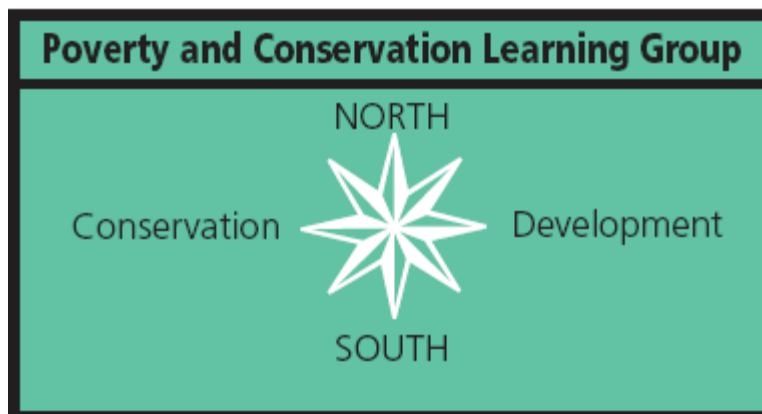


Poverty and Conservation Learning Group

Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) Annual Symposium - 2007

November 7th and 8th 2007

London Zoo, London (UK)



Poverty and Conservation Learning Group

Summary

On 7-8 November 2007, the Annual Symposium of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) was held at the London Zoo, London (UK). The main theme of the symposium was climate change – and the implications this has for biodiversity and for poor people. This was the focus of Day 1 of the symposium. On the second day the focus was on: protected areas and poverty; current work of PCLG members; future learning needs the Group may want to address. The symposium brought together about 50 representatives of PCLG member organisations (including donor agencies, conservation organisations, indigenous people's groups and development NGOs), coming from both developed and developing countries.

The 2007 PCLG Annual Symposium had four key objectives:

- A. To get up to speed on climate change related and carbon offsetting initiatives and examine their opportunities and threats with regards to biodiversity and poor people.
- B. To explore various international initiatives that are attempting to better address poverty concerns within a protected area context.
- C. To provide PCLG members with an opportunity to share and discuss different aspects of their work on poverty – conservation linkages.
- D. To provide an opportunity for PCLG members to reflect upon relevant ideas generated in the symposium and how/whether they might be incorporated into their work (this objective to be addressed remotely after the symposium).

These objectives were pursued throughout the symposiums with the use of a broad range of facilitation techniques, to provide opportunity for all to take part. It should be noted that this meeting was not designed to herd participants towards an agreed position. On the contrary, gathering a diversity of views was valued over seeking consensus in the meeting.

The following are some of the key outputs that have come out of the PCLG Annual Symposium:

- ✓ Climate change initiatives offer many opportunities, but also many threats, to both issues of poverty and conservation. More experiences and information are needed to guide our work in this field, and no 'one size fits all' solution exists.
- ✓ The PCLG and similar networks have a valuable role to play, as they provide a forum to share experiences and build capacity at the practitioners level, and help to inform and educate decision makers. However, the PCLG and organisations with similar purposes would benefit from including a larger number of developing countries representatives. More networks like the PCLG are needed at the regional level.
- ✓ It is important to develop a methodology to assess the socio-economic impacts of PAs to move beyond the traditional narrative surrounding protected areas and poverty linkages.

Topics that need to be further explored:

- ✓ The interactions between climate change, poverty and biodiversity are very complex and need further study, consideration and discussion.
- ✓ It would be useful to learn more about donors, in particular: how are donors' strategies developed, how can they be influenced, and what are the mechanisms to access the funds provided by them.
- ✓ To influence international initiatives and policy processes, a better knowledge and understanding of how these processes work is essential.
- ✓ The issue of biofuels is very important and should be given further consideration.

Introduction

The Annual Symposium of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is intended to be an interactive process that brings together member organisations (including donor agencies, conservation organisations, indigenous people's groups and development NGOs) to get updated on new relevant topics, share experiences and analyse issues of contemporary relevance to poverty-conservation linkages. The 2007 PCLG Annual Symposium had four key objectives:

- A. To get up to speed on climate change related and carbon offsetting initiatives and examine their opportunities and threats with regards to biodiversity and poor people.
- B. To explore various international initiatives that are attempting to better address poverty concerns within a protected area context.
- C. To provide PCLG members with an opportunity to share and discuss different aspects of their work on poverty – conservation linkages.
- D. To provide an opportunity for PCLG members to reflect upon relevant ideas generated in the symposium and how/whether they might be incorporated into their work (this objective to be addressed remotely after the symposium).

Day One Wednesday 7 November

Introduction to the meeting

The symposium was opened by Peter O'Hara, the meeting's facilitator, who welcomed participants and provided everyone with the necessary logistical information about the meeting. In his opening remarks, Peter also reminded the audience of the focus and objectives of the symposium, and reviewed some of people's expectations from the meeting, which can be broadly summarised as follows:

- Learn about carbon offsetting mechanisms and how these schemes work.
- Learn about other organisations' approach and current work on the linkages between climate change-poverty-biodiversity.
- Identify, and possibly establish partnership with, other organisations currently working on climate change-poverty-biodiversity issues.
- Share experiences and information on poverty-conservation linkages with PCLG members.
- Discuss specific projects and initiatives carried out by PCLG members.
- Gain information on the management of protected areas around the world and how they can assist in alleviating poverty.
- Meet participants from donor organizations and discuss with them funding opportunities

Following Peter's opening remarks, Joanna Elliott, co-coordinator of the PCLG, gave a short introduction to the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group and to the work the group has been carrying out since its launch in 2005.

1. Getting up to speed

The first session of the symposium was intended to:

- Raise awareness amongst members on the current state of the debate over the links between poverty, conservation and climate change.
- Explore the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and livelihoods, and their implications.
- Review the current global framework for reducing carbon emissions.

These topics were covered by three power point presentations from:

- Dilys Roe (IIED and coordinator of the PCLG) – [Presentation](#)
- Hannah Reid (IIED) – [Presentation](#)
- Jenny Henman (Sustainable Forestry Ltd.) – [Presentation](#)

2. Thinking through the key issues

The main issues addressed during this session were:

- The linkages between climate change, forests and poverty (David Hubermann, IUCN) – [Presentation](#)
- Carbon offsetting through afforestation / reforestation schemes (Minnie Degawan, International Alliance) – [Presentation](#) – (A copy of the study is available [here](#)).
- Implications for local people of REDD projects (Helen Leake, Forest Peoples' Programme) – [Presentation](#)

After their presentations, the three presenters discussed in plenary some of the questions raised by symposium participants regarding their work¹. These were the key points raised during the discussion:

David Hubermann

- PEP is aware that there are still a lot of problems with REDD projects and they are trying to address them.
- PEP definitely has a role to play in the REDD initiative, and this role is mainly about getting across the opinions of a large range of stakeholders.
- A lot of projects like REDD say that they are collaborating closely with the local communities, even though this is not necessarily the case. It would be important to have a closer look at how 'inclusive' REDD projects really are.
- REDD should be not only 'pro poor', but also 'pro biodiversity'.

Minnie Degawan:

- The project was carried out between 1992 and 1997, while the evaluation was done this year. For this reason, the results of the evaluation of this project have not yet been brought to the attention of the World Bank.
- This project was monitored by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).
- No consultations were carried out with the local communities prior to the beginning of the project.
- The law environment in the Philippines is very progressive in terms of indigenous peoples rights.

Helen Leake:

- There is no blueprint for how to implement REDD projects – every situation is different.
- Consultations with the local communities are very important to determine what the potential impacts of REDD could be.
- There are a number of networks of indigenous peoples organisations who are paying attention to new initiatives like REDD, and are implementing workshops, trainings events, etc. to get indigenous peoples involved in the debate surrounding these new initiatives.
- This is a difficult debate to get heard, especially due to its complexity. However, Forest Peoples Programme believes it is very important to bring attention to this issue, and this is what they are trying to do, for example through processes like Bali.

3. Practical initiatives linking climate, conservation and poverty

This session was intended to provide information on some practical projects and initiatives aimed at linking climate change, conservation and poverty. Four power point presentations were given in the course of this session, followed by a round of questions and answers. Each presentation was also briefly evaluated by a panel of three 'judges', chosen among workshop's participants, who were asked to

¹ The questions that were not addressed during the symposium have been answered via email by each presenters after the meeting. The answers to these questions have been included in Annex 4 of the present report.

discuss what were in their opinions the key strengths and limits of each project, and its potential for replicability.

A. Developing a climate risk and opportunities assessment mechanism for conservation projects - Matt Walpole, FFI - [Presentation](#)

Main issues raised during the discussion:

- This study addresses a very relevant issue and the projects included in this study cover a good range of sites and ecosystems. In addition, since this study was desk-based, and worked with information already available, it has a high potential for replicability.
- The methodology used by this project looks very good in principles, but it might be difficult to implement. There is the need to discuss risks and vulnerability directly with the local communities.
- The project is still at a very early stage, so it is difficult to judge its potential for replicability. However, the impression is that there is potential for replicating this study, and local communities should be involved to, among other reasons, make the project more cost effective.
- The case studies included in this project have been chosen based on a number of factors, and not based just on local people's interest on climate changes issues.

B. Building community and biodiversity considerations in carbon projects – Joanna Durbin, CCBA - [Presentation](#)

Main issues raised during the discussion:

- This initiative took two years to be developed, and has been reviewed by third parties, therefore it feels like it stands on very strong ground. In addition, this initiative has the value of integrating both poverty and environmental concerns.
- These are most likely the best standards currently available, however there are some issues that need further consideration. In particular the issues of equity (in terms of how benefits are distributed within communities), and of unintended negative social impacts. There is also the need for more recognition of voluntary standards.
- There is a high potential for replicability of this initiative. However, in the short term these standards are likely to be more useful for specific categories of projects. Moreover, these standards are most suited where data is already available, as the process is otherwise very costly.

C. Addressing climate-conservation-poverty links in development assistance – Maria Berlekom, SwedBio - [Presentation](#)

Main issues raised during the discussion:

- There is the need to have strong lobbying groups to handle the potential conflicts between donors' agendas (i.e. governments' agendas) and climate change.
- Donors' geographic focus is not driven only by themes (eg. climate change), but by a number of factors. At the moment, Africa is at the top of most donors' agenda.
- The issue of climate change offers an opportunity to donors to rethink their strategies. However, it is not clear how well donors are taking advantage of these opportunities.

D. Using biodiversity in community based efforts to adapt to climate change – Tsitsi Choruma, Progressio - [Presentation](#)

Main issues raised during the discussion:

- By looking at agro-biodiversity, this project addresses a very important issue. Other merits of this project are that it looked at both low and high productive farmers, and that it included a review of the existent legal framework.
- There is the need to improve our understanding of how the issue of agro-biodiversity relates to the wider issue of biodiversity, and of how political and commercial drivers work.

- This is a very relevant study that has a high potential for replicability. More effort should be put into understanding farmers' position towards climate change.

4. Analysis – Climate change initiatives, what are the opportunities and threats for poverty and biodiversity?

A. Opportunities and threats of climate change initiatives for biodiversity?

Opportunities:

- Provision of funding for conservation activities: climate change initiatives have the potential to mobilise global resources – previously much harder to access given the priorities of the donor community - and to invest them in biodiversity conservation.
- Raises the profile of biodiversity in the international arena: the debate on climate change provides an opportunity to look at biodiversity at the landscape level, beyond the boundaries of protected areas, and to think through the linkages between biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Stronger support for linking protected areas, and for funding a global system of PAs, which helps protect biodiversity and habitats, and restoring critical ecosystem services.
- Engagement of donors in thinking through lifestyle changes required by climate change.

Threats:

- Biodiversity has been sidelined by the issue of climate change: the current emphasis on carbon issues and climate change can shift attention from the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services that are not key to climate processes.
- There is still much to be learnt regarding climate change, and therefore there is a risk of rushing into new initiatives and policies without really knowing what works, what does not work and what could actually be harmful towards biodiversity (e.g. biofuels).
- Unintended negative impacts of unprecedented local cash flow.
- Too much trust on the capacity of climate change initiatives to offset carbon emissions could divert attention from the major causes of climate change, and undermine the efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

B. What are the opportunities and threats of climate change initiatives for poverty?

Opportunities:

- Climate change initiatives open up new opportunities to the rural poor, like access to new partnerships, resources, knowledge, and funding.
- Increased participation in decision making and reinforcement of property rights.
- Recognition of the role played by indigenous/local people in protecting the environment, and support for conservation activities carried out by indigenous people.
- Access to new and sustained streams of funding that can support/enhance rural livelihoods.

Threats:

- Danger of elite capture (within and outside the local community) of the new funding sources: new initiatives are hijacked by the most influential members in the society, thus inequities are reinforced, especially among the most vulnerable groups (women, elders, etc.).
- Marginalisation, divided in: i) process: community stakeholders are not involved in the decision-making process, therefore the agenda and priorities are not built on the 'real needs' of local people; ii) outcomes: loss of access to natural resources (land, water, etc.).
- Poor are used as a means to get money.
- Lack of appropriate legislation to support climate change initiatives, and unexpected negative impacts of new government policies.
- Erosion of traditional customary laws and practices.

Day Two Thursday 8 November

1. Recap of first day's analysis, climate change initiatives - what are the opportunities and threats for poor people and biodiversity?

The first session of the second day was intended to review and discuss the results of the last session of day one 'Analysis – Climate change initiatives, what are the opportunities and threats for poverty and biodiversity?'. These were the key points raised during the discussion:

- The issue of biofuels is very important and that should be given further consideration (e.g. implications for food security, implications for climate change, etc.). We should also be more sophisticated in the way we address this issue, and move beyond the 'bad vs. good' discourse on biofuels.
- The issue of funding is often discussed at the international level, rather than at the local level. We should pay more attention to the real needs of each country.
- We should further discuss how to engage the poor in the current debate on climate change. If we do not engage them, then threats to the poor from climate change initiatives become very powerful.
- Climate change is bringing distortions to the debate on the linkages between poverty and conservation. Furthermore, there is a set of assumptions about how climate change, poverty and biodiversity interact, currently guiding the work in this field, which has not been proven.

2. Protected areas (PAs) and poverty –catching up

This session was intended to help participants catch up on the various international initiatives that are attempting to better address poverty concerns within a protected area context. The presentations covered the following topics:

- Reduced Emissions from Deforestation: what are the implications for protected areas? (Lera Miles, UNEP-WCMC) – [Presentation](#)
- The World Database on Protected Areas and the Vision 2020 project (Charles Besancon, UNEP-WCMC) – [Presentation](#)
- The WCPA Taskforce on Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods (Phil Franks, Care International) – [Presentation](#)

These are the highlights of the Q&A session that followed the presentations:

- It is difficult to say whether, in general, the livelihoods of local people are more or less recognized in the management of PAs today. In the field there seems to be much more understanding of the needs of local people. However, we are also witnessing a 'back to the barrier' trend.
- So far we have talked mainly about terrestrial PAs. However, it is very important to remember the role of marine protected areas for biodiversity, food security, climate change, livelihoods. Marine PAs have an important role to play particularly in the debates on access to livelihoods.
- We should be careful about using the terms 'success' and 'failure' when talking about PAs. The state of a PA can change dramatically over time, due to a number of factors.

3. Protected areas and poverty –exploring views on impact and analysing assessment methods

This sessions was intended to help participants think through the relationship between people and PAs, and to bring a range of different perspectives into this debate. It also provided an opportunity to think

through the implications of the previous day's sessions on climate change and to explore in more depth what the implications are for protected areas.

The results of the work done during this session are summarised in Annex 1. Highlights from the plenary discussion include the following:

- It is very important that we find a way to measure the socio-economic impacts of PAs.
- The impacts assessment methodologies already existing and reviewed do not seem appropriate for PAs. However, there is a lot to learn from what is already out there, especially from the social science literature.
- National indicators, like HDI are not very meaningful on their own, but become meaningful when combined with other information.
- The development of a tool kit to measure the socio-economic impacts of PAs should be done in collaboration with similar ongoing process.

4. Share Fair – Update on the work of PCLG members

During this session three sets of four five minutes long poster presentations were made in plenary by PCLG members. The aim of these presentations was to highlight some key aspects of the presenters' current work. These brief presentations were then followed by a more detailed presentation and discussion carried out in smaller groups.

List of share fair presentations:

Group A

- o Livelihood diversification in marine protected areas - Jock Campbell, IMM
- o Conservation and Poverty in Tanzania - Alexander Songorwa, Sokoine University - [Handout](#)
- o Influencing international policy processes - CITES and Livelihoods - Barney Dickson, FFI - [Handout](#)
- o Protected Areas, Carbon, and Restoration in Africa - Katrina Brandon, Conservation International- [Handout](#)

Group B

- o Implications of climate change for conservation and poverty in Caribbean small island states - Sarah MacIntosh, CANARI
- o Livestock, wildlife and community conservation in Maasai livelihoods: current patterns and climate change implications - Katherine Homewood, University College London- [Handout](#)
- o Cultural tourism – providing an incentive for conservation and cultural strengthening amongst the Batwa pygmies in Uganda- Robert Tumwesigye Baganda, ProBiodiversity Conservationists- [Handout](#)
- o Mobilising non-greens – how the links between poverty and conservation help - Brendan Bowles, A Rocha

Group C

- o Poverty and the human footprint – implications for conservation organisations - Kent Redford, WCS - [Handout](#)
- o The DFID Congo Basin Fund - Andy Inglis, DFID
- o Conservation in a Human Landscape: A review of field-level monitoring and evaluation systems integrating socio-economic indicators into conservation - Hannah Fairbank, USAID- [Handout](#)
- o Kamicydi Initiatives on Conservation-Poverty-Climate Linkages - Donato Bumacas Kamicydi- [Handout](#)

5. Debating key issues

Three contentious issues, which had emerged during the previous sessions of the symposium, were justified and debated during this session using a 'fishbowl' debate method, which gives all the opportunity to participate. The following are the highlights from the debate.

First statement: Protected areas conservation discourse should not be centred on the contributions of conservation to poverty reduction (justifier: Phil Franks)

- It is unfair to generalise, as some PAs have benefited poor people and contributed to poverty reduction. PAs can also contribute to reduce vulnerability, and increase resilience.
- PAs are often blamed to cause poverty, but in poor countries there are a number of issues that contribute to that situation.
- We need a much more detailed debate on what we mean by poverty in relation to PAs.
- This is a very complex issue. The challenge is to come up with a way of presenting a more complex message - something the PCLG might help with.

Second statement: Conservation organisation should support official carbon trading only, not the voluntary markets (justifier: Joanna Philips)

- There are many problems with the existing official carbon trading system that should be addressed. For example, it should tackle emissions from deforestation, and it should include more local-level projects.
- Voluntary markets should not be overlooked, as they can bring valuable experience to the discourse, they benefit local communities, and contribute to raising awareness, which is very important to support official markets too.
- The official market so far has not achieved its objectives.

Third statement: Networks like PCLG, organisations that are here, and even the PEP, have very little influence over the UNFCCC process, so there is not much point discussing REDD (justifier: Dilys Roe)

- Past experiences have demonstrated how important it is for organisations like these to voice their opinions, which indeed get heard, also within international processes.
- This statement might be true at the policy level, but international processes and initiatives need to be worked out also at the national level and on the ground, and organisations like the PCLG help doing this.
- Networks like the PCLG should be working also at the regional level.
- PCLG's work is very valuable as it provides a forum to share experiences and build capacity at the practitioners level, and help inform and educate decision makers.
- We need to have a better knowledge and understanding of how these policy processes work to influence them.

Evaluation

During the symposium, participants were given a number of options to express their opinions on the symposium itself (organizations, methods, contents, etc.). In this section of the report we review participants' comments.

Many participants were happy with the London Zoo as the venue where to hold this symposium. Some people also expressed appreciation for the choice of topics covered. In particular, it was felt that the symposium helped further our understanding of the linkages between climate change, biodiversity and poverty – a very important emerging set of issues.

The methods used in the course of the symposium were welcomed with both positive, and more critical, comments. While many were appreciative of the broad range of facilitation tools and methodologies used

in the course of the meeting, others felt that the workshop was over facilitated, leaving little time for discussion. Some participants expressed the opinion that more question and answer sessions, as well as plenary discussions, would have been beneficial to the understanding of such complex issues.

Another set of comments highlighted the lack of balance in representation at the symposium between organisations from developed and developing countries, the latter being underrepresented. In addition, it was felt that large donor and international organisations were overrepresented, compared to small, local organisations.

Finally, some participants felt the discussions were too focused on projects and case studies, while it would have been useful to have more discussions with a strategic/policy focus.

Results of the ‘target’ evaluation exercise:

	1	2	3
Climate change initiatives, links to poor and biodiversity – getting up to speed and thinking about key issues	0	17	1
PAs and poverty – catching up on learning group activities and thinking about impacts and impacts assessment	1	15	3
PCLG sharing – learning about member’s work	0	15	3
Methods for symposium and facilitation	3	11	6
Organisation, logistics and accommodation	1	1	18

1 = Poor; 2 = Satisfactory; 3 = Good

The PCLG Secretariat is extremely grateful for all the comments received. Although here we have presented only the main point raised during the meeting, all comments have been duly recorded and will be carefully considered when planning next year’s meeting.

Acknowledgements

The PCLG Secretariat would like to thank the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) for generously hosting this symposium. All ZSL personnel involved in this meeting was very efficient, helpful and gracious in their work.

The PCLG Secretariat would like to thank its sponsors, Ford Foundation and Irish Aid, for the continuous and generous support.

Finally, we would like to thank the many participants who attended this meeting, many of whom traveled long hours, for contributing their time and expertise to the goals of the PCLG.

Annex 1: Outcomes of protected areas discussion

Annex 2: Agenda

Annex 3: List of participants

Annex 4: Further clarification by presenters on questions raised

Annex 5: List of documents produced for the symposium

Annex 1 – Outcomes of protected areas discussion

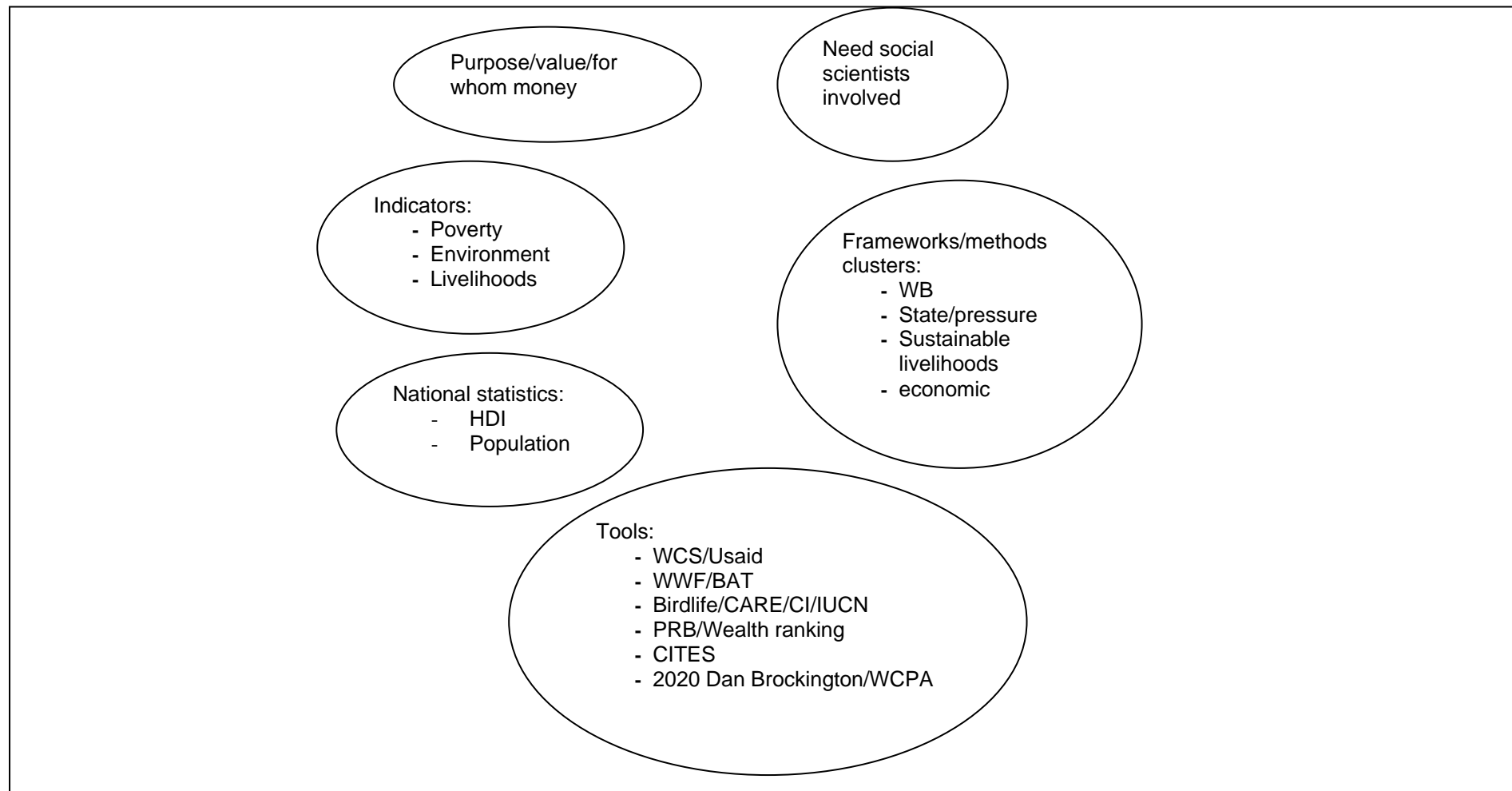
Box A. Conditions under which poor people are negatively affected by protected areas

Evidence/Examples	General evidence	Conditions affecting/constraining
<p><u>Human/wildlife conflicts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of crops, property and lives to wildlife from PAs (many parks of Africa) - Human rights violations arising from the use of military forces to sacred parks (Mt. Pinatubo, Philippines) <p><u>Loss of access/rights</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of traditional access to resources and of land use rights (Kalahari) - External control of village affairs (Tanzania) <p><u>Displacement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Displacement of local people (Kaieteur National Park, Guyana, Kenya) - Delayed enforcement of boundaries – unnecessary displacement (Mgahinga) <p><u>Inequities in benefit sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elites' capture of income from tourism (Kenya reserves, Bwindi National Park) <p><u>Conflict between communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major NGOs create conflicts between indigenous groups to cater for a 'community owned conservation area' (Wai-Wai and Waphisian, Guyana) <p><u>Cultural impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Murders, alcoholisms, internal social conflicts (Kalahari) - Erosion of cultural values through contact with tourists - Denied access to cultural/sacred sites within PAs <p><u>Prices distortions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Price of forest products (e.g. charcoal) increase in markets adjacent to PAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PhD fieldwork in Uganda (using quantitative and qualitative methods) and in the Kalahari - Observation, indigenous group reports, court files, newspaper reports - Desk reviews of social impacts of PAs - Reports from 'victims' backed up by validation/measurement - Surveys of local perceptions and attitudes - Market surveys - Dan Brockington's work (which also highlights that we have documented information on very few PAs) - Reports from the annual meeting of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (WGIP) - FPP's study on IPs and PAs - Case studies and reports from IAITPTF - Distributional cost-benefit analysis (Mt. Kenya National Park) 	<p><u>National policies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No national policies on indigenous peoples rights (or lack of implementation) - Effective PAs management - No compensation <p><u>Corruption</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private investors use corrupt methods to gain tourism or hunting concessions (Tanzania) <p><u>Consultation and social skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of consultation of indigenous peoples - 'Top down' NGO and governmental policies <p><u>Competing interests</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business interests (e.g. tourism) - Military value of land <p><u>Cultural</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demand for a social change that is not compatible with communities traditional lifestyles (Kalahari) - Failure to recognise the cultural significance of PAs sites - Failure to manage the cultural impacts of tourism

Box B. Conditions under which poor people benefit from PAs

Evidence/Examples	Methods used to generate evidence	Strengths in policy that cause this
<p><u>Land/resources use:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village lands has been surveyed and mapped (Tanzania) - Land use planning done (Tanzania) - Local resource use identified and mapped (e-g- lwokrama, Konashen, Shell beach, Kanuku, all in Guyana) <p><u>Income generating activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism (Southern/East African parks, Costa Rica, Talamanca region) - Income from safari hunting to local communities in GMAs in Zambia (Luangwa Valley) <p><u>Improved services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to markets and healthcare in some remote areas where parks bring investments (Serengeti) - Fence, reduced wild animals depredations, but continued to have access points for gathering firewood, grazing, etc (Aberdares) - Watershed protection – downstream benefits from continued water supply <p><u>Empowerment/recognition:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community owned conservation areas are recognised nationally (e.g. Konashen and Wai-Wai, in Guyana) - International attention during crisis (Virunga’s conflict) - Increased participation in decision-making 	<p><u>Surveys:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surveys of visitors’ expenditures - Surveys of the number of jobs created and income generated - Surveys of fishermen’s perceptions <p><u>Existing records:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parks/Business records <p><u>Impacts assessments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory livelihood impact assessment methods - Impact assessment (HH Surveys, participatory indicators, focal group discussions) <p><u>Other sources:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting from implementing organisations - NGO papers, newspapers articles, indigenous groups articles, fieldwork/studies 	<p><u>Rights:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land tenure giving local/residents/neighbouring communities ownership/benefit rights - Rights enshrined in wildlife/land polices and enforced at district and village levels - Legislation supportive of sustainable use, plus access for harvesting essential natural resources <p><u>Communities involvement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community owned and managed PAs - Effective involvement of communities in co-management - Governance mechanisms that enable local communities to contribute/influence decision-making over the use/management of PAs <p><u>Income generating activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People allowed access to tourism/tourists to provide goods and services - Effective mechanisms for revenues from ecotourism to go back to local communities - Sharing of trophy fees with local communities

C. Methods tool box for Protected Areas



Annex 2 – Agenda

DAY 1 Wednesday 7 th Nov	
A M	<p>CLIMATE AND CARBON</p> <p>9.00 START: Registration</p> <p>Introduction to meeting. Joanna Elliot, AWF and Peter O'Hara LTS (facilitator)</p> <p>Session 1. Why are we here? 10 minute power point presentations and Q &A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current trends in the conservation - poverty debate, where climate fits in, Dilys Roe, IIED. • Climate impacts on biodiversity and livelihoods, Hannah Reid, IIED. • The global framework for reducing carbon emissions – how it all works – Jenny Henman, Sustainable Forestry Ltd. <p>Session 2. Who are we all? Introductions, Dilys Roe</p>
	<p>11.15 – 11. 30 coffee – break.</p>
	<p>Session 3. Thinking through the key issues. Poster session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate, forests and poverty - David Hubermann, IUCN. • Carbon offsetting through afforestation / reforestation schemes - Minnie Degawan, International Alliance. • Reduced Emissions from Deforestation – implications for local people – Helen Leake, Forest Peoples Programme
	<p>1pm – 2pm Lunch</p>
P M	<p>Session 4. Climate change initiatives, biodiversity and alleviating poverty – what practical initiatives are happening to make the link a positive one? 10-15 minute power point presentations, Q &A and rotating panel selected from participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using biodiversity in community based efforts to adapt to climate change – Tsitsi Choruma, Progressio, Zimbabwe. • Developing a climate risk and opportunities assessment mechanism for conservation projects – Matt Walpole, FFI. • Addressing climate-conservation-poverty links in development assistance - Maria Berlekom, SwedBio • Building community and biodiversity considerations in carbon projects - Joanna Durbin, CCBA.
	<p>4.00 – 4.15 Tea Break</p>
	<p>Session 5. Analysis – Climate change initiatives, what are the opportunities and threats for poverty and biodiversity? Exercise facilitated by Peter O'Hara</p> <p>6.00 CLOSE.</p> <p>6.30 DRINKS followed by DINNER at The Queens, Primrose Hill (Between the Zoo and the Britannia Hotel)</p>

DAY 2 Thursday 8 th Nov	
A M	<p>PROTECTED AREAS AND POVERTY + PCLG SHARING + POLICY ASPECTS</p> <p>9.00 START Objectives and agenda for Day 2 introduced.</p> <p>Session 6. Recap of first day's analysis, climate change initiatives - what are the opportunities and threats for poor people and biodiversity? <i>Presentations of key points from analysis exercise by the two groups.</i></p> <p>Session 7. Protected areas and poverty –catching up. <i>Power point presentations with Q and A.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WCPA Taskforce on Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods – Phil Franks, Care International • World Database on Protected Areas/Vision 2020 - Charles Besancon, UNEP-WCMC • Reduced Emissions from Deforestation - implications for protected areas – Lera Miles, UNEP-WCMC
	10.45 – 11.00 coffee break.
	Session 8. Protected areas and poverty –exploring views on impact and analysing assessment methods. <i>Group work exercise around guiding questions followed by presentation in plenary.</i>
	12.30 – 1.30 pm Lunch
P M	<p>Session 9. Share Fair – Update on the work of PCLG members. <i>10-12 5 minute poster presentations in plenary providing an appetizer of what PCLG members are currently working with followed by a main course of more detailed presentation and discussion in smaller groups (see separate list of presentations).</i></p> <p>3.30 – 3.45 Tea Break</p> <p>Session 10. Debate on key policy/policy process related barriers to climate change initiatives benefiting the poor and biodiversity – what can PCLG do? <i>3-5 issues distilled from the outputs of the workshop justified and debated using a fishbowl debate method which allows all the opportunity to participate.</i></p> <p>Session 11. Recap of main outputs from the symposium, update from PCLG secretariat and introducing follow up step - harnessing suggestions on practical application of any ideas generated by symposium. <i>Presentation and Q & A</i></p> <p>Evaluation of symposium</p> <p>Final comments – Dilys Roe</p> <p>5.30 CLOSE</p>

Annex 3 – List of participants

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Annex 4: Further clarification by presenters on questions raised

Minnie Degawan, International Alliance (a copy of Minnie's study is available in the CD)

1. How much did the project cost? How large was the area to be reforested? How many local people were in the 'contract'?

Total project cost for whole country (5 regions): US\$64.2 M

Project cost for Cordillera region: \$6,439,841 or P244,713,980 for 7 years

Total cost for Cordillera w/ 1-year extension: P260.2 M

Total area to be reforested in Cordillera: 5056 hectares:

1511 has for on-farm areas; 3,545 ha for off-farm areas

This was not determined as pertinent project documents were unavailable in both study sites. Further, as in the Kalinga site, the community association was set up in name only so that a local official could get the contract.

2. How sustainable is this project? Analysis/methodology: Could you please elaborate on the analysis of influencing factors?

The study's emphasis was precisely on this: that the project was not sustainable. The project succeeded in attaining its objectives during its 7-year duration, but an indicator of the sustainability of a reforestation project is the physical evidence of trees. In the 2 study sites, most of the project areas did not have any surviving trees from what was planted 10 years ago. The seedlings/reforested areas were not maintained after planting, so these either just died or were burned in forest fires.

And one of the biggest reasons for non-maintenance was the dissolution/disbandment of the community associations (CA) which were expected to do continuing maintenance work after planting. It was observed by both community people and DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) personnel that after project funds ended, so did the life of the CA, some of which were set up purposely to benefit from contracts given out by the project (as in the Kalinga study site). Moreover the CA was expected to save funds from its contract – given for nursery establishment and planting -- for maintenance work, but as some of the local people noted, how could the CA be expected to maintain the tree plantations for 5 or 10 years or until trees reach maturity on their own resources. Upland farmers are among the most marginalized sectors whose time/priorities would be directed to their own livelihood and other economic activities.

The project design further provided for the turnover of management of the project sites to the respective Local Government Unit (LGU) after the 7-year duration. This was to ensure project sustainability. But this never materialized. The LGU had different priorities and lacked financial resources for this purpose. Also by this time, as mentioned, many of the CAs had disbanded. So from both ends – the CA to maintain the tree seedlings and the LGU to oversee the project and sites – there was a failure of project as designed.

These reflect on the design of the project, which should also answer COMMENT 1 that the "findings do not reflect on what the project (design, planning, implementation) did wrong."

The methodology included review of project documents, field research in 2 project sites, and interviews of LGU officials, DENR personnel and community people including those – for all 3 sectors -- directly involved with the project 10 years ago.

3. Why weren't the tenure/rights problems identified at an early stage? If they were identified, why were they not addressed? Is 'indigenous land' formally recognised by the government (national and local)? Do local people have clear ownership/tenure/land rights? Did your report involve land tenure reforms? If the bigger issue is land rights, can this be addressed?

The project identified land tenure problems and what tenure instrument was most suitable to an area. But the problem in the Cordillera is the classification of 80% of the Region as forestland, and as such owned by the State, and conflicting and overlapping land claims under different land laws.

The study site in Itogon, Benguet, for instance, are claimed as ancestral lands by the time-immemorial indigenous occupants but the area is also covered by a government-recognized mining patent. The Philippines has an Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) which provides for recognition of ancestral lands/domains through Certificates of Ancestral domain/Land Title but as cited by the study (section on IPRA and other land laws), IPRA has limitations, among which is the recognition of existing prior rights like mining patents.

The Kalinga site is a rural center but classified as forestland. Although community members applied for a Certificate of Ancestral Domain/Land Claim (CAD/LC tenure instrument provided for by DENR before IPRA was passed in 1997) over the area, an investigation by the government reportedly did not justify issuance of CAD/LC. In other words the government did not deem the land as ancestral, even if claimed as such by the community. It was up for reclassification as alienable and disposable land.

4. How could ownership be encouraged? Do you believe ownership alone is strong enough as an incentive? Land rights seems to be the key in this presentation. Key point seems to be community ownership. How is it best achieved?

Not everyone in the community joined the CA set up for the project, and thus it cannot be said that the community had ownership of it. This is the reason why community people who were not CA members did not bother to help in maintaining the project/reforested sites.

Ownership can be a strong incentive, but it should be ownership by the whole community. There is a vast difference between a community and so-called community associations or organizations purportedly representing the community.

As presented in the study, there are still some indigenous communities in the Cordillera that practice traditional forest management and utilization systems. Under these systems, primary forests are collectively maintained and protected by whole villages, and secondary-growth forests are collectively maintained and protected by clans. The government has started to recognize that such collective forest management systems have contributed to the sustainability of forest resources in the Cordillera.

5. Was there political interference in the selection/formation of the community associations? Communities may be put off in the future to participate in other similar projects?

In some areas such as the Kalinga study site, some local government officials were behind the setting up of a CA to be able to get a contract under the project.

In the Itogon study site, where several reforestation projects have been undertaken since the '80s, some community people have become skeptical because they do not see any trees from such projects.

6. Have communities lost land from this, or have they just not benefited from the fund?

In the Cordillera, affected indigenous communities did not lose land as a result of the project, but in other parts of the country there have been instances where reforestation projects such as industrial tree plantations have encroached on indigenous lands. The indigenous peoples could not enter parts of traditional lands where they traditionally undertake economic activities.

As mentioned above, not everyone in the community benefited from the project.

7. Are there any forest based livelihood activities? What are the income generating activities that should be promoted? Were native species chosen by the Government for reforestation? If not, why?

To indigenous peoples, forests form part of their economic/resource base. These provide food, medicine, housing, waters from their springs and irrigation, among others.

Agroforestry can probably be promoted. In the 2 study sites, some community people expressed appreciation for the agroforestry component, as they have economically benefited from the tree and fruit harvests they have made from the trees they planted and nurtured.

Some native species were used but what were encouraged more were fast growing species such as the *Gmelina arborea*, which were found by some local people to use up rather than yield water. The project was intended to reforest watershed areas.

8. IAITPF: is the organisation part of a large network? Who carried out this study?

The International Alliance is an international network of IPOs from Asia, Latin America and Africa. It has been active in the international environmental processes, such as the CBD and UNFCCC. It's secretariat is based in Chiang-mai, Thailand.

The study was conducted by local researchers under the guidance of the secretariat of the Alliance in conjunction with members in the Philippines.

David Hubermann, IUCN

1. What is the added value of this initiative? (What is it doing?) What 'added value' does IUCN bring to the REDD discourse?

The PEP initiative is purposed to influence the international discussions on REDD and introduce social concerns into the global REDD agenda in a practical but rigorous way. Its value added is to provide greater awareness and knowledge on the social implications of REDD and to highlight potential win-win-win opportunities for climate change mitigation, conservation, and livelihoods.

2. Even with the best examples of good elements, how can PEP help ensure decision makers to take these into account? Can an international approach make a difference in local situations?

I certainly hope so! Our initiative is focused on influencing international environmental policy. We assume that the international debates do end up influencing efforts at various scales.

3. How is IUCN working with its members to take PEP ideas forward?

The PEP initiative is very recent; only a few months old. It was launched in June of this year (2007). The first priority is to inform and influence the debates in Bali. From there, IUCN will then focus on following-up with its members to disseminate the insights gained in Bali.

4. If IUCN is focusing on project-based approach to RED and PEP, what will happen to these projects in the long term?

IUCN is not focusing on a project-based approach to REDD. Our involvement in these discussions is very conscious of the need to integrate project-based approaches with broader sectoral, national, and international approaches. However, as REDD is still so recent and experience is limited to specific projects, that's what we're using as references.

5. How does PEP interact with civil society?

The main purpose of the PEP (which is an informal network of development and environmental organizations) is for donor agencies and their partners to share ideas and experiences. Civil society organizations are often part of this process at various levels: meetings, consultations, and the development of projects.

6. What is PEP's strength?

Its strength lies in its large pool of member and partner organizations, and its role as a convener. The meetings (held twice a year) are opportunities for diverse organizations to exchange ideas and develop joint initiatives.

7. How will PEP's work be able to influence the negotiating process? Does PEP have any leverage within UNFCC discussions?

I hope so! I suppose we'll see how the Bali meetings go. However, with a variety of organizations (UNDP, UNEP, ADB, IADB, IUCN, among others) supporting the initiative, there is a good reason to expect that our messages will be heard by many.

8. Is PEP addressing the particular constraints and challenges of Small Island Developing States vis a vis REDD etc.?

This is a good point. I would have to admit that this is an area we need to address better. We raise the issue of vulnerability, but not specifically the vulnerability of small island developing states to sea-level raise, for instance. Having said that, it risks stretching the issues we are raising already, which are mostly related to forests.

9. What kind of sustainability mechanisms/building blocks are required within REDD scheme to have a desired impact in time and in scope?

To date, there is no REDD scheme, per se. It's up to the international community to work on designing one that is sustainable. I think that the most advanced efforts in that regard are the CCBA standards, but they are still in an infancy stage.

10. How does REDD link in with PES? Is it 'and'/'or'?

This is a tricky issue. An investment in a REDD project can be seen as a payment for an ecosystem service (or a bundle of ecosystem service). However, I think that it is risky to extend the PES concept to each and every form of conservation finance. To me, PES is a specific conservation finance tool that applies mostly to watershed management schemes, and that is unique in the sense that it focuses on the BENEFICIARY pays principle. Thus, it has greatest potential when the beneficiary is an easily identifiable stakeholder or stakeholder group (i.e. NOT the global community...), such as a hydroelectric company, a municipal water utility, an ecotourism enterprise, or a recreational fishing/hunting association. REDD, on the other hand, should be more aligned with the polluter pays principle.

11. Should focus be first on GHG emission reduction (REDD should be only additional) mechanism?

Absolutely. The priority remains that developed countries are those who emit most GHG's, and they need to reduce their emissions. They should not be allowed to 'buy their way out' by investing in REDD. However, we also feel that LULUCF is a significant source of GHG, and should thus be integrated into an international climate regime.

12. How will you deal with controversy over including degradation? How will the value of past avoided deforestation efforts be reflected in REDD baselines? Is there a risk of penalising good past conservation activities?

It is not our mandate to sort out this controversy. We would simply like to see degradation fully integrated into the discussions on REDD, and recommend adopting an ecosystem approach to REDD that is not only about avoiding deforestation but also about restoring landscapes. As with the issue of degradation, methodological/technical issues are not the main focus of our involvement in REDD.

13. Does the rapid growth of voluntary and 'pirate' carbon markets mean UNFCCC official markets won't work?

I don't think so. Regulatory markets are obviously stronger and more legitimate. While the CDM has attracted a lot of criticism, many of these criticisms apply as well to the voluntary market (i.e. poor capacity to reach areas most in need of incentives).

14. Can we local communities join the process?

Of course. The 'process' is mostly about gathering lessons learned from experience. We are always looking for community-based experiences that could help generate greater knowledge and awareness on REDD.

15. You speak of pro poor and local participation. How many local and indigenous peoples are currently involved in this process?

As I've said, the process is about gathering lessons learned and sharing key insights/messages/findings. Our objective is to make sure that REDD is made pro-poor and that it ensures broad local level participation. Local level participation is integrated into the process to the extent that experiences acquired with REDD-relevant efforts are being brought to the attention of environmental and development organizations of all sizes around the world.

16. What are the critical governance issues?

In my opinion, exogenously induced and inequitable power structures undermine much of the environmental governance in developing countries. Corruption and elite capture are major problems. Furthermore, the incompatibilities between traditional and formalized land tenure systems are a key barrier to pro-poor REDD. Prohibitive administrative processes and transaction costs often compromise the ability of market mechanisms to reach local populations. To me, efforts should focus on supporting equitable and effective governance at the municipal levels by providing incentives for an integrated ecosystem-based approach to REDD.

17. Who owns the carbon? Local or national?

Or international? I suppose that within the context of the UNFCCC, the carbon will be considered to be the property of national governments.

18. How best to create incentives for high social/biodiversity standards at the national level?

In my opinion, instituting an auction-based system whereby municipal-level consortia could present their REDD proposals for potential financing would be an effective means of incentivizing high-quality projects.

19. How should big carbon money be distributed at the community level without destabilizing the local economy?

Great question. Huge challenge. I think that we should not focus on PAYING people, but on rewarding desired results. It will be essential to ensure that the projected REDD incentives do not become a source of conflict within communities.

Matt Walpole, Fauna and Flora International

1. If you are working through local NGOs and governmental organisations that exist in the country, do you monitor to see if the projects you fund are in sync with local communities needs?

We don't just fund projects, we work with partners to implement them, and those partners commonly include local communities. In line with our position statement, we work with local communities to understand their livelihoods and use of biodiversity & natural resources, and to assess any potential negative impacts of conservation on local livelihoods. In that way we can ensure that 'human needs' are taken into account in the work that we, and our partners, do.

2. A lot of other ENGOs, etc., have/are developing similar projects on climate change. Are you guided by these projects, or are you just reinventing the whole wheel?

The work we are doing on climate change right now is to better understand the local implications of climate change and the carbon markets for our projects, for biodiversity and for local communities and their livelihoods. Since this is primarily a desk study, naturally it involves reviewing a wide range of information from a variety of sources so as to ensure that we are building on the combined experience of the global community and not reinventing any wheels.

Annex 5: List of documents produced for the Symposium

- 2007 PCLG Annual Symposium Annotated Participants List
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-PCLG_Symposium_Annotated_Participants_List.pdf
- 2007 PCLG Directory of Poverty and Conservation Organisations and Initiatives
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-PCLG_Directory.pdf
- 2007 PCLG Annual Symposium Overview and Agenda
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-PCLG_Symposium_Overview_and_Agenda.pdf
- Alexander Songorwa (Sokoine University) - Conservation and Poverty in Tanzania.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Songorwa_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Barney Dickson (FFI) - Influencing international policy processes - CITES and Livelihoods.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Dickson_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Charles Besancon (UNEP-WCMC) - World Database on Protected Areas/Vision 2020.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Besancon_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- David Hubermann (IUCN) - Climate, forests and poverty.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Huberman_Poster_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Dilys Roe (IIED) - Current trends in the conservation - poverty debate, where climate fits in.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Roe_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Donato Bumacas (Kamicydi) - Kamicydi Initiatives on Conservation-Poverty-Climate Linkages.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Bumacas_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Hannah Fairbank (USAID) - Conservation in a Human Landscape: A review of field-level monitoring and evaluation systems integrating socio-economic indicators into conservation.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Fairbank_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Hannah Reid (IIED) - Climate impacts on biodiversity and livelihoods.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Reid_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Helen Leake (Forest Peoples Programme) - Reduced Emissions from Deforestation – implications for local people.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Griffith_Poster_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Jenny Henman (Sustainable Forestry Ltd.) - The global framework for reducing carbon emissions – how it all works.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Henman_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Joanna Durbin (CCBA) - Building community and biodiversity considerations in carbon projects.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Durbin_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Katherine Homewood (University College London) - Livestock, wildlife and community conservation in Maasai livelihoods: current patterns and climate change implications.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Homewood_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Katrina Brandon (Conservation International) - Protected Areas, Carbon, and Restoration in Africa.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Brandon_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Kent Redford (WCS) - Poverty and the human footprint – implications for conservation organisations.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Redford_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf

- Lera Miles (UNEP-WCMC) - Reduced Emissions from Deforestation - implications for protected areas.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Miles_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Maria Berlekom (SwedBio) - Addressing climate-conservation-poverty links in development assistance.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Berlekom_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Matt Walpole (FFI) - Developing a climate risk and opportunities assessment mechanism for conservation projects.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Walpole_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Minnie Degawan (International Alliance) - Carbon offsetting through afforestation / reforestation schemes
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Degawan_Poster_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Minnie Degawan (International Alliance) – Reforesting Denuded Lands: A Solution to Poverty and Climate Change? A Critical Look at World Bank Projects on Reforestation in the Cordillera, Philippines
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Reforesting_Denuded_Lands_Degawan.pdf
- Phil Franks (Care International) - The WCPA Taskforce on Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Franks_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Robert Baganda (ProBiodiversity Conservationists) - Cultural tourism – providing an incentive for conservation and cultural strengthening amongst the Batwa pygmies in Uganda.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Baganda_Handout_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf
- Tsitsi Choruma (Progressio) - Using biodiversity in community based efforts to adapt to climate change.
http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-Choruma_PPT_PCLG_Symposium_2007.pdf

Poverty and Conservation Learning Group

The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is an initiative coordinated by IIED and funded by the Ford Foundation and Irish Aid. The goal of the Learning Group is to promote better understanding of the links between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction in order to improve policy and practice.

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