

Vth IUCN World Parks Congress

Information for Media: Stream 5, Evaluating Management Effectiveness

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Overview Messages:

Investing time and effort in protected areas makes sense if there is a reasonable chance that they remain secure.

Many protected areas are under threat and some have been so degraded that they have lost ecological and social values. Numerous human and natural agents of change threaten protected areas. Some of these, are:

- Removal of key species or replacement by alien invasive species.
- Isolation and fragmentation when surrounding land uses change dramatically.
- Transboundary air pollution.
- Climate change.
- Unsustainable use of wildlife and other resources.
- Insufficient funding to operate protected areas and implement management program.

Studies have revealed that:

- 70% of Europe's protected areas are exceeding critical loads for pollutants.
- In Cameroon, all protected areas face threats and over half suffer degradation.
- In Gabon, logging concessions have been granted in all national parks, petroleum operations are in two, and bushmeat hunting in protected areas was increasing.

- In India, 34 % of protected areas had low legal and management status.
- In Brazil, 75% of protected areas are in endangered because they have not been managed and they are vulnerable.
- In Columbia, 76% of protected areas were adversely affected by hunting.
- In Canada, only one of 39 national parks is free of ecological stress.
- Many threats arise from activities that are far away from protected area boundaries.

Management Effectiveness Evaluation measures the degree to which a protected area is achieving its goals and objectives. It is a positive tool to learn from our mistakes and correct our future actions.

Session	Key Message	Spokesperson
2a, 3a, People and Equity	- The Conservation Volunteer Alliance represents and promotes organizations involved in volunteer based practical conservation work. They have established, and are monitoring, best practice for projects that protect and enhance the environment.	Neil Jens, President of the Conservation Volunteer Alliance Local: 082 858 9682.
	- Rio Tinto agreed to fund the Alliance in 2001 to develop benchmarks and an accreditation program to assist organizations to deliver a high quality volunteer experience with capacity for promoting volunteer exchange programs, appropriate funds management and positive outcomes for the environment. The accreditation framework is now being implemented.	Have SA projects.
2a, 3a, People and Equity	- Indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of PA management need to take account of community level interests as is now happening in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia.	Dr Liz Alden Wily, independent land tenure and natural resources management adviser, UK. Contact via 0828589682
	- Relevant indicators that are present in reformed forest PA governance arrangements in these East African states include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local participation in management planning; - sharing the benefits from PAs with local communities; 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - state-owned and managed reserves may be reclassified as Community Conserved Areas; - communities may declare, own and manage CCAs on customarily held lands; - communities are fully empowered to manage the PA; - institutional frameworks through which communities may own and/or manage forests are inclusive, democratically formed and easily and cheaply formed by communities; - communal rights over local protected lands are fully respected; - customary rights of for subsistence are assured. 	
2a, 3a, People and Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural indicators can be used to monitor the well-being of cultural values of protected areas. They should be developed with and by the people who hold those values, and applied to management only with their consent. - A pilot project in Australia's Tropical Rainforests World Heritage Area has developed indicators in collaboration with Aboriginal Traditional Owners in one community. Indicators have been developed for the recognition of Indigenous rights and interests, participation in protected area management, socio-economic benefits, heritage and spiritual values and understanding the shared history of the area. 	Dr Dermot Smyth, Local: 082 858 6431
2b Learning from Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once PA's are selected, established, planned and then managed (if they're managed)—then what happens? This session is about ensuring effectiveness. In other words, do we have what we need to do the job, and are we making a difference? - There are no benefits beyond boundaries if conservation and management objectives inside PA's are not achieved! - Today, many government and non-government organizations are using management effectiveness, such as WWF, The Nature Conservancy, and others, in many parts of the World (Central and South America, Africa, Asia, etc.). 	Marc Hockings (English)

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2c Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information about social, economic, and institutional factors are also needed to assist with measuring and monitoring changes that affect protected areas, including those that arise within and outside of protected areas. 	
3c, 4c Ecological Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managers of protected areas need to understand the concept of ecological integrity, how to measure it, and how to integrate the concept into management decisions and reporting about protected areas. - Managers and the public want to know if protected areas are being conserved and protected. 	Stephen Woodley (English)
3d, 4d Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management of the world's ocean resources and habitats is entering a new phase. A key outcome of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development was the commitment to establish "...marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks, by 2012." This outcome translated a long-standing goal of the World Commission on Protected Areas—Marine into a political imperative. - The challenge of establishing a representative system of marine protected areas is surpassed by the challenge that they are managed effectively over time. There is a long way to go in achieving this goal, with less than 1% of the world's ocean declared under marine protected areas and fewer than 10% of marine protected areas that exist today achieving their management goals and objectives. Ultimately, it is only by assuring their effective management that MPAs contribute to the ambitious overarching goals of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of marine resources, and an improved quality of life for coastal communities. - Marine protected areas (MPAs) are established for a wide range of purposes, including, to protect marine species and habitats, to conserve marine biodiversity, to restore fisheries stocks, to manage tourism activities, and minimize conflicts among diverse resource users. To achieve these goals, 	<p>Lani Watson (English)</p> <p>NOTE: Press event Sept 13th 9-10am.</p> <p>NOTE: Informal “kava chat” for 10-15 media, hosted by Fiji on Tuesday Sept 16, 1-2 pm (Etika Rupeni, WWF and Alfrete Tawake, Fiji Network Coordination Team Member) at the ‘Community Park’ in the Exhibition Hall.</p>

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4b, 5b Alien Invasive Species	<p>specific and measurable objectives must be defined in terms of what outputs and outcomes are being sought. This in turn requires indicators that are specific to the marine environment and coastal communities be used to determine successful management actions, how to improve MPA management and adaptively manage MPAs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The goal of the MPA sessions within the Management Effectiveness Stream of the World Parks Congress is to provide examples of MPAs that are incorporating management effectiveness evaluations into the management process. The challenges and benefits of implementing evaluation measures and using results for adaptive management can provide lessons learned to other MPAs and determine how the marine community can build capacity for MPAs around the world as part of the future representative network. 	<p>Demonstration Cases of MPAs that field-tested the MPA management effectiveness guidebook in session 3d and examples of MPAs that are conducting evaluations in session 4d.</p> <p>The Demonstration Cases papers are online at http://effectivempa.noaa.gov/cases.html OR from Lani Watson in CD format</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alien invasive species are among the most important threats to the natural integrity of protected areas and livelihoods throughout the world. - Management of alien invasives must be a priority by agencies, including monitoring, training, and management interventions. - There is hope! One person can make a difference through small, local interventions (a large international effort is not always needed to take action). 	<p>Maj de Poorter (English)</p> <p>NOTE: Current background information is available on local success stories.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are several success stories of how alien invasives have been managed to protect native species, livelihoods and cultural values in protected areas. 	
4e Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change effects on Karoo (Cape flora) 	
5c Certification of PA's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been increasing calls for some kind of standardized way of judging whether PA's are well managed and of guaranteeing that such standards have been met. - Different approaches are being discussed, related to two areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Desirability of certification (should we have a system or not?). b. Options for certification of private PA's. - Some people from government and NGO's are in favour of a certification system, and some are not. - The certification discussion is an idea that is still in the early stages of discussion. It is not a given, rather a point of discussion. - It does not necessarily need to be global in approach. 	<p>Nigel Dudley (English)</p> <p>Jose Courrau (Spanish)</p>
5d, Using Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ME Assessments are being used in four key areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Improve transparency and accountability o Assist in allocating resources o Engender greater public support o Assist in adapting management practices with what has been learned. 	<p>Caroline Stem (English)</p> <p>Local and national case studies: Brazil, Costa Rica, Fiji, Uganda</p>
Delegate Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local University of Natal students are working hard to compile the results of the delegate survey. 	Gary Machlis (English)

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	- Results will be reported during the closing plenary on Sept 17.	