

Territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs)

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Stream no. 6: *Enhancing the diversity and quality of governance of protected areas*



Indigenous and community land conservation efforts in Mexico take place two distinct types of land ownership (núcleos agrarios):

- **Comunidad agraria** common use or unparcelled lands.
- **Ejido** unparcelled or common use lands

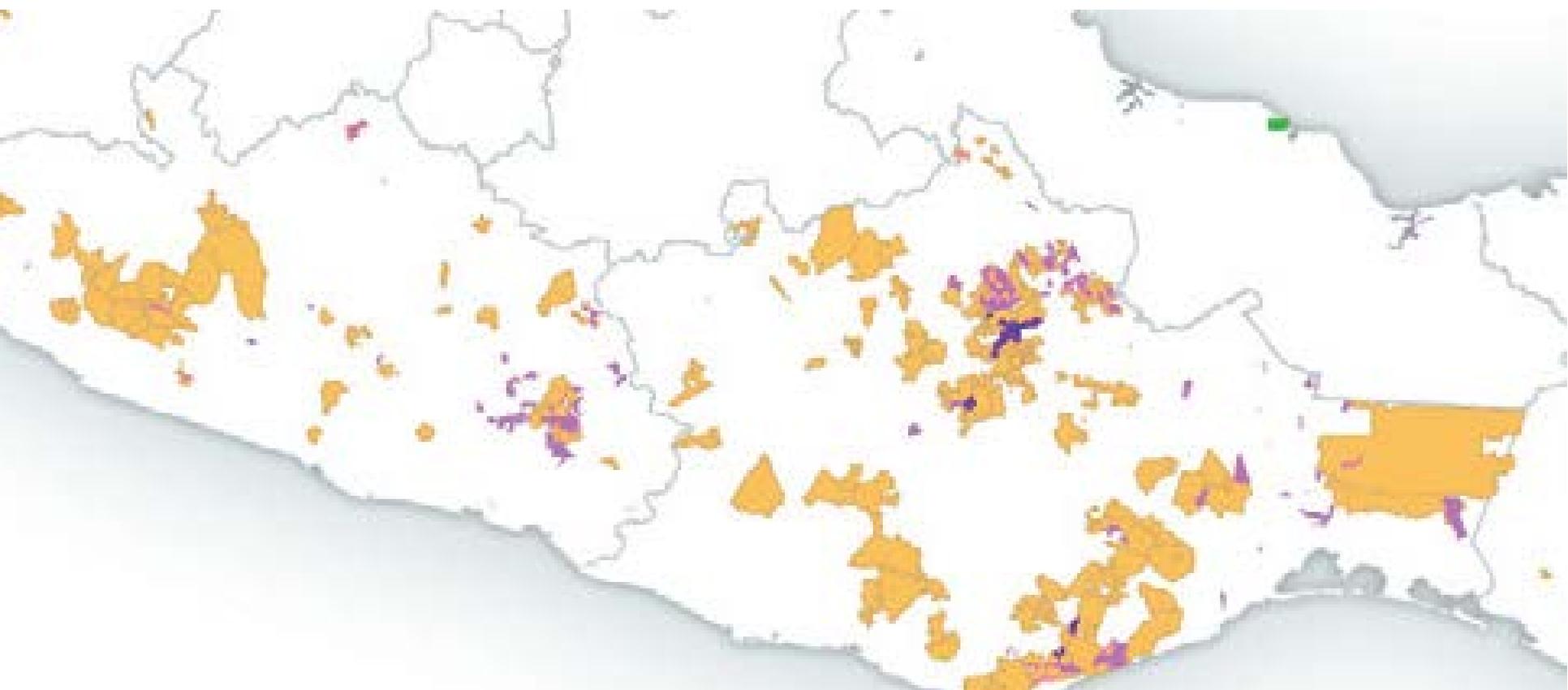
SUPPORTING ICCAs MAKES SENSE FOR MEXICO

Pre-Revolution traditional communities with titled lands (bienes comunales, 2,344 properties most of them indigenous communities), together with untitled community lands and post-Revolution properties, recognized or distributed to legally landless rural communities or groups (ejidos, 29,441 properties), represent Mexico's social property (núcleos agrarios), which together cover around 53 % of the country's total terrestrial area. By 2007, 31.7 % of Mexico's social property had been legally parceled out.

Two general groups of ICCAs and PPAs currently coexist in Mexico. On one side officially recognized government certified ADVCs, and on the other side, independent and uncertified private and community land conservation efforts on their properties.

COMMUNITY TERRITORIAL ZONING (OCT) as a seed bank for future ICCAs

3,021,863 ha, 1.5% of Mexican land area. (2008)



- Áreas Destinadas Voluntariamente a la Conservación (ADVC)
- Áreas protegidas privadas y comunitarias
- Ordenamientos comunitarios del territorio (OCT)

ICCAs are not evenly distributed within Mexico's territory. Both certified ICCAs and uncertified ICCAs have been established in xx Mexican states, only ADVC ICCAs in xx states, and only uncertified xx in other xx states. xx federal entities currently do not present PPAs within their boundaries

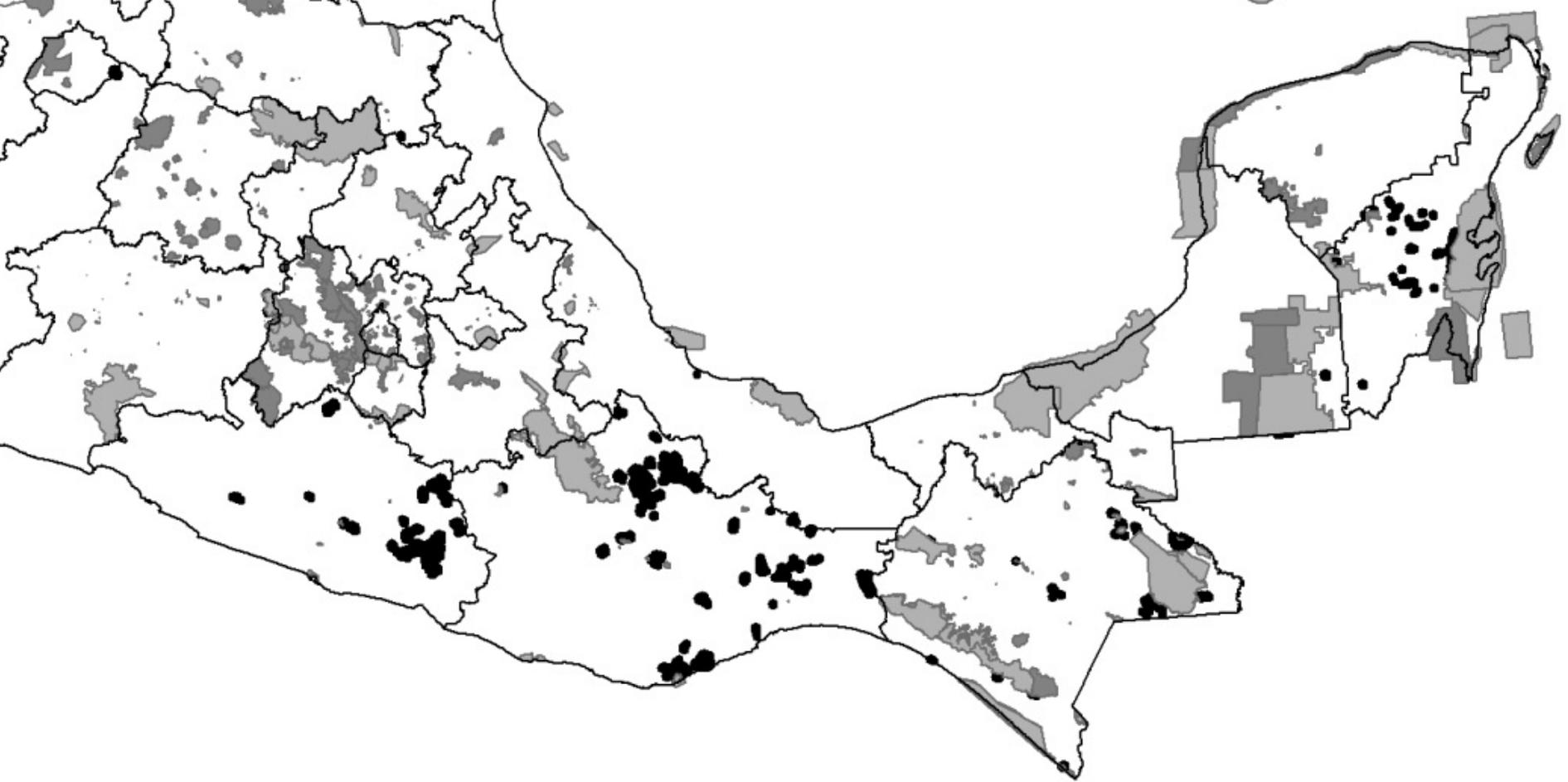


Government areas (grey) and ICCAs (black) coverage in Mexico

Note: ICCAs were drawn larger than their corresponding scale for clarity.

Incentives

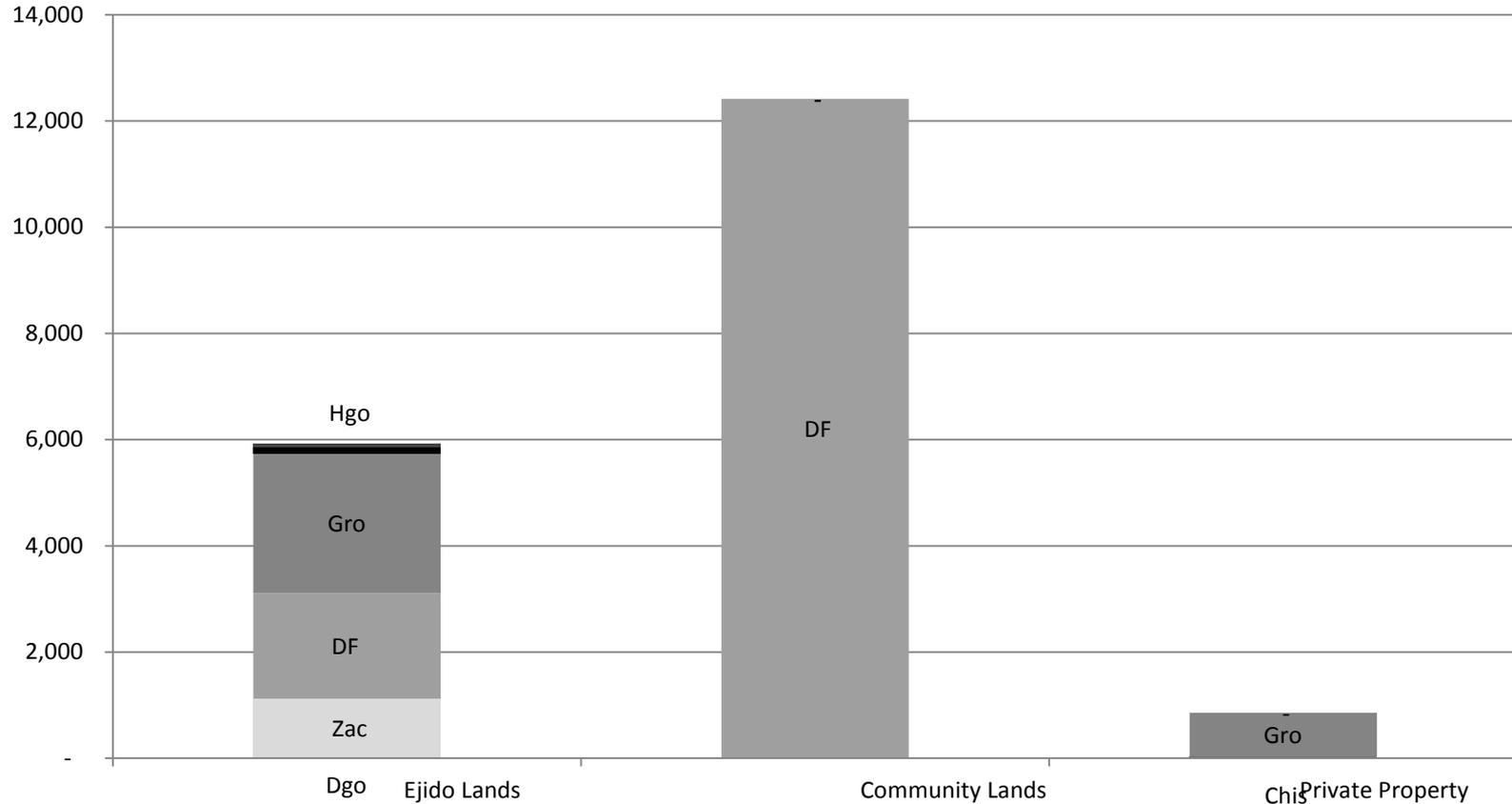
Currently only certified ADVC-ICCAs are eligible to receive limited incentives due to their official status. Since ADVCS are considered to be protected areas by the Environmental Law, they are automatically subject to its regulations. Thus through the certification process ICCAs attain the same legal status as a federal protected area and in theory their owners can defend them against outside threats.



In Mexico ICCAS creation enhances connectivity and the functional expansion within and outside government protected areas.

ICCAS can be voluntarily turned into governmental PAs, thus becoming mixed governance protected areas.

Total Social/Governmental Protected Area Coverage per Land Tenure and State



KEY MESSAGES

- **ICCAs an opportunity in a significant portion of México's territory (circa 1/3 of the (country)).**
- **ICCAs as a strategy to achieve AICHI targets.**
- **Governmental support needed to expand community territorial zoning practices, as a seed bank for ICCA creation.**

THANK YOU

