

The Importance of Spatial Data for Nature and Development

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A world of data:

90% of the data for all human history generated within the last 2 years
Global satellite imagery updated daily at 3-meter resolution

UNDP analysis of post-2010 NBSAPs and Fifth National Reports (5NR):

On average, < than 5 maps / 5NR, < than 4 maps/NBSAP

80% of 5NR and 70% of NBSAP do not have maps that support decision-making

< than 4% of all maps focused on ecosystem services

UNDP survey of spatial data needs for 70+ countries:

- Lack of access to global and regional datasets
- Challenge in using and accessing specialized software
- Limited server capacity

Nature underpins our ability to achieve the Global Goals:

2 out of 3 people depend on nature for their livelihoods
1/5 of all cropland globally is degraded

WHERE are the opportunities to tackle poverty through regenerative agriculture and land restoration?

Nature underpins our ability to achieve the Global Goals:

75% of the world's population depend on forests for their drinking water
50% of global forest cover cleared or degraded

WHERE should we focus restoration efforts to improve water security?

Nature underpins our ability to achieve the Global Goals:

Forests can account for up to 40% of climate mitigation solutions
The Paris Agreement's 2°C goal cannot be met without forests

WHERE should we take forest action to have the biggest climate impact?

Examples from around the world:

Countries are using spatial data to
advance NBSAP implementation
facilitate delivery of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Mexico

This project uses a variety of spatial data to implement the COP13 decisions on mainstreaming biodiversity in other sectors, such as the agricultural sector. Spatial data provides information needed to align policies with the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

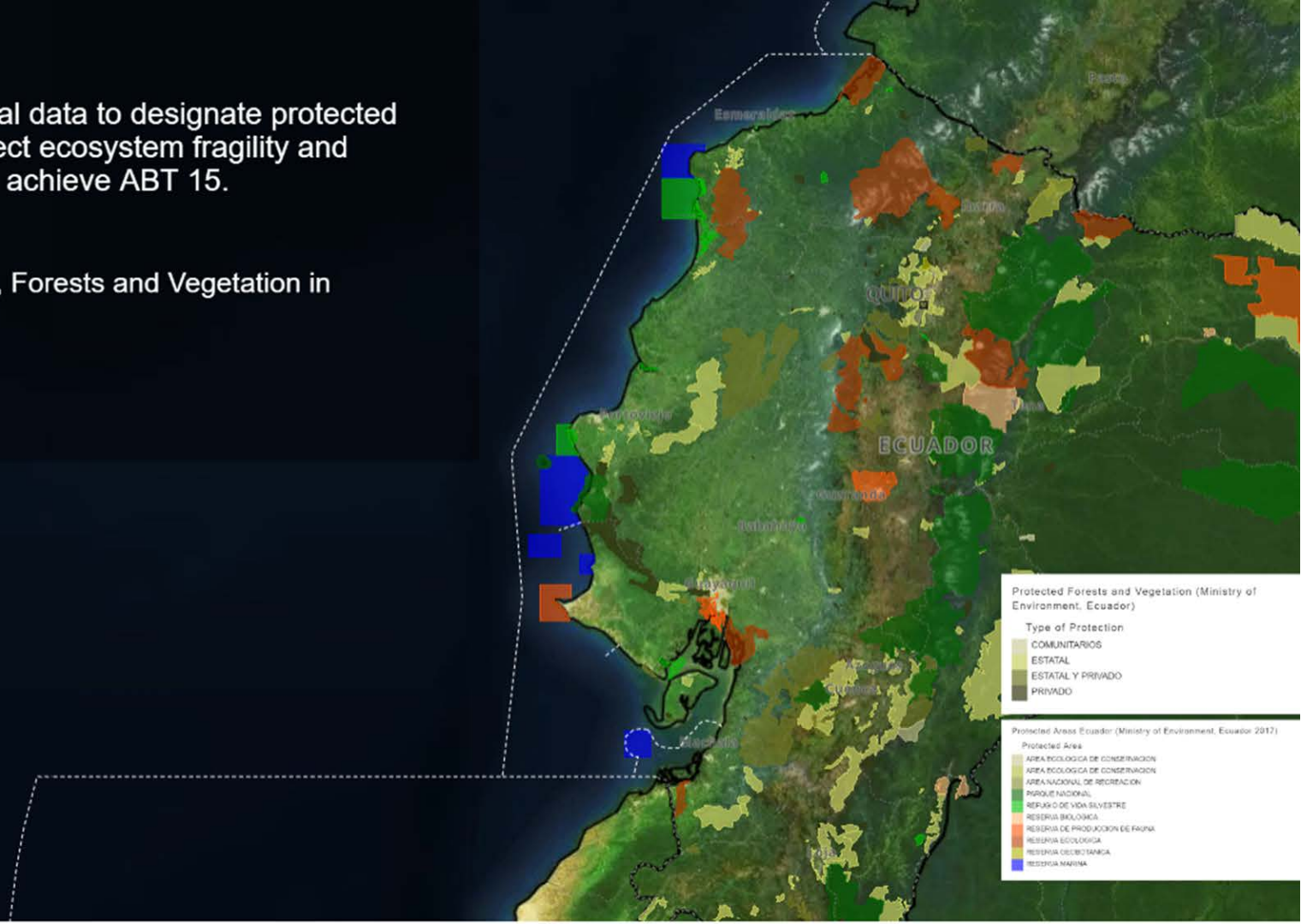
Source: [CONANP - 2017](#)

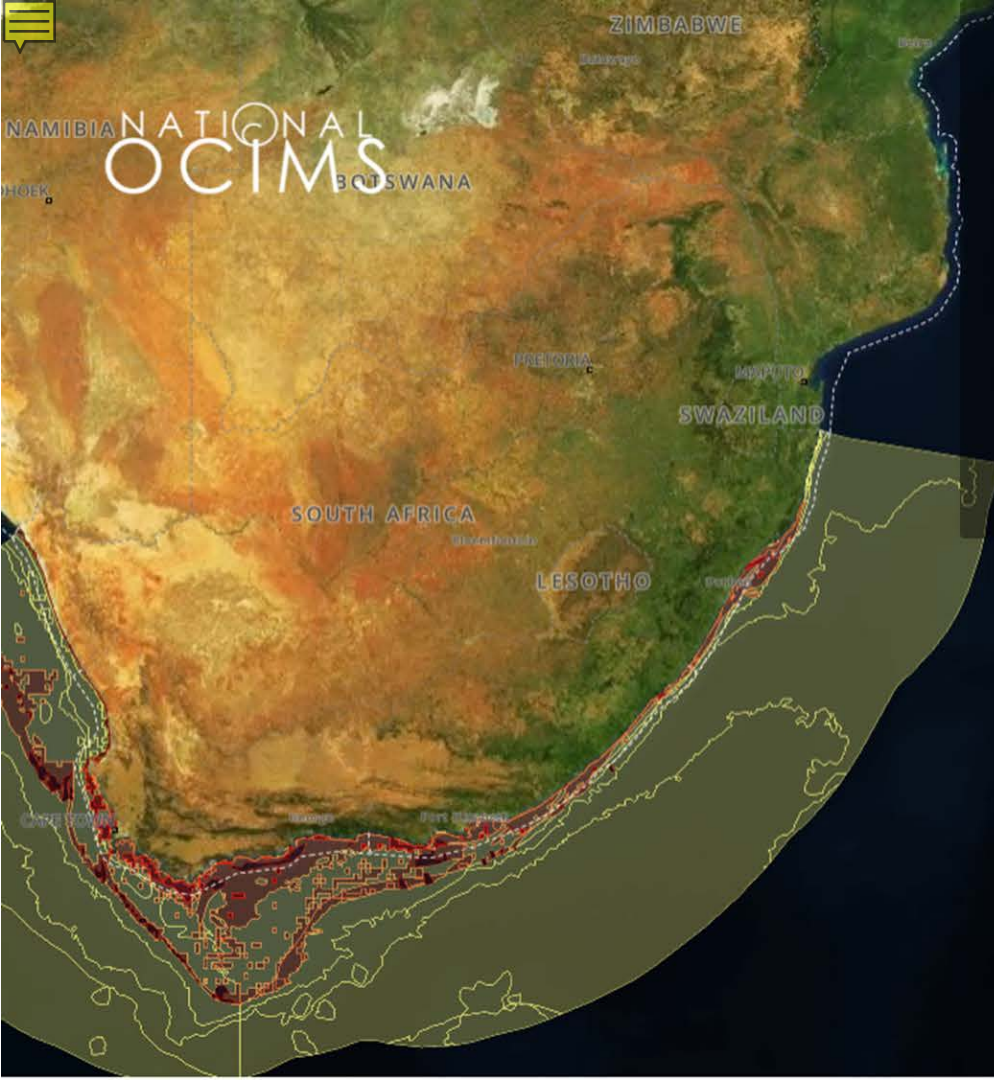


Ecuador

The project uses spatial data to designate protected area systems that reflect ecosystem fragility and biodiversity, helping to achieve ABT 15.

Map: Protected Areas, Forests and Vegetation in Ecuador, 2017





South Africa

This project uses spatial data to inform the selection of strategic areas for official designation as Marine Protected Areas by the government. This supports sustainable use of fisheries (ABT 6).

Map: Coastal and Benthic Threat Status, based off of IUCN Red List Criteria, 2011

Benthic and Coastal Threat Status

Legend

- Critically Endangered
- Endangered
- Vulnerable
- Least Threatened



Moldova

Spatial data are critical components in both continuing the success of the Emerald Network and furthering the capacity of government to monitor and track changes in biodiversity (ABT 15).

Map: Emerald Network of Moldova, 2018.

Spatial data can play a powerful role for nature:

- Spatial analyses can provide quantitative data to support commitments to the CBD
- However, the ability of Parties to access and use spatial data is highly variable

The UN Biodiversity Lab:

- Provides users with a **FREE high-quality global spatial data and analysis tool**
- Does **NOT require GIS expertise**
- Ensures Parties produce a **high-quality, data-drive 6NR** by the end of 2018
- Provides support for **NBSAP implementation**, informs the **GBO-5**, and guides discussions on the **post-2020 global biodiversity framework**

The UN Biodiversity Lab:

- Brings together UNDP, UN Environment, and CBD
- Works directly with 140 governments to support the preparation of the 6NR
- Is a platform for building relationships between data providers and data users

We want your feedback!

Upcoming UN Biodiversity Lab Technical Webinars:

- Thursday 13 September, 9 – 11am EDT/NY:
Uploading and Working with National Datasets
- Tuesday 18 September, 9 – 11am EDT/NY:
Using Spatial Data and Maps to Make Conservation Decisions
- Tuesday 2 October, 9 – 11am EDT/NY:
Using Story Maps to Communicate the Value of Biodiversity

Thank you!

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