Convention on Biological Diversity

UNDP

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossier: ALGERIA

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Japan Biodiversity Fund 生物多様性日本基金

UK Government

UN environment programme WCMC

Global Partnership on AICHI TARGET 11

UNBiodiversity Lab

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GLOSSARY

AZEs	Alliance for Zero Extinction sites
CA	Conservation Areas
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GD-PAME	Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
ICCAs	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
MEOW	Marine Ecosystems of the World
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
OECM	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
PA	Protected Area
PAME	Protected Area Management Effectiveness
PPA	Privately Protected Area
PPOW	Pelagic Provinces of the World
ProtConn	Protected Connected land indicator
SOC	Soil Organic Carbon
TEOW	Terrestrial Ecosystems of the World
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WD-OECM	World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures

Disclaimer

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This country dossier is compiled by the UNDP and SCBD from publicly available information. It is prepared, within the overall work of the Global Partnership on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, for the purpose of attracting the attention of the Party concerned and other national stakeholders to facilitate the verification, correcting, and updating of country data. The statistics might differ from those reported officially by the country due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Furthermore, the suggestions from the UNDP and SCBD are based on analyses of global datasets, which may not necessarily be representative of national policy or criteria used at the national level. The analyses are also subject to the limits inherent in global indicators (precision, reliability, underlying assumptions, etc.). Therefore, they provide useful information but cannot replace analyses at a national level nor constitute a future benchmark for national policy or decision-making.

The preparation of this dossier was generously supported by: the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GMbH*; the European Commission; the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and the Government of Japan (Japan Biodiversity Fund). The dossier does not necessarily reflect their views.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document provides information on the coverage of protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), as currently reported in global databases (the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM)). These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Where available, data from national statistics for the elements of Target 11 are included alongside records from these global databases. It also includes details on the status of the other qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 based on this data. This dossier also provides a summary of commitments made under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and a summary of opportunities regarding elements of the target for future planning.

The dossier has been developed in consultation with the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which manages the WDPA, WD-OECM and Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness (GD-PAME). Parties to the CBD are requested to contact protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org with any updates to the information in these databases.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Elements: Current status and opportunities for action

Coverage - Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** as of May 2021, terrestrial coverage in Algeria is 1,051,383 km^2 (44.58%) and marine coverage is 87 km^2 (0.1%); results from national reporting show that terrestrial PAs (excluding OECMs and Ramsar sites) cover 0.58%, increasing to 44.58% terrestrial coverage (with OECMs included); there is an error regarding Algeria's data in the WDPA that will be corrected shortly.

- **Opportunities for action:** opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA and WD-OECM with any unreported PAs or OECMs. In the future, focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered if planning new PAs or OECMs.

Areas Important for Biodiversity

- **Status:** Algeria has 68 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs).

- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Algeria to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.

Areas Important for Ecosystem Services

- **Status:** coverage of areas important for ecosystem services: In Algeria, 4.7% of aboveground biomass carbon, 4.7% of belowground biomass carbon, 5.2% of soil

organic carbon, 0.1% of carbon stored in marine sediments is covered by PAs and OECMs. Other important ecosystem services include ecotourism.

- **Opportunities for action:** for carbon, there is opportunity for Algeria to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.

- For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

- There is opportunity to assess the contribution of PAs and OECMs to other important ecosystem services relevant to the national context in Algeria, like ecotourism.

Connectivity and Integration

- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.

- As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).

Governance Diversity

- **Status:** 100% of PAs and 100% of OECMs in Algeria are under governance by Government (Federal or national ministry or agency).

- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Algeria to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

Protected Area Management Effectiveness

- **Status:** 70.3% of terrestrial PAs and 70% of marine PAs have completed Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessments reported (reference to “îles habibas” and “banc des kabyles”).

- **Opportunities for action:** the 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for **both** terrestrial PAs and marine PAs. Further increasing this percentage could be beneficial overall for understanding how well protected areas are being managed.

- There is a need to enhance the implication of local populations through the implementation of a coherent institutionalized collaborative approach for all PAs and OECMs, including cultural parks.
- There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g., through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'sound management') and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.

INTRODUCTION

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan from 18-29 October 2010. The vision of the Strategic Plan is one of "Living in harmony with nature" where *"By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people"* (CBD, 2010). In addition to this vision, the Strategic Plan is composed of 20 targets, under five strategic goals. Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 states that *"By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes."*

With the conclusion of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in 2020, Target 11 on area-based conservation has seen success in the expansion of the global network of protected areas (PA) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). The negotiation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and its future targets provide an essential opportunity to further improve the coverage of PAs and OECMs, to improve other aspects of area-based conservation, to accelerate progress on biodiversity conservation more broadly, while also addressing climate change, and the Sustainable Development Goals. This next set of global biodiversity targets are to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. These new targets must aim to build upon lessons learned from the last decade of progress to deliver transformative change for the benefit of nature and people, to realize the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have developed the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossiers, which provide countries with an overview of the status of Target 11 elements, opportunities for action, and a summary of commitments made by Parties over the last decade. Each dossier can support countries in assessing their progress on key elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and identifying opportunities to prioritize new protected areas and OECMs.

This dossier provides an overview of area-based conservationin Algeria. Section I of the dossier presents data on the current status of Algeria's PAs and OECMs. The data presented in Section I relates to each element of Target 11. Section I also presents the PA and OECM coverage for two critical ecosystem services: water security and carbon stocks. In addition, the dossier presents potential opportunities for action for Algeria, in relation to each Target 11 element. The analyses present options for improving Algeria's area-based conservation network to achieve enhanced protection and benefits for livelihoods and climate change. Section II presents details on Algeria's existing PA and OECM commitments as a summary of existing efforts towards achieving Target 11. This gives focus not only to

national policy and actions but also voluntary commitments to the UN. Furthermore, where data is available, this dossier provides information on potential OECMs.

The information on PAs and OECMs presented here is derived from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM). These databases are joint products of UNEP and IUCN, managed by UNEP-WCMC, and can be viewed and downloaded at www.protectedplanet.net. Parties are encouraged to provide data on their PAs and OECMs to UNEP-WCMC for incorporation into the databases (see e.g., Decisions 10/31 and 14/8). The significant efforts of Parties in updating their data in the build up to the publication of the Protected Planet Report 2020 (UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2021) were greatly appreciated. UNEP-WCMC welcomes further updates, following the data standards described here (www.wcmc.io/WDPA_Manual), and these should be directed to protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org. The statistics presented in this dossier are derived from the May 2021 WDPA and WD-OECM releases, unless explicitly stated otherwise. Readers should consult www.protectedplanet.net for the latest coverage statistics (updated monthly).

Some data from the WDPA and WD-OECM are not made publicly available at the request of the data-provider. This affects some statistics, maps, and figures presented in this dossier. Statistics provided by UNEP-WCMC (terrestrial and marine coverage) are based upon the full dataset, including restricted data. All other statistics, maps, and figures are based upon the subset of the data that is publicly available.

Where data is less readily available, such as for potential OECMs, ICCAs and PPAs, data has also been compiled from published reports and scientific literature (absence of references to Algerian literature and lack of confirmation of current data) to provide greater awareness of these less commonly recorded aspects. These data are provided to highlight the need for comprehensive reporting on these areas to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM. Parties are invited to work with local communities and private actors to submit data under the governance of these actors, with their consent, to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM.

Overall, PAs and OECMs are essential instruments for biodiversity conservation and to sustain essential ecosystem services that support human well-being and sustainable development, including food, medicine, and water security, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The data in this dossier, therefore, aims to celebrate the current contributions of PAs and OECMs, whilst the gaps presented hope to encourage greater progress, not just for the benefit of biodiversity and the post-2020 GBF, but also to recognize the essential role of PAs and OECMs to the Sustainable Development Goals and for addressing the climate crisis.

SECTION I: CURRENT STATUS

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 refers to both protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). This section provides the current status for all elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 where indicators with global data are available. Statistics for all elements are presented using data on both PAs and OECMs (where this data is available and reported in global databases like the WDPA and WD-OECM). It is recognized that statistics reported in the WPDA and WD-OECM might differ from those reported officially by countries due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Details on UNEP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage area available here. The global indicators adopted here for presenting the status of other elements of Target 11 may also differ from those in use nationally. Where available, results from national statistics are also included.

COVERAGE - TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

As of May 2021, Algeria has **70** protected areas reported in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA).[1] 8 UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves are not included in the following statistics (see details on UNWP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage **here**).

As of May 2021, Algeria has **5** OECMs reported in the world database on OECMs (WD-OECM).

Current total coverage for Algeria (per the WDPA and WD-OECM):

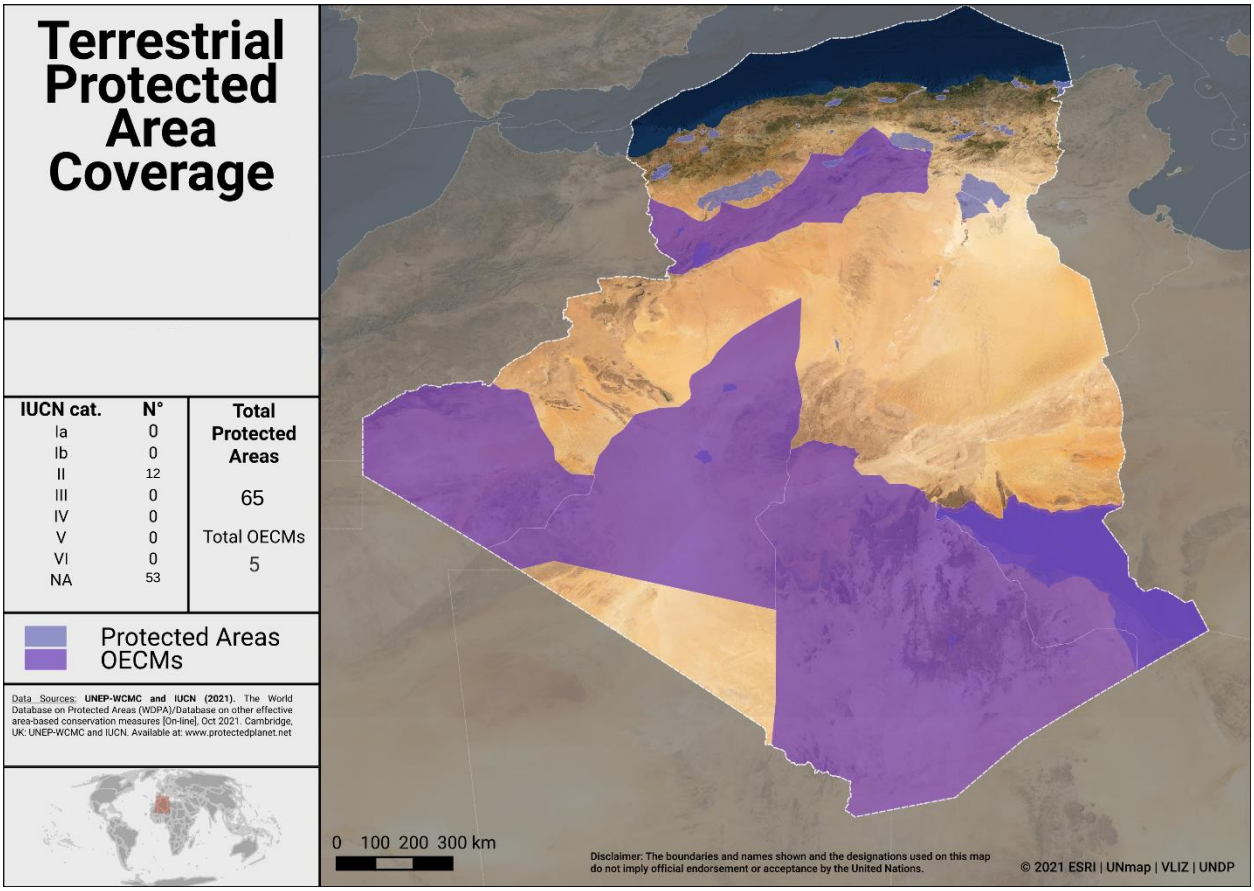
- 44.58% terrestrial (65 PAs, 107,865 km^2; 5 OECMs, 1,051,383.24 km^2)
- 0.1% marine (2 protected areas, 87 km^2; No OECMs)

Nationally, Algeria reports 12 National Parks (874,025 ha), 2 Nature Reserves (8,599 ha), 1 *Site naturel* (Ain-Turk dune cordon, bousfer; 648 ha), 5 Cultural Parks (OECMs; 104,255,700 ha) for a total of 1,051,383.24 km^2

Terrestrial PAs (excluding OECMs and *Ramsar sites*) cover 0.58% (with all categories, this increases to 44.58%).

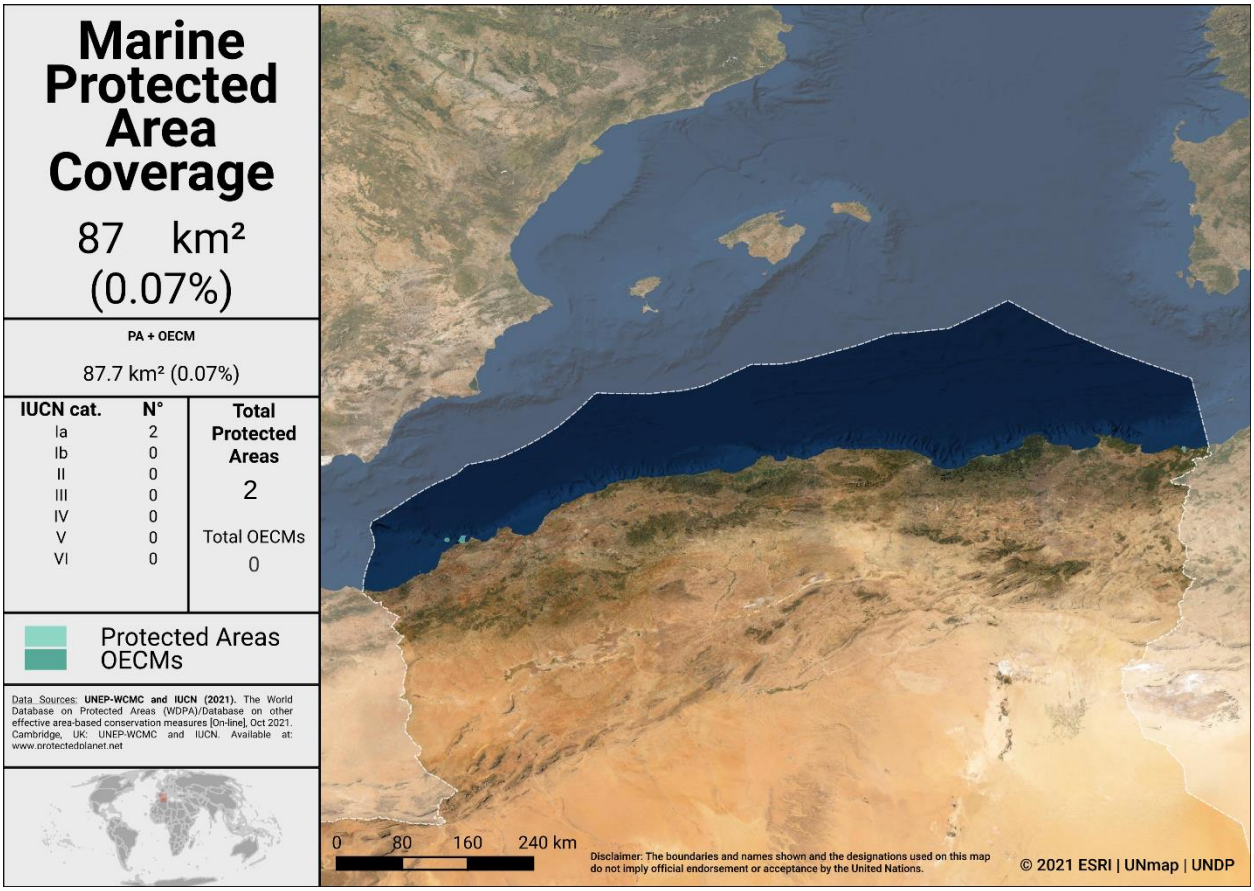
In addition, there are 50 Ramsar sites (2,981,964 ha).

[1] There is an error in the WDPA that will be corrected shortly



Terrestrial Protected Areas in Algeria (map based on May 2021 WDPA[2] and WD-OECM). Total terrestrial coverage in Algeria is **44.58%** (107,865 km^2 from PAs; 1,051,383.24 km^2 from OECMs).

[2] There is an error in the WDPA that will be corrected shortly

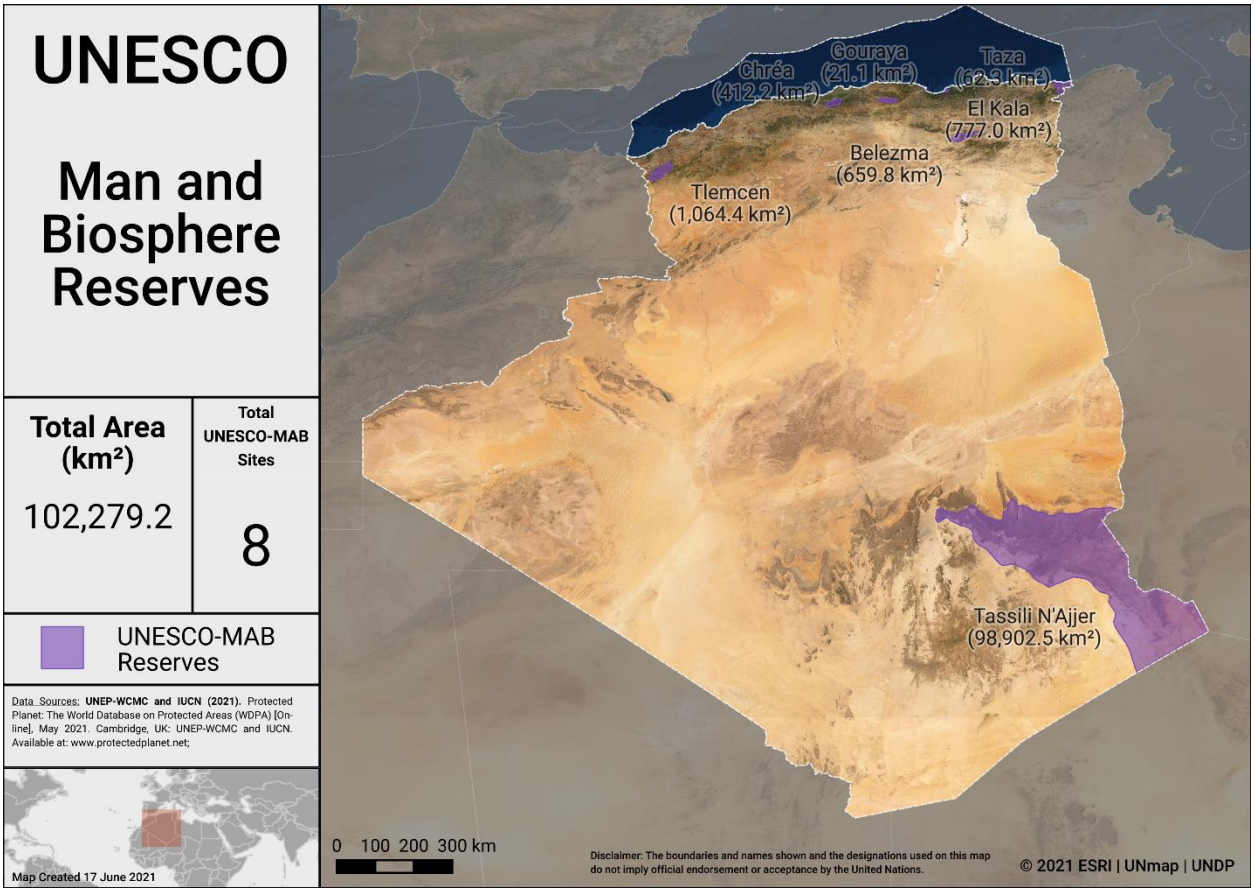


Marine Protected Areas in Algeria

Potential OECMs

In addition to the 5 Cultural Parks, already reported as OECMs, other potential OECMs could include the portion of UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves not overlapping with national PAs, covering up to ~100,000 km² (see details in IUCN-WCPA 2020).

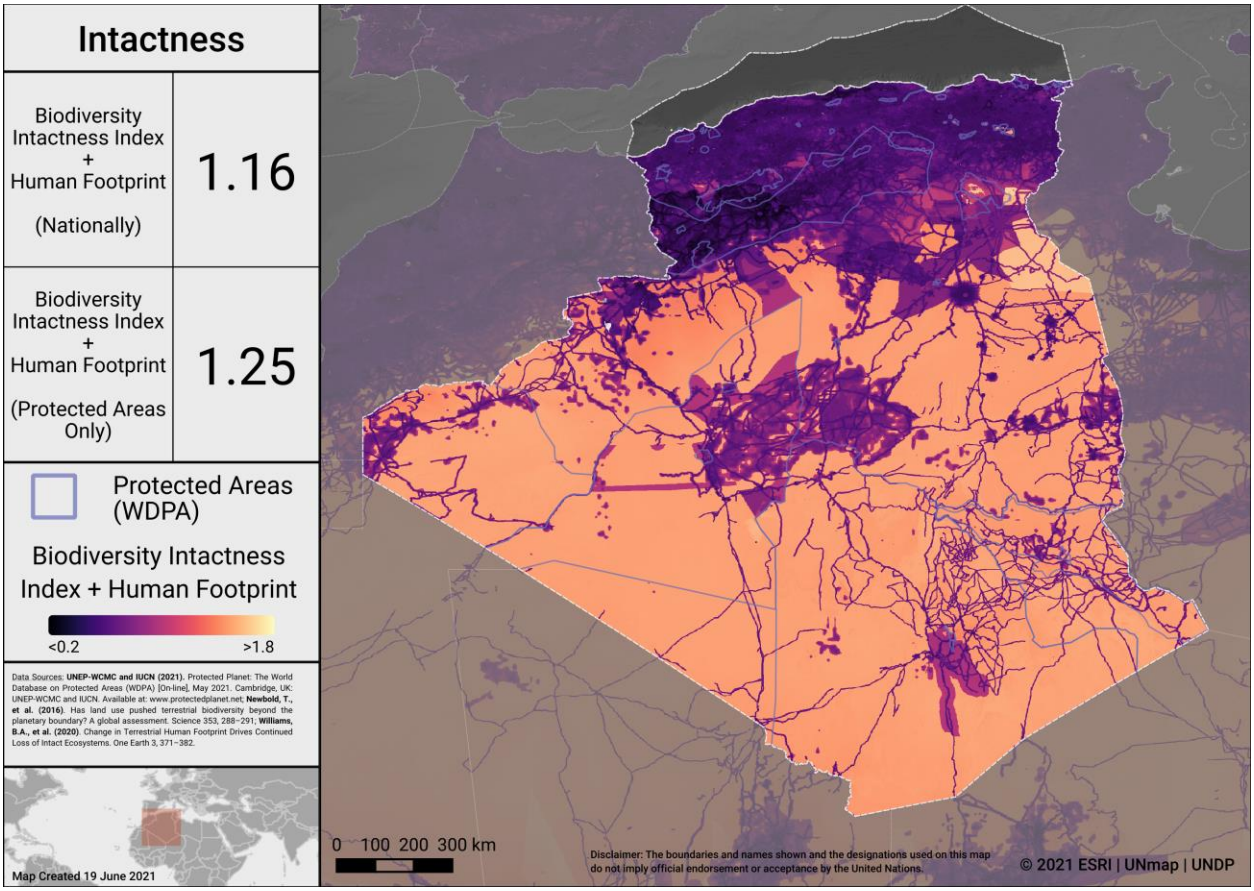
Sites include (see map below): Belezma; Chréa; Djurdjura; El Kalal; Gouraya; Tassili N'Ajje; Taza; Tlemcen



Location (and area) of UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves in Algeria

Opportunities for action

Opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA and WD-OECM with any unreported PAs or OECMs. In the future, as Algeria considers where to add new PAs and OECMs, the map below identifies areas in Algeria where intact areas are not currently protected. Focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered if planning new PAs or OECMs.



Intactness in Algeria

To explore more on intactness visit the UN Biodiversity Lab: map.unbiodiversitylab.org.

AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

Protected area and OECM coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) provide one proxy for assessing the conservation of areas important for biodiversity at national, regional and global scales. KBAs are sites that make significant contributions to the global persistence of biodiversity (IUCN, 2016). The KBA concept builds on four decades of efforts to identify important sites for biodiversity, including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, Alliance for Zero Extinction sites, and KBAs identified through Hotspot ecosystem profiles supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Incorporating these sites, the dataset of internationally significant KBAs includes Global KBAs (sites shown to meet one or more of 11 criteria in the Global Standard for the Identification of KBAs, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and irreplaceability), Regional KBAs (sites identified using pre-existing criteria and thresholds, that do not meet the Global KBA criteria based on existing information), and KBAs whose Global/Regional status is Not yet determined, but which will be assessed against the global KBA criteria within 8-12 years. Regional KBAs are often of critical international policy relevance (e.g., in EU legislation and under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), and many are likely to qualify as Global KBAs in future once assessed for their biodiversity importance for other taxonomic groups and ecosystems. To date, nearly 16,000 KBAs have identified globally, and information on each of these is presented in the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas: www.keybiodiversityareas.org.

Algeria has **68** Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs).

- Mean percent coverage of all KBAs by PAs and OECMs in Algeria is **44.58%**.
- **17** KBAs have full (>98%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **21** KBAs have partial coverage by PAs and OECMs.

Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)

Other important areas for biodiversity may also include Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), which were identified following the scientific criteria adopted at COP-9 (Decision IX/20; see more at: https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/). Sites that meet the EBSA criteria may require enhanced conservation and management measures; this could be achieved through means including MPAs, OECMs, marine spatial planning, and impact assessment.

There are currently no EBSAs identified in Algeria.

Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Algeria to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage

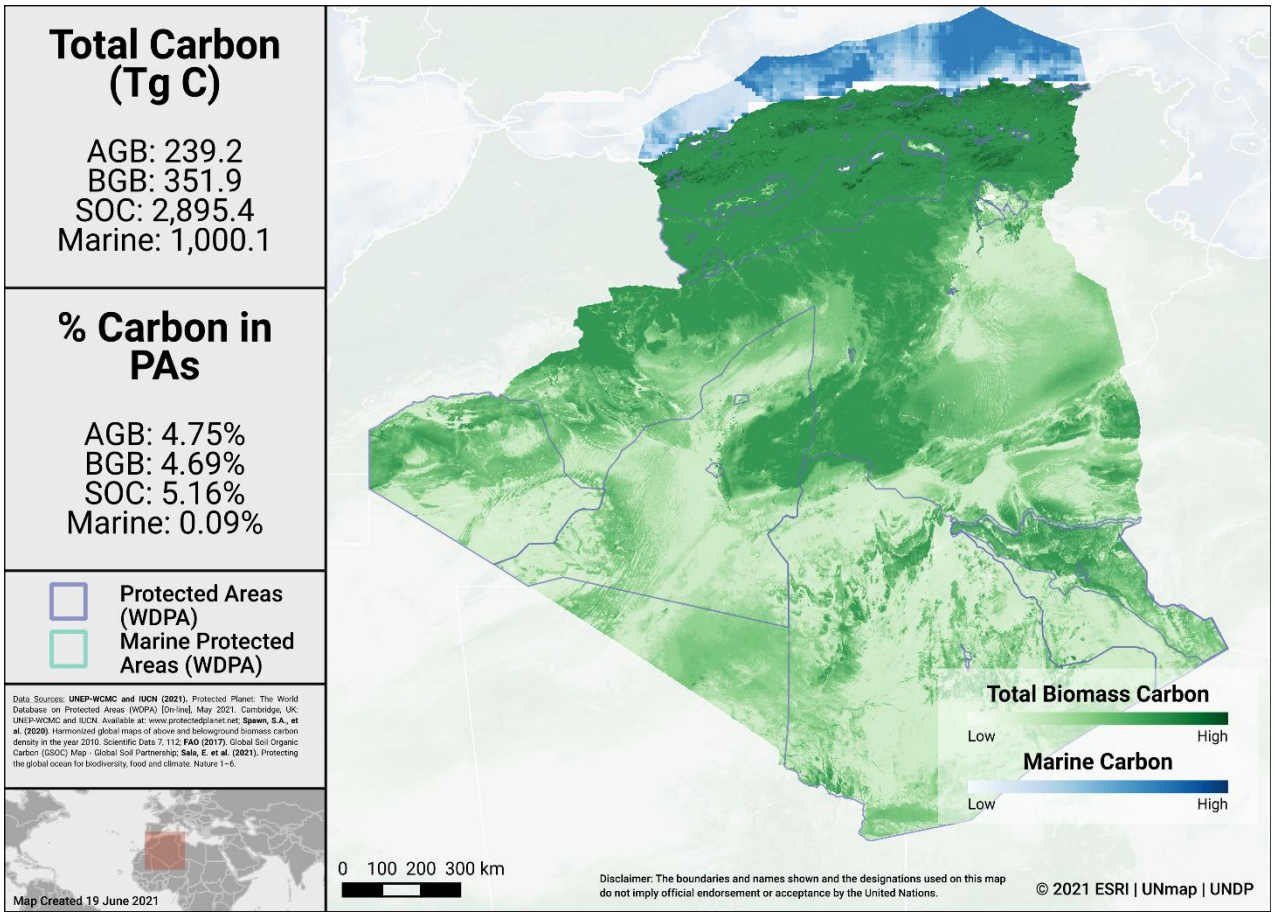
AREAS IMPORTANT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

There is no single indicator for assessing conservation of areas important for ecosystem services. For simplicity, two services with available global datasets are assessed (carbon and water). In future, other critical ecosystem services (like ecotourism) could be explored.

Carbon

Data for biomass carbon comes from temporally consistent and harmonized global maps of aboveground biomass and belowground biomass carbon density (at a 300-m spatial resolution); the maps integrate land-cover specific, remotely sensed data, and land-cover specific empirical models (see Spawn et al., 2020 for details on methodology). The Global Soil Organic Carbon Map present an estimation of SOC stock from 0 to 30 cm (see FAO, 2017). Data is also presented from global maps of marine sedimentary carbon stocks, standardized to a 1-meter depth (see Sala et al., 2021, and Atwood et al., 2020).

The map below presents the total carbon stocks in Algeria and the percent of carbon in PAs and OECMs. The total carbon stocks is 239.2 Tg C from aboveground biomass (AGB), with 4.7% protected; 351.9 Tg C from below ground biomass (BGB), with 4.7% protected; 2,895.4 Tg C from soil organic carbon (SOC), with 5.2% protected; and 1,000.1 Tg C from marine sediment carbon, with 0.1% protected.



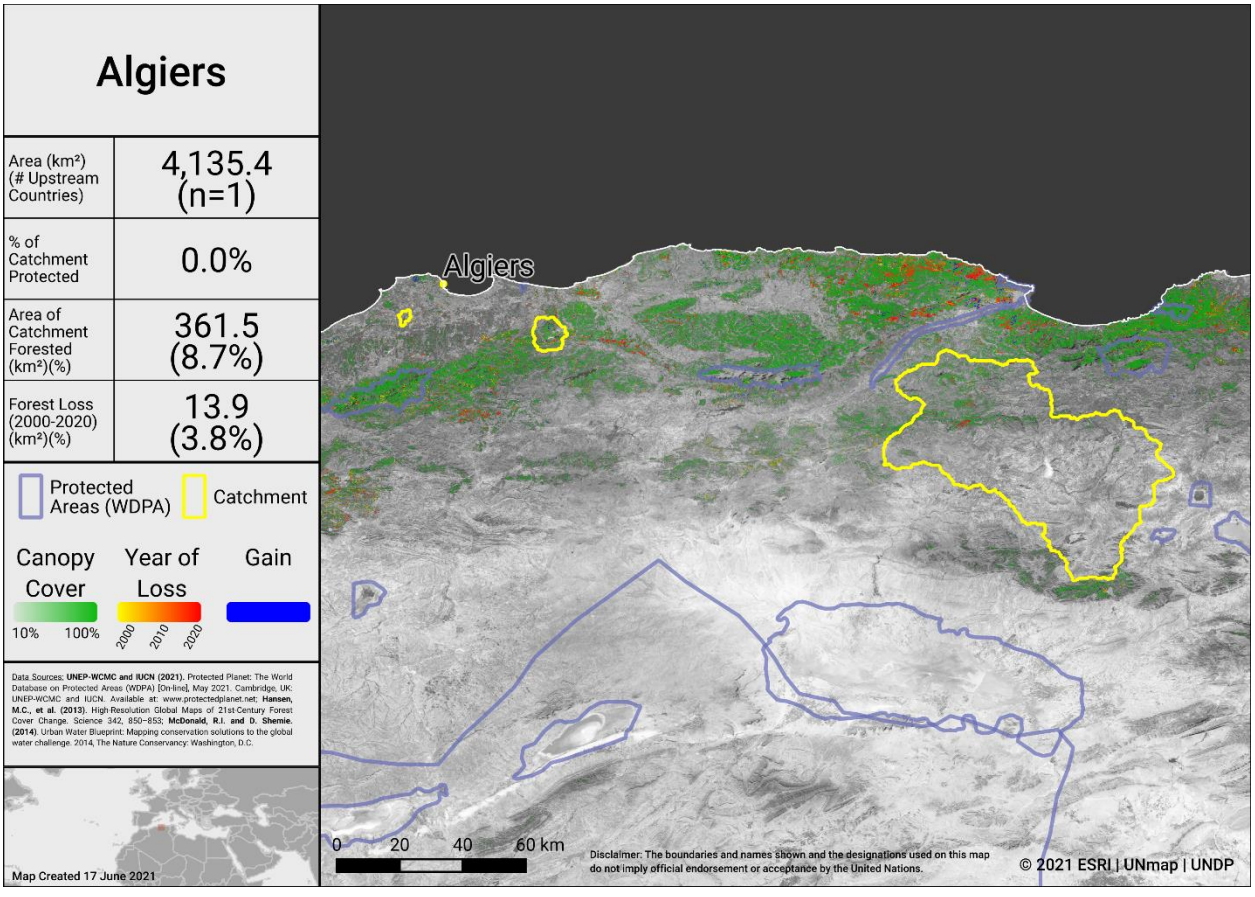
Carbon Stocks in Algeria (showing outline of PAs and OECMs)

Water

Information on the water sources for 534 cities is available via the City Water Map (CWM) and provides details on the catchment area of the watershed that supplies these cities (see McDonald et al., 2014 for details on methodology).

Forests and intact ecosystems support stormwater management and clean water availability, especially for large urban populations. Research that has examined the role of forests for city drinking water supplies shows that of the world's 105 largest cities, more than 30% (33 cities) rely heavily on the local protected forests, which provide ecosystem services that underpin local drinking water availability and quality (Dudley & Stolton, 2003).

Drinking water supplies for cities in Algeria may similarly depend on protected forest areas within and around water catchments. The map below shows the percentage forest and protected cover and the forest loss from 2000-2020 in the most heavily populated water catchment of Algeria. Intact catchments can support more consistent water supply and improved water quality.



Water catchment in Algiers

Opportunities for action

For carbon, there is opportunity for Algeria to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks, as identified in the map above. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.

For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

The approach of focusing only on carbon and water indicators may underestimate the importance of other indicators such as ecotourism.

CONNECTIVITY & INTEGRATION

Two global indicators, the Protected Connected land indicator (ProtConn; EC-JRC, 2021; Saura et al., 2018) and the PARC-Connectedness indicator (CSIRO, 2019), have been proposed for assessing the terrestrial connectivity of PA and OECM networks. To date there is not a global indicator for assessing marine connectivity, though some recent developments include proposed guidance for the treatment of connectivity in the planning and management of MPAs (see Lausche et al., 2021).

In addition, a recent regional assessment (see IUCN-WCPA, 2020) evaluated connectivity based on the number of connections, less than or equal to 20km, between terrestrial or marine PA patches with a minimum size of 0.5 km^2 within the PA network of each country. As of 2020, 67.31% of the Algeria's PAs were within a 20km distance from another PA; including potential OECMs, this increases to 76.74% of the country's PAs and OECMs

Protected Connected Land Indicator (Prot-Conn)

As of January 2021, as reported in the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission's Digital Observatory for Protected Areas (DOPA) (JRC, 2021), the coverage of protected-connected lands (a measure of the connectivity of terrestrial protected area networks, assessed using the ProtConn indicator, and including OECMs) in Algeria was 49.4%.

PARC-Connectedness Index

In 2019, as assessed using the PARC-Connectedness Index (values ranging from 0-1, indicating low to high connectivity), connectivity in Algeria is 0.51. This represents no significant change since 2010. As this analysis pre-dates the addition of OECMs in Algeria, this figure may now be much higher.

Corridor case studies

There are currently no corridor case studies available for Algeria (but see general details on conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors in Hilty et al 2020).

Opportunities for action

There is opportunity to focus on PA and OECM management for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.

As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8).

GOVERNANCE DIVERSITY

There is a lack of comprehensive global data on governance quality and equity in PAs and OECMs. Here, we provide data on the diversity of governance types for reported PAs and OECMs.

As of May 2021, 100% of PAs in Algeria are governed by **governments** (federal or national ministry or agency).[3]

OECMs

As of May 2021, there are **5** OECMs in Algeria reported in the WD-OECM, with the following governance types:

- 100% by Government (Federal or national ministry or agency).

Privately Protected Areas (PPAs)

There are no PPAs in Algeria.

Territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCAs)

There are no ICCAs in Algeria (see Kothari et al., 2012 and the ICCA Registry for further details); the designation is not relevant to Algeria's national context.

Opportunities for action

Creation and management of protected areas are handled by the law 11-02 related to protected areas in the context of sustainable development.

There is opportunity for Algeria to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. Examples of existing tools and methodologies include: Governance Assessment for Protected and Conserved Areas (Franks & Brooker, 2018), Social Assessment of Protected Areas (Franks et al 2018), and Site-level assessment of governance and equity (IIED, 2020). As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

[3] The WDPA currently lists 13.7% of sites with no governance type reported (most of which are international designations); though all of these sites are governed by **governments.** There is a need for this data to be updated.

PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

This section provides information on the coverage of PAs and OECMs with completed protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments as reported in the global database (GD-PAME). The proportion of terrestrial and marine PAs with completed PAME assessments is also calculated and compared with the 60% target agreed to in COP-10 Decision X/31. Information is also included regarding changes in forest cover nationally within PAs and OECMs.

Currently, 3.76% of the country's terrestrial PAs and 8.26% of marine PAs have a reported management plan (see IUCN-WCPA, 2020).

Protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments

As of May 2021, 70.3% of terrestrial PAs and 70% of marine PAs have completed protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments reported (*Reference to "îles habibas" and "banc des kabyles")*

The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for **both** terrestrial PAs and marine PAs.

As of May 2021, there are 5 OECMs in Algeria reported in the WD-OECM; see some discussion of potential effectiveness of these OECMs in IUCN-WCPA, 2020.

Changes in forest cover

Forests and maquis cover 4.1 million hectares, which represents an afforestation rate of 16.4% for the north of Algeria and only 1.7% if the arid regions are also taken into account.

Opportunities for action

The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for both terrestrial PAs and marine PAs. Further increasing this percentage could be beneficial overall for understanding how well protected areas are being managed.

There is a need to enhance the implication of local populations through the implementation of a coherent institutionalized collaborative approach for all PAs and OECMs, including cultural parks.

There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'sound management') and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.

SECTION II: EXISTING PROTECTED AREA AND OECM COMMITMENTS

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPs)

Algeria has submitted an NBSAP during the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, [covering the period of 2016-2030 for Algeria] (the most recent NBSAP is available at: https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/search/).

Objective 12: To protect, conserve and restore ecosystems in order to maintain their equilibrium, ensure their sustainability, and ensure sustainable production of ecosystem services, aiming at the conservation of at least 50% of terrestrial areas, 5% of marine and coastal areas and the restoration of natural ecosystems on an area of at least 5 million hectares. (without OECMs)

This NBSAP **did** include a quantitative target for **terrestrial** PAs or OECMs.

- As of May 2021 (based on the WDPA/WD-OECM) has the target been met: **YES**

This NBSAP **did** include a quantitative target for **marine** protected areas or OECMs.

- As of May 2021 (based on the WDPA/WD-OECM) has the target been met: **No (but post-2020 target date)**
- Accounting for other projects, actions and commitments, if this target is met, coverage in the country will increase considerably.

APPROVED GEF-5 & GEF-6 PROTECTED AREA PROJECTS

Approved GEF-5 and GEF-6 PA-related biodiversity projects

This includes biodiversity projects from the fifth and sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-5 and GEF-6) with a clear impact of the quantity or quality of PAs; also including some projects occurring within the wider landscapes/seascapes around PAs. Only those with a status of 'project approved' or 'concept approved' as of June 2019 were considered. The qualifying elements likely benefiting from each GEF project is assessed based on a keyword search of Project Identification Forms (PIF).

GEF ID	PA increase?	Area to be added (km^2)	Qualitative elements potentially benefitting (based on keyword search of PIFs)
5438	No	N/A	Effectively managed; Integration
9806	No	N/A	Ecosystem services; Equitably managed; Integration
10170	N/A	N/A	Integrated forest and biodiversity management for sustainable development in the Biban mountain range

In addition, the GEF-4 project (# 3952 - *Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity and Sustainable Use of Ecosystem Services in Algeria's Cultural Parks*) had a significant impact on the management of OECMs in Algeria.

UN OCEAN CONFERENCE VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

Voluntary commitments for the UN Ocean Conference are initiatives voluntarily undertaken by governments, the UN system, non-governmental organizations, among other actors—individually or in partnership—that aim to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 (here we focus in particular on SDG 14.5). The registry of commitments was opened in February 2017, in the lead up to the first UN Ocean Conference (5 to 9 June 2017).

Ocean Actions improving MPA or OECM coverage:

#OceanAction19764: Elaboration of a study in order to establish a marine protected area in Cape Lindles (Province of Oran), by Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (National Center of Research and Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture) and, National Office for Rural Development) (Government).

- Area to be added: 0 km^2
  - Action complete, and site reported in WDPA
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at: https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=19764.

Other Ocean Actions

Other Ocean Actions submitted as voluntary commitments for SDG 14.5, will also create benefits for the qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11:

#OceanAction19339: Research strategy related to fisheries and aquaculture for the 2035 horizon, by Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (Government).

- Types of actions involved: MPA management and/or enforcement (sustainable use).
- Target 11 element addressed: Effectively managed.
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of May 2021).
- Further details available at: https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=19339

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