

Key outcomes of the second workshop „Linking Nature Conservation and Poverty Reduction: Supporting a Networking Process” on the Isle of Vilm, Germany, 9-12 November 2007

I) Introduction - Background and contents of the workshop:

The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) considers it important to support the process of linking nature conservation and poverty reduction. A first workshop that provided a forum to discuss current approaches on the basis of case studies has been taking place on the Isle of Vilm in November 2006. A gap for principles to guide conservation activities in relation to poverty issues was found, and the need for further work on this issue recognized. The full results of this meeting can be downloaded here:

<http://www.bfn.de/fileadmin/MDB/documents/service/skript190.pdf>

Based on this, a second meeting on the Isle of Vilm was held in November 2007. This meeting further elaborated the need for guiding principles on the interface of nature conservation and poverty reduction and substantiated these considerations by looking at the potential and constraints of sustainable resource management and the role of research in particular. A draft document for guiding principles was developed and their potential integration into key policy processes discussed.

This report summarises the key outputs of the workshop that include next steps in regards to developing guiding principles, involvement of key players, the process to integrate these efforts into current policy processes and linking them to ongoing initiatives in this field.

II) Summary of the key outcomes of the workshop

Two main outputs of the meeting were produced, with close linkages between one another:

- 1) “Developing principles for enhancing positive and reducing negative impacts of biodiversity conservation on poverty “ - First draft document on guiding principles on how conservation activities link with poverty reduction (for further consultation).
- 2) Road Map – defining a process to further develop and support the adoption of the principles. This included discussing possible opportunities and assigning follow-up activities, on three main routes.
 - a) Participation of key stakeholder groups, potential partners and other interested parties and further development of the “Conservation and Poverty Principles“
 - b) Feeding the principles into IUCN at the next World Conservation Congress in October 2008. This will aim at a formal recognition and support through the IUCN system.

- c) Acknowledgement and, if possible, adoption of the “Conservation and Poverty Principles” within the CBD process. For 2008, it is envisaged to get the process itself recognised by the CBD.

III) Draft “Conservation and Poverty Principles”

The draft “Conservation and Poverty Principles” produced at the workshop were sent to all participants. This draft will be getting revised by workshop participants until 30th of November. By then, it should be shared with potential partners and other interested bodies to ensure the possibility of participation at an early stage.

At the meeting, a quick review of existing documents and documents under development linking conservation and poverty issues was carried out. It was found that none of the former would fill the gap recognised at the first workshop, to guide conservation activities in relation to poverty issues. However, it was decided to carry out further screening of existing initiatives on this, by having a more intense study carried out as soon as possible, lead by FFI. It is envisaged to have the result of this study by the end of December 2007.

All participants acknowledge the importance of communicating the process and to get involved relevant groups and networks, and offer to provide information and establish alliances with their respective networks (see IV for details).

In the process of integrating the “Conservation and Poverty Principles” into relevant policy processes, they will undergo constant revision and further development. It is, however, envisaged to have a basic foundation document established and agreed before the IUCN World Conservation Congress, by the time of deadline for motions (either 90 or 180 days before the start of the congress, to be confirmed by IUCN).

IV) Roadmap for the Process “Developing principles for enhancing positive and reducing negative impacts of biodiversity conservation on poverty”

To support the development and acknowledgement of the “Conservation and Poverty Principles”, the workshop agrees on the following process:

- 1) Partnership/consultations: Involving other interest groups and potential partners in the process, and informing the interested public (the following organisations were listed, with workshop participants responsible for contacting them in brackets, for Abbreviations see annex 1):
 - CEESP/IUCN (Phil)
 - PCLG (Alessandra)
 - Task Force (Phil)
 - NGOs int. –through DNR (Elke)
 - TILCEPA (Phil)
 - SSC/SUSG and IUCN Secretariat (Robin)
 - WCMC (Barney)
 - NGO - Accountability Charter (BfN)
 - Ramsar (Alexander)

- Participants of the first BfN workshop (BfN)
- CMS (BfN)
- Organisations' networks (All)

This should happen as soon as the draft "Conservation and Poverty Principles" have been revised by the participants, and a cover note has been drafted (David) - preferably by the end of November 2007.

2) IUCN World Conservation Congress

- Draft a motion for the next IUCN congress, lobby for support and submit the motion (FFI, WWF, DNR, BfN, Indonesian Government, CARE, BirdLife).
Process: Drafting team circulates motion draft by 29th February 2008, to be discussed in Rome in February 2008 (CBD) and in May 2008 in Bonn with all workshop participants present.
- Coordinate the various poverty related events at the World Conservation Congress (all organisers, if possible through PCLG).

3) Getting the "Conservation and Poverty Principles" acknowledged, and if possible adopted, by the CBD

- Longer-term process involving many players
- In the short term it is envisaged to get the process acknowledged by SBSTTA/CoP 9 in 2008
- To be further discussed with CBD experts (mainly Barney, Phil, David, BfN, PCLG) and the CBD Secretariat through existing contacts (BfN, as soon as possible).

ANNEX I - Abbreviations

BfN - German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation

BINGO – Big International NGO (non-governmental organisation)

CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity

CEESP, the > IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

CMS – The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (also known as Bonn Convention)

FFI – Fauna Flora International

GEF – Global Environmental Facility of the World Bank- Founded 1991, administrated collectively by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Environmental Programme of the United Nations (UNEP).

IIED – International Institute for Environment and Development.

IUCN – The World Conservation Union

PCLG -Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is an initiative coordinated by > IIED

RAMSAR - The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ram sar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

RM – Resource Management

SBSTTA -Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the > CBD

SSC -The Species Survival Commission if > IUCN

SRM – Sustainable Resource Management

SUSG – Sustainable Use Specialist Group of > IUCN

TGER - Theme on Governance, Equity and Rights, one of the main work themes mandated to > CEESP by the > IUCN General Assembly

TLCEPA -> IUCN WCPA-CEESP Theme Working Group on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity, and Protected Areas

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

WCC – World Conservation Congress of > IUCN

WCMC –> UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre

WCPA -> IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas

WPC - World Parks Congress of > IUCN