

FINAL PLENARY FORMAT

Key messages from management effectiveness (MEE) stream (see also more detailed discussion points)

Delivering quality

- moving into the 'consolidation phase' of protected areas – management effectiveness evaluation is a key aspect
- Build monitoring and evaluation into management and fiscal cycles; use results to improve management practices and more logically allocate resources
- MEE vital tool to increase transparency and accountability. Issues re willingness of some institutions/ governments to make public if information shows negative trends, but can be used to great advantage to build public support and improve resourcing.
- Need incentives to encourage adoption and use of MEE (at ground level as well as internationally). Use of Conventions (e.g. CBD, World Heritage, RAMSAR), national legislation and (e.g Parks Canada and new South African Parks Bill) and donor financing identified as effective ways to achieve this.
- MEE systems and approaches developed and trialed over the last ten years, delivering on the call from Caracas – now need to implement across pa systems. Framework and systems/ tools have standards and common themes but are flexible to meet wide range of situations. Set of guidelines developed for MEE.
- Sound, objective information, including good science (e.g. ecological integrity monitoring), vital for good decision-making: management effectiveness evaluation systems make information accessible for managers, and guide the collection of relevant targeted information.
- Capacity-building and financing needed for MEE implementation
- Strong call for IUCN and others to advance work on minimum standards for effective management and to investigate options/ advantages/disadvantages of voluntary certification system. MEE is good tool for showing quality/giving transparency to all pas including private, community-managed pas.
- re-affirm importance of the IUCN Protected Area Category system: next steps providing enhanced guidance to meet the new ways in which the system is being applied

Embracing diversity

- MEE - WCPA framework recognises that diversity of approaches needed. MEE systems and tools flexible and trialled in wide range of situations – help to recognise strengths and weaknesses of diversity of management regimes.

Empowering people and communities

- importance of MEE involving appropriate stakeholders – including indigenous and local communities, on-ground park staff, NGOs, and experts – in all phases of evaluation. Must listen to needs of local people and staff, and suggest appropriate responses.

- Adaptive management programs are tool for communities to use monitoring and evaluation to improve their own resource management.
- Need to develop better indicators for community participation and cultural/ socioeconomic issues

Filling the Gaps

Building partnerships

- partnerships in monitoring and evaluation – include all stakeholders and provide transparency – sharing power among partners

Managing for change

- MEE critical tool for change management – tracks change at local and global level, identifies existing and emerging threats, assesses responses, provides framework for adaptive management.
- Essential to build resilient management with rapid feedback from data to action – must design MEE system to be fast, get information to right people
- MEE on pas must link with broader scale evaluations – pas as ‘canaries’ as well as looking inwards.
- Major global threats eg logging, unsustainable hunting, fragmentation, invasive species and climate change assessed through MEE systems and cooperative remedial actions developed

Setting the challenge

- International cooperation to continue on building and using MEE systems and sharing information
- Targets to be set on quality of pa management – includes implementation of MEE for transparency, accountability, adaptive management, sound resource allocation. Targets included in message to CBD