

KBA TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The KBA Technical Working Group reports to the KBA Committee and is responsible for ensuring consistency and developing improvements in KBA assessments, including in the application of *A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas*, the delineation and monitoring of KBAs, the documentation (tabular, spatial and textual) submitted and the use of the World Database of KBAs to facilitate this. In particular, the KBA Technical Working Group seeks to ensure that the KBA identification, documentation and monitoring efforts of the KBA Partners are implemented in a consistent manner. To do this, the KBA Technical Working Group will:

- Monitor the implementation of projects to identify, refine, update and monitor KBAs, in particular those of the KBA Partners
- Define required and recommended documentation for KBA assessments and associated guidance and definitions, building on proposals in the Consultation Document on the KBA Standard, and amending these over time if needed
- Identify major areas of inconsistency in the data (tabular, spatial and textual) submitted in KBA assessments, particularly those involving KBA Partners, evaluate the nature and extent of the problems, and propose solutions
- Identify issues that need to be covered and clarified in the Guidelines for Using *A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas* and provide substantive input into the development of these Guidelines, including through providing real examples wherever possible, recognizing that the final authority on the Guidelines rests with KBA Standards and Appeals Committee
- Provide comments and, wherever possible, examples to the KBA Standards and Appeals Committee on the practical consequences of proposed revisions to Guidelines for Using *A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas*
- Identify agreed fields for summarising monitoring data captured using different methods by different KBA Partners and others, and develop indicators and indices to allow comparisons across KBAs of changes over time of their state, pressures and responses and in their coverage by protected areas
- Monitor the development of the World Database of KBAs and its use, make proposals for changes and improvements as needed, and review requests from database users for changes and modifications to the database
- Define different classes of users of the World Database of KBAs, and the permissions they have to edit and modify different aspects of assessments
- Provide feedback and guidance on the presentation of KBA data (and associated documentation) on the KBA website
- Work with the relevant bodies for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems to review, expand and revise the Classification Schemes as and when needed
- Undertake other work as requested by the KBA Committee or the KBA Standards and Appeals Committee, within available resources
- Report to the KBA Committee on progress against the above terms of reference

The Chair/Co-Chairs of the KBA Technical Working Group is/are appointed by the KBA Committee. If needed, there will be one observer seat on the KBA Committee for the KBA Technical Working Group which will be used if the Chair/Co-Chairs of the Working Group is/are not already full members of the KBA Committee. The membership of the KBA Technical Working Group is appointed by the Chair/Co-Chairs of the Working Group (guided by advice from the KBA Committee) and shall comprise up to 16 individuals representing the KBA Partners, SSC and WCPA, and, if needed, other experts. The KBA Technical Working Group will meet as often as required, within available resources (*ad hoc*, specialized meetings may be held from time to time to address particular issues). All formal decisions and recommendations of the KBA Technical Working Group will be referred to the KBA Committee for formal adoption, with the exception of work on the *Guidelines for Using A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas*, on which KBA Technical Working Group will work directly with the Standards and Appeals Committee. The Chair/Co-Chairs of the KBA Technical Working Group will provide an annual report to the KBA Committee on progress against the above terms of reference.