

NOTA: el taller sobre la estrategia del CBI sobre Comunales y derechos sobre tierras comunales se realizó íntegramente en inglés, por lo que las actas del taller sólo están disponibles en este idioma.

Workshop on the CBI Strategy on Commons and Common Land Rights in Europe, Middle East and North Africa

12th March 2019, Valsain (Segovia, Spain)



Acronyms:

International Land Coalition (ILC)

Commitment Based Initiative (CBI)

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)

Territories of Life (ToL)

1. General Introduction & Updates

1.1 Intro to the ILC and the Commons Working Group, Sergio

WG established in 2014 to work on Commons and common land. Also met in Berne & Edinburgh. WG developed a Strategy in Granada in 2017 circulated by email in order to discuss & update in this Workshop in Segovia.

1.2 Intro to ILC Strategy 2019-2021, David

- ILC est. 1995. Currently has 260 Members in 64 countries. Membership is very diverse: Grass roots organisations, NGOs, Multi-lateral organisations, Universities, this diversity promotes dialogue and finding solutions.
- ILC Central objective = to realise land governance for & with the people at country level, responding to the needs and protecting the rights of those who live on & from the land.
- 10 commitments for people-centred land governance, prioritised by the Members
- Current Strategy has 3 objectives: Connect, Mobilise, Influence
- The 3 objectives are coordinated through Global, Regional & National level initiatives. Actively working in 30 countries (Theory of Change).
- Looking to change policy

- 3) clear coordination,
- 4) more regular changing of leadership roles

If we establish a platform, we establish ourselves as a community. We are all busy but we have to be dedicated if we want the community to work.

Today we must define 1) the identity & overarching goal, 2) the membership responsibilities 3) the governance & decision-making mechanisms, 4) the needs to support this structure.

Focus on: Coordination, internal communication, decision-making.

2.1 Defining the CBI Overarching goal

The current goal (defined in Granada) is:

“Good governance of natural resources by empowered existing & future communities based on values of equality, fairness and sustainability”.

ILC has requested that the current goal (defined in Granada) is made more specific, less wide. Ask yourselves why are you here?, what do you want to achieve via this collaboration?

Discussion:

- Commons are all around, biologically, socially & economically useful and can help address the challenges of the 21st century
- In front of the greatest global challenges (economic pressures, climate change) the commons have a lot to say (social inclusion, climate change resilience, gender equality, food security). We need to prove what the commons provide and how they improve biodiversity, cultural values etc.
- Consider the threat that strengthening the commons has on the existence of the big NGOs, big business & politics, be realistic about it and address it. Be clear about the limits of the commons.
- Borrow the goal from ILC: promote the appropriate recognition & support to Commons/ToL
- It is difficult to compare the 3 units of E, ME, NA. They are too different contexts
- Ask ourselves why do we need Commons?
- Separate the 2 levels Env (Intrinsic) & Soc. (mgt social inclusion, stewardship)
- Look at what happened without them eg: Balkans, the Commons were eradicated to establish nationalistic states in the colonial, capitalist model
- All interests need to be considered (Commons) include IPs
- Get connection to the natural environment
- ToL is a better term, sophisticated & inclusive governance for the future melded with traditions of the past
- ToL and Commons are very different terms. ICCA ToL have 3 clear criteria that most EU Commons don't meet but at the same time they are more all-encompassing, therefore we need something that captures the uniqueness of Commons and work with both these situations.
- Commons to have good coexistence of shared resources
- Moldova: Be careful that we don't allow negative attitudes to commons, such as If its common it belongs to no-one, everyone can do what they want, there are no rules and no one takes care of it. Municipalities have lost the competence to manage common areas & resources
- Let's go back to the goal: why do we want to work together? To promote the values of commons to influence policy makers and address governance challenges

- What do I get from these meetings? Examples of cases that have worked in other countries that motivate me and give me good info to share and motivate. Alone I had a limited vision and incorrect lexicon. Now I have a global vision and the correct language to use to explain, motivate and act.
Q: Why are we losing the Commons?
A: urban migration and no understanding of the values they provide. If we can prove these values & services we can claim for payment, but not without proof. We protect because Commons serve nature. Commons help protect against the big forest fires, using grazing. We need to protect this knowledge and have people that know how to do it. Who will protect Commons for tomorrow? If we lose the ability to do this and show it works we will lose the opportunity to continue doing it and they will move us on. We need a Risk Assessment and some monitoring results.
- We need to include the issue of transnational cooperation. See the historic value of nomadic movements
- Why not use the 3 all-encompassing types of ToLs used by ICCA: defined, disrupted, desired ToLs?
- Commons is the current concept (archaic, undervalued), we want to move consciousness towards ToL
- Highlight the people-centred governance concept of ILC
- Do we need to lump together water resources (marine commons and fisheries) and land resources or keep separate? If separate, don't exclude!
- We can keep the EMENA goal inclusive and then can specify particular resources and priorities in your local national context
- We need to tell the world how cool it is to live in a village!
- Careful with the language we use; keep it strong and powerful, not weak. For example: empower, don't further marginalise, enhance you pride in your own culture, language etc.
- Those who live in, manage and protect Commons understand that they do it not only for themselves but for all of humanity. Middle-class urbanised peoples need also to understand how the Commons affect them and care for their future. We need to spread the word

2.2 Structure and Principles

Vision:

Improved understanding, recognition and governance of Commons and Territories of Life sustaining the diverse tenure and production systems and other values upon which people's livelihoods depend, including the communal and customary land and resources rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Geographical scope:

- Europe, Middle East and North Africa (EMENA)

Membership criteria:

- Communities, NGOs, academia and any party or individual clearly supporting the overarching goal
- Focus on Commons
- Level of engagement (e.g. the need for active participation)

Focal points per member:

- To be submitted before end of March 2019

Governing structure:

- Regionally representative Steering Committee (a smaller group meeting often, see below)

- Annual General Assembly

Supporting structure:

- Host Organisation for 3-year term (Slow Food International TBC)
- Coordinator/Facilitator, responding to all of the WG. Open call, final decision to be taken by the Steering Committee

Gender justice:

- Gender balance on Steering Committee
- Internal gender justice policy/statement
- Visible inclusion of gender justice in all of the platform's activities and communications

Internal communication:

- Emails/google groups, for regular communications
- Video calls on Skype, Zoom or similar for key virtual decision-making
- Response time:
 - Urgent matters: one week
 - Regular matters: two weeksNo response = process will go ahead
- Digital platform: two updates per year per member
- English = official language of internal communication

Financial sustainability:

- Establish a Fundraising Team?
- Core funding from ILC for coordination & key activities
- Joint leverage of other funds by members
- Identify partners and complementary initiatives eg: IASC, UN agencies (IFAD, FAO, IUCN), EU agencies, private foundations.

2.3 Steering Committee constitution:

Europe: Iniciativa Comunes

Western Europe:

Artic:

Middle East:

North Africa: GDF

Central Asia:

Host (observer):

External communication:

TBD by the Steering Committee

3. Final comments:

David – great to see such a rich group of members of ILC. Encourage you all to be part of the process and share your suggestions and comments.

Aibek – sure that more ideas will come as work develops. Glad that we have some specific tasks to do.

Anna Vargas – meaning of Commons is very diverse. We need to define what Commons means from the community perspective

Georgiou – very rich experience. Need to work on advancing knowledge on Commons.

Antoine – interesting even for those of us who are not members of ILC. New forms of Commons are developing.

Aslak – good to discuss priorities and targets. Hard to see the relevance to the work we are doing.

Iris – funders often wonder whether it is worth funding work such as this. The contacts we form in these meetings are invaluable, they can lead to opportunities for work exchanges and funding partnerships. I commit to sending Concha my views on CAP.

Avelino – empowering communities is key. We need technical capacity in the villages all the time. Sheep herders in our village – none of their children want the same work as their parents.

Vanessa – Industrialisation is one of main destroyers of natural world. Urbanised population becoming more and more isolated from nature. Commons are vital for future generations. Important for this WG to become a unified voice against the capitalist machine. Good Luck !

Emma – great to hear all the different perspectives of the participants. I missed talking about concrete actions, we touched on this but did not advance. Will be interesting to see how we implement the targets. Look forward to discussing this more in the ICCA Consortium Regional Assembly tomorrow.

Carmen – we have heard a lot of things to think about and support.

?? – pleasure to meet all these friends who share similar issues. Albania govt now accepts role of village in managing their natural resources. Happy to hear that an appreciation of the commons is everywhere.

Federico – optimistic about future steps.

Anna Moldova – happy to take part for a second time and see the evolution of this work and the movement towards bigger results. NES will contribute.

Andrei – very efficient work and happy that we have a good outcome. Look forward to discussing practical activities tomorrow. There will be a lot of overlap between the work for ILC and the work for ICCA Consortium.

Ugo – there has been a lot of learning today.

Concha – the outcome of today is really satisfying and thank you for all your participation. It is important to enable communities to believe they have the capacity to influence and change things. The Commons has a lot to say – climate change – they are key to our survival.

Avelino – we are returning home and will remember a lot of things we should have said. We could make a video. Think of a message and create a video to spread it to others. Could be a four minute video with one message from each person.

Aysegul – listening to others made me very hopeful. We are going through a difficult time in Turkey with many threats so what we are doing here makes me more hopeful for the future.

Sergio – thank you. We should focus on the tasks ahead of us. Thank you to David for coming to support us and help us organise a logical and effective framework.

During the **CBI on Commons** and Common Land Rights workshop in Valsaín (Segovia) in **March 2019** the main goal was jointly revised by all participants:

Extract of the updated CBI Strategy on Commons and Common Land Rights In EMENA:

The main goal of the CBI is:

Improved understanding, recognition and governance of Commons and Territories of life sustaining the diverse tenure and production systems and other values upon which people’s livelihoods depend, including the communal and customary land and resources rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

In general terms, there are two main conclusions outlined by the **CBI members in the Granada Workshop in October 2017**, considered as immediate **strategic objectives**:

- 1.- At EU level the main focus will be on influencing policies and practices related to Common Agricultural Policy or other influential policies related to land
- 2.- At National level, depending on the context, pressure will be made to influence the recognition and support of commons.

This strategy aims to create opportunities for ILC members to **connect, mobilise, and influence three types of changes** related to:

- 1. Politics (Influence)
- 2. Behaviour decision makers (Influence, Mobilise)
- 3. Platform (Mobilise, Connect)

Main project Outcomes of the CBI are:

Type of Changes	Changes
POLITICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence EU Common Agricultural Policy as the main policy affecting commons’ natural/social/economic resources at EU level (Influence) • Influence other policies related to land (at all administrative levels) (for example: forest policy formulation and implementation) (Influence) • Support common vision baseline and tools for the support of common land rights for influencing policies at EMENA level (Influence)
BEHAVIOR DECISION MAKERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBI members and partners have adequate tools and capacities (Mobilise) • CBI members have a representative (sectorial & geographical) demonstrative cases of commons in EMENA, focusing on their values (Mobilise) • Support, prepare, mobilise and empower local communities and networks for influencing policies (Mobilise)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and consolidate the communication and networking on the

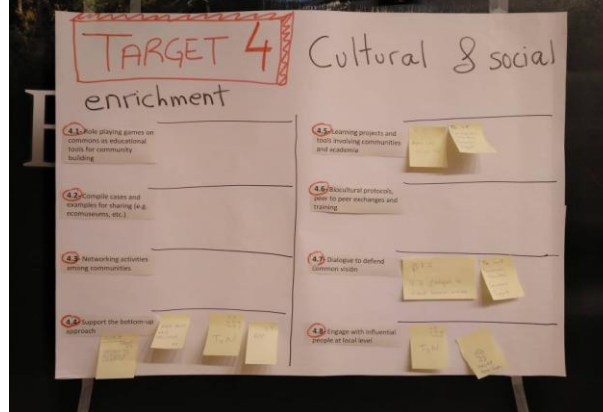
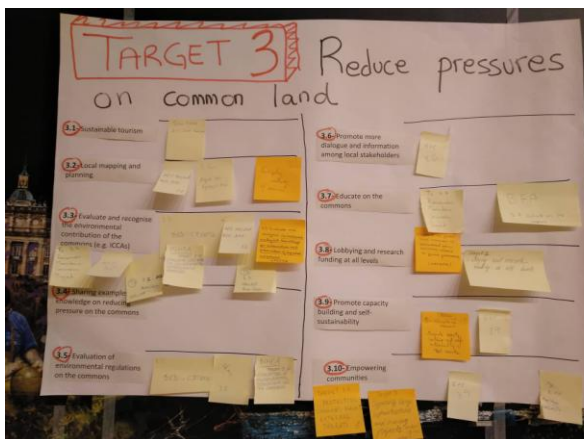
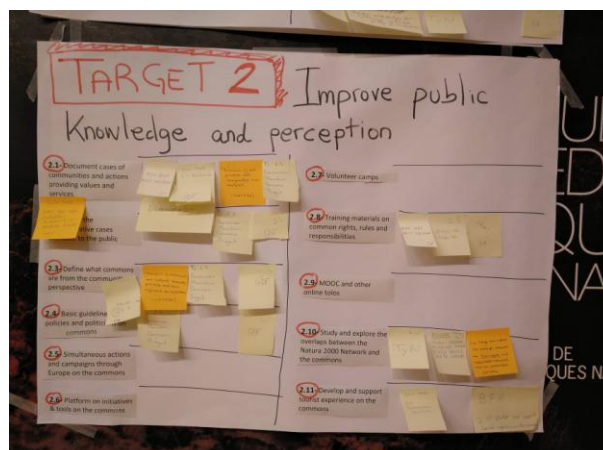
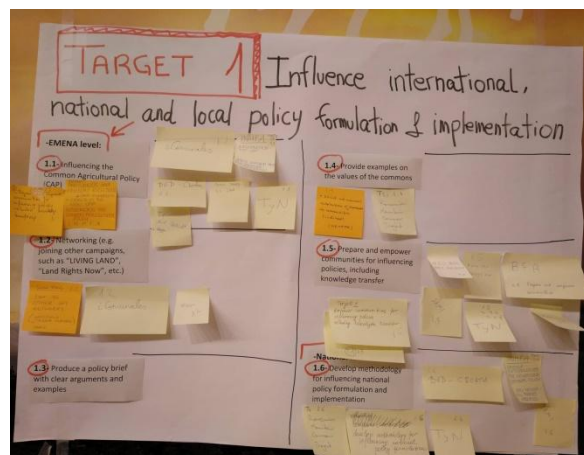
PLATFORM	<p>EMENA working group on Commons and Common Land Rights (Connect)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give visibility to the value and services of commons (Connect) • Better common governance of natural resources (Connect) • Support, prepare and empower communities for knowledge transfer (Connect)
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From these, four main targets with specific activities were agreed:

Table 1: Four targets and related activities outlined by the CBI members in the Granada Workshop in 2018

<p>Target 1: Influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation</p> <p>-EMENA level:</p> <p>1.1- Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)</p> <p>1.2- Networking (e.g. joining other campaigns, such as “LIVING LAND”, “Land Rights Now”, etc.)</p> <p>1.3- Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and examples</p> <p>1.4- Provide examples on the values of the commons</p> <p>1.5- Prepare and empower communities for influencing policies, including knowledge transfer</p> <p>-National level:</p> <p>1.6- Develop methodology for influencing national policy formulation and implementation</p>	<p>Target 2: Improve public knowledge and perception</p> <p>2.1- Document cases of communities and actions providing values and services</p> <p>2.2- Make demonstrative cases available to the public</p> <p>2.3- Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective</p> <p>2.4- Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons</p> <p>2.5- Simultaneous actions and campaigns through Europe on the commons</p> <p>2.6- Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons</p> <p>2.7- Volunteer camps</p> <p>2.8- Training materials on common rights, rules and responsibilities</p> <p>2.9- MOOC and other online tools</p> <p>2.10- Study and explore the overlaps between Natura 2000 Network (or other designation) and the commons</p> <p>2.11- Develop and support tourist experience on the commons</p>
<p>Target 3: Reduce pressures on common land</p> <p>3.1- Sustainable tourism</p> <p>3.2- Local mapping and planning</p> <p>3.3- Evaluate and recognise the environmental contribution of the commons (e.g. ICCAs)</p> <p>3.4- Sharing examples and knowledge on reducing pressure on the commons</p> <p>3.5- Evaluation of environmental regulations on the commons</p> <p>3.6- Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders</p> <p>3.7- Educate on the commons</p> <p>3.8- Lobbying and research funding at all levels</p> <p>3.9- Promote capacity building and self-sustainability</p> <p>3.10- Empowering communities</p>	<p>Target 4: Cultural and social enrichment</p> <p>4.1- Role playing games on commons as educational tools for community building</p> <p>4.2- Compile cases and examples for sharing (e.g. ecomuseums, etc.)</p> <p>4.3- Networking activities among communities</p> <p>4.4- Support the bottom-up approach</p> <p>4.5- Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia</p> <p>4.6- Biocultural protocols, peer to peer exchanges and training</p> <p>4.7- Dialogue to defend common vision</p> <p>4.8- Engage with influential people at local level</p>

In the second CBI on Commons and Common Land Rights workshop in Valsaín (Segovia) in March 2019, the Strategy agreed in Granada was updated.



Each participant

organization voted the four most important sub-targets/activities for them.

After the group exercise for activities prioritization, the strategy targets and related activities were reorganized according to the four targets agreed in Granada but with a battery of activities simplified and grouped.

Table 3: Reorganization of strategy targets of CBI on Commons (EMENA)

TARGET 1: INFLUENCE INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND LOCAL POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE TARGET	LINKED ACTIVITIES	ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED TO DEVELOP
-EMENA level:		
1.1- Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATyN • IComunes
1.3- Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and proposals (Year 1)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IComunes • BED Croatia • HALAP • Slow Food • ATyN

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INHFA
<p>1.2- Networking (e.g. joining other campaigns, such as “LIVING LAND”, “Land Rights Now”, etc.)</p>	<p>2.5- Simultaneous actions and campaigns through Europe on the commons</p> <p>-Link to other international networks (indigenous Terra Madre)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IComunes • GFC • Slow Food
-National, regional, local level:		
<p>2.4- Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romanian Mountain • GDF
<p>1.5- Prepare and empower communities for influencing policies, including knowledge transfer</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATyN • SÁMI • BFA • GFC • NGO BIOS • HALAP • Aigine CRC (the Kyrgyz Rep)
<p>1.6- Develop methodology for influencing national policy formulation and implementation</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BED-Croatia • INHFA • Romanian Mountain • ATyN • SÁMI
<p>3.8- Lobbying and research funding at all levels</p>	<p>- Research on forest-based commons to understand policy concerns related to forest governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romanian Mountain • BFA

TARGET 2: IMPROVE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND PERCEPTION

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE TARGET	LINKED ACTIVITIES	ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED TO DEVELOP
<p>2.3- Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective</p>	<p>-Analysis of traditional and cultural community practices and their influence on ecosystems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HALAP • Romanian Mountain • GDF
<p>2.6- Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons (Year 1)</p>	<p>2.1- Document cases of communities and actions providing values and services</p> <p>1.4- Provide examples on the values of the commons</p> <p>-Promotion of best practices and comparative case analysis</p> <p>-Map Bio and cultural diversity in targeted areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO BIOS • GDF • Slow Food • IComunes • Romanian Mountain
<p>2.2- Make the demonstrative cases available to the public</p>	<p>3.4- Sharing examples and knowledge on reducing pressure on the commons</p> <p>2.8- Training materials on common</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romanian Mountain • GDF

	rights, rules and 3.7- Educate on the commons 2.9- MOOC and other online tolos 4.2- Compile cases and examples for sharing (e.g. ecomuseums, etc.) 4.1- Role playing games on commons as educational tools for community building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO BIOS • SÁMI • Aigine CRC (the Kyrgyz Rep)
2.10- Study and explore the overlaps between the Natura 2000 Network and the commons		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATyN • INHFA
2.11- Develop and support tourist experience on the commons	2.7- Volunteer camps 3.1- Sustainable tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow Food • BFA

TARGET 3: REDUCE PRESSURES ON COMMON LAND

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE TARGET	LINKED ACTIVITIES	ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED TO DEVELOP
3.5- Analysis of environmental regulations on the commons		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BED-Croatia • SÁMI • INHFA
3.2- Local mapping and planning	- Participatory monitoring of commons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO BIOS • Aigine CRC (the Kyrgyz Rep)
3.3- Evaluate and recognise the environmental contribution of the commons (e.g. ICCAs)	Evaluate and recognise the traditional ecological knowledge for restauration and preservation of degraded ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romanian Mountain • GFC • HALAP • BED-Croatia • INHFA
3.6- Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders	4.7- Dialogue to defend common vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GFC • Romanian Mountain • BFA

TARGET 4: CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ENRICHMENT

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE TARGET	LINKED ACTIVITIES	ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED TO DEVELOP
4.4- Support the bottom-up approach	3.10- Empowering communities 3.9- Promote capacity building and self-sustainability 4.3- Networking activities among communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO BIOS • ATyN • GFC • INHFA
4.5- Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia	4.6- Biocultural protocols, peer to peer exchanges and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romanian Mountain • Aigine CRC (the Kyrgyz Rep)
4.8- Engage with influential people at local level		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATyN • HALAP

In order to achieve the main goal and the two main strategic objectives, the **four main targets, and related specific activities**, have been updated as shown in table 4.

For the development of the subtargets/activities see table 3 with linked activities to each main activity.

The activities have been re-numbered to avoid confusion.

Table 4: targets and related activities updated by the CBI members in Valsaín Workshop on 12 March 2019

Target 1: Influence international, national and local policy formulation and implementation	Target 2: Improve public knowledge and perception
<p>-EMENA level:</p> <p>1.a- Influencing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 1.b- Produce a policy brief with clear arguments and proposals (Year 1) 1.c- Networking and campaigning (e.g. “Living Land”, “Land Rights Now”, Terra Madre, etc.)</p> <p>-National, regional, local level:</p> <p>1.d- Basic guidelines for policies and politicians on commons 1.e- Prepare and empower communities for influencing policies, including knowledge transfer 1.f- Develop methodology for influencing national policy formulation and implementation 1.g- Advocacy and research funding at all levels</p>	<p>2.a- Define what commons are from the communities’ perspective and the needs 2.b- Platform on initiatives & tools on the commons (Year 1) 2.c- Make the demonstrative cases available to the public 2.d- Study and explore the overlaps between the Natura 2000 Network, and/or other protection figures, and the commons 2.e- Develop and support tourist experience on the commons</p>
Target 3: Reduce pressures on common land self-sustainability	Target 4: Cultural and social enrichment
<p>3.a- Analysis of environmental regulations on the commons 3.b- Local mapping and planning 3.c- Evaluate and recognise the environmental contribution of the commons (e.g. ICCAs) 3.d- Promote more dialogue and information among local stakeholders</p>	<p>4.a- Support the bottom-up approach 4.b- Learning projects and tools involving communities and academia 4.c- Engage with influential people at local level</p>