

Social Assessment to address the links between Conservation and Poverty Reduction – what is needed?



Dr. Lea M. Scherl

lea.scherl@bigpond.com

**Taskforce on Protected Areas, Equity and
Livelihoods WCPA-CEESP IUCN
Commission on Environmental, Economic and
Social Policy, CEESP IUCN**



Social Assessment of Protected Areas (SAPA) Initiative: *selective update of activity and thinking*



WCMC



CARE International



IIED



International
Institute for
Environment and
Development

IUCN – Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods
Taskforce (WCPA-CEESP)



SAPA (Social Assessment of protected Areas) Objectives

Aims:

- Standardize process for monitoring of protected areas and develop global indicator(s)
- Develop local capacities and global analyses that can inform policy
- Capture best practices to improve assessments and knowledge

Guiding question:

“To what extent are protected areas contributing to changes (positive/negative/intended or not) in human well-being at the local level?”



Actions of Phase1 (2008-2010)



- Step 1: In-depth analysis of indicators and methodologies to Assess Livelihood Impacts
 - Global Literature Review on the Costs and Benefits of Protected Areas on Local and Indigenous People
 - Review and characterization of current methodologies using scoring approach (*scope, sensitivity to gender, finances, etc*)
- Step 2: Development of indicators and selection of methodologies
 - Globally comprehensive set of indicator(s) that can be disaggregated to various scales
 - Rapid and comprehensive approaches
- Step 3: Pilot training and field testing
 - Decision process and data gathering tools
 - Pilot testing in field- selection of sites across biomes, social contexts, etc
- Step 4: Refinement of process, Global analysis, Development of Broader Guidelines and Training

For whom and for what?

Primary Users	Purpose	Potential Main Focus	Key issues
National NGOs	advocacy	Trade-offs between conservation and livelihoods	Cost, cultural norms, gender differentiation
Community-based organisations	Lobby for equitable sharing costs and benefits	Cost of lost access, secure rights	Cost, complexity
International conservation NGOs	Designing better conservation projects	Overview of all types of impacts	
PA Managers (site level)	More effective management, build local support	Identify needed mitigation measures	Low cost, conflict sensitive, uses available staff
PA Management (HQ level)	Inform strategic planning and resource allocation	Who negatively affected, what possible benefits	Inter-sectoral coordination

Some Considerations re. Methodology

- *Scope:*
 - type of outcome to be assessed
 - impact on well-being
 - positive and negative impacts
 - tangible and intangible impacts
 - impacts related to financial, human, social, natural, physical capital
 - geographic scale of assessment:
 - individual PA, or part of a PA, and communities living within and around this area



Some Considerations re. Methodology (cont.)

- Design/methods
 - counterfactual:
 - explicit counterfactual: with/without, before/after
 - implicit counterfactual, i.e. internally referenced
 - timeframe
 - snap shot
 - baseline + monitoring change over time
 - with scoping to focus on primary impacts?
 - data type:
 - quantitative and/or qualitative
 - core indicators standard for all sites
 - data collection methods:
 - environmental economics
 - participatory rural appraisal
 - focus group discussion
 - surveys



Social, Economic, Cultural Assessment frameworks for different Scales of Implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan and its different Programs of Work in relation to the links between Conservation and Poverty Reduction.

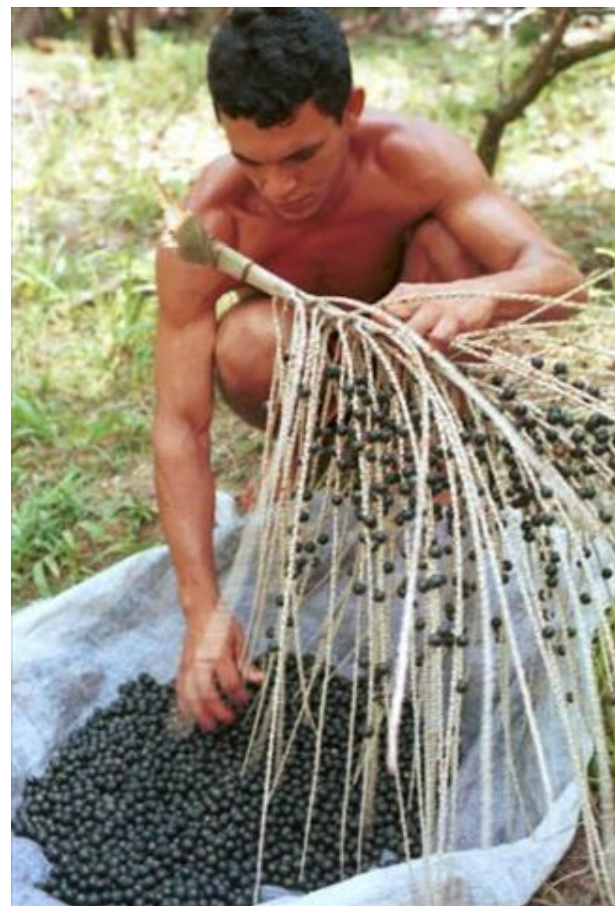
Some possibilities:

- Accompanying the Strategic Plan as part of the policy framework (country compliance with the Strategic Plan);
- As part of each POW of the CBD;
- To cater for different types of ecosystems, landscapes, seascapes, corridors, etc..
- To cater for (and from a general guidance framework tailored to) different types of implementation situations in-country.



Questions for the workshop?

- For whom and for what do we need social assessment of the CBD Strategic Plan in relation to the links between conservation and poverty reduction?
- At what level of implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan it is desirable for us to address such an assessment?
- How can we ensure that the appropriate groups are going to be involved in devising such assessments and helping with its implementation?
- What sort of guidance should be provided for tailoring content and methodologies to different cultural, social, economic contexts?



Questions for the workshop ?(cont.)

- What resources are needed to develop social assessment frameworks, etc.. To accompany the implementation of the CBD strategic Plan and particularly to contribute to deliberations at COP 10?
- How can we use the lead up to COP 10 and COP 10 itself to make sure those social assessments' frameworks get adopted as part of the deliberations?
- What coordination mechanisms we need to put in place in the near future to ensure this takes place?

Thank you.

