

# Best Practice Guidelines for Privately Protected Areas



We have been responding to a mandate to IUCN to *further develop guidance on best practice in the establishment and management of privately protected areas (PPAs), building on the work and experience of national, regional and global networks and organizations.*

At the global level, attention to the governance of protected areas is a relatively recent phenomenon. Until about two decades ago, it was broadly assumed that protected areas are the responsibility of governments. This way of thinking persists, despite the fact that the first private land trusts are as old as the first national parks. And, of course, private stewardship of natural resources goes back much further.

As societies confront the greatest environmental crises of our time—climate change and biodiversity collapse—privately protected areas offer enduring natural solutions.

## Chapters

- Establishing PPAs
- Managing PPAs
- Incentives
- Ensuring PPA permanence
- Subtypes of PPA
- Coordinating with national systems
- Reporting to global databases
- Role of networks
- Looking forward

## Activities and metrics

Authorized by IUCN Resolution WHC-2016-036, spearheaded by QLF two years ago.  
Outlined by 2017 workshop in Germany, 22 experts from 15 countries  
Draft downloaded by ~200 from 46 countries in first week.  
Publication launch anticipated at Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, November 2018, Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt  
Occasional newsletter produced by QLF, >1,000 subscribers worldwide  
QLF maintains email discussion group of international experts, >300 worldwide  
Dedicated website maintained by QLF, [privateconservation.net](http://privateconservation.net)

**PRIVATELY  
PROTECTED AREAS**  

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**PRIVATE MEANS  
PUBLIC BENEFIT**

A **privately protected area** is a protected area, as defined by IUCN, under private governance (i.e. individuals and groups of individuals); non-governmental organizations (NGOs); corporations (both existing commercial companies and sometimes corporations set up by groups of private owners to manage groups of PPAs); for-profit owners; research entities (e.g. universities, field stations) or religious entities.