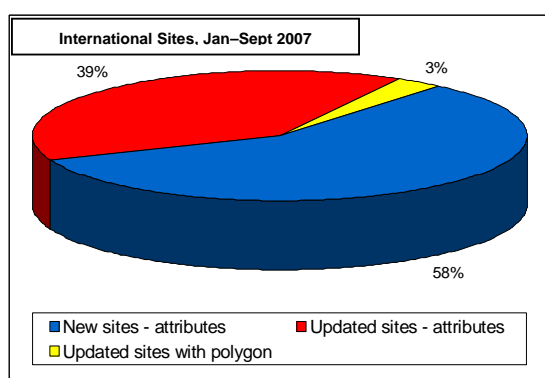
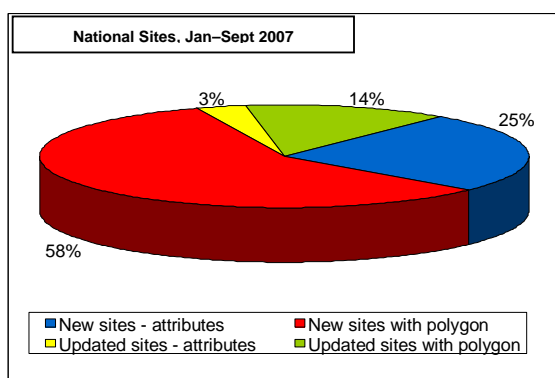


SUMMARY OF DATA IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WORLD DATABASE ON PROTECTED AREAS (WDPA)

Recent Updates to the WDPA

Between January and September, our Protected Areas Programme staff were busy updating and improving information in the WDPA. In just nine months, over 10,000 national and international sites in the WDPA (nearly 8 percent of the entire database contents), have undergone data improvements. This includes updates to over 4500 national sites, 14% with improved polygon boundary data, and the addition of 19,000 national sites, where over 50% have polygon boundaries. This also includes data improvements to over 50 internationally recognized sites such as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves, and UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



Working with partners to secure new protected area data

UNEP-WCMC and IUCN are working with a range of partners to upgrade the WDPA, this includes many parts of the WWF family, the Global Environment Facility, the European Environment Agency (EEA), The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International and the Wildlife Conservation Society. On top of this we are developing a network of dozens of in-country experts. Currently our team is reviewing and processing protected area datasets for 42 countries, which will be integrated over the next few months (as shown). We have also secured access to the Common Database on Designated Areas 2006 for Europe and the Econet Central Asia 2006 dataset.

Africa

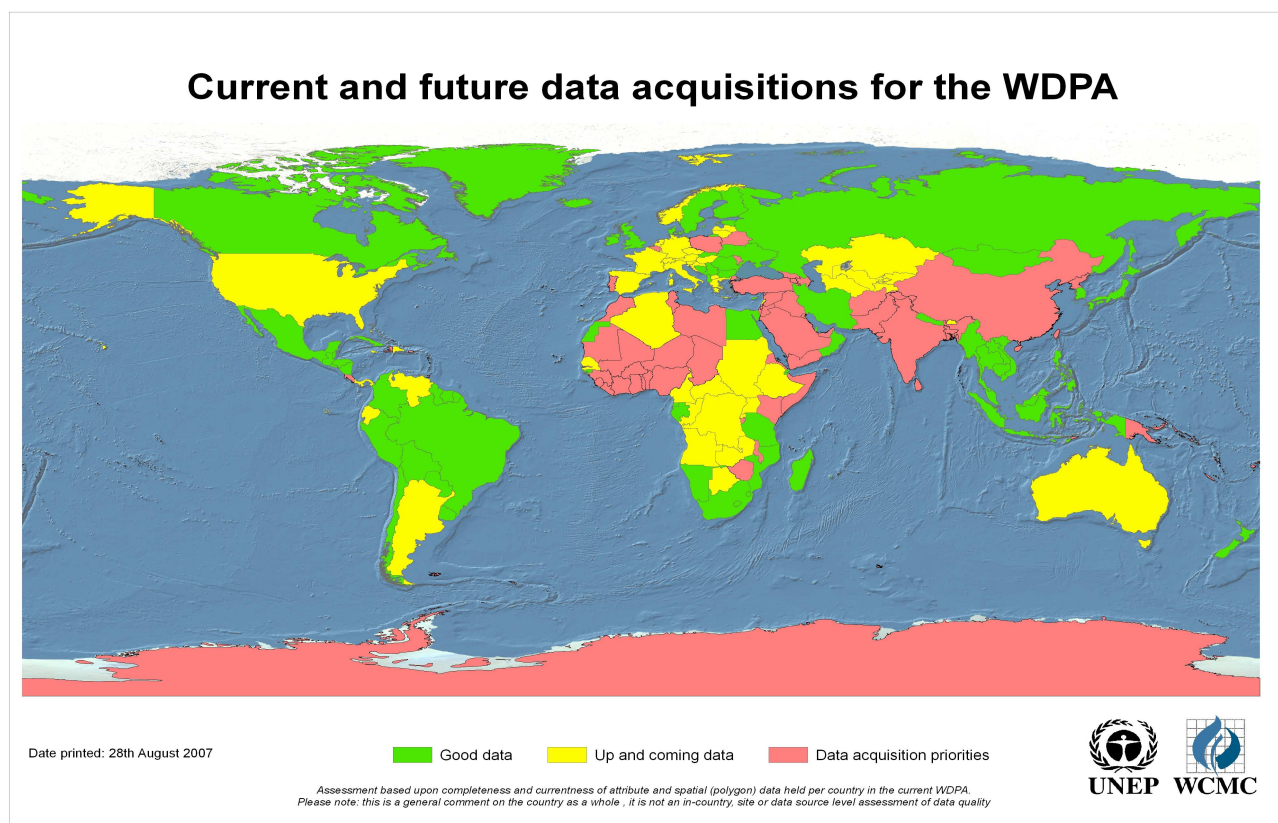
Over the last few months, our team has worked in partnership with Dr. Neil Burgess, Africa Specialist from World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US) to identify new data providers, acquire new datasets, and send data for review to in-country specialists and national protected area agencies in Africa. This process aims to increase the coverage and quality of boundary and attribute data for Africa. One outcome from this work has been the collation of a protected areas dataset for the Congo Basin (includes Gabon, Cameroon, Congo (DRC), Congo (Republic of), Chad, Central African Republic, Sao Tome and Principe and Equatorial Guinea). This dataset is currently under review and being processed at UNEP-WCMC. Currently a number of datasets from other countries are undergoing review by in-country experts; these include Madagascar, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda and South Africa.

Americas

Our team has recently completed a survey of national level protected area data providers in the Americas. The collated information will help build the foundations of the Protected Areas Thematic Network (PATN) of the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) (www.iabin.net) as well as providing up to date contact information for the WDPA. Over the coming months we will be working closely with the national agencies in this region in the review and integration of their data into the WDPA.

Europe: Common Database of Designated Areas (CDDA)

A dataset of protected areas for Europe provided by our data partners, European Environment Agency (EEA), is currently under review at UNEP-WCMC. The following countries undergoing processing/review are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Guadeloupe, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia (FYROM), Malta, Martinique, Norway, Poland, Reunion, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



Improved Attribute Information

Over 10,300 sites have had improved attribute information added for the following countries/territories: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Cayman Islands, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, French Guiana, Gabon, Gambia, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of) Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea (Republic of), Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Réunion, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania (United Republic of), Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela

New Polygon Boundaries¹

We have received new polygon information for:

	(Number of sites)
Brazil	859
Senegal	102
Tanzania	15
Madagascar	20
South Africa	603

Over 4220 sites with polygon boundaries have been added to the following countries:

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Egypt, France, Ghana, Guadeloupe, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lao PDR, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Viet Nam, Zambia

Improved Polygon Boundaries

We have received improved polygon information for:

	(Number of sites)
Brazil	559
Senegal	13
Ghana	5
Gabon	20
Tanzania	728
South Africa	344

Over 2900 sites in the following countries and territories have been improved:

Albania, Antarctica, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belize, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, French Guiana, Gabon, Germany (Federal Republic of), Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Ireland, Italy Jamaica, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, New Zealand, Niger, Peru, Philippines, Réunion, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, St. Helena, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Viet Nam, Western Sahara

New Sites (No Polygon Boundaries)²

Over 3581 new sites (but lacking polygon data) have been added for the following countries:

Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia (Republic of), Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania (United Republic of), Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zambia

¹ Existing site did not have a polygon boundary or site is new to the WDPA with polygon boundary

² Site is new to the WDPA with no polygon boundary but with location (latitude and longitude)

Outline of WDPA data improvements over the last 12 months or so: International Sites³

Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar)

- Labudovo okno (Serbia, Republic of) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Peštersko polje (Serbia, Republic of) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Mares temporaires de Tre Padule de Suartone (France) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Tanbi Wetland Complex (Gambia) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Parc National Akanda (Gabon) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Parc National Pongara (Gabon) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Site Ramsar des Monts Birougou (Gabon) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Bardaca-mocvarni kompleks (Bardaca Wetlands) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Busanga Swamps (Zambia) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Luangwa Flood Plains (Zambia) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Mweru wa Ntipa (Zambia) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Zambezi Floodplains (Zambia) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Lago di San Giuliano (Italy) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Oasi del Sele-Serre Persano (Italy) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Oasi di Castelvolturno o Variconi (Italy) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Pantano di Pignola (Italy) - New to the WDPA with attributes only

UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves (MAB)

- Lake Chilwa Wetland (Malawi) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Intercontinental BR of the Mediterranean (Spain) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Intercontinental BR of the Mediterranean (Morocco) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Middle Volga (Russian Federation) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Os Ancares (Spain) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Los Ancares Leoneses (Spain) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Las Sierras de Béjar y Francia (Spain) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Ken Giang (Viet Nam) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Arrecife Alacranes (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Barranca de Metztilan (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Chamela-Cuixmala (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Cuatrociénagas (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Cumbres de Monterrey (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Huatulco (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- La Encrucijada (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- La Primavera (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- La Sepultura (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Laguna Madre y Delta de Rio Bravo (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Los Tuxtlas (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Maderas del Carmen, Coahuila (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Mariposa Monarca (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Pantanos de Centla (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Selva El Ocote (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Sierra de Huautla (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Sistema Arrecifal Veracruzano (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Volcan Tacana (Mexico) - New to the WDPA with attributes only
- Bolama – Bijagós (Guinea-Bissau) – Improved polygon boundary

³ This is a summary of significant data improvements to the WDPA. Sites in the WDPA experience continuous data improvement, these are too numerous to mention at an individual level.

Outline of WDPa data improvements over the last 12 months or so: Marine Sites

Marine Protected Areas

- 603 new sites have entered into the WDPa and 324 existing sites have been updated with polygon boundaries, some also having updated attribute information.
- Around 230 protected areas defined as having a marine element within more general improvements to attributes within both national and international marine protected areas.
- 728 additional Internationally recognised sites have been flagged as Marine.
- 29 nationally designated sites with a marine element have been assigned Lat/Long values.

Outline of WDPa data improvements over the last 12 months or so: National Sites

- **Albania**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Angola**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (16 sites with updated dates of establishment, names and designations)
- **Benin**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (2 new Ramsar Sites have been added)
- **Bhutan**
The protected areas dataset for Bhutan is currently under review at UNEP-WCMC
- **Bosnia**
Complete update of attribute information together with the available polygon outlines
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (1 new Ramsar Sites have been added)
- **Brazil**
591 sites (federal, state and indigenous) updated with improved polygon boundaries and attributes and 859 sites new to the WDPa. In total Brazil has 92% coverage of polygon boundaries for its 1445 sites.
- **Bulgaria**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Costa Rica (National Sites)**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (47 sites updated with new areas and establishment dates).
- **Cyprus**
Complete update of polygons and attributes for the Greek administered region of Cyprus
- **Czech Republic**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (1 new Ramsar Site has been added).
- **Denmark**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Egypt**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (28 sites with improved polygon boundaries)
- **Finland**
Complete update of attributes and polygons
- **France**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Germany**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Gabon**
20 polygon boundaries updated including the Gamba Complex and updated IUCN categories for 3 sites

- **Ghana**
New polygon boundaries for Mole National Park, Gbele Resource Reserve, Kyabobo National Park, Ankasa National Park and Bia National Park
- **Guatemala**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (1 new Ramsar Site has been added)
- **Guinea-Bissau (National Sites)**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (21 sites with improved polygon boundaries)
- **Italy**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (4 new Ramsar Sites have been added)
- **Madagascar**
19 new proposed protected areas with polygon boundaries in the WDPA
Rainforests of the Atsinanana Natural World Heritage site added with polygon boundaries.
- **Mozambique**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (46 sites with improved polygon boundaries, 7 with polygon boundaries new to WDPA).
- **Netherlands**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Romania**
Complete update of polygons and attributes
- **Rwanda**
Improved polygon boundary for Volcans NP – Rwandan extent
- **Senegal**
Updated polygon boundaries for 7 existing national parks and wildlife reserves. Addition of 102 new Forest Reserves complete with polygon data and improvements to 5 international MAB, WHS and Ramsar sites
- **South Africa**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (9 new marine protected areas added with polygon data and attributes; 22 existing marine protected areas have polygon data added and updated attributes). Improvements to internationally designated sites (2 new Ramsar Sites have been added). All internationally recognised sites now have Lat/Lon coordinates
- **Spain**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (14 new Ramsar Sites have been added)
- **Swaziland**
Improvements to nationally designated sites (polygons updated)
- **Zambia**
Improvements to internationally designated sites (5 new Ramsar Sites have been added)