Political Economy Analysis and Biodiversity Conservation

Guidance for strengthening programming in the context of extractive industries
USAID’s Applied PEA Framework

• What is working well locally and why?
• Who are the local actors who can drive change forward?
• How are incentives and motivations shaping the behavior of local actors?
• What change processes can drive collective action toward more productive development outcomes?
Why Case Studies on Extractives?

- Extractives present a challenge for biodiversity
- Revenues on par with or exceeding development aid
- Compete with ecotourism, local livelihoods, long term food security, and ecosystem services
- Easy for target for rent seeking behavior
Biodiversity and Extractives

- Resource extraction is linked to both direct and indirect biodiversity threats:
  - Wildlife trafficking and bush meat trade
  - Resource depletion (Forest loss, collapse of fisheries, habitat destruction)
  - Violent land dispossession; conflicts over resources and customary rights
  - Corruption and criminal syndicates related to power and capital accumulation
How is PEA Useful for conservation planning

• Who owns what?
• Who does what?
• Who gets what?
• What do they do with it?
PEA promotes a 3-D threats analysis model to improve biodiversity programming outcomes.
Three PEA Case Studies on Biodiversity and Extractives in Africa

- Oil Development in Uganda
- Fishing in Madagascar
- Artisanal Gold Mining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Oil Development in Uganda

Caveat: Impacts are not always so visible
Oil Development in Lake Albert Region of Uganda
Parks and Protected Areas with Significant Biodiversity
Uganda’s Lake Albert: Case Study Focal Area
PEA Findings Uganda Case Study

- Prospective values of land led to new titling practices empowering local elites.
- Local governments lack resources and accountability to control it.
- Parallel governance structures created to facilitate rent seeking.
- Land use planning and titling practices will lead to further land displacements in the oil production phase unless addressed.
Uganda PEA Recommendations

- **Shift the power balance** to favor local communities and local governments.
- **Improve data collection** through support of government technical capacity.
- **Support coalitions** already active in land use planning.
- **Work through existing programs** on tenure literacy.
- **Engage CSOs** in strengthening livelihoods and scaling up opportunities.
Madagascar Fisheries and Marine Biodiversity
Marine Biodiversity and Fisheries in Madagascar

- Overfishing and IUU fishing has led to decline of fisheries: implications for marine biodiversity and food security
- A national network of Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) called MIHARI has been working since 2012 to address these threats
- In 2014, President pledged to triple Marine Protected Areas with explicit recognition of LMMAs and MIHARI
- Institute of Marine Science and Marine Biodiversity NGOs working with private sector to support local livelihoods in some parts of the country
- High levels of political instability, corruption, poverty, and malnutrition
Madagascar Research Sites

Northeast: Bay of Antongil--MaMaBay
Research Sites (cont.)

Southwest around Tuléar
Madagascar PEA Findings

• Formal management arrangements for LMMAs bolster effectiveness but internal LMMA functions need support.

• USAID’s ability to address IUU fishing, malnutrition, and food security at the national level is limited but it can address them locally.

• Scaling up alternative (non-fishing) livelihoods is critical.

• Conflicts between traditional and commercial fishers need to be addressed.

• Private sector role key in addressing criminality and patronage networks related to trafficking and IUU fishing.
Madagascar PEA Findings and Recommendations

- *Dina,* or customary law plays a central role in LMMAs but need to strengthen local institutions through the MIHARI Network.
- LMMAs limited capacity to enforce rules on outsiders, particularly powerful ones (political elite, armed bandits)—conflicts have livelihood and food security implications
- Power inequalities between traditional and commercial fishers difficult to resolve.
- Building conflict resolution capacity goes hand-in-hand with enforcement capacity
- Specific attention to livelihoods is needed
Artisanal Gold Mining in Kahuzi-Biéga National Park, Eastern DRC
Armed Groups Active in Kahuzi-Biéga National Park

[Map showing the active armed groups in Kahuzi-Biéga National Park]
CARPE Landscape provides a network of protected areas and community reserves offering a broader range to wildlife.
PEA findings & recommendations for DRC

- Demobilization and security measures to address long standing grievances
- Tax harmonization could reduce incentives for illicit mineral exports
- International and national strategies to address conflict minerals need to include wildlife and environmental protections
- Broad-based coalition building is needed to bridge the gap between National Park and civil society groups

➢ These problems go beyond the scope of conservation programming.
PEA recommendations for DRC Case study

• Broad-based coalitions to work with researchers to determine legitimate grievances and specific local solutions.

• CARPE should create a space for the GDRC and stakeholders to reimagine the park in ways that can better protect gorillas and support communities.

• New community reserves can enhance local ownership of resources.

• Continued support for mining certification processes and increased support for the enforcement capacity of anti-fraud units, international measures, etc to reduce smuggling.

• Design long-term power and economic growth programs to address livelihoods outside the park and alternative protein sources.
What have we learned?

- USAID’s PEA framework provides a structure for understanding indirect but credible threats to biodiversity—for example, resources conflicts.
- PEA helps place specific resource governance challenges into context.
- PEA can identify new allies or coalitions by thinking about a problem differently.
- PEA can highlight opportunities for improving transparency, accountability, tax and policy reform initiatives that ordinarily lie outside the scope of biodiversity programming.
Thank you!