

# Possible Adaptations to Community-Based Conservation: Results of a Meta-Study

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Suzi Malan  
PhD Candidate  
University of British Columbia  
Canada

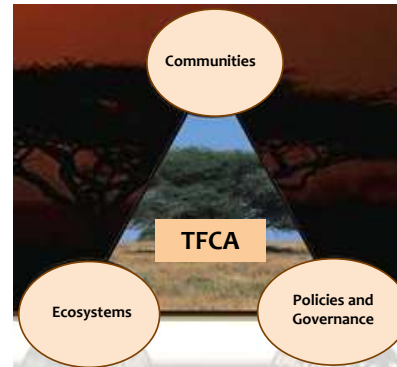


## Overview

- \* Study objectives
- \* Terminology
- \* The meta study
- \* Results
- \* Summary of keys to success
- \* Summary of drivers of project failure
- \* Conclusions
- \* Own observations

## Study objectives

- \* In search of a blueprint?
- \* The bigger picture
- \* To find the characteristics of an ailing / healthy community conservation project by systematically investigating previous case studies and reviews



## Terminology

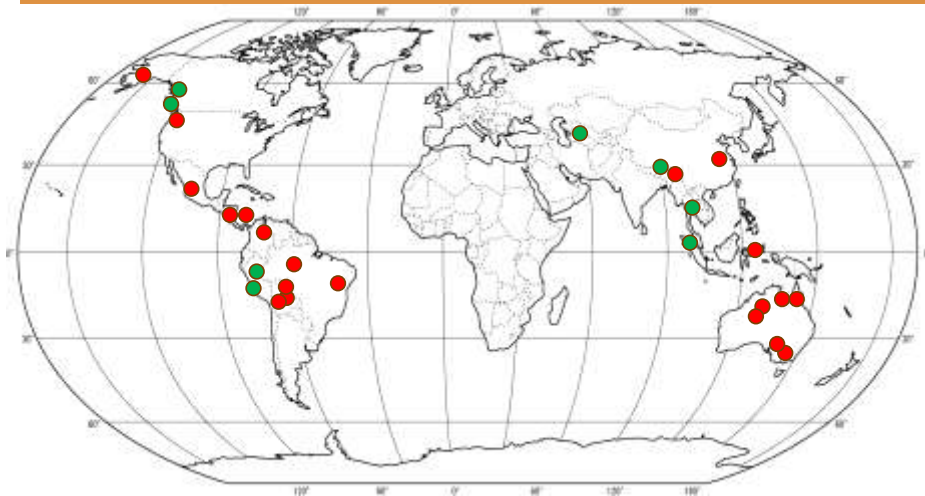
- \* Community-based conservation
  - \* Collaborative resource management
  - \* Co-management
  - \* Participatory community conservation
  - \* Community forestry
  - \* Integrated conservation development
  - \* Community-based natural resource management
- \* Success/failure
- \* Healthy/ailing
- \* Effective
  - \* Linkage between principles and outcomes

## The meta study

- \* 105 case studies reported on between 1992 and 2010
- \* Geographic distribution

## Outside Africa

13 countries 44 case studies

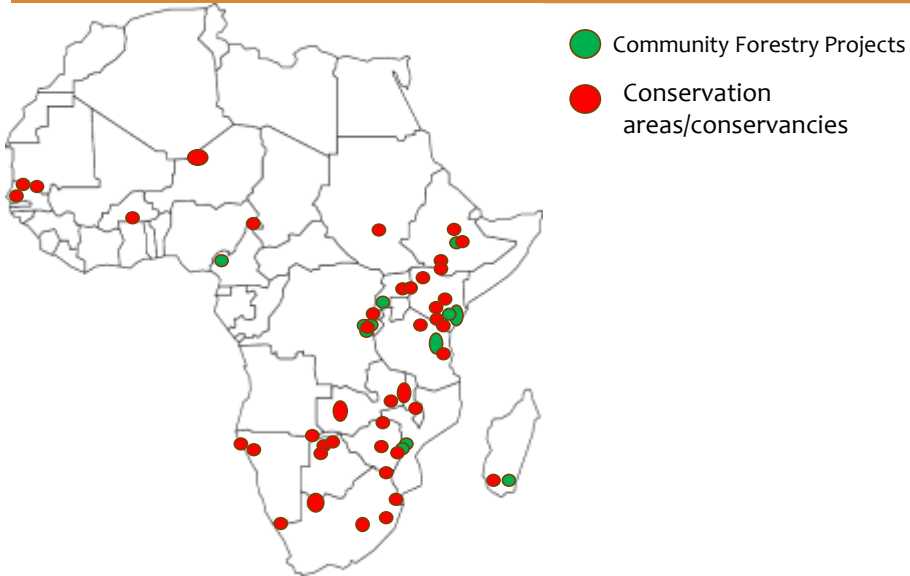


● Community Forestry Projects

● Conservation areas/conservancies

## Africa

19 countries 61 case studies



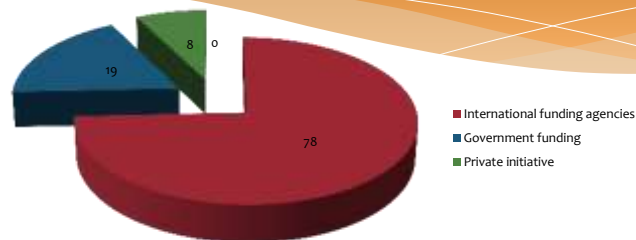
## The meta study

- \* 105 case studies reported on between 1992 and 2010
- \* Focus: in each case study identified
  - \* lessons learnt/recommendations/strategies
  - \* factors which contributed to success/failure
- \* Metric to assess case study characteristics

## Results

- \* 2 distinct approaches
  - \* Anthropocentric approach
  - \* Natural science approach
- \* 2 decades
  - \* 1992 to 2001 – focus on rights / tenure
  - \* 2002 to 2010 – focus on effective management
- \* Some statistics:

## Funding (NGO involvement)



- Important for the following reasons:
  - Economic recession caused funding to dry up
  - General donor fatigue and impatience

# Characteristics

- \* Ownership/tenure
- \* Authority
- \* Sustainability of resource use
- \* Attitudes
- \* Benefits/costs
- \* Community stability
- \* External/internal disturbances
- \* Governance

## Binary metric

Characteristic	Positive	Negative	Binary code	
<b>Ownership</b>	Land tenure/ ownership/protected in constitution/ security	Communal property but insecure, not enshrined, or else state-owned	+	-
<b>Authority</b>	Traditional/local committee authority (chiefs/spiritual)	Authority from government, top-down in reality	+	-
<b>Sustainability of resource use</b>	Ecosystem conservation / biodiversity protection improvement	Deterioration, depletion of resources, illegal logging/ poaching	+	-
<b>Attitudes</b>	Expectations fulfilled, improvement in attitude, relationships improved	Discontent, disappointment, attitudes deteriorated	+	-
<b>Benefits</b>	Benefits: infrastructure, schools, household benefits, non-tangible assets	Costs: lack of infrastructure, animal damage, loss of resource access/property	+	-
<b>Community stability</b>	Autochthonous community, stable, no forced removal	Mainly migrated communities through own design or forced removal	+	-
<b>External/ internal factors</b>	External factors like war/ conflict/ poverty	Internal factors like ethnic conflict/ intra conflict	+	-
<b>Governance</b>	Governance issues: corruption and elite take-over, benefits intercepted by government; lack of interest from government; weak/ineffective governance		present or not present	
<b>Success</b>	Some principle that is cause for success		present or not present	
<b>Failure</b>	Some principle that is cause for failure		present or not present	

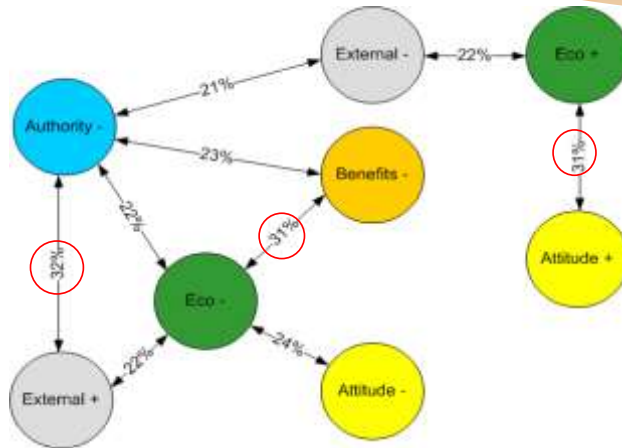
## NxN Matrix of Attributes with # mentioned by Case Study Authors

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Tenure+	14	0	3	0	0	3	2	3	8	6	0	0	5	1
Tenure-	4	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	1	2
Auth+			12	1	3	1	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	0
Auth-				21	3	8	1	3	4	9	0	2	9	6
Eco+					20	1	8	0	4	3	0	2	2	6
Eco-						23	2	6	9	12	0	1	7	0
Att+							14	0	6	2	0	0	0	0
Att-								8	0	4	0	1	2	2
Benefit+									37	10	0	1	6	2
Benefit-										28	0	2	6	3
Migr+											0	0	0	0
Migr-												12	0	2
Ext+													16	2
Ext-														13

## NxN Matrix of Attributes with # mentioned by Case Study Authors as %

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Tenure+	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	9%	8%	16%	19%	17%	0%	0%	20%	4%
Tenure-			0%	9%	4%	4%	6%	9%	8%	10%	0%	0%	5%	13%
Auth+				3%	10%	3%	8%	0%	4%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Auth-					8%	22%	3%	12%	7%	23%	0%	6%	32%	21%
Eco+						2%	31%	0%	8%	7%	0%	7%	6%	22%
Eco-							6%	24%	18%	31%	0%	3%	22%	0%
Att+								0%	13%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Att-									0%	13%	0%	5%	9%	11%
Benefit+										18%	0%	2%	13%	4%
Benefit-											0%	5%	16%	8%
Migr+												0%	0%	0%
Migr-													0%	9%
Ext+														7%
Ext-														

## Linkages on Top 10%



## The meta study

- \* 105 case studies reported on between 1992 and 2010
- \* Geographic distribution
- \* Focus: lessons learnt/recommendations
- \* Factors which contributed to success/failure
- \* Metric according to characteristics
- \* Review papers



## Summary of keys to success

- \* First decade main focus on participation and ownership – after 2000 serious commitment by governments to act equitably
- \* Extensive socio-economic surveys pre-requisite: provides understanding and knowledge of societies
- \* Funding very complex issue - should be matched by input from communities
- \* Excellent leadership/well established institutions combined with dedicated facilitators = success
- \* Education and capacity building key drivers of attitude changes
- \* Government commitment towards institutional building and organizational reform: supportive government = success
- \* Clear set of measurements should be established collaboratively and effectiveness should be monitored
- \* Health of the communities should be evaluated constantly; commitment to conflict resolution and adaptive management

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## Summary of drivers of project failure

- \* Limited capacity of governments; instability and weak governance
- \* Short-term external donor support; differences in donor policies; donor own agendas; donors lead to dependency and that is not sustainable, because donors run out of funds and patience
- \* Intra-community and inter-community conflicts and distrust
- \* Underlying assumptions that economic benefits would automatically translate into improved wildlife management is flawed
- \* Not all members of a community are as committed to development and entering the market economy as those who promote such initiatives
- \* Lack of resources to implement monitoring and complete inventories

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## Conclusions

- \* Critical aspects: 5 keywords
  - \* Dedication
  - \* Sincerity
  - \* Continuity
  - \* Respect
  - \* Inform
- \* Possible gaps in the literature:
  - \* Case studies are mostly donor driven snapshots
  - \* No long-term research of cases where no conservation intervention took place i.e. no “control”
  - \* Discipline bias in the literature: anthropocentric focus by humanities and ecosystem focus by natural scientists – need more cross-disciplinary approaches

## Observations

- \* While many of the benefits of nature remain highly intangible, and costing these benefits remain elusive, we should aim at increasing qualitative benefits to the societies who bear the costs of conservation
- \* Many of the case studies were defined by individuals who either drive the success or failure of the initiatives
- \* Evaluation of communities’ well-being should receive as much attention as evaluation of ecosystem health

Questions?