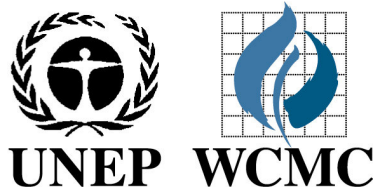


**United Nations Environment Programme  
World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)**

**Attribute data structure for the World Database on  
Protected Areas (WDPA)**

**Version 1.1**

**Prepared by UNEP-WCMC on March 7th, 2008**



The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) was established in 2000 as the biodiversity assessment and policy implementation arm of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The roots of the organisation go back to 1979, when it was founded as the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre. We are the custodians of the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), a joint project with IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and their World Commission on Protected Areas. The WDPA is the only global database of marine and terrestrial protected areas, comprising GIS spatial data and aspatial attribute data, in existence. It is used to report the progress towards targets such as United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goal 7, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN List of Protected Areas as well as providing support to policy and decision managers.



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**Citation:** UNEP-WCMC, March 2008. ‘Attribute data structure for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) – Version 1.1’. UNEP-WCMC.

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## 1.0 Introduction

This document is intended for non-technical data providers or users of the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) to outline the key attributes or items of information that the redeveloped database will store. It is not intended to serve as guidelines for data submission to the WDPA nor as a technical data structure to enable development or restructuring existing database structures.

Section 1.1 outlines the breakdown protected area data attributes contained within the WDPA, whether they are specific to marine or terrestrial sites, the field type (e.g. character/text or integer/number) and whether the attribute is a 'core' or 'optional' requirement of the WDPA.

Section 1.2 outlines the attribute look up tables defined for a number of key protected area attributes including: site status, site event, IUCN Protected Area Management Category, No take area type, marine component, MPA zoning options, site governance, ownership and site type.

Assistance and guidelines on submission of data and technical instructions on the restructuring or translation between datasets to comply with the WDPA data structure can be obtained from UNEP-WCMC, please contact [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org) for more information.

### 1.1 Marine and Terrestrial Protected Area data attributes in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)

Through the redevelopment of the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) we were presented with the unique opportunity to add in/expand the site attributes held for protected areas in particular marine protected areas (MPAs). MPAs are of special interest globally and are often treated differently from terrestrial areas. Since 2003 much of the work of data collection has occurred through the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the 'Seas around Us' project (with WWF support), with annual updates to the WDPA. However there has been a gradual divergence between the two datasets. Through the redevelopment of the WDPA, the attribute structure of MPA Global has been fully encompassed (and extended) in the new WDPA data structure ready for the transfer and complete integration of MPA Global by August 2008.

Some attributes in the WDPA such as name, country, and total area are specific to both marine and terrestrial protected areas. However some attributes such as No Take Area or the IUCN definition of a marine protected area will be specific to marine protected areas. Therefore, depending on whether you are providing either marine or terrestrial protected data only certain attributes (as outlined in Table 1) will be required.

The redeveloped WDPA is a web enabled spatial database platform built using GIS, web and database technologies. Where possible, UNEP-WCMC wishes to obtain spatial boundary (polygon GIS) of the protected areas extent and any zones within it or where the boundary is not available, a geographic location. Further guidelines on the GIS and data types preferred for data submitted for inclusion in the WDPA can be obtained from UNEP-WCMC, please contact [protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org) for more information.

Table 1 shows the breakdown of marine and terrestrial protected area data attributes contained within the WDPA, the field type, whether there are additional lookup tables/domains and if it is a new addition to existing WDPA data structure. It also details, for data providers, whether the attribute is a 'core' or essential requirement for a sites entry into the WDPA or whether its 'optional' additional information that if available from the data provider can be stored in the WDPA.

**Table 1. Marine and Terrestrial Protected Area attributes in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)**

Attribute	Attribute Definition	Field Type (Size)	Pre-defined options held in look up tables/domains?	Attribute specific to marine and/or terrestrial protected areas?	New addition to WDPA?	Core or Optional requirement for data providers
SITE ID	Unique identification number specific to each site, also known as the SITE_CODE.	Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial	No	We can store data providers unique coding system against WDPA SITE_CODE
English Name	Name of protected area in English.	Character (200)	No	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes. The ability to distinguish between the local and English name for a protected area is a new addition to the WDPA	Core.
Local Name	Name of protected area as known in local area (local language)	Character (200)	No	Marine and Terrestrial		
Country (includes state/province)	Country and state/province protected area is designated/located in.	Integer	Yes	Marine and Terrestrial	No	Core (State/province - where available)
Longitude DD	Precise location of site in the world in geographic decimal degrees	Numeric	No	Marine and Terrestrial	No	Core (can also be generated from polygon GIS)
Latitude DD		Numeric	No			
Region	Organization defined groupings of countries e.g. WCPA, GEO, CDDA	Integer	Yes.	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes	Internal to UNEP-WCMC.
Designation	Type of protected area e.g. national park, nature reserve	Integer	Yes.	Marine and Terrestrial	No	Core. (where applicable)
International Convention	International convention or agreement protected area declared under e.g. World Heritage Site	Integer	Yes.	Marine and Terrestrial	No	Core (where applicable)
Criteria	Criteria assigned to protected area under the international convention/agreement	Integer	Yes.	Marine and Terrestrial	No	Optional. (can also be obtained from UNESCO World Heritage Website)
Status	Current legal standing of the site e.g. pre-legal (Proposed), legally declared (Designated), post-legal (Degazetted)	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	No.	Core. (where available)  Indication of the current legal status of a site including a date of establishment (even if it's just a YEAR) is very important in the reporting the development of protected areas systems.
Status Day	Date of establishment that status came into force e.g. proposed, legally declared (Designated).	Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial	Although the changes that can occur only once during a single sites lifecycle (status) have been separated from developmental changes (event) that can occur at any status stage, in any order and any number of times.	
Status Month		Integer	No			
Status Year		Integer	No			

Attribute	Attribute Definition	Field Type (Size)	Pre-defined options held in look up tables/domains?	Attribute specific to marine and/or terrestrial protected areas?	New addition to WDPA?	Core or Optional requirement for data providers
Site Event	Developmental changes to a protected area (such as increase/decrease in size, change in IUCN protected area management category) that can occur at any stage of a sites status	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	Also the ability to separate the status/event date into day, month and year is also a new feature of the WDPA	
Event Day	Date that developmental changes (such as increase/decrease in size, change in IUCN protected area management category) occurred	Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial		
Event Month		Integer	No			
Event Year		Integer	No			
IUCN Protected Area Management Category	Site classified under IUCN Protected Area Management Categorisation system (Ia – VI)	Character (30)	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	No. Although additional options have been added to account for where no IUCN category has been assigned.	Core For where IUCN Protected Area Management Category system is utilised.
IUCN Protected Area	Does the site conform to the IUCN definition of a protected area?	Character (6)	No.	Terrestrial	Yes.	Core.
IUCN Marine Protected Area	Does the site conform to the IUCN definition of a marine protected area?	Character (6)	No.	Marine	Yes.	Core.
Documented Total Area (ha)	Total protected area extent, marine and terrestrial, (hectares) as defined in governmental declarations or decrees or management plans	Numeric	No..	Marine and Terrestrial	No. Although the ability to separate total area derived from GIS and documental evidence as separate attributes is a new addition to the WDPA	Core. Although the area can also be derived from GIS (polygon) data where available.
GIS Total Area (ha)	Total protected area extent, marine and terrestrial (hectares) as calculated from spatial boundary (GIS) data	Numeric	No	Marine and Terrestrial		
Documented Total Marine Area (ha)	Total marine protected area extent (in hectares) as defined in governmental declarations/decrees or management plans	Numeric	No	Marine	Yes. The ability to store marine area as its own attribute and to separate area derived from GIS/documental evidence is a new addition to the WDPA	Core. Although the area can also be derived from GIS (polygon) data where available.

Attribute	Attribute Definition	Field Type (Size)	Pre-defined options held in look up tables/domains?	Attribute specific to marine and/or terrestrial protected areas?	New addition to WDPA?	Core or Optional requirement for data providers
GIS Total Marine Area (ha)	Total marine protected area extent (in hectares) as calculated from spatial boundary (GIS) data	Numeric	No	Marine		
No Take Area Type	Delineation of zones of No Entry, No Take and Catch and Release within the marine protected area.	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
Documented No Take Area (ha)	Total no take area extent (in hectares) as defined in governmental declarations/decrees or management plans	Numeric	No	Marine		
GIS No Take Area (ha)	Total no take area extent (in hectares) as calculated from spatial boundary (GIS) data	Numeric	No	Marine		
Marine Component	Delineation of whether the marine protected areas contains subtidal or intertidal zones.	Character (30)	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
MPA Zonation	Delineation of whether the marine protected areas is zoned for different uses e.g. core, buffer, transitional	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
MPA Depth Min (m)	Minimum depth (in meters) that specific management zones is enforced	Integer	No	Marine	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
MPA Depth Max (m)	Maximum depth (in meters) that specific management zones is enforced	Integer	No	Marine		Optional (where information available)
Document Total Freshwater Area (ha)	Total freshwater extent (in hectares) as defined in governmental declarations/decrees or management plans	Numeric	No	Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
GIS Total Freshwater Area (ha)	Total freshwater area extent (in hectares) as calculated from spatial boundary (GIS) data	Numeric	No	Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
Seasonal Protection Start Day		Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional (where information available)

Attribute	Attribute Definition	Field Type (Size)	Pre-defined options held in look up tables/domains?	Attribute specific to marine and/or terrestrial protected areas?	New addition to WDPA?	Core or Optional requirement for data providers
Seasonal Protection Start Month	Time of year that specific management zones or regimes start.	Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
Seasonal Protection Start Year		Integer	No			
Seasonal Protection End Day	Time of year that specific management zones or regimes finish.	Integer	No	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional (where information available)
Seasonal Protection End Month		Integer	No			
Seasonal Protection End Year		Integer	No			
Governance	Outline of the decision-making structure of the protected area and is closely linked to the ownership.	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes.	Optional. Although indication of the current governance structure in site would be preferable.
Ownership	Outline of the owners/key stakeholders in the protected area	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	No.	Core.
Site Type	Statement of whether protected area was established on a national, international or regional level and/or whether it is a transboundary or clustered site	Integer	Yes (see section 1.2)	Marine and Terrestrial	Yes.	Internal to UNEP-WCMC



## 1.2 Attribute lookup tables and option definitions

The following section outlines the attribute look up tables defined for a number of key protected area attributes including: site status, site event, IUCN Protected Area Management Category, No take area type, marine component, MPA zoning options, site governance, ownership and site type. These attribute options have either been specifically designed to enabled the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) to store protected areas information effectively or defined and practically applied by external stakeholders. A number of other lookup tables (including designation, country and region) are not outlined in this section as they are purely used to store common standard options for attributes.

### 1.2.1 Site Status and Event

As shown in Table 2, for a single protected area a number of sequential stages (both legal and non-legal) can occur during its lifecycle. These stages will occur only once during the lifecycle of a single site and are distinct from improvements in site information or developmental changes such as increase in protected area extent.

**Table 2. Site status**

Option	Definition	Order of Occurance	Type
Recommended	Site has been put forward by local/international, non governmental organization or national agency representative to be considered as protected area.	Before proposal, often not well documented	Pre Legal
Proposed	Site has approval on a local governmental level but is awaiting legal declaration/decree	Before designation	Pre Legal
Designated	Site has been legally decreed		Legal
Degazetted	Site no longer legally or physically exists.		Post Legal

Throughout the lifecycle of a site a number of developmental events can occur (Table 3). These include changes in protected area extent, reclassification and IUCN category change. They are separate to status changes as they can occur multiple times and in any order throughout a sites recommendation, proposal and designation.

**Table 3. Site event**

Options	Definitions	Order of occurrence
Extended	Site has been legally extended	These changes can occur during any site event and in any order.
Reduced	Site has been legally reduced	
Reclassified	Site has legally changed its designation	
IUCN Protected Area Management Category change	Site has had a change in IUCN Management Category.	

### 1.2.2 IUCN Protected Area Management Category

The IUCN has defined a series of protected area management categories based on primary management objective (Table 4), for use at a global scale. The classification system provides an agreed set of international standards, helps demonstrate the range of purposes protected areas serve and facilitate international comparison and reporting. However assignment to a category is not a comment on management effectiveness.

**Table 4. IUCN Protected Area Management Category<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Options</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
Ia	Protected Area managed mainly for science. Area of land and/or sea possessing some outstanding or representative ecosystems, geological or physiological features and/or species, available primarily for scientific research and/or environmental monitoring.
Ib	Protected Area managed mainly for wilderness protection. Large area of unmodified or slightly modified land and/or sea, retaining its natural character and influence, without permanent or significant habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural condition
II	Protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation A natural area of land and/or sea designated to protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations, exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area and provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible.
III	Protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features – area containing specific natural or natural/cultural feature(s) of outstanding or unique value because of their inherent rarity, representativeness or aesthetic qualities or cultural significance.
IV	Protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention – area of land and/or sea subject to active intervention for management purposes so as to ensure the maintenance of habitats to meet the requirements of specific species.
V	Protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation or recreation – area of land, with coast or sea as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area.
VI	Protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural resources – area containing predominantly unmodified natural systems, managed to ensure long-term protection and maintenance of biological diversity, while also providing a sustainable flow of natural products and services to meet community needs.
Not Known	Site needs to be reviewed and a category assigned.

In addition to the existing IUCN category options, in the new WDPA data structure we are able to distinguish where a category has not been provided.

### 1.2.3 IUCN definition of a Protected Area

The definitions will be made available to the data provider and they will be asked to confirm whether the site they are editing/submitting comes under the IUCN definition of a protected area (Table 5) or marine protected area (Table 6). They will also be able to link/submit supporting documentary evidence to support their answer.

**Table 5. IUCN definition of a Protected Area**

An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Options</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
Yes	Site does conform to the IUCN definition of a protected area
No	Site does not conform to the IUCN definition of a protected area
Unsure	Site boundary, status or management plan not currently defined or cannot make judgement on current evidence

<sup>1</sup> Definitions taken from ‘The IUCN Management Categories – Speaking a Common Language about Protected Areas’, Information Paper, WCPA, February 2004 <http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/pubs/pdfs/pacopcategories.pdf> Also, we note that the category system is currently under review and this section is subject to change as a result of that review.

<sup>2</sup> IUCN 1994. Guidelines for Protected Areas Management Categories. IUCN; Gland; Switzerland and Cambridge; UK.

**Table 6. IUCN definition of a Marine Protected Area (MPA)**

Any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment <sup>3</sup>	
Options	Definitions
Yes	Site boundary extends beyond the legal seaward boundary
No	Site boundary does not extend beyond the legal seaward boundary
Unsure	Site boundary not currently defined or cannot make judgement on current evidence

### 1.2.3 No Take Area Options

'No-Take Zone' (NTZ) is an area of sea that has been temporarily or permanently closed to fishing and other extractive activities to protect fish stocks and natural habitats. MPA Global had the ability to record whether an MPA contained a no take zone, these attribute options are an addition to the new WDPA data structure (Table 7).

**Table 7. No Take Area options**

Options	Definition
No Entry	No one (apart from wardens / government employees / scientific researchers with permits) is allowed into this zone at any time
No Take	This is an area where fishing or extraction of any marine resource is prohibited year round.
Catch and Release Only	Species can be caught but must be released alive and intact in this area.

### 1.2.4 Marine Component

In MPA Global an assessment was made on whether the MPA contained subtidal or intertidal components, these attribute options are an addition to the new WDPA data structure (Table 8). The definitions will be displayed to the data provider and/or peer reviewer and they will be asked to confirm whether the protected area contains either component.

**Table 8. Marine component<sup>4</sup>**

Options	Definition
Marine	Site may contain a 'marine element' due to its designation (e.g. Marine Park) or through spatial analysis.
Subtidal	A marine or estuarine environment that lies below mean low-water; always (or almost always) submerged in a tidally-influenced area.
Intertidal	Refers to the environment between high and low tides (mean high water and mean low water) that are alternately exposed to the air and to the sea.

The 'marine' component option, currently available in the existing WDPA data structure and maintained in the new WDPA, indicates that a protected area may contain a 'marine element' due to its designation (e.g. Marine Park) or through spatial analysis. However this assessment and whether it has subtidal or intertidal components has not been verified.

### 1.2.5 MPA Zoning options

MPA Global had the ability to store information on managed areas or zones within MPAs that restrict or allow certain uses (Table 9). This has been extended in the new WDPA to also enable the spatial

<sup>3</sup> IUCN 1988. Resolution 17.38 of the 17th General Assembly of the IUCN. IUCN; Gland; Switzerland and Cambridge; UK.

<sup>4</sup> Extracted from MPA Global – Instructions for submitting edits into MPA Global v1.5. MPA Global project (online global database of marine protected areas) [www.mpaglobal.org](http://www.mpaglobal.org)

delineation (boundary) of these zones to be stored alongside the equivalent attribute information and the vertical depths where certain management zones are enforced.

**Table 9. MPA Zoning options<sup>2</sup>**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Short definition</b>	<b>Long definition</b>
Core	No human activity or extractive use except limited research & monitoring; perhaps traditional use	Not normally subject to human activity, except research and monitoring and, as the case may be, to traditional extractive uses by local communities
Buffer	Less strict than Core; education, tourism, recreation, some extractive use	Clearly delineated and surrounds or is contiguous to the core area. Activities here do not hinder the conservation objectives of the core area but rather help to protect it, hence the idea of "buffering". It can be an area for experimental research and it may accommodate education, training, tourism and recreation facilities.
Transitional	Less strict than Buffer; various uses (incl. extractive use) allowed but regulated	Area of co-operation extending outwards from the buffer zone, which may allow a variety of uses.
Sanctuary	No extractive use; some non-extractive use may be allowed but regulated	Extractive activities including fishing are not permitted. Passive recreational activities consistent with maintaining environmental values, such as diving, may be permitted. Commercial tourism operations, may be considered if they do not conflict with other uses and meet conservation objectives
Scientific Research	No extractive use except perhaps traditional use; public access and non-extractive activities allowed	Public access allowed, including non-extractive activities e.g. swimming. Extractive activities generally not allowed; traditional use may be allowed.
General Use	Extractive activities including commercial fishing, aquaculture, pearling, etc allowed but regulated	Reasonable amounts of extractive activities such as sustainable commercial fishing, aquaculture, pearling and petroleum exploration and production are allowed provided they do not compromise the conservation values.
Recreation	Recreation including recreational fishing allowed but managed. Commercial activities generally not allowed	Provide for conservation and recreation, including recreational fishing, subject to conservation measures. Commercial fishing and aquaculture are generally not permitted in recreation zones.
No take	No extractive use	No extraction of natural resources permitted
No entry	No human entry - therefore also no extractive use	No entry by humans permitted; therefore no extraction of natural resources and even stricter than no-take.
Special purpose	Managed for a particular priority use or purpose e.g. species or habitat protection	Managed for a particular priority use or purpose. This could be protection of an important marine habitat, a wildlife breeding area or activities such as whale watching. Uses compatible with the priority use or purpose are allowed in these zones.
Preservation	No human access or extractive use allowed	No access allowed, including tourism. No extractive activities allowed, including traditional use. Research (extractive and non-extractive) permitted only if cannot be conducted elsewhere.
Habitat Protection	Extractive activities are allowed but are regulated. Potentially damaging activities generally not allowed.	Extractive activities are allowed but are regulated. Potentially damaging activities e.g. bottom trawling are generally not allowed.
General Use & Conservation	More strict regulation and restriction of extractive use than General Use	Extractive activities are generally slightly more restricted than General Use, e.g. bottom trawling is not allowed where in General Use it might be.

## 1.2.6 Governance

Governance describes the decision-making structure of a site and is closely linked to the ownership. The new governance structure (Table 10 and Table 11) in the new WDPA data structure is more extensive and comprehensive than the existing WDPA system. Therefore there will be a period of transition and translation between the two structures.

**Table 10. Governance Type options<sup>5</sup>**

<b>Governance Type</b>	<b>Sub Class</b>
Government Managed Protected Areas	Federal or national ministry or agency in charge
	Local/municipal ministry or agency in charge
	Government-delegated management (e.g. to an NGO)
Co-managed Protected Areas	Trans-boundary management
	Collaborative management (various forms of pluralist influence)
	Joint management (pluralist management board)
Private Protected Areas	Declared and run by individual land-owner
	Declared and run by non-profit organisations (e.g. NGOs, universities, etc.)
	Declared and run by for profit organisations (e.g. individual or corporate land-owners)
Community Conserved Areas	Declared and run by Indigenous Peoples
	Declared and run by Local communities

**Table 11. Governance Type Definitions**

<b>Governance Type<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Long Definition</b>
Government Managed Protected Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authority, responsibility and accountability for managing the protected area rest with a government ministry or agency that has formally subjected it to a conservation objective (such as the ones that distinguish the IUCN categories).</li> <li>• The government level in charge may be the national (provincial in case of a federal country) or the local/ municipal.</li> <li>• The government may also have delegated the management to a body (a para-statal organisation, NGO or even a private operator or community) but it retains full land ownership and control/ oversight.</li> <li>• The government may or may not have a legal obligation to inform or consult other identified stakeholders prior to making or enforcing management decisions.</li> </ul>
Private Protected Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authority and responsibility for managing the protected area rest with one or more private landowners. In some cases the owner is a non-profit organization (e.g. an NGO, foundation, research institute or university) but in others it is a for-profit corporation.</li> <li>• The owners of the land and natural resources subject them to a specific conservation objective (such as the ones that distinguish the IUCN categories), and are fully responsible for decision-making, subject to applicable legislation and the terms of any agreements with the government.</li> <li>• Their accountability to the larger society is usually quite limited. Some forms of accountability may be negotiated with the government in exchange for specific incentives (as in the case of Land Use Trusts).</li> </ul>
Co-managed Protected Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authority, responsibility and accountability for managing the protected area are shared in various</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Extracted from 'Background Note no. 1 on Protected Areas Governance', Workshop Stream iii, Governance of Protected Area, V<sup>th</sup> World Parks Congress (WPC). Durban (South Africa), Sept. 11-13, 2003

Governance Type <sup>3</sup>	Long Definition
	<p>ways among a variety of actors, likely to include one or more government agencies, local communities, private landowners and other stakeholders. The actors recognize the legitimacy of their respective entitlements to manage the protected area, and agree on subjecting it to a specific conservation objective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaborative management, formal decision-making authority, responsibility and accountability still rest with one agency (often a national governmental agency), but law or policy requires the agency to collaborate with other stakeholders.</li> <li>• ‘Collaboration’ means that a multi-stakeholder body develops and approves <i>by consensus</i> a number of technical proposals for protected area regulation and management, to be later submitted to the decision-making authority.</li> <li>• In joint management, various actors sit on a management body with decision-making authority. Joint management is stronger where decision-making is carried out by consensus. When this is not the case, the balance of power reflected in the composition of the joint management body may <i>de facto</i> transform it into a different governance type (e.g. when government actors or private landowners hold an absolute majority of votes).</li> <li>• A special case of multi-stakeholder management is the one of trans-boundary PAs, whereby two or more national governments manage co-operatively an area beyond the limits of national sovereignty or jurisdiction of any one of them. This setting has been suggested also for high seas marine PAs beyond the jurisdiction of any one country.</li> </ul>
Community Conserved Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authority and responsibility for managing the concerned territory and resources rest with the indigenous peoples and/or local communities with customary and/or legal claims over the land and natural resources through a variety of specific forms of ethnic governance or locally agreed organisations and rules.</li> <li>• Land and resources are usually collectively managed, a fact that may or may not have been legally sanctioned in the specific national context.</li> <li>• The community customarily (and/or legally) owning the land and natural resources formally subjects them to a conservation objective (such as the ones that distinguish the IUCN categories) and/or to other objectives that demonstrate long-term success in achieving the conservation objectives.</li> <li>• Management is through a locally agreed form of governance, which often has roots in traditional, customary or ethnic practices.</li> <li>• The community’s accountability to society may be defined as part of broader negotiations with the national government and other partners, possibly as a counterpart to being assured, for example, the recognition of collective land rights, the respect for customary practices, the provision of economic incentives, etc. Such negotiations may even result in a joint management arrangement among indigenous and local communities, government actors and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>

### 1.2.7 Ownership options

Ownership is closely linked to governance and although it is present in the existing WDPAs structure, it has been clearly re-defined into distinct types (Table 12) for the new WDPAs system. As with governance there will be a period of translation between the existing and new ownership structures.

**Table 12. Ownership**

Ownership Type	Definition
Private	Land not under public control.
Public	Land belongs to all citizens, held by the government (whether federal, state, county or city) includes community and indigenous
Joint Ownership	Joint Ownership by two or more agencies (e.g. public and private)

Unknown	Current owner of site is not known.
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### 1.2.8 Site type

Site type is designed to accommodate groupings of established protected areas, sites that span international boundaries or are located in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

**Table 13. Site Type options**

Site Types	Definition
National	Site designated on a national level
International	Site established under international agreement or convention
Transboundary Protected Area <sup>6</sup>	IUCN definition: An area of land and/or sea that straddles one or more boundaries between states, sub-national units such as provinces and regions, autonomous areas and/or areas beyond limits of national sovereignty or jurisdiction, whose constituent parts are especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and manage cooperatively through legal or other effective means.
Transboundary Conservation (and Development) Areas <sup>4</sup>	Where conservation and sustainable development goals have been asserted within a framework of cooperative management for a transboundary protected area.
Parks for Peace <sup>4</sup>	IUCN definition: Transboundary protected areas that are formally dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and to the promotion of peace and cooperation.
Transboundary Migratory Corridors <sup>4</sup>	Transboundary protected area in which habitat needs of species require the persistence of areas in several countries e.g. all elements of a migratory route.

<sup>6</sup> Extracted from 'Transboundary Conservation: A new vision for Protected Areas' Mittermeier, R. A et al, 2005, CEMEX-Agrupaciòn Sierra Madre-Conservation International.