Managing Landscapes – an adaptive management approach

Abigail Hart, EcoAgriculture Partners
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Elements of integrated landscape management

- Stakeholder guided adaptive management promoted by a social learning process
- Processes and tools for landscape negotiation and evaluation
Multi-stakeholder planning & action is key
The landscape management process

- Understanding the landscape from diverse perspectives
- Reviewing results & modifying strategies & actions
- Implementing farm & landscape plans
- Designing & planning farm & landscape actions
- Negotiating landscape goals

Adaptive collaborative management

SGP Management Cycle

Begins here
A framework for measuring landscapes

Develop and adapt goals

Establish criteria

- Subjective
- Participatory
- Interpreted and communicable
- Cross-checked and compared
- Empowering
- Diverse

Select indicators

SMART

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Relevant
- Time-bound

SPICED
Kijabe Environmental Volunteers (KENVO) and the Kijabe landscape

- Why and how did the focus of their program change from one of forest restoration to a broader vision that encompassed the multi-functionality of their socio-ecological production landscape?
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Understanding landscapes:
- They performed a biodiversity inventory
- Entered results into a database of the landscape
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Understanding landscapes:
- Stakeholders formed a working group
- Leaders collaborated with experts to create a base map of the landscape
- Local actors communicated their analysis of their map with other stakeholders
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Negotiating landscapes:
- They analyzed stakeholder goals with the “20 questions” tool
- Integrated design/collective vision for their landscape
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Negotiating landscapes:

- They diversified economic/productive activities.
- They implemented interventions to lower pressure on the forest (charcoal production).
- They formed agreements about forest use that took into account all of the stakeholders.
- Today, the agreements are respected and the forest is beginning to be restored.
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Landscape planning and design

- Fruit, timber, fodder trees interspersed in cropland protect soils, diversify income and meet household needs.
- Products from forests and wetlands are sustainably harvested to provide subsistence products and income sources.
- Farmers manage soils to maintain structure and organic matter, with benefits for crop yields, rainfall infiltration and below-ground biodiversity.
- Communities plant grass strips on steep slopes to create terraces that slow water flow and reduce erosion.
- Farmers produce crops, grasses and trees in different parts of the local landscape, diversifying income and land cover.
- Farmers use and conserve diverse crop varieties to manage diverse production conditions, income needs, risk and cultural heritage.
KENVO and the Kijabe landscape

Action and Implementation:
- Native tree nurseries were started
- Aquaculture projects were implemented
- Others participated in apiculture
Lessons learned from Kijabe

- Diverse sources of funding are needed to involve all stakeholders and encompass all of the goals for a landscape.
- Diverse livelihood opportunities are required for economic security.
- Building community capacity to implement adaptive management is key.
- Collaboration with institutions, experts, and outside resources are required so that local actors can be decision-makers in their own landscapes.
How do we begin a landscape management process?

- Initiating integrated landscape management involves identifying a core group of ‘landscape leaders’ who are motivated to join a small team that will drive the process. The core group works to build interest and enthusiasm for landscape management by opinion leaders and stakeholders in the landscape, to address commonly recognized issues and/or to realize valuable opportunities through collaboration and better understanding.
Steps in initiating a landscape management process

● Defining the landscape around commonly perceived conservation, production and/or livelihood issues and opportunities

● Identifying communities and organizations with clear stakes in the issues and control over resources for realizing new opportunities

● Forming a core team of landscape leader/facilitators from these communities and organizations

● Identifying key characteristics, assets and opinion leaders in local communities as well as public, private and civic organizations
Steps in initiating a landscape management process (continued)

- Engaging knowledgeable opinion leaders - and stakeholders they identify - in initiating a baseline assessment of key landscape performance indicators including conservation, production, livelihood and institutional dimensions.
- Adapting and using tools for understanding landscapes with opinion leaders and stakeholders to assess current status of the landscape across the multiple dimensions – to initiate baseline assessment.
- Sharing findings from the various tools with stakeholders to mobilize interest and focus for desired change.
- Considering possible ‘entry points’ and strategies for change-improvement-action, and for deepening the baseline information.
Knowledge resources for initiating a landscape management process

Building Innovation Systems for Managing Complex Landscapes by L. Buck and S. Scherr – chapter available on workshop blog

LMRC Case Studies → Africa → Kenya → Kenvo and the Kijabe Landscape

LMRC Case Studies → Africa → Uganda → River Mubuku and Mt. Elgon
Knowledge resources for initiating a landscape management process (cont’d)

www.ecoagriculture.org
www.landscapecemeasures.org
www.agriculturebridge.org
ARE THERE KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES YOU WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE FOR HELPING TO INITIATE AN INTEGRATED LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PROCESS?