

Second Progress Report */Primer Informe de Avance*

Protected Areas Thematic Network / Red Temática de Áreas Protegidas



Period reported:

September – December 2006

Prepared by / *Preparado por:*

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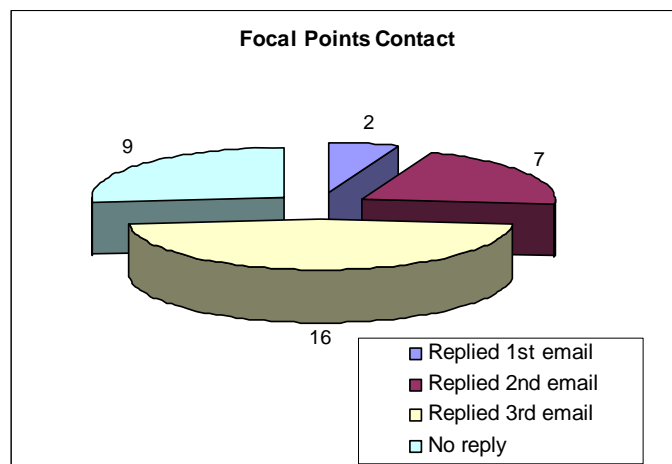
1. A executive summary section of progress to date and challenges and/or difficulties encountered to the date of the report in both Spanish and English;

In this period we had specified and announced the Terms of Reference for the consultancy that will produce the key documents to PATN further activities. In order to facilitate the procurement process, an addendum of the Transfer Agreement between GS/OAS and Fundação O Boticário, and a Project Agreement between GS/OAS and UNEP-WCMC were signed in this period. A committee was set up and the received proposals evaluated. We've end this period with the consultancy arranged to be hired by GS/OAS.

In July 2006 PACI sent a representative to the “Segundo Taller Internacional de la Red de Áreas de Conservación Amazónicas”, in order to promote the Protected Areas Thematic Network and participate of the discussion about Protected Areas data gathering.

In August 2006 PACI has visited the General Coordinator of TI of Ministry of Environmental, The Brazilian Institute of the Environmental and Natural Resources and the Coordinators of The Amazon Cooperation Treaty, in order to promote the Protected Areas Thematic Network and discuss technical and networking strategies. Those visits has produce effective links to forthcoming events and strategies.

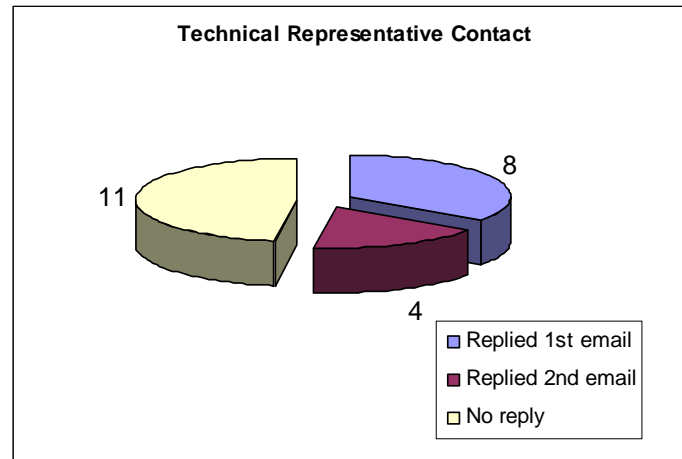
In October 2006 Cristiano Cegana joint the PATN Team at Fundação O Boticário and, among other duties, become responsible to establish a communication channel with the IABIN Focal Points. The Focal points were contacted and PA Technical Representatives were indicated by then to participate at the PA Network. Until the end of the year, we have achieved to contact by email 25 of the 34 Focal Points and 12 Technical Representatives.



At the end of 2006 the PATN Web Portal was launched, aiming become a hub on Protected Areas information for the Americas. Several features were included to promote the participation of those interested in Protected Areas such as a discussion forum, a download area with files and documents related with PA and an expert database.

In December 2006 the PACI sent two representatives to the Taller Iberoamericano para el avance en el intercambio de información sobre biodiversidad and the IABIN TN Meeting, in Bogotá, Colombia. In this meeting we had the opportunity to present a progress report to the members of the IABIN Secretariat and IABIN Executive Council, and discuss the PATN 2007 work plan as well.

Finalizing, in this period the PACI starts the discussion, planning and arrangements to host the 5th Brazilian Congress on Protected Areas. The Congress is considered one of the most relevant regular events on nature conservation in Latin America. It was created in 1997 by the Fundação O Boticário de Proteção à Natureza in partnership with other institutions, and it reaches its fifth edition in June 2007.



The Brazilian Congress on Protected Areas gathers the most important specialists in the world for five days of activities that provide an exchange of experiences, bring people closer together and serve as inspiration and motivation for those who work in the forefront of protected areas. On account of the large number of participating foreigners observed at previous editions, in 2007 the Congress will hold the International Symposium on Nature Conservation, as well as the second edition of the Exhibition on Nature Conservation, a parallel exhibition, which is open to the public. At the same time, taking the opportunity of the realization of such event, the PACI starts to plan the 2nd PATN Workshop to the following two days after the 5th Brazilian Congress on Protected Areas.

2. Expected outputs and outcomes

To the reported period, the following outputs and outcomes were expected and achieved:

- Development of the PATN Web Portal
- Identification of potential protected area data providers in all countries
- Develop criteria for selection of PATN Experts to be included in PATN Expert Database
- Develop and populate Protected Areas Expert Database and make it available through the PATN Portal

3. Methodology employed and activities carried out

The consultancy selection process was carried out by a committee formed by three representatives of the Consortium Board ¹. One representative was from Fundação O Boticário de Proteção à Natureza and the other two were from an institution not related with the consultancy in judgment.

The criteria that were used for selection were the following:

- a) Methodology: The suitability of the proposed work plan must be realistic and achieve the objective of the consultancy. 40%
- b) Cost: The proposed work plan should have a reasonable and feasible cost given the availability of data, analysis, and method to accomplish the products under paragraph 5. 30%
- c) Qualifications: PhD in any field of science, with at least five (5) years experience working with protected areas and experience working with national and international governmental and non-governmental agencies, preferably with experience in Latin America. 30%

Points: 0 – lowest; 5 – maximum

One Evaluation Matrix (spreadsheet) was distributed to the committee and received with their points to each proposal.

Based on this methodology, we had selected the following consultants:

Product	Consultant
Identification and prioritization of technical and biodiversity information needs and gap on Protected Areas in Latin America and Caribbean to Support the Protected Areas Thematic Network	Dr Daan Vreugdenhil
Identify available Protected Area Management Effectiveness data, Methods and Results in Latin America and Caribbean to Support the Protected Areas Thematic Network	Dr Fiona Leverington

¹ Fundação O Boticário de Proteção à Natureza, World Wildlife Fund, Ecociencia, The Nature Conservancy, IUCN, World Institute for Conservation and Environment and World Conservation Monitoring Centre

4. Results (in relation to components and expected outputs);

Tangible results to this period was the Web Portal online and the contact with the Focal Points and Technical Representatives, which culminate with the first version of the “expert database”, available to registered user of the PATN Web Portal. We consider an important step the establishment of this communication channel with the Focal points and its Technical Representatives, in order to improve the acceptability and participation at the Network.

5. Lessons learned, problems and possible solutions;

On 4th December 2006 the PACI sent a letter to GS/OAS bringing to the attention of this entity and the IABIN Secretariat a set of three issues that was identified and considered as problems by the Consortium Board. The letter bring suggestion as well and we considerer that this letter has covered the main aspects of this topic for this period.

However, we would like to add the efforts to establish contact with the Focal Points and Technical Representatives. As showed above, after a set of messages only 25 of 34 IABIN Focal Points has replied our solicitation of indication of a Technical Representative. Based on these indications, 23 Technical Representatives where contacted but only 12 have replied. That means that only 35% of the IABIN Countries have Technical Person participating of the Network.

We understand that a communication strategy must be defined, in synergy with the IABIN Secretariat and the other Thematic Networks, in order to improve the commitment of the IABIN Countries with the implementation of the Thematic Networks, and in the last instance, the IABIN goals.



Protected Areas
Thematic Network



6. Parallel Financing Summary Report



7. Financial Monitoring Report (attached in Excel sheet)