

WDPA 2006, World Commission on Protected Areas and regional initiatives



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IUCN WCPA and
WDPA Consortium

IUCN
The World Conservation Union



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2005

The WDPA Consortium

2005 World Database on **Protected Areas**



History

- August 2001: evaluation of WDPA efforts, User needs assessment, proposal.
- June 2002: WDPA Consortium
- 9/2003: launch WDPA 2003 at World Parks Congress on CD-ROM
- 2/2004: COP7 – launch of WDPA 2004
- 11/2004: WCC – launch of WDPA 2005
- 3/2006: COP8 – launch of WDPA 2006



Strengths

- ~25,000 CD-ROMs distributed
- Distribution through multiple websites (GIS on-line, data download)
- WDPA increasingly improved in coverage / quality. Still long way to go.



Weaknesses

- WDPA increasingly improved in coverage / quality. Still long way to go.
- Re-structuring the WDPA
- Open architecture
- Weak Funding



Steering Group Workshop:

- Held at UNEP-WCMC Cambridge from 22-25 August, 2001;
- Participants were Mohamed Bakarr (CI), Colin Bibby (Birdlife), Pedro Rosabal Gonzales (PPA), Jerry Harrison (WCMC), Eddie Hegerl (Project Manager), Tom Moritz (WCPA/IMTF), Silvio Olivieri (CI), Robin White (WRI), & Crispen Wilson (BCIS).



The Steering Group Workshop:

- Examined extensive background material from WCMC on the history of the database, goals and constraints;
- Undertook a technical evaluation of the current status of the database;
- Considered UNEP-WCMC proposals for future development;



The Workshop (continued):

- Considered how future database development would fit into the WCPA Strategic Plan;
- Examined the findings of the PARC user needs survey;
- Considered the opportunities for funding, promotion and involvement presented by the World Parks Congress;



Workshop Process & Outcomes:

- Undertook an SWOT analysis of the Prototype World Database on Protected Areas;
- Developed a new strategy for future development of protected area information by UNEP-WCMC in collaboration with WCPA;
- Tested this strategy against the results of the SWOT analysis;



Project Conclusions:


- 1) The money invested by IUCN to date in developing and updating the World Database on Protected Areas has been an appropriate use of IUCN funds.
- 2) The current levels of funding for the World Database on Protected Areas are inadequate to provide a database that can meet the increasingly sophisticated needs of the global protected area community.



It All Depends on the Core!

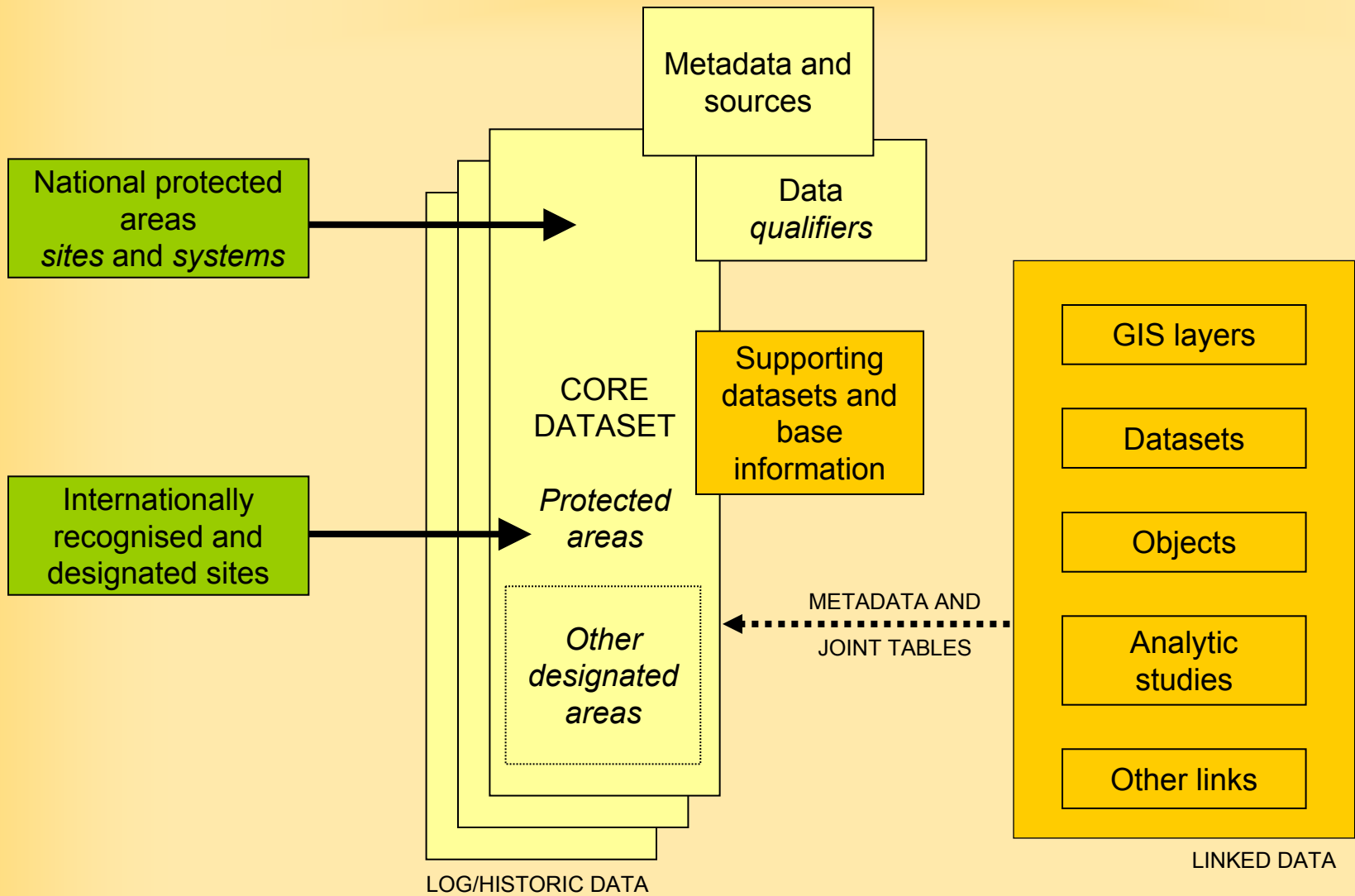
- From both the survey results and the workshop assessment, the message is clear.

The highest priority is to achieve a World Database on Protected Areas with core datasets that are *up-to-date, accurate and comprehensive* for all the world's protected areas!



Key Features of the Proposal

- Quality assurance on core data;
- Freely available to all users;
- *Open architecture to encourage collaboration;*
- Opens the way for new partnerships;
- Major catalyst for development;
- Status as the global gateway to PA information should encourage funding.





Project Recommendations:

- 1) The proposed Vision, Goals, Objectives, Working Principles, and the information system architecture described and illustrated in the project report be accepted by UNEP-WCMC and WCPA.
- 2) The existing Project Steering Group be maintained and expanded, and that a meeting be held to progress planning for implementation as early in 2002 as funding can be found.



Project Recommendations (cont.)

- 3) The possibilities for the development of related modules be explored with potential partners prior to any future meeting of the Project Steering Group.
- 4) WCPA utilize the World Parks Congress in 2003 as an opportunity to promote and develop the new protected area information system.



Recommendations for WCPA Involvement:

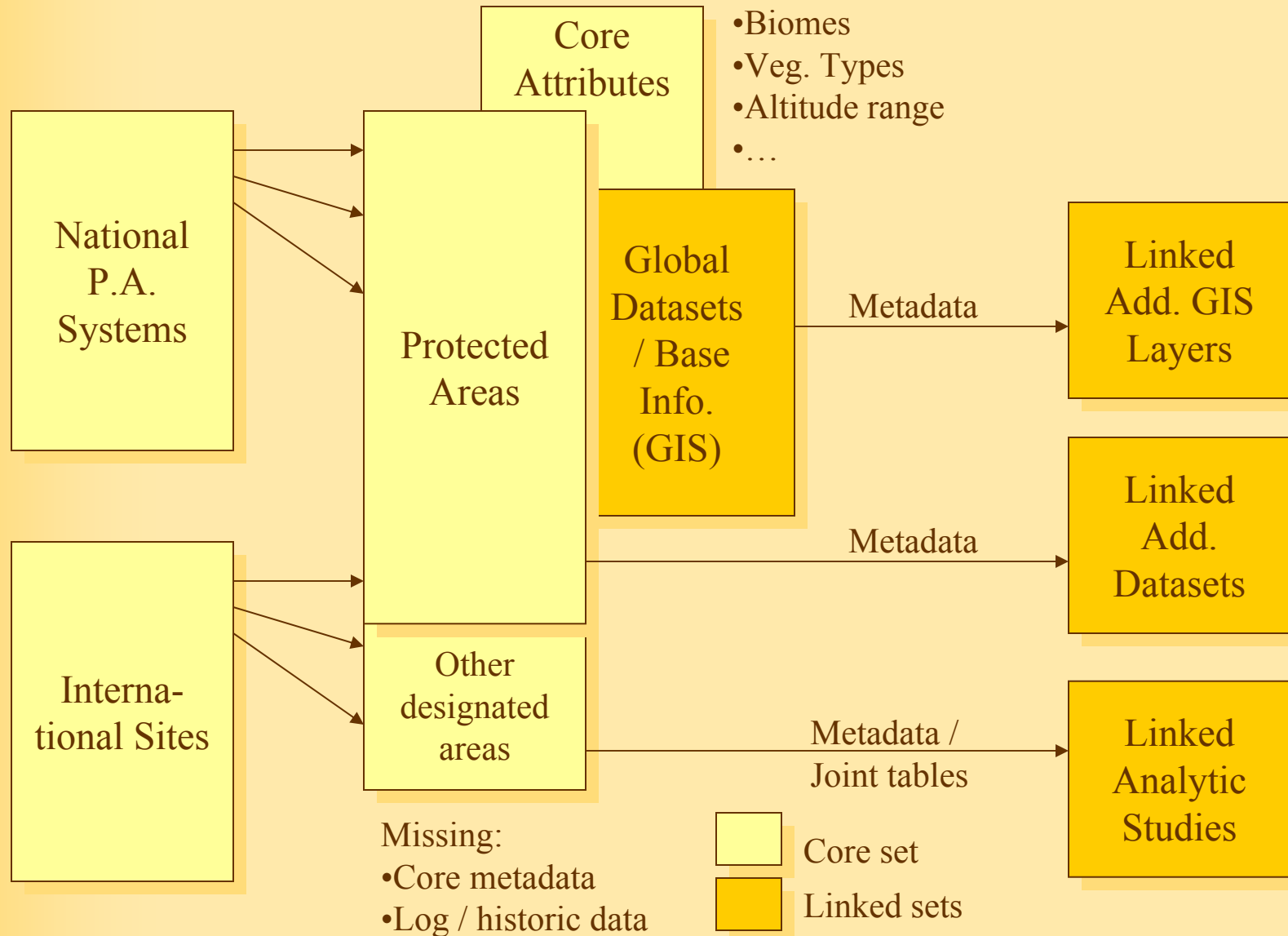
- 5) Practical proposals for increasing the involvement of WCPA members need to be discussed by WCPA Steering Committee and included in any future project proposal for increased funding for the World Database on Protected Areas.



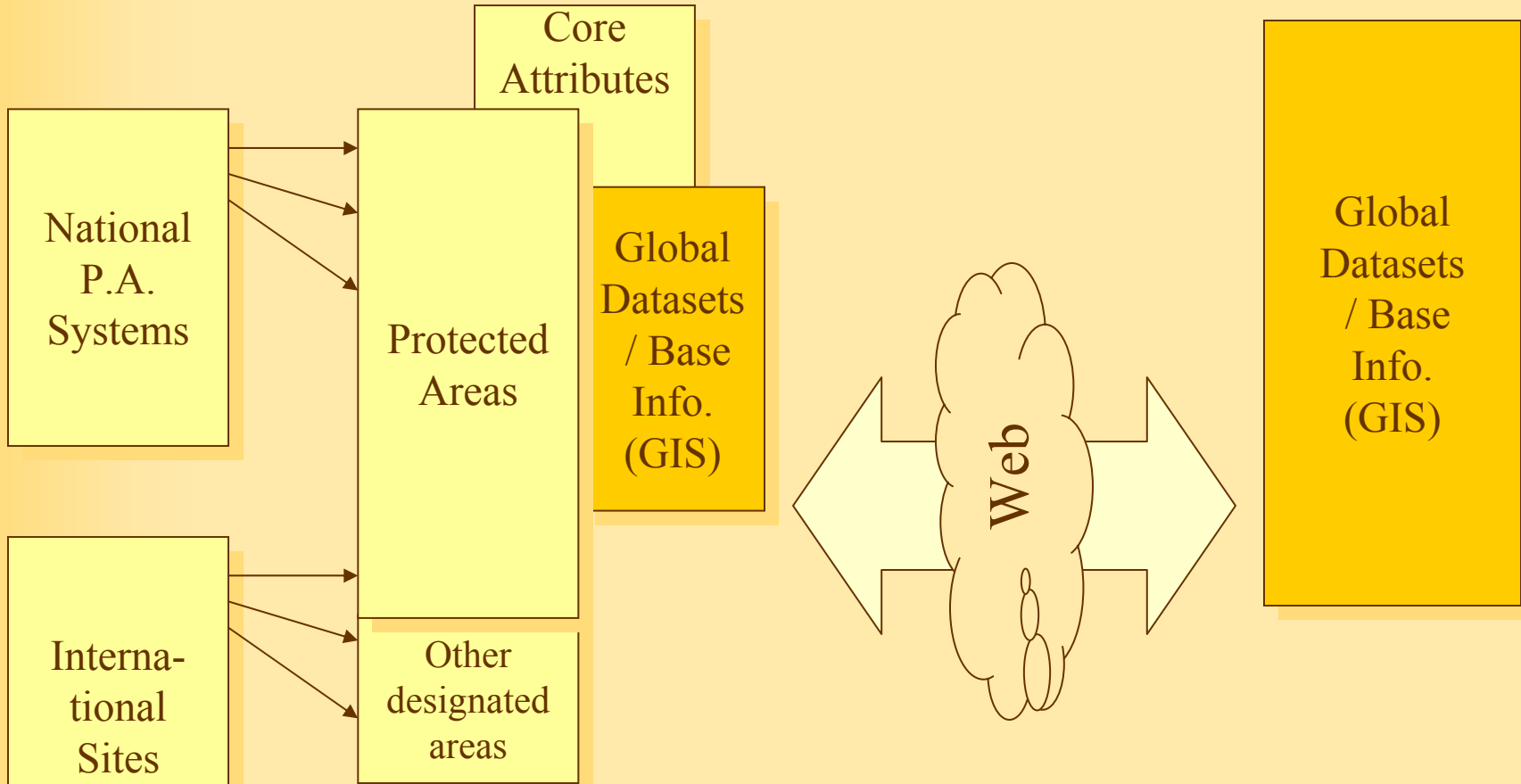
Recommendations for WCPA Involvement:

- 6) An interactive capability should be added to the WCPA website well prior to the World Parks Congress as a mechanism to encourage WCPA members input to the Congress. It could be used to stimulate contributions of protected area information to the updated World Database on Protected Areas, which could be “unveiled” at the Congress.

Protected Area Database Architecture

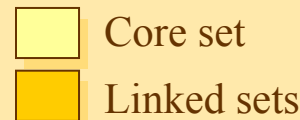


Protected Area Database Architecture

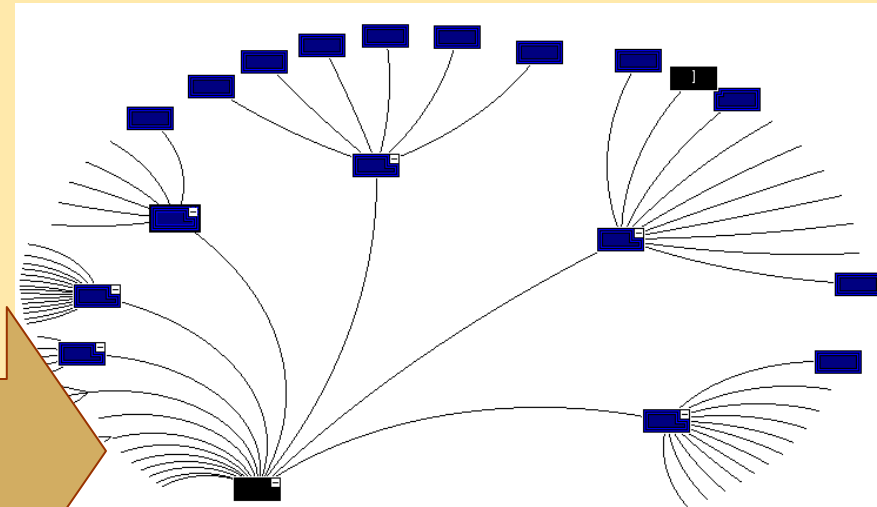
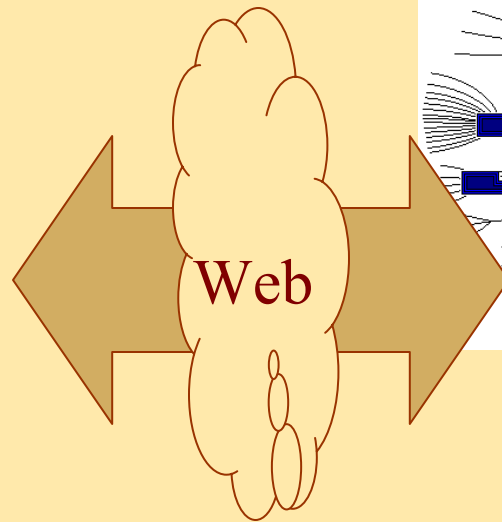
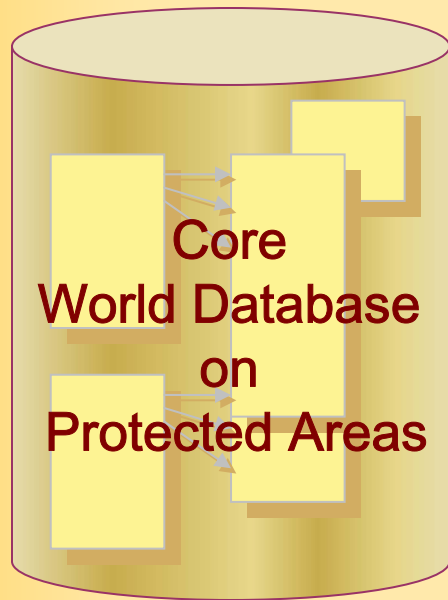


Missing:

- Core metadata
- Log / historic data



Part of the Biodiversity Information Commons



WDPA becomes essential authority dictionary in the commons structure



Where are we?

- New leadership at UNEP-WCMC, new opportunities...
- WDPA 2006 at COP8
- New phase for WDPA
 - Decentralization
 - Reviewing the data model
 - Integration / interoperation across systems
 - ...