Community Conservation Resilience Assessment Initiative

Supporting Endogenous Sustainable Livelihoods in a bottom-up manner

The assessment process aims to contribute to the development of rights-based, environmentally and socially sustainable and financially sound biodiversity conservation and restoration policies that provide effective and appropriate forms of support to the endogenous, biocultural approaches to biodiversity conservation and restoration implemented by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including ICCAs.

Goal of the CCRA Initiative

The goal of the Community Conservation Resilience Assessment is to perform a bottom- up assessment of the resilience of the initiatives and biocultural approaches of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to conserve and restore biodiversity and the legal, political, socio-economic, financial, technical, and capacity-building support that could be provided to sustain and strengthen these initiatives and approaches

CCRA objectives

- The objective is to perform the assessment in up to 20 countries, involving up to 60 communities.
- It will include an analysis of the specific rights, role, and needs of women in biocultural approaches to biodiversity conservation and restoration.
- It will also include an analysis of the implications of relevant human rights' instruments, including in particular instruments related to the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

CCRA methodology

An assessment methodology that will empower Indigenous Peoples and local communities to analyze and document the resilience of their own biocultural approaches, including Indigenous and local community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs) and other conservation practices, and demand appropriate forms of support to sustain and strengthen that resilience in the light of internal and external threats and challenges.

Outcomes

The outcomes of the assessment will be fed into the relevant international and national discussions on policies and incentive mechanisms to conserve and restore biodiversity, including policies and incentive mechanisms to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhance forest carbon stocks (REDD+) and strategies to implement the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Expected Results

- A well-tested participatory assessment methodology that will allow communities and IPOs, NGOs and social movements supporting community conservation to implement similar community conservation resilience assessment processes;
- An effective outreach and advocacy strategy to communicate the main findings of the country assessments and the global assessment to policy-makers and other actors involved in the elaboration of REDD readiness programs, the implementation of the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biodiversity and other national and international policy initiatives to conserve and restore biodiversity.

Expected results cont.

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Participatory Assessment Methodology

Cross-cutting Principles

- Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' Rights, including the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Indigenous & Community Ownership
- Adaptive Facilitation
- Participation & Representation
- Women & Gender

Key Components

- Preparation and Strategic Visioning
- Site Selection, Including FPIC
- Mutual Learning & Skill-Sharing
- Coordination & Facilitation
- Baselines
- Designing & Undertaking the Assessments
- Visioning, Strategic Planning & Consolidation
- Strategic Advocacy & Engagement
- Reflection, Reporting & Revision

Some Considerations for International Advocacy Strategies

Who decides to protect what area and why?

Protected areas are often established in areas inhabited by marginalized communities and Peoples

- For economic reasons, non-ICCAs ("regular" protected areas) are often established on areas that are relatively unattractive for other land uses
- (Those areas are often less threatened)
- Economically and politically marginalized groups and communities like Indigenous Peoples tend to live in economically unattractive areas
- There is a significant, inherent risk of inequitable power relations

Governance (decision-making power, rights, equity, participation, gender) is at the heart of protecting areas. Are there sufficient institutional incentives for participatory governance?

CCRI aims to build the capacity of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and women to assert their right to FPIC

advocacy
indigenous
self-determination
conservation
pluralism
CCAs
land
customary
peace
decision-making
owledge
engage
clarity
alternatives
climate-change
visions
identities
title
impacts
biocultural
traditional
priorities
multi-stakeholder
recognition
protect
adaptation
justice
law
participation
plans
redress
balance
strengthen
respect
strategic
reform
rights
policy
resilienc
tenure
resist
reality
control
options