

United Nations Development Programme  
Global Environment Facility  
Small Grants Programme

Global ICCA Support Initiative (ICCA GSI)

**Strategic support to territories and areas conserved by local communities  
(ICCAs) in Georgia**

Call for Proposals

**Background**

The Global ICCA Support Initiative (ICCA GSI) provides support to territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities in different regions of the world, with a special focus on twenty six (26) countries participating in the UNDP-implemented GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP). In alignment with the Country Programme Strategy (CPS) developed in *Georgia* for the 6<sup>th</sup> SGP Operational Phase (OP6) running from 2015-2018, applications from qualified organisations are invited to carry out a **proactive ICCA initiative** designed to accompany/spearhead strategic work in the country. Competent organisations are encouraged to submit an application on the basis of the Call for Proposals below.

The proactive ICCA initiative is expected to last **up to 36 months** and to have a maximum budget of **US\$50,000**. Depending on the context, it may be possible for the initiative to embrace the entire country, or to prioritise only one or a few regions. The proposals will be reviewed and approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC) in consultation with a national level Technical Advisory Group (TAG). It is expected that the successful applicant will carry out the work in collaboration with the GEF-SGP Country Team, members of the ICCA Consortium ([www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org)) and other partners of ICCA GSI

**Objectives**

Organizations wishing to apply for the implementation of the proactive ICCA initiative will be expected to review the following responsibilities in view of the socio-cultural and political reality of the country. The organisation will then compile a **plan of action** to contribute to the recognition and support to ICCAs in *Georgia* to:

1. **Accompany the work or promote the development (as appropriate) of an ICCA network** (e.g. a working group, a coalition, a federation or another type of network— or ‘ICCA Network’ for short) that brings together local communities and population who govern and manage their ICCAs with supporting organizations and individuals with relevant experience, capacity and substantial commitment. The network should have a clear idea of its own values, vision and goals, agreed in the form it considers appropriate (e.g. rules of conduct, declaration, strategic plan). The functions of the network will include *inter alia*: (i) promoting the recognition and strengthening of ICCAs at national level; (ii) supporting potential or emerging ICCAs; (iii) carrying out a critical analysis of the legal framework and public policies that affect ICCAs; (iv) promoting the quality of applications that may be submitted to the International ICCA Registry and World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) managed by UNEP-WCMC.
2. **Hold consultations at various levels and organise sub-regional and/or national meetings** to discuss and then **compile a synthesis paper on the national ICCA situation** that will include historical, cultural, socio-economic, geographical and ecological information (e.g. origin, typology, distribution and coverage of ICCAs, proportion of ICCAs governed by local population, extent of overlap with official protected areas, association to specific local conditions) and

identify the main factors and policies affecting ICCAs and the key issues for their recognition and appropriate support in the country.

3. In full respect of the communities involved and of the level of privacy they desire, **start to develop a database on existing and potential ICCAs in the country**, as much as possible by using formats that are the same, or compatible with, those of the ICCA Registry and WDPA.
4. On the basis of explicit and appropriate selection criteria for the country (e.g. representativeness, conservation values, level of threat), **identify a minimum of 4 to 10 "emblematic" ICCAs in the country** (they may possess all the characteristics of an ICCA, or have a high potential to evolve to possess them).
5. Establish a communication link with the communities that govern and manage the identified ICCAs and, after assuring their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and the desired level of confidentiality, **establish mutual contact points** (preferably specific individuals).
6. Accompany and support a minimum of **4 to 10 emblematic ICCAs** (existing or potential) in a **self-strengthening process** (methodology available) which will strive to:
  - ✓ improve the **self-consciousness** of the community or local population of the values of their conserved area or territory, including but not limited to, values for the conservation of nature;
  - ✓ increase the **documentation** of such values, for example by developing and gathering maps, inventories of natural resources, historical documents and artefacts, including of socio-cultural heritage not yet systematically searched and explored;
  - ✓ identify **possible threats** to their ICCAs and their values, and a range of actual and potential **community responses** to such threats;
  - ✓ develop tools (e.g. picture-stories, video-stories, social media) so that the community can **communicate internally and externally** about its conserved area or territory and relevant opportunities, threats and needs;
  - ✓ develop initiatives to meet those needs, such as proposals for **ICCA community projects** in line with the SGP OP6 Country Programme Strategy (CPS) for 2016-2018 and ICCA GSI priorities at the global level, in particular for local capacity development initiatives;
  - ✓ develop **self-documentation and self-monitoring** processes for such projects (e.g. activities and indicators to monitor community learning; conservation of nature and socio-cultural heritage; enhancement of sustainable livelihoods; and quality and vitality of ICCA governance);
  - ✓ gather **feedback and advice** from field-based experience to improve the self-strengthening process itself;
  - ✓ if desired and appropriate, submit **quality documentation** to list the relevant ICCAs in the International Registry and WDPA managed by UNEP-WCMC.
7. Facilitate the **review and peer-to-peer validation** by the ICCA Network of the ICCA documentation that may need to be submitted to the ICCA Registry (<http://www.iccaregistry.org/>) and WDPA of UNEP-WCMC (methodology available).
8. Facilitate a campaign of **ICCA dialogue, awareness and understanding in the national context**, including through dissemination of relevant information (e.g. via radio and television programs, social networks, meetings, conferences and publications) about opportunities to share experience and develop mutual learning and support among the communities that govern and manage their ICCAs.

## Criteria

Organizations wishing to apply for the implementation of the proactive ICCA initiative are invited to produce:

- a. A **work plan** and **justified budget** about when and how it will take action to fulfil an appropriate combination of the responsibilities outlined, indicating at least: (i) if an ICCA network exists or needs to be promoted (if it exists, which one is it?); (ii) what will it plan to do to establish and/or strengthen such a network; (iii) what consultations and meetings will be organized to prepare the synthesis ICCA paper for the country; (iv) how many emblematic ICCAs will it be able to identify and support in their self-strengthening process; (v) what kind of campaign to promote ICCA dialogue and understanding does it intend to organize (e.g. specific means, tools, events); and (vi) whether a review exists of the legal framework, and an analysis of recognition and support to ICCAs for the country, and/or merit of updating the existing documentation with a (new) focus of analysis.
- b. A list of **expected products** and **timing of delivery for a period of 24-36 months** starting in 2017 through to 2019 in line with the ICCA GSI funding and SGP OP6 Country Programme Strategy (CPS) in the country. The applicant organisation will be expected to work closely with the SGP National Coordinator (NC) in the country concerned; the respective ICCA Consortium members; as well as other global partners (i.e. IUCN Global Programme on Protected Areas, CBD Secretariat, and UNEP WCMC).
- c. Details on the **specific experience and capacities of the applicant organisation**, including individuals who will be working to fulfil the Call for Proposals (e.g. facilitation of community-based work; facilitation of networks and joint learning; monitoring and evaluation of conservation and/or governance initiatives; capacity to work with spatial data).

## Qualifications

- Strong commitment to ICCAs, indigenous peoples' issues and biodiversity conservation;<sup>1</sup>
- Familiarity with key issues related to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) negotiations, especially as they relate to indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs);
- Experience in organizing and hosting consultations with IPLCs and national level stakeholders including NGOs and governments;
- Ability to collate (or produce if necessary) high quality background materials on CBD Aichi targets, conservation results and ICCAs;
- Proven ability to facilitate effective and balanced consultations which includes diverse actors and perspectives to ensure that voices are heard and exchanges are constructive;
- Proven ability to document the proactive ICCA initiative and produce high quality written reports according to deadlines;
- Familiarity with UNDP, SGP programming, and IUCN global commissions an advantage.

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<sup>1</sup> For additional background information on ICCAs:

1. [\*CBD Technical Study 64— Recognising and supporting territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities\*](#)
2. [\*Bio-cultural diversity conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities – Examples and analysis\*](#)
3. [\*A toolkit to support conservation by indigenous peoples and local communities\*](#)
4. [\*ICCAs and Aichi Targets\*](#)
5. [\*Primer on Governance for Protected and Conserved Areas\*](#)
6. [\*Governance of Protected Areas: From understanding to action\*](#)
7. [\*Governance for the conservation of nature\*](#)
8. [\*Parks: special issues on Community Conserved Areas\*](#)
9. [\*ICCA Legal Reviews \(including synthesis, international report, and country reports\)\*](#)