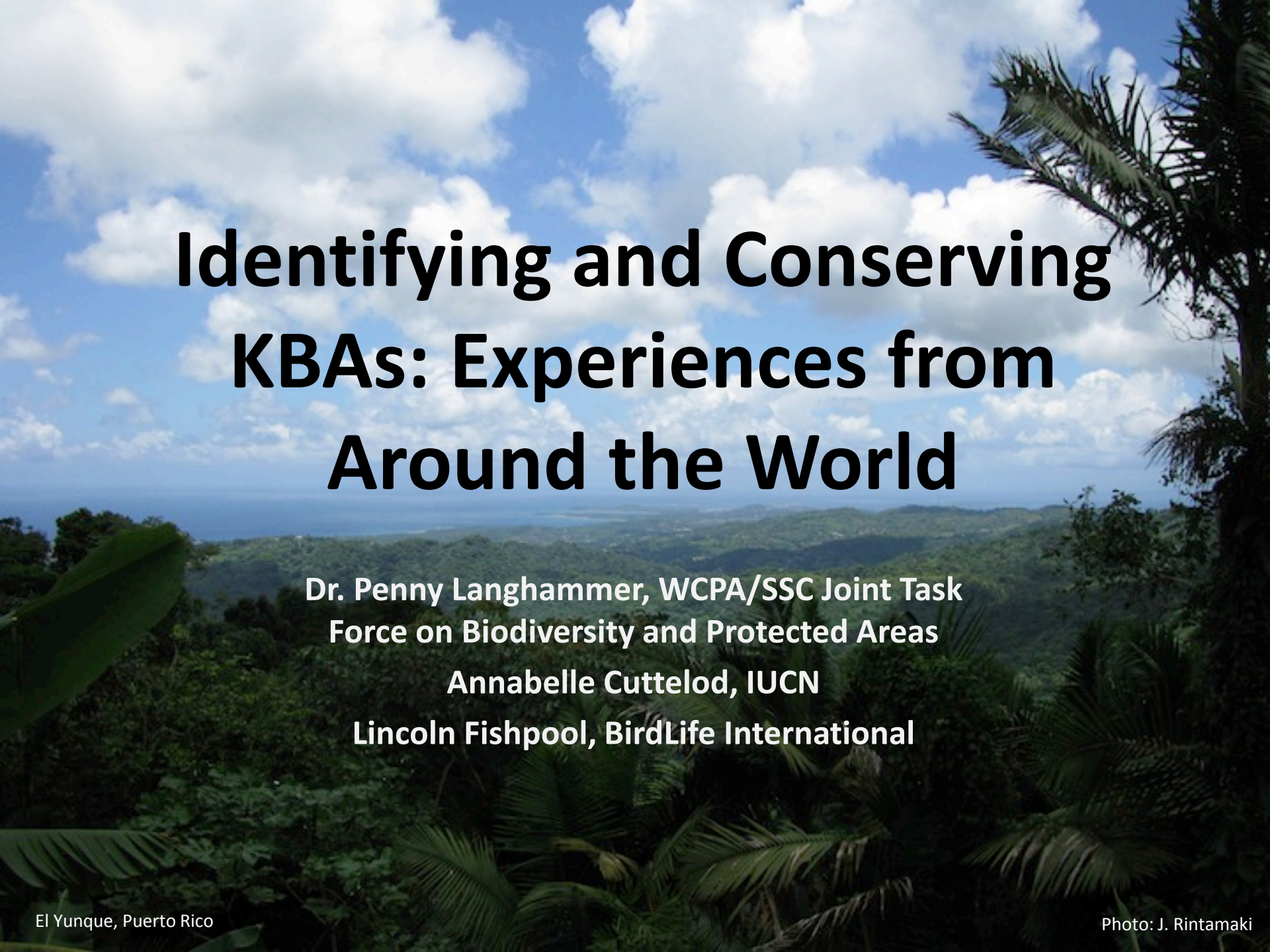

Identifying and Conserving KBAs: Experiences from Around the World

Dr. Penny Langhammer, WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas

Annabelle Cuttelod, IUCN

Lincoln Fishpool, BirdLife International

El Yunque, Puerto Rico

Photo: J. Rintamaki


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What are Key Biodiversity Areas?


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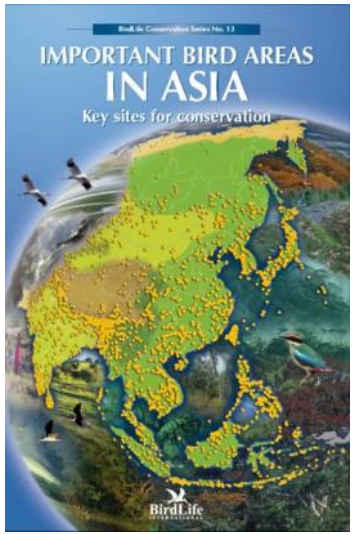
- Sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity
- Identified by national constituencies using globally standardised criteria and thresholds
- Applicable across taxonomic groups in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments
- Have delineated boundaries but are not necessarily formal protected areas or need to be
- Valuable tools to guide decision-making

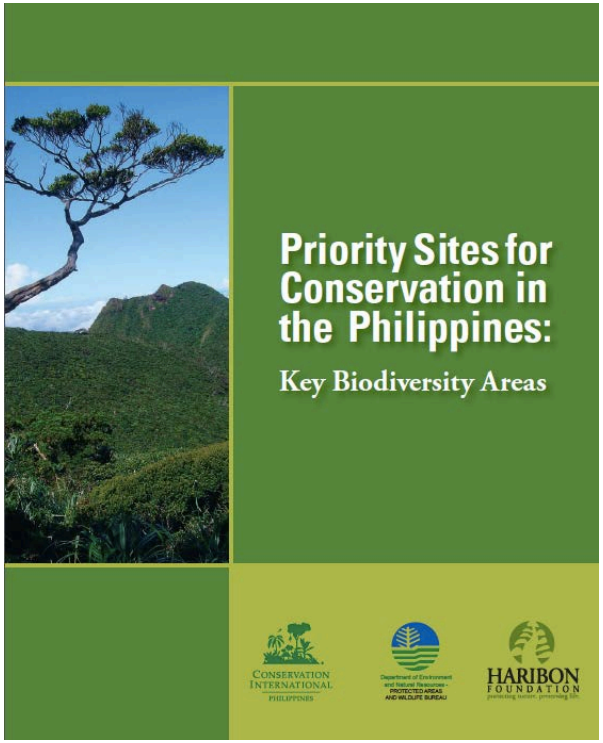
Key Biodiversity Areas and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas

- Effort to identify important sites pioneered by BirdLife International partnership with IBAs
- More than 12,000 IBAs identified, delineated and documented worldwide in terrestrial, inland water and marine habitats to date
- Have informed designation of:
  - Protected areas by national governments
  - Special Protection Areas under the European Union Birds Directive
  - Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention
  - Emerald Network sites under the Berne Convention
  - Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas through the CBD



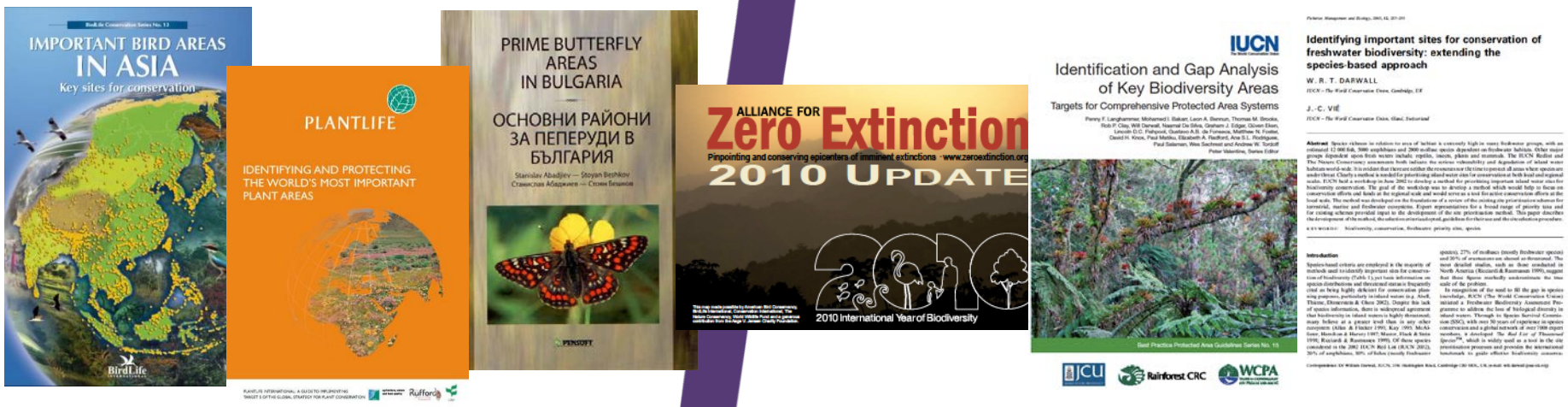
Key Biodiversity Areas and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas

- Support implementation of site safeguard policies of the International Finance Corporation, World Bank and Regional Development Banks
- KBA concept integrates, builds upon and extends the successful IBA approach to biodiversity more generally
- IBAs have been the starting point for identifying KBAs for multiple taxonomic groups



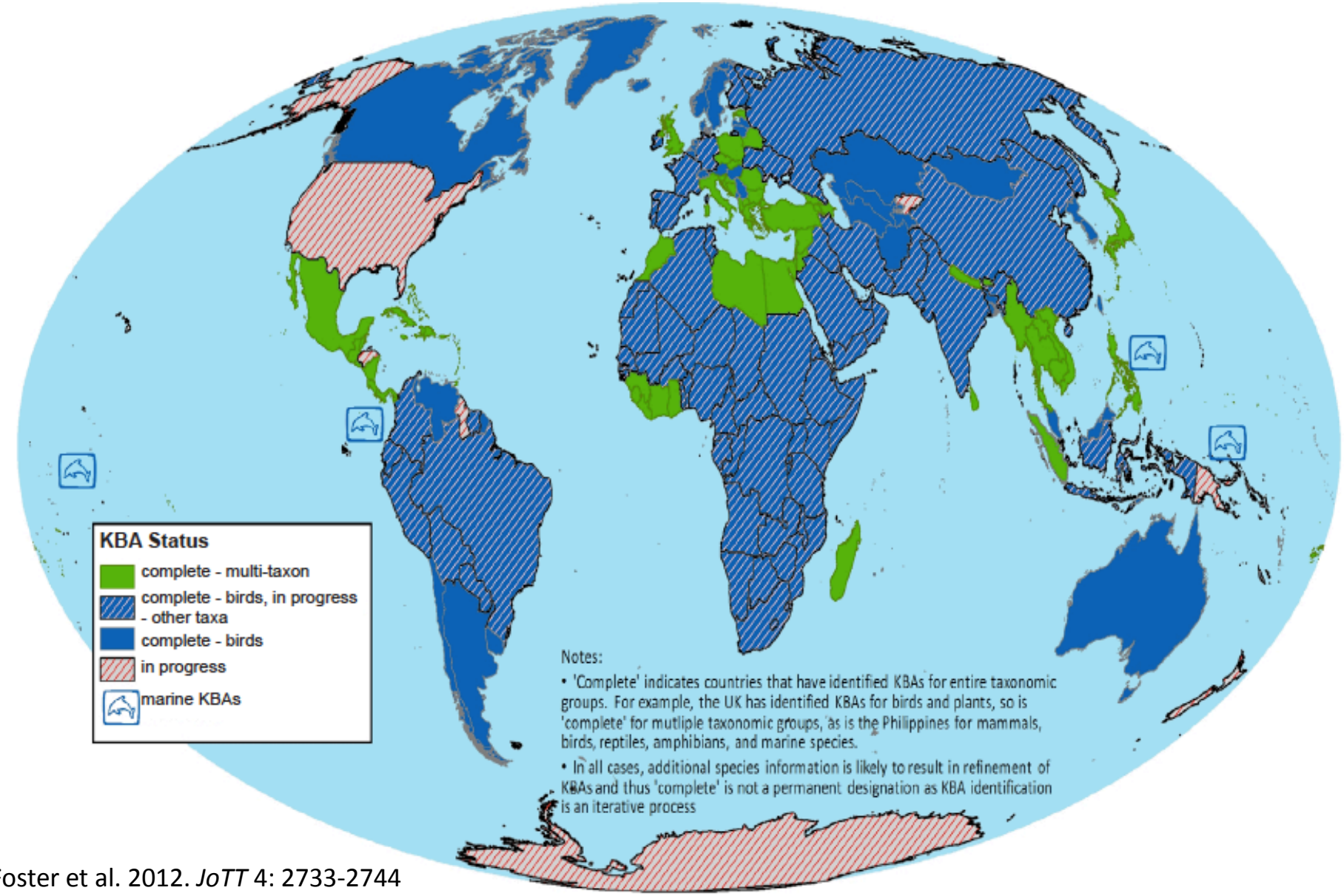
Overarching framework

Key Biodiversity Areas



+ other elements of biodiversity (e.g. ecosystems, biol. processes)

Global progress with KBA identification



Foster et al. 2012. *JoTT* 4: 2733-2744

ibat | FOR RESEARCH & CONSERVATION PLANNING

Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool

https://www.ibat-alliance.org/ibat-conservation

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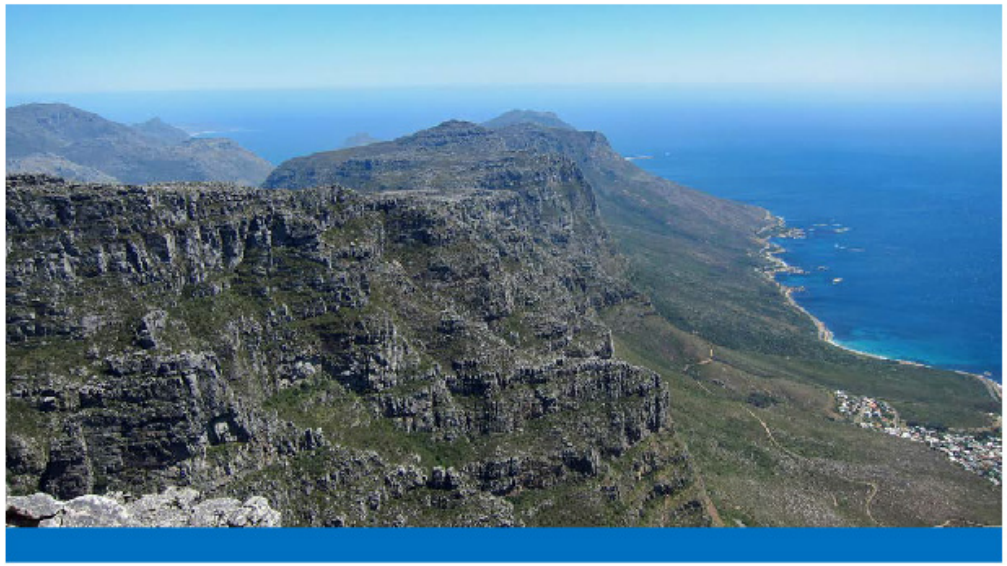
BirdLife INTERNATIONAL | CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL | IUCN | UNEP | WCMC

Development of an IUCN KBA Standard

Online consultation through 30 Nov 2014

www.kbaconsultation.org

annabelle.cuttelod@iucn.org



WCPA WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS

SSC

Applications of KBA data

deliver more, and more effective, site conservation

set/refine national site conservation agendas

contribute to implementation and monitoring of biodiversity targets

identify priorities, fulfil international commitments

raise awareness, advocate for conservation action

negotiate rights on natural resources, access funding

comply with environmental safeguard policies

guide conservation and development investments

In this session

- **Key Biodiversity Area identification in the Philippines**
  Sheila Vergara, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
- **Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation in the Western Ghats: The Key Biodiversity Area Approach**
  Rajeev Raghavan, IUCN SSC/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group
- **Priority Sites for Conservation in Australia**
  Samantha Vine, BirdLife Australia
- **Alliance for Zero Extinction Sites in Brazil**
  Glaucia Drummond, Biodiversitas
- **Enhancing ecological connectivity of important biodiversity areas through the Emerald Network at pan-European level**
  Iva Obretenova, Council of Europe
- **IBAs in the marine environment**
  Lincoln Fishpool, BirdLife International
- **Questions and discussion**