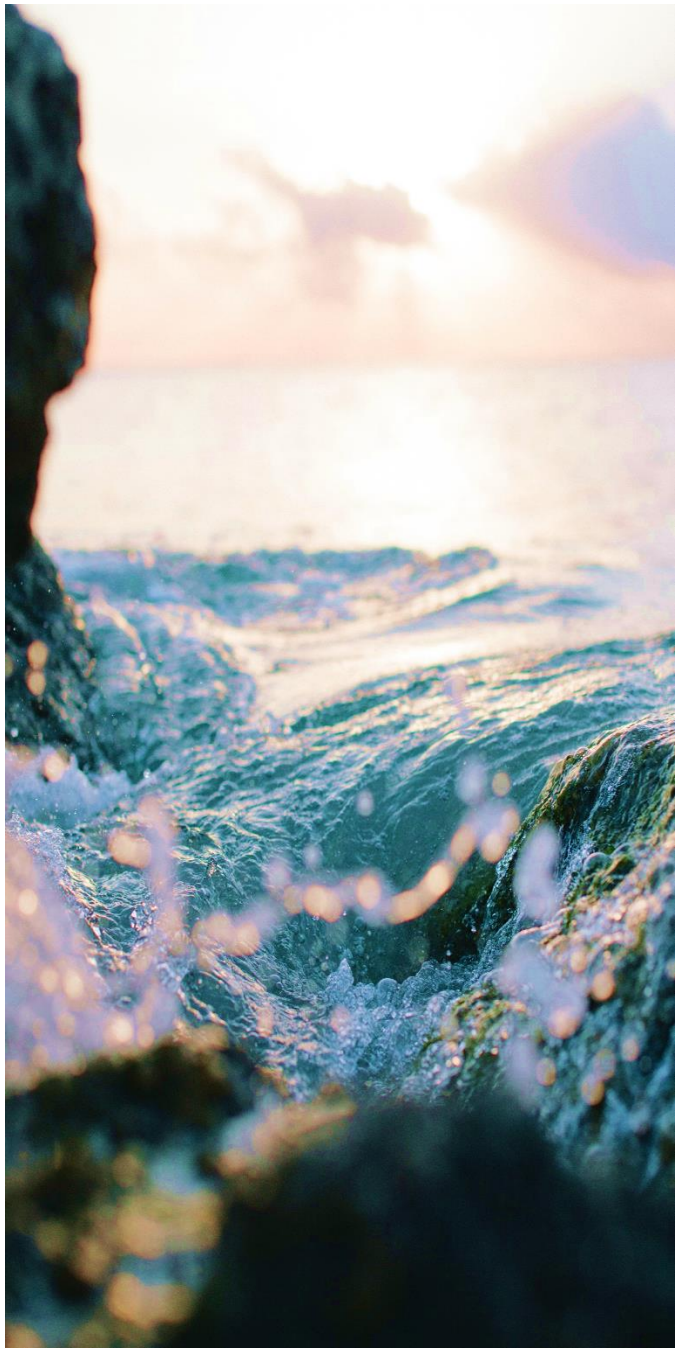
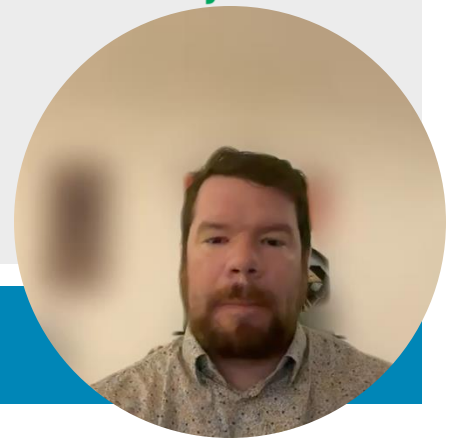


Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs):

Broadening our approach to area-based conservation

Joe Appiott
Secretariat of the
Convention on Biological Diversity

Convention on
Biological Diversity



Kunming - Montreal

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP10 - NP/MOP4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING – MONTREAL

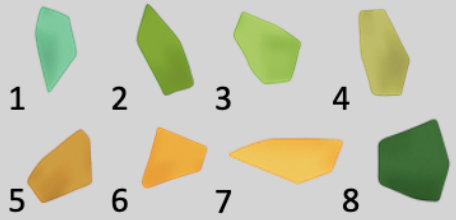
Vision: A world of living in harmony with nature by 2050

Goal A	Goal B	Goal C	Goal D
Protect and Restore	Prosper with Nature	Share Benefits Fairly	Invest and Collaborate

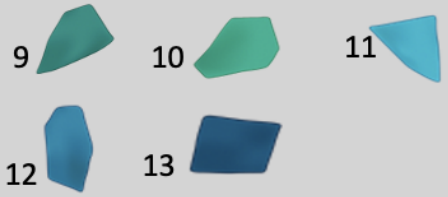
Mission: To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery

Targets

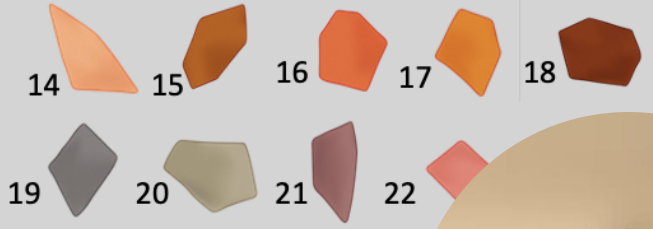
Reducing Threats



Meeting People's Needs



Tools and Solutions



Cross-cutting considerations

Implementation & support mechanisms	Monitoring, reporting and review	Communica

30x30 Target

“Ensure and enable that by 2030…

…at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, …

…especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, …

…are effectively conserved and managed…

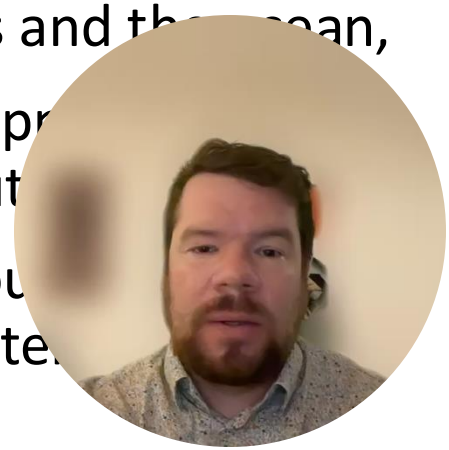
…through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and **other effective area-based conservation measures**, …

…recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable,

….and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and th[illegible]ean,

…while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appr[illegible] such areas, is fully consistent with conservation out[illegible]

…recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenou[illegible] local communities, including over their traditional te[illegible]

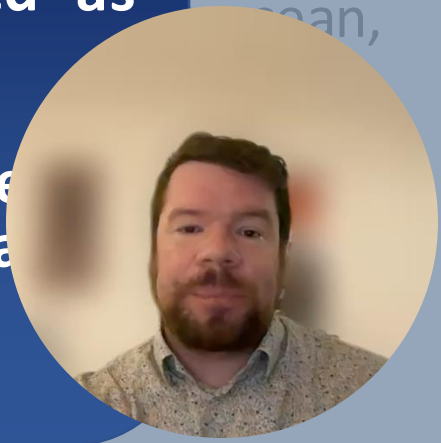


Protected areas are a powerful tool for area-based conservation, but not the only tool

Other area-based tools (e.g., such as spatial sectoral regulation, indigenous managed areas, privately-managed areas) can also have important biodiversity benefits, can overcome some weaknesses of protected areas, and can complement protected areas to achieve conservation goals

Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) provide an opportunity to recognize and account for biodiversity outcomes of area-based measures that are not recognized as protected areas

…and an incentive to shift practices that are not prese biologically sustainable to those that yield long-term conserva benefits



COP Decision 14/8 (2018)

Adopted definition of OECMs

"a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity,* with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio–economic, and other locally relevant values"

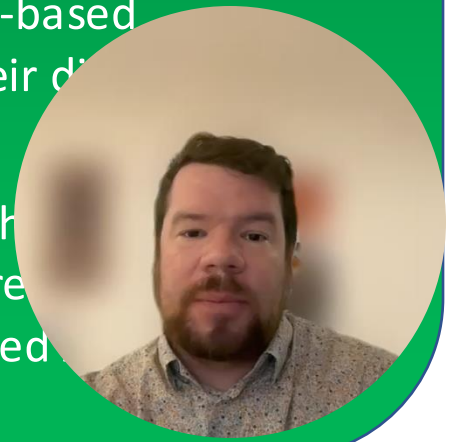
**As defined by Article 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and in line with the provisions of the Convention*

Welcomed the scientific and technical advice contained in annex III, to be applied in a flexible way and on a case-by-case basis

Encouraged Parties and **invited** other Governments, relevant organizations, in collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities, to apply the scientific and technical advice on other effective area-based conservation measures contained in annex III, …, including by:

(a) Identifying other effective area-based conservation measures and their di within their jurisdiction;

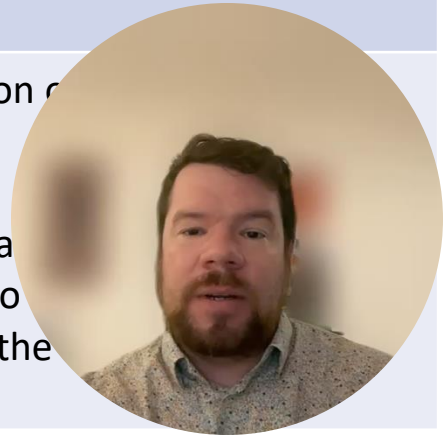
(b) Submitting data on OECMs to th Conservation Monitoring Centre the World Database on Protected



Requested the CBD Secretariat to provide capacity-building, including training workshops, to enable the application of the scientific and technical advice and guidance on OECMs

Criteria for the Identification of OECMs (decision 14/8)

Criterion A: Area is not currently recognized as a protected area	
Not a protected area	The area is not currently recognized or reported as a protected area or part of a protected area; it may have been established for another function.
Criterion B: Area is governed and managed	
Geographically defined space	• Size and area are described, including in three dimensions where necessary. • Boundaries are geographically delineated.
Legitimate governance authorities	• Governance has legitimate authority and is appropriate for achieving in situ conservation of biodiversity within the area; • Governance by indigenous peoples and local communities is self-identified in accordance with national legislation and applicable international obligations; • Governance reflects the equity considerations adopted in the Convention. • Governance may be by a single authority and/or organization or through collaboration among relevant authorities and provides the ability to address threats collectively.
Managed	• Managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained outcomes for the conservation o diversity. • Relevant authorities and stakeholders are identified and involved in management. • A management system is in place that contributes to sustaining the in situ conserva • Management is consistent with the ecosystem approach with the ability to adapt to biodiversity conservation outcomes, including long-term outcomes, and including the new threat.

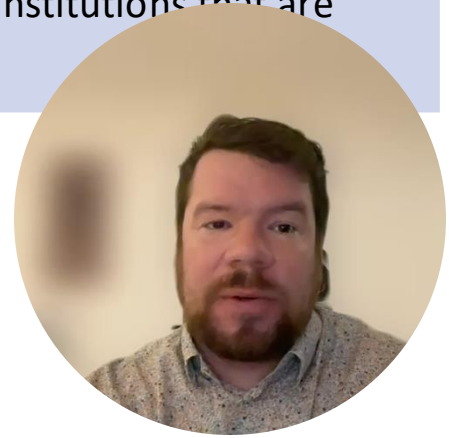


Criteria for the Identification of OECMs (decision 14/8) *(continued)*

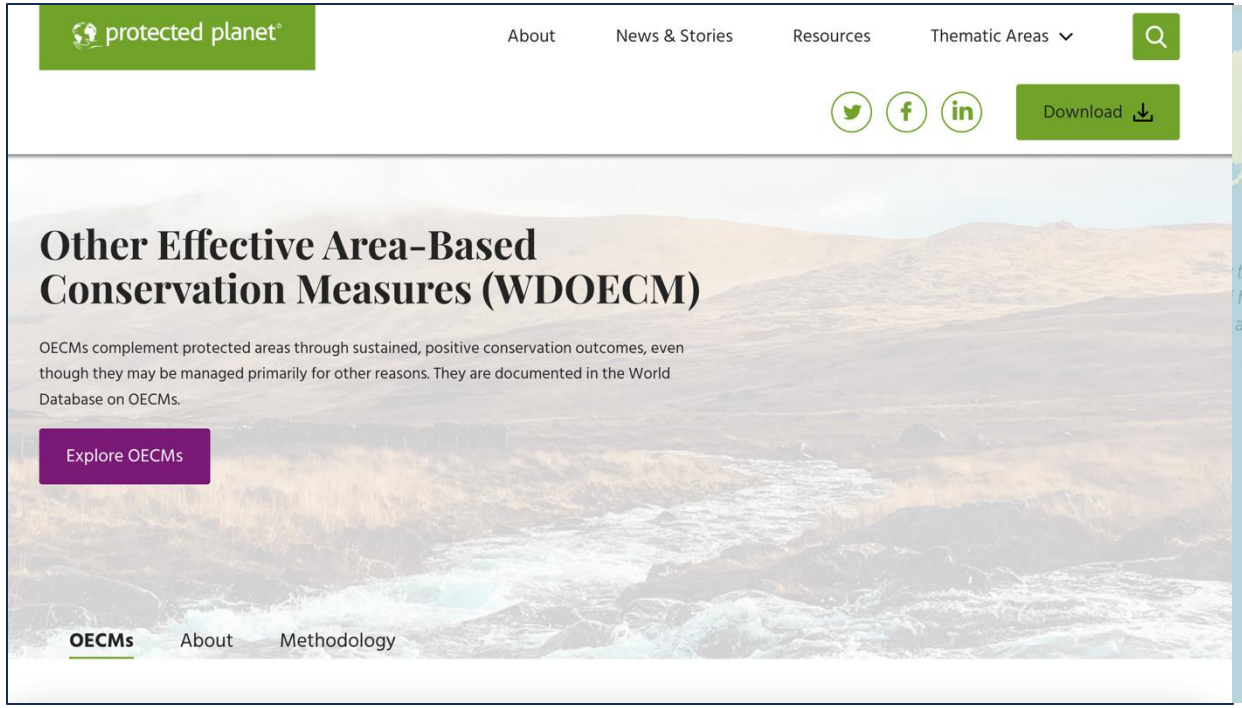
Criterion C: Achieves sustained and effective contribution to in situ conservation of biodiversity	
Effective	• The area achieves, or is expected to achieve, positive and sustained outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity. • Threats, existing or reasonably anticipated ones are addressed effectively by preventing, significantly reducing or eliminating them, and by restoring degraded ecosystems. • Mechanisms, such as policy frameworks and regulations, are in place to recognize and respond to new threats. • To the extent relevant and possible, management inside and outside the other effective area-based conservation measure is integrated.
Sustained over long term	• The other effective area-based conservation measures are in place for the long term or are likely to be. • "Sustained" pertains to the continuity of governance and management and "long term" pertains to the biodiversity outcome.
In situ conservation of biological diversity	• Recognition of other effective area-based conservation measures is expected to include the identification of the range of biodiversity attributes for which the site is considered important (e.g. communities of rare, threatened or endangered species, representative natural ecosystems, range restricted species, key biodiversity areas, areas providing critical ecosystem functions and services, areas for ecological connectivity).
Information and monitoring	• Identification of other effective area-based conservation measures should, to the extent possib… …e known biodiversity attributes, as well as, where relevant, cultural and/or spiritual values, of t… governance and management in place as a baseline for assessing effectiveness. • A monitoring system informs management on the effectiveness of measures with respect t… including the health of ecosystems. • Processes should be in place to evaluate the effectiveness of governance and management, respect to equity. • General data of the area such as boundaries, aim and governance are available information

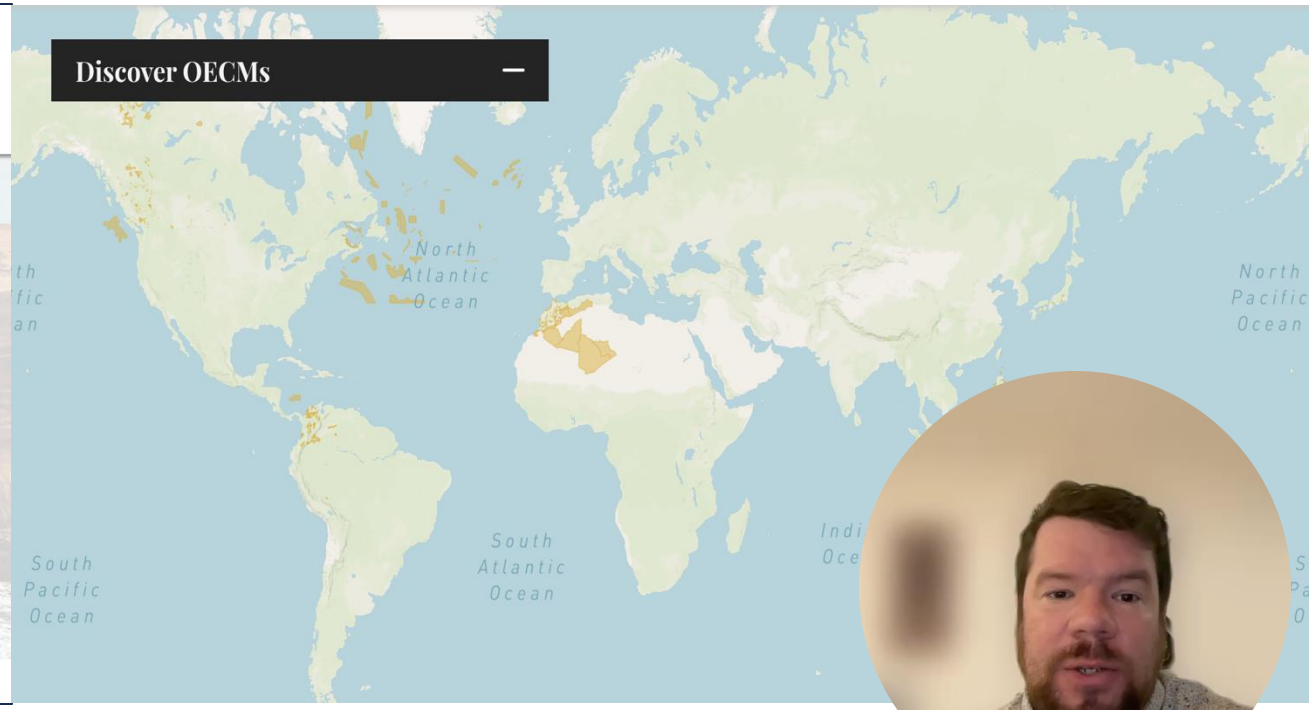
Criteria for the Identification of OECMs (decision 14/8) *(continued)*

Criterion D: Associated ecosystem functions and services and cultural, spiritual, socio-economic and other locally relevant values	
Ecosystem functions and services	• Ecosystem functions and services are supported, including those of importance to indigenous peoples and local communities, for other effective area-based conservation measures concerning their territories, taking into account interactions and trade-offs among ecosystem functions and services, with a view to ensuring positive biodiversity outcomes and equity. • Management to enhance one particular ecosystem function or service does not impact negatively on the sites overall biological diversity
Cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic and other locally relevant values	• Governance and management measures identify, respect and uphold the cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic, and other locally relevant values of the area, where such values exist. • Governance and management measures respect and uphold the knowledge, practices and institutions that are fundamental for the in situ conservation of biodiversity.



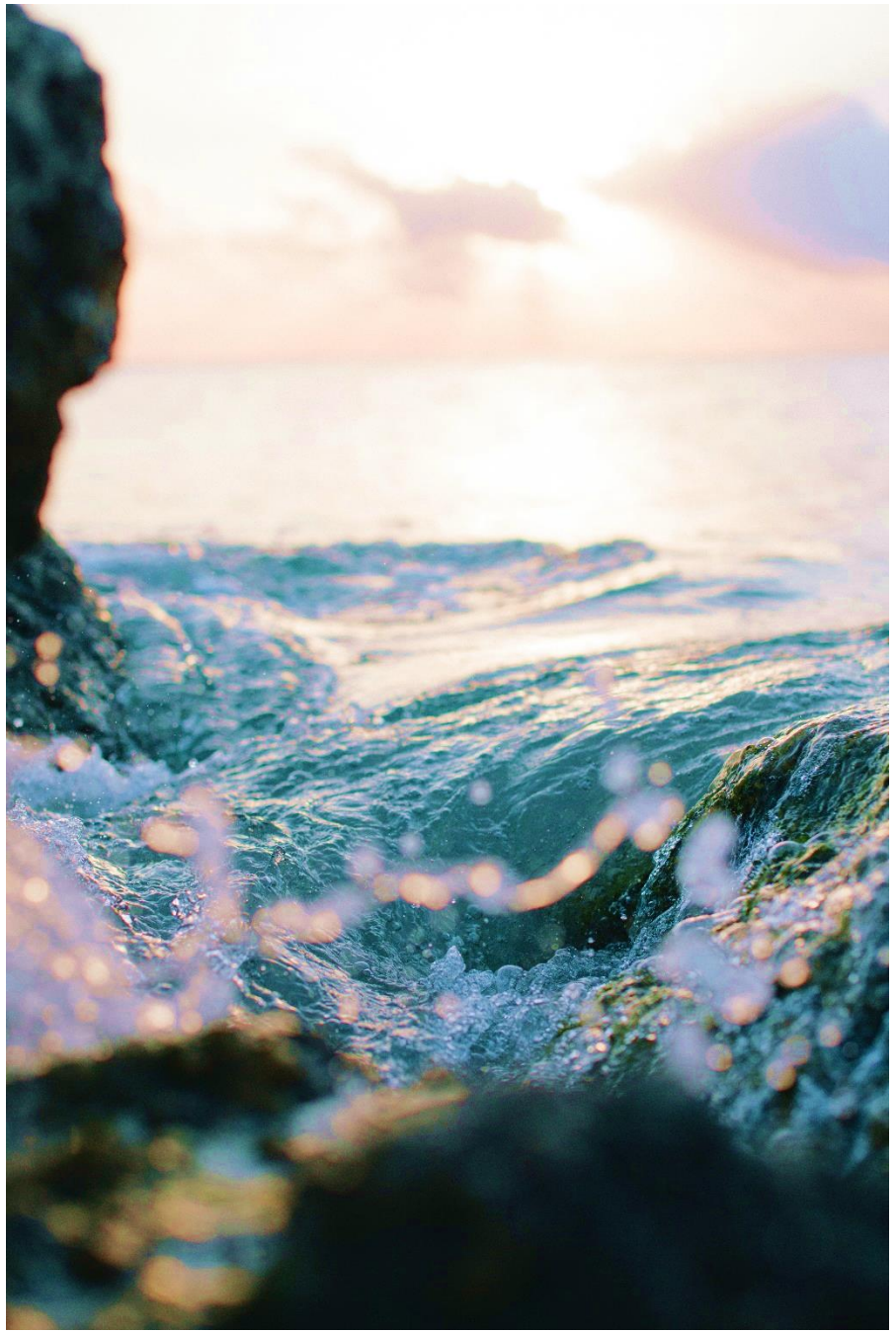
World Database on OECMs





Key considerations for Marine OECMs

- Intention is that an area can be conserved by using approaches other than MPAs, including single-sector approaches
  - Does NOT mean that one sector doing its job alone is enough to be considered an OECM
- Difference between management of a space and area-based approaches
  - All management authorities have areas of competence
  - Focus here is on key areas of interest for biodiversity
- Three-dimensional nature of ocean complicates things
  - COP decision does not specify whether all or how much of seabed and water column needs to be addressed
- Importance of monitoring outcomes
- Guidance is emerging, but does not need to delay
  - COP decision 14/8 is the final word

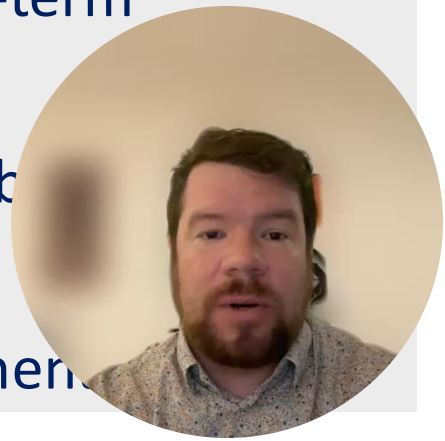


Risks

- Greenwashing—counting areas that don't really deliver conserve area and deliver outcomes
- Disenfranchising local community actors

Opportunities

- Better understand and recognize diverse types of area-based management tools that are tangibly contributing to biodiversity outcomes
- Shift sectoral practices that might not be sustainable to those that yield long-term conservation benefits
- Build biodiversity stewardship by a b
of stakeholders
- Catalyze further support for implemen



25 YEARS Convention on Biological Diversity
SAFEGUARDING LIFE ON EARTH

Thank you

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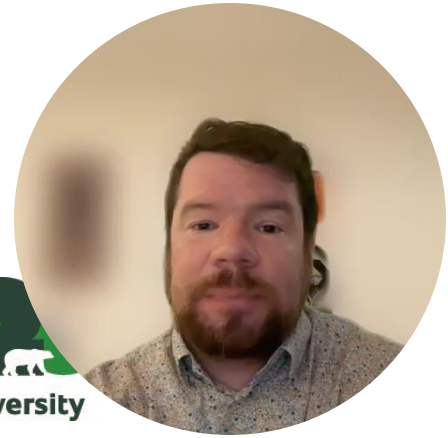
United Nations Decade on Biodiversity