CCA Data Collection Questionnaire - Long (India)

India has several examples of community-based conservation where deep connections exist between an area and the local community, usually rooted in history, socio-cultural identity, spirituality and/or people's reliance on the area for their livelihood and wellbeing. Community based conservation practices also exist in non-traditional and urban areas. In India, such areas are referred to as Community Conserved Areas (CCAs). The three definitive characteristics of a CCA are:

- The community is the main decision maker for the area (even if not legally)
- The community makes and enforces rules and regulations for conservation
- The efforts contribute to the conservation of nature

Note: This questionnaire is also for areas which do not fulfill the above three criteria but desire to do so, or ones where conservation efforts have been disrupted due to poor practices, relocation or restrictive legal policies (see question on category of CCA).

CCAs are not recognised legally in India. However, they are well recognised and supported by global networks and alliances.

What is this information for?
Information submitted using this questionnaire will contribute to a growing body of knowledge on the multiple values of CCAs, including their vital contributions to livelihoods and wellbeing of communities and to the conservation of nature around the world. This information will be put up online on a web portal on CCAs in South Asia and will be available in public domain, meaning that it will be owned by and be accessible to the general public. The person or organisation responding to this questionnaire should ensure that free, prior, informed consent (FPIC) of the community has been obtained for this (see document on FPIC process and accompanying signature form).

How should the questionnaire be used?
The questionnaire should be completed in a participatory manner, in accordance with the customs and governance processes of the community, with input from as many community-members as possible.

Contact
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A.Description

A.1 Name of CCA What is the name of the CCA?	
A.2 Village Name of the village/villages which are a part of the CCA	
A.3 Panchayat Name of the panchayat that governs the CCA (if applicable)	
A.4 Country Name of the country where the CCA is located	
A.5 Location Locate and mark the polygon(s) either by perambulating or by marking on the map/ Give coordinates for point location	
A.6 Area Area of the CCA (in hectares)	

A.7 Ecosystem type Predominant ecosystem that occurs in the CCA (Select all that apply.)	Ecosystem Type: 1. Forest 2. Grassland 3. Wetland and rivers 4. Marine and Coastal 5. Mountain Ecosystem 6. Others (Please specify)
A.8 Ecosystem - further details Describe the physical area, including the ecosystem, its current health, any special geographical feature, etc.	
A.9 Communities 1. Which communities live in these areas? 2. What are the population demographics? 3. Describe the occupations, socio-economic status, etc. of the people living there.	
A.11 Number of households Number of households in the village	
A.12 Number of people Number of people/Population of the village	

B. Origin and Establishment

B.1 Origin How did the CCA originate? (Select all that apply.)	1. Based on traditional practice 2. Revived by community initiative 3. New initiative by community 4. New initiative by government agency 5. New initiative by external non-government agency
B.2 History 1. How has the area been used throughout history? 2. Who initiated the effort and when (include date and timeline if known)?	
B.3 Year of Formation	
B.4 Motivations What were the reasons for the community to start conserving the area? (Select all that apply.)	1. Livelihood (Subsistence/Economic) 2. Ecological functions (ecosystem services) 3. Self empowerment (including land ownership/access security) 4. Religious/cultural sentiments (including sacred landscapes) 5. Wild Biodiversity conservation 6. Agricultural and livestock diversity conservation 7. Response to external threat 8. Others (please specify)
B.6 Motivations - further details What were the reasons for the community to start conserving the area?	

C. Governance, Management and Conservation Systems

C.1 Federation or Collective of CCA - further details If the CCA is part of a collective or federation, please give additional information on its structure and functioning.	

C.2 People, Decision-Making, Rules, and Management Practices 1. Describe the structure and functioning of the decision-making body. 2.Are women, youth, and disadvantaged sections of the society also involved in the initiative? How is their involvement ensured? 3.Describe the involvement of external agencies (government or non-government), if any. 4. Describe any conflict resolution mechanisms that are followed.	
C. 3 Decision Making Body Who makes the decisions about the management of the CCA? (Select all that apply.)	1. Gram Sabha 2. Panchayat 3. Resource users 4. JFM committee 5. CFR management committee 6. PESA committee 7. Women's committee 8. Youth committee 9. Van Panchayat 10. Forest protection committee 11. Others (please specify)
C.4 Community activities through the year What key activities have been undertaken in the last one year? (Select all that apply.)	1. Fire Management 2. Regulation of harvest (NTFP, MFP, fish, grass, etc) 3. Patrolling, watch and ward 4. Plantations and restoration activities 5. Soil and water conservation (check dams, trenches, terracing etc.) 6. Fencing, constructing walls and other physical protection 7. Removing encroachment (of illegal construction, farms etc.) 8. Ex-situ conservation (breeding etc.) 9. Others (please specify)
C.5Ecological Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation Describe any activities and practices that have helped in the conservation of the ecosystem or improved biodiversity.	

D. Legal and Other Recognitions

D.1 Legal Status What are the different legal statuses applicable to this CCA? (Select all that apply.)	1. Protected Area under Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA) 1a. Tiger reserve 1b. National park 1c. Wildlife sanctuary 1d. Conservation reserve 1e. Community reserve 2. Biodiversity Heritage Site under Biodiversity Act (BDA) 3. Forest Area under Indian Forest Act (IFA) 3a. Reserve forest 3b. Protected forest 3c. Unclassed forest 3d. Village forest 4. Community Forest Resource Rights (CFR) under Forest Rights Act (FRA) 5. Comes under Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act (PESA) 6. Others 6a. Van Panchayat (Van Panchayat Act) 6b. Habitat Rights (FRA) 6c. Governed by state specific laws or special constitutional status 6d. Revenue land/ pasture land (LR Code) 6e. Others (please specify)
D.2 Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 Is the Forest Rights Act (FRA) applicable in the area?	1. Yes 2. No
D.3 Community Forest Resource Rights (CFR) If FRA is applicable, what is the CFR claim status?	1. CFR claim not filed 2. CFR claim filed and in process 3. CFR claims recognised 4. CFR claims rejected but not appealed 5. CFR claims rejected and appealed

D.4 Land Ownership Who legally owns the land on which the CCA is situated? (Select all that apply.)	1. Government owned: 1a. Forest Department 1b. Revenue Department 1c. Irrigation/Water Resource Department 1d. Fisheries 1e. Others (including universities and defence land) 2. Community Owned 3. Privately Owned 4. Contested 5. Others (please specify)
D.5 Other Recognised Status Has the CCA been recognised in any of these ways? (Select all that apply.)	1. Key Biodiversity Area 2. Important Bird Area 3. UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve 4. Ramsar site/Wetland of International Importance 5. UNESCO World Heritage Site 6. Wildlife Corridor 7. Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) under CBD 8. Biodiversity Hotspot (Conservation International) 9. Trans Boundary tiger conservation landscapes 10. Kailash sacred landscape 11. Other (please specify)
D.6 Sacred Landscape Is the CCA a sacred grove/sacred landscape?	1. Yes 2. No
D.12 Legal and Other Recognitions - further details Provide any other details about legal status, land ownership and recognitions. 1. Is the Forest Rights Act, 2006 applicable in the area? 2.If Community Forest Resource (CFR) claims have been filed, what is their current stage of verification? 3.If CFR rights have been recognised, what is the date of recognition? 4.If the Forest Rights Act, 2006 is applicable but CFR claims have not been filed, what are the reasons? 5.If CFR rights have been recognised, what is the status of the CFR management plan?	

E. Impact, Opportunities and Challenges

E.1 Impact on livelihoods and subsistence What livelihoods and subsistence benefits has the community gained through their CCA? (Select all that apply.)	1. Cut fodder 2. Grazing 3. Firewood 4. Non-timber forest produce 5. Timber 6. Fish 7. Others (please specify)
E.2 Social Impact What is the social impact due to the CCA? (Select all that apply.)	1. Community empowerment 2. Empowerment of women/youth/disadvantaged sections 3. Assured land ownership or access 4. Revival of cultural/religious associations 5. Mitigation of external threat 6. Prevention of distress outmigration 7. Others (please specify)
E.3 Ecological Impact What is the ecological impact due to the CCA? (Select all that apply.)	1. Improvement and restoration of natural habitat 2. Increase in diversity and population of wildlife 3. Increase in diversity of crops, livestock, fish 4. Improvement in ecological services such as water supply and soil fertility 5. Others (please specify)
E.4 Impact- further details 1. How has the initiative impacted the local flora and fauna of the region over time? 2. Describe any social, economic, cultural or political impact that the conservation initiative has had on the community.	
E.5 Opportunities What are the factors that have supported conservation? (for instance, effective legal policies, external help, etc.)	

E.6 Internal Threats and Challenges What are some of the internal threats and challenges faced by the initiative ? (Select all that apply.)	1. Internal differences and inequities 2. Conflict with other communities 3. Reduced awareness about biodiversity and its value 4. Lack of resources and pressures of poverty 5. Over-harvesting from within the community 6. Changing socio-cultural practices and aspirations 7. Outmigration 8. Others (please specify)
E.7 External Threats and Challenges What are some of the external threats and challenges faced by the initiative ? (Select all that apply.)	1. Restrictive laws and policies (including protected areas overlapping, lack of recognition of customary rights) 2. Land ownership or tenure issues 3. Unwanted development pressures 4. Unwanted extraction (e.g., hunting, mining, logging or fishing) 5. Mega-development projects 6. Negative impacts of tourism 7. Decline in quality or quantity of biodiversity or ecosystem (e.g., clean water and air, healthy soil) 8. Climate change (e.g., rapidly changing temperature and precipitation patterns, sea level rise, extreme weather events) 9. Invasive or non-native species 10. Other (please specify)
E.8 Threats and Challenges- further details Please give further details of threats and challenges faced by the community.	
E.9 Needs- further details Please mention the type of support needed the most by the community at present. (This could include financial, legal, technical, education and other types of support.)	
E.10 Future plans What future plans does the community have for the CCA?	

F Data Contributor

F.1 Information Source What is the source of information provided in this questionnaire?	1. from publicly available sources 2. by community member/s 3. by external entity with permission of community member 4. through participation and consent of entire community
F.2 Reference of Published Work In case this information was sourced from a previously published work, please give a reference.	
F.3 Information Provider Please give the name and contact details of the person or organisation who filled out this questionnaire.	
F.4 Community Member Please give the name and contact details of the community member/s who provided the information and/or consent to publish (if different from above).	
F.5 FPIC Form Please provide a signed FPIC form if applicable.	
F.6 Date of Study What was the date of study?	

G. References and Glossary

G.1 Glossary of Vernacular terms Please include the meanings of any local or vernacular terminology used in the questionnaire.	
G.2 References Please include any external sources referred to for filling out the questionnaire.	

H. Multimedia, News and Updates

H.1 Texts, links, photos etc. Please provide links or references to existing information about this CCA	

Notes

1. Category of CCA:

    A) Defined CCA: A territory that fulfils the 3 criteria for being called a CCA:
- The community is the main decision-maker.
- There are systems, rules and regulations in place for conservation.
- The effort is leading towards conservation.

    B) Disrupted CCA: These include:
- A territory under the long-term full control of local communities that is in a poor state of conservation for a variety of influences and conditions that developed outside of their control, but it is possible to be reversed and counteracted.
- A well-conserved territory where communities would like to live sustainably, but have been removed and deprived of management control because of development and conservation initiatives or for other reasons.
- A territory where there is no way of accommodating local communities under existing national legislation and policies (in some cases national legislation does not even acknowledge the existence of "communities"). In such cases, CCAs may somehow exist de facto on the ground and play important roles for biodiversity conservation, but have little long term security.

    C) Desired CCA: These could include new or reconstituted communities that decide to pull themselves together in relation to a common environment, socio-ecological principles and vision. In so doing, they develop a common identity for themselves as a "community" and for their territory as a CCA. This could be a pre-existing historical situation or a new one. (An important example of a "desired CCA" may be the new territory of a community relocated onto new land. If, for a variety of reasons, the community decides to accept living in the new territory, it may consciously work to develop the bond with it, along with a form of governing institution and positive practices.)