

# Developing a Master Plan for the MIDAs Information Hub

## Executive Summary

December 2025



# I. Introduction

## I Background and Purpose of the Master Plan

Globally, the designation of Internationally Designated Areas (IDAs) such as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, Global Geoparks, and Ramsar Wetlands continues to increase. Concurrently, Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs), where two or more protection regimes overlap within the same area, are also extending. However, as each regime is managed based on its own distinct perspectives and criteria, complex management inefficiencies arise, including the dispersion of field management entities and the application of differing regulations.

Data, information, and knowledge related to MIDAs are accumulated and managed separately by international organizations like UNESCO, the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, and IUCN, as well as by individual site management entities. This fragmentation creates considerable limitations for researchers and practitioners seeking to grasp the comprehensive status or compare and analyze similar cases. Consequently, there is an absolute lack of an information base to set up harmonized management strategies that integrate different protection systems of each IDA.

The establishment of the 'MIDAs Information Sharing Hub Platform' aims to systematically collect and store dispersed MIDAs-related information and provide it through a one-stop platform. This initiative seeks to create a core knowledge base that goes beyond simple information aggregation to generate management synergies among IDAs. It also aims to contribute to enhancing the sustainable management capacity of MIDAs worldwide by promoting effective information sharing and collaboration among a diverse range of stakeholders, including policy makers, researchers, field managers, and so on.

Based on this background and necessity, this master plan proposes the overall online platform structure, information architecture, and UI/UX design for the MIDAs Information Sharing Hub Platform (hereafter, '*MIDAs Hub Platform*'). It also presents a mid-to-long-term strategy and implementation plan for its phased rollout. The research was conducted for approximately five and a half months starting in July 2025.

## I Structure of the Master Plan

This master plan consists of five chapters. Chapter 1 presents the project overview, including the background, objectives, implementation strategy, and execution methods of this initiative. Chapters 2 and 3 then outline the concept and current status of MIDAs. Through a) analysis of 10 representative cases of MIDAs, b) review of the existing information-sharing platforms, and c) analysis of relevant literature, key implications are derived. Based on these findings, the necessity for establishing a *MIDAs Hub Platform* and the direction for its content composition are proposed.

Chapter 4 covers the establishment of core tasks and design principles for building the *MIDAs Hub Platform* and proposes a detailed system structure and menu layout based on user scenarios. It also presents user interface (UI) / user experience (UX) screen designs prioritizing user convenience and outlines management and operational plans to ensure efficient system operation and sustainability.

Chapter 5 presents the vision and goals for the *MIDAs Hub Platform*, along with a mid-to-long-term implementation strategy across three phases: the pilot introduction period, the official operation period, and the expansion period, together with detailed annual project plans. Finally, to ensure the research results lead to practical implementation, it outlines the project overview and specific implementation plans for the following year, 2026.

## I Overview of the Project

### 1) Purpose of the project

- a) Systematically integrate dispersed information from Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs) worldwide;
- b) Establish an information sharing hub platform to lead sustainable development and increase efficiency for integrated management by recreating information as customized knowledge.

**Table 1 Overview of the project**

<b>Project Title</b>	Developing a Master Plan for the MIDAs Information Hub
<b>Project Period</b>	2026–2030 (5 years)
<b>Annual Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1<sup>st</sup> Year: Finalization of platform classification system and UI/UX design; Commencement of pilot operation</li> <li>▪ 2<sup>nd</sup> Year: Official service launch reflecting feedback from the pilot operation</li> <li>▪ 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Onwards: Phased expansion of advanced features based on implementation conditions, including;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of data analysis-based infographic dashboards</li> <li>- Design and development of statistical comparison and analysis services for MIDAs</li> <li>- Development of GIS-integrated map visualization functions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Key Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New 'MIDAs Hub' menu on the GCIDA website</li> <li>▪ Organization of subcategories such as the list of MIDAs, statistical information, and various resources within MIDAs Hub;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- List of MIDAs: Provides MIDA and individual IDA information categorized as MIDA including IDAs / IDAs included in MIDA;</li> <li>- Provides statistics information to reflect users' selections and location-based MIDA information searches via 'Location on Map' and UNESCO Navigator integration;</li> <li>- MIDAs Case Studies: Introduction of good management cases of MIDAs;</li> <li>- MIDAs Management Improvement: Provides resources on strategies for improving management systems such as Managing MIDAs;</li> <li>- Learning MIDAs: Learning materials and educational resources from workshops and academic conferences</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Languages Supported</b>	English (French to be added in the later stages)

## 2) Goals of the project

*Establishing a systematic MIDAs knowledge base and defining information architecture:* Comprehensively analyze the designation status of MIDAs, characteristics of IDAs, management cases, and related research to clearly define the scope of core content the Hub must provide.

*Implementing a user-centric and efficient Hub system model:* Based on the analysis of information needs and usage patterns of key stakeholders (policy makers, researchers, site managers), propose a Hub system model featuring intuitive information exploration functions (multi-dimensional search, dashboards, etc.) and a clear UI/UX.

*Ensuring Sustainability of the Hub system and Strengthening GCIDA's Role:* Enhance the Hub's practical value by establishing strategies for securing reliable content, managing data quality, and activating user participation. This aims to strengthen GCIDA's international expertise and leadership in the MIDAs field.

## 3) Implementation strategies for the project

*User-oriented planning based on empirical analysis:* Objectively diagnose the current status and issues through literature research, analysis of similar domestic and international information-sharing platforms (Protected Planet, PANORAMA, etc.), and expert consultation, thereby securing empirical evidence for Hub Platform design.

*Enhancing execution capability through organic collaboration with GCIDA:* Prioritize integration with GCIDA's existing website infrastructure and network resources to enhance the plan's practical suitability and maximize feasibility.

*Promoting sustainable development through a phased and scalable approach:* Lay the groundwork for long-term development by implementing a modular system architecture and an expandable information classification system to flexibly respond to future data growth, technological changes, and expanding user demands.

# II. Analysis of MIDAs and Status of Information Platforms

## I Analysis of the Status of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs)

### 1) Defining the scope of IDA and MIDAs in the study

*Internationally Designated Area (IDA):* This refers to areas recognized for their outstanding ecological and cultural value according to international standards. This project sets the four international designations—UNESCO World Heritage (WH), Biosphere Reserve (BR), UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG), and Ramsar Wetland (RS)—as the subjects of analysis.

*Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs):* This term refers to areas where two or more of the above four IDAs overlap, either fully or partially, within the same area. This project defines MIDAs based on the actual physical overlap of boundaries, not administrative overlap.

## 2) Designation status and characteristics of MIDAs

- This analysis is based on data from the forthcoming 'Managing MIDAs 2.0' (scheduled for publication in 2026).
- A total of 380 MIDAs were identified worldwide, distributed by region as follows: Europe 128 (33.7%), Asia 123 (24.0%), Africa 52 (13.7%), Central Asia 30 (10.3%), South America 25 (9.0%), Arab countries 17 (4.5%), North America 16 (4.3%), and Oceania 4 (1.0%).
- Based on the number of overlaps, two IDA overlaps accounted for the highest number at 292 cases (76.84%), followed by three IDA overlaps at 80 cases (21.05%), and four IDA overlaps at 8 cases (2.11%).
- By IDA combination, the BR+RS combination accounted for approximately 41% of the total, the highest proportion. This suggests that combinations of protection systems based on large-scale natural ecosystems are the most common type globally.
- The BR+RS+WH combination accounted for about 13%. This type is analyzed as a MIDAs category with enhanced representativeness and integrity, combining a system centered on biodiversity protection with the outstanding universal value of World Heritage.
- Meanwhile, combinations including UGG accounted for about 23%. This indicates that the interconnection between geological value and biodiversity plays a significant role in the MIDAs overlapping structure, as geological diversity functions as a habitat foundation for diverse organisms.

## 3) Results of MIDAs case analysis

Ten representative MIDAs are selected through comprehensive consideration of factors such as continental distribution, diversity of designation types (double to quadruple designations), and types of managing entities, followed by an in-depth case analysis.

Analysis results indicate that while most MIDAs achieved a certain level of success in attracting tourists and enhancing international visibility through integrated branding effects, common structural issues were identified in on-site management. These include regulatory conflicts between protection systems, dual management departments, and increased management burdens and fatigue among local residents.

# I Analysis of the Current Status for Establishing a MIDAs Hub Platform

## 1) Analysis of information sharing platforms

Five information sharing platforms (Korean National Heritage Portal, ICHLinks, Europeana, DPLA, Resource Watch) and six IDA-related platforms (UNESCO Sites Navigator, PANORAMA, GBIF, KBAs, Protected Planet, BHL) are analyzed for core functions and menu structures to assess applicability for the MIDAs Information Sharing Hub Platform (refer to Table 2).

The analysis results indicate that major platforms such as ICHLinks, Europeana, and DPLA are centered around high-quality digital content and effectively enhance user information exploration experiences based on reliability and expertise.

Resource Watch, GBIF, and Protected Planet stand out for their map-based visualization capabilities, providing intuitive and easy-to-understand visual experiences through data exploration centered on spatial information.

Of the eleven platforms analyzed, five platforms are found to have systematic data structures and ensure data interoperability and information reliability by adhering to international metadata standard.

**Table 2. Synthetic analysis of information-sharing platforms**

	Content and Experience				Platform Features and Convenience						Data Structure and Openness	
	Story Telling Core	High Quality Content	Realistic Content (VR/AR)	Professional Curation	User Customized	Participatory Community	Map Visualization	Multi Lingual Provided	User Guide	Integrated and Detailed Search	Metadata Standard	Open License/ Open API
National Heritage Portal					○			○		○	○	
IchLinks	○		○	○				○				
Europeana	○			○	○	○		○	○	○	○	
DPLA	○			○	○	○						
Resource Watch	○	○		○	○	○	○		○	○	○	○
PANORAMA						○	○					
GBIF									○		○	
UNESCO Sites Navigator		○		○				○	○	○	○	
KBAs	○	○		○		○	○		○	○	○	○
Protected Planet	○	○		○		○	○		○	○	○	○
BHL	○	○		○		○			○	○	○	○

## 2) Analysis of research and publications related to MIDAs

This analysis examines publications issued by international organizations and natural heritage-specialized institutions related to the existing IDAs to identify the scope and characteristics of materials that users expect to access through the information-sharing hub. To this end, a total of 30,495 English-language public documents were collected, primarily from major international organizations involved in protected area management and related policy implementation.

After excluding duplicate documents, multilingual versions with identical content, outdated materials with newer versions available, and photo posts intended solely for archival purposes from the collected data, a total of 473 meaningful documents were selected for analysis.

The selected materials were classified based on keywords, IDA types, sources, and publishing formats;

- Keywords: Conservation/Management, Capacity Building, Information, Policy, Utilization.
- Publishing format: Guidelines, toolkits, reports, publications, brochures, webzines.

Analysis results showed that webzines focused on publicity and news accounted for the highest proportion (62%) by publication type, while practical guidance materials such as guidelines and toolkits constituted only about 11%.

In terms of IDA, most materials were structured around a single IDA system, and only one document (Managing MIDAs 1.0, IUCN 2016) directly mentioned MIDAs in its title or content.

### 3) Implications

Analysis of approximately 400 meaningful documents reveals that international organizations' publications are concentrated in webzine formats focused on information dissemination and promotion, while practical guidance materials supporting on-site management and policy implementation are relatively scarce.

From a policy perspective, materials centered on the single IDA framework dominate, confirming that information and knowledge bases comprehensively addressing MIDAs—where multiple protection systems overlap—remain severely limited.

Examining publication trends by year reveals a generally gradual increase overall, with the highest single-year output (158 items) concentrated in 2022. This is interpreted as the effect of a temporary surge in publications tied to international events and commemorative issues.

## III. A Plan for Establishing and Operating MIDAs Information Sharing Hub Platform

### I UI/UX Design Principles of User-centered MIDAs Hub Platform

The UI/UX of the MIDAs Hub Platform should be designed to enable information exploration without requiring separate training, considering that while expertise in the field of internationally protected areas is high, IT utilization capabilities vary significantly.

This approach is based on Jakob Nielsen's Mental Model Principle, which states that users expect websites to operate similarly to those they are already familiar with. Accordingly, it avoids a completely new UI and expands functionality while maintaining consistency with the existing GCIDA website's UI framework. It provides an intuitive user experience through clear screen layouts utilizing proven layouts and design components.

The information architecture is designed as an integrated structure organized by MIDA units, rather than a simple listing of individual IDAs, enabling comparison and understanding. Multiple entry points are provided so that users can begin exploration even without prior knowledge of the protection systems.

## I Menu Structure of MIDAs Hub Platform

This design proposal comprehensively reflects the previously presented UI/UX design principles and the functional purpose of MIDAs Hub Platform, deriving the menu structure in two directions, Proposal A and Proposal B.

The two design proposals share the same design philosophy but differ in information exposure methods and user navigation paths, allowing selection and adjustment based on user response and operational objectives.

### 1) Menu Tree A: Subdivided structure (content-centric)

The structure places the material categories List of MIDAs, MIDAs Case Studies, MIDAs Management Improvement, and Learning MIDAs in parallel at the top-level menu (Depth 1).

By exposing the resource area at the same hierarchical level as the navigation menu, this approach fully reveals that the Hub is more than a simple database—it is a platform for accumulating learning, guidance, and case studies.

This structure provides users not only with browsing the list of MIDAs but also direct access paths to specific reports, educational materials, or case content. It particularly offers efficient navigation with minimized clicks for users visiting for specific resources, such as policy makers, researchers, and educators.

In terms of data accessibility, it is highly intuitive; however, as the number of top-level menus increases, there is a potential for visual dispersion. Should content types continue to expand in the future, a main menu overhaul will be necessary.

This design proposal can be seen as providing an efficient navigation experience for data-centric usage or when quick access to specific content is required.

**Table 3. Navigation flow of Menu Tree A**

Depth 1	Depth 2	Depth 3	Depth 4
List of MIDAs	MIDA including IDAs		Introduction of Each MIDA
	IDAs included in MIDA		
	Statistics and Locations on Map	MIDAs Statistics UNESCO Sites Navigator	External Links
MIDAs Case Studies			
MIDAs Management Improvement	Managing MIDAs		
	MIDAs Guidebook		
	Publications		
Learning MIDAs			



Figure 1. UI/UX sampling of Menu Tree A

Table 4. Summary of characteristics in Menu Tree A

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intuitive Accessibility: Major contents are immediately exposed in the main menu</li> <li>• Shortened navigation path: Reduced clicks enable faster access to materials</li> <li>• Content Emphasis: Visually highlights that the Hub is a learning and guidance platform beyond a database</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased menu complexity: Potential for visual clutter due to increased number of top-level menus</li> <li>• Limited scalability: Potential need to restructure the main menu when content expands in the future</li> <li>• Hierarchy confusion: Function-based and content-based menus placed on the same level</li> </ul>

## 2) Menu Tree B: Combined structure (resource-centric)

This structure sets 'MIDAs Resources' as a single top-level category (Depth 1), and integrate all MIDAs-related materials under this menu to clearly distinguish the MIDAs Hub Platform into a data exploration area and a resource archive area;

- Exploration-focused realm: List of MIDAs (MIDA including IDAs, IDAs included in MIDA, MIDAs Statistics, UNESCO Sites Navigator)
- Data accumulation realm: MIDAs Case Studies, MIDAs Management Improvement, Learning MIDAs

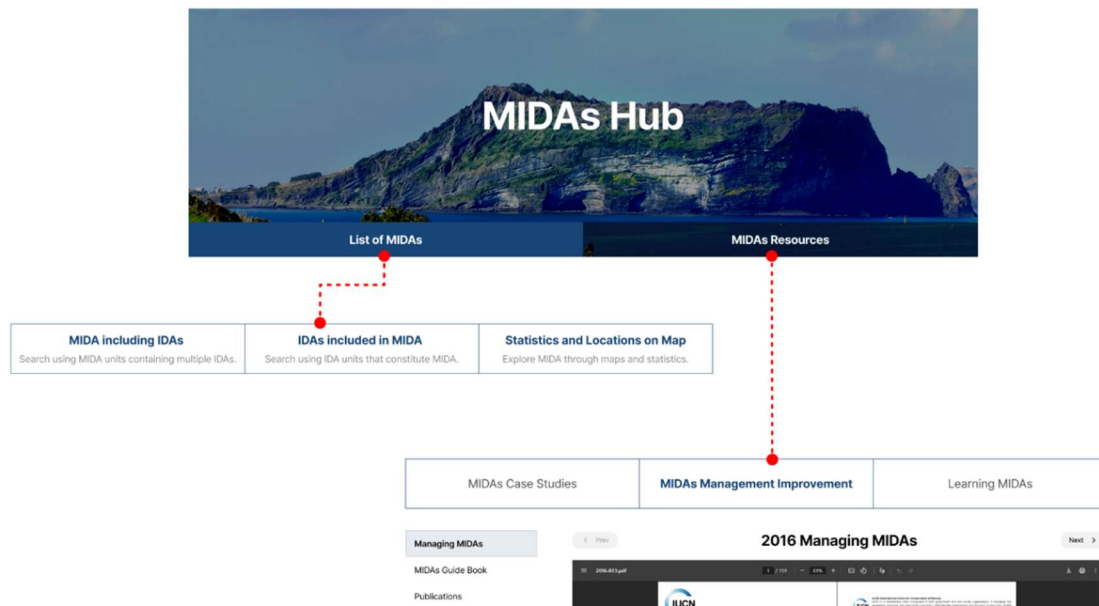
Users, at first, identify subjects of interest through data-driven exploration such as the MIDAs list, map, and statistics. They then move to the Resources area as needed to deepen their learning using case studies, guidebooks, reports, and educational materials. This forms a flow based on the premise of a stepwise information consumption structure: Explore → Understand → Learn.

Menu Tree B minimizes the number of top-level menus, maintaining a simple and stable overall UI. It is suitable for long-term operation as it allows flexible expansion under Resources even when new content types like video materials, newsletters, or new research reports are added in the future.

However, since accessing key content requires at least two steps of navigation, first-time visitors may need some time to intuitively grasp the scope and volume of materials within the Platform.

**Table 5. Navigation flow of Menu Tree B**

Depth 1	Depth 2	Depth 3	Depth 4
List of MIDAs	MIDA including IDAs		Introduction of Each MIDA
	IDAs included in MIDA		
	Statistics and Locations on Map	MIDAs Statistics	External Links
		UNESCO Sites Navigator	
MIDAs Resources	MIDAs Case Studies		Managing MIDAs MIDAs Guidebook Publications
	MIDAs Management Improvement		
	Learning MIDAs		



**Figure 2. UI/UX sampling of Menu Tree B**

**Table 6. Summary of characteristics in Menu Tree B**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural clarity and stability: The purposes of data exploration and resource viewing are clearly separated.</li> <li>• High scalability: New content can be flexibly added under Resources.</li> <li>• Visual Convenience: Maintains a simple UI with fewer top-level menu items.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced accessibility: Requires at least two navigation steps to access key materials.</li> <li>• Weakened content visibility: First-time visitors may struggle to intuitively recognize the existence of materials</li> </ul>

## I Detailed Configuration by Each Page in MIDAs Hub Platform

MIDAs Hub Platform focuses primarily on two functions: information exploration and relevant information provision, to facilitate efficient information search and related information delivery.

The areas are divided into a total of five according to function. Information search is subdivided into a list of MIDAs and map-based search, while information provision is subdivided into major MIDA management cases, policy and research materials, and learning materials.

Each area and subcategory is interconnected and designed to seamlessly link to detailed information pages and external official services. (\*The detailed configuration of this summary is based on Menu Tree A.)

### 1) List of MIDAs

This is a key exploration area based on the MIDA list, providing a list view and dashboard that offer a comprehensive overview of the status of MIDAs worldwide.

Users can selectively explore regions of interest using IDA type (BR·RS·WH·UGG) and continent filters.

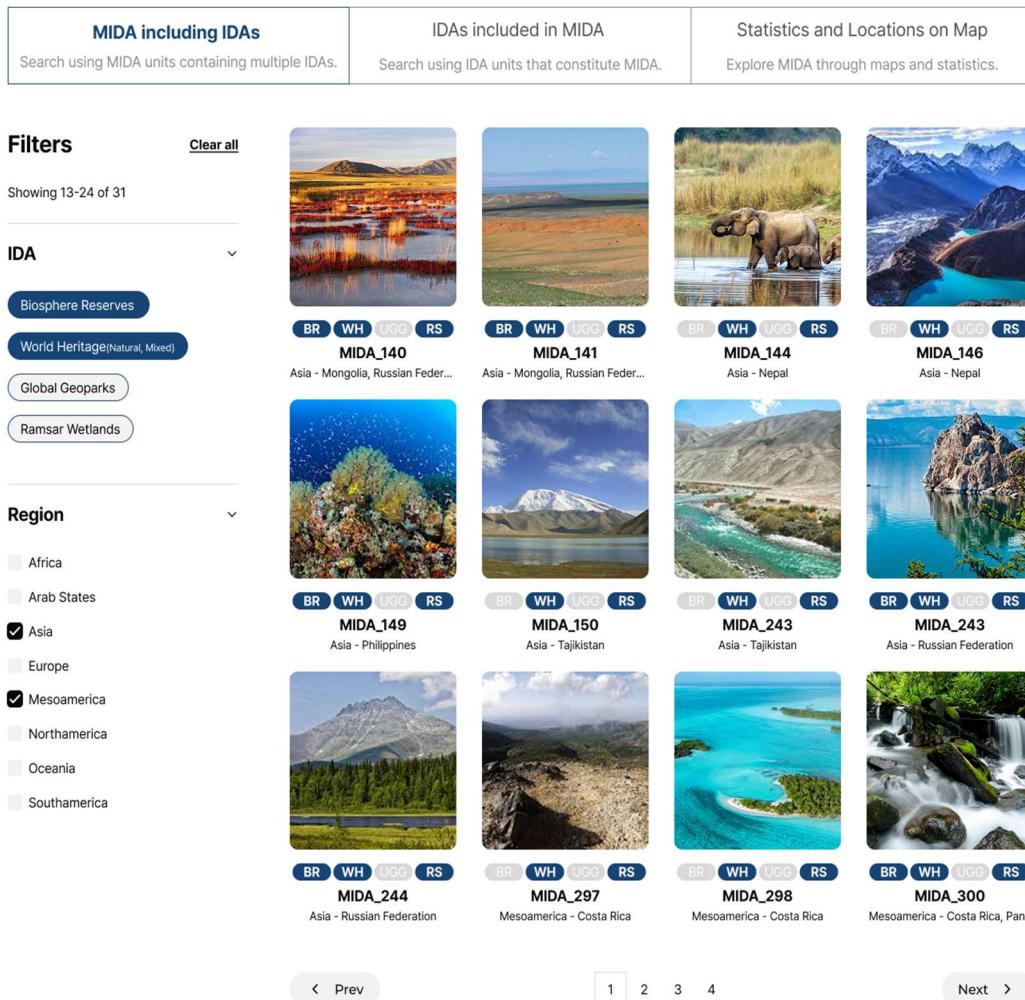


Figure 3. An UI/UX sample of MIDA including IDAs

This section offers two navigation paths;

- MIDA including IDAs
  - It sets MIDA as the top-level item and displays multiple IDAs included within that MIDA as a group.
  - For example, selecting 'Jeju Area' displays the IDAs contained within it, such as '1100 High Ground Wetland' and 'Mulyeongari Oreum'. Then the list is presented together (Figure 3).
- IDAs included in MIDA
  - Based on individual IDAs, it shows which MIDA the IDA belongs to in reverse.
  - For example, selecting '1100 High Ground Wetland' allows users to simultaneously confirm the MIDA information 'Jeju Area' to which this IDA belongs (Figure 4).

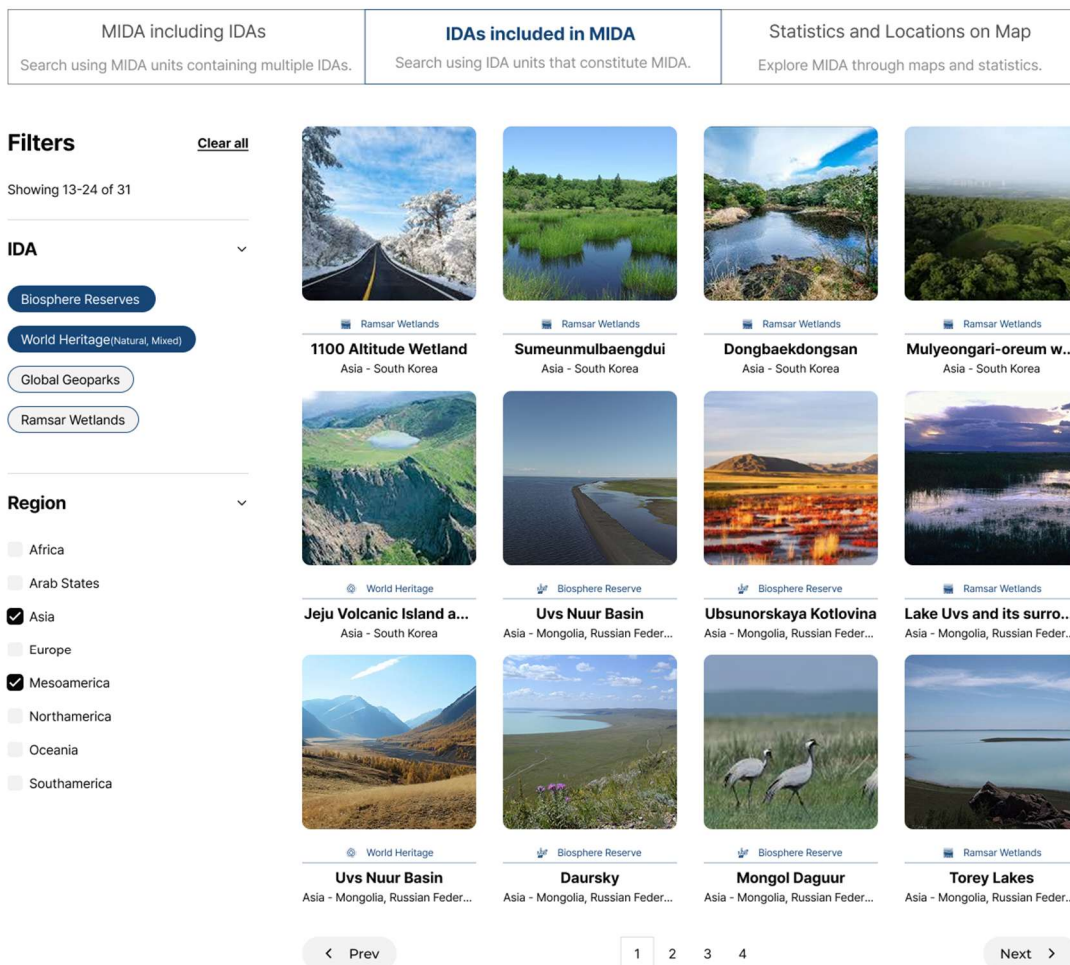


Figure 4. An UI/UX sample of IDAs included MIDA

Both paths ultimately lead to the Introduction of each MIDA page, which displays comprehensive information about a specific MIDA.

On this detail page, users can view the MIDA representative image, Google Map-based location information, the list of included IDAs, the representative website and external links, and optionally provided detailed descriptions (Figure 5).



## MIDA\_140



**Title** MIDA\_140

**Country** Mongolia, Russian Federation

**Region** Asia, Europe

- IDA List**
-  [Ubsunorskaya Kotlovina](#)
  -  [Uvs Nuur Basin](#)
  -  [Lake Uvs and its surrou...](#)

Name of IDA (Designated Year)	Size of Areas (ha)				Organization
	Total	Core	Buffer	Transition	
<b>WHC (2003)</b>	810,234	810,234			Administration of Uvs Nuur Basin SPA
<b>BR (1997)</b>	1,316,566	366,100			Administration of Uvs Nuur Basin SPA
<b>UGG (-)</b>					
<b>RS (2004)</b>	585,000				Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism

Figure 5. An UI/UX sample of Introduction of Each MIDA

## 2) Statistics and locations on map

List of MIDAs
Case Studies
Management Improvement
Learning MIDAs

MIDA including IDAs

Search using MIDA units containing multiple IDAs.

IDAs included in MIDA

Search using IDA units that constitute MIDA.

**Statistics and Locations on Map**

Explore MIDA through maps and statistics.

Biosphere Reserve

World Heritage (Natural, Mixed)

Global Geoparks

Ramsar Wetlands

MIDAs Total	Count
MIDAs Total	114
BR + WH	43
BR + WH + UGG	11
BR + WH + RS	52
BR + WH + UGG + RS	8

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_001**  
Africa - Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_006**  
Africa - Cameroon

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_009**  
Africa - Central African Republic

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_011**  
Africa - Côte d'Ivoire

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_012**  
Africa - Côte d'Ivoire

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_013**  
Africa - Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_015**  
Africa - Democratic Republic of Congo

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_017**  
Africa - Gambia, Senegal

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_021**  
Africa - Guinea Bissau

BR WH UGG RS

**MIDA\_025**  
Africa - Mauritania, Senegal

< Prev

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Next >

[Search with Unesco Sites Navigator >](#)

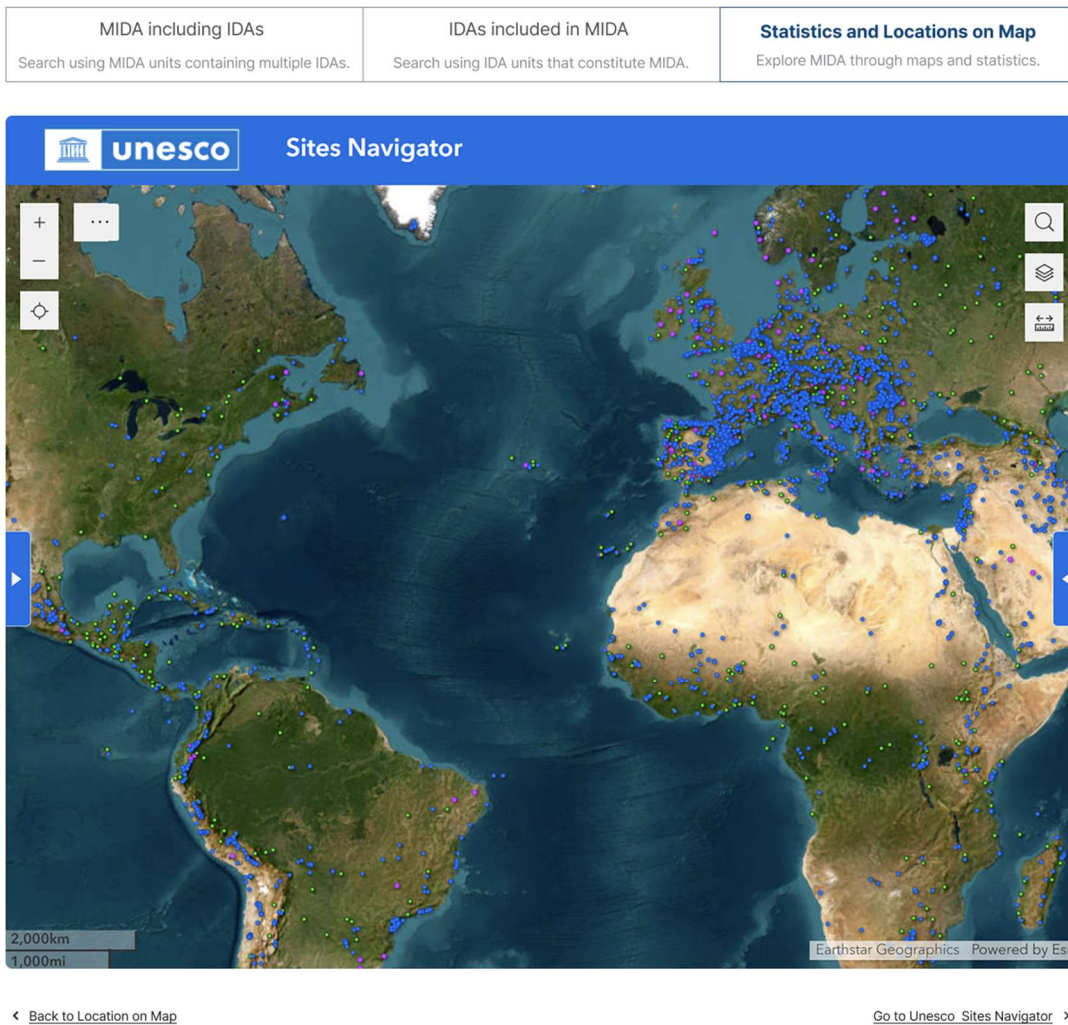


Figure 6. An UI/UX sample of statistics view (top) and results (bottom)

This map-based exploration area is designed to enable users to intuitively understand the distribution and overlap patterns of MIDAs within a geographic context.

Spatial patterns and statistical information based on institutional overlap combinations can be viewed via a visual dashboard (Figure 6).

MIDAs Statistics visualizes the distribution of IDA combinations by continent in various formats such as maps, statistics, and lists (Figure 6).



**Figure 7. Embedded UNESCO Navigator and provision of original webpage links**

The UNESCO Navigator, UNESCO's official exploration service, is embedded within the web page. This allows users to explore IDAs' distribution by country and type based on highly reliable official data. The design also enables users to navigate to the original web page when needed (Figure 7).

### 3) MIDAs case studies

MIDAs Case Studies provides the existed information on management case studies of major MIDAs (Figure 8).

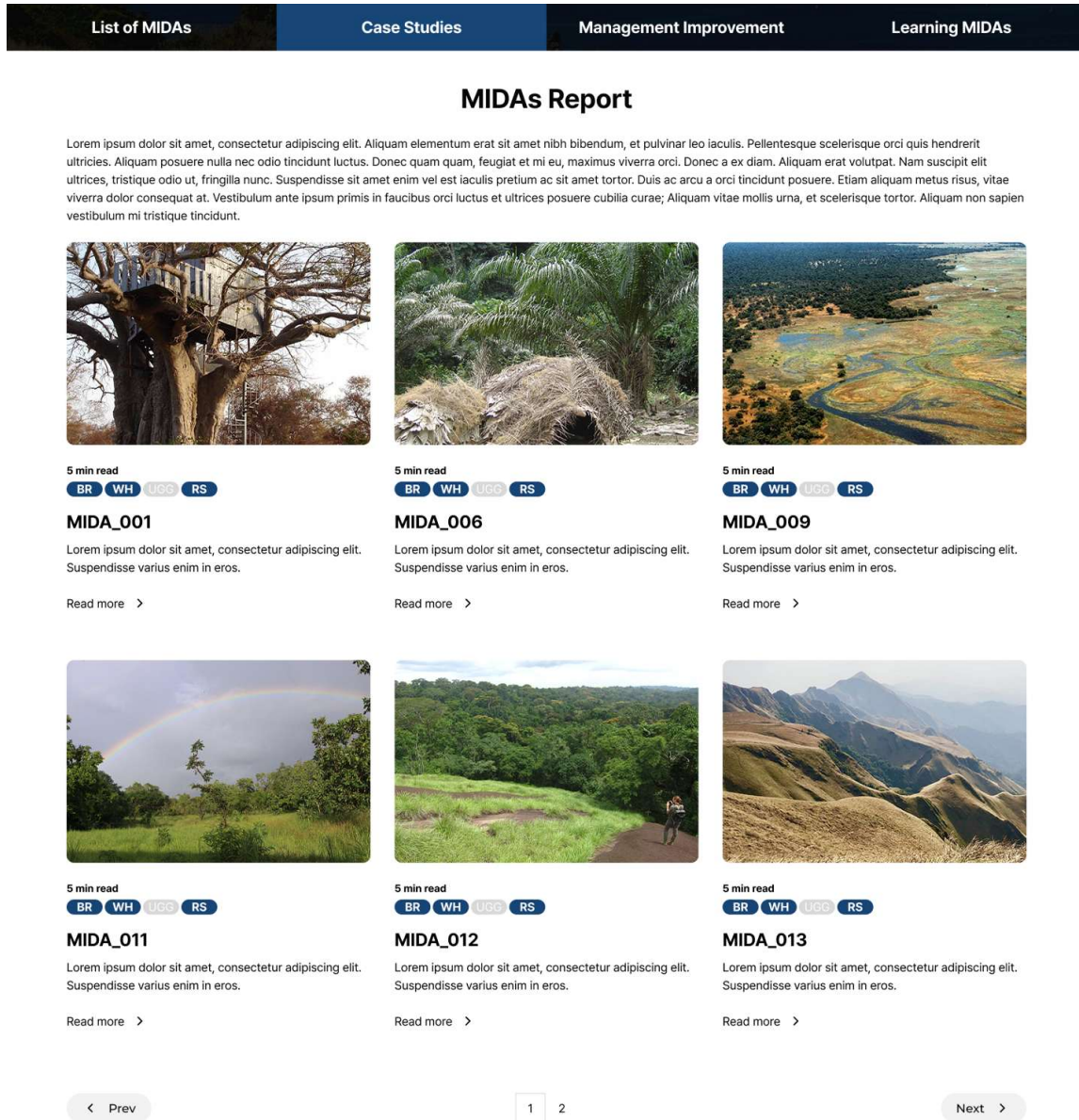


Figure 8. An UI/UX sample of MIDAs case studies

#### 4) MIDAs Management Improvement

MIDAs Management Improvement covers management systems and improvement strategies for MIDAs, introducing key researches and policy resources such as the Managing MIDAs and MIDAs Guidebook, which compile management practices and cases (Figure 9 & 10).

List of MIDAs	Case Studies	Management Improvement	Learning MIDAs
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<a href="#">Managing MIDAs</a>	<a href="#">MIDAs Guide Book</a>	<a href="#">Publications</a>
--------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------

< Prev
2016 Managing MIDAs
Next >

2016-033.pdf
1 / 159
63%

**IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)**  
IUCN is a membership union comprised of both government and non-governmental organisations. It maintains the expertise, resources and reach of its more than 1,300 Member organisations and the input of more than 16,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

**Ramsar Convention**  
The Convention on Wetlands, called the Ramsar Convention, is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Its mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world" under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: work towards the wise use of all their wetlands, designate suitable wetlands for the list of wetlands of international importance, the "Ramsar List" and ensure their effective management, and cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.

**World Heritage Convention**  
The 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage recognises that certain places on Earth are of "outstanding universal value" and should form part of the common heritage of humankind. Today, 119 countries adhere to the World Heritage Convention and the designation of an international community website is a common impulse to identify and safeguard our world's most significant natural and cultural heritage. The Convention is unique in that it links together the concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural sites.

**The World Network of Biosphere Reserves under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme**  
By focusing on often internationally recognised sites within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, the MAB Programme, launched in 1971, advocates the basic values for natural and social sciences for the sustainable use and conservation of the resources of the biosphere and for the improvement of the overall relationship between people and their environment. It provides the conceptual framework for the development of a wide range of projects and programmes. For further information, please visit the website: [www.unesco.org/biosphere](http://www.unesco.org/biosphere) or the website: [www.mab.org](http://www.mab.org)

**UNESCO Global Geoparks under the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme**  
UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, multi-geographic areas which are of outstanding international geological significance and engaged with public policy of protection, education and sustainable development. Their objective is to advance sustainable development while meeting local communities to become increasingly aware of their natural and cultural heritage.

**Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea**  
The mission of the Ministry of Environment is to protect the national heritage from threats of environmental pollution and improve the quality of life for the public to that people can enjoy ambient natural environment, clean water and clear blue sky. Furthermore, we contribute to the global environment protection and sustainable Earth. The tasks of the Ministry of Environment include awareness and promotion of environmental law and regulations, introduction of environmental indicators, leading up to framework structure for environmental administration, drafting and implementation of mid- and long-term comprehensive measures for environmental conservation, setting up standards for regulations, providing administrative and financial support for environmental management to local governments, open-house environmental cooperation, and environmental cooperation with other countries.

**Jeju Special Self-Governing Province**  
Jeju Special Self-Governing Province is the largest island off the coast of the Korean Peninsula. It has an area of 1,830 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 690,000 residents. The island was granted autonomy as so-called self-governing province in 2006 by the central government, the Republic of Korea. It is a special international island and beautiful natural landscape immediately got international attention from the 12th century onwards. With that the island is the only place in the world where four international designations overlap in the same place: 1) complex of natural World Heritage site, 2) Biosphere Reserve, 3) UNESCO Global Geopark and 4) Ramsar Wetland Site. The province is only interested in improving the management and operations of multi-internationally designated areas on the island in a pioneer in the field, and is trying to create for new development model using a future vision to the island which many residents believe design, based on the concept of equilibrium and coexistence. The province plans for the future are focused on solving pressing issues and formulating policies based on these issues.

**Description**  
An Internationally Designated Area (IDA) is a natural area internationally recognised by a global or regional designation mechanism. Among these, there are 263 areas where different IDAs fully or partially overlap thus carrying double, triple or even quadruple international designations. These areas are named Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDAs) for the purpose of this publication. Following up on Resolution WCC-2012-Res-052 adopted at the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, September 2012), this Guidance addresses specific issues related to the management of MIDAs, and includes recommendations for harmonising the management, systematic conservation and sustainable use of these areas aimed at the local, national and international stakeholders of MIDAs.

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[IUCN](#)  
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[Korea, Republic of, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province](#)  
[Korea, Republic of, Ministry of Environment](#)

**Imprint**  
Gland : IUCN, 2016

**Physical Description**  
xvi, 140p. : ill., maps

**Notes**  
Includes bibliography

**Keywords**  
[Biosphere reserves](#)  
[Man and the Biosphere Programme](#)  
[Protected area management](#)  
[Protected areas](#)  
[Ramsar sites](#)  
[UNESCO](#)  
[World Heritage](#)

Figure 9. An UI/UX sample of MIDAs Management Improvement case 1; Managing MIDAs

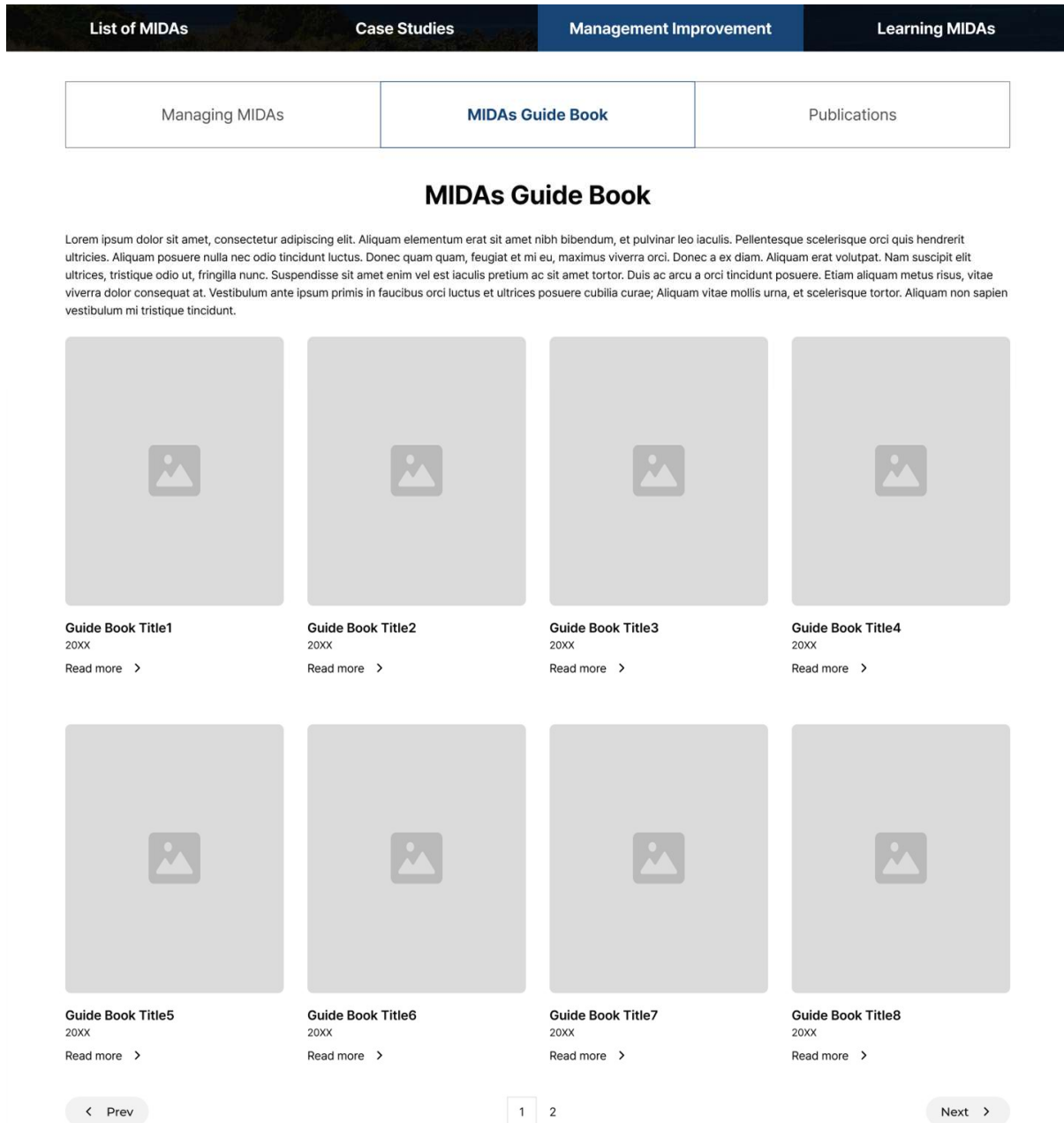


Figure 10. An UI/UX sample of MIDAs Management Improvement case 2; MIDAs Guidebook

## 5) Learning MIDAs

Learning MIDAs provides learning and awareness-raising materials for learners, practitioners, and researchers, including forum and workshop records, working group research findings, MIDAs introductory videos, and educational content (Figure 11).

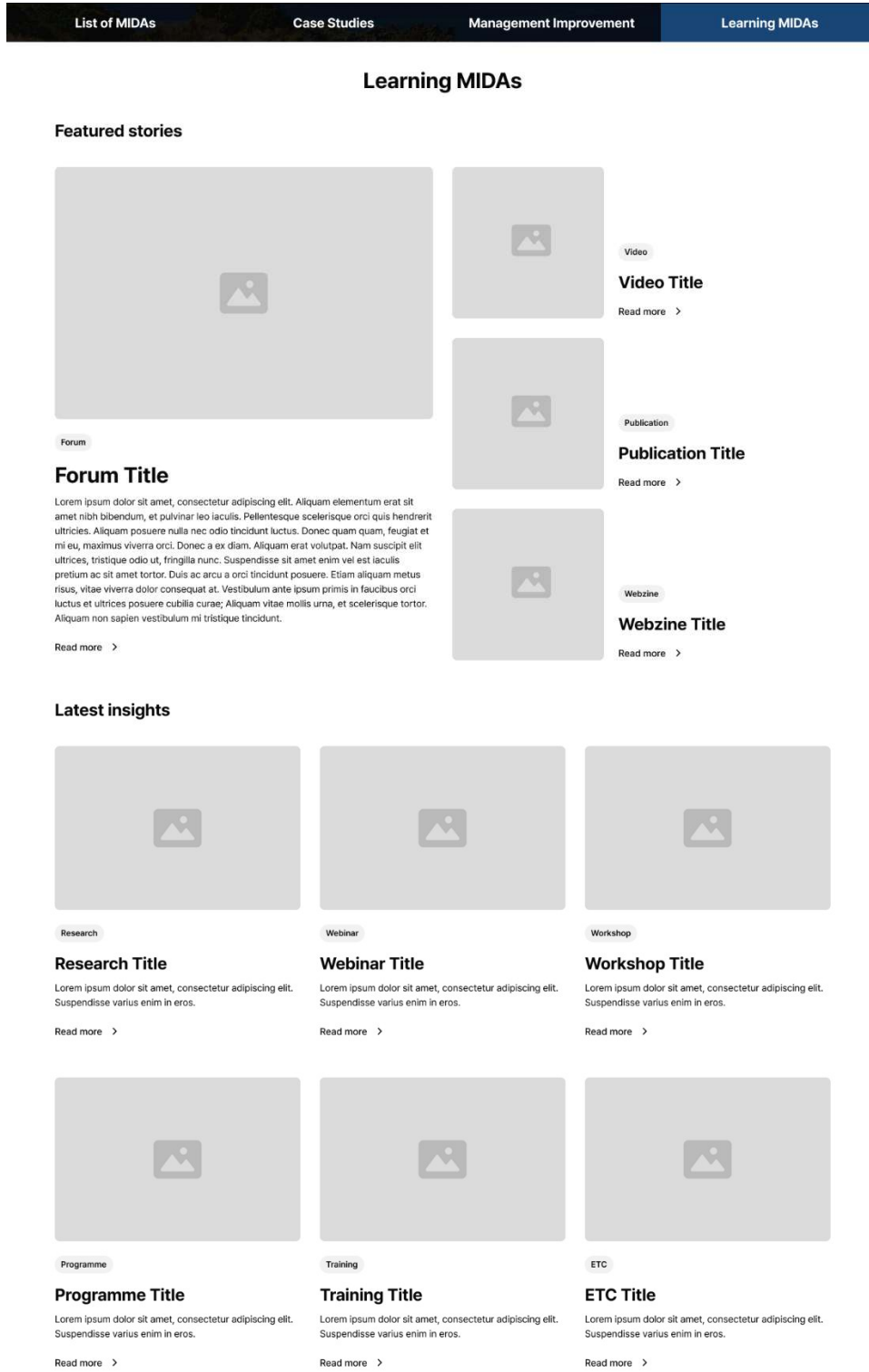


Figure 5. An UI/UX sample of a Learning MIDAs page

## IV. Mid- to Long-term Plan for Establishing an Information Sharing Hub Platform

### I Vision and Goals

#### 1) Vision: Sustainable, Generative MIDAs Information-Sharing Hub Platform

#### 2) Goals

- Enhancing universal awareness of MIDAs.
- Information collection and synthesis for sustainability: Collecting continuous IDA information and synthesizing it into MIDAs.
- Providing customized information aligned with the needs of MIDAs on-site managers based on the synthesized MIDAs information
- Ensuring sustainability through the reuse of data generated on a One source – Multi use basis

### I Mid- to Long-term Project Direction and 2026 Implementation Plan

#### 1) Three-phases implementation strategy: Introduction & Pilot → Development → Completion

- **Introduction & Pilot Phase (1<sup>st</sup> Year)** Through collaboration with UNESCO and relevant international organizations, information is collected, and the classification system (metadata) and basic UI/UX are finalized to provide comprehensive MIDAs information. Subsequently, improvements will be identified through pilot operations.
- **Development Phase (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)** Transition to the official operation stage by reflecting the improvements derived from the pilot operation, and continuously accumulate data related to MIDAs in conjunction with other GCIDA projects.
- **Completion Phase (3<sup>rd</sup> Year onwards)** Enhance the platform through the development of statistical comparison and analysis services, and expand it into a participatory information platform where users can directly upload posts.

Table 7. Annual implementation strategy

Annual	Key Objectives
1 <sup>st</sup> Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a data classification system and develop UI/UX design of each web page</li> <li>• Launch pilot operation of the platform and collect user feedback</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition to full operation based on feedback from the pilot program</li> <li>• Continued accumulation of MIDAs status data through linkage with other GCIDA projects</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of infographic dashboards and statistical comparison/analysis services</li> <li>• Development of GIS-integrated map visualization services</li> <li>• Introduction of user-direct upload functionality</li> </ul>

## 2) 2026 project plan for MIDAs Information-Sharing Hub Platform

Key objectives for the 2026 project plan: a) Aiming to establish an online platform that realizes integrated information management and sharing as the first step in executing the master plan; b) introducing a relational database management system (RDBMS) to ensure data integrity and search efficiency; and c) providing basic information visualization capabilities.

Key focuses of the 2026 project:

- **Enhancing Individual MIDAs Introduction Pages:** Strengthen user-centric services by introducing an UI for intuitive information acquisition (e.g., configuring individual MIDA introduction pages with interfaces linked to key indicators and maps).
- **Data preprocessing for MIDAs Hub construction:** Apply predefined classification systems and metadata standards, establishing an operational environment flexible enough to accommodate future data growth and functional expansion
- **MIDAs Hub Administrator Page UI/UX Development:** Enhance operational efficiency by building an intuitive administrator-only dashboard (Admin Page) to ensure system sustainability (Includes support for file upload functionality enabling efficient bulk data input and establishing a real-time automatic linkage system for statistics and map visualization results)
- **Production of the MIDAs Hub User Manual:** Create and utilize a scenario-based 'MIDAs Hub User Manual' tailored to different user types