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United Nations Development Programme
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Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples
and local communities

**Monitoring and Evaluation support to projects in territories and areas
conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCAs) in
Kenya**

Call for Proposals¹
Catalytic NGO

Background

Since 2014, the Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCA-GSI) has been providing direct financial support to improve the recognition and overall effectiveness for biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods and resilience to climate change effects in ICCAs.

Phase 2 of the ICCA-GSI was launched to continue this work while focusing on the Global Biodiversity Framework ([GBF](#)) 2030 Targets, specifically:

- **Target 3:** *Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.*
- **Target 21:** *Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge, are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and*

¹ This Call for Proposals is for Catalytic NGOs – whose role will be primarily 1) capacity development, training and coordination of regular ICCA GSI phase 2 projects; 2) support to global and national ICCA databases; 3) production of knowledge management products

to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent[1], in accordance with national legislation.

- **Target 22:** *Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.*
- **Target 23:** *Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the framework through a gender-responsive approach where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.*

Phase 2 of the ICCA-GSI is implemented in 50 countries globally by the United Nations Development Programme ([UNDP](#)) through the Global Environment Facility's ([GEF](#)) Small Grants Programme ([SGP](#)) delivery mechanism. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) are critical components for the success and growth of the ICCA-GSI. The M&E framework for the GSI involves a process on the systematic collection and analysis of data to assess the performance of projects and provide insights for informed decision-making and strategic planning.

In alignment with the ICCA-GSI Phase 2 strategy developed in Kenya, applications from qualified organisations are invited to carry out a **monitoring and evaluation framework** based on the ICCA-GSI methodology and tools. Competent organisations are encouraged to submit an application on the basis of the Call for Proposals below.

The proactive ICCA initiative is expected to last **up to 30 months** and to have a maximum budget of **US\$50,000**. The initiative will focus its activities in the landscapes and seascapes prioritized by SGP Kenya in the following counties: Kilifi, Tana River, Narok, Kajiado and Samburu. The proposals will be reviewed and approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC). It is expected that the successful applicant will carry out the work in collaboration with the relevant staff and members of the ICCA Consortium (www.iccaconsortium.org).

Objectives

Organizations wishing to apply for the implementation of the ICCA-GSI Phase 2 monitoring and evaluation framework activities will be expected to review the following responsibilities in view of the socio-cultural and political reality of the country. The organisation will then develop a proposal using the attached [ICCA GSI Phase 2 project proposal template_FINAL - 052026](#) and compile a **plan of action** to contribute to the monitoring and evaluation framework activities in Kenya to support the National Coordinator (NC) on:

1. **Conducting a needs/capacity assessment of grantees in the project sites** for the purposes of the ICCA-GSI M&E framework.

2. Training grantees at the project level on the following:

- a. **Self-Strengthening Process methodology:** The main method for this are “grassroots discussions”. The process consists of 7 self-strengthening elements, each with guiding questions, tools and examples. The elements do not need to be followed ‘in order’ and can be taken up and adapted to fit the context, as determined by the community/ies in the project sites.
- b. **Resilience and Security Index:** A tracking tool to rapidly review the overall health and strength of ICCAs and assess their resilience. The tool has seven main components covering the (i) connection between the Indigenous Peoples and local communities and the ICCA; (ii) governance of the ICCA; (iii) conservation of nature and sustainable livelihoods; (iv) internal factors that present threats to the ICCAs (rapid changes in culture, economic lifestyles, and aspirations, political and/or social fragmentation); (v) tenure and recognition; (vi) level of appropriate support from third parties/groups; and (vii) external factors that present threats to the ICCAs (climate change, war, encroachment). This is a “score-based” tool.
- c. **Project Management Tool:** A tool that incorporates indicators for the ICCA-GSI targeted goals, aligned to GBF Targets 3, 21,22 and 23. There is an existing template in JotForm which allows relevant stakeholders to work offline and in multiple devices to accommodate areas with limited internet access.

3. Guide grantees to register their ICCAs in global databases.

- a. **The Global ICCA Registry**: An online platform to raise awareness of the significance of Indigenous Peoples’ and community-led conservation practices. It is a voluntary database, where ICCA custodians or their supporting organizations can provide data, case studies, maps, photos and stories. Information can be provided by using a questionnaire based on the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the communities concerned. The Global ICCA Registry provides information on learning what ICCAs are, the benefits and considerations of participating, and the registration processes.
- b. **Protected Planet platform**: The Global ICCA Registry is linked to the Protected Planet portal, hosted by UNEP WCMC, which is the authoritative platform for global data on protected and conserved areas (PCAs) and which tracks progress towards the implementation of area-based conservation targets. Protected Planet is an online platform and stores data on PCAs. The Protected Planet database have a range of users, including governments, NGOs, non-state actors and communities, who use them to track progress towards policy targets, to inform new conservation strategies, defend and educate.

ICCA custodians can also choose to submit their ICCAs as a protected area or an OECM to the Protected Planet database, which now includes the combined World Database on Protected Areas ([WDPA](#)) and the World Database on Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures ([WD-OECM](#)). Submitting data on ICCAs (otherwise also referred to as Indigenous and Traditional Territories, ITTs) to Protected Planet will further increase their visibility and will ensure ICCAs are included in tracking progress towards national and international conservation ambitions.

- c. **Mapeo for ICCAs**: Mapeo is an app developed by Digital Democracy (now called [Awana Digital](#)), designed to support Indigenous Peoples and local communities in documenting, monitoring and mapping many types of information. Mapeo now includes a specific version of the app called '[Mapeo for ICCAs](#)' which is designed to support ICCA custodians to map the boundaries of their ICCAs, but it also provides a mechanism for the ICCA custodians to submit their data to the Global ICCA Registry and the Protected Planet database via the app, if they choose to do so. The app is designed to work in an entirely offline environment, to be highly customizable, and built on a decentralized peer-to-peer database that allows communities to own their own data.
4. **Review data and support data cleaning, data organization, data quality assurance on key M&E tools** (e.g., baseline and endline information on indicators in Project Management Tool; quantitative and qualitative information in Resilience and Security Index).
5. **Development of Knowledge Management (KM) material**. In consultation with the National Coordinator, identify a range of KM products (including case studies, multi-media stories; blogs and videos) that aptly capture lessons learned and best practices, for wide dissemination. The catalytic NGO will produce at least 2 KM products (other than the project management tool and the security index) and facilitate the production of at least 1 or 2 more for the entire initiative in collaboration with the grantees.
6. **Organize and host an end-of-project workshop**. The workshop will bring together all grantees plus key stakeholders to discuss the outcomes of the individual projects and to further the dialogue on advancing the awareness and entrenchment of ICCAs in conservation policies and legislative frameworks.
7. **Submit final reports to the SGP National Coordinator in Kenya and country team after quality assurance**.

Criteria

Organizations wishing to apply for the implementation of the proactive ICCA initiative are invited to produce:

- a. A **work plan** and **justified budget** (inclusive of training sessions and monitoring project site visits) about when and how it will take action to fulfil an appropriate combination of the responsibilities outlined above.
- b. A list of **timing of delivery for a period of 24-30 months** from mid - 2026 to 2028 in line with the ICCA GSI funding and ICCA-GSI strategy. The applicant organisation will be expected to report directly to the SGP National Coordinator (NC) in the country concerned; work closely with the respective ICCA Consortium members and other global partners (i.e. UNEP WCMC, CBD Secretariat and IUCN) as relevant.
- c. Details on the **specific experience and capacities of the applicant organisation**, including individuals who will be working to fulfil the Call for Proposals (e.g. facilitation of capacity/needs assessment; facilitation of training sessions; facilitation of monitoring and evaluation of projects in the country; quality assurance of M&E reports/tools).

Qualifications

- Strong commitment to ICCAs, indigenous peoples' issues and biodiversity conservation;²
- Familiarity with key issues related to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) negotiations, Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework ([GBF](#))
- Knowledge of the Programme of Work (PoW) of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8j ([SB&J](#)) relating to ICCAs, and guidance by the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity ([IIFB](#)) on Indigenous and Traditional Territories ([ITTs](#)) in the context of the KM-GBF.
- Experience in organizing and hosting consultations with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and where relevant, national level stakeholders including NGOs and governments.
- Proven ability to facilitate effective and balanced consultations which includes diverse actors and perspectives to ensure that voices are heard, and exchanges are constructive.
- Proven ability to document and produce high quality written reports according to deadlines.
- Familiarity with UNDP, SGP programming, and IUCN global commissions is an advantage.

Proposal development and submission

Organizations wishing to apply for the implementation of the ICCA initiative are invited to develop a proposal using the template attached under the section titled OBJECTIVES.

The proposal should be submitted to sgpinfo.ke@undp.org no later than **June 21 2026**.

² For additional background information on ICCAs and Indigenous and Traditional Territories (ITTs) in the context of the Kunming-Montreal GBF targets: (a) www.iccaconsortium.org; (b) <https://iifb-indigenous.org/our-work/iifb-working-group-on-target-3/>