Business, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
		Amy Milam	WDPA Content Officer
		Sharon Brooks	Programme Officer
		Silvia Silvestri	Programme Officer

Participants dialling in	
StatOil	Steinar Eldøy
ConocoPhillips	Lori Notor
BHP Billiton	Dan McLaughlin

Objectives of the meeting:

- Present on recent developments in the field of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- Report on Proteus activities and budget
- Update information on current and future data acquisition for the WDPA and IBAT
- Present information on the application of datasets and other tools
- Feedback of the Technical Users Group Survey
- Review Proteus 2010 work plan and outputs for 2010 – the International Year of Biodiversity

Meeting started at 10.30am

1. Welcome from IHS. Stuart Wood from IHS welcomed all participants and UNEP colleagues attending the meeting. He spoke briefly of IHS work in environment sector, and the key role of their relationship with UNEP-WCMC.

2. Welcome from UNEP-WCMC. Jon Hutton welcomed all participants and thanked IHS for hosting the meeting. All participants introduced themselves and Jon Hutton mentioned those that were unable to attend. He then spoke of the advances being made at UNEP-WCMC, introducing Craig Mills as the newly appointed WDPA manager, and Amy Milam and the WDPA content manager that has been possible as a result of the Proteus partnership. The minutes of the last Proteus meeting were approved, informing participants that they are available along with the work plan on the Proteus website.

3. Scene setting. Jon Hutton set the scene talking about the International Year of Biodiversity, laying out the major contributions for 2010. As it is likely that the Climate Change negotiations will run into next year, this is expected to have ramifications for the International Year of Biodiversity, and UNEP-WCMC will keep partners updated as things progress. He then gave an outline of the up and coming CBD meetings in and post 2010, and new documents on CBD targets and mission papers being produced to which the corporate partners can contribute. Of relevance to business, he highlighted the biofuel agenda that is dominant in the current dialogue. He then gave reference to the Jakarta charter that was produced as a result of the CBD Third Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge Conference that was held in Conjunction with UNEP. Participants of this meeting, that included some Proteus partners, have agreed some actions which include improved quality and dissemination of biodiversity data. In conclusion there is a lot happening with business and the CBD but this is not currently translating into targets for business. He informed the partners that WCMC is tracking these meetings and the progress being made and will keep everyone informed.

4. Interactive session – Proteus Technical User Group. Mônica Barcellos Harris gave feedback on technical user survey carried out with the Proteus partners, to which almost all responded. It was agreed in the last meeting in June that this technical user group was to be formed and what the focus will be. This presentation gave the results of the survey that covered technical issues regarding the data and delivery mechanisms, as well as data content and training opportunities that UNEP-WCMC provide. Mônica then invited the Proteus members to present technical issues surrounding the use of the WCMC databases.

- Virpi Stucky from Shell gave a short presentation on how Shell disseminates the WDPA database to a large number of their employees. Details were given regarding heavy and light users of the data, who are tracked each time a connection is made to the dataset.
- Rob Piper from Rio Tinto gave a presentation on the technical support from WCMC available through WebEx sessions. Three one hour sessions have been held for technical users of the data in three different regions. Rio Tinto has a specific portal to make the data available online to all employees. The data are widely used by Rio Tinto to support planning and this has been an important and effective business tool for them.
- Dan McLaughlin gave a presentation on the use of the WDPA by BHP Billiton for planning and exploration and sustainability reporting. They have mandated use of the WDPA in internal processes which is important for fulfilling their commitment to no mining in World Heritage Sites, and no mining in IUCN Protected Area categories unless there is an overall benefit. As the company is becoming more decentralised, it would be useful to have up to date data available online through the WDPA website, instead of just relying on the monthly downloads. Dan also presented an online analysis tools developed by WCMC to be available to all Proteus partners, which allow companies to upload tenement shapes and look for nearby protected areas. This tool will be

available through a password protected page for each company and will not store companies' data.

- Anita George-Ares from ExxonMobil spoke about the use of the WDPA in both screening assessments as well as for global emergency response contingency planning. WDPA data are imported into the OilMap model that uses predicted trajectories in order to know what areas and sensitive habitats need to be protected. There are however complications with this process as data need to be imported and exported among other GIS applications, and the ability to query by provinces or states, rather than just by country would assist this process.
- Comments were raised from Rob Piper of Rio Tinto regarding the need to develop a way to capture and feed back this rich information on specific locations in the post exploration phase to improve the quality of the WDPA. Monica Harris from WCMC responded saying that there will be improved functionalities for uploading data that Craig Mills will discuss later on, which will facilitate this process. She also noted to possibility of making the latest data available online, rather than just as updates to partners, to help ensure everyone is using the same dataset.
- Juan Deffis from ENI requested help to integrate WDPA and IBAT into internal processes at various stages of life cycle of projects and suggested that this could be one of the areas of focus for the technical user group.
- Jon Hutton spoke regarding the work with IPIECA to prioritize biodiversity mapping in oil and gas hotspots and noted that discussions are to be held to move this forward.
- Peter Coombes from Anglo American raised a question regarding future projections for changes to important biodiversity areas as a result of climate change. Jon followed up with information about work looking at integrating biodiversity into climate models, and how WCMC is talking to these groups about what biodiversity data we could contribute. There are efforts to unify the models used for this work and it is hoped that something will emerge over the next one to two years. WCMC are involved from the forest aspect through our involvement with the REDD program.
- Toby Crouch raised a question regarding information on areas that are likely to be designated as protected in the future, as the process of designation can be long. Jon Hutton explained the potential for using Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) as "tentative" future protected areas, and this information is available through IBAT. WCMC therefore encourages the private sector to consider KBAs. WCMC are also trying to gather data on tentative World Heritage Sites, and will be carrying out some analysis to plot extractive activities against them. This data will be available through the WDPA and we are hoping to launch this database at the next CBD COP in 2010. Peter Coombes followed up stating the importance of knowing about tentative WHS due to the ICMM commitment not to mine in WHS, which includes tentative sites. Rob Piper also contributed on the importance of this due to the financial investment made at the initial stages of project exploration and development.

5. Objective 1: Reporting back on the latest improvements to the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). Amy Milam presented an overview of the WDPA and the recent progress of the protected areas team of WCMC regarding this database. She presented recent developments that have been supported by the Proteus partnership, such as the number of countries updated, completeness of the data in terms of boundaries and core attributes, as well as the development of the WDPA Marine component and wiki functionalities. In response to the graph on the growth in the number of protected areas over time, Toby Croucher from Repsol

raised a question regarding future projections if all KBAs became protected areas. Jon Hutton stated that we have the data and would be able to do this analysis.

6. Application of WDPA datasets to Ecosystem Services. Mark Mulligan from Kings College London and a Research Fellow of UNEP-WCMC gave an example of how the WDPA is feeding into other analyses. This presentation gave an overview of a new global approach to assess changes in ecosystem service provision and value that aims to identify areas where protection could secure better services. This is currently being carried out for water and carbon and the details of these services, and the impacts and effect of protection were given. There was some discussion regarding the data used in the analyses, noting that carbon sequestration figures are based on remote sensing data, and are taken as means over 30 year periods. The effects of selective logging and other small scale activities and land use changes, as well as the effect of climate change on the future provision of ecosystem services were not included here.

There was also some discussion around the availability of data on human populations in and around protected areas that is of relevance for calculating compensation, and on the effectiveness of protected area management which is important when looking into benefits that can be delivered when operating in such areas. While data is lacking on human population distributions, WCMC are involved in collecting data on management effectiveness that can be accessed as reports through the WDPA. There is a significant challenge in compiling this data due to effectiveness being assessed in different ways but WCMC and others that are part of a consortium are working on this. Jon Hutton raised the point that this data is often available due to companies being obliged to carry out such an assessment to know the effectiveness of their investment in protected area management, however not all are able to release the results. Peter Coombes raised the need for an independent and consistent approach to know condition and management effectiveness of areas, that doesn't necessarily rely on government data. As pointed out by Jon Hutton, remote sensing tools are available to look at the condition of protected areas that can be used to cross check, rather than disregard, government data. ICMM are working with IUCN to strengthen the categorisation system before pushing for no goes in particular protected area categories.

Jon Hutton mentioned that there are a lot of new tools being developed to identify, measure and value ecosystem services, and WCMC will be doing a review in order to align these range of approaches, and to set targets in order to ensure we know what data we need to get there. Governments are seeking assistance to develop national networks of people working on ecosystem services, and this has already begun in Brazil. Peter Coombes added that approaches to value ecosystem services needs to get much closer to the financial world, due to current differences in discounting

7. Objective 2: Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) updates. Conrad Savy presented updates on the IBAT that brings the WDPA together with other biodiversity information. This presentation included updates on the data, functions and management of IBAT, as well as their work with the development banks, and future updates that are planned. This included information about IBAT for IFC which is an internal tool to screen projects, as IBAT can help identify some of the components of critical habitats as defined by IFC. This was an example of how the IBAT functionalities can be tailored to needs. He also stated that the IBAT consortium is aiming to have IBAT as a standard for risk assessment and screening.

There was some follow up discussion regarding the input into the IFC review process where IBAT has been recommended as a tool. Liz Rogers from BP stated the need for further consultation between NGOs and industry (OGP, IPIECA) for inputting to IFC. The IBAT consultative group, which is a group of super users who contribute more to IBAT, was then raised as a way of being part of consultations regarding the development and implementation of IBAT. Rob Piper from Rio Tinto raised concerns at the prospect of paying more to be able to be part of the dialogue, and there were also concerns from Toby Croucher from Repsol regarding the use of IBAT as a standard. Jon Hutton acknowledged the role of WCMC as a convener between Proteus, ICMM and IPIECA, in order to develop further consultation regarding this.

8. Objective 3: Report on updates of marine datasets. Craig Mills presented the outputs from the one ocean programme of WCMC. This included information on the online dataset repository to disseminate and improve marine data. Details were given regarding the global coral disease database and the global islands database which is linked to sea level rise scenarios. Jon Hutton took the opportunity to introduce Dr Louisa Wood as the Head of Programme for WCMCs One Ocean group.

9. Application of coastal and marine datasets. Ferdinando Villa from the University of Vermont presented the ARIES toolkit that builds models and integrates data from the WDPA. As the assessment of ecosystem services is data intensive and expensive this toolkit uses artificial intelligence to produce rapid assessments. He gave an overview of the maps that are produced to demonstrate the provision and use of ecosystem services and the flow between them that can aid in the identification of critical features of the landscape that need to be conserved to ensure services are delivered. This is an example of a tool that can aid planning by the private sector.

10. Proteus administration – Budget Report. Tim Johnson from UNEP-WCMC presented the financial report up until 31st Oct 2009. This summarised the budget showed that there is a budget deficit of £49K that will be covered by WCMC, and that leveraged funds are now around £150k. The final annual budget report will be available in January 2010.

11. Interactive session– work plan for 2010 session. Tim Johnson presented the work plan and how it related to the Proteus 2012 business plan that is built around three objectives. He demonstrated changes that have been made such as the large investment in the WDPA and IBAT and the aim to increase leveraged funds to 1.5 dollars leverage funding for every Proteus dollar.

- **WDPA and UN List of Protected Areas.** Craig Mills presented future directions for the WDPA that has a working name of Protect Planet Earth (PPE). This is based on the premise that there are substantial costs to updating the WDPA that is a significant barrier to the amount of data currently held. He gave an overview of this new initiative to open up the flow of data into the WDPA by changing the emphasis from collecting to receiving data. The new website will allow users to upload data directly, while keeping data sources separated into official, trusted and general sources. Part of this new work programme will be a renewed UN mandate on protected areas data that will be released next year in the International Year of Biodiversity. This new initiative will be launched next year. He gave a demonstration on how data is edited by new providers and stored, and introduced new partnerships with Flickr to increase the flow of information to the WDPA.
- There was some discussion regarding concerns raised as to the validity of the data provided. Toby Croucher was concerned about the potential for misrepresentation of company activities where wiki functionalities in PPE

could be used as a catalyst for campaigns. Craig responded by stating that there would be substantial moderation that will be built in according to the need as this initiative gets off the ground. Efforts will be taken to ensure as best as possible that this initiative is not used for lobbying activities and that there will be internal discussion to identify the best way to build in this safeguard measure. It was suggested that WCPA members could be official moderators. Monica Barcellos raised the point that while this risk did exist, there were also great benefits for a company in knowing what the issues are in an area at the exploration phase.

- **Work plan discussion:** Tim opened up the 2010 work plan for discussion. Anita George-Ares was glad to see the focus in Africa and suggested a similar effort for Arctic areas that are a priority area for many. Jon Hutton reassured the partners that there was action in this area, that WCMC has most datasets and is developing partnerships to build up our Arctic data, which includes the Arctic breeding bird data. This work has not been specifically packaged as Arctic work but is integrated into the work plan. There is some work needed to get this data in the right format and to get agreements for use before uploading it onto the WDPA. Amy Milam suggested that she could include updates on progress with communications in the monthly updates, which was agreed.

14. Proteus contributions to the International Year of Biodiversity: Jon Hutton closed the meeting by providing an update of the contributions of the Proteus partnership to the International Year of Biodiversity and the CBD 2010 COP. The re-launch and rebuilding of the UN list of protected areas will be the biggest output for this event. He approached the partners for their thoughts on communicating the Proteus partnership as funders of this work at the 2010 CBD COP. While there was interest from ICMM to work together on a side event at the COP, it seemed unlikely that many Proteus partners would attend due to difficulties with engaging at these events. Monica Barcellos added that there are a series of events in 2010 and that she will communicate those of relevance to the partners

15. Follow up: Monica Barcellos will circulate a questionnaire to the partners regarding the preferred format, location and length of Proteus meetings to inform future preparations. Monica Barcellos to arrange the 1st virtual meeting in 2 months for the technical user group to discuss future WebEx sessions and other technical guidance and training options.

16. The meeting closed at 5pm.