

# **Linkages Between Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Alleviation: Lessons from the World Bank Portfolio**

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# **Objective**

To find ways to promote development that encourages biodiversity conservation, improves natural resource management and addresses poverty alleviation.



# Biodiversity at the Bank



- Bank Biodiversity portfolio - 600+ projects valued at \$6 billion 1988-2008
- Varies annually –average \$300m (incl. cofunding)
- Bank lending annually \$60b +
- IBRD loans, IDA credits, GEF, RFP, Global Partnerships – CEPF, GISP

# **Poverty & Biodiversity - Entry Points**

- PRSPs & Country Assistance Strategies – business plan
- Specific biodiversity projects – GEF & Bank lending  
e.g. Kerinci,
- EA and safeguards – O.P.s Natural Habitats,  
Indigenous Peoples, Involuntary Resettlement
- Mitigation e.g. avoid key areas and TFs for Kaa Iya NP  
and community management. Brazil-Bolivia pipeline
- Bank as guarantor – Nakai Nam Theun2. watershed  
protection, conservation funds 30 yrs, social programs

# Threats to Biodiversity

## National threats

- Inconsistent policies & planning (e.g. logging, mining, roads, forest conversion)
- Decentralization and political instability
- Governance challenges

## Local threats

- Overharvesting/overgrazing
- Habitat loss & degradation, including Agricultural encroachment
- Invasive alien species
- Legal, regulatory & institutional problems
- Unclear access/resource use rights
- Weak capacity for enforcement



# Interventions

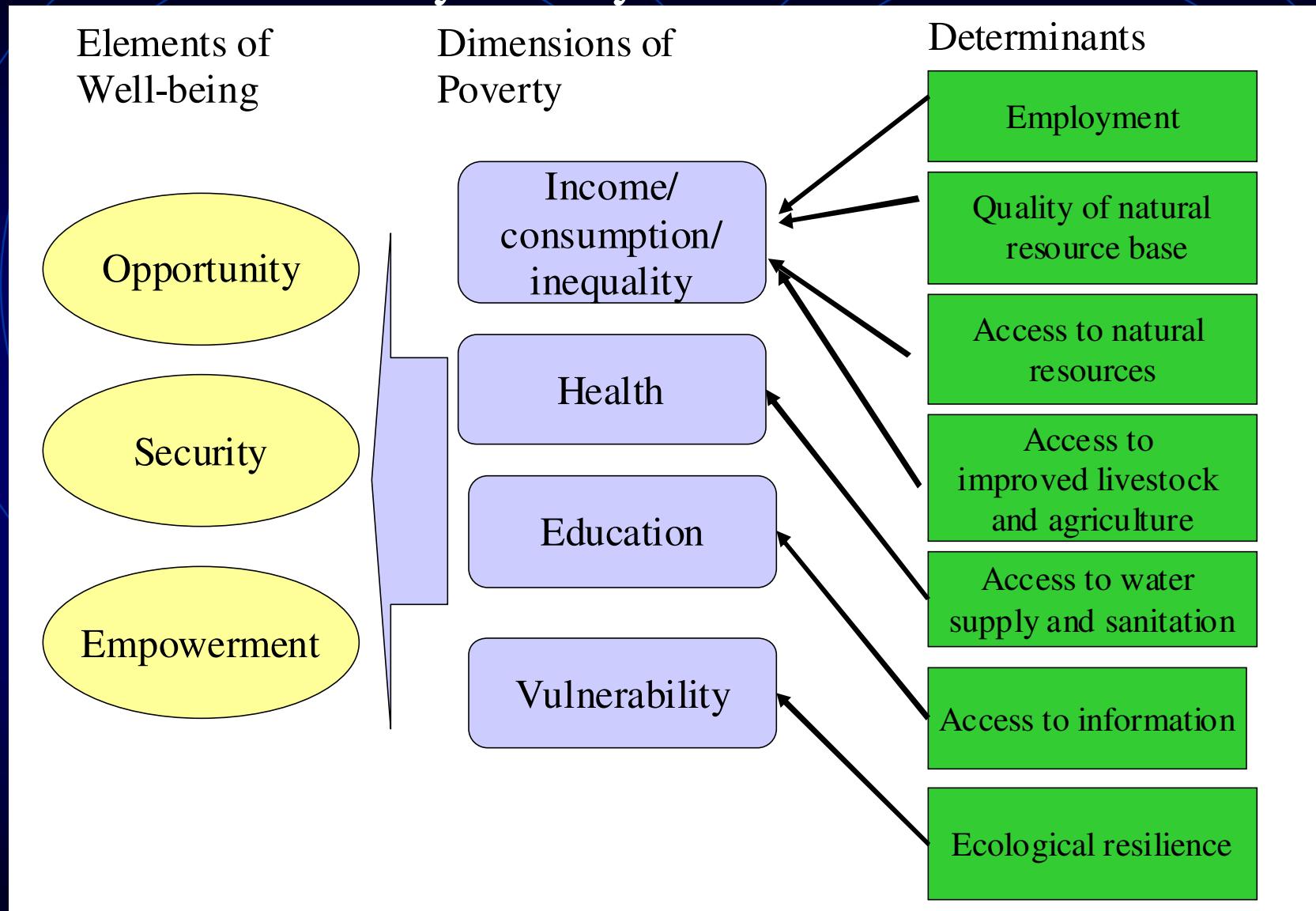


- Protected area & buffer zone activities -ICDPs
- Strengthened or new management institutions
- Awareness campaigns
- Local community participation
- Provision of “alternative” livelihoods and additional income generating activities
- Training and capacity building
- Support for policy and legal revisions and reform, including improved enforcement of laws and regulations
- Small grants for community development
- Long-term financing for PAs and community development
- Payments for ecosystem services

# Biodiversity –Poverty Linkages

- World Bank GEF projects from the biodiversity portfolio - 30 projects
- Assess linkages between biodiversity conservation activities and poverty alleviation
- Identify the key interventions which promote biodiversity conservation and effective poverty alleviation, and highlight conditions for success.

# Poverty - Analytical Framework



Modified from Bucknall, J., C. Kraus and P. Pillai. 2001

# Necessary conditions **for Success**

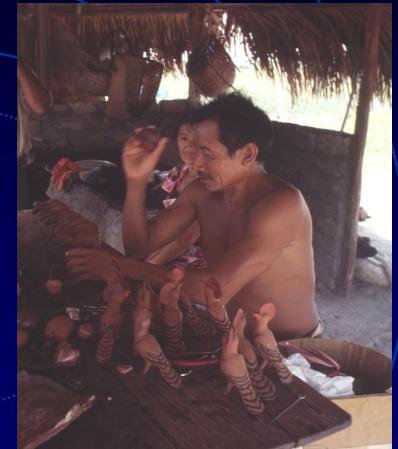
- Good governance
- Participatory decision-making
- Realistic expectations
- Addressing drivers of local biodiversity loss
- Alternatives outweigh current practices
- Supporting institutions and regulations
- Vision to seize serendipitous opportunities



# Win-win scenarios

Market demand for products/services:

- ▲ IAS removal (S Africa –WfW)
- ▲ Ecotourism: Tribal trekkers -India



Clear Ownership and responsibilities:

- ▲ Community management - coral reefs
- ▲ Clear land tenure

**Clear and Early Benefits**

- ▲ Protection of watersheds - Ecomarkets
- Medicinal plants
- Increased productivity – Silvopastoral

# Challenges



**ICDPs create expectations of PAs as development providers**

**Limited time span of conservation projects – sustainability**

**Aligning regular development funds for conservation-friendly development**

**PES – panacea or limited possibilities, need willing markets & competitive incentives**

# Conclusions



- Win-wins for BD and poverty not automatic
- Challenges of direct conservation & development linkages
- Most livelihood opportunities benefit only particular groups or are supplemental rather than alternative
- Focus on conservation-friendly development for sustainability
- Focus on ecosystem services – a) raise policy maker awareness of BD values and b) direct payments for communities
- Greatest benefits often in non \$\$ terms e.g. empowerment,