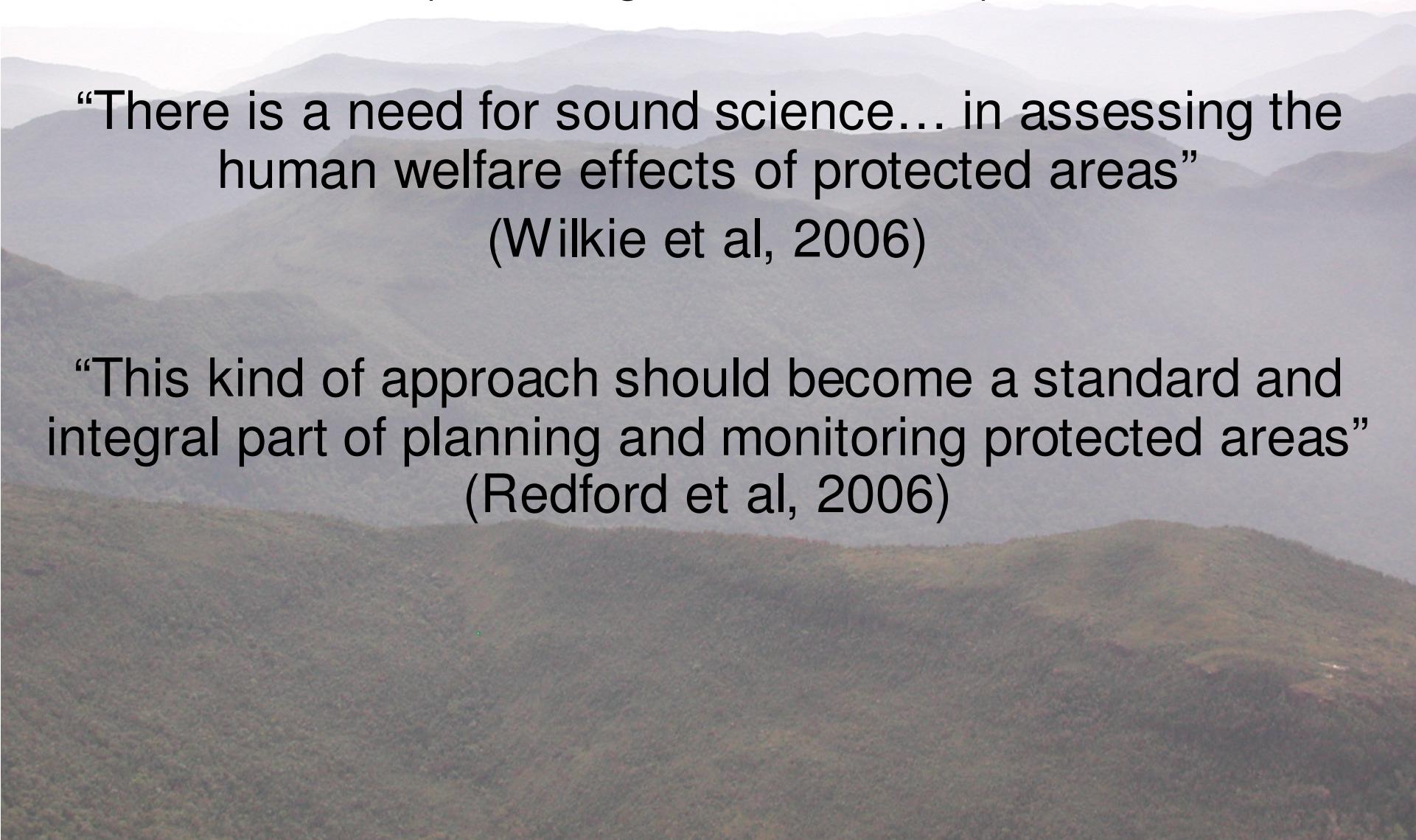


Socio-economic monitoring protocols in Cambodia

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“There is an extraordinary dearth of good information about the social impacts of protected areas.”
(Brockington et al, 2006)

“There is a need for sound science... in assessing the human welfare effects of protected areas”
(Wilkie et al, 2006)

“This kind of approach should become a standard and integral part of planning and monitoring protected areas”
(Redford et al, 2006)

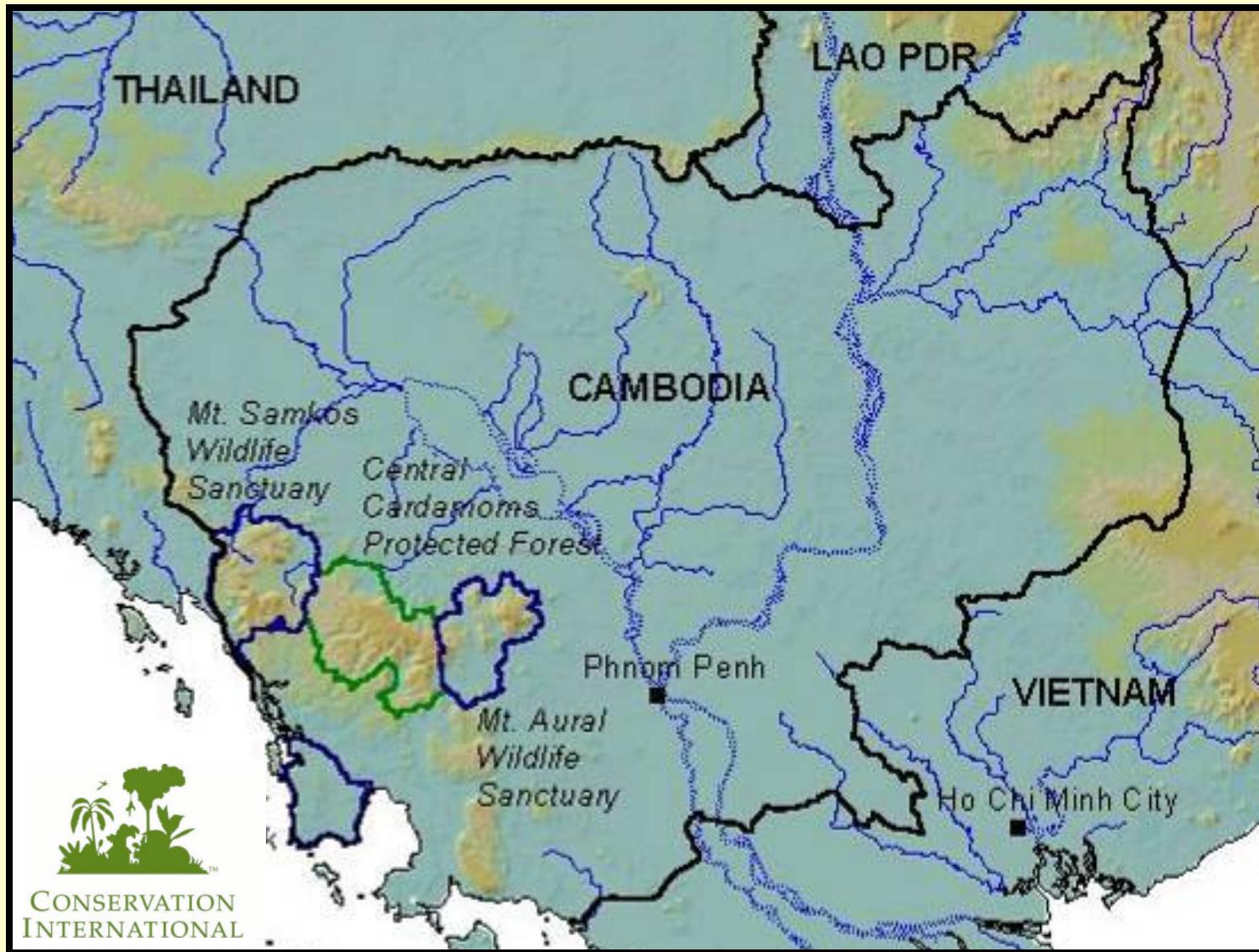
Presentation overview

- i. Case study
- ii. Design and implementation of monitoring protocol
- iii. Lessons learned



Case study

How to monitor the social and economic impacts?



Features of the case study

- Organisational interest
- Global scale, not project based
- A ‘scientific’ approach to measuring impact
- Collaboration with the development sector



Monitoring objectives

“...to measure the socio-economic impacts of the Conservation Stewards Program in Cambodia...”

- Assess immediate effects of the project
- Track socio-economic changes
- Gauge community attitudes and perceptions



Designing the monitoring protocol

- What kind of data to collect?
- How will data be organised?
- How are data collected?
- What systems are already in place?



Design choices in this case

- Quantitative indicators
- Household surveys
- Third party enumerators
- Involvement of development sector



Review of existing approaches

List of indicators and methods from:

- (i) Global development sector
- (ii) International development NGOs in Cambodia
- (iii) Local NGOs in Cambodia
- (iv) Cambodian Government census data



Review of existing approaches

Enabled us to:

- Use existing tools, methods and data
- Collaborate effectively with partners
- Avoid duplication of effort



Testing and refinement

1. Devised a household survey
2. Implemented the survey in two sites
3. Revised the list of indicators
4. Final definition of protocols



The monitoring protocol

- Total of 42 indicators
- Standard survey repeated annually
- Random sample of 30% of households
- Equal numbers of men and women



The monitoring protocol

Development sector:

- CARE provide health and population data
- CEDAC provide livelihoods data
- Use Government census data for control



The monitoring framework

Indicator category	Number of indicators
1. Project activities Satisfaction and understanding	10
2. Changes Livelihoods, distribution of costs and benefits	15
3. Social context Governance, participation, attitudes	10
4. Broad socio-economic trends Standard indicators	7

Data examples

1. Project activities	Site A	Site B
% households that know about the conservation project	86%	92%
% households satisfied with the project	69%	78%
% households willing to continue with activities next year	80%	87%

Data examples

2. Changes in livelihoods	Site A	Site B
% households saying project activities have caused changes in the village	71%	62%
% households that received a direct benefit from the project	82%	78%
% households saying they incurred a negative impact from the project	24%	13%

Data examples

3. Social context	Site A	Site B
% households that say forest and wildlife is decreasing	43%	33%
% women who had attended a meeting that year	96%	78%
Three most frequently mentioned “desired benefits” for the future	Buffalo Road School	Road Farm land Buffalo

Data examples

4. Broad socio-economic trends	Site A	Site B
% households with access to a light at night time	8%	19%
% households that did not have enough rice to eat last year	33%	29%
% households that own a motorbike	16%	38%

Usefulness of data

The data enable us to...

- Measure changes in standard indicators over time
- Compare between places (15 villages)
- Find out what happened to project benefits
- Understand *perceived* costs and benefits
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the project



Usefulness of data

But there are limitations...

- Difficult to measure livelihoods and social impact objectively
- Difficult to find representative control groups
- Risk of missing important information



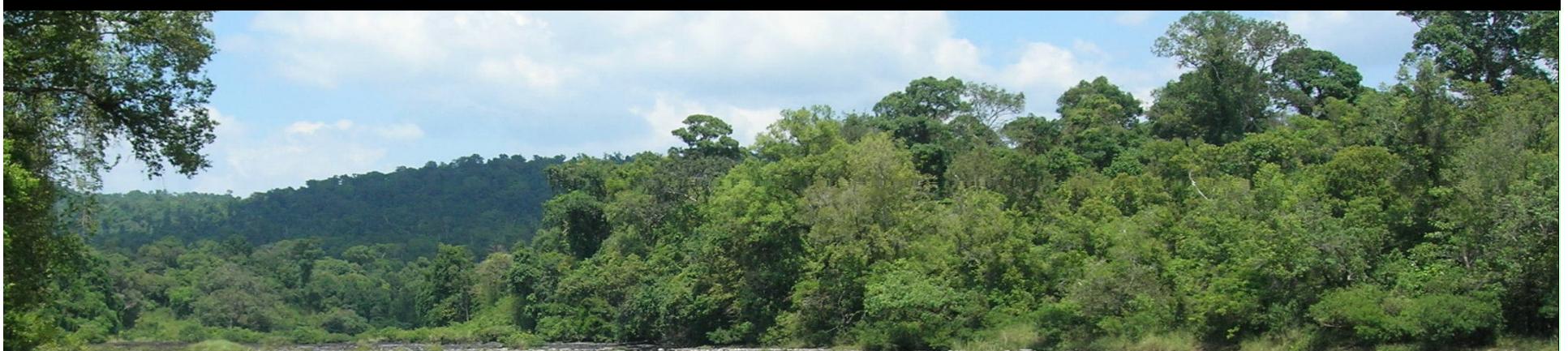
Design issues

- Contextual knowledge is essential
- Testing and refining tools is invaluable
- Quality not quantity
- Qualitative data a necessary complement



Implementation realities

- Local capacity and commitment
- Staff turnover and transition
- Plan around seasonal constraints
- Data from partners is of unknown quality
- Budget 5% of project costs (\$15 / interview)



Conclusion and Thank You

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