

Building Land-Use Planning Skills in Africa

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Who is ABCG?



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What does ABCG do?

Tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by:

- catalyzing and strengthening collaboration
- bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations to improve scale and replicate solutions

Vision:

African continent where natural resources and biodiversity are securely conserved in balance with sustained human livelihoods



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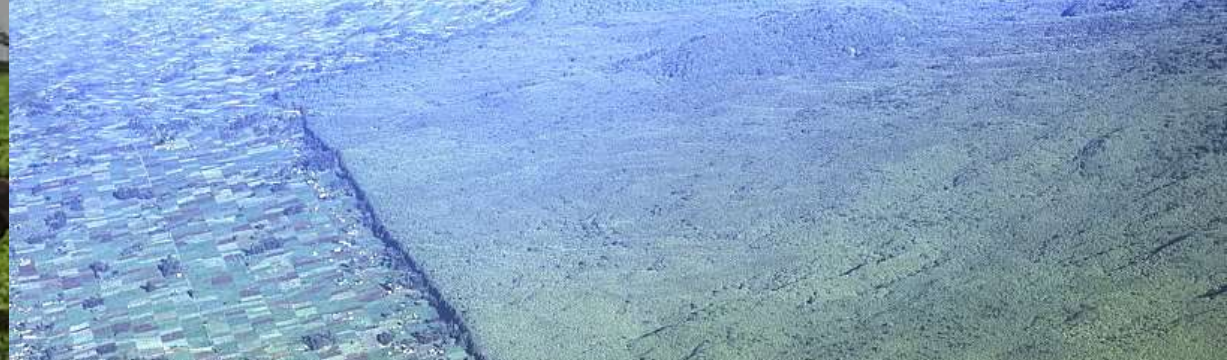
Healthy and productive landscapes
are vital for biodiversity and people





Many of these values are declining due to human activities and unsustainable resource uses





We can use land-use planning to balance the benefits of various activities for human well-being and their impacts on biodiversity



What is land-use?

A combination of:

- **1)** Activities undertaken on land – e.g. agriculture, forestry, mining
- **2)** Institutional arrangements used to manage land – e.g. protected areas, forestry concessions, agricultural zones

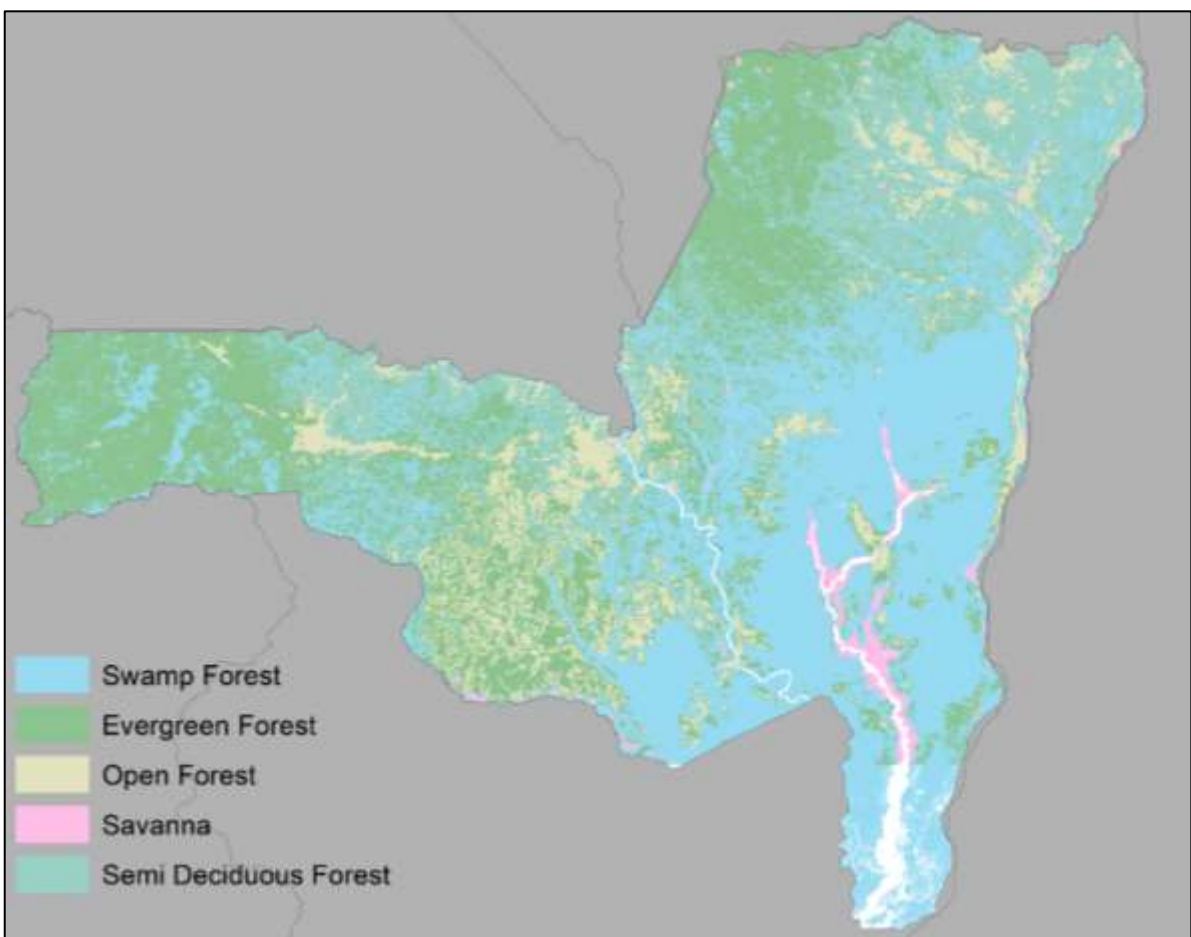
Land cover:

- Physical land surface, e.g.
 - Forest
 - Crops
 - Grassland
 - Desert

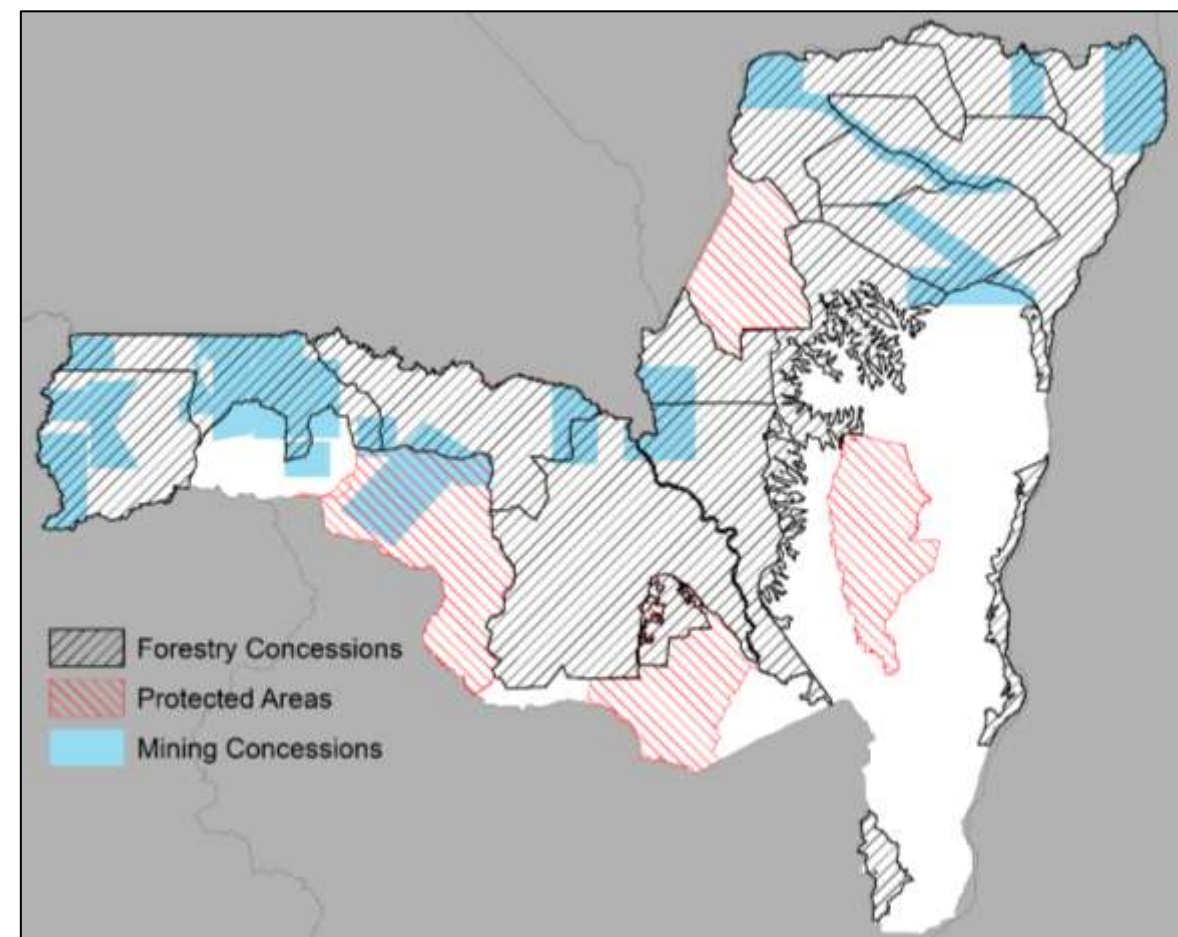
Land-use:

- How people use the land, e.g.
 - Agriculture
 - Conservation
 - Mining
 - Mixed

Land cover



Land-use



Land-use planning

a process of regulating land uses to promote desirable social and environmental outcomes and efficient use of resources

There is a clear need for land-use planning across Africa

BUT

In many cases capacity to undertake it is lacking

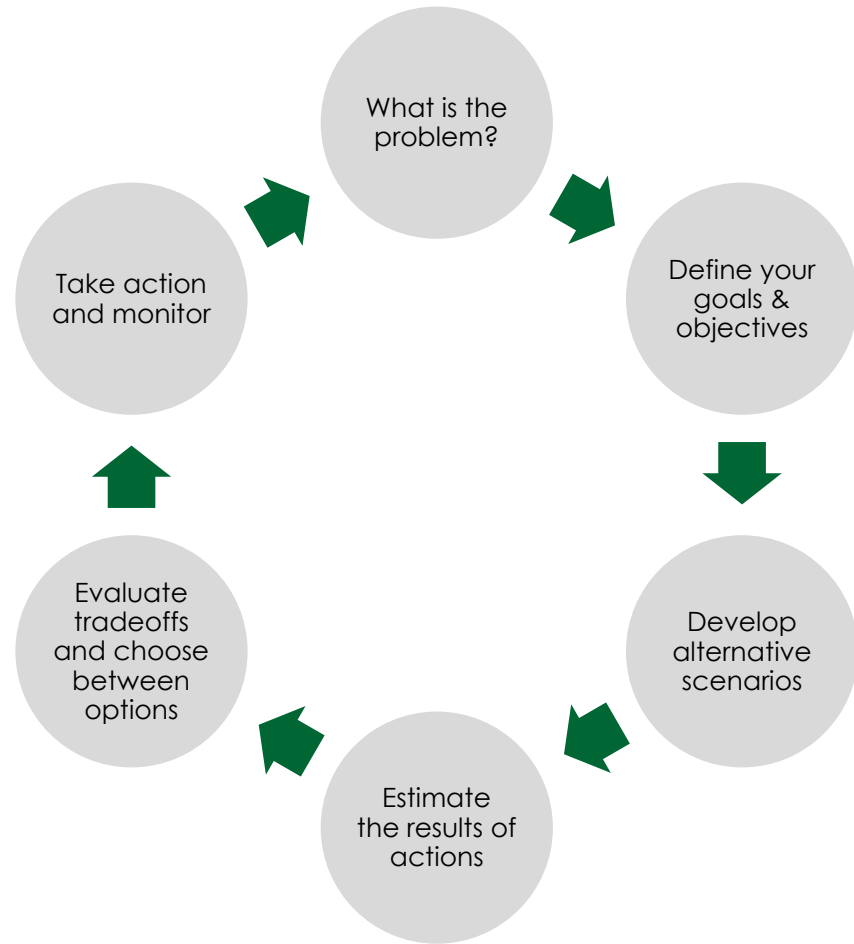


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Land-use Planning Course Overview

- Provides an introduction to the theory and practical starting points of integrating biodiversity into land-use planning
- Modular curriculum of theory, case studies, group work and decision support tool training
- Designed for in-person delivery, but has been adapted for online use due to COVID

Structured Decision Making



- Approach for careful and organized analysis of natural resource management decisions
- All course modules are linked back to the SDM process

Module Overview

Core Modules

- 1. Introduction to land use planning**
2. Understanding the context of the landscape
3. Visioning and goal setting
4. Organising the planning process
5. Principles of effective planning
6. Identifying and selecting land-use strategies
7. Key datasets for land-use planning
8. Choosing between land-use options
9. Translating science into action
10. Monitoring & Evaluation

Additional Modules

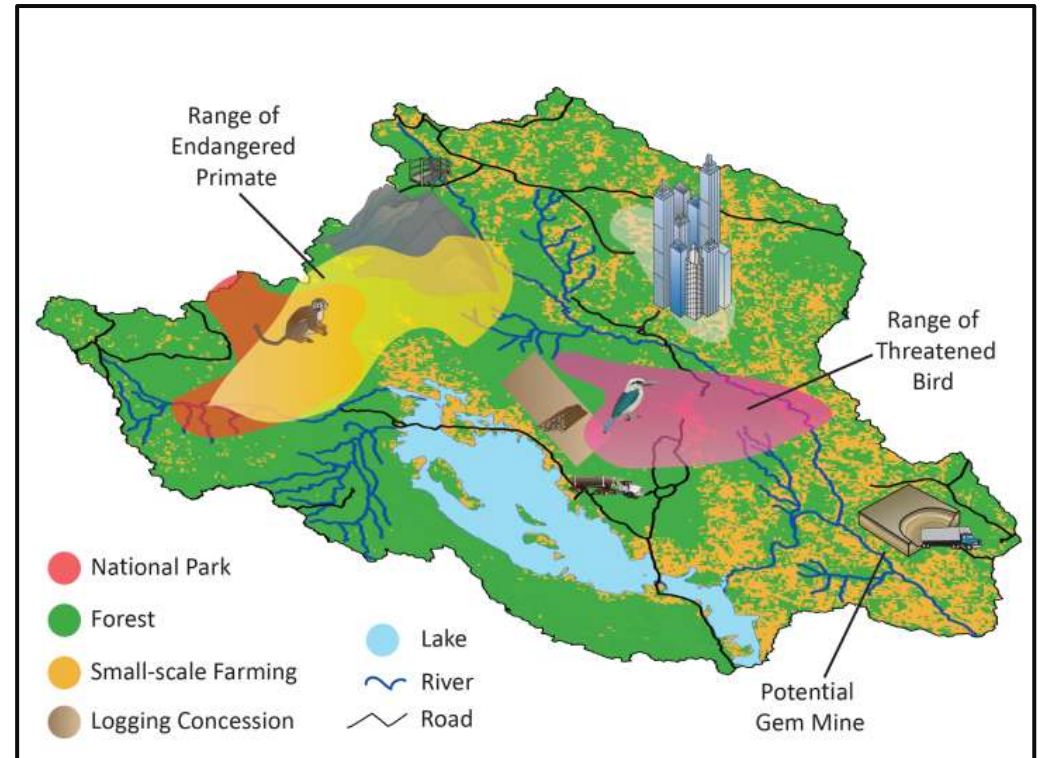
- a. Linking land-use planning & the mitigation hierarchy
- b. Climate-smart land-use planning
- c. Decision support tool training



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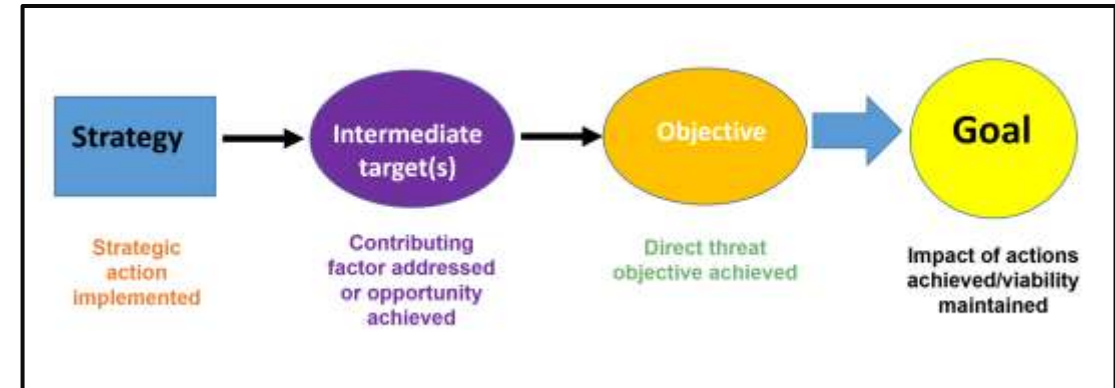


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"Teamwork is essential here.
Without it, we couldn't blame
others for our mistakes."

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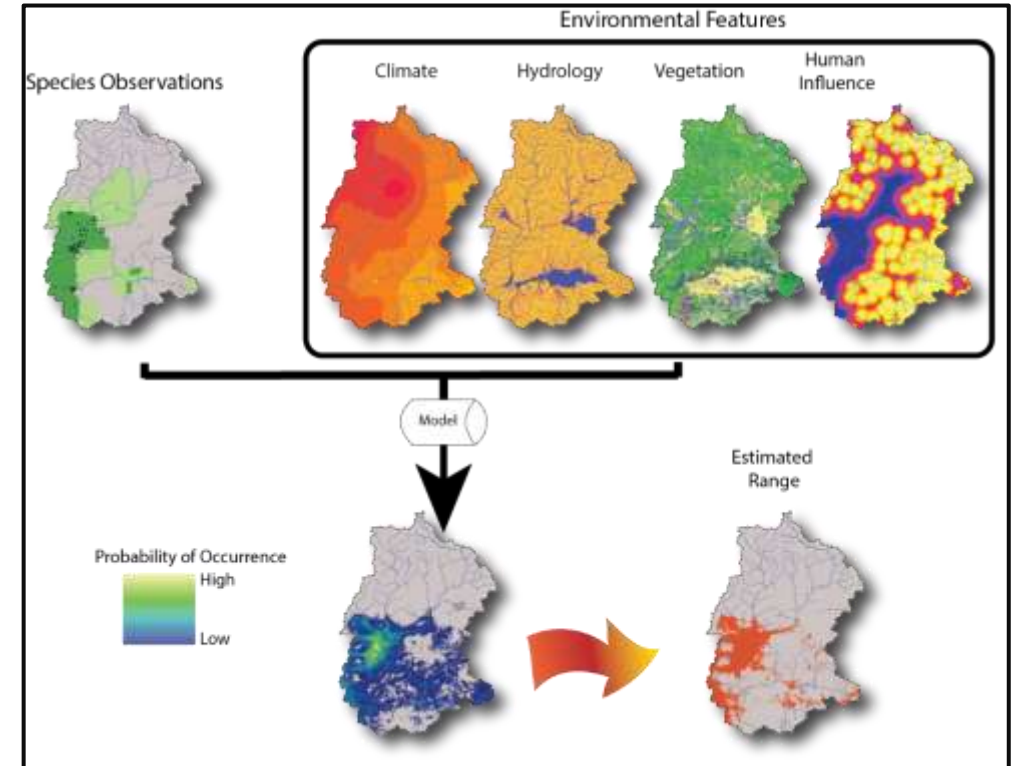
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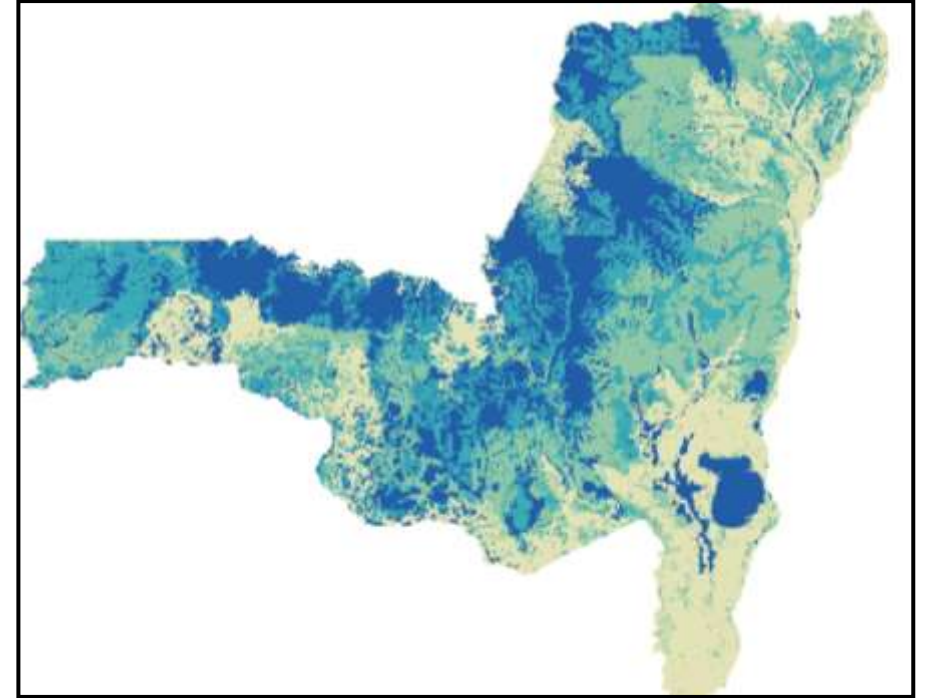
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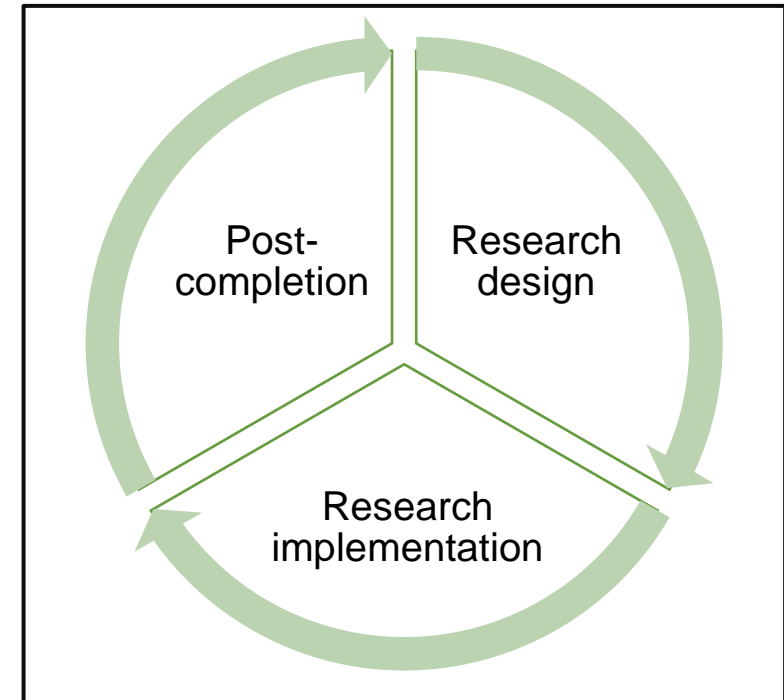
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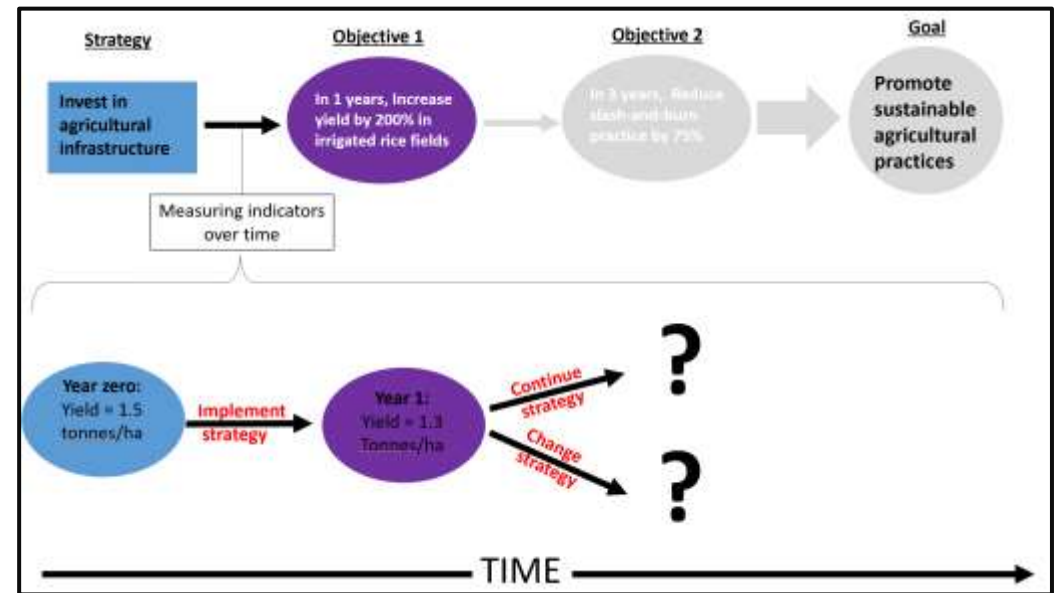
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Facilitator presentations

Each module begins with a brief presentation led by facilitators

This can be done live, or we have pre-recorded versions

What is a landscape?

- A planning area which includes important natural, social and economic interests, at a scale that is suitable for taking actions to address objectives of multiple stakeholders



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Do we need land-use planning?

- First step in any decision making process is to determine if/why land-use planning is required.
- We can do so through questions like:
 - Who are the stakeholders?
 - What do they use the land for?
 - What factors are driving changes in the landscape?
 - Are there conflicts between land-uses/stakeholders?

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Stakeholder - any person or organisation with an interest in how land-uses are allocated

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Institutions and legal frameworks

- It can be useful to understand the institutions and legal framework that influences a landscape.
- This can help us find out:
 - Who are the bodies that make decisions around how land is used?
 - What mechanisms do they have to enforce/regulate land use?
 - What the main land-uses and land-use issues are

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Examining existing policies

- Reviewing existing policies regarding land-use can also help us identify potential stakeholders and issues
- For example, if there is a government policy to regulate forestry concessions, then we can assume that related stakeholders are present, such as forestry companies or local people employed as foresters
- Similarly, if there is a government policy aimed at reducing slash-and-burn agriculture, then we know that this type of agriculture is likely an issue for the sustainability of the landscape

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Welcome to Lukab

- Tropical developing country with many endemic species
- Multiple stakeholders:
 - Hunter/hunter or community
 - Smallholder farming (subsistence)
 - Commercial farming
 - Department of mineral resources
 - Forestry industry
 - Nature Conservation NGO
- Government is undertaking a process to determine if land-use planning is required



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Participant manual

- To accompany the presentation & exercises, each participant receives a manual they can refer to throughout the course
- This provides context for modules and repeats exercise instructions

2. Understanding the context of the landscape

For successful land-use planning, it is crucial to understand the context of the landscape in which you are working. This helps to identify why land-use planning is needed in a landscape, and understand how various stakeholders may be affected by any land-use planning decisions. Here we will focus on a case study which highlights how land-use planning is used to tackle problems in the real world.

Exercise 2.1 – Identify need for land-use planning

Identify need for land-use planning	
Learning objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand stakeholders and their interests Identify and understand the need for land-use planning
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of stakeholder interests Map of stakeholder interests and potential Decide on need for land-use planning
Importance	Before undertaking a land-use planning process to understand if and why land-use planning is needed in a landscape

Your Task

- Your facilitator will allocate you to a stakeholder group
- Read through page 5 of your manual to learn about Lubal, and the your stakeholder's interests & perceptions (only read your stakeholder information, as other groups will be assigned the other stakeholder)
- On the large table, rank your stakeholder's interests in order of importance
- Circle important areas for your stakeholder on the map
- Read through text box 2 and decide whether you think land-use is needed in Lubal

Text box 2: Assessing the need for land-use planning

- Identify indicators of the need for land-use planning**
 Services ecosystems, large-scale environmental issues, rapid changes in climate or political systems. **Likely need for land-use planning**
- Assess trends in land-use change**
 Frequency & diversity of land-use change. **Likely need for land-use planning**
- Assess spatial aspects and resource competition**
 Spatial land-use overlapping/resource competition. **Likely need for land-use planning**

Exercise 2.2 – Stakeholder mapping

Stakeholder mapping	
Learning objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand stakeholder power/affectedness Understand and visualize relationships between stakeholders
Outputs	Map of stakeholders and their relationships
Importance	It is crucial to understand the level of power that stakeholders may have in a land-use planning process, how affected they will be by land-use planning decisions, and how they are related to each other

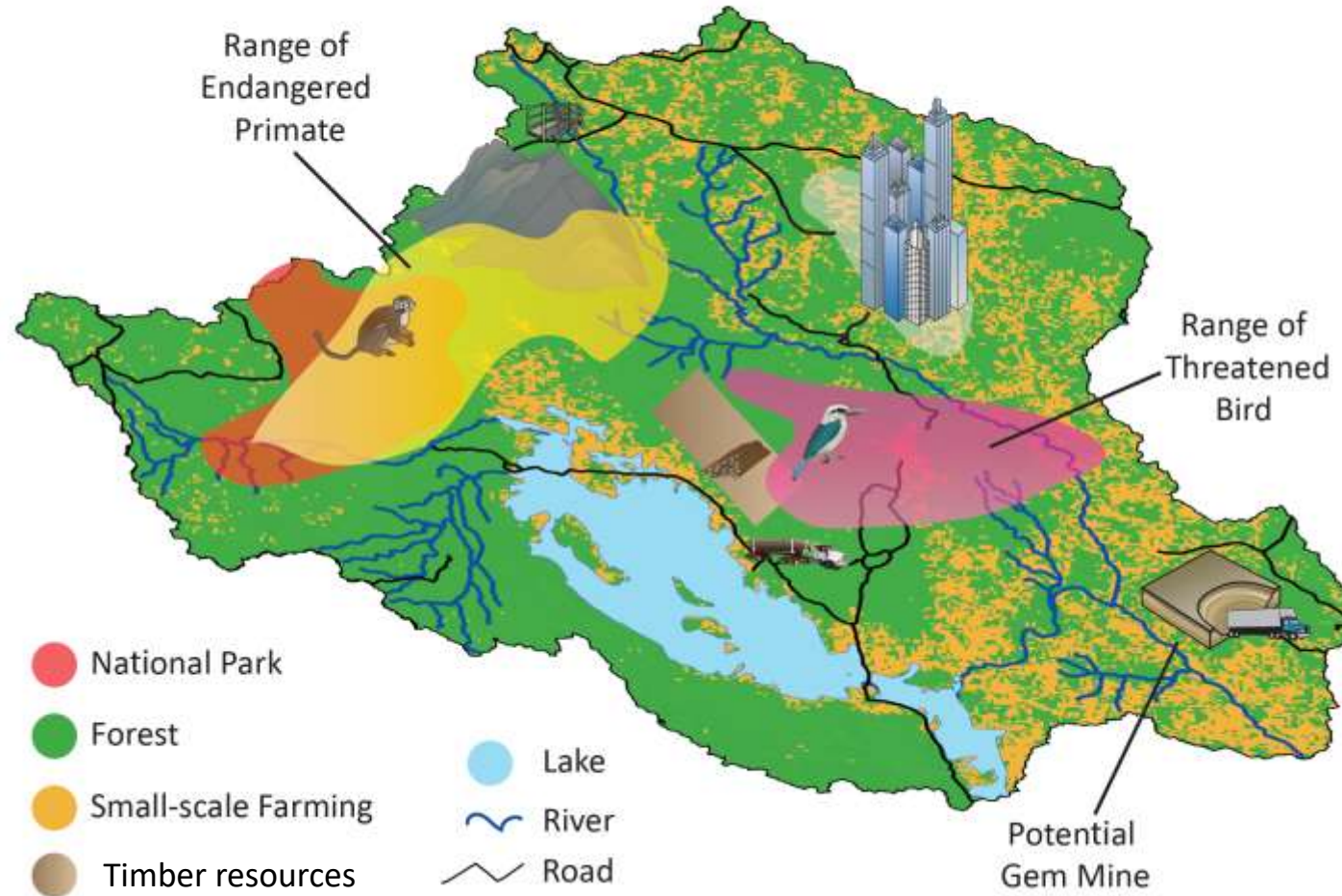
Your Task

- Get into the stakeholder groups you were allocated to earlier
- Re-read through page 6-12 of your manual to learn about your stakeholder's interests & perceptions
- For each scenario, place a sticky note where you think your stakeholder sits on the power vs affectedness matrix (figure 2.1)



Figure 3.1. Relationship between a vision, goals, and objectives, for the Northern Republic of Congo example.

Example exercise



Course Piloting

Madagascar

- 122 online participants (36% women), from:
 - Central govt. ministries
 - Regional and municipal government
 - National and local development & conservation NGOs
- Held in Malagasy, with slides translated to French and simultaneous interpretation for English speakers

Gabon/ROC

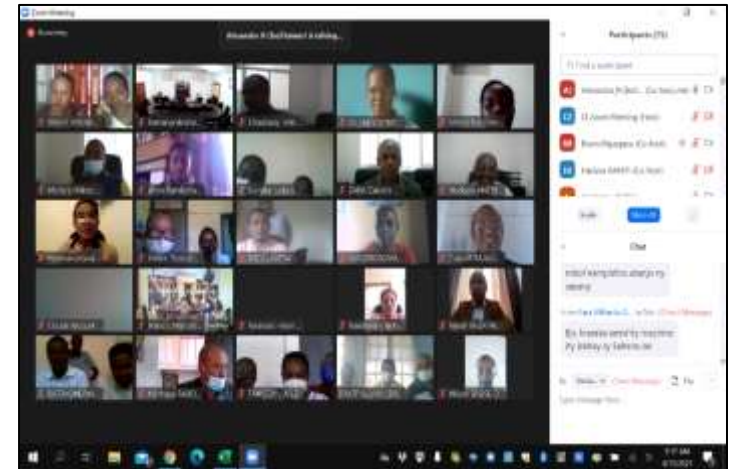
- 23 in-person participants (35% women) from:
 - 12 Gabonese Government Agencies
 - 9 Republic of Congo Government Agencies
 - 2 International NGOs
- Held in French, with all materials translated from English into French

Tanzania

- Hybrid course, with participants gathered together in multiple locations
- 11 participants (55% women) from:
 - 4 National/regional govt
 - 4 Local/regional NGOs
 - 3 University
- Held in English

Lessons Learned

- While Lukab is useful for many modules, it is important to incorporate local examples into course where possible
- Having well-trained facilitators is vital, especially in online sessions
- Participants value interactive exercises, so incorporating these into online course is key



Potential Collaborations

For organizations or countries interested in receiving or delivering training, we can offer:

- Presentations & Slideshows (French & English)
 - Participants manual (French & English)
 - Slideshow voiceovers (English)
 - Runsheet & instructions for course facilitators (French & English)
-
- ABCG staff can assist with:
 - Course delivery
 - Training the trainers
 - Tailoring course materials to local situations
 - Course moderation & organization

Interested? Come speak to us!

- Kendall Jones – krjones@wcs.org
- David Williams – dwilliams@awf.org
- Gerald Mwakipesile – mwakipesilegp@gmail.com
- Gautam Surya - gsurya@wcs.org

Resources – [link here](#)



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