

Rural Livelihoods and Sustainable Conservation of Biodiversity

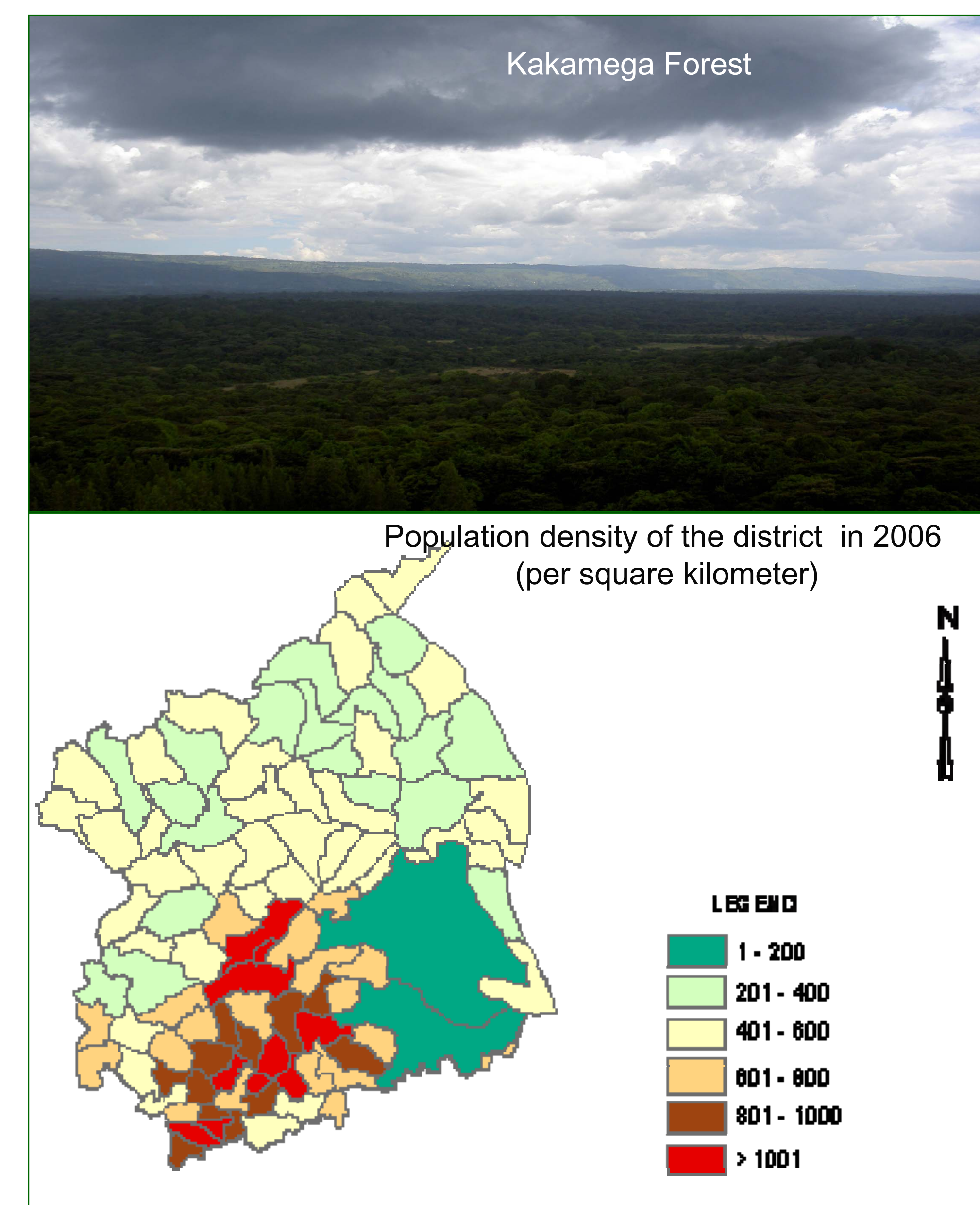
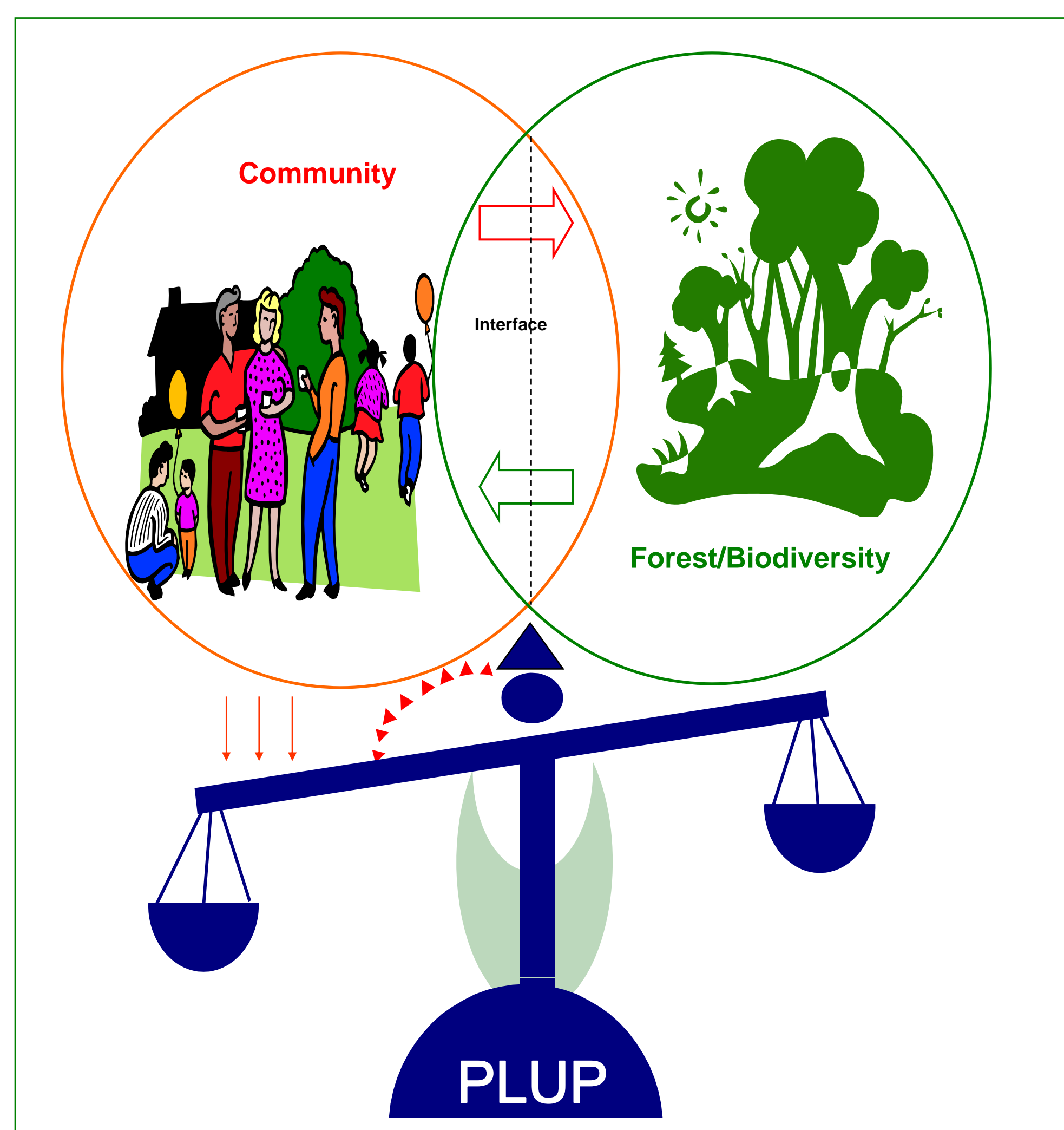
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RURAL LIVELIHOODS

- Rural livelihoods predominantly are based on land resources,
- Demand for food and income sources often increases with population growth,
- In the absence of other options, rural livelihoods tend to rely more on “free” resources,
- Security of biodiversity depends on household livelihood security.

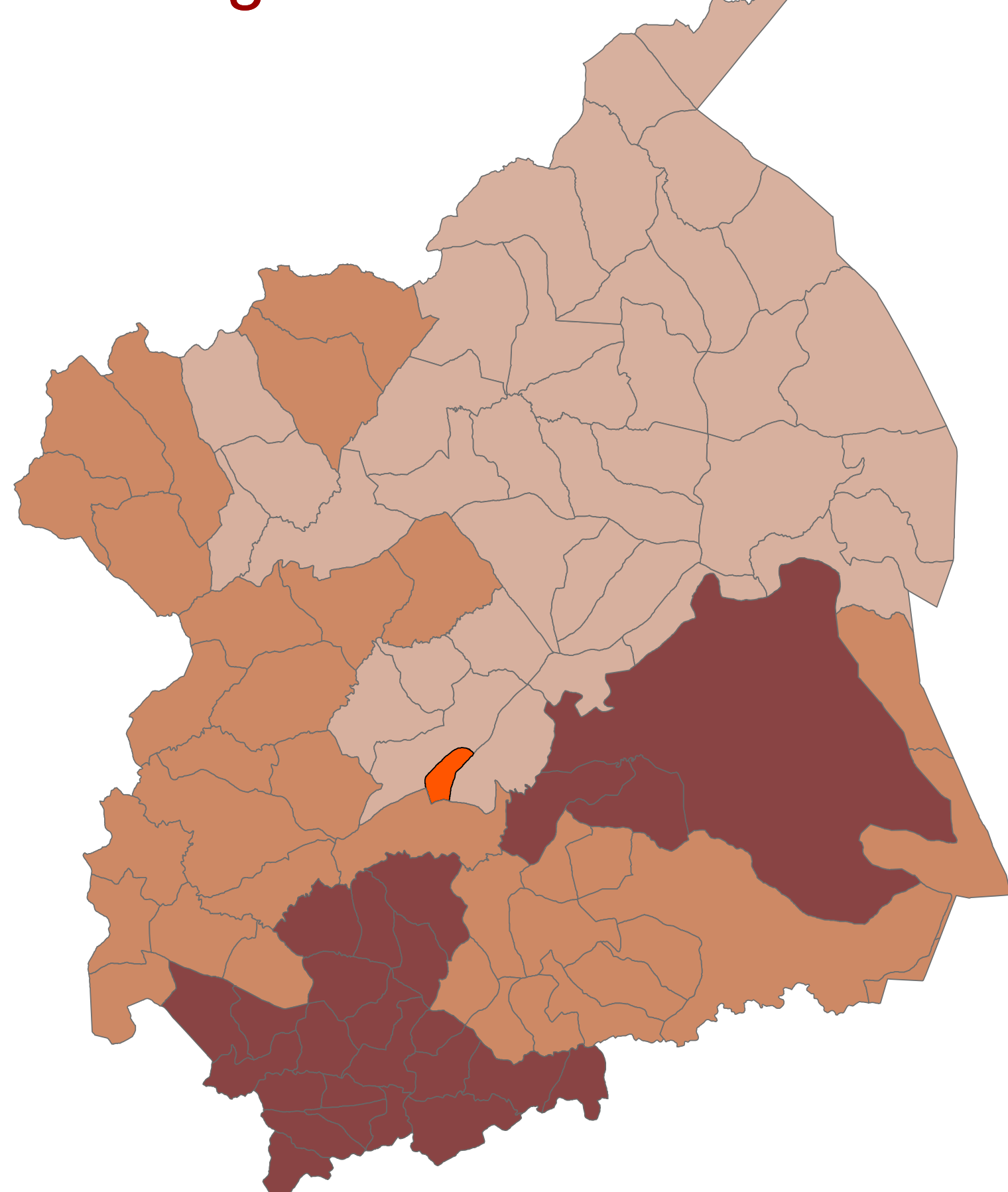
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- Biodiversity comprises goods and services that are vital for human existence and continuity of life on earth,
- Biodiversity conservation is a global issue essential in the 21st century,
- The primary goal of biodiversity conservation is conservation of ecosystem functions,
- Loss of biodiversity is an indicator of humanity at risk.



Kakamega District

3



0 2 4 8 12 16 Kilometers

CHALLENGES

- High and rising rural poverty levels,
- Population growth and increased demand for food and income,
- Small land holding and low and declining farm productivity,
- Lack of appropriate forest management plans and enforcement mechanisms,
- Institutional constraints and inadequate service provision,
- Inadequate spatial linkages limiting livelihood diversification options,
- Limited space for community participation in forest management

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increased agricultural productivity through improved land management,
- Promotion of alternative means of livelihood,
- Improved institutional support and service provision for diversification of rural livelihood options,
- Enhancement of spatial linkages and regional development for diversified livelihood options,
- Opening up space for community participation in forest management,
- Local institutional capacity building of government, CBOs and NGOs in forest resource management.