

Success Factors for Participatory Forest Management in Africa



Karin Gaesing, Einhard Schmidt-Kallert, Dominik Cremer-Schulte

Types of Participatory Forest Management

Community based forest management

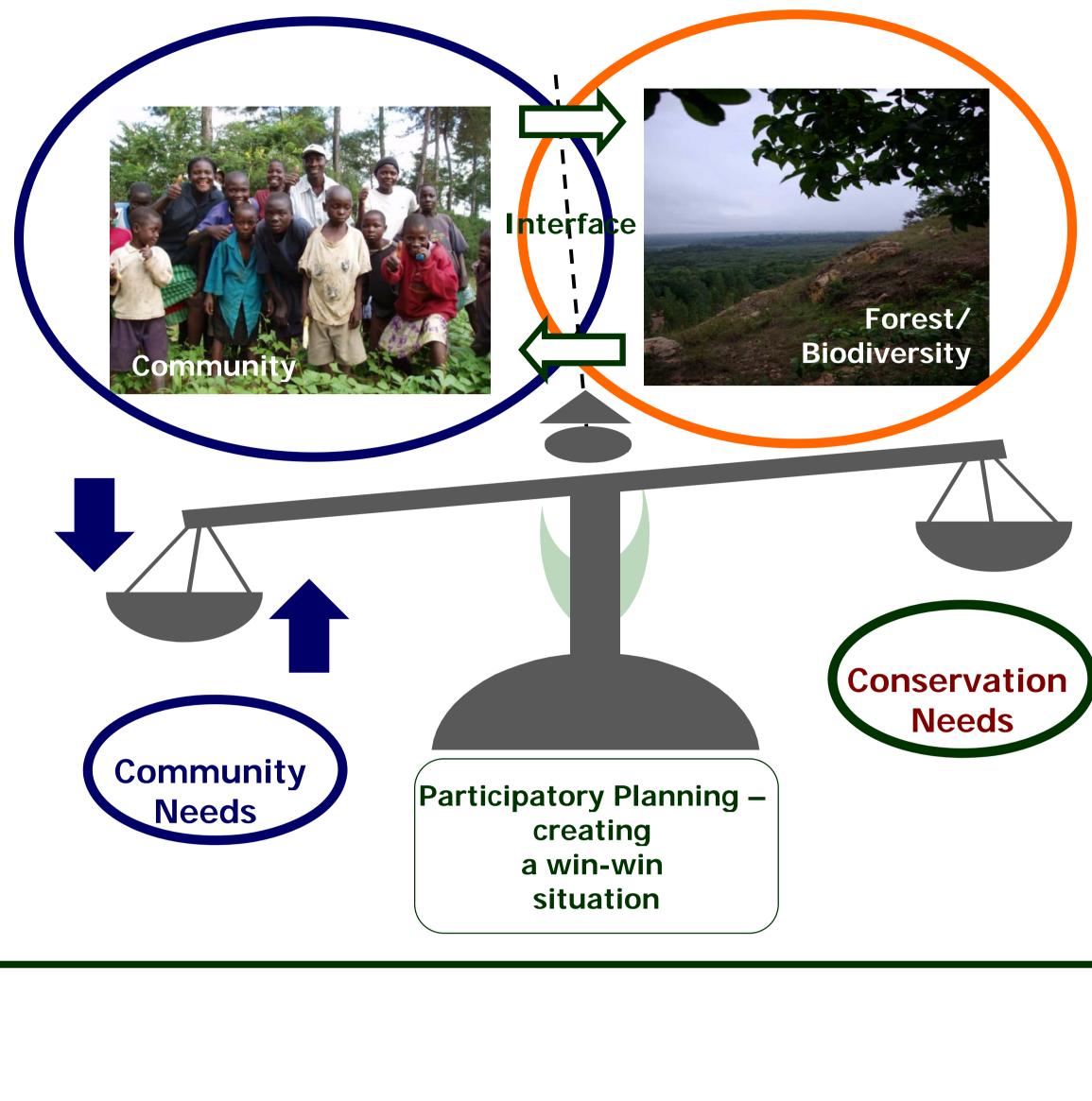
Consigned management

Contractual partnership

Cooperant management

The pressure on forests and biodiversity is high. Poor households use ,free' forest resources for their livelihood.

On the other hand poor households depend on forest resources for survival. So their interest is to use and manage it in a sustainable way.



Participatory Forest Management and Buffer Zone Development

Reconcile livelihood with biodiversity conservation through buffer zone management

Buffer zone management needs to be

- rooted in the forest/natural conservation policy
- Ivelihood needs must have the same weight as biodiversity



- protection
- problems and solutions shall be identified through bottom up planning
- under the management of a single authority
- integrated in district or regional development planning under one planning authority

Lessons learnt from practice

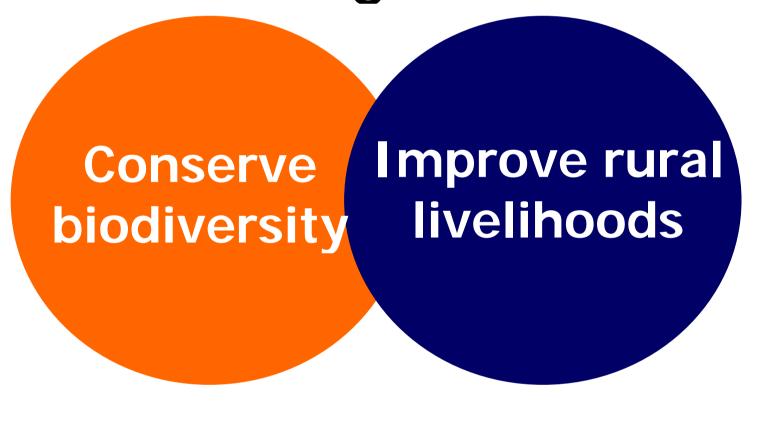
- full authority given to one body instead of complicated co-management arrangements
- incentives necessary for success
 ✓ community gets share from revenue collected

Lessons learnt from practice

 communities need not only access and management rights but also full authority over forest and ist use,

- ✓ e.g. to keep outsiders out of the forest
- \checkmark e.g. to collect fees and fines

Participatory Forest Management must have two goals:



and to manage them in the community

"Neither co-management nor designated management have yet proven successful.

Not sharing of benefits but sharing of power is the clue to sustainable Communtiy Forest Development."

Liz Alden Wiley

 ✓ share from regulated sale of forest products for community development

✓ creation of income generating activities in the buffer zone

CASE STUDY: Participatory Forest Management in the Bale Mountains, Ethiopia – The WAJIB Approach

Area characteristics

- Rural area with a high population growth rate
- Mountainous area up to 3,700m a.s.l.
- Mountains covered with natural forests, huge biodiversity, endemic flora and fauna
- Different vegetation zones (savanna, afro-alpin etc.)
- Largest town: Dodola (ca. 28,000 inhabitants)

Integrated Forest Management Project, Adaba-Dodola

 In 1995 the GTZ (Gesellschaft f
ür Technische Zusammenarbeit) assisted the Ethiopian government in introducing a community based approach which was named the WAJIB approach (local language abbreviation



Objectives

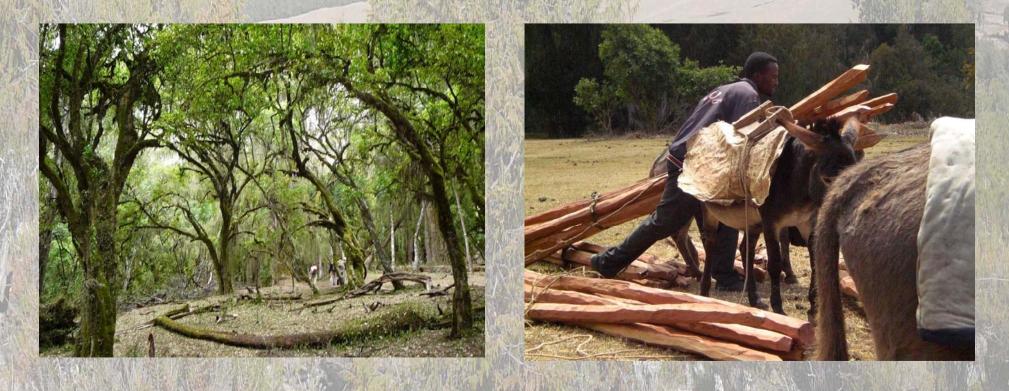
- Protection of remaining natural forests
- Develop, use and manage the forest sustainably
- Achieve a sustainable forest management through

WAJIB blocks of Deneba PA





for forest dwellers association)
Inducement: heavy degradation of the remaining natural forests in this area due to uncontrolled anthropogenic use



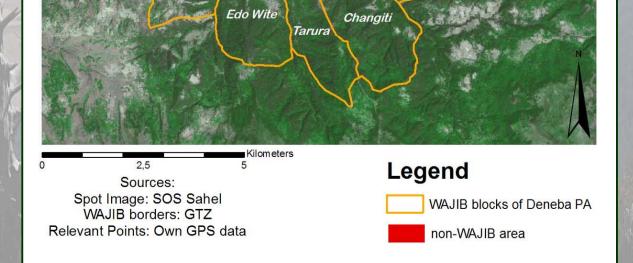
community empowerment

- Improvement of livelihoods in long-term

Strategies

- 1. Core: regulating access to the forest, exclusive user-rights for WAJIB members in the forest blocks (One block has an area of appr. 360ha, max. 30 families in one block)
- 2. Reducing pressure on the forest through measures for outsiders, alternative income (e.g. eco-tourism) as well as plantings

3. Make forests profitable through non-wood based forest products, introduction and implementation of opportunities



- Increase of forest cover inside and

- But: social conflicts and increasing prises (inflation)

Results so far

outside the blocks

- Increase of plantings







