

# **Climate-Smart People-Centred Conservation**

# A Synthesis Report by Dilys Roe, Francesca Booker and Phil Franks

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## 1. Executive Summary

WWF-UK describes the work of the portfolio of programmes that is supported with funding from DFID as "climate-smart, pro-poor conservation" (CSPPC). WWF-UK does not specifically define the term CSPPC but the overall objective of the portfolio of work is "to influence policies and practices so that they sustain or restore ecosystem services and tackle climate change, in order to secure and/or improve the wellbeing of poor women and men."

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) has been working with WWF-UK and associated country and regional programmes to explore the different ways in which CSPPC has been interpreted and applied, both in theory and in practice. Since WWF is the only organisation to use the specific term CSPPC, we reviewed the literature associated with its component parts - climate smart conservation and pro-poor conservation – and we developed a draft analytical framework for exploring the different emphases that the different WWF programmes place on each of the principles.

The climate-smart principle that was given strongest emphasis by WWF staff across the WWF portfolio was "prioritise actions based on use of best available climate science and knowledge". This was closely followed by "do no harm: avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine resilience/adaptive capacity of people and ecosystems" and then two of the "do good" principles: "contribute to building the resilience/adaptive capacity of local communities" and "enhance the capacity of ecosystems to reduce climate vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities for people."

Of the pro-poor principles, the two that were given strongest emphasis by WWF staff across the portfolio were the "do good" principle - "contribute to national sustainable development" and "ensure participation in decision-making and access to information". These were closely followed by another "do good" principle: "enhance well-being of local people at conservation sites."

The principles that were given the least emphasis across the programmes were:

- "Recognise differences in the distribution of climate change impacts"
- "Identify and manage trade-offs"
- "Focus on sites/species important to the poor"

In some cases, however, the low emphasis on these principles may simply have been a result of difficulties in understanding and translating these complex concepts into practice.

In terms of differences across the portfolio, the Latin American programmes placed far more emphasis on climate-smart principles than the African programmes. Nepal fell in between Latin America and Africa in its emphasis on

climate-smart principles but emphasised pro-poor principles much more strongly than other programmes.<sup>1</sup>

Based on the discussions with the WWF programmes during the learning initiative, a revised framework of principles is now proposed (Fig 2). Key issues that are reflected in these changes include:

**Pro-poor principles**. In both Tanzania and Colombia the term pro-poor was considered inappropriate. In Tanzania, in political circles and elsewhere, emphasis is placed on addressing the needs and rights of "disadvantaged groups" rather than poor people per se. In Colombia, the most disadvantaged groups are Indigenous Peoples whom do not consider themselves poor, and indeed find the term offensive. Our proposal therefore is to use the term "people centred conservation" rather than "pro-poor conservation". This does nothing to clarify what the term actually means (which is articulated by the principles), but hopefully provides an overall framing that is more universally acceptable.

*Climate-smart principles*. The two adaptation principles in the draft framework have been merged into one principle on building human resilience. As separate principles they created a false dichotomy between community based adaptation (CBA) and ecosystem based adaptation (EBA) which both aim to enhance human resilience to climate change – largely by different means but good CBA may include elements of EBA and vice versa.

**Sub-categories of principles**. The climate smart and people-centred principles has been divided into four groupings: "Do Good", "Do No Harm", "Deal with Risk and Uncertainty" and "Be Fair". This helps to give the overall framework more structure - distinguishing to a certain extent between substantive principles – in terms of well-being the choice to either meet a minimum standard of doing no harm or to proactively strive to do good - and procedural principles.

Common principles. These have been renamed as cross cutting principles to reflect the fact that they are common not only to climate smart and people centred approaches but also to good conservation practice generally. Some of the principles that were previously listed as climate smart and/or pro-poor have also been moved into this category as they apply to conservation more broadly (for example the need to identify and manage trade-offs and the need to use the best available science and knowledge).

**Plain English**: The wording of many of the principles has been clarified to more clearly convey the meaning of the principle.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In discussion at a PPA workshop WWF Nepal staff noted that they have a long history of pro-poor programming in Nepal and also that contributing to poverty reduction is a political imperative for the legitimacy of any type of NGO irrespective of their mission.

There is no recipe for how much emphasis a given conservation programme should place on each principle. That said, with this framework there is an important distinction to be made between the main principles (1-8) which should be applied at least to some degree by any programme that claims to be climatesmart and people centred, and the sub-principles (1.1-1.5) which are options, each of which can be applied at any level from zero to very strong emphasis.

The extent to which different conservation programmes emphasise different principles in the framework can be used to characterise their overall approach to CSPCC, and particularly the extent to which they actively seek to use conservation to address climate change or human wellbeing objectives (do good) as opposed to simply trying to avoid undermining these objectives (do no harm). A CSPCC typology can serve as a useful tool for highlighting differences in approach between different conservation programmes.

The CSPPC typology proposed in this report is based on the "do good" and "do no harm" sections of the framework of CSPCC principles. To qualify as climate-smart and people-centred, a programme should aim to at least do no harm in terms of resilience/mitigation and human well-being, ie sit within the white area. Programmes that sit in the bottom left hand corner of the matrix are those that have no climate change or human wellbeing ambitions. Those in the far left hand column have climate smart ambitions but no human wellbeing ambitions and those that sit in the bottom row have human wellbeing ambitions but no climate smart ambitions. Figure 3 provides an illustration of how different programmes have different emphases — the positions marked are those that participants at a WWF workshop held in May 2016 thought that their programmes occupied.

WWF may be unique in using the term "climate-smart pro-poor (or people-centred) conservation" but it should be clear from the literature review and country case studies that the CS and PC principles that have been identified are really nothing new. However, assembling all the principles into one integrated framework does help advance conservation programming in providing a comprehensive and systematic way of looking at the social and climate dimensions of conservation programming, learning from this experience, and thereby strengthening programme design and implementation.

The framework of principles has relevance to all stages in the project cycle including design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation and tools could be developed to apply the framework in each of these stages. A simple tool for design would be a checklist of key issues to be sure to address in designing a project and writing a proposal and this would require further elaboration of a set of key issues under each principle. For implementation the emphasis should be using the framework as the basis for learning by doing, helping to provide a framework and common language for a learning and adaptive management process. If there is interest in using the principles in a more normative way then the principles could be further elaborated as a set of programming standards. Lastly for M&E a key issue is to be able to assess the relationship between behavioural change related to applying the principles and actual impact in terms

of human well-being, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. It is suggested that WWF UK further explore these options.

It is also important to reflect carefully on the level at which it might be used ie from community level in a particular project up to country office programme strategy. The framework presented in Table 25 has been developed with senior staff working on a project (WWF and partners), and WWF programme staff in mind. It would not be appropriate for use with front line project implementers or community members where, we believe, a rather different approach would be needed.

Using this framework we have identified significant differences between the eight WWF programmes that are supported by the DFID funded PPA. Some of these differences reflect deliberate choices in programme design and the evolution of that design as the programme has progressed. Other differences reflect limitations in understanding and capacity. In some cases there are clear differences in perspective between different stakeholders in a programme while in other cases there is a strong common consensus. Differences in perspective and priorities between key stakeholders are inevitable to some extent, for example between communities with a focus on well-being at local level and WWF with more of a focus on the contribution of ecosystem services to sustainable development at larger scales and national and global conservation priorities. However significant differences in the priorities of the core partners in programme implementation and/or between WWF staff at HQ and field levels may be a recipe for problems.

This has been a learning initiative not an evaluation or internal programme audit and accordingly the framework on CSPCC principles has been developed and used as tool for learning not a tool for trying to assess compliance of programmes with WWF operational policies (eg on human rights, Indigenous Peoples, gender, poverty and conservation). That said, a programme that aims to be considered climate-smart and people-centred should clearly have a significant level of emphasis on all the main CS and PC principles (1-8), and the cross cutting principles. We have not attempted to draw a line except in relation CS and PC principles 1 and 2 where our CSPC typology does suggests a minimum level of ambition in terms of improving human well-being and contributing to climate change resilience and/or mitigation.

Although this learning initiative has focused on programmes funded by DFID that have improving human well-being as the overall goal, this initiative and learning and the CSPCC principles and typology emerging from it are increasingly relevant to the core business of WWF. By un-packing the meaning of climate smart and pro-poor/people centred conservation and relating this to the overall mission of WWF and the key operational policies of WWF it will be apparent that all WWF programming is striving to be, at least to some degree, climate-smart and peoplecentred (ie position itself within the white zone of our CSPCC typology).

Furthermore, with growing recognition of the significance of climate change in almost every aspect of conservation and sustainable development, and the political reality that conservation will only be effective and sustainable if it is equitable and contributes to sustainable development, the relevance of CSPCC to WWF can only increase over time.

# 2. Introduction

WWF-UK promotes the practice of "climate smart pro-poor conservation" (CSPPC) within the programmes that it supports through its Programme Partnership Agreement (PPA) with DFID. The overall objective of the PPA is to improve the wellbeing of women and men living in poverty as a result of policyand practice-induced improvements to ecosystem services and to tackling climate change. Over the last 4 years the PPA has supported CSPPC to varying degrees across a portfolio of eight different programmes:

- Boni Dodori, Kenya
- Low Carbon Economy, Brazil
- China-Africa Shift;
- Coastal East Africa Regional Governance Programme;
- Resilient Forest Ecosystems Colombia
- People in Participatory Action for Life (PIPAL) Nepal;
- RUMAKI Seascape Tanzania;
- Sustainable Water Access, Use and Management (SWAUM) Programme, Tanzania

In 2015, with the PPA drawing to a close in 2016, WWF-UK commissioned the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) to design and implement a CSPPC learning initiative in order to explore how CSPPC has been interpreted and practiced across the different WWF programmes in the PPA portfolio; what has worked and what has not; and what the opportunities and constraints are to further rolling out CSPPC approaches across WWF.

This CSPPC Learning Initiative has comprised the following steps:

- 1. A review of the literature on CSPPC to explore how it had been described in theory by academics and others and in practice by implementing organisations.
- 2. Development of a framework for understanding CSPPC and for facilitating an exploration of different approaches within WWF programmes. The framework is based on a series of principles of climate smart conservation and of pro-poor conservation drawn from the literature review.
- 3. Review of documentation relevant to each of the eight WWF Programmes included within the PPA Portfolio to identify their key objectives and

- achievements and to characterise the programmes into a number of key thematic areas.
- 4. Assessment of the relevance of different principles from the CSPPC framework of principles to each of these thematic areas (conducted by programme teams).
- 5. Compilation of assessments into an overall mapping of the PPA portfolio versus CSPPC principles, and analysis of similarities and differences.
- 6. Country visits to three case study Programmes SWAUM for Tanzania, PIPAL in Nepal and Resilient Forest Ecosystems in Colombia including: a) exploring different perspectives of different stakeholder groups as to which of the CSPPC principles have been given more emphasis; and, b) conducting a "learning history" to explore the Programmes' CSPPC "journey" over time, and the lessons learned along the way.
- 7. A one day portfolio-wide workshop where initial results were reviewed and discussed by staff from each PPA programme. This workshop was held at WWF UK Headquarters as part of a 4 day PPA workshop.
- 8. Webinars to review the outcomes of the Learning Initiative with the different Programmes.
- 9. Production of a paper synthesising the results and learning from this Learning Initiative (this document), and a briefing paper and journal article based on this synthesis

# 3. The Origins and Evolution of the CSPPC Concept

The terms "Climate-Smart Conservation" and "Pro-Poor Conservation" are both established in the conservation lexicon. However, the combined term - Climate Smart, Pro-Poor Conservation (CSPPC) — has not been used by conservation academics or practitioners other than by WWF-UK. And even within WWF its use is confined to its portfolio of programmes that is supported with funding from the UK Department for International Development (DFID). WWF-UK does not specifically define the term CSPPC but the overall objective of the portfolio of work "to influence policies and practices so that they sustain or restore ecosystem services and tackle climate change, in order to secure and/or improve the wellbeing of poor women and men" provides insights, as do the anticipated outcomes:

• Communities safeguarding the ecosystems and ecosystem services upon which they and others depend in an equitable and adaptive manner.

- Policy frameworks and practices relating to adaptation, REDD+ and low carbon development are climate smart, environmentally sustainable and designed to secure and/or improve the well-being of men and women living in poverty.
- Government and private sector policies, practices and priorities relating to investment in infrastructure and natural resource extraction/use are climate smart, environmentally sustainable, and designed to secure and/or improve the well-being of women and men living in poverty.

Since the term CSPPC is only used by WWF, the literature review that was conducted as the first step in this initiative focussed on the evolution of the separate concepts and approaches of "climate-smart conservation" (CSC) and "pro-poor conservation" (PPC). This was then used to help develop a framework highlighting how and where these two concepts overlap and could be considered as CSPPC. This literature review focused both on the actual terms CSC and PPC and literature on closely related concepts such as "climate-smart landscapes", "climate-smart development", "integrated conservation and development" and "rights-based approaches" to conservation.

#### **Climate-smart conservation**

The term "Climate Smart" first appeared in the academic literature in the journal Development in 2008 where it was used to help frame adaptation efforts, with the proposition that development must manage long term climate change (Someshwar 2008). Since then the most common usage of the term has been in the context of **agriculture.** This was initiated by a background paper from the FAO in 2009 that explored the potential synergies and trade-offs for food security and agricultural mitigation including options to mitigate emissions associated with agriculture (ie through carbon sequestration), and use agriculture to mitigate global climate change (FAO 2009) (ie through biofuel production). FAO proposed that climate smart agriculture (CSA) was necessary to articulate the transformation agriculture must undergo to meet the related challenges of food security and climate change (FAO 2010). CSA has garnered international support from governments, intergovernmental organizations, financing institutions and the private sector who have voluntarily joined a Global Alliance to advance CSA in practice (GACSA 2015). Some civil society organizations have, however, been more skeptical, proposing that the concept of CSA is simply a "green-washing" of industrial agriculture (CSA Concerns 2015). In recent years a variety of related concepts have

been promoted including climate smart landscapes, climate smart development, and climate smart disaster risk reduction.

The concept of **climate smart conservation** appeared around the same time as CSA. WWF's focus on CSC originated from a review in 2008 of the scale of challenges presented by climate change to WWF's operations, which concluded that the organisation should embed climate smart principles into its monitoring and reporting, portfolio screening, knowledge and capacity building and decision support tools and guidance (Wilby *et al* 2008). WWF has since developed a working definition of CSC as an approach to 'understanding and preparing for current and future changes in Earth's climate, with the aim of building the resilience of human and natural systems, and contributing to climate mitigation' (WWF UK 2015). In 2012, WWF's Network Climate Adaptation Team elaborated four principles to further describe CSC (WWF NCAT 2012) (Box 1).

# **Box 1. WWF Principles for Climate Smart Conservation**

- 1. Understanding the implications of climate change including how human responses might lead to changes in other conventional threats.
- 2. Developing and implementing no-regret actions that address current threats, do not erode options for responding to future climate change, and avoid contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. Taking an integrated approach to adaptation, contributing to nature conservation and to fair and equitable sustainable development.
- 4. Active learning to build capacity and work collaboratively to plan and respond to increasing change and uncertainty.

Additionally, a fifth principle has been added to recognise WWF's ambition to engage with external actors (WWF Website 2015):

5. Bringing about changes in policy that create an enabling environment across scales (local to international) for adaptive governance.

These principles draw on other WWF work on related concepts including its work on resilience. WWF's "RACER" (WWF Website 2016), for example, is intended to assess ecological resilience in the Arctic and whether this will persist under different climatic conditions in the future.

Other articulations of CSC include by the WWF Central America Regional Programme Office and EcoAdapt in 2009 (Hansen *et al* 2009). The authors did not define the term but highlighted four key principles:

1. Protect adequate and appropriate space to support natural processes, places, and features that minimize or mitigate the effects of climate change.

- Reduce non-climate stresses, such as habitat degradation and destruction, overharvesting, pollution and invasive species.
- 3. Adopt adaptive management, including creative measures to ameliorate the effects of climate change and modifications of more traditional approaches.
- 4. Reduce the rate and extent of climate change (mitigation).

A significant elaboration of the concept of CSC has been undertaken by a coalition of US Federal and state agencies and non-governmental partners, led by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) (including the Council on Climate Preparedness and Resilience Climate, and Natural Resources Working Group 2014). They describe CSC as the: "the intentional and deliberate consideration of climate change in natural resource management, realised through adopting forward-looking goals and explicitly linking strategies to key climate impacts and vulnerabilities" (Stein et al. 2014). The definition is framed by four over-arching themes:

- 1. Act with intentionality, both deliberately and transparently, to link climate impacts (direct and indirect) to conservation actions.
- 2. Manage for change, not just persistence respond and manage change, do not assume that change can always be resisted.
- 3. Reconsider conservation goals, not just strategies. Climate informed reconsideration may not require a wholesale revision, but may reveal a need to adapt goals such as what (the conservation target), why (the intended outcomes), where (the relevant geography) and when (the relevant timeline).
- 4. Integrate adaptation into existing work and processes.

The US non-profit organisation Point Blue, has adapted the NWF approach (Point Blue 2015), but no other conservation organisations – with the exception of WWF– make direct reference to CSC (although all acknowledge the importance of climate change and pursue a range of strategies to promote nature-based adaptation and mitigation). A key issue for WWF (and presumably many other organisations) is, however, understanding what CSC means in practice, and how this differs from existing conservation and livelihoods practices (and from other approaches such as ecosystem-based adaptation and REDD+).

#### **Pro-poor conservation**

The term "pro-poor conservation" was first used in 2002 both by IUCN and by the UK Department for International Development (DFID). Responding to the poverty alleviation agenda enshrined in the Millennium Development Goals, IUCN produced a policy brief in which pro-poor conservation is described as "Putting Conservation to Work for the Poor" and encouraged governments to inter alia allocate greater rights and responsibilities for the use, management and ownership of environmental assets to the poor, including through equitable governance structures and appropriate policy and pro-poor market mechanisms (IUCN 2002). In the same year, DFID published its Wildlife and Poverty Study in which it reviewed the viability of continuing to invest in conservation projects, given its poverty reduction mandate. The Study highlighted that international wildlife conservation had placed considerable costs on poor people but that despite this, the degree to which poverty issues had been mainstreamed and monitored within conservation institutions was low. The Study therefore defined pro-poor conservation as "integrating poverty issues into the work of the leading conservation organisations" (DFID 2002). Responding to these studies, Roe et al (2003) proposed pro-poor conservation as a new narrative, "where conservation is integrated into development and poverty reduction agendas." Roe and Elliott (2006) suggested that pro-poor conservation can be defined in a number of ways:

- By outcomes: conservation that delivers net benefits to poor people.
- By process: a progressive change in practice of conservation organisations
   from using poverty reduction as a tool for better conservation through to using conservation in order to deliver on poverty reduction.
- By actions: conservation strategies that are explicitly designed to address the challenge of poverty reduction and development strategies that recognise the role of biodiversity conservation.
- By drivers: conservation that puts poor people and their priorities at the centre of decision-making.

In practice, different organisations – and individuals - have different perspectives on the links between biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation and their roles and responsibilities in addressing these links (Adams *et al* 2004). This in turn influences the approach to pro-poor conservation that they might – or might not – take (Box 2).

While the specific narrative of "pro-poor" conservation was driven by a response to the new poverty reduction agenda of the late 1990s and early 2000s, the debate about the links between conservation and different aspects of poverty is much older. In particular, concern for human rights and social justice have long been on the conservation agenda way before any pro-poor terminology became commonplace. Many still favour an emphasis on a "rights-based" approach to conservation, although Fisher *et al* (2005) see poverty reduction as a fundamental human right that conservation should be committed to support - thus making the link between the rights-based and pro-poor agendas.

Davies *et al.* (2013) synthesise the earlier literature on pro-poor conservation defining it as 'a people-centered approach that has poverty reduction and livelihood security as core objectives and seeks robust conservation approaches to achieve these.' They go on to elaborate that pro-poor conservation "builds on the poor's priorities and capabilities, effectively engages all stakeholders in addressing the underlying policy and institutional drivers of environmental degradation and empowers vulnerable groups with the assets, rights and entitlements they need to improve their lives through sound environmental management. Pro-poor conservation can take a number of different forms and encompass a variety of approaches, including: community-based conservation initiatives, direct payments (REDD+) and locally managed protected areas."

The literature on PPC includes three key arguments for adopting a pro-poor approach to conservation. The first is pragmatic – aligning conservation with the goals of donor agencies. Development agencies have traditionally been significant donors to the conservation sector and conservation agencies have thus recognised a need to respond to the post-1990s development agenda of poverty reduction. As IUCN (2002) points out "we are convinced that to remain relevant, the conservation movement must engage more actively with fighting poverty'. The same argument can be applied to efforts to "mainstream" biodiversity conservation into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies and other high level policies that influence where development assistance funding is likely to be channelled.

The second is practical – the poor depend on biodiversity and the conservation sector can thus do a lot to support poverty alleviation as part of its normal business. As Fisher *et al.* (2005) note: "Conservation ought to contribute to poverty reduction more broadly where it can – as in the restoration of ecosystems – simply because it can." Equally, poverty can be a constraint to achieving

conservation goals, hence it needs to be addressed in order for conservation to be successful (Adams *et al.* 2004). Furthermore, both biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction are both major international challenge, and addressing both together can make the task of each easier (Roe and Elliott 2004, Davies *et al.* 2013). As Fisher *et al.* (2005) point out, the issue is not promoting poverty over conservation, but acknowledging that poverty reduction and conservation are important objectives... at times it is necessary to address both in order to achieve either (Fisher *et al.* 2005).

The third argument is an ethical one. It highlights serious equity issues associated with northern-centric approaches to biodiversity conservation – particularly those based around exclusionary protected areas that seek to separate people from nature (Roe & Elliott 2004). It also highlights that conservation actions can conflict with other ethical obligations – by curtailing for example, the ability of people to make a living, which is an obligation and core right recognised in the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

At a global level, WWF's broad mission statement, global framework and goals (WWF 2008, WWF global websites) do not specifically mention pro-poor conservation but they highlight a number of PPC principles already discussed above, specifically:

- Conserving populations of species that are not just ecologically and economically important but also culturally important
- Ensuring equitable sharing of natural resources
- Ensuring provision of ecosystem goods and services that sustain local livelihoods, and
- Strengthening local communities' ability to conserve the natural resources they depend upon.

A WWF network wide working group on poverty (the WWF "Poverty Cluster") which was established in 2007 suggested a number of principles that WWF should adopt in its work – all of which are contained in other approaches to pro-poor conservation discussed above (WWF Poverty Cluster 2009):

 Adopt holistic approaches in the analysis of the underlying causes of environmental loss and degradation and its linkages with poverty

- Strengthen understanding and use of approaches for social and institutional change
- Forge new partnerships with development and humanitarian agencies, and
- Upgrade and formalize accountability to local communities.

In 2009, WWF produced a global policy statement on which specifically commits to the network to pro-poor conservation: "In many instances, particularly where poverty levels are high and people are heavily dependent on natural resources for their wellbeing, WWF will take a pro-active position, embracing a pro-poor approach to conservation, and making special efforts to enable local people to play a key part in crafting solutions for sustainable development" (WWF 2009). WWF's approach to pro-poor conservation recognises that in some cases poor people present a threat to conservation – pro-poor conservation is thus a pragmatic approach. It also embraces the principles of "do no harm", however, recognising that at times conservation can cause negative impacts on poor people which must be avoided or mitigated: "Where conservation goals are jeopardized by poverty or, conversely, the goals themselves threaten to further marginalize poor people, WWF will adopt pro-poor approaches. Such approaches put people at the centre of the analysis and the forefront of any intervention, seeing them as key to the solution rather than as part of the problem." The policy sets out some key pro-poor conservation principles (Box 2).

# **Box 2: WWF's Pro-Poor Conservation Principles**

#### WWF commits to:

- 1. Seeking to understand the poverty-environment linkages and the socio-cultural and economic context in each area where we work; this would include learning about the relationships between poverty and natural resource use and environmental quality.
- 2. In our project, programme and policy work, assessing the poverty implications of our activities in order to identify opportunities for positively contributing to poverty reduction as well as to address potential conflicts and trade-offs between conservation and poverty reduction goals. Where trade-offs occur, WWF will support affected local people to ensure that equitable and sustainable solutions are in place.
- 3. Engaging with resource-dependent communities in our programme planning, implementation and monitoring with the aim of identifying common interests, implementing collaboratively agreed activities, and producing outcomes that benefit both people and the environment. WWF will seek out and respond to the concerns, priorities and values of local people as they relate to natural resources (eg issues of access, control, management) and wellbeing.
- 4. Advancing understanding of linkages between sustainable resource management, environmental quality and equitable development to promote solutions to poverty-environment issues from local to global levels.
- 5. Promoting solutions to poverty-environment issues from local to global levels, including integrating these issues into its policy advocacy and programmatic efforts joining together with broader civil society initiatives.
- 6. Actively seeking out and engaging with partners who can complement WWF's expertise to effectively address poverty-environment issues at all levels.
- 7. Integrating poverty and equity issues into our work on footprint and consumption.

Source: WWF 2009

#### 4. A framework for CSPPC

The literature review revealed a variety of principles or characteristics of climate smart conservation (Table 1) and pro-poor conservation (Table 2). Some of the principles are similar for both climate smart and pro-poor conservation, but the majority are specific to one or the other approach.

**Table 1: Climate Smart Conservation Principles** 

| Principles/Characteristics                                                                                                                                 | Examples                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Protect adequate and appropriate space to support dynamic natural processes, places, and features that minimise or mitigate the effects of climate change. | Hansen et al. 2009;<br>Stein et al. 2014                                                                    |
| Reduce non-climate stresses, such as habitat degradation and destruction, overharvesting, pollution and invasive species.                                  | Hansen et al. 2009                                                                                          |
| Adopt adaptive management and learning by doing – a process of continuous knowledge development                                                            | Hansen et al. 2009;<br>Point Blue (2015b);<br>Stein et al. 2014;<br>WWF Website 2015<br>Guevara et al. 2014 |
| Integrate adaptation into existing work and processes                                                                                                      | Stein <i>et al.</i> 2014;<br>WWF Website 2015                                                               |
| Work across scales (local to international)                                                                                                                | WWF Website 2015                                                                                            |
| Contribute to reducing rate and extent of climate change (mitigation).                                                                                     | Stein <i>et al.</i> 2014;<br>Hansen <i>et al.</i> 2009                                                      |
| Use conservation to specifically address the current and projected impacts of climate change                                                               | Stein <i>et al</i> . 2014                                                                                   |
| Understand the implications of climate change including how human responses might lead to changes in other conventional threats.                           | WWF Website 2015                                                                                            |
| Focus goals on future conditions, not past conditions.                                                                                                     | Stein <i>et al</i> . 2014;<br>Point Blue (2015b);<br>WWF Website 2015                                       |
| Consider how foreseeable climate impacts may compromise success                                                                                            | Stein et al. 2014                                                                                           |
| Safeguard people and nature - enhance the                                                                                                                  | Stein <i>et al.</i> 2014                                                                                    |

| to sustain the benefits natural ecosystems provide to both.                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Adapt conservation goals and strategies to reflect changing climatic conditions                                                                                                                                                            | Stein <i>et al</i> . 2014                                 |
| Adopt an ecosystem approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Point Blue 2015b                                          |
| Prioritise actions on best available science and, where possible, traditional/indigenous knowledge, across multiple plausible scenarios (including extremes, worst cases) and across multiple species.                                     | Point Blue 2015b                                          |
| Support people to adapt in ways that support the                                                                                                                                                                                           | WWF 2012 (CSC                                             |
| ecosystems on which they depend                                                                                                                                                                                                            | briefing 1)                                               |
| Create an enabling environment for adaptive governance                                                                                                                                                                                     | WWF website 2015                                          |
| Avoid maladaptation - actions taken to address<br>climate change impacts on human communities<br>or natural systems do not exacerbate other<br>climate-related vulnerabilities or undermine<br>conservation goals and broader ecosystem    | Stein <i>et al</i> . 2014                                 |
| sustainability.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Guevara et al. 2014                                       |
| Climate smart conservation should be analysed<br>and planned with the context of wider socio-<br>economic development. Actions taken to address<br>drivers of change should not compromise the<br>resilience of human and natural systems. |                                                           |
| Gender: take into account the different effects that climate change has on women and men.                                                                                                                                                  | WWF NCAT 2012<br>(Towards c-s projects<br>and programmes) |

Table 2: Pro-poor Conservation Principles

| Principles/Characteristics          | Examples                   |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ensure that poor people are able to | DFID 2002, IUCN 2002; IUCN |
| access and benefit from wild        | Rec V/29 (IUCN 2005); IUCN |
| resources;                          | 2014, CBD Chennai Guidance |
|                                     | (CBD 2014)                 |
|                                     |                            |

| Ensure negative impacts of              | DFID 2002, IUCN Rec V/29                 |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| conservation are managed                | (IUCN 2005)                              |
| (particularly human-wildlife            |                                          |
| conflict).                              |                                          |
| <br>Ensure that the poor capture a fair | DFID 2002; Addis Ababa                   |
| share of the benefits of conservation.  | principles (CBD 2004), IUCN              |
|                                         | Rec V 29 (IUCN 2005), IUCN               |
|                                         | 2014                                     |
| <br>Ensure conservation of wild         | DFID 2002; MA 2005,                      |
| resources and places on which poor      | Kaimowitz and Sheil (2007);              |
| people depend                           | Davies et al (2013); Global              |
|                                         | Strategy for Plant Conservation;         |
|                                         | Chennai Guidance (CBD 2014),             |
|                                         | IUCN V 29; IUCN 2014; WWF                |
|                                         | 2008                                     |
| <br>Ensure that the costs of            | DFID 2002; IUCN V 29; Fisher             |
| conservation are not borne by the       | et al. 2005                              |
| poor.                                   |                                          |
| <br>Set poverty reduction, livelihood   | Roe et al. 2003; IUCN V 29; Roe          |
| security, social justice as core        | and Elliott 2004; IUCN 2002;             |
| objectives of conservation              | WWF 2009                                 |
| <br>Ensure the voices and needs of poor | Roe et al. 2003; Kaimowitz and           |
| people are central to conservation      | Sheil (2007); WWF 2009                   |
| decision-making                         |                                          |
| <br>Maximise positive impacts on the    | Pagiola 2007; Fisher <i>et al.</i> 2005; |
| poor and minimise negative              | Ashley et al. (2001); Fisher             |
|                                         | 2006; WWF 2009                           |
| <br>Do not harm the livelihoods of the  | CBD Decision IX/9 (CBD 2008);            |
| poor                                    | IUCN Rec V 29; Fisher et al.             |
|                                         | 2005                                     |
|                                         | CARE 2009; Bass and Steele               |
|                                         | 2006; WWF 2009                           |
| Recognise and respect rights            | Numerous CBD Decisions and               |
|                                         | IUCN                                     |
|                                         | recommendations/resolutions;             |
|                                         | CIHR (IUCN 2010); Care 2009;             |

|                                      | WWF 2009                             |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Compensate/mitigate for negative     | IUCN Rec V 29 ((IUCN 2005);          |
| impacts                              | Care 2009; Fisher <i>et al.</i> 2005 |
| Ensure benefits reach the poorer or  | Care 2009; Kaimowitz and Shiel       |
| more marginalised sectors of the     | 2007                                 |
| community                            |                                      |
| Equitable benefit sharing between    | Care 2009; WWF 2008; WWF             |
| local to international levels        | 2009                                 |
| Ensure access to information and     | IUCN 2014                            |
| participation in decision making by  |                                      |
| vulnerable groups                    |                                      |
| Understand the poverty context       | Kaimowitz and Sheil 2007;            |
|                                      | Fisher et al. 2005; Kepe,            |
|                                      | Saruchera and Whande 2004;           |
|                                      | WWF 2009                             |
| Be prepared for, and manage, trade-  | Adams et al. 2004; Fisher et al.     |
| offs                                 | 2005; WWF 2009                       |
| Address equity issues                | Fisher et al. 2005; Davies et al.    |
|                                      | 2013; CARE 2009; WWF 2009            |
| Work at multiple scales and multiple | Fisher <i>et al.</i> 2005; WWF 2009  |
| institutional levels                 |                                      |
| Develop partnerships – particularly  | Fisher et al. 2005; Kaimowitz        |
| between conservation and             | and Shiel 2007; Robinson 2011;       |
| development actors                   | WWF 2009                             |
| Use landscape level approaches       | Fisher <i>et al</i> . 2005           |
|                                      |                                      |

For an approach to be termed as CSPPC rather than just CSC or PPC, it might reasonably be expected to reflect a mix of CSC and PPC principles. On this understanding we compiled a set of CSPPC principles based on a synthesis of the principles extracted from the literature (see table 3). Some of the principles are clearly specific to either CSC or PPC but others are common across both concepts, and in many cases are also applicable to good conservation practices generally. The key point, however is that for a conservation programme or project to be described as "CSPPC" (rather than "CSC" or "PPC") it would expect to reflect a number of the principles from each side of the table (as demonstrated in Figure 1). But any given conservation programme would be likely to have a different

emphasis: some may have more emphasis on pro-poor than climate smart while others may be more climate smart and less pro-poor (see illustrations in Figure 2). This emphasis is also quite likely to change over the period of the project/programme – highlighting the nature of CSPPC as a "journey" rather than a formulaic approach. This is further explored in the section on Learning Histories.

Table 3: Draft principles for Climate Smart and Pro-Poor Conservation.

| Climate-Smart (CS) Principles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Pro-Poor (PP) Principles                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. " <b>Do good</b> ": Deliberately contribute to tackling climate change through conservation:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <ol> <li>"Do good": Deliberately contribute<br/>to improving human well-being<br/>through conservation:</li> </ol>                                                                                                                        |
| <ul> <li>a. Contribute to building the resilience/adaptive capacity of local communities (CBA)</li> <li>b. Enhance the capacity of ecosystems to reduce climate vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities for people (EBA)</li> <li>c. Build ecosystem and species resilience to climate change (conserve adequate and appropriate space to enhance adaptation capacity)</li> <li>d. Contribute to climate change mitigation through emission reductions and removals</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>a. Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites</li> <li>b. Ensure delivery of ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at the landscape level</li> <li>c. Contribute to national sustainable development</li> </ul> |
| 2. Ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2. Deliberately <b>target benefits at the poorest</b> or more vulnerable groups                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3. " <b>Do no harm</b> ": Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine resilience/adaptive capacity of people and ecosystems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 3. " <b>Do no harm</b> ": Avoid or mitigate negative social impacts that create or exacerbate poverty                                                                                                                                     |
| 4. Recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts (between localities, between rich and poor, between men and women etc)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 4. Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation (between men and women, rich and poor etc) ie <b>Social differentiation</b>                                                                                    |
| 5. <b>Identify and manage trade-offs</b> (between adaptation and mitigation,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 5. <b>Identify and manage trade-offs</b> (between different groups of poor                                                                                                                                                                |

| with adaptation approaches, between CS and other goals)                                                                                       | people, between different PP<br>approaches, between PP and other<br>goals)                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. Adopt adaptive management and learning- by-doing to reflect changing climate conditions and uncertainties                                  | 6. Ensure <b>equity in distribution of costs and benefits</b> at different levels and between different groups                               |
| 7. Reduce other environmental stresses (so as not to exacerbate climate-induced impacts)                                                      | 7. <b>Recognise and protect the rights</b> of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities                                  |
| 8. Focus conservation goals on future conditions not past                                                                                     | 8. Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people                                                      |
| 9. <b>Prioritise</b> actions based on <b>use of best available climate science_and knowledge</b> (including Traditional Ecological Knowledge) | 9. Ensure <b>participation</b> in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups |
| Commo                                                                                                                                         | n Principles                                                                                                                                 |
| A. Understand the local/national context                                                                                                      | t (past, present and future)                                                                                                                 |
| B. Work across scales (local to global)                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                              |
| C. Collaborate and communicate across                                                                                                         | sectors and disciplines                                                                                                                      |
| D. Use ecosystem/landscape level appro-                                                                                                       | aches                                                                                                                                        |
| E. Tackle the policies, institutions and practice achievements (create an enabling enviro                                                     | rocesses that present barriers to CS or PP nment)                                                                                            |

Figure 1: A framework for characterising CSPPC programmes showing equal CS and PP emphasis

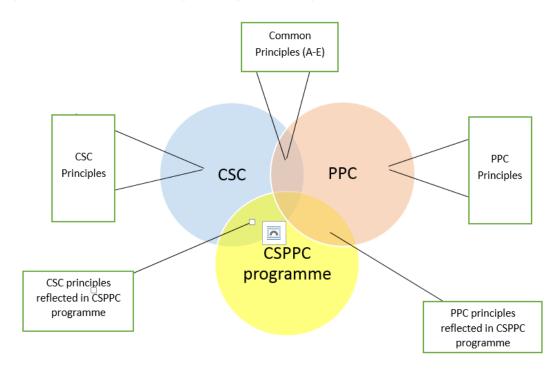
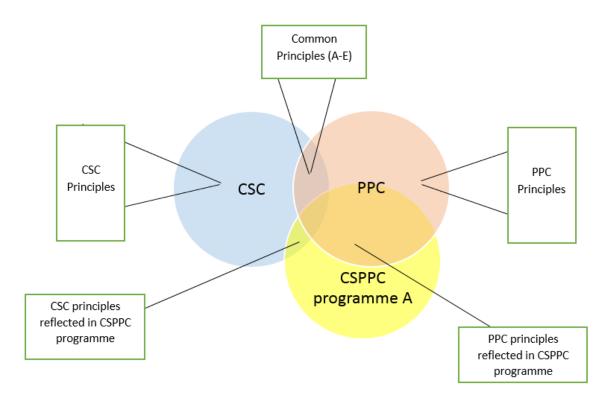


Figure 2: A CSPPC programme with an emphasis on pro-poor conservation



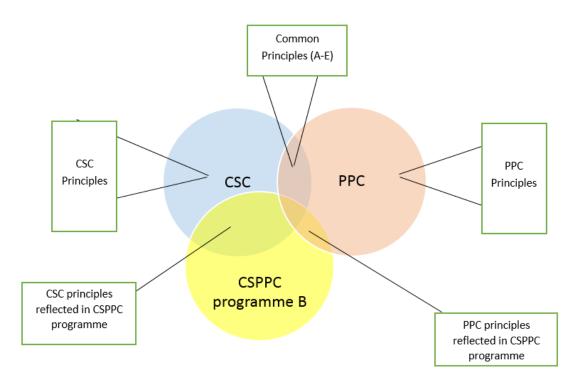


Figure 3: A CSPPC Programme with an emphasis on climate smart conservation

# 5. Use of CSPPC terminology by WWF Programmes

Following the literature review of use and interpretation of the concepts of CSC, PPC and CSPPC, the IIED team conducted a series of interviews with WWF programme staff to explore their understanding of the terms. The different programmes within the PPA portfolio varied considerably in their use and understanding of the term.

Only Boni Dodori, Nepal and SWAUM reported that they actually used the term CSPPC within their programmes – although Nepal noted that the term was only used very loosely and SWAUM noted that while the term was recognised by the team it was not clearly understood or regularly used. The other five programmes reported that they did not use the term at all.

Most of the programmes did, however, use one or both of the component terms – climate smart (CS) and pro-poor (PP). Boni Dodori and SWAUM were the only two programmes that reported they were comfortable with both terms. China Africa didn't use any of the terms, preferring climate resilient development to CS,

and key concepts such as inclusivity rather than pro-poor. Amongst the remaining five programmes there was considerable variation in terms of levels of comfort and familiarity with the two terms with a number of programmes providing qualifiers and caveats. Table 4 provides a summary of which terms are used by which programme.

Table 4: Use of CS and PP terminology by different WWF programmes

| Programme    | Uses term          | Uses term CS?          | Uses term PP?        |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|              | CSPPC?             |                        |                      |
| Boni Dodori  | Yes                | Yes                    | Yes                  |
| Brazil       | No                 | Yes                    | Yes (although not    |
|              |                    |                        | defined and no       |
|              |                    |                        | indicators)          |
| CEA          | No                 | Yes, although often    | Yes, although often  |
|              |                    | allude to key concepts | allude to key        |
|              |                    | (eg vulnerability,     | concepts (eg         |
|              |                    | adaptation) rather     | CBNRM, livelihoods)  |
|              |                    | than the specific term | rather than the      |
|              |                    | CS                     | specific term PP     |
| China Africa | No, prefer green   | No, prefer climate     | No, prefer terms     |
|              | economy,           | resilient development  | around inclusivity   |
|              | sustainable        |                        |                      |
|              | development        |                        |                      |
| Colombia     | No                 | Yes, and the team are  | No, it is considered |
|              |                    | actively promoting     | offensive            |
|              |                    | their climate smart    |                      |
|              |                    | approach to partners   |                      |
|              |                    | and beneficiaries.     |                      |
| Nepal        | Yes                | Yes, but it's not      | Yes                  |
|              |                    | clearly defined        |                      |
| RUMAKI       | No                 | Yes, but not clearly   | Yes                  |
|              |                    | defined, mainly used   |                      |
|              |                    | in association with    |                      |
|              |                    | specific activities eg |                      |
|              |                    | vulnerability          |                      |
|              |                    | assessments            |                      |
| SWAUM        | Aware of the term  | Yes                    | Yes                  |
|              | but not in regular |                        |                      |
|              | use                |                        |                      |

# 6. Mapping the WWF PPA Portfolio against the CSPPC Principles

In order to explore which of the CSPPC principles were more or less important to the different WWF programmes, the IIED team first conducted an exercise to characterise each programme into a set of key work areas or thematic priorities. This was achieved by reviewing a wide range of programme documentation and recording key outcomes and achievements that had either been expected or realised. The list of expected and achieved outcomes was then clustered into key themes and these were discussed with programme teams, and adjusted where necessary to ensure they provided an accurate representation of the programme's key areas of work. The programme teams were then asked to rate the level of emphasis of each of their key work areas against each of the principles. This was a remote exercise where programme teams were sent a spreadsheet to complete where they were asked to rate each of the CSPPC principles according to their level of emphasis in the design and implementation of each work area. Principles were rated as 2 if they have had a strong emphasis on the design/implementation of the thematic work area; 1 if they have had some, but not strong, emphasis; and 0 if they have had little or no emphasis. Programmes were also asked to consider if the emphasis of each principle had been different in the design of the work area compared to actual implementation although differences in this respect were found to be generally small and so the scores have been averaged.

Representatives from each programme had an opportunity to further reflect on CSPPC in the context of their own programme, and to compare and contrast with other programmes in the PPA portfolio, during a PPA workshop held in May 2016 in WWF-UK's Living Planet Centre in Woking. WWF programme staff attended and reflected upon the results from the rating exercise described above. It was also an opportunity to gain more clarity on some of the concepts underlying the principles and to provide feedback on the principles..

Tables 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 summarise the eight WWF country teams' self-assessments. Note that the wording of the CSPPC principles has been shortened for the purposes of presentation. The tables show average scores across the programmes' different work areas. Comparison of Table 5 and 6, table 7 and 8, and tables 9 and 10 show that some significant changes were made (in both directions) following further clarification of the principles. In interpreting the results we look at both versions of the scoring as we also need to bear in mind that not all the people who did the initial scoring were present at the May workshop.

It's important to emphasise again here that this rating exercise was not intended to carry a judgement, but to enable teams to reflect and learn on their approach — there is no blueprint or "gold standard" to attain, and the purpose of this learning initiative is to support knowledge development across the PPA portfolio which may be used to shape and inform future programming.

Of the climate smart principles, none were rated consistently highly across the portfolio. However, two were rated significantly lower than the rest: recognising differences in the distribution of climate change impacts, and identifying and managing trade-offs. Feedback from the teams indicated, however, that many of them had trouble with understanding these principles as currently framed. It is not possible therefore to determine how much the low rating is a result of programmes genuinely considering these the least important principles as opposed to simply not understanding complex concepts (particularly the notion of trade-offs).

In the initial mapping the climate smart principle that scored most highly across the portfolio was "prioritise actions based on use of best available climate science and knowledge (including Traditional Ecological Knowledge)" closely followed by "do no harm: avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine resilience/adaptive capacity of people and ecosystems" and then two of the "do good" principles - Contribute to building the resilience/adaptive capacity of local communities; and Enhance the capacity of ecosystems to reduce climate vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities for people. In the revision of the scoring at the PPA workshop, the SWAUM programme significantly increased their scoring for these last two which raises them to be on a par with the other two.

In terms of differences across the portfolio there is a clear trend of programmes in Latin America rating their programmes higher in terms of climate-smart principles and programmes in Africa lower with Nepal coming somewhere in between. The China Africa programme also rated themselves relative lowly from a climate smart perspective.

Of the pro-poor principles, the two that appeared to be strongest across the portfolio as a whole were "contribute to national sustainable development" and "participation and access to information". These were closely followed by another "do good" principle: enhance well-being of local people at conservation sites which would have come out even higher had it not been for the fact that Brazil and China have no emphasis on this principle by the very nature of their programmes. The

pro-poor principle that was rated lowest highly across the portfolio was "focus on sites/species important to the poor". In the revision of the rating the biggest changes were with "participation and access to information" which went substantially higher and "targeting the poorest" which went significantly lower which may be attributed to clarification of the meaning of poorest as being the poorest of the poor rather than poor people in general. The rating for the principle on trade-offs was also increased in almost all programmes reflecting better understanding of the principle following discussion of the principle in an earlier session.

In terms of the rating versus pro-poor principles it is hard to identify differences between programmes at an overall level with the exception of Nepal which does appear to be significantly stronger. In discussion at the PPA workshop WWF Nepal staff noted that they have a long history of pro-poor programming in Nepal and also that contributing to poverty reduction is a political imperative for the legitimacy of any type of NGO irrespective of their mission.

Table 5: Relative emphasis of different climate smart principles across the PPA portfolio (initial rating)

| Climate Smart Principles                                 | Brazil | China Africa | Coastal East<br>Africa | Colombia | Boni Dodori<br>(Kenya) | Nepal | Rumaki<br>(Tanzania) | SWAUM<br>(Tanzania) |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Helping people adapt to climate change                   |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Ecosystem-based adaptation                               |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Climate change mitigation                                |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Ecosystem resilience to climate change                   |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Climate proofing                                         |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Do no harm re climate vulnerability of people/nature     |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Recognise differences in distribution of climate impacts |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Recognising trade-offs in climate smart programming      |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Adaptive management & learning-by-doing                  |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Reduce other environmental stressors                     |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Focusing on the future not just the past                 |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Use of climate science/local knowledge                   |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |

Dark blue indicates that there is *strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of > 1.34). Medium blue indicates that there is *significant but not strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0.67 - 1.33). Light blue indicates that there is *little or no emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0 - 0.66).

Table 6: Relative emphasis of different climate smart principles across the PPA portfolio (revised rating)

| Climate Smart Principles                                 | Brazil | China Africa | Coastal East<br>Africa | Colombia | Boni Dodori | Nepal | Rumaki | SWAUM |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|----------|-------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Helping people adapt to climate change                   |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Ecosystem-based adaptation                               |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Climate change mitigation                                |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Ecosystem resilience to climate change                   |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Climate proofing                                         |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Do no harm re climate vulnerability of people/nature     |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Recognise differences in distribution of climate impacts |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Recognising trade-offs in climate smart programming      |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Adaptive management & learning-by-doing                  |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Reduce other environmental stressors                     |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Focusing on the future not just the past                 |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |
| Use of climate science/local knowledge                   |        |              |                        |          |             |       |        |       |

Dark blue indicates that there is *strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of > 1.34). Medium blue indicates that there is *significant but not strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0.67 - 1.33). Light blue indicates that there is *little or no emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0 - 0.66).

Table 7: Relative emphasis of different pro-poor principles across the PPA portfolio (initial rating)

| Pro Poor Principles                                     | Brazil | China<br>Africa | Coastal<br>East Africa | Colombia | Boni<br>Dodori<br>(Kenya) | Nepal | Rumaki<br>(Tanzania) | SWAUM<br>(Tanzania) |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Enhance human well-being at site level                  |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Ecosystem services at landscape level                   |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| National sustainable development                        |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Target poorest or most vulnerable                       |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts                  |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Trade-offs in pro-poor programming                      |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Equity in distribution of costs & benefits              |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Recognise & protect rights of marginalised              |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Focus on sites/species important to poor                |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |
| Participation and access to information                 |        |                 |                        |          |                           |       |                      |                     |

Dark orange indicates that there is *strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of > 1.34). Medium orange indicates that there is *significant but not strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0.67 - 1.33). Light orange indicates that there is *little or no emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0 - 0.66).

Table 8: Relative emphasis of different pro-poor principles across the PPA portfolio (revised rating)

| Pro Poor Principles                                     | Brazil | China<br>Africa | Coastal<br>East Africa | Colombia | Boni<br>Dodori | Nepal | Rumaki | SWAUM |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------------|----------|----------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Enhance human well-being at site level                  |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Ecosystem services at landscape level                   |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| National sustainable development                        |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Target poorest or most vulnerable                       |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts                  |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Trade-offs in pro-poor programming                      |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Equity in distribution of costs & benefits              |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Recognise & protect rights of marginalised              |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Focus on sites/species important to poor                |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |
| Participation and access to information                 |        |                 |                        |          |                |       |        |       |

Dark orange indicates that there is *strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of > 1.34). Medium orange indicates that there is *significant but not strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0.67 - 1.33). Light orange indicates that there is *little or no emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0 - 0.66).

 Table 9: Relative emphasis of different common principles across the PPA portfolio (initial rating)

| Common Principles                                               | Brazil | China Africa | Coastal East<br>Africa | Colombia | Boni Dodori<br>(Kenya) | Nepal | Rumaki<br>(Tanzania) | SWAUM<br>(Tanzania) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Understand the local & national context                         |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Work at different scales                                        |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Collaboration & communication across sectors & disciplines      |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Landscape/ecosystem/catchme nt approach                         |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Tackle policies, institutions & processes that present barriers |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |

Table 10: Relative emphasis of different common principles across the PPA portfolio (revised rating)

| Common Principles                                          | Brazil | China Africa | Coastal East<br>Africa | Colombia | Boni Dodori<br>(Kenya) | Nepal | Rumaki<br>(Tanzania) | SWAUM<br>(Tanzania) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Understand the local & national                            |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| context                                                    |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Work at different scales                                   |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Collaboration & communication across sectors & disciplines |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Landscape/ecosystem/catchme                                |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| nt approach                                                |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| Tackle policies, institutions &                            |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |
| processes that present barriers                            |        |              |                        |          |                        |       |                      |                     |

Dark green indicates that there is *strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of > 1.34). Medium green indicates that there is *significant but not strong emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0.67 - 1.33). Light green indicates that there is *little or no emphasis* on the principle (a rating of 0 - 0.66).

#### 7. Case studies

In addition to the portfolio-wide mapping we also conducted detailed case studies of three WWF programmes — Sustainable Water Access, Use and Management (SWAUM) in Tanzania; People in Participatory Action for Life (PIPAL) programme in Nepal and Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems programme in Colombia. The case studies were selected on the basis of geographical diversity, programmatic focus and interest/availability to engage. The IIED team visited each programme for 5 days (SWAUM in January 2016; Nepal in March 2016 and Colombia in April 2016). In each case the schedule of activities included discussions with WWF staff in the country office, a one-day workshop with key stakeholders in the PPA programme and a one day workshop with WWF staff and close partners working on the PPA programme. In the case of Nepal the scope of the learning initiative was extended to cover all programmes of WWF Nepal but in the other countries the scope was limited to the PPA-supported programme.

## 7.1 Sustainable Water Access, Use and Management in Tanzania

#### Overview of the SWAUM programme

The overall vision of the SWAUM Programme is "Perennial river flows in the Great Ruaha River with people and environment thriving". The Great Ruaha River (GRR) catchment is vast (>84,000 km2) with an estimated population of 2.2 million representing a great diversity of stakeholders, many with competing interests. The river used to flow throughout the year, but since the mid-1990s it has become seasonal, and completely dries out in some locations during the dry season. The drying of the river has had a major impact on biodiversity (Ruaha National Park in particular) and people's lives and livelihoods.

The SWAUM programme is piloting a social learning approach to improve coordination between different stakeholders and, specifically, to ensure the voices of poor, marginalised and vulnerable groups are included in decision-making processes. Focusing on two sub-catchments — Ndembera and Mbarali sub-catchments (but extending across the Usangu Wetlands, and downstream to the Mtera dam) - the programme has been rolling out a multi-stakeholder process for identifying important issues and conflicts that require a coordinated approach and piloting a series of collaborative initiatives to address these issues.

| Thematic Collaborative                | Cross-Cutting Collaborative     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Initiatives                           | Initiatives                     |
| T1: Conservation agriculture with     | CC1: Education & awareness      |
| trees                                 | CC2: Coordination & cooperation |
| T2: Land use planning                 | across sectors/levels & between |
| T3: Livestock troughs construction to | institutions                    |
| benefit Women                         | CC3: Payment for environmental  |
| T4: Small- & large-scale technical    | services                        |
| contributions                         | CC4: Climate change adaptation  |
| T5: Establishing fair & sustainable   |                                 |
| water allocation                      |                                 |
| T6: Safe and Sufficient Water for     |                                 |
| Women                                 |                                 |

The stated objectives of the SWAUM programme is that "by 2016 stakeholders at multiple levels will be working more effectively together to deliver equitable and sustainable water access, use and management (SWAUM) in two focal areas of the GRR, and generating lessons to support the aspirations of the Water Resources Act No 11 of 2009". It is intended that insights from this work be embedded in national processes, leading to more widespread tangible results with the longer term change being the restoration of perennial flows in the GRR, with attendant benefits for people and nature.

#### **Emphasis to date on climate-smart principles**

Table 6 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of SWAUM programme staff on the emphasis given by the programme to date on the 12 climate smart principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revisions at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis has identified just one principle as having had significant to strong emphasis "contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities".

At the stakeholder workshop during the country visit the workshop participants were divided into 4 stakeholder groups (WWF staff, community members, and two groups of partners split according the two geographic areas of implementation the Mbarali and Ndembera sub-catchments), and asked to do a similar exercise to identify the level of emphasis that has been given to each principle. In this case the analysis was based on identifying examples of the principles having been applied and then assigning an overall rating for the principle based on the extent to which the examples illustrate application of the principle. Table 11 provides a summary of the results.

The WWF team comprising staff from Head Office as well as field staff identified seven climate smart principles that they thought were strongly emphasised in the programme. There was quite some discussion about this, with the representatives from Head Office suggesting that the programme was more pro-poor than climate smart and shouldn't claim that so many climate smart principles were strongly emphasised. This view aligns with the results of the initial mapping by a group of SWAUM programme staff. Nonetheless the SWAUM field team continued to stress that the programme has been strongly emphasising the following.

- Increase resilience of ecosystems and species to climate change. The team
  suggested that the fact that there had been a vulnerability assessment of
  the catchment provided good evidence that this principle was important.
  They also suggested that a number of the collaborative initiatives were
  intended to increase ecosystem resilience although no specific examples
  were provided.
- Ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing). The team pointed to the efforts to "re-train" the course of the river (including desilting in some locations in order to keep the river on course) and to plant trees along river banks in order to protect the banks from erosion and reduce flooding as evidence of climate proofing.
- Do no harm: Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine the ability of people or nature to adapt to climate change. To explore this principle, the team were asked if the programme has done anything that might undermine the ability of people or nature to cope with climate change. The response was a vehement no, on the basis that many of the collaborative initiatives were actively helping adaptation. Examples that were given included planting trees to help protect water sources and educating local people on good agricultural practices.
- Recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts. The team noted that they had carried out a vulnerability assessment specifically in order to understand the different distribution of climate change impacts.
- Be flexible: adopt adaptive management and learning- by-doing to reflect changing climate conditions and uncertainties. Here the team highlighted how at the start of the programme there were no planned activities on climate change, but that they adapted their plans once they realised that it was a significant issue (following WWF Network prioritisation and

subsequent trainings delivered at programme level). Subsequently the programme incorporated awareness raising on climate change as well as specific collaborative initiatives including tree planting.

- Reduce other environmental stresses (so as not to exacerbate climateinduced impacts). The team highlighted how deforestation was a key
  environmental threat in the catchment and was contributing to both
  drought and to flooding. Activities around tree planting as well as training
  on improved cultivation techniques was intended to help address this
  issue.
- Make use of best available climate science (including local knowledge). The
  team acknowledged that they did not directly draw on climate science in
  the programme, but that they did emphasise the important on local
  knowledge on climate change as part of the multi-stakeholder process, and
  that this local knowledge had a direct influence on the collaborative
  initiatives that were developed.

For the trade-offs principle, it is likely that this was not prioritised because it was conceptually difficult for the team to understand (a problem that was also reflected in discussions with other stakeholder groups as highlighted below). The climate smart principle of focusing on future conditions rather than past was also a difficult concept for the team to grasp. The principle was explored by questioning whether the Programme has tried to anticipate what the catchment might look like under different climate conditions (eg through visioning exercises) and it was agreed it had not considered this, thus suggesting that the principle has not been not considered a priority.

The other stakeholder groups (non WFF staff) had somewhat different views but this was largely due to a reported lack of knowledge of the majority of non-WWF stakeholders on these issues (suggesting a big opportunity for WWF to help raise awareness amongst these stakeholders). Only two climate smart principles were discussed with the community groups, on the basis that they would not have any knowledge of the others, and the other partners' responses in many cases were that they didn't know enough about the programme to be able to judge whether or not the principle was reflected. All did agree, however, that Principle 3 (do no harm: avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine the ability of people or nature to adapt to climate change) was strongly reflected in the programme. All also agreed that principle 1a (contribute to climate change adaptation of local

communities) was an important principle although there was some difference in perspective as to how strongly this had been reflected/emphasised in the SWAUM programme. In particular, WWF staff felt that this was an area where they were making progress even if there had been little emphasis in the past.

Table 11: Stakeholder perspectives on emphasis on CS principles in SWAUM programme.

| Climate Smart Principles                                                                                                                  | WWF | Communitie<br>s | Partners M    | Partners N    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Do good": Deliberately contribute to tackling climate change though conservation:                                                      |     |                 |               |               |
| a) Contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities                                                                           |     |                 |               |               |
| b) Increase resilience of ecosystems and species to climate change                                                                        |     |                 |               |               |
| c) Contribute to climate change<br>mitigation through emission<br>reductions and removals                                                 |     |                 |               |               |
| 2. Ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing)                                                   |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |
| 3. Do no harm: Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine the ability of people or nature to adapt to climate change                 |     |                 |               |               |
| 4. Recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts (between localities, between rich and poor, between men and women etc) |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |
| 5. Identify and manage trade-offs (between adaptation and mitigation, with adaptation approaches, between CS and other goals)             |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |
| 6. Be flexible: adopt adaptive management and learning- by-doing to reflect changing climate conditions and uncertainties                 |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |
| 7. Reduce other environmental stresses (so as not to exacerbate climate-induced impacts)                                                  |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |
| 8. Focus conservation goals on future conditions not past                                                                                 |     |                 |               | Don't<br>know |
| 9. Make use of best available climate science (including local knowledge)                                                                 |     |                 | Don't<br>know |               |

## **Emphasis to date on pro-poor principles**

Table 8 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of SWAUM staff on the emphasis of the SWAUM programme to date on the 11 pro-poor principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revision of its results at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis identifies three principles as having had significant to strong emphasis:

- Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites (ie target communities)
- Deliberately target benefits at the poorest or more vulnerable groups
- Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation between men and women, rich and poor

At the stakeholder workshop in Tanzania the WWF team identified 6 pro-poor principles as having been strongly emphasised including 2 of the above:

- Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites. The team thought this was a strongly reflected across the programme since the overall emphasis of the programme is about water availability for local people, but the work on conservation agriculture with trees with picked out as being a particularly strong example of where this principle is evident.
- Ensure delivery of ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at the landscape level. This principle was thought to be important because of the catchment-wide focus of the programme. In particular the multi-stakeholder process was highlighted because of its effectiveness in linking upstream and downstream water users, and the work on river restoration, again because of the positive benefits this had delivered downstream.
- Deliberately identify and target benefits at the poorest or most vulnerable groups. The team acknowledged that they had not conducted any kind of poverty assessment and deliberately targeted the poorest, but they insisted that this principle was very strongly reflected in the multi-stakeholder process on the basis that they tried to reach and involve local people who have no voice in decision-making processes. These people were considered to be the most marginalised and disadvantaged by virtue of having no voice even if they were not necessarily the poorest of the poor or the most vulnerable. The team, has, however developed a "Protocol for Community

Engagement" which sets out a methodology for identifying and reaching these most disadvantaged villages and individuals.

- Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous
  Peoples and local communities. The team thought that the work they did
  on land use management plans helped to identify and strengthen local land
  rights. They also thought their work on water quality was helping to
  improve water access and thus supporting water rights and that the work
  on conservation agriculture with trees was helping to strengthen resource
  rights.
- Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people. The team thought this principle was particularly important because their work focussed on restoring the river and protecting water sources on which so many local peoples' livelihoods depend through fishing, agriculture and so on.
- Ensure participation in decision making and access to information. This principle was perhaps the one that the entire team agreed was most strongly emphasised. This was particularly so for the multi-stakeholder workshops the whole purpose of which is to enable poor local people to have their voices heard, to have a platform for sharing information and to participate in decision making processes. The team also pointed to the land use plans as an example of where this principle was strongly emphasised, explaining that these involve many local people who are able to participate through public meetings.

The pro-poor "do no harm" principle was considered to be low emphasis. This is perhaps because the WWF team did not think there have been any negative social consequences of the conservation activities in the SWAUM focal areas (although they recognised that some people have been prevented by government authorities from pursuing livelihoods from "vinungu" agriculture (cultivating right next to rivers and streams). Another potential reason is that since SWAUM has specifically focussed on the priorities of poor and marginalised people, there have, by default, emphasised the "do good" over the "do no harm" principles.

The perspectives of local communities and SWAUM partners on the pro-poor principles were remarkably similar to those of WWF staff except for a few notable exceptions (see table 12). All groups thought that Principles 1a ("enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites") and 8 ("ensure participation in

decision making and access to information) were strongly reflected in the SWAUM Programme approach. Most also thought that Principles 6 (recognise and respect the rights of indigenous people and local communities) and 7 (focus conservation efforts on species and sites of importance to the poor) were also strongly reflected.

The biggest difference of opinion was around Principle 4 (do no harm: avoid or mitigate negative social impacts that create or exacerbate poverty). As previously noted, the WWF team had suggested that this was not relevant to the programme because local people had not been negatively affected by conservation and were actively involved in identifying the initiatives for the SWAUM programme to support. Local communities however thought this principle was important and had not been sufficiently emphasised by WWF. Examples they provided of where communities had been negatively affected and no mitigating actions had been taken were i) the prevention of "vinyungu" agriculture (cultivating close to the river bank); and ii) lack of support from WWF in resisting the construction of a dam, as proposed by the Basin Office. Community representatives did, however recognise that the programme does have an emphasis on livelihood diversification, for example through a bee-keeping programme.

Table 12: Stakeholder perspectives on emphasis on pro-poor principles in SWAUM programme

| Pro-Poor Principles                                                                                                   | WWF | Communities | Partners M    | Partners N    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. "Do good": Deliberately contribute to improving human well-being through conservation:                             |     |             |               |               |
| a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites                                                            |     |             |               |               |
| b) Ensure delivery of ecosystem<br>services critical for wellbeing at the<br>landscape level                          |     |             |               |               |
| c) Contribute to national <u>sustainable</u><br><u>development</u>                                                    |     |             |               |               |
| 2. Deliberately identify and target benefits at the poorest or most vulnerable groups                                 |     |             | Don't<br>Know | Don't<br>Know |
| 3. Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation (between men and women, rich and poor etc) |     |             | Don't<br>know |               |
| 4. Do no harm: Avoid or mitigate negative social impacts that create or exacerbate poverty                            |     |             |               |               |

| 5. Identify and manage trade-offs (between different groups of poor people, between different PP approaches, between PP and other goals) |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 6. Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities                                     |  |  |
| 7. Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people                                                  |  |  |
| 8. Ensure participation in decision making and access to information                                                                     |  |  |

## **Priority principles going forward**

The last part of the stakeholder workshop was devoted to discussing which principles should, as the programme moves forward, be given more emphasis than has been given to date. Each participant was able to "vote" for three climate smart principles and three pro-poor principles.

The WWF team thought that the priority (>50% of the group voted for them) propoor principles were:

- 1a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites
- 6) Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities
- 7) Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people
- 8) Ensure participation in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups.

The climate-smart principles given highest priority were:

- 1a) Contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities
- 1b) Increase resilience of ecosystems and species to climate change
- 2) Ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing)
- 9) Make use of best available climate science (including local knowledge).

Principles that were not prioritised receiving no votes) by the WWF team were:

- Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation (between men and women, rich and poor etc)
- Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine the ability of people or nature to adapt to climate change
- Recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts (between localities, between rich and poor, between men and women etc)
- Identify and manage trade-offs (between adaptation and mitigation, with adaptation approaches, between CS and other goals).

There were some interesting similarities and differences between the WWF priorities and those of the other stakeholder groups (Tables 7 and 8). All groups agreed that the pro-poor principles "enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites" and "ensure participation in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups"; and the climate smart principle: "contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities" were amongst the highest priority (receiving more than 50% of the votes from each group). WWF and the partner organisations also agreed that two climate smart principles that were not discussed with communities - "ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing)" and "make use of best available climate science (including local knowledge)" were amongst the highest priority and that two - "recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts" and "identify and manage trade-offs" were low priority (no votes). It was hard in the exercise however to ensure that participants voted for principles that they thought were highest priority for the programme, rather than principles that they personally were most comfortable with. Certainly the principles on trade-offs and on distribution of climate impacts were very difficult for the group to understand and the lack of votes for these probably reflects this lack of understanding rather than necessarily reflecting a lack of importance.

One clear difference, however, was the emphasis placed by communities on the pro-poor principles "recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation" – one which had had no votes from WWF and few from partner organisations. The partner organisations also had some clear differences in priorities both with WWF and with each other, but these can largely be explained by different perceptions of the project in the two sub-catchment and the short time that Mbarali sub catchment has been involved in the project compared to Ndembera.

Table 13: Pro-poor principles to be given greater emphasis going forward

| Pro-Poor Principles                                                                                                                                  | WWF | Partners<br>M | Partners<br>N | Communities | TOTAL |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------|
| 1. "Do good": Deliberately contribute to improving human well-being through conservation:                                                            |     |               |               |             |       |
| a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites                                                                                           |     |               |               |             |       |
| b) Ensure delivery of ecosystem<br>services critical for wellbeing at<br>the landscape level                                                         |     |               |               |             |       |
| c) Contribute to national sustainable development                                                                                                    |     |               |               |             |       |
| 2. Deliberately identify and target<br>benefits at the poorest or most<br>vulnerable groups                                                          |     |               |               |             |       |
| 3. Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation (between men and women, rich and poor etc)                                |     |               |               |             |       |
| 4. Do no harm: Avoid or mitigate negative social impacts that create or exacerbate poverty                                                           |     |               |               |             |       |
| 5. Identify and manage trade-offs<br>(between different groups of poor<br>people, between different PP<br>approaches, between PP and other<br>goals) |     |               |               |             |       |
| 6. Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.                                                |     |               |               |             |       |
| 7. Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people                                                              |     |               |               |             |       |
| 8. Ensure participation in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups                |     |               |               |             |       |

# Key:

| Over   | Up     | 0     | Not       |  |
|--------|--------|-------|-----------|--|
| 50%    | to     | Votes | discussed |  |
| of all | 50%    |       |           |  |
| votes  | of all |       |           |  |
|        | votes  |       |           |  |
|        |        |       |           |  |

Table 14: climate-smart principles to be given greater emphasis going forward.

| Climate Smart Principles             | WWF | Partners M | Partners N | Communities | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| 1. Do good": Deliberately            |     |            |            |             |       |
| contribute to tackling climate       |     |            |            |             |       |
| change though conservation:          |     |            |            |             |       |
| a) Contribute to climate change      |     |            |            |             |       |
| adaptation of local                  |     |            |            |             |       |
| communities                          |     |            |            |             |       |
| b) Increase resilience of            |     |            |            |             |       |
| ecosystems and species to            |     |            |            |             |       |
| climate change                       |     |            |            |             |       |
| c) Contribute to climate change      |     |            |            |             |       |
| mitigation through emission          |     |            |            |             |       |
| reductions and removals              |     |            |            |             |       |
| 2. Ensure that project impacts are   |     |            |            |             |       |
| sustainable in a changing climate    |     |            |            |             |       |
| (climate proofing)                   |     |            |            |             |       |
| 3. Do no harm: Avoid or mitigate     |     |            |            |             |       |
| activities that may undermine the    |     |            |            |             |       |
| ability of people or nature to adapt |     |            |            |             |       |
| to climate change                    |     |            |            |             |       |
| 4. Recognise differences in          |     |            |            |             |       |
| distribution of climate change       |     |            |            |             |       |
| impacts (between localities,         |     |            |            |             |       |
| between rich and poor, between       |     |            |            |             |       |
| men and women etc)                   |     |            |            |             |       |
| 5. Identify & manage trade-offs      |     |            |            |             |       |
| (between adaptation & mitigation,    |     |            |            |             |       |
| with adaptation approaches,          |     |            |            |             |       |
| between CS & other goals)            |     |            |            |             |       |
| 6. Be flexible: adopt adaptive       |     |            |            |             |       |
| management and learning- by-         |     |            |            |             |       |
| doing to reflect changing climate    |     |            |            |             |       |
| conditions and uncertainties         |     |            |            |             |       |
| 7. Reduce other environmental        |     |            |            |             |       |
| stresses (so as not to exacerbate    |     |            |            |             |       |
| climate-induced impacts)             |     |            |            |             |       |
| 8. Focus conservation goals on       |     |            |            |             |       |
| future conditions not past           |     |            |            |             |       |
| 9. Make use of best available        |     |            |            |             |       |
| climate science (including local     |     |            |            |             |       |
| knowledge)                           |     |            |            |             |       |

| <br>Key: |               |       |           |  |
|----------|---------------|-------|-----------|--|
| Over     | Up            | 0     | Not       |  |
| 50%      | to            | Votes | discussed |  |
| of all   | 50%<br>of all |       |           |  |
| votes    | of all        |       |           |  |
|          | votes         |       |           |  |

## 7.2 Nepal

In discussion with the WWF Nepal team it was decided that the country case study would look at the whole WWF Nepal country programme and not just the PIPAL programme. That said the PIPAL programme has been at the heart of efforts by the WWF Nepal country programme to promote a climate smart, pro-poor approach to conservation over the last 10 years.

# Programme overview

The People in Participatory Action for Life (PIPAL) programme aims at strengthening communities, primarily poor, vulnerable and socially excluded and empowering them to manage their natural resource base. It focuses on two landscapes – the Sacred Himalaya Landscape (SHL) and the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL). The PIPAL project is designed to address the implications of climate change in TAL and SHL through enhancing local knowledge of biodiversity conservation, gender and governance and engaging the community in formulating local level adaptation plans. Additionally, the PIPAL programme is designed to engage decision-making bodies to ensure that effective policies are in place to protect and manage Protected Areas (PAs) and critical biological corridors.

The PIPAL programme is one of WWF Nepal's flagship programmes alongside the USAID funded Hariyo Ban programme. The programmes are informed by WWF Nepal's vision that "by 2050 Nepal will have:

- Conserved biodiversity and the natural processes that sustain it in the Global 200 Ecoregions within Nepal
- Established social and economic development patterns that assure the sustainable and equitable provision of natural goods and services, improving livelihoods and quality of life for current and future generations

Eliminated or mitigated critical threats to species, habitats, and ecological processes that derive from climate change, over exploitation of resources,

unsustainable consumption, and pollution" (WWF Nepal Website 2016). Some of the activities that the WWF programmes implement involve strategies to: build capacity in community forest conservation; restore corridors for connectivity; promote biogas as an alternate energy source; monitor climate change impacts; establish sustainable finance mechanisms; introduce alternative livelihoods; tackle human wildlife conflict; and engage in dialogue to support natural policy processes and strategies.

# **Emphasis to date on climate-smart principles**

Table 6 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of PIPAL programme staff on the emphasis of the programme to date on the 12 climate smart principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revision of its results at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis identifies three principles as having had strong emphasis:

- Contribute to climate change mitigation through emission reductions and removals
- Build resilience of ecosystems and species to climate change
- **Do no harm**: Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine resilience/adaptive capacity of people and ecosystems

Given time constraints, discussions at the in-country stakeholder workshop focused on a sub-set of 8 of the full set of CS principles that were considered by WWF Nepal to be most relevant and important. At this stakeholder workshop the workshop participants were divided into 3 stakeholder groups.

- SHL = Sacred Himalayas Landscape. This group had representation from the CSO (buffer zone user committee and integrated river management committee) as well as WWF staff (both from centre and field) connected to SHL
- TAL = Terai Arc Landscape. This group had representation of WWF staff (from the centre, field level) and staff from the TAL office but did not have any CSO representation
- National = a combination of WWF staff based at head office in Kathmandu and other Kathmandu-based stakeholders which consisted of Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation representatives, academic institutions, etc

Each group was asked to do a similar exercise to initial mapping to identify the level of emphasis that has been given to each principle. In this exercise the analysis was based on identifying examples of the principles having been applied and then assigning an overall score for the principle based on the extent to which these and other examples illustrate application of the principle. Table 15 provides a summary of the results and the following paragraphs summarise the discussion around each principle taking the principles in order of emphasis (averaged across the groups).

#### Climate change mitigation

In recent years WWF has placed strong emphasis on biogas to reduce pressure on forests and, more recently, as important for reducing emissions. The national group also highlighted work on micro-hydro and improved cooking stoves and scored this as the highest of all climate-smart principles in terms of emphasis to date.

## Focus on future conditions not just the past

The discussion of this principle concluded that while it has been given some attention in terms of specific species (e.g establishment of corridors, translocations), this may be based more on restoring historical assemblages. The national group commented that although WWF's high level strategy does focus on ecological function, in reality there has been little attention given to ecological function beyond theoretical modelling.

### Ecosystem resilience to climate change

The two field groups felt that emphasis on this principle has been at least moderate and balanced in terms of emphasising both species and ecosystems (maybe more emphasis on ecosystems in SHL). However the national group felt that there are many gaps in knowledge and science and a lot more could be done.

#### Adaptive management and learning-by-doing

In the field programmes there have been some changes in plans in response to new information on climate change (eg in the TAL strategic plan) but this has not yet translated into change in anything on the ground. At national level there have also been changes in programming strategies (e.g incorporation of Disaster Risk Reduction) but there was a general consensus that this is not yet reflected in activities.

## Climate change adaptation

Both TAL and SHL highlighted a number of field activities with communities to build their adaptive capacity (eg. water conservation, community adaptation plans, climate schools and farmer field schools emphasising adaptive technologies). The national group highlighted adaptation planning (CAPA and LAPA) but wondered whether these really address the vulnerability of the poor. There is a need to document learning and there are challenges in measuring change in vulnerability/adaptive capacity/resilience.

#### **Reduce other environmental stressors**

Some participants had trouble understanding this question. Examples were given of controlling forest encroachment and forest fire control but it was noted that WWF would be doing this anyway with or without climate change. In other words there was a general view that this principle is not emphasised as a climate change issue. It was noted that this principles is related to the "do no harm" principle (not prioritised) — an example was given of how efforts to restore forest plantations could exacerbate climate change impacts (e.g. water stress) if inappropriate species were used.

## Use of climate science/local knowledge

The TAL group referred to the use of automatic weather stations and vulnerability assessments conducted to inform adaptation planning, and also to use of local knowledge (eg seasonal calendars as part of adaptation planning). The national group referred to use of national hydrological and meteorological data, and regional and global climate change models. In general there was a view that there needs to be more emphasis on use of local knowledge.

## Recognise differences in climate impacts

Many people had trouble understanding this question and in particular the meaning of "within communities" which was supposed to mean differences in impact between people living within the same community. Also there is a challenge in distinguishing vulnerability to climate change from vulnerability to other shocks and stresses which is considered in DRR, ie the question needs to be more clearly focused on climate change.

#### **Overall**

Considering the discussion as a whole there was a high degree of consensus between the three different groups. Where there were significant differences it was more due to site-specific issues or problems with understanding the principle than any fundamental difference of opinion.

Table 15: Climate-smart principles - emphasis to date (stakeholder workshop)

| CLIMATE SMART PRINCIPLES                 | TAL  | SHL  | National | Average |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|----------|---------|
| Climate change adaptation                | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00     | 1.00    |
| Climate change mitigation                | 1.25 | 1.00 | 2.00     | 1.42    |
| Ecosystem resilience to climate change   | 1.00 | 1.50 | 0.75     | 1.08    |
| Recognise differences in climate impacts | 0.00 | ,    | 0.75     | 0.38    |
| Adaptive management & learning-by-doing  | 1.00 | ,    | 1.00     | 1.00    |
| Reduce other environmental stressors     | 0.75 | ,    | 0.75     | 0.75    |
| Focusing on the future not just the past | 2.00 | 1.00 | 1.00     | 1.33    |
| Use of climate science/local knowledge   | 1.00 | 0.50 | 0.75     | 0.75    |

## **Emphasis to date on pro-poor principles**

Table 8 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of PIPAL programme staff on the emphasis of the programme to date on the 12 climate smart principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revision of its results at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis identifies 7 principles as having had strong emphasis in the PIPAL programme:

- Enhance human well-being at site level
- National sustainable development
- Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts
- Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts
- Trade-offs in pro-poor programming
- Equity in distribution of costs & benefits
- Participation and access to information

Given time constraints, discussions at the in-country stakeholder workshop focused on a sub-set of 6 of the full set of PP principles that were considered by WWF Nepal to be most relevant and important. As with the CC principles, workshop participants discussed the PP principles in 3 groups, starting by identifying examples of the principles having been applied and then assigning an

overall rating for the principle based on the extent to which these and other examples illustrate application of the principle. Table 16 provides a summary of the results and the following paragraphs summarise the discussion of each principle taking the principles in order of emphasis (averaged across groups).

## Trade-offs in pro-poor programming

Many participants found this issue of trade-offs hard to understand especially as the principle relates not only to trade-offs within the scope of social impacts but also between social and conservation impact. The principle was rated highly by the national group partly because government is said to be giving priority to trade-off analysis. The example given by the SHL group for their high rating for this principle was not actually an example of a trade-off (not giving greenhouses to the poorer people because they don't have land to put them on) illustrating the misunderstanding on the issue.

## Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts?

Both the TAL group and the national group highlighted the issues of human-wildlife conflict, saying that this has increased as a result of conservation work but that serious efforts have been made to reduce the conflict through a variety of means such as rapid response teams, compensation etc. On the other hand, the SHL group were not aware of any negative social impacts of conservation and so did not consider this important.

#### Target poorest or most vulnerable

There was a wide divergence of views on this principle but this appears to be partly because of having different understandings of the principle. Participants from SHL scored this highly because benefits do reach the poorest but only because benefits reach all members of the whole community. The other two groups understood the principle in its more restricted sense of a specific focus on the "ultra-poor" but noted that their targeting is determined more by conservation threats than poverty status – hence rating it only moderate.

#### Participation and access to information

This principle emphasises participation of poor and marginalised groups. Both the TAL and SHL participants gave the example of the specific provision in rules of Community Forest User Groups that the CFUG must include poorer and marginalised people, and WWF supports the establishment of CFUGs according to

these rules. However it was noted that poor and marginalised groups face real constraints to their participation (eg income loss when attending meetings) and so don't necessarily make the most of the provisions or speak at meetings. WWF staff therefore questioned to what extent this principle has been successfully applied in reality – hence rating this only at the moderate level.

## Enhance human well-being at site level

All groups scored the emphasis on this principle as moderate. Although everyone felt that it is very important it was pointed out that only 5-7% of the overall programme budget is spent on work that directly impacts livelihoods at site level.

## Recognise differences in social impacts

This relates to better understanding of how community members are differently impacted by conservation work. All groups noted that there has been some discussion of this issue but that little has been documented. WWF staff noted that they have recently started to give this more attention in monitoring and socioeconomic analysis. The SHL group did not really understand the question.

Table 16: Pro-poor principles - emphasis to date (stakeholder workshop)

| PRO-POOR PRINCIPLES                     | TAL  | SHL  | National | Average |
|-----------------------------------------|------|------|----------|---------|
| Enhance human well-being at site level  | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00     | 1.00    |
| Target poorest or most vulnerable       | 0.75 | 2.00 | 0.75     | 1.17    |
| Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts  | 2.00 | ?    | 1.00     | 1.50    |
| Recognise differences in social impacts | 0.00 | ?    | 0.75     | 0.38    |
| Tradeoffs in pro-poor programming       | ?    | 2.00 | 2.00     | 2.00    |
| Participation and access to information | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00     | 1.00    |

## **Priority principles going forward**

The analysis in this section - principles to be given more emphasis going forward - is based on the prioritisation of the 14 "priority principles" that was conducted at the stakeholder workshop and the prioritisation of the full set of 23 principles that was conducted at the WWF staff workshop. In both cases field-based stakeholders/staff and Kathmandu-based stakeholders/staff used different coloured stickers enabling the analysis to distinguish the field and centre

perspectives. Note that the tables in the following sections use a summary form of the principles. Refer to tables 3 for the principles in full.

#### **Pro-poor principles**

In terms of the scale at which impact on well-being should be targeted, the non-WWF participants and WWF field staff, not surprisingly, prioritised site level impact. They gave this the highest priority of the pro-poor principles indicating a wish for considerably more priority to be given to this in line with the observation in the previous session that the emphasis to date on this principle had only been moderate, in part because of limited budget allocation. Clearly more budget allocation to addressing human well-being at site level means less to activities with more of a pure conservation focus. In other words there is a significant trade-off and a difficult question of what is the right balance for WWF and its partners. Some staff from WWF HQ, on the other hand, feel that there should be more emphasis on the contribution of WWF programming to national sustainable development goals. This no doubt reflects growing attention to the SDGs.

The other pro-poor principle where there was considerable consensus across all groups was participation and access to information. This principle particularly emphasises poor and marginalised groups and the earlier session had identified concerns that efforts to promote their more effective participation (eg in CFUGs) may not be that successful in practice. As with the issue of well-being at site level, WWF HQ staff seem to give somewhat less priority to this issue of participation compared to field staff.

Around the principle of targeting the poorest there are again some significantly different perspectives between non-WWF staff and WWF staff. Some WWF HQ staff pointed out that WWF does not aim to work with and for the poorest of the poor because this does not contribute to conservation goals (a key learning that emerged in the next session). On the other hand, there is clearly a view from some stakeholders and some WWF field staff that WWF should try to reach the poorest. Similar to the broader question of priority given to contributing to well-being at site level, this is a challenging issue for WWF with real trade-offs between social and conservation goals.

There was a general consensus amongst stakeholders and WWF staff that the "do no harm" principle of avoiding/mitigating any negative social impacts of conservation should be given more priority. However the principle that calls for a better understanding of how the positive and negative impacts of conservation are

felt by different people across communities was not given more priority by WWF staff. There may be a bit of a contradiction here.

The low priority given to better understanding and managing trade-offs seems to largely reflect a lack of understanding of this principle and its significance since, as noted above, our analysis reveals some major issues of trade-offs between social and conservation goals.

The lack of emphasis on rights may be considered strange in a country where there has, in recent years, been growing discussion of the rights of the indigenous peoples of Nepal (partly triggered by REDD+). The reasons for this was discussed on Day 1 in justifying why the rights principle was not including as a "priority principle" – namely that the land rights discourse in Nepal is highly politicised and WWF feels that the best strategy for WWF is to keep a relatively low profile on this issue.

Table 17: Pro-poor principles to be given greater emphasis going forward

| PRO-POOR PRINCIPLES                        | Stakeholder | s/WWF staff | WWF st | WWF staff only |  |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|----------------|--|
| FRO-FOOK PRINCIPLES                        | Field       | Centre      | Field  | Centre         |  |
| Enhance human well-being at site level     | 12%         | 14%         | 12%    | 8%             |  |
| Ecosystem services at landscape level      | N/A         | N/A         | 9%     | 9%             |  |
| National sustainable development           | N/A         | N/A         | 0%     | 7%             |  |
| Target poorest or most vulnerable          | 8%          | 6%          | 3%     | 2%             |  |
| Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts     | 7%          | 4%          | 0%     | 4%             |  |
| Recognise differences in social impacts    | 7%          | 4%          | 0%     | 1%             |  |
| Tradeoffs in pro-poor programming          | 1%          | 4%          | 3%     | 2%             |  |
| Equity in distribution of costs & benefits | N/A         | N/A         | 0%     | 2%             |  |
| Recognise & protect rights of marginalised | N/A         | N/A         | 3%     | 3%             |  |
| Focus on sites/species important to poor   | N/A         | N/A         | 0%     | 0%             |  |
| Participation and access to information    | 7%          | 8%          | 9%     | 4%             |  |

## **Climate-smart principles**

As can been seen from comparing the overall pattern of the two right columns in tables 17 and 18, WWF staff, in general, proposed relatively more emphasis on the climate-smart principles and relatively less emphasis on the pro-poor principles going forward.

In terms of the climate-change goals, there appears to be more support for mitigation amongst the programme stakeholders/partners than amongst WWF staff which is understandable given the general decline in confidence over financing for climate change mitigation programming which may not yet have reached stakeholders and partners to the same extent. Also WWF staff feel that a lot has already been achieved (see previous section).

On supporting people to adapt to climate change there is clearly a view, particularly amongst WWF field staff, that this should remain a priority for WWF. The fact that WWF field staff voted strongly for the first principle (essentially Community-Based Adaptation plus Ecosystem Based Adaptation) but not at all for the second (Ecosystem Based Adaptation alone) might suggest that they believe that the focus should be CBA. However the discussion in this session revealed that some WWF staff are less familiar with the concept of EBA which made it difficult to determine to what extent the current programme emphasises, and future programming should emphasise EBA as an approach to climate change adaptation programming.

Compared to table 6 (priorities to date) it is striking that building resilience of ecosystems as an end in itself comes out very strongly. However some WWF staff noted that this may, in fact, have been understood by some as building resilience of ecosystems for the benefit of people ie EBA. This suggests that the limited understanding of EBA may reflect a broader lack of clarity over the climate-related goals of climate-smart conservation.

Adaptive management was scored highly by the stakeholders/partners and by WWF field staff but not by WWF HQ staff. This could be due to the fact that the HQ staff are more involved with policy formulation on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and see the learning-by-doing part of the principle as relating more to field practice than policy work, and therefore applying mainly to field staff.

The strong emphasis by all on "focus on the future not just the past" and "use of climate science/local knowledge" is also important to note.

As with the pro-poor principles, no priority was given to understanding and better managing trade-offs which, as noted earlier, is perhaps because of lack of understanding of the principle.

Table 18: climate-smart principles to be given greater emphasis going forward

| CLIMATE-SMART PRINCIPLES                     | Partners/\ | WWF staff | WWF staff only |        |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|--------|
| CLIVIATE-SIVIANT FRINCIPLES                  | Field      | Centre    | Field          | Centre |
| Helping people adapt to climate change       | 7%         | 4%        | 13%            | 7%     |
| Ecosystem-based adaptation                   | N/A        | N/A       | 3%             | 6%     |
| Climate change mitigation                    | 5%         | 6%        | 3%             | 2%     |
| Ecosystem resilience to climate change       | 14%        | 13%       | 10%            | 11%    |
| Climate proofing                             | N/A        | N/A       | 6%             | 6%     |
| Do no harm re vulnerability of people/nature | N/A        | N/A       | 0%             | 4%     |
| Recognise differences in climate impacts     | 3%         | 0%        | 0%             | 2%     |
| Tradeoffs in climate smart programming       | N/A        | N/A       | 0%             | 0%     |
| Adaptive management & learning-by-doing      | 10%        | 4%        | 10%            | 0%     |
| Reduce other environmental stressors         | 5%         | 4%        | 0%             | 0%     |
| Focus on the future not just the past        | 9%         | 11%       | 6%             | 7%     |
| Use of climate science/local knowledge       | 7%         | 15%       | 6%             | 5%     |

## 7.3 Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems in Colombia

#### **Programme overview**

The WWF Colombia PPA programme is titled 'Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems: Ecological integrity, climate change adaptation and reduction of the human ecological footprint'. The programme intervenes in the Chocó Darien region and the northern part of the Amazon Biome (with a special emphasis on the Amazon Piedmont). Within these two major ecoregions, WWF have identified the most important threats and drivers that are leading to forest ecosystems' degradation and disappearance. This includes habitat conversion fuelled by the direct threats of extensive cattle ranching, forest plantations, industrial scale agriculture (oil palm), and unsustainable and illegal logging. Additionally, disruption and degradation driven primarily by the threat of large-scale infrastructure and land conversion. Furthermore, the threat from increases of extreme weather events which is exacerbated by, and exacerbating, the impacts of land use changes and degradation.

To address these threats, the WWF PPA programme has organised activities around three themes:

- Climate change adaptation including activities: to develop guidelines for incorporating climate change issues in the management plans of all national parks; and to enhance the capacity of local stakeholders to define and implement climate smart adaptation strategies.
- 2. Climate change mitigation and sustainable forest management (SFM) including activities: to strengthen policies in forest legality through the FLEGT programme and implementation of the Intersectoral Pact for Legal Timber; to develop incentives (REDD and/or PES payments) for SFM that benefit local livelihoods; and to build the capacity of local governments (municipalities), communities and civil society organizations (e.g. community councils, indigenous federations) to more effectively negotiate and engage in PES and REDD/REDD+ mechanisms.
- 3. Reduction and/or avoidance of impacts derived from natural forests landscape transformation from oil palm, mining and infrastructure development. This include activities: to empower CSOs to participate and influence local stakeholders' decision-making on infrastructure development; and to push forward the adoption of the national oil palm suitability map.

The overall vision of the Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems programme is that by 2020, the forest ecosystems of the focal intervention areas are resilient to climate change and ecologically healthy, governed equitably, and provide ecosystem goods and services for the well-being of local communities and economic development.

## **Emphasis to date on climate-smart principles**

Table 5 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of 3 staff of the Resilient Forest Ecosystems programme on the emphasis of the programme to date on the 12 climate smart principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revision of its results at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis identifies 9 principles as having had strong emphasis:

- Helping people adapt to climate change
- Ecosystem-based adaptation
- Climate change mitigation
- Ecosystem resilience to climate change
- Do no harm re climate vulnerability of people/nature
- Adaptive management & learning-by-doing

- Reduce other environmental stressors
- Focusing on the future not past
- Use of climate science/local knowledge

A stakeholder workshop was convened in Mocoa and attended by WWF staff from Bogotá, Cali and the field office in Mocoa as well as local implementing partners, representatives of local government agencies, and beneficiaries. Prior to the workshop, WWF PPA staff from Bogotá and Cali were asked to select some of the climate smart and pro poor principles that they thought would be relevant and interesting to their work in Mocoa. In making their selection they also considered which principles were appropriate to discuss with local actors considering their knowledge of the WWF PPA interventions. A total of six climate smart principles were selected (see table 19).

During the workshop, participants were split into 4 groups to discuss the extent to which the 6 climate smart principles have been emphasised in WWF's work to date. The groups were 1) WWF local beneficiaries 2) WWF national and field/local staff 3) WWF's local implementing partners and 4) representatives of government agencies. Unlike the mapping exercise which considered the PPA program as a whole, this exercise focused on the work in the Amazon Piedmont including Upper Caquetá, Upper Putumayo and Middle Putumayo.

As can be seen in Table 19, there was a broad amount of agreement between the four groups on the emphasis given to the 6 CC principles. In particular, the groups agreed that there has been a strong emphasis in WWF's work in the Amazon Piedmont on the CS principles:

- 1a) Contribute to building the adaptive capacity of local communities (CBA + EBA))
- 1b Contribute to ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at landscape level (EBA)

Key differences between groups can be explained by a lack of clarity regarding the principle or a lack of knowledge on the breath of the programme. This includes, for example, the climate smart principle 7) "reduce other environmental stresses so as not to exacerbate climate-induced impacts". WWF felt that this principle has been strongly emphasised in their interventions, whereas the beneficiaries, partners and government agency representatives did not know, and in some cases did not fully understand the principle.

What is striking from considering Table 5 and Table 19 is that those principles that different groups agreed have been strongly emphasised are consistent with those highlighted in the mapping exercise undertaken by three WWF PPA staff. This is also true for those principles that have received less emphasis such as:

 Avoid or mitigate activities that may increase the vulnerability of people or nature to climate change.

WWF staff highlighted in the discussion that they are not collecting monitoring data that would allow them to understand whether their conservation interventions are having a negative impact on the vulnerability of people and nature to climate change.

Table 19: Climate-smart principles - emphasis to date (stakeholder workshop)

| Principle CS                               | Beneficiaries | WWF | Partners | Gov.<br>represent-<br>tatives |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|-----|----------|-------------------------------|
| Contribute to climate change adaptation of |               |     |          |                               |
| local communities                          |               |     |          |                               |
| Contribute to maintaining/ enhancing       |               |     |          |                               |
| ecosystem services that support            |               |     |          |                               |
| adaptation.                                |               |     |          |                               |
| "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities |               |     |          |                               |
| that may increase the vulnerability of     |               |     |          |                               |
| people or nature to climate change         |               |     |          |                               |
| Adopt adaptive management and              |               |     |          |                               |
| learning- by-doing to reflect changing     |               |     |          |                               |
| climate conditions and uncertainties       |               |     |          |                               |
| Reduce other environmental stresses so as  |               |     |          |                               |
| not to exacerbate climate-induced impacts  |               |     |          |                               |
| Make use of best available climate science |               |     |          |                               |
| including local knowledge                  |               |     |          |                               |

# **Emphasis to date on pro-poor principles**

Table 6 in the previous section shows the perception of a small group of 3 staff of the Resilient Forest Ecosystems programme on the emphasis of the programme to date on the 11 pro-poor principles. Based on the initial remote mapping process and subsequent revision of its results at the PPA team workshop in May 2016, this analysis identifies 4 principles as having had significant to strong emphasis:

- National sustainable development
- Avoid/mitigate negative social impacts
- Recognise & protect rights of marginalised
- Participation and access to information

Table 20: Pro-poor principles - emphasis to date (stakeholder workshop)

| Principles S&G                             | Beneficiaries | WWF | Partners | Gov.<br>represent-<br>tatives |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|-----|----------|-------------------------------|
| Enhance wellbeing of local people at       |               |     |          |                               |
| conservation sites                         |               |     |          |                               |
| Contribute to ecosystem services critical  |               |     |          |                               |
| for wellbeing at landscape level           |               |     |          |                               |
| Recognise and protect the rights of        |               |     |          |                               |
| marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples    |               |     |          |                               |
| and local communities.                     |               |     |          |                               |
| "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities | ?!            |     |          |                               |
| that may create or exacerbate poverty.     | ••            |     |          |                               |
| Recognise differences in distribution of   |               |     |          |                               |
| social impacts of conservation between     |               |     |          |                               |
| men and women, rich and poor               |               |     |          |                               |
| Ensure participation in decision making    |               |     |          |                               |
| and access to information by poor,         |               |     |          |                               |
| women, Indigenous Peoples and other        |               |     |          |                               |
| marginalised groups.                       |               |     |          |                               |

#### Key

|               | Low | High   |
|---------------|-----|--------|
| Don't<br>know | No  | Medium |

In the Mocoa workshop there was a broad amount of agreement between the four groups on the emphasis given to the 6 PP principles (see table 20). In particular, the groups agreed that there has been a strong emphasis in WWF's work in the Amazon Piedmont on the PP principles:

- 1a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites.
- 1b) Contribute to ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at landscape level

•

There were different perspectives for the two governance related pro poor principles:

- 4) Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- 9) Ensure participation in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous Peoples and other marginalised groups.

This can be explained by an oversight in the design of the stakeholder workshop which resulted in WWF Colombia's governance team's and its local partners not being included in the workshop participants list.

#### **Priority principles going forward**

At the end of the stakeholder workshop participants were given the opportunity to vote on the sub-selection of climate smart pro poor principles. Stakeholders were asked to vote for the principles they thought should be priorities for the future of the Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems programme. Participants were given 6 votes each that they could use to prioritise across any of the 12 principles. Accordingly, a nil vote does not necessarily imply that a particular principle was considered unimportant, but that it was considered less important that the other principles presented. Altogether, 9 WWF staff, 6 beneficiaries, 5 local partners, and 4 government officials participated in this exercise.

The 9 WWF staff (representing staff from Bogotá, Cali and the field office in Mocoa) mainly prioritised climate smart principles including:

- 1a) Contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities (15 % of votes).
- 1d) Contribute to maintaining/ enhancing ecosystem services that support adaptation (11 % of votes).
- 7) Reduce other environmental stresses so as not to exacerbate climateinduced impacts (11 % of votes).
- 9) Make use of best available climate science including local knowledge (15 % of votes).

One pro poor principle gained more attention from the WWF staff:

• 1b) Contribute to ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at landscape level (11 % of votes).

Few or no votes were given by the WWF staff to one climate smart and three propoor principles:

- 3) "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities that may increase the vulnerability of people or nature to climate change (6 % of votes).
- 3) "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities that may create or exacerbate poverty (4 % of votes).
- 4) Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation between men and women, rich and poor (4 % of votes).
- 7) Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities (o % of votes)

Table 21: Pro-poor principles to be given greater emphasis going forward.

|                                               |     |          | Government      |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------------|---------------|
| PRO-POOR PRINCIPLES                           |     |          | agency          |               |
|                                               | WWF | Partners | representatives | Beneficiaries |
| 1a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at      |     |          |                 |               |
| conservation sites                            | 7%  | 20%      | 13%             | 14%           |
| 1b) Contribute to ecosystem services critical |     |          |                 |               |
| for wellbeing at landscape level              | 11% | 17%      | 13%             | 8%            |
| 3) "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate            |     |          |                 |               |
| activities that may create or exacerbate      |     |          |                 |               |
| poverty .                                     | 0%  | 0%       | 0%              | 3%            |
| 4) Recognise differences in distribution of   |     |          |                 |               |
| social impacts of conservation between        |     |          |                 |               |
| men and women, rich and poor                  | 4%  | 3%       | 17%             | 14%           |
| 7) Recognise and protect the rights of        |     |          |                 |               |
| marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples       |     |          |                 |               |
| and local communities                         | 4%  | 3%       | 4%              | 0%            |
| 9) Ensure participation in decision making    |     |          |                 |               |
| and access to information by poor, women,     |     |          |                 |               |
| Indigenous Peoples and other marginalised     |     |          |                 |               |
| groups.                                       | 7%  | 3%       | 8%              | 3%            |

# Key:

0-5%

6- 10 %

>11 %

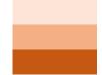


Table 22: Climate-smart principles to be given greater emphasis going forward

|                                               |     |          | Government      |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------------|---------------|
| CLIMATE-SMART PRINCIPLES                      |     |          | agency          |               |
|                                               | WWF | Partners | representatives | Beneficiaries |
| 1a) Contribute to climate change adaptation   |     |          |                 |               |
| of local communities                          | 15% | 13%      | 8%              | 6%            |
| 1b) Contribute to maintaining/ enhancing      |     |          |                 |               |
| ecosystem services that support adaptation.   | 11% | 13%      | 8%              | 11%           |
| 3) "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities |     |          |                 |               |
| that may increase the vulnerability of people |     |          |                 |               |
| or nature to climate change                   | 6%  | 3%       | 0%              | 8%            |
| 6) Adopt adaptive management and              |     |          |                 |               |
| learning- by-doing to reflect changing        |     |          |                 |               |
| climate conditions and uncertainties          | 9%  | 10%      | 13%             | 8%            |
| 7) Reduce other environmental stresses so     |     |          |                 |               |
| as not to exacerbate climate-induced          |     |          |                 |               |
| impacts                                       | 11% | 7%       | 4%              | 11%           |
| 9) Make use of best available climate science |     |          |                 |               |
| including local knowledge                     | 15% | 7%       | 13%             | 14%           |



There are some interesting similarities between the principles prioritised by different stakeholder groups (see Table 21 and 22). WWF partners, government agency representatives and beneficiaries broadly agreed with those climate smart principles that WWF prioritised. For example, WWF partners agreed that priority should be given to 1a) Contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities. WWF partners and beneficiaries similarly felt that attention should be given to 1d) Contribute to maintaining/enhancing ecosystem services that support adaptation. Additionally, the representatives of government agencies and beneficiaries agreed that WWF should prioritise, 9) Make use of best available climate science including local knowledge.

There are also similarities in those principles that were not prioritised by WWF and stakeholder groups. This includes the pro poor and climate smart 'do no harm principles', which participants felt were not relevant to WWF's practice in the Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems programme. Again, the governance related pro poor principles received little attention and this reflects the fact that there were no WWF Colombia governance specialists involved in the stakeholder workshop, nor their partners, government agencies that they work with, or beneficiaries.

Clearer differences between WWF's and other stakeholder groups' priorities are apparent when considering the subset of pro poor principles. WWF partners, government agency representatives and beneficiaries all prioritised 1a) Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites. This received less attention from WWF staff. However, as noted previously, this does not imply that WWF Colombia staff consider this principle unimportant. Rather it suggests that WWF staff consider this principle less important than those climate smart principles they prioritised. The second difference obvious on table X is the difference in priority assigned to 4) Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation between men and women, rich and poor. While this gained few votes from WWF staff (4 % of votes), it was a clear priority for representatives of government agencies (17 % of votes) and beneficiaries (14 % of votes).

## **WWF Colombia's Climate Smart Principles**

Over the last five years WWF have played an active role in the WWF international network to articulate climate smart conservation, and have developed their own CSC definition:

"Be climate smart means to understand that climate is dynamic and interacts with other environmental conditions and therefore offers complex and variable scenarios for ecological and social systems that needs to be addressed by visionary goals that consciously and deliberately consider the risks, challenges and opportunities of a changing climate" (Guevara et al 2014).

WWF Colombia advance CSC as a dynamic approach and advise (seemingly inspired by Stein *et al* 2014) that CSC needs to include visionary goals, targets and indicators that consciously and deliberately consider the risks, challenges and opportunities of a changing climate. Figure 4 is WWF Colombia's illustration of the key aspects of their CSC definition (Guevara 2016).

Informed by their experience and a review of the published literature, WWF Colombia have compiled their own set of CSC principles. Box 3 summarises the 11 principles that WWF Colombia have identified and expect to reflect in their CSC approach. The principles range from more general principles relating to 'good conservation' practice, such as principles 1-6, and more specific climate related principles such as principles 7-11.

Figure 4 Climate-Smart Conservation

Explicitly incorporates climate as a driving force of both threats and continuous change in the socioecological process and interactions Has a vision of an ecosystem, including its ecological process, diversity and functionality, that supports human wellbeing

Definition of climate-smart conservation

Involves a conscious dialogue about possible conservation futures and the uncertainty on them derived from an observed and projected changing climate

Acknowledges that climate adaptation and resilience building actions are context specific, and that early and appropriate action with demonstrable benefits is needed

# **Box 3: WWF Colombia's Climate Smart Principles**

- 1. Be context specific about climate risks, adaptive capacity and resilience needs assessments, providing context-specific information at different geographical and decision making levels
- 2. Base actions on scientific evidence that is validated by perception analysis.
- 3. Consider experiences and historical records.
- 4. Be impartial and respond to the needs for implementation according to measures identified from the scientific evidence and perception analysis.
- 5. Integrate a systems vision involving different levels and dimensions of the territories.
- 6. Promote participation and multidisciplinary including different stakeholders and social groups.
- 7. Allow for dynamism in order to reduce the uncertainty of levels to reflect the reality of territories.
- 8. Account for the great challenge of generating cultural change.
- 9. Promotes processes that create mechanisms that are constant in time and that are supported by legal, social and political tools.
- 10. Consider the climate smart territories as units to promote processes that can meet the challenges of changing climate context.
- 11. Recognise the importance of overcoming the high levels of uncertainty associated with the potential impacts of climate change and the variability of biodiversity, as well as the ecosystem processes and structures of the territories. One should give high priority to interventions at the local level.

Source: ABUD Melissa, GUEVARA Oscar, "Climate Smart Conservation. Conceptual framework and indicators in the context of the Amazon Piedmont" WWF (2014)

#### 8. Principles in practice

During the case study country visits, the WWF teams shared activities that reflect the climate smart and pro poor principles in action. Some of these illustrations are included in tables 23 and 24, and are intended to provide concrete examples of what the CS and PP principles might look like in practice.

 Table 23: Climate Smart Principles – examples of practice in the case study countries.

| Climate Smart Principle                                                                                                               | Principle in practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1. "Do good": Deliberately contribute to tackling climate change through conservation:                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| a. Contribute to building the resilience/adaptive capacity of local communities (CBA).                                                | WWF Colombia have been working alongside farmers in three micro-catchments to implement climate smart farming. In exchange for the reconversion of productive systems, the farmers receive advice and support on alternative farming practices that are climate resilient and beneficial to livelihoods – examples include planting avocados or blackberries and guinea pig or chicken farming.                                                                                 |  |
| b. Enhance the capacity of ecosystems to reduce climate vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities for people (EBA).                     | WWF Nepal have restored water sources through re planting and natural regeneration, increasing the availability of water for domestic consumption and irrigation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| c. Build ecosystem and species resilience to climate change (conserve adequate and appropriate space to enhance adaptation capacity). | WWF Nepal have undertaken detailed monitoring and assessments of snow leopards in light of climate change which have provided new insights with respect to the timing and scale of their interventions. WWF Nepal have also completed a vulnerability assessment of four biological corridors and biodiversity hotspots, and are working in these areas to ensure and improved connectivity for wildlife with a changing climate.                                               |  |
| d. Contribute to climate change mitigation through emission reductions and removals.                                                  | WWF Nepal has placed strong emphasis on the provision of biogas which reduces pressure on forests and is now seen as also important activity for REDD+. The staff also highlighted work on micro-hydro and improved cooking stoves as contributing to emissions reductions.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| 2. Ensure that project impacts are sustainable in a changing climate (climate proofing).                                              | The SWAUM (Tanzania) programme have intervened in the Great Ruaha River Catchment, straightening the river in areas, and replanting trees on river banks. WWF SWAUM colleagues noted that such interventions are sustainable in a changing climate – though there was disagreement as to whether such interventions were designed with the principle of climate proofing in mind, or whether they were designed with other intentions and incidentally were also climate proof. |  |
| 3. "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate activities that may undermine resilience/adaptive capacity of people and ecosystems.               | WWF Colombia have been working with National Parks to strengthen the capacity of PA managers to mainstream climate change in to PAs management plans, and to develop concrete adaptation actions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| 4. Recognise differences in distribution of climate change impacts (between localities, between rich and                              | No example available - the WWF staff found that this principle was hard to understand in practice. In particular the meaning of "within communities" was misunderstood, which was supposed to be interpreted as                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |

| poor, between men and women etc.). 5. Identify and manage tradeoffs (between adaptation and mitigation, with adaptation approaches, between CS and other goals). | differences in impact between people living within the same community.  No example available - the WWF staff found this principle was hard to understand in practice. In addition, the concept of a 'trade off' was hard to translate into the languages used in the different case study countries (Swahili, Nepali and Spanish). |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. Adopt adaptive management and learning-by-doing to reflect changing climate conditions and uncertainties.                                                     | For WWF Nepal, at national level there have been changes in programming strategies such as the incorporation of disaster risk reduction in response to climate change, although there was a general consensus that this is not yet reflected in field activities.                                                                  |
| 7. Reduce other<br>environmental stresses (so as<br>not to exacerbate climate-<br>induced impacts).                                                              | WWF Colombia's climate smart farming initiative requests that farmers sign conservation agreements that commit to the reconversion of productive systems in order to safeguard forest areas or restore water springs from degradation.                                                                                             |
| 8. Focus conservation goals on future conditions not just past conditions.                                                                                       | WWF Nepal describe that some attention is given to future conditions typically in exercises of modelling of ecological functioning or specific species' distribution. However, there is little attention beyond this in practice.                                                                                                  |
| 9. Prioritise actions based on<br>use of best available climate<br>science and knowledge<br>(including Traditional<br>Ecological Knowledge)                      | WWF Colombia are currently undertaking an exercise to determine indicators of climate resilience that can be used by farmers in the Amazon Piedmont. The indicators are informed by the scientific literature and farmers' own knowledge and experience.                                                                           |

 Table 24: Pro Poor Principles – examples of practice in the case study countries.

| Pro Poor Principle                                                                               | Principle in practice in the case study country                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1. "Do good": Deliberately contribute to improving human well-being through conservation:        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| a. Enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites.                                      | WWF Nepal provides support to a number of community development projects, for example homestay tourism and forest based income generating activities to enhance the wellbeing of local people at conservation sites.       |  |
| b. Ensure delivery of<br>ecosystem services critical for<br>wellbeing at the landscape<br>level. | The SWAUM (Tanzania) programme's catchment wide focus of the Great Ruaha River considers the practices of upstream users of water to ensure that those downstream, the 'tail-enders', receive a good quality water supply. |  |
| c. Contribute to national sustainable development.                                               | WWF Nepal are playing a leading role in contributing to national sustainable development in particularly through their support to the development of national REDD+.                                                       |  |

|                                                                                                                                                           | WWF staff have been facilitating the ER-PIN (Emissions Reductions Program Idea Note) for Nepal's submission to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Deliberately target benefits at the poorest or more vulnerable groups.                                                                                 | WWF Nepal's support of community development projects may target the poorest (or ultra poor as often referred to in Nepal) or more disadvantage groups, but this is typically incidental. The staff noted that of primary importance is targeting those people who pose a conservation threat, and at times this means targeting the poor – though the beneficiaries may not always be the poorest, as certain interventions (such as alternative livelihood interventions) require start-up capital and land, which the poorest do not typically own or have access to. |
| 3. "Do no harm": Avoid or mitigate negative social impacts that create or exacerbate poverty.                                                             | In Nepal, WWF colleagues noted that their conservation-<br>related activities have led to an increase in human<br>wildlife conflict (HWC). To ameliorate the negative social<br>impacts of HWC, WWF Nepal have been supporting<br>rapid response teams and providing compensation to<br>those affected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 4. Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation (between men and women, rich and poor etc) ie Social differentiation.          | WWF Nepal described that they have recently begun more in-depth monitoring using socio-economic indicators so that they can consider more carefully this principles in their future interventions. All the WWF case study programmes noted that their programmes have a strong gender dimension – though, in terms of understanding differences in social impacts on women, no concrete examples were identified.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 5. Identify and manage trade-<br>offs (between different<br>groups of poor people,<br>between different PP<br>approaches, between PP and<br>other goals). | No example available - the WWF staff found this principle was hard to understand in practice. In addition, the concept of a 'trade off' was hard to translate into the languages used in the different case study countries (Swahili, Nepali and Spanish).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 6. Ensure equity in distribution of costs and benefits at different levels and between different groups                                                   | In Nepal, WWF have been targeting community development projects at those individuals or communities that are engaged in forest management, thereby rewarding their contribution to conservation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 7. Recognise and protect the rights of marginalised groups, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.                                                     | WWF Colombia have been providing legal advice and capacity building to watchdog groups in the Amazon Peidmont to strengthen citizen oversight of the government's regional Plan de Manejo Ambiental y Social Integrado y Sostenible (Environmental, Social, Integrated and Sustainable Management Plan for the influence area of the San Francisco Mocoa road).                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 8. Focus conservation efforts on species and/or sites that are important to poor people.                                                                  | If this principle is strictly applied, there are no examples of practice from the three PPA case studies. WWF Colombia felt that this principle could be moderately emphasised in their programme as many of the sites that they target for conservation are in places where there is                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                        | high poverty – though this is incidental, rather than deliberate targeting of species or sites that are of importance to the poor.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9. Ensure participation in decision making and access to information by poor, women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups. | The SWAUM (Tanzania) programme's multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) is a key mechanism for providing representatives of the poor and disadvantaged with the opportunity to participate in dialogue with local decision makers. In the days prior to convening all the stakeholders in MSP meetings (including staff of the local government), the SWUAM team provide representatives of the poor and disadvantaged a safe space to convene, share information and discuss key issues they would like to highlight at the MSP. |

# 9. Learning histories

A "learning history" was conducted in each case study visit to explore the Programmes' CSPPC "journey" over time, and the lessons learned along the way. The exercise was completed with staff that represent WWF country headquarters and field/site level staff who support programme implementation. The learning history approach was adapted from a methodology (Colvin *et al* 2013) used by WWF Nepal and WWF Colombia to map the development of their climate change adaptation and climate-smart conservation practice and focused on capturing:

- Key interventions/events/outputs that have influenced the respective PPA programme's goals and strategies;
- Motivation for the interventions/events/outputs; and
- Learning that resulted from the interventions/events/outputs.

The learning history summary figures for each programme are provided in Annex 1.

Considering all of the case study countries' learning histories, with the exception of Colombia, it is clear that pro-poor conservation practice began earlier than climate smart conservation practice. In particular, WWF Nepal staff described pro-poor practice as dating back over two decades to the 1990s with WWF's involvement in the SAGUN project (led by CARE) (Forestry Nepal Website 2016), which established community forestry user groups and strengthened their governance. Additionally, the WWF Nepal staff underlined that, over time, pro poor conservation practice has become key to their legitimacy as an NGO operating in Nepal given the historical and socio-political context.

Interestingly, the learning histories of the SWAUM programme in Tanzania and the WWF Nepal programme (as a whole) revealed differences in perspectives regarding who should be reached through pro-poor conservation practice. SWAUM field team representatives from Iringa detailed a preference for using the term 'disadvantaged people' rather than 'poor people' as the programme's beneficiaries, and this appeared to be motivated by the local government's preference for this term. That said, the team also underlined that by working with 'tail enders' of a large water catchment the SWAUM programme does not necessarily engage the most disadvantages, but rather those whose voices are marginalised and not heard in decision making about water management.

In Nepal, there was a rich discussion regarding the definition of pro-poor. The WWF representatives from the headquarters in Kathmandu noted that pro poor conservation practice began with a development focused definition of pro-poor practice that emphasises the poorest of the poor, which WWF Nepal are now amending and moulding from a conservation perspective. Staff noted that in the Nepal context pro poor should not be considered an absolute term but a relative term. They added that from the WWF Nepal perspective, it should also take into consideration that their primary objective is to work with those poor people who are dependent on the forest. The WWF staff from the headquarters and field team additionally suggested that different approaches to pro poor conservation practice are likely needed in the different landscapes WWF Nepal works. Therefore it might be appropriate in some places to target the poorest of the poor while in other places it might be more effective from a conservation perspective to tackle the 'middle poor'.

For Colombia, the pro poor framing is inappropriate to the historical and socio-political context, and WWF Colombia do not use the term. As such, WWF Colombia's learning history exercise focused mainly on climate smart conservation practice which has been a key part of the country's strategy since mid-2000s. WWF Colombia's journey to climate smart conservation practice can be expressed in three stages:

- Considering climate change in conservation (2006 2008)
- 2. Reflexive learning and new opportunities for projects related to the theme of climate change (2009-2011).

3. Mainstreaming climate change, not just in their partners and collaborators activities, but also across all of WWF Colombia's programming and activities (2011-2016).

Initially motivated by a team member's attendance of a climate camp in Washington, over time WWF Colombia have become motivated to be leaders in climate smart conservation practice in WWF's international network. WWF Colombia are one of the only PPA programmes to have articulated a definition of climate smart conservation, and as described in the case study, are currently developing a set of principles based on the scientific literature and their experience in the last decade.

Over the last five years, climate smart conservation has become an important theme for the SWAUM programme in response to a drive across the WWF network to integrate climate change into conservation work as well as increasing local concerns about a changing climate. This increased awareness of, and attention to, climate change was picked up in Phase 2 of the programme where a number of the collaborative initiatives that form the core of the programme are focussed on technologies for climate change adaptation and mitigation (for example planting indigenous trees, reducing deforestation through fuel efficient stoves etc.).

WWF Nepal established their climate and energy unit in 2003, and following this their focus has been on energy, forestry and in particular REDD, and vulnerability assessments. The team noted that in the last five years they have begun to emphasise adaptation and resilience in national policy and practice. This can been seen in WWF Nepal's well developed integrated approach to climate change adaptation which combines community-based and ecosystem based adaptation.

Both WWF Nepal and the SWAUM team highlighted in their learning histories that a key challenge is interpreting scientific findings regarding climate change to action orientated practice. The SWAUM team underlined that this has meant that the adaptation strategy that was developed for their programme is yet to be implemented as it lacks specific recommendations for the sub-catchments of focus. The team also added that into the future they need to build understanding on how to merge scientific knowledge on climate change with local knowledge.

Each case study programme considered pro poor conservation and climate smart conservation as separate, and there was only one example of practice that bridged pro poor and climate smart conservation practice. This example can be found in

WWF Nepal's learning history and relates to their REDD+ work which is climate smart as it is addressing climate mitigation, and pro poor as it is seeking to ensure that REDD+ considers social impacts and people's resource rights. The lack of evidence of synergies between pro-poor and climate smart learning suggests that this is an area that warrants further attention if CSPPC (and now CSPCC) is to be significantly more than the sum of the parts.

The journeys described of pro poor and climate smart conservation practice for each of the three case study countries imply rich learning experiences that will have undoubtedly strongly influenced both programme strategy and practice. Much of this learning is undocumented and risks being lost with staff changes and as programmes end and new ones begin. An exception is WWF Colombia, who have captured some of their advances in learning on climate smart conservation in a technical publication (Guevara *et al* 2014) and in the development of their climate-smart conservation principles that will guide future programming. In their learning history, WWF Nepal recognise that sharing learning needs to happen across PPA programmes, but also within PPA programmes such between field and headquarters country staff.

Highlights of key learnings from this exercise include for WWF staff of the SWUAM programme in Iringa the experience of the multi-stakeholder process as illustrating the importance of the pro-poor principle on poor peoples' access to information and participation in decision making. The team described that they have learnt to provide space prior to multi-stakeholder workshops for local people to get together and think through some of the issues they want to raise prior to the arrival of the other more powerful stakeholders in water catchment decision making (eg local government officials).

In Nepal, the WWF staff noted that their experience has informed them that adaptation to climate change must be a learning process that involves the community. The staff emphasised that it is not sufficient for only them to know that a certain activity is being implemented to build adaptive capacity and resilience, the community also needs to understand why they are being supported.

A final reflection on the learning histories relates to the motivations given for specific events detailed by the WWF staff. Some of these motivations can be linked directly to the principles of CSPPC. Examples include the provision of alternative livelihoods in the first phase of the SWAUM programme to ensure that conservation 'does no harm'. In Nepal, an increased emphasis on governance and

social inclusion has been motivated by the desire to promote equity in the distribution of costs and benefits of conservation. For WWF Colombia, the ambition to contribute to climate change adaptation of local communities has driven the use of vulnerability assessments and more recently the development of resilience indicators. Of course, this exercise cannot judge the efficacy of such activities to address the given principle, but it does show that the intentions of CSPPC are present in the PPA case studies' conservation practice.

### 10. Discussion

#### 10.1 CSPPC mapping and characterisation

Both the initial mapping and the more in depth characterisation in the three case study countries reveal big differences in the emphasis given to different principles within a single programme and differences in emphasis given to the same principle between programmes/countries. Broadly speaking these differences can be attributed to one or more of the following factors:

- a. Differences in understanding of the technical content of the principles and/or the notion of a principle. Such differences may be reduced to a relatively low level of significance through improvements in the learning process and specific tools.
- b. Differences in context (social, governance, institutional, environmental).

  These are inevitable for example in the case of Nepal where making a contribution to the national poverty reduction agenda is essential for the legitimacy of all NGOs irrespective of their organisational mission.
- c. Differences in the objectives and strategies of different programmes and their components. This is also inevitable according to the overall goals and strategies of the country programme but there is also an issue at least for some principles of whether a certain level of emphasis is required by WWF international policies irrespective of the goals and strategies of the country programme. In other words, while there is no universal prescription there will be some minimum standards. That said, it is important to emphasise that this framework of CSPPC principles is not a substitute for specific WWF organisational policies rather it is a framework for learning through self-assessment that should help to strengthen application of these policies.

- d. *Differences in priorities of different partners and other types of stakeholder in a programme*. For the purposes of this learning initiative these stakeholders can be broadly grouped into:
  - WWF staff at head office level
  - WWF staff at field level
  - Partners who share responsibility and resources for programme implementation
  - Other collaborating organisations who are not partners in the strict sense defined above
  - Members of communities where the programme works. This group can be further unpacked into specific stakeholder groups eg men, women, resource users, most vulnerable etc.

In Tanzania there were significant differences in perspective between WWF staff and partners regarding the importance of the pro-poor 'do no harm' principle, the extent to which the programme is or should be emphasising the contribution to national sustainable development, and on the 'do no harm' principle on the climate-smart side. Also in Nepal there were significant differences in perspective particularly in relation to the 'do no harm' pro-poor principle, and, in this case, the principle on targeting the poorest, while on the climate-smart side there was a substantial difference in priority given to helping people adapt to climate change, notably between people based in Kathmandu and people based in the field. In Colombia the most significant difference on the pro-poor related to participation with local partners giving this less emphasis, and addressing other environmental stressors on the climate-smart side - WWF staff giving this more emphasis but perhaps more because partners and beneficiaries did not have a clear understanding of the principle.

Differences between WWF HQ, WWF field staff and implementing partners may cause problems as, in effect, it means that different people engaged in implementing a programme may have different objectives (ie are pulling/pushing in somewhat different directions) and/or may be applying different programming standards. This can lead to weak performance in achieving programme goals, inefficiency in project

implementation and weakness in applying organisational policies. Staff changes will further exacerbate the situation.

Differences between the priorities of WWF and its implementation partners, and different stakeholder groups within communities are inevitable in many situations and are evident in all the case studies. It is important to understand these differences, and in some cases it may be important to try to reduce differences through awareness raising, capacity building and other activities.

The mapping and characterisation results also raise several key issues in relation to programming goals and strategies. The following sections discuss some of the more significant issues that appear to be common to more than one programme.

### Ecosystem-based adaptation and building ecosystem resilience

Many participants in the stakeholder workshops in the three case study countries seemed to have difficulty understanding the difference between building ecosystem resilience for its own sake (ie species and ecosystem conservation) and building ecosystem resilience in order to help people adapt to climate change which is the now widely accepted definition of ecosystem-based adaptation. The objectives of the two are different and thus the strategies will be different — geographic targeting, priority interventions etc. While there are certainly synergies in addressing both objectives together there are also trade-offs that may reduce the level of achievement of versus project goals and targets.

#### Targeting the poorest

In Nepal and Tanzania there were real differences in views over what is meant by "the poorest" – does this mean the ultra-poor who are verging on destitute, does this mean the absolute poor who are below the national poverty line, or does this mean the relatively poor who may not be below the poverty line but could be considered "poorest" relative to the relatively wealthy. In the context of both the CSPPC principles and WWF policy more broadly it will be helpful to clarify this point. While we cannot generalise as to what the term means as the interpretation will often be country specific we can say that the term should be used in relation to a minority of people within the community ie in a way that helps to clarify targeting. Whether or not WWF programmes should target this group is a different issue, and within Nepal at least there is a growing feeling that it is neither

very practical nor very productive in terms of conservation goals to target the poorest. This discussion of the meaning of "poorest" is also complicated by the fact that the term "poor" is considered politically incorrect in some countries. This was an issue in both Tanzania and Colombia. In the case of Tanzania the preferred term is "disadvantaged" but so long as its understood to mean the same as poor (which we believe it is) then the logic presented above still applies, albeit with different terminology.

#### Focusing on sites/species that are important to the poor

This principle is drawn from one particular paper within the conservation literature which advocates that pro-poor conservation starts with the selection of where you work and that the top criteria in this selection process would be the interests and rights of poor people – in other words the level of benefits of biodiversity conservation to local people would be a more important site selection criteria than contribution to national and global biodiversity conservation goals in other words that contribution to these national and global goals would be regarded as a "co-benefit" of the programme (Kaimowitz and Shiel 2007). There was quite a lot of confusion around this principle with many people thinking that it refers to the selection of specific sites within a larger site or landscape that will normally have been selected according to national and global conservation priorities. It is unlikely that a global conservation organisation like WWF would will have many programmes/projects where the primary site selection criteria is benefits of conservation to local people ie the overall targeting strategy is primary based on community interests. However the Rumaki programmes appears to be in this category and likewise, and for similar reasons, the CARE-WWF coastal conservation programme in Mozambique, and a number (but not all) of the Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) programmes/projects in southern Africa. CBNRM is an interesting case in point an intervention that was originally started (CAMPFIRE in Zimbabwe) to contribute to development of local communities but then, as it proved its success, it was taken up by other conservation and development agencies, in some cases with the original focus on benefits to communities and in other cases more as a means to achieve national and global conservation goals.

#### Do no harm

The term 'do no harm' comes from the Hippocratic Oath of the medical profession. In a medical context the principle can be interpreted as "the cure must not be worse than the disease and the intervention must not

destroy (or harm) that which it is meant to help". Over the last 20 years it has been widely adopted by humanitarian and development agencies (Wallace 2015). In conservation the term has often been used in the literal sense of avoid negative social and environmental impacts of any kind, but a more nuanced interpretation is clearly since it is not always possible or even desirable to avoid all negative social impacts (e.g stopping rich elites from profiting from illegal poaching has negative impacts). A discussion on this issue facilitated by CARE (which applies the DNH principle to its humanitarian work) suggested that a more appropriate interpretation for conservation would be "effectively apply the mitigation hierarchy to address any potential negative social impacts i.e. avoid/reduce negative impacts, and, where there is residual negative impact, restore livelihoods/resilience to ensure an equitable and just outcome". Thus the two DNH principles in our revised CSPPC framework (see next section) are framed in terms of modifying as well as avoiding conservation-related activities (that may increase the vulnerability of people or nature to climate change or that may create or exacerbate poverty and/or marginalisation).

#### 10.2 Using a framework of principles

Using a framework of principles as the basis for facilitating learning and characterising the programming approach of a programme or project is common practice – for example in safeguards information systems for REDD+. Principles are also commonly used in a normative way to define how a programme or project should be, for example in the national policies of policies and the operational policies of specific organisations. WWF itself has a number of organisation policies related to climate smart and pro-poor programming that explicitly include specific principles or implicitly infer such principles. In this CSPPC learning initiative we are using principles in the former sense i.e. a characterisation framework and, furthermore, for the purposes of learning rather than evaluation. This is still the case where programmes are identifying priority principles that should be more strongly emphasised going forward as this is a relative judgement (i.e. this principle needs more emphasis than we have given it in the past) rather than normative judgement (we must give more emphasis to this principle to fully align with organisational policies). As with the principles in WWF operational policies, WWF could use the CSPPC principles in this more normative sense but this is not the intention in this learning initiative.

A major challenge in using principles as the basis for programme characterisation has been ensuring that participants in the process actually understand the principles. Given that this is a learning initiative our initial thinking was to reframe the principles as 1-2 questions (ie like research questions) but this did not work very well because in most cases the questions ended up narrowing the scope of the principle, ie focusing on a more specific issue or sub-set of issues. Therefore we have concluded that it is better to use the principles as they stand but put more emphasis on ensuring a good understanding of what a principle is in generic terms and then the particular idea embodied in a particular principle.

Part of the challenge of ensuring good and common understanding of a given principle relates to the meaning of specific technical terms within that principle. In some cases the issue is a general tendency to conflate related terms such as poor, vulnerable and marginalised which actually have different meanings. Another challenge is terms that are inherently complex technical concepts such as the notions of a trade-off, mitigation (in the impact assessment/risk reduction sense), equity and participation. Correct translation of principles and key terms into local languages adds to the challenge.

Despite all the challenges with the use of principles as the basis of a learning framework the experience of this approach within this learning initiative has been generally positive and the experience has enabled further refinement of the framework to produce something that we believe will be useful both within WWF and more broadly.

One other key point relating to the use of principles relates to the difference between understanding the meaning of the principle in plain English (Nepali, Swahili or Spanish) and then contextualising and applying this idea to a particular programming theme. Where a principle is not new, people already have an idea of what it means for them (for example targeting the poorest) and there is a need to go through a proper learning process to enable people to look at a key idea from a different perspective. In designing this Learning Initiative we underestimated the significance of this point so that in some cases participants were only getting to the point of really understanding the breadth of meaning of a key principle at the end of the process whereas this level of understanding was necessary at the start before moving into using the principles to characterise the programme approach. Good suggestions to address this constraint include providing several examples of common applications of each principle, allowing more time for familiarisation with the principles, and, where time is seriously constrained, an up-front scoping

process that narrows the scope of the entire learning initiative to just a subset of the principles. This was actually done in each of the country case studies but in a rather rushed and ad-hoc manner on the first day of the country visit whereas it would have been better to have this discussion as part of the preparation for the visit.

#### 10.3 The process of CSPPC mapping and characterisation

The initial mapping exercise that was completed by all 8 PPA programmes was based on asking the informants to assign a rating to each principle according to the degree to which the programme has to date emphasised that principle, ie strongly (2), significantly but not strongly (1), and not at all (0). As described in section 7, this exercise was actually done at the level of sub-components of the programme (themes or work areas) and then a programme average was calculated. Some programmes found this relatively easy to do while others found it difficult related partly to the extent to which the informants understood the principles and had experience of this type of process. The other challenge was the classification of the programme into sub-components that was done by IIED in advance based on a review of project documentation which in some cases did not align well with the operational reality of the programme has often evolved over time. In future it is recommended that the programmes themselves take the lead in defining the sub-components of the programme.

The in country stakeholder workshops used a different characterisation process based on asking participants (working in stakeholder groups) to first identify a few examples of the particular principle being applied in the programme implementation (policy development and/or practice) and then once they had got a feel for the principle they were asked to propose an overall rating for the programme as a whole versus that particular principle using the same rating system ie strongly (2), significantly but not strongly (1), and not at all (0). This seemed to work well except where participants did not actually understand the principle. As noted earlier, this lack of understanding of the principles was to some degree an issue in all countries - particularly for community representatives and local partners – and highlights a need to invest more time in understanding of the principles prior to any characterisation exercise or, if this is not possible.

#### 10.4 Trade-offs and synergies

Throughout this learning initiative there have been issues about trade-offs – firstly understanding the meaning of the term and then recognising the ways significant

trade-offs might exist. It is important to recognise that such trade-offs exist not only between conservation objectives and some aspects of a climate smart and/or pro-poor approach (eg targeting the poorest vs achieving conservation goals) but also between some of the climate-smart and pro-poor principles (e.g ensuring equity in the distribution of costs and benefits and targeting the poorest).

The challenge of understanding and managing trade-offs is related in part to the thematic focus of most participants which makes it difficult to identify trade-offs that occur between programmatic themes/technical disciplines eg between climate chance mitigation and adaptation or between goals to enhance livelihoods and conservation goals. This weakness in recognising key trade-offs and also in recognising key areas of synergy (the sum being greater that the parts) is a fundamental challenge for programming at the conservation-development-climate change nexus which is arguably much less of an issue within a narrower programming field such as PA management, agriculture, micro-enterprise etc. Since it is not realistic to expect people recruited into WWF from different technical disciplines to have an intuitive grasp of trade-offs and synergies this is an issue that perhaps needs much more attention in the orientation and ongoing training of staff, particularly at middle and senior management levels.

Whilst a number of examples of trade-offs emerged during discussions in the 3 case study countries we were not particularly focusing on this issue and thus not all the examples were captured. Synergies were not a specific discussion point with only a few examples emerging during the learning history process. An obvious example is how REDD+ in Nepal also contributes to adaptation and conservation goals. In the case of conservation goals this is clearly by design but in terms of adaptation the synergy may have been less by design given the relatively low emphasis on ecosystem based adaptation (in the true sense of enhancing the contribution of ecosystem services to human adaptation). Although we now recognises that double/triple wins are in fact rare in conservation, there is still real potential to enhance the impact and value for money of conservation programmes through better managing trade-offs and exploiting potential synergies.

## 11. A revised framework of principles

Based on the discussions during the case study visits to Nepal, Tanzania and Colombia and discussions at the PPA portfolio workshop in May 2016 a revised framework of principles is now proposed (Table 23). Key issues that are reflected in these changes include:

- a) Pro-poor principles. In both Tanzania and Colombia the term pro-poor was considered inappropriate. In Tanzania the issue is around the reframing of the national poverty reduction agenda more in terms of addressing the needs and rights of "disadvantaged groups" and in stakeholder workshops there was significant push-back from government in particular over use of the term "pro-poor". In Colombia the issue is somewhat similar that the national development agenda is not (or no longer) framed in terms of the needs and rights of "the poor", and Indigenous Peoples (who do have a significant voice in Colombia in contrast to Tanzania) do not consider themselves poor. Our proposal therefore is to use the term "people centred conservation principles" rather than "pro-poor conservation principles". This does nothing to clarify what the term actually means but hopefully provides an overall framing that will get more traction, noting that this term is has been fairly widely used (within WWF and more broadly) over the years. Thus the framework becomes a framework of climate smart, people centred conservation (CSPCC) principles.
- b) Sub-categories of CSPCC principles. CSPCC principles have been grouped into four sub-categories - Do Good; Do No Harm; Deal with Risk and Uncertainty; Be Fair. This helps to give the framework more structure - distinguishing to a certain extent between substantive principles (the choice to meet a minimum standard of doing no harm or to proactively strive to positively do good) and procedural principles.
- c) Common principles. These have been renamed as cross cutting principles to reflect the fact that they are common not only to climate smart and people centred approaches but also to good conservation practice generally. Two of the formerly CS and PP principles have also been moved into this category as they apply more broadly (on trade-offs and using best available science).
- d) Building human resilience. Principles 1a) and 1b) in the initial draft principles have been merged because they created a false dichotomy between community based adaptation and ecosystem based adaptation which both aim to enhance human resilience to climate change – largely by different means but good CBA may include elements of EBA and vice versa,

In addition the wording of many of the principles has been clarified to more clearly convey the meaning of the principle.

Compared with the first version, this revised framework is more comprehensive in terms of coverage of key issues, and internally consistent and coherent. That said we recognise that there are still some significant gaps — mainly on the peoplecentred side which does not have a strong emphasis on either rights or governance because the main focus of pro-poor conservation (from which the principles are derived) has generally been the positive and negative impacts of conservation on local peoples livelihoods.

There is no recipe for how much emphasis a given conservation programme should place on each principle. That said, with this framework there is an important distinction to be made between the main principles (1-8) which should be applied at least to some degree by any programme that claims to be climatesmart and people centred, and the sub-principles (1.1-1.5) which are options, each of which can be applied at any level from zero to very strong emphasis.

**Table 25: Draft Principles for Climate Smart and People Centred Conservation.** 

| Climate-smart People-centred Conservation Principles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Climate-smart Conservation<br>Principles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | People Centred Conservation<br>Principles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>Deliberately contribute to tackling climate change through conservation:</li> <li>Deliberately use conservation to contribute to building the resilience of local communities to current and projected climate change.</li> <li>Deliberately conserve adequate and appropriate diversity and space to build ecosystem and species resilience to current and projected climate change.</li> <li>Deliberately use conservation to contribute to climate change mitigation through emission reductions and removals.</li> </ol> | DO GOOD  Do good can be interpreted at 3 different levels of ambition:  Human wellbeing/climate resilience is the primary objective of conservation  Human wellbeing /climate resilience is an important but secondary objective (co-benefit) of conservation  Improve human wellbeing/climate resilience to reduce threats to conservation | <ol> <li>Deliberately contribute to improving human well-being through conservation:</li> <li>Deliberately use conservation to contribute to national sustainable development.</li> <li>Deliberately use conservation to contribute to ecosystem services critical for wellbeing at landscape level.</li> <li>Deliberately use conservation to enhance wellbeing of local people at conservation sites.</li> <li>Deliberately target benefits from conservation at the poorest or more disadvantaged groups.</li> <li>Deliberately focus conservation on species and/or sites that are most important to local people.</li> </ol> |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Avoid or modify conservation-related activities that may increase the vulnerability of people or nature to climate change.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | DO NO HARM  • Human wellbeing/ climate resilience should not be negatively affected by conservation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2. Avoid or modify conservation-<br>related activities that may create or<br>exacerbate poverty and/or<br>marginalisation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |  |  |  |  |

| 3. | Reduce non-climate threats     |
|----|--------------------------------|
|    | to conservation such as        |
|    | pollution or habitat           |
|    | degradation that may           |
|    | increase climate change risks. |

#### Adopt adaptive management and learning- by-doing to reflect changing climate conditions and uncertainties.

- Focus conservation project design on future conditions, not just past, and on managing for change rather than for persistence to enhance sustainability of impacts in a changing climate.
- 6. Recognise differences in distribution of climate vulnerability and impacts between localities, communities, rich and poor, men and women and adjust conservation activities accordingly.
- Ensure that climate vulnerable people participate in decision-making and have access to relevant information.
- 8. Use Traditional Ecological Knowledge to contribute to building climate resilience and/or climate change mitigation.

#### **DEAL WITH** RISK & UNCERTAINTY

#### **BE FAIR**

- Recognise differences in distribution of social impacts of conservation between men and women, rich and poor, local and national levels and adjust conservation activities accordingly to promote equity
- Recognise and promote the rights of communities, groups and individuals, including Indigenous Peoples, poorer people, women, and other disadvantaged groups
- Ensure that Indigenous Peoples, the poor, women, and other disadvantaged groups participate in decision-making and have access to relevant information

### Cross-cutting "best practice" conservation principles<sup>2</sup>

- Understand the local/national context (past, present and future)
- Work across scales (local to global)
- Collaborate and communicate across sectors and disciplines
- D. Use ecosystem/landscape level approaches
- Address the policies, institutions and processes that present barriers to CS or PP achievements
- F. Identify and manage trade-offs between different approaches
- G. Prioritise actions based on use of best available science and knowledge (climate science, biological science etc)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It is essential, in designing and implementing climate-smart people centred conservation interventions, that the "best practice" conservation principles are also applied.

### 12. A typology of people-centred conservation

Building on a typology of pro-poor conservation developed by Roe *et al* in 2004, this learning initiative has developed a typology tool to help programmes think about their climate smart and pro-poor character based on the level of ambition in delivering on climate change resilience and/or mitigation goals (y axis) and ambition in achieving increased human well-being/reducing poverty (x axis). This typology (see figure 4) is based on the "do good" and "do no harm" sections of the framework of CSPCC principles. To qualify as climate-smart and people-centred, a programme should aim to at least do no harm in terms of resilience/mitigation and human well-being, ie sit within the white area. Conversely a programme that sits within the grey shaded area of the first column and the first row could not be considered as having a climate-smart, people-centred approach to conservation.

At the PPA workshop in May 2016 staff from the 8 PPA-supported programmes were asked to discuss the character of their programme with respect to the two axes of this typology and then show this by placing a "post-it" sticker in the appropriate place on the typology – see figure 4. It should be noted that this exercise came right at the end of the workshop with relatively little time for reflection so the output should be regarded more a straw man to simulate further reflection than definitive characterisation. Not surprisingly all PPA programmes fall within the CSPCC area but there appear to be some significant differences. The positioning of programmes in the right-hand column of top row is a particularly significant issue as this indicates that these programmes should be considered as primarily programmes designed to achieve climate change goals (Brazil, Colombia) or enhance human well-being (Rumaki), and secondarily programmes to deliver on national and global conservation objectives.

Figure 4: PPA programmes located in a Typology of climate-smart, people-centred conservation

| does no h                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | esilience and | CLIMATE SMART CONSERVATION                                                                         | cor                                                                                                  | ISET V                                                                                              | Coastal east Africa                                                                                    | n                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| mitigation as its primary objective  Conservation that delivers climate change resillence and/or mitigation as a secondary objective  Conservation that addresses climate change in order to reduce threats to conservation  Conservation that does no harm in terms of climate change resillence and mitigation  Conservation that has no specific focus on climate change resilience or mitigation |               | "BUSINESS AS<br>USUAL"<br>CONSERVATION                                                             | PEOPLE CENTRED CONSERVATION                                                                          |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                        |                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               | Conservation that has<br>no specific focus on<br>reducing<br>poverty/improving<br>human well-being | Conservation that<br>"does no harm" in<br>terms of the well-<br>being of people living<br>in poverty | Conservation that<br>addresses human<br>well-being in order to<br>reduce threats to<br>conservation | Conservation that<br>delivers improved<br>human well-being as<br>a secondary objective<br>(co-benefit) | Conservation that<br>delivers improved<br>human well-being as<br>its primary objective |

# 13. Conclusion

WWF may be unique in using the term "climate-smart pro-poor (or people-centred) conservation" but it should be clear from the literature review and country case studies that the CS and PC principles that have been identified are really nothing new. However, assembling all the principles into one integrated framework does help advance conservation programming in providing a comprehensive and systematic way of looking at the social and climate dimensions of conservation programming, learning from this experience, and thereby strengthening programme design and implementation.

The framework of principles has relevance to all stages in the project cycle including design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation and tools could be developed to apply the framework in each of these stages. A simple tool for design could be a checklist of key issues to be sure to address in designing a project and writing a proposal and this would require further elaboration of a set of key issues under each principle. For implementation the emphasis should be using the framework as the basis for learning by doing, helping to provide a framework and common language for a learning and adaptive management process. If there is interest in using the principles in a more normative way then the principles could be further elaborated as a set of programming standards. Lastly, for M&E a key issue is to be able to assess the relationship between behavioural change related to applying the principles and actual impact in terms of human well-being, climate resilience and biodiversity conservation. It is suggested that WWF UK further explore these options.

It is also important to reflect carefully on the level at which it might be used ie from community level in a particular project up to country office programme strategy. The framework presented in Table 25 has been developed with senior staff working on a project (WWF and partners), and WWF programme staff in mind. It would not be appropriate for use with front line project implementers or community members where, we believe, a rather different approach would be needed.

Using this framework we have identified significant differences between the eight WWF programmes that are supported by the DFID funded PPA. Some of these differences reflect deliberate choices in programme design and the evolution of that design as the programme has progressed. Other differences reflect limitations in understanding and capacity. In some cases there are clear differences in perspective between different

stakeholders in a programme while in other cases there is a strong common consensus. Differences in perspective and priorities between key stakeholders are inevitable to some extent, for example between communities with a focus on well-being at local level and WWF with more of a focus on the contribution of ecosystem services to sustainable development at larger scales and national and global conservation priorities. However significant differences in the priorities of the core partners in programme implementation and/or between WWF staff at HQ and field levels may be a recipe for problems.

This has been a learning initiative not an evaluation or internal programme audit and accordingly the framework on CSPCC principles has been developed and used as tool for learning not a tool for trying to assess compliance of programmes with WWF operational policies (eg on human rights, Indigenous Peoples, gender, poverty and conservation). That said, a programme that aims to be considered climate-smart and people-centred should clearly have a significant level of emphasis on all the main CS and PC principles (1-8), and the cross cutting principles. We have not attempted to draw a line except in relation CS and PC principles 1 and 2 where our CSPC typology does suggests a minimum level of ambition in terms of improving human well-being and contributing to climate change resilience and/or mitigation.

Although this learning initiative has focused on programmes funded by DFID that have improving human well-being as the overall goal, this initiative and learning and the CSPCC principles and typology emerging from it are increasingly relevant to the core business of WWF. By un-packing the meaning of climate smart and pro-poor/people centred conservation and relating this to the overall mission of WWF and the key operational policies of WWF it will be apparent that all WWF programming is striving to be, at least to some degree, climate-smart and people-centred (ie position itself within the white zone of our CSPCC typology). Furthermore, with growing recognition of the significance of climate change in almost every aspect of conservation and sustainable development, and the political reality that conservation will only be effective and sustainable if it is equitable and contributes to sustainable development, the relevance of CSPCC to WWF can only increase over time.

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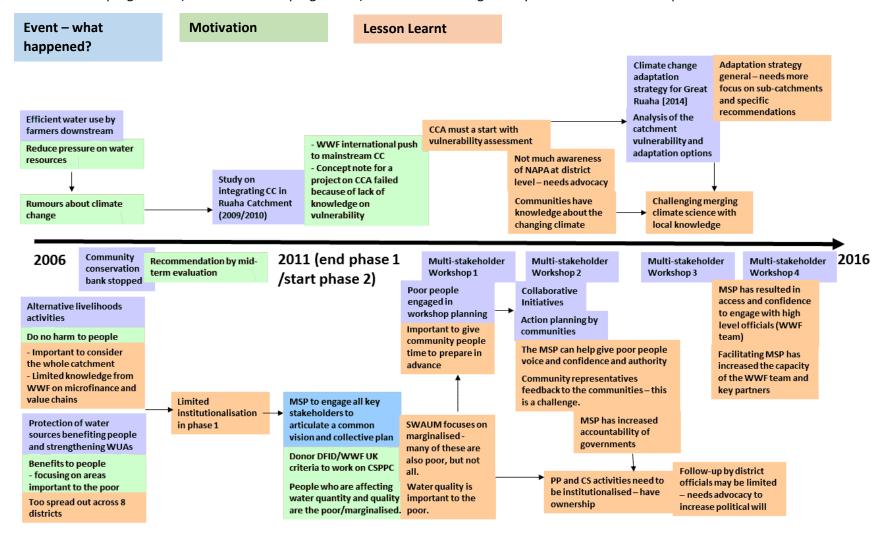
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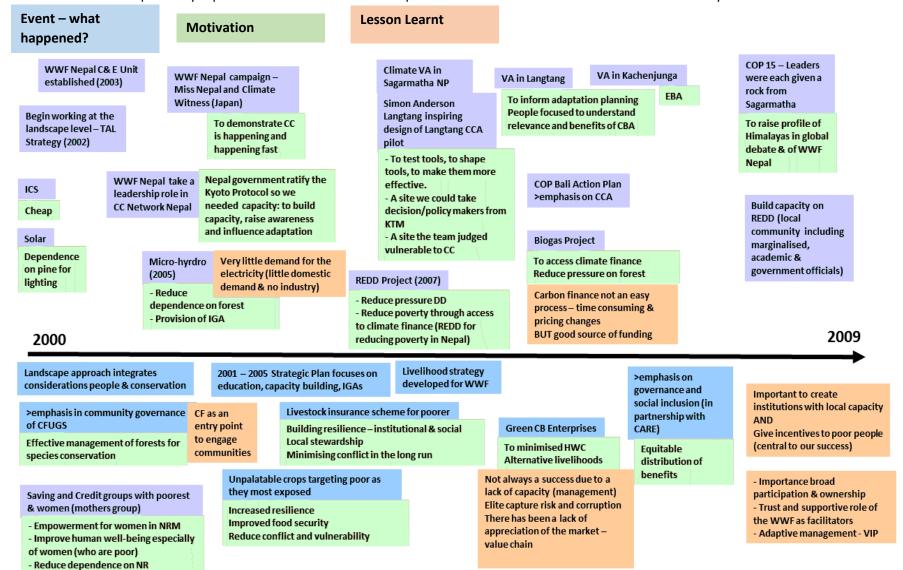
# SWAUM (Tanzania) Learning History

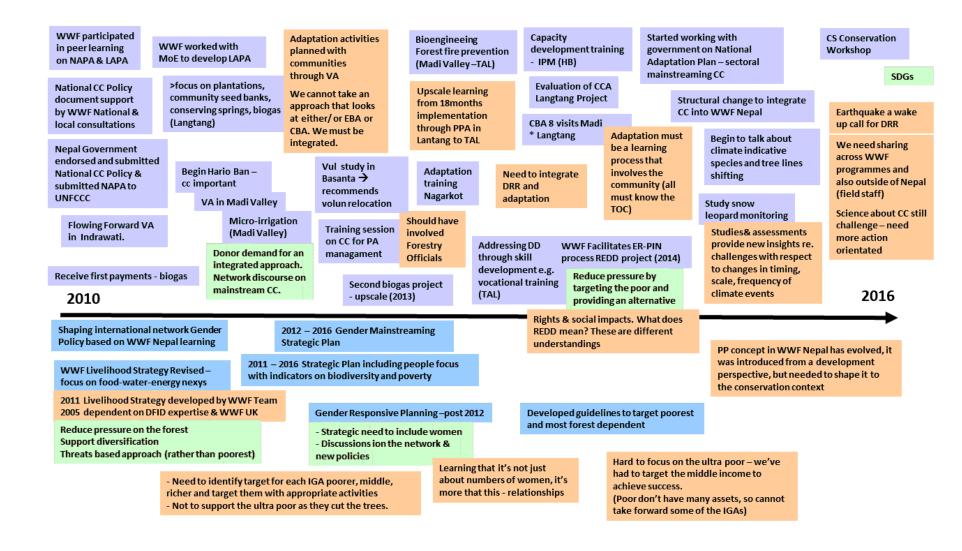
The SWAUM Learning History was completed by the WWF field team in Iringa in January 2016. Few of the team were present for the first phase of the SWAUM programme (the Ruaha Water programme) and so the Learning History focused on the second phase from 2011 onwards.



## Nepal Learning History

The Nepal Learning History focused on the whole of the WWF Nepal programme and was not specific to the WWF PPA programme (i.e. PIPAL). The exercise was completed by representatives of the WWF headquarters and the field team in Kathmandu in February 2016.

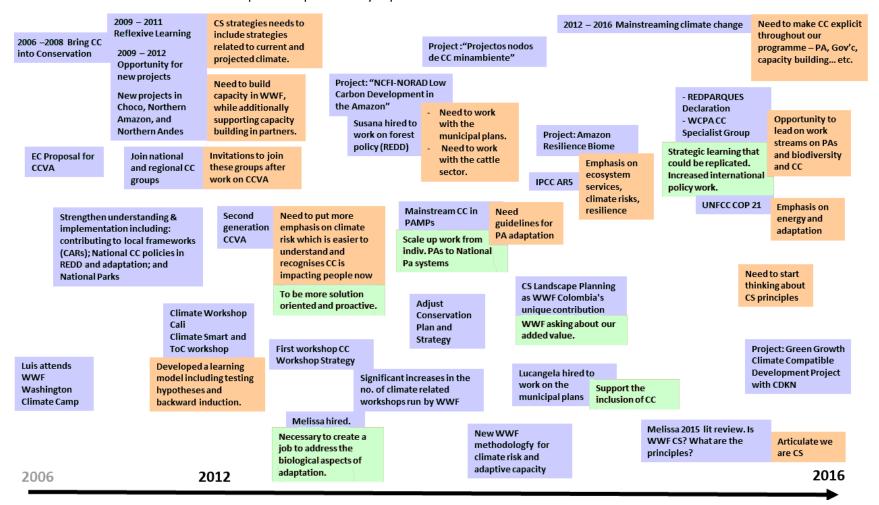




## Colombia Learning Histories

There are two Learning History figures for the WWF Colombia programme. The first Learning history (on this page) focuses on the whole of the Colombia programme and was compiled by representatives of the WWF Headquarters staff in April 2016. The initial part of the history from 2006 – 2012 was assembled using key points from a previous Learning Histories exercise undertaken by the team in 2012.

The second Learning History figure (on this page) focuses on the implementation of the PPA programme Building Resilience in Forest Ecosystems in the Amazon Piedmont. This was compiled in April 2016 by representatives of the WWF field team in Mocoa.



#### La Nina

Analysis of vulnerability of CRO project (2009)

Use the results of the vulnerability analysis to prioritise and implement strategies

Begin working in areas and with partners

Need to interpret the technical concepts

#### PES Scheme 2011

Not viable to use the word payment

Extended implementation & changed the concept from PES to compensation

The was no legal basis to support PES

Started with the baseline for monitoring birds, carbon, capture & water quality

To see if their actions were having an impact

- Sharing results with local people is important for ownership.
- Measured many variables, and had to rely on other partners' help. Need to be less, do it ourselves and understand just what want to achieve by doing it.

Need more support from the national office & diversification of the technical support.

Nino

Certify environmental promoters from the community

Project ICAA

Capacity building on CC to the

- Importance of combining technical results with people's perceptions

2015 - 2016: Adjust indicators of climate change

To evidence what they are doing in the farms - is it CS?

Need to identify indicators at different levels (farm, watershed and municipality)

community and local government

> Included climate change in production within the cattle sector at the department level

Evaluation visits

2012

The conservation of the bear and 'la danta'

Conservation is effective through work with communities

Community environmental

monitoring - specifies

Adaptation project in the buffer zones of PA called Fragua (SCAPES) 2009-2013

Identified the need to work with development plans

2 new positions - governance and policy in Mocoa

New project NICFI/NORAD -Project required them to produce guidelines on CC

Need to scale the work from the farm to the national level - policies and regional planning

Need to strengthen local capacities on CC

Approved 1- municipal agreements on CC. Expanded this work to 10 agreements.

- WWF are recognised at a local level motivates them to do more than the initial goal of 1 plan.
- Also realised that what they are doing is innovative and is being reviewed by the national policies (know what they are doing is relevant to national policy)
- Important to have ambition in your processes and vision
- Projects give continuity to processes.
- Adoption of CC by municipal agreements (achievement rather than a learning)

2016

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#### Why we are here To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature wwf.org.uk

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