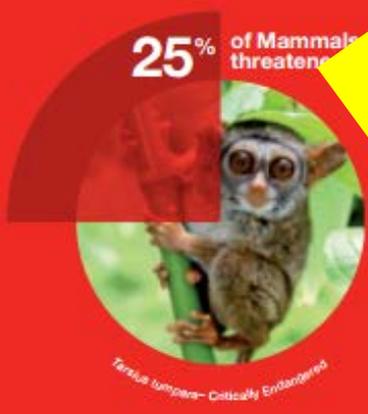
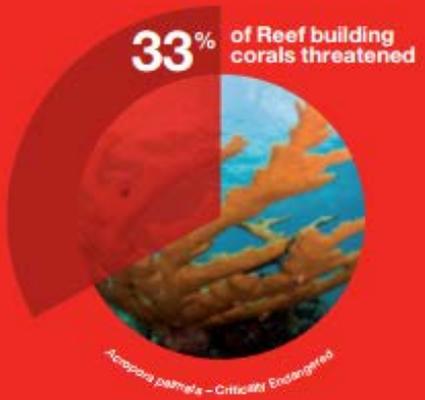
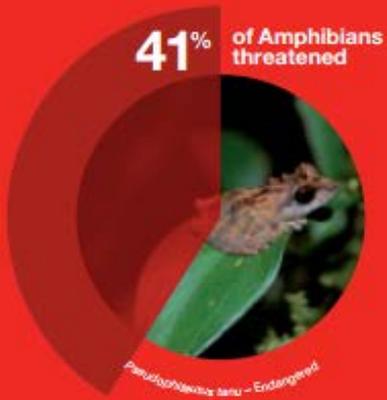
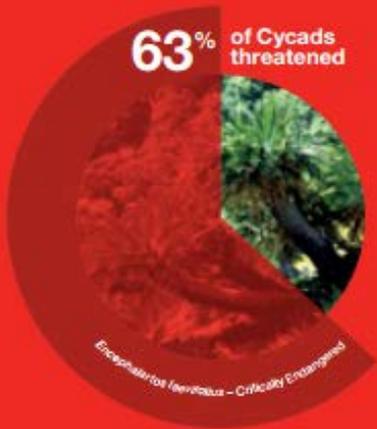


Stream 1

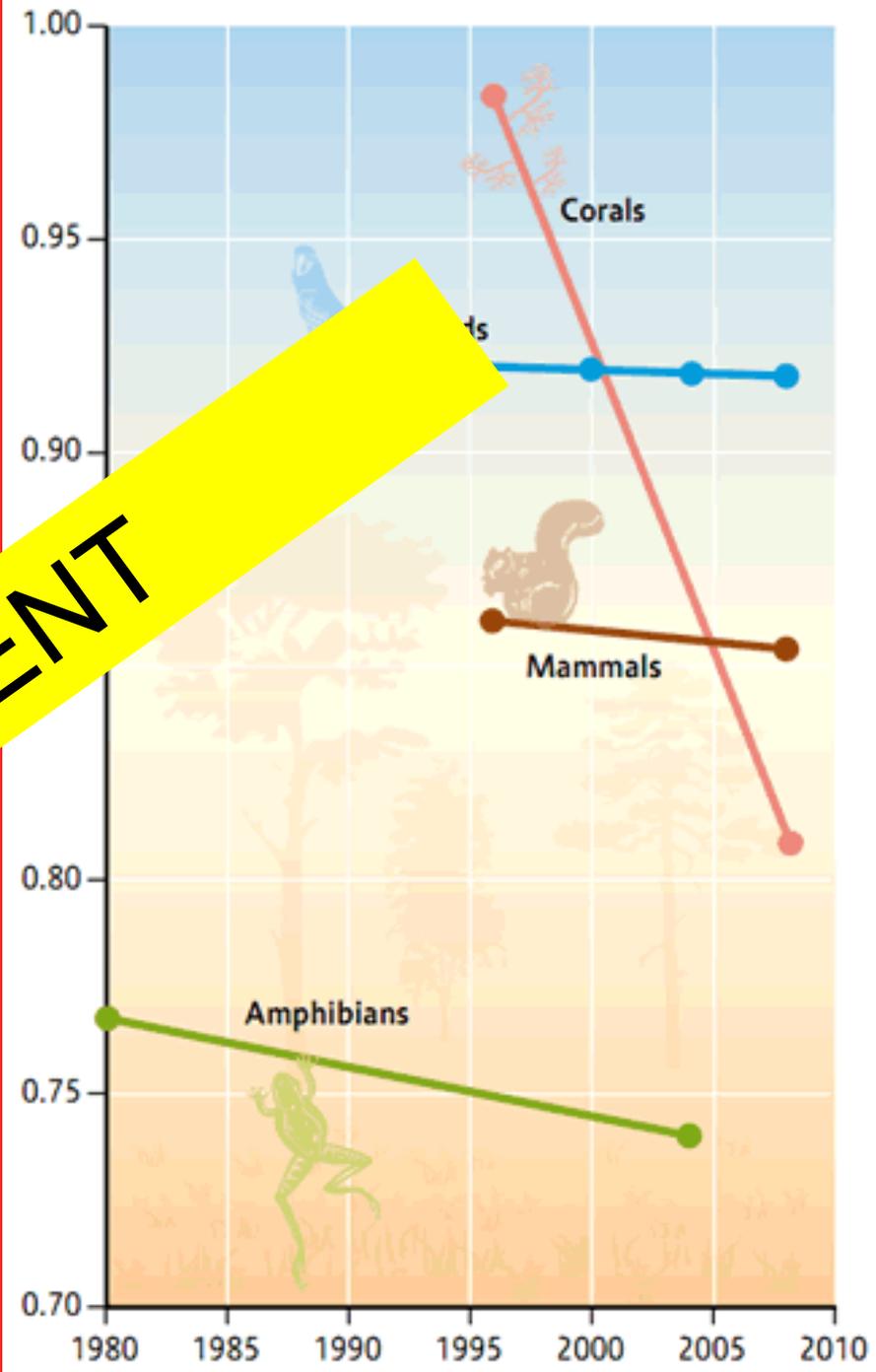
Reaching Conservation Goals

Input to the Promise of Sydney

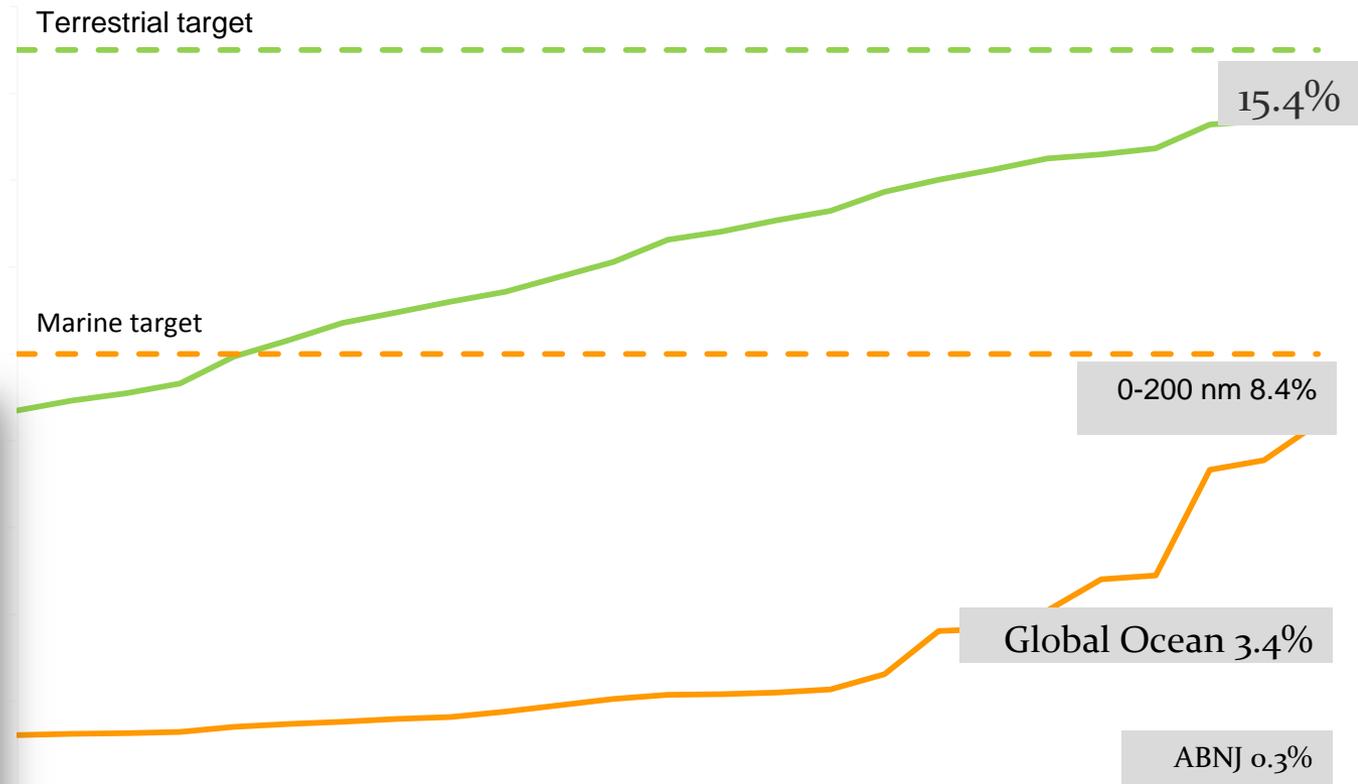




URGENT



17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water and 10 per cent of coastal and marine



Protected Planet Report 2014

Tracking progress towards global targets for protected areas



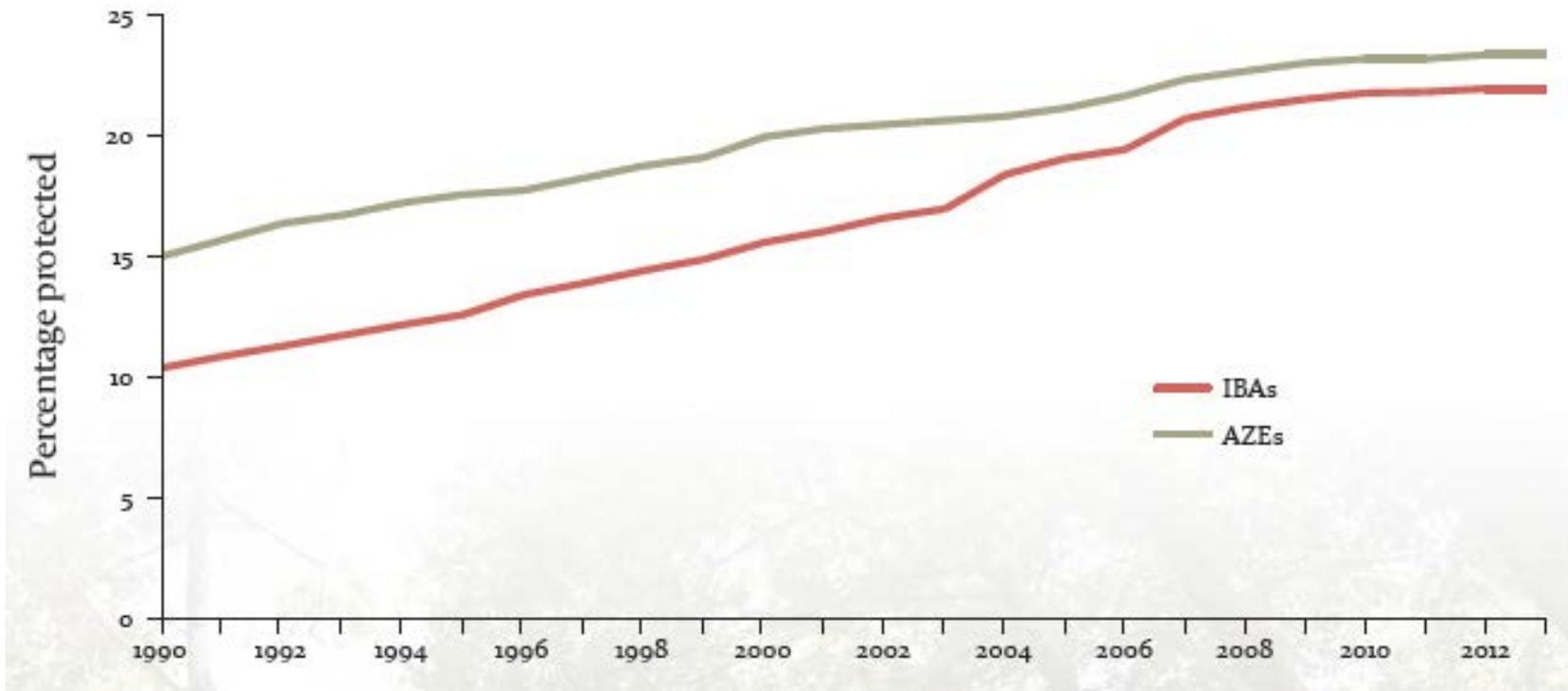
Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation

Goals: 17% and 10%

- Welcome the increase in the protected areas estate, both on land and sea
- Note with alarm the challenges on the high sea.
- Representivity is highly patchy and incomplete on land and sea. The Neotropics is the only realm with 17% coverage. Temperate grasslands (4.5%) and tropical and subtropical dry broadleaf forests (9.6%) are worst biomes. Only 2 (5%) of the 37 pelagic provinces meet the 10% target.
- Global gap analysis showed that many gaps remain in protected area coverage of species, especially threatened species.
- Connectivity not really assessed, but fundamental
- The Congress reported an unfortunate trend in many countries, both developed and developing, towards downgrading and degazettement of existing protected areas. Protected area systems must progress, not regress.
- A simple count of area is a mis-measure of conservation.

Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation Goals: Areas of Importance for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

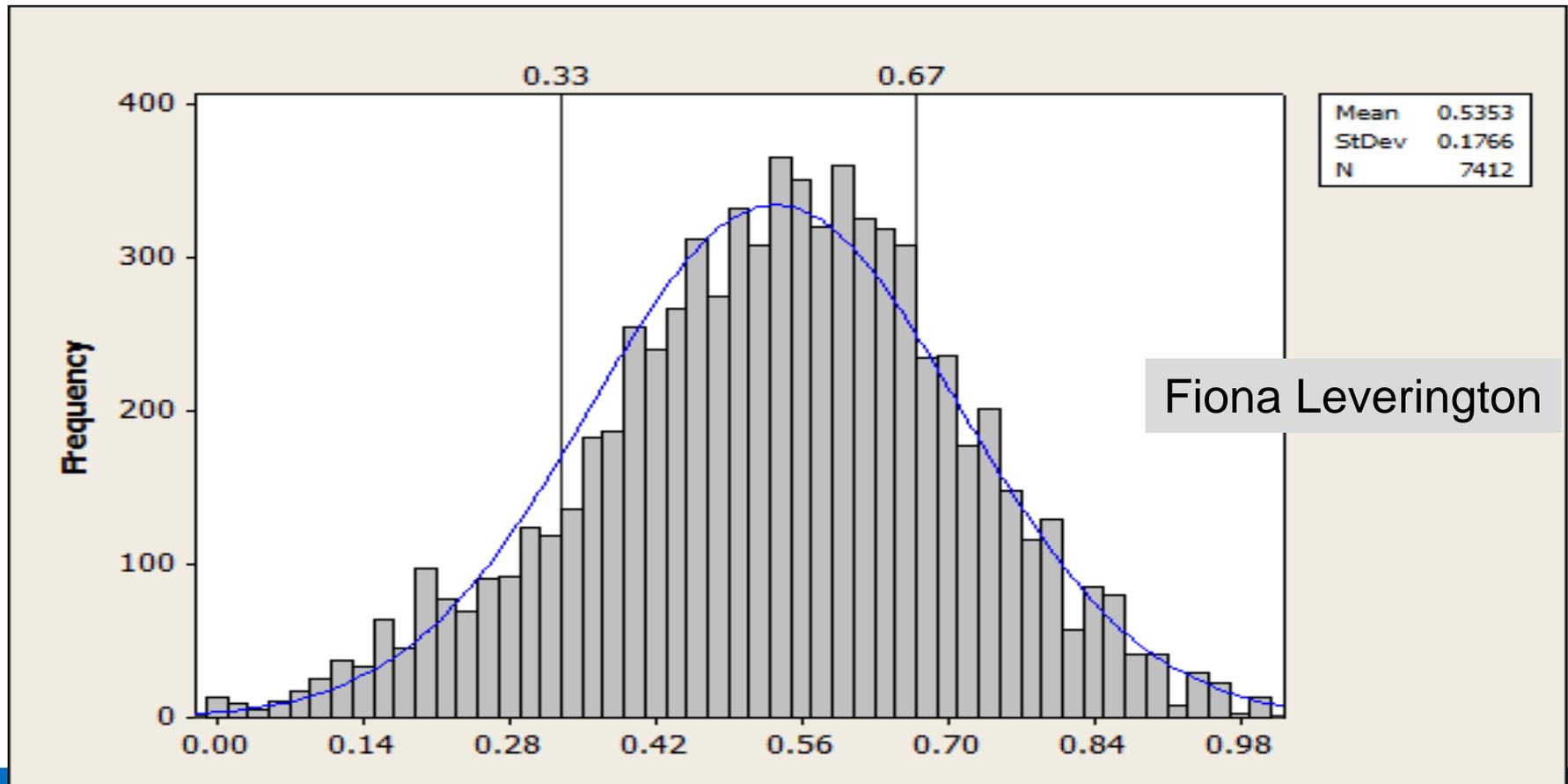
- Existing protected area system does not sufficiently focus on areas of particular importance to biodiversity or some ecosystem services (only 22-23% of important sites for biodiversity completely covered)



Butchart et al. in review

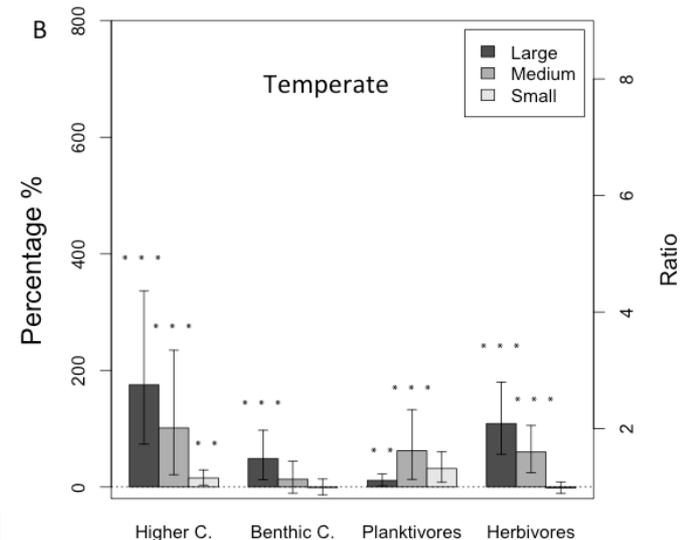
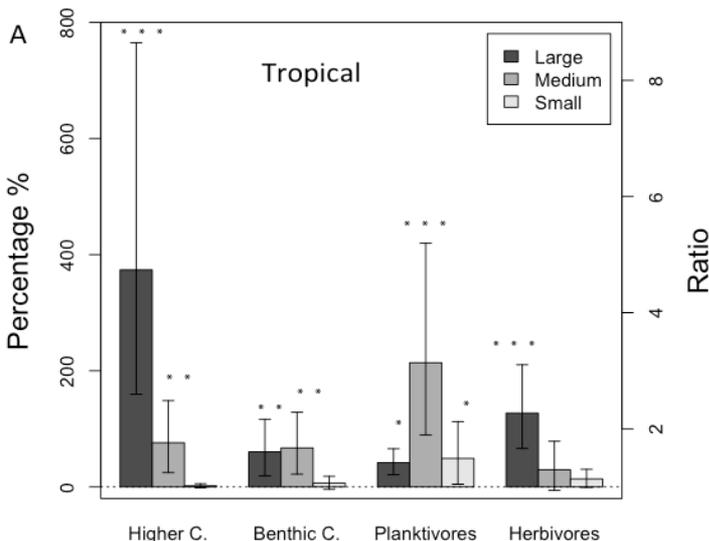
Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation Goals: Effectively Managed

- Congress reported a large global problem with management effectiveness
 - Need to improve data quality and adaptive implementation of results
- Only 24% of protected areas can be considered to be effectively managed



Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation Goals: Biodiversity Outcomes

- As with management effectiveness, the results in biodiversity outcomes are very mixed
- Protected areas are effective when they are well designed, ecologically connected, well resourced, have robust governance systems, are no-take and are isolated from surrounding stressors
- These conditions are rarely met, so lots of protected areas in the world are not effectively conserving biodiversity.
- We are missing the kinds of central data bases that are required to assess biodiversity outcomes.



Edgar et al. 2014

Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation

Goals: Managing key threats

- **Wildlife Crime** - Poaching and illegal wildlife trade is a major problem, is increasing in many cases, and current protected area management systems are often not equipped to deal with the amplification in scale and nature of poaching. New tools and techniques to address intensified wildlife crime are emerging. All agreed that a high priority is on-the-ground anti-poaching, capacity building, and assistance to those on the front line.
- **Human wildlife conflict** – conflicts are seriously undermining the purpose, values and benefits of protected areas. Need to reconceive the term “human wildlife conflict” as “human wildlife interactions” which can produce both positive and negative experiences.
- **Invasive species** – are a global challenge. Protected areas need to improve the efficacy of their action, building capacity of the staff, implementing effective management, engaging with local communities, and raising awareness at all levels.

Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation Goals: Solutions

- Focus on conservation of biodiversity, using new Key Biodiversity Area standard, underpinned by Red Lists of Threatened Species and of Ecosystems
- Dramatic upgrade in protected areas management to improve protected area quality – Green List of Protected Areas and World Heritage Outlook
- Far better understanding of protected areas and their biodiversity outcomes is required, building on existing initiatives like Protected Planet
- Scale up conservation efforts to have large, landscape level connected conservation systems with protected areas and connectivity lands. There are many good examples of this in the world but they are most often led by non-government organizations, rather than governments. Large scale connectivity and active ecological restoration thinking needs to be mainstreamed.

Findings from Stream 1 Reaching Conservation Goals: Beyond Aichi

- The Aichi Targets, including Target 11, are meant to halt biodiversity loss by 2020. They are interim targets and do not represent what is actually required for humanity to live in sustainable harmony with nature.
- Meeting the Target 11 will not halt biodiversity loss
- The true targets for sustainability are far broader and will require a rethinking of our personal expectations and how we live with 7 billion people on this small planet.

Context for a New Vision

- Achieving this vision will require **cooperation** to bring together all peoples of the earth, their governments of all types, and industry. We all live on one planet, supported by one living system. It will require **courage** to admit where we have failed to carry through with past promises and take the very hard decisions. It will take **commitment** to make a step change at the scale required and to apply the innovative solutions we have collectively identified.

Recommendations: existing commitments

1. Countries include the Aichi Targets, including a full implementation of Target 11, within their revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and implement these. These commitments must be kept: it is not a matter of starting again or ignoring promises already made.
2. IUCN adopts formal definitions of non-regression. Multilateral lending institutions and private sector actors develop policies and safeguards governing their engagement regarding protected areas that have experienced or are proposed for legal downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement.
3. Governments and partners give due attention to the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss, including consumption and population growth, governance and corruption, as key impediments to successful conservation and management of protected areas.
4. Governments and other sectors prioritize not only establishment of critical new protected areas, but focus on adequate resourcing, effective management and consistent and transparent monitoring of those already in existence.
5. Progress towards Aichi Target 11 should be based on a comprehensive global assessment of how well protected areas are contributing to biodiversity conservation, rather than just an assessment of area covered.

Recommendations: information

6. Countries fully report, taking into account all governance types, on their protected area systems (location, extent, management categories, management effectiveness, governance) into the UN List of Protected Areas through the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and IUCN WCPA.
7. Countries support ongoing efforts to complete assessments of risk of extinction for species and risk of collapse of ecosystems, including documentation of the threats to these, especially by undertaking and repeating assessments following agreed IUCN standards and methods.
8. Countries, local communities, and the private sector consider prioritizing sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity (including both species and ecosystems, across the terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biomes, and recognizing the dependence of biodiversity on geodiversity) when creating or expanding formal protected areas or implementing other area-based conservation measures and safeguards, starting with the many thousands of such sites identified to date, especially those holding the last population of a highly threatened species.
9. Governments establish incentives and support for connectivity planning across both fragmented and intact landscapes, including cross-jurisdictional initiatives. Functional landscapes and seascapes need their connectivity maintained through the establishment of large scale conservation systems and ecological restoration..

management, governance, & finance

10. Global protected areas should include a specific focus on coverage and management of freshwater ecosystems in their own right rather than as a component of terrestrial systems, and should address downstream watershed protection where threats are greatest, as much as upstream landscape protection.
11. Countries and protected areas support the IUCN Green List standard and other species focused standards, for effective management of their protected areas and biodiversity, and work to achieve that standard.
12. The contribution of indigenous and local peoples, and privately protected areas to conservation is recognised and promoted, along with the importance of effective and appropriate legal frameworks that recognize, support and enable diverse types of protected areas governance.
13. IUCN should develop guidance on “other effective area based conservation measures” so this measure is best used for conservation.
14. Small grant mechanisms for the conservation of biodiversity are highly effective, and should be strongly supported in particular to help civil society in designing, governing and managing protected areas, complementing large-scale funding as part of resource mobilization mechanisms.

addressing threats & monitoring

15. Countries, donors, and international funding agencies commit to increasing financial resources significantly, and in proportion to their budgets, and create innovative approaches to secure new financial resources for protected areas at levels that can enable effective management.
16. Urgent action must be taken by governments, and the global and local communities in addressing the rising threats to biodiversity from wildlife crime, invasive species, climate change, disease, fire, and habitat degradation and loss.
17. “Human wildlife conflict” is a major concern for many protected areas globally and threatens to undermine local support. The issue requires global support, and should be described as “human wildlife interactions” which reflects both positive and negative experiences.
18. A communication channel for emergency contact with IUCN should be established, so that international support can be obtained to rapidly address crises.

Recommendations: Beyond Aichi

19. Governments and all sectors must adopt greater consistency in the collection, evaluation and reporting of biodiversity data within each country and globally, inside and outside protected areas, and make these data discoverable, available and accessible to support evidenced based decision making.
20. Governments and peoples must move far beyond the Aichi targets to adaptive conservation systems that are based on halting biodiversity loss (Aichi Target 12). This must be done balancing biodiversity and human needs. We need to increase conservation until biodiversity loss is halted. The total area of protected areas and connectivity lands needs to be far higher than current conceptions. While there is concern about setting percentage targets delegates agreed on the importance of setting ambitious targets, with many proposing these should be in the range of 50%, with even more of the land and seascape managed sustainably.