



Criteria and Guidelines for Identifying Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in India



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About the Publication

Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) are a new conservation approach, separate from protected areas, where effective conservation of biodiversity is achieved mainly as a by-product of other management objectives. A wide variety of sites in India have the potential to become OECMs.

The publication provides the criteria and guidelines developed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), National Biodiversity Authority of India (NBA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to identify OECMs in India. A 14-category classification, clustered under three broad groups- terrestrial, waterbodies, and marine, has been developed by India, covering a broad spectrum of potential OECMs in India including unique agricultural systems, biodiversity parks, industrial estates, coastal waterbodies, and important marine biodiversity areas.

The MoEFCC, NBA and UNDP invite central and state departments, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, civil society organisations, defence establishments, industry, academic and research institutes, and local communities to share information on local conservation initiatives, which could be identified as potential OECMs. In this regard, the booklet also extends guidance about the application procedure.

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Abbreviations

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
BSIP	Biodiversity Samrakshan Internship Programme
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CMS	Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
CoP	Conference of Parties
CPCB	Central Pollution Control Board
CRZ	Coastal Regulation Zone
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CVCAs	Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Plan
ECSCMAs	Ecologically/Culturally Significant Coastal & Marine Areas
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
e-PBR	electronic People's Biodiversity Register
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FSI	Forest Survey of India
ICBAs	Important Coastal Biodiversity Areas
IMBAs	Important Marine Biodiversity Areas
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
NBA	National Biodiversity Authority
NCSCM	National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management
OECMs	Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures
PAs	Protected Areas

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