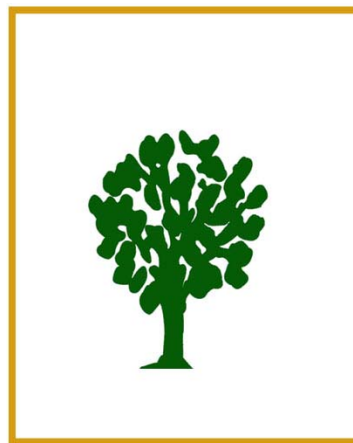


Community Management of Natural Resources and Common Property Resources



A Brief Bibliographical Survey

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1. Common Property Resources

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Abstract: This article reports on a seven-village study of common property resources (CPRs) carried out between 1993 and 1996 from across the agro-ecological zones of West Bengal. Among our findings are: CPRs made up about 12 per cent of poor households' income; fuel and fodder were the most important CPRs accessed by the poor; and women and girls are mainly responsible for collection of CPRs, which may be why their importance to the poor is largely ignored. Poor people are being systematically excluded from customary access to CPRs, a key element in their livelihoods, at an alarming rate. The main causes of this exclusion are agricultural intensification, commoditisation of CPRs, environmental degradation and population growth. New forms of 'community' management of environmental resources, which have been promoted by governments and aid donors over the last 10 years, may add to the exclusion of the poor.

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2. Community Management of Natural Resources

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Abstract: Projects promoting community-based management of natural resources frequently encourage local smallholders to share flora, fauna, or land forms with state agencies and/or private companies. Ideals of common property and moral economy have inspired this agenda and helped spread it globally. In Southern Africa, however, the general model of shared landscapes has collided with a bitter history of white colonization and land grabbing. This article recounts the rise and fall of one CAMPFIRE (Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources) project in eastern Zimbabwe. There, cadastral politics--struggles over the bounding and control of land--overwhelmed negotiations for joint management and eco-tourism. Across the border, in Mozambique, community-based resource management has engaged with cadastral politics in a more fruitful fashion. In the midst of latter-day Afrikaner colonization, this project mapped smallholders' claims to land. Thus, the Zimbabwean project ignored territorial conflict and ultimately succumbed to it. The Mozambican project jumped into

the fray, with some success. On past or current settler frontiers, community-based management may learn from this lesson: dispense with an ideology of sharing and join the rough-and-tumble of cadastral politics.

10. James C. Murombedzi (1999): "Devolution and stewardship in Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE programme", *Journal of International Development*, 11: 287-293.

Abstract: Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE programme is widely regarded as one of Africa's most successful contemporary conservation initiatives. It permits the residents of communal lands-basically poor, black people-to share in the benefits generated by wildlife utilization on those lands. Despite its achievements the programme still faces fundamental challenges. In particular the development strategies of households in CAMPFIRE areas are focusing on land uses that are incompatible with wildlife - population in-migration, the extension of cropping and increased livestock numbers. To a significant degree these problems arise because CAMPFIRE has only been able to devolve authority over natural resources from the central government to rural district councils. If the programme is to be effective then a further devolution of authority is required so that producer communities, those who live directly beside wildlife, are given full control of the natural resources on their lands.

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Abstract: Development practitioners frequently rely on community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) as an approach to encourage equitable and sustainable environmental resource use. Based on an analysis of the case of grassland and woodland burning in highland Madagascar, this article argues that the success of CBNRM depends upon the real empowerment of local resource users and attention to legitimacy in local institutions. Two key factors--obstructive environmental ideologies ("received wisdoms") and the complex political and social arena of "community" governance--challenge empowerment and legitimacy and can transform outcomes. In Madagascar, persistent hesitancy among leaders over the legitimate role of fire has sidetracked a new CBNRM policy called GELOSE away from one of its original purposes--community fire management--towards other applications, such as community management of forest exploitation. In addition, complications with local governance frustrate implementation efforts. As a result, a century-long political stalemate over fire continues.

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Abstract: This article examines the evolution of economic theory to explain the emergence and maintenance of cooperation among users of local commons. The conventional view that "free riding" prevents cooperative solutions to the commons dilemma is challenged under new theories rooted in evolutionary paradigm and the institutional matrix within which individuals find themselves. Contrary to the prediction of the conventional view, modern evolutionary theories provide ample empirical and theoretical evidence in support of a community's ability to self-organize to preserve the local commons.

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Abstract: Community natural resource management (CNRM) has been extensively promoted in recent years as an approach for pursuing biological conservation and socioeconomic objectives. The rationale for CNRM is often compelling and convincing.

Relatively little data exists, however, regarding its implementation, particularly the reconciliation of social and environmental goals. This article summarizes empirical evidence regarding the implementation of CNRM, based on five case studies in Nepal, the U.S. states of Alaska and Washington, and Kenya. Six social and environmental indicators are used to evaluate and compare these cases, including equity, empowerment, conflict resolution, knowledge and awareness, biodiversity protection, and sustain-able resource utilization. The results of this analysis indicate that, despite sincere attempts and some success, serious deficiencies are widely evident. In especially Nepal and Kenya, CNRM rarely resulted in more equitable distribution of power and economic benefits, reduced conflict, increased consideration of traditional or modern environmental knowledge, protection of biological diversity, or sustainable resource use. By contrast, CNRM in the North American cases was more successful. Institutional, environmental, and organizational factors help explain the observed differences.

Keywords: biodiversity, community resource management, Kenya, Nepal, sustain-ability, USA

Local Initiatives Awards for Excellence in Land Resource Management

Lviv, Ukraine, Green Crown of the City

http://www.iclei.org/liawards/winners2000/land_winners.htm

Abstract: The community has created an inventory of environmentally and historically significant sites, and has prepared an environmental management plan for Znesinnya Park. Future plans for the park include an environmental education centre and open-air museum. The park has created seasonal employment for 25 people. Znesinnya Park is unique in the Ukraine and its long-term viability is ensured by a high degree of community commitment, and the dedication of part of the city budget to the park program.

Natural Resource Management & the Environment

Participatory processes for establishing community-based groups

<http://www.ciesin.org/decentralization/English/Issues/NRM.html>

Abstract: Evidence suggests that community-based groups are an effective means of managing the free-rider problems associated with most resource management regimes. Decentralization policies on their own, however, are not necessarily sufficient to result in the formation of these community-based groups. Catalytic external agencies using participatory processes are also required to facilitate and build local organizational capacity, effective community participation, and local control and authority over decisions and resources. Important issues to consider in strengthening local organizational capacity are:

Natural Resources Management

<http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/sdnaturalresources/index.html>

Abstract: Sustainable development and poverty reduction depend on the protection and sustainable management of the regional and global commons, including forests, biodiversity, and water resources. Improved management of natural resources is key to achieving sustainable development. The poor, especially in rural areas, heavily depend on the productivity and environmental services of these natural resources for the livelihoods and quality of life. The Natural Resources Management program promotes awareness and builds capacity in client countries to manage resources that support the livelihoods of the poor and have significant national and global value.

**Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Publications**

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/Community/index.asp>

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/publications/index.asp>

Abstract: Conservation in New Zealand is increasingly becoming a collaborative effort between the public, non-government organisations, businesses, and all levels of government. Involving the community in caring for their heritage through education, sponsorships, awards, community involvement programmes, partnerships and events such as conservation are a key part of the Department's work.

The Department of Conservation publishes a wide range of documents on the work it does, from scientific notes and species recovery plans to management plans and annual reports. Many of these publications are available on this web site, under the relevant subject heading, or can be sourced from Department offices or libraries around the country.

Natural Resources

<http://www.usaid.gov/gn/nrm/background/>

Abstract: This Strategic Objective is the principal US Government contributor to the Mission Performance Plan goal to "encourage community involvement in the conservation of natural resources and biological diversity in agro-ecologically fragile zones." Improved natural resource management practices such as controlled burning have been adopted, cash crops have been introduced, and new village enterprises have brought additional income to villagers. Evidence that farmers are adopting productivity-enhancing practices is significant.

2.1 Forestry, Wildlife, Protected Areas and National Parks

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Abstract: This article finds that the recent enthusiasm for participatory resource management institutions must be tempered by an ongoing critique of the problems that frequently hinder successful practice. Two key obstacles to effective participation are considered. First, new institutional arrangements often reproduce the social relationships that marginalize certain groups of people in the first place. To this end, the role of gender is examined in some detail, as an example of the problems associated with participation and empowerment. Second, new participatory institutions are often embedded within wider legal and policy frameworks that make it difficult for them to develop the capacity for self-management. Through a study of joint forest planning and management in the Western Ghats of Karnataka, it is argued that local contexts require fuller understanding and that local agency can only be facilitated where policies and legal frameworks are more receptive to local negotiation.

Keywords: gender, joint forest management, local knowledge, new institutionalism, participation, process-oriented development, resource management, structure and agency, Western Ghats

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Summary: Transboundary protected areas (PAs) currently represent nearly 10% of the world's network of PAs. The protection of their biological wealth poses special

challenges because of the need for cooperation among sovereign states. Adaptive management strategies offer hope for a more accurate assessment of ecological conditions within PAs, and have the potential for furthering one of the major objectives of these PAs, namely enhancing environmental cooperation between countries across whose boundaries the protected area complex is situated. This paper examines the implications of adaptive management for transboundary PAs by using the Polish/Belarusian Bialowieza PAs as a case study. Managers of PAs have conventionally aimed at accurate predictions and short-term system equilibrium through 'top-down' policies of control and exclusion. In the case of PAs, these objectives have meant limiting use and employing models of linear growth. Adaptive management strategies rely instead on long-term experience, assessment of experimental interventions, and collection of greater amounts of information to assess future outcomes. They aim at the satisfaction of objectives that may include equilibrium changes. These features of adaptive management imply attention over time to the interactions between different key species, greater involvement of local populations in the collection of information about the resources, and experimenting with different levels of use to infer the most suitable protection strategies.

Keywords: transboundary protected areas, adaptive management, community -based conservation

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- Abstract:** Devolution of authority over natural resource management is now well advanced for the mega-fauna in Zimbabwe, through the CAMPFIRE program. We ask whether models like CAMPFIRE can be applied to a broader spectrum of woodland resources. Problems in applying CAMPFIRE to woodland resources relate to a legal and policy framework that is not enabling to local management; weakened local institutional structures; a high degree of differentiation with respect to woodland resource use within communities; problems of defining resource user groups; and, the potentially low market value of woodland products. In identifying circumstances where CAMPFIRE may be applied successfully to woodland resources, economic, sociological, and ecological circumstances must be considered.
- Keywords: forest products, legal framework, local institutions, markets, wildlife
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- Summary:** This article reports the experience of joint forest management (JFM) initiatives in Uttar Pradesh. Sustainable use of land and forest produce requires a change in attitudes both of government departments and the people. 'Joint' in JFM remains on paper as forest departments work for, rather than with, the people. The initiative also needs to be integrated with other rural development programmes, and to give women a larger role.
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Abstract: This article examines recent institutional approaches that address questions of access to forest resources and issues of redistributive justice for indigenous peoples in Australia and India. For over two decades, both countries have seen the emergence of claims to forest access and ownership made by indigenous communities that have been historically disadvantaged and marginalized from the benefits of mainstream social and economic development. The analysis focuses on regional forest agreements (RFA) in Australia and joint forest management (JFM) experiments in India through a comparative analytical framework defined by three concepts—access, control, and substantive democracy to assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of institutional processes that aim to engage in sustainable management of forest resources.

Keywords: access, Australia, control, democracy, distributive justice, forest policy, India, indigenous peoples, joint forest management, management processes, regional forest agreements

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Abstract: Over the last decade the concepts, policies and practices of conservation in Africa have begun to shift towards what has been viewed as a community-based approach. This introductory paper to the Policy Arena argues that the ideas underpinning this shift - a greater interest in local level and community-based natural resource management, the treatment of conservation as simply one of many forms of natural

resource use and a belief in the contribution that markets can make to the achievement of conservation goals - are better understood as a 'new conservation'. This new conservation is presently diffusing through Africa both challenging 'fortress conservation' and working alongside it. It is no panacea for the problems that conservation faces but it does provide a basis from which more effective policies and institutions can evolve.

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Summary: Throughout much of the tropics, human-wildlife conflict impedes local support for national parks. By channeling tourism revenue to local residents, conservationists hope to offset wildlife costs and improve local attitudes toward conservation. To date tourism revenue-sharing (TRS) programmes have met mixed success. Local conditions and national policies that shape the success of TRS programmes were identified by comparing the experiences of both implementers and beneficiaries of pilot TRS programmes at three parks in western Uganda. Between 1995 and 1998, communities around these parks used a total of US \$83 000 of tourism revenue to build 21 schools, four clinics, one bridge, and one road. In 1996, the Ugandan parliament passed legislation that changed both the amount of money available for TRS and the institutions responsible for sharing the money. The programme was suspended at all three parks while the implementing agency (Uganda Wildlife Authority) struggled to design a programme that complied with the new legislation. TRS funds collected before 1996 were shared through 1998, but since then no revenue has been shared. However, a revised TRS programme is expected to resume in 2001. In semi-structured interviews, both implementers and beneficiaries evaluated local TRS programmes and compared them to other benefit-sharing projects, particularly those promoting sustainable use of non-timber products within park boundaries (n = 44). Both groups of respondents listed revenue sharing as the most important advantage of living next to a national park. Seventy-two per cent of respondents indicated that they thought TRS had improved attitudes towards the protected areas, and 53% thought TRS was more important than sustainable use of non-timber forest products. Although respondents were generally positive about TRS, in informal discussions respondents repeatedly mentioned four potential obstacles to TRS success, namely poorly defined TRS policies and unsteady implementing institutions, corruption, inadequate funds, and numerous stakeholders with differing priorities. From this survey and literature from experiences in other African countries, there are four key components of successful revenue-sharing programmes: long-term institutional support, appropriate identification of the target community and project type, transparency and accountability, and adequate funding. With firm institutional support and realistic expectations, TRS can play an important role in improving local attitudes towards conservation.

Keywords: ecotourism, revenue sharing, community-based conservation, wildlife, Uganda, national parks

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Summary: Change in the commons remains poorly understood. This essay analyzes a comparative case study of community forestry in Mexico. In a primary case study, corruption in a community-owned logging business legitimates timber smuggling, and this situation contrasts with several forestry communities having internally-legitimate social institutions able to control such problems. A discussion assesses the institutional choice model for understanding change in the commons and contrasts it with an approach that views individual choices and actions as embedded in communities and cultures. The commons exists in a value-laden social context, and this requires a theory "thicker" than current versions of institutional choice

Key words: Latin America, Mexico, common property, institutional choice, co-management

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Abstract: As populations increase and forest areas decline, protected areas are being defined in an attempt to preserve remnants of original flora and fauna. This is problematic where local populations exist within or close to protected area boundaries. These people are often compelled to exploit protected area resources to survive. Theoretically, socioeconomic activities and projects directed at buffer areas can decrease pressure on protected areas and provide opportunities for local populations to become active in their management. This research studied a group of rice farmers and laborers in a remote village in the Philippines to ascertain whether potential increases in farmer income affect pressure for production within the national park. From in-depth interviews, field visits, and wealth and status ranking, our case study substantiates some of the claims made by other authors, but goes further to more comprehensively implicate land tenure as a central issue in this particular situation.

Keywords: buffer zones, conservation, development, environmental degradation

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Summary: Joint Forest Management (JFM) has succeeded in halting forest degradation in India, but its poverty reduction objective has not fully been evaluated previously. This paper compares FM forests and government-managed forests to assess their respective net social benefits to different groups of local villagers. It shows that the FM regime reflects the social preference of the rural o poor, and that the poor are net losers over a 40-year time horizon. Future plans for FM need to include suitable compensatory mechanisms to reduce the poverty of the poorest within a village.

Key words: South Asia, India, forestry, participatory development, income distribution, poverty

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Summary: The fences-and-fines approach (the American National Park model) to wildlife protection is now perceived by many conservationists to have failed in Africa. An alternative approach whereby rural communities are given ownership rights or custodianship and management responsibilities for the resource has been introduced under the name Community-based Wildlife Management (CWM) (also known as Community-Based Conservation or CBC). This new approach is currently under experimentation in many parts of Africa. It is based on a number of assumptions, one being that the communities are interested and willing to conserve wildlife on their lands. Using the Selous Conservation Programme (SCP) in Tanzania and seven other African cases, this paper examines the plausibility of this assumption.

Key words: Africa, community involvement, development, participation, Tanzania, wildlife conservation

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Abstract: Through a case study of Mkambati area, this article analyzes the prospects for community wildlife management (CWM) for communities that neighbor Mkambati Nature Reserve. Two clusters of issues are proposed as being crucial in any community-based resource management situation. The first cluster is centered on the idea

of 'resource tenures,' and the need to locate wildlife in a fuller resource/ livelihood/ tenure institutional context. The second cluster is centered on power dynamics, the multilayered struggles between diverse sets of actors, and the process through which resource tenures are continuously renegotiated. It is argued that wildlife management must always be seen in these larger contexts, and that the prospects for successful community-based schemes will depend crucially on how wildlife tenure articulates with other resource tenures, on how it impacts on rural livelihoods considered holistically, and on the relationships that exist between local and nonlocal institutions.

Keywords: community wildlife, livelihoods, power relations, resource tenure, South Africa

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Conservation Programmes: Catalyst Fund

<http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/programs/cg/>

Abstract: The Catalyst Fund works *to improve the quality of life* in the tropics by empowering local organizations and community members to protect their resources and stimulate a sustainable economy. An improved quality of life includes a clean environment, economic opportunities, cultural integrity and protection of natural resources. Catalyst grants help raise the quality of life in tropical communities by: supporting community-initiated conservation projects that promote protection of local forests, and providing grants of \$500 to \$2,000 to start or expand an innovative business that ascribes a value to local natural resources, encouraging their protection.

Local Initiatives for Forest Protection

http://www.rupfor.org/jfm_india.htm

Abstract: In addition to the JFM promoted by the Forest Department, there is also a grass roots forest protection movement in the country. There are several villages that have started protecting forest patches adjoining their villages on their own without any outside help or advice (Forest Department or NGO). These are commonly referred to as Self-Initiated Forest Protection Groups or SIFPGs. This protection movement has emerged as a response to growing forest degradation and the consequent hardship people were facing. These groups usually have well-developed institutional mechanisms for sharing costs and benefits among all members.

Kikori Integrated Conservation And Development Project

<http://www.wwf-pacific.org/fj/kikori.htm>

Abstract: WWF's Kikori Integrated Conservation and Development Project in Papua New Guinea operates within one of the largest remaining tracts of undisturbed tropical forest in the southern hemisphere. The Kikori Basin covers an area of 2.3 million hectares and stretches from the extensive mangrove wetlands of the Gulf Province to the alpine grasslands of Doma Peaks in the Southern Highlands Province. The Kikori project aims to enhance community capacity to conserve biodiversity and increase long-term social and economic benefits through the sustainable management of their natural resources.

Ongoing or Recently Completed Projects - 1996

Community-Based Resource Management: Mt. Isarog National Park Conservation Project

<http://www.aenet.org/treks/haribon.htm#community>

Abstract: The Mt. Isarog National Park, with an area of approx. 10,000 hectares, is noted for its rich biological diversity. As a watershed, it also provides a constant supply of water for domestic, industrial and agricultural use for the city of Naga and the surrounding municipalities. Threats to the biodiversity in the park include deforestation due to logging, slash and burn farming, expansion of agricultural land, and encroachment from settlers. The locally formed federation, *Anduyog Isarog*, is actively involved in supporting local community organizations through information and education campaigns, an agroforestry project and micro-credit which seeks to provide ecologically compatible economic livelihood to local communities.

People, plants and participation

http://www.vso.org.uk/volunt/NRNews_spring-sum2002.pdf

<http://workingpapers.vso.org.uk/agr.htm>

Abstract: VSO volunteers and their colleagues using PA with coastal and upland communities

throughout the Philippines. PA helped to identify the strengths, assets, strategies and needs of disadvantaged communities as defined by local people themselves, which enable appropriate responses and support to be jointly designed and implemented. Johan, a Dutch volunteer who has been working in the Philippines for over four years, took me on a seven-hour drive across the southern island of Mindanao to experience a five-day community planning event using participatory exercises. The key to running participatory activities is to facilitate, rather than instruct. Johan gave us a master class in PA, facilitating community action through his Filipino colleagues. It was tremendous to see a community so committed to improving their livelihoods, exploring more sustainable options, and articulating their rights.

Natural Resource Specialists

Forestry

<http://www.vso.org.uk/volunt/nr.htm>

Abstract: "The community itself decides which trees can be cut for firewood and fodder. When trees are planted by villagers, they are properly maintained; where government officers have planted, the hills are still barren. Cattle grazing, one of the most destructive practices, is now managed and controlled by villagers."

James Billings, Community Forester, Nepal.

Protecting Guinean Forests through Co-Management

Empowering communities to preserve their own natural resources

<http://www.usaid.gov/gn/nrm/news/forest/forest.htm>

Abstract: In 1999, DNEF, representing the Guinean Government, signed the first five-year contract with an inter-village committee, representing the local population, to co-manage the Nialama Forest. The forest is located in the Linsan-Saran Sub-Prefecture of Lelouma Prefecture, on the border with Gaoual Prefecture. This forest is approximately 10,000 hectares in size. It was classified by the French colonial government 55 years ago, in 1943, to protect the watershed. Today it is surrounded by approximately 30 villages and hamlets, home to more than 5,700 people.

What is Community-based forestry?

Community -Based Stewardship: An Oregon Perspective

http://www.oregonsolutions.net/forestry/comm_stewardship.cfm

Abstract: "Community-based forestry (CBF) is a participatory approach to forest management that strengthens communities' capacity to build vibrant local economies-while protecting and enhancing their local forest ecosystems. By integrating ecological, social, and economic components into cohesive approaches to forestry issues, community-based approaches give local residents both the opportunity and the responsibility to manage their natural resources in an effectively and to enjoy the benefits of that responsibility." [\[more...\]](#)

Empowering Local Populations

http://www.usaid.gov/gn/nrm/news/020414_aparfe/index.htm

Abstract: Young people in USAID-sponsored Village Forest Committees have been particularly active in reforestation and fire prevention activities in the Forest Region of Guinea. Through community-based forest management, villagers are managing and protecting their own forest resources.

Community Based Natural Woodlands Management Project (NWMP)

<http://www.easternarc.org/html/nwmp.html>

Abstract: The aim of the Project is to introduce and promote community based natural resources management that provides long-term environmental benefits by safeguarding the future existence of selected natural woodlands in Iringa District as well as directs benefits to the rural communities in line with the new Forest Policy (1998), the Wildlife Policy (1998) and the proposed Land Bill and the Village Land Act (1998). If successful during the first phase the Project will be extended into a second phase during which the experiences gained will be applied to other woodlands in Iringa region. During phase one, models for management of natural woodlands and local structures will be developed and strengthened for initially one village owned forest area and one national forest reserve. The management plans will be developed and implemented jointly by the villagers, forestry staff at district level with support from Iringa District Council and technical assistance from Danida.

- Joint Forest Management Plans prepared and agreed upon by relevant stakeholders in 2 pilot areas and initial implementation under way;
- Village structures capable of assuring future natural woodland management; fulfilling the associated legal requirements and managing benefit sharing in a socially sustainable way;
- Substantial income realised in 2 pilot areas from marketing of natural resources to the benefit of all sections of the local communities;
- Community based micro-projects initiated in the pilot areas in order to relieve pressure on the natural resources;
- Community based monitoring, reporting and evaluation system on natural woodlands management established and functioning;
- Upgraded skills (qualified staff) in technical and participatory woodland management matters for relevant District and Divisional natural resources staff;
- Systems contributing to more effective Royalty Collection, focusing on forest and other natural resource products arriving at Iringa town for further sale established and operating;
- Arrangements with other organisations, projects and institutions established to secure improved monitoring and controlling of trade on natural resource/ forestry related products within the District.

How Appropriate is Certification for Small Scale Timber Producers in Melanesia

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/23/rdfn-23d.pdf>

By: Andrew Tolfts, 1998

Abstract: The community-based timber production (CTP) projects of Melanesia could potentially benefit a great deal from certification, which allows access to foreign 'ecotimber' markets. Examining circumstances in the Solomon Islands, this paper found that CTP projects were hard pressed to meet some of the principles and criteria required for certification through the Forest Stewardship Council. For example, the system of customary land tenure typical of Melanesia meant that they could not prove the necessary level of security of tenure. Certification was also expensive to achieve because of the costs of monitoring and record-keeping. Among ways to overcome these difficulties, the author suggested that a national certification body be formed.

Managing Africa's Tropical Dry Forests: A Review of Indigenous Methods

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/books/matdf/index.html>

By: Gill Shepherd, 1998

Abstract: Identifies and analyses a range of indigenous forest management practices in dryland Africa, to encourage the forestry profession to take more account of them in planning forest management. Includes extensive bibliographic summaries. The author points out that the State's ability to protect forests in this region may now be so diminished that the best solution is to pass management and ownership to appropriate groups of local people.

The Flow and Distribution of Costs and Benefits in the Chuliban Community Forest, Dhankuta

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/23/e-i.html>

Abstract: This paper presented a careful appraisal of the local costs and benefits of one community forest in Nepal. Surprisingly, a measure of the forest's overall discount rate suggested that investing in the forest was less profitable than keeping money in a savings account at a local bank - though the author provided several caveats to this calculation. Of more concern was the inequity of distribution of the costs and benefits among members of the community. In particular, poor users, who were most dependent on the forest, did not gain enough direct benefits to compensate for the associated opportunity costs. To counteract the current trend of decreasing participation, the forest user group would first have to resolve problems of distribution and then improve productivity and profitability of the forest.

The Concept of User Groups in Community Forestry: the Case of Nepal

By: Bijay Kumar Singh, 1992

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/14/d-iii.html>

Abstract: At a time when forest user groups were just becoming the focal point for Nepal's community forestry, the author briefly outlined the various models that had been tried before. He then highlighted the advantages as well as the limitations of the user group concept in more detail

The Forestry Taxation System and the Involvement of Local Communities in Forest Management in Cameroon

By: Timothée Fomété, 2001

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/25/b-ii.html>

Abstract: Cameroon's forest sector is of great national importance, accounting for 25% of exports in 1998/99. This paper looks specifically at how the forest taxation system can benefit local communities. It begins by outlining some of the changes the sector has seen since the passing of the 1994 Forest Law, and the ban on log exports. These have included an unprecedented expansion in primary processing activities which, alongside the decline in forest formally available for logging, has led to a large increase in illegal logging.

Participatory Forestry: The Process of Change in India and Nepal

By: Mary Hobley, 1996

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/books/index.html>

Abstract: Over the last decade there have been significant shifts in forestry practice in South Asia, away from protection of forests from people to the inclusion of people in their management.

This Study Guide discusses and reviews the development of these participatory forest management (PFM) approaches in India and Nepal

What makes a local organization robust? Evidence from India and Nepal

By: Mary Hobley, Kishore Shah, 1996

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/policybriefs/nrp/nrp-11.pdf>

Abstract: The move towards decentralisation of resource control and management promises more efficient, equitable and sustainable resource use. Debate centres on what type of institutional arrangement in a given context is most appropriate and will lead to the fulfilment of the above ideal. Aspects of these arrangements include property rights structures as well as organisational structures. Following two decades of experience in India and Nepal with development of local forest management organisations, this paper analyses the factors that contribute to the effectiveness of local organisations as resource managers. It outlines gaps in our knowledge and concludes with a discussion of the implications for policy and practice.

Godsend, sleight of hand, or just muddling through: joint water and forest management in India

By: Sharachandra Lele, 2000

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/policybriefs/nrp/nrp-53.pdf>

Abstract: Policies promoting the 'joint management' (i.e. between the state and resource users) of resources such as forests or water are currently in vogue in India and elsewhere. Many see advantage in the decentralised administration that these arrangements imply. However, they also imply a redistribution of power and so are profoundly political, and their success, if real, cannot be fully explained in terms of a rent-seeking, all-powerful, bureaucratic state. This paper lays out the more complex politics underpinning joint management, assessing interaction between the political and administrative wings of government and the influence of semi-autonomous actors such as donors, NGOs and academics, and identifies the potential for and route towards more, if gradual, decentralization in the future.

The Concept of User Groups in Community Forestry: the Case of Nepal

By: Bijay Kumar Singh, 1992

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/14/d-iii.html>

Abstract: At a time when forest user groups were just becoming the focal point for Nepal's community forestry, the author briefly outlined the various models that had been tried before. He then highlighted the advantages as well as the limitations of the user group concept in more detail

Introduction to a Comparative Study of Forest User Groups in Nepal

By: Donald Messerschmidt, 1991

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/12/g-iii.html>

Abstract: This brief piece provided an introduction to a new national study carried out by Yale University and the Nepal Institute of Forestry of the factors that promote success of user groups

From Mistrust to Participation: The Creation of a Participatory Environment for Community Forestry in Nepal

By: Jane Gronow, N K Shrestha, 1991

<http://www.odifpeg.org.uk/publications/rdfn/12/b.html>

Abstract: The government of Nepal passed legislation to allow community management of plantations and indigenous forest in 1976, but by the time this paper was written, success was

limited. The authors argued that in order to foster true participation in control and decision-making by local residents, forestry extension workers should act as catalysts to break the cycle of deep-rooted dependency relations. This in turn required that extension workers themselves should be involved as collaborative partners, with authority, recognition and support. A re-orientation of extension training and management was needed, in which a taught blueprint was replaced by participatory workshops, field support from senior staff and advisers and appropriate institutional change. Experience in two districts showed that this was possible to achieve, albeit only with great dedication.

2.2 Fishery, Ocean and Coastal Areas

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Abstract: The objective of this paper is to conduct theoretical inquiries and empirical analysis on the issue of institutional evolution for resource management, focusing on irrigation water, a traditional local common property resource. Two management schemes for irrigation water, a community management regime (tank irrigation) and an individualised management regime (well irrigation), are compared in terms of rice production efficiency. Using farm household data collected by the authors in Tamil Nadu, India, it is found that the profit of rice production using well water only is low due to the

high labour input required for well irrigation management. Then, estimation of the profit function reveals that the profit of farmers using both tank and well water is statistically significantly higher than that of farmers who use either well water only or tank water only. The result, based on game theoretical inquiries, implies that in equilibrium tank and well irrigation can coexist. Moreover, it is calculated that about 90% of farmers will use wells in equilibrium. Considering that well users are only 37% of all farmers at present, the number of wells will increase.

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Local Initiatives Awards for Excellence in Land Resource Management Chicago, USA, NeighborSpace.

http://www.iclei.org/liawards/winners2000/land_winners.htm

Abstract: Chicago was selected as the winner of the Local Initiatives Award for Excellence in Land Resources Management for its innovative program to support the creation and preservation of community-managed open spaces that has turned vacant lots into parks, gardens, and neighborhood meeting places. In 1996, the city identified the need to establish more open spaces in some of the more densely populated areas of the city. However, there were few remaining areas in which large open spaces could be created. As a result, the city created Neighbor Space, a not-for-profit corporation, to acquire and insure small plots of land to be managed and maintained by local community groups, businesses or organizations.