



Landscape mosaics

Project title:	Research on biodiversity conservation at landscape level
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Background

This project is contributing to the integration of improved livelihoods and biodiversity conservation in rural communities in a set of tropical landscape mosaics of high biodiversity value. The comparative framework and analysis across the five sites is one of the innovative aspects of this project. The project addresses questions of practical relevance to development agencies and developing countries.

Activities

To begin with, we analysed spatio-temporal trends and identified past driving forces of landscape changes, producing maps that have been used for negotiating development and conservation options.

Next, we analysed local livelihoods, perceptions of biodiversity and natural resources, land-use strategies and monitoring mechanisms. With this information we were able to develop scenarios for the management of multifunctional landscapes with specific emphasis on forested patches (utilised forests, agroforests, plantations etc) and evaluate them with key stakeholders.

In Indonesia, this entailed community facilitation in three villages (Lubuk Beringin, Tebing Tinggi and Danau in Jambi province, Sumatra) to determine the monitoring and evaluation indicators for the Hutan Desa ('village forest' stewardship agreement) work plan implementation. We also coordinated activities and surveyed definitive boundaries for the Hutan Desa area of Lubuk Beringin and compiled a data inventory.

We undertook routine discussion facilitation in Bungo district, Jambi province, with the forest governance learning group and held intensive discussions with policy makers linked with sustainable natural resources management and community economic improvement.

We also undertook enrichment planting with Dipterocarp species in rubber agroforest systems, establishing demonstration trials in each village and monitoring bi-weekly for the first six months and monthly thereafter.

Our research and development framework and principles were validated across all sites and approved by at least 60% of consulted scientists. The meta-analysis of the project approach and results to date have been used by other scientists to better design new research projects. More than 60% of stakeholders and consulted scientists concurred with the information presented in workshops, providing the 'green light' for wider dissemination.

What remains to be done?

We are in the last stages of finalising reports on all aspects of our work.

Publications

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