The Ninth Biennial Conference of the IASCP
Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 17-21 June 2002

Panel:
Transcending barriers: The role of networks in natural resource management

Co-chairs: Lars T Soeftestad and Webster Whande
Panel participants

• Boubacar Ba – IASCP-West Africa; Mopti, Mali
• Nico Rozemeijer – SNV/IUCN CBNRM Support Program; Gaborone, Botswana
• Lars T. Soeftestad – CBNRM Networking; Kristiansand, Norway
• Webster Whande – PLAAS, University of the Western Cape; Bellville, South Africa
Paper no. 1

Author: Boubacar Ba

Title: Approaches to the IASCP regionalization process at the level of the West-African French-speaking sub-region

Email: eveil@afribone.net.ml
Ouagadougou meeting (Sept. 2001), Results

• Discussions of proposals for the IASCP 2002 conference
• Adoption of a strategy for 2001-2002
• Coordination regarding follow-up activities
• Identification of themes for papers and panels
• Definition of appropriate orientation based on available information
# Partnership & exchange between actors, networks & institutions

## Actors in the community
- Institutions for: water, pasture, water and forest management
- Chief/village council

## Emergent local networks
- NAAM groups (Burkina)
- UPS (Mali)
- AREN (Niger)
- CCA ONG (Mali)
- CONGRAD (Senegal)

## Tools coming with follow up:
- IASCP
- CBNRM Net
- Land Net
- News reports and journal

## Institutional and legal space:
- State of right
- Democratic governance
- Decentralization
- Intermediary mechanism
IASCP vs West Africa network: comparison re: regionalization, I

Means of action

- Biennial conference
- Capitalization of experiences
- Scientific publications

IASCP level network

IASCP
- An international network for study and research capitalization

W. Africa reg. co-ordination
- Informal structure of information and relationship facilitation between IASCP and local networks
IASCP vs West Africa network: comparison re: regionalization, II

Means of action

- Institutional initiative
- Mediation
- Local institutions intermediaries

IASCP level network

Emergent local networks

- Organizations and structures – ownership of local populations, managers of natural resources

Institutions and/or traditional authorities

- Direct manager actors and guarantors of natural resources permanence
## IASCP vs West Africa network: comparison of contributions, I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IASCP</th>
<th>French W Africa network</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Technical contribution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Technical contribution</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• The legal status of the concept ‘common resources’</td>
<td>• Organization of an informal network of capitalization of IASCP experience</td>
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<td>• Presentation of experiences at biennial conferences</td>
<td>• Org. of thematic workshops valuing local knowledge of emergent institutions</td>
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<td>• Comparative analyses of common resources management</td>
<td>• Analysis, exchange and development of viable tools for common resource management</td>
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<td>IASCP</td>
<td>French W Africa network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional contribution</td>
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<td>• Dissemination of studies and research on common resources</td>
<td>• Constitution of local news reports (e.g. GRAF info.)</td>
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<td>• Use of the new technologies of ICTs</td>
<td>• Capacities reinforcement of local networks (e.g. Land Africa, CCA ONG, CONCAD)</td>
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<td>• Constitution of a documentary basis on bibliographical references</td>
<td>• Info. about the principles and recommendations expressed by emergent networks on common resources management</td>
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Future activities

• Short term activities (1 yr)
  (1) develop list serve, (2) reinforce networks,
  (3) translate documents into French, (4)
  publish report with Digest, CBNRM Net and
  Graf Info., (5) organize workshops

• Medium term activities (3 yrs)
  (1) create web site or use existing site, (2) bibl.
  references in French, (3) programs of research,
  (4) follow-up, incl. coordination team
Paper no. 2

Author: Nico Rozemeijer

Title: Network who? The impact of “networks” on the participation of communities in Community-based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) in Botswana

Email: information@cbnrm.bw
URL: http://www.cbnrm.bw
Aim of paper

- To question the impact of ‘networks’ on the participation of communities in CBNRM in Botswana from a specific CBNRM Support Program implementation point of view

Aim of the CBNRM Support Program

- To create an enabling environment for CBNRM by enhancing: (1) information-sharing among stakeholders, (2) learning by practitioners, and (3) coordination between stakeholders
Three networking roles and objectives of the programme

1. **Web site**
   (1) Provide rel. background info., (2) Inform on current issues, (3) Generate debate on the CBNRM approach

2. **Occasional Paper Series**
   (1) Document lessons learnt, (2) Disseminate practical information to CBNRM practitioners

3. **National CBNRM Forum**
   (1) Provide a platform for broad stakeholder dialogue and input in decision-making, (2) encourage coordination and cooperation between stakeholders, (3) further develop the CBNRM concept in Botswana
A mid-term programme review revealed

- **The web site is for academics**
  (1) users have mainly academic interests, (2) nearly all visitors from outside Botswana, (3) limited contribution to further development of CBNRM within Botswana

- **Papers require reading**
  (1) CBOs do generally not absorb written information, (2) little interest in receiving “long and wordy” publications

- **CBNRM Forum add. layer of consultation**
  (1) not all CBOs are members, (2) communication between natl. level and individual CBOs is poor, (3) risk: additional layer of consultation makes communities less vocal
Conclusions

- Networking might be useful in CBNRM policy formulation and conceptual debate
- To establish networks that assist CBOs in shaping and applying CBNRM proves to be more difficult
Paper no. 3

Author: Lars T Soeftestad

Title: CBNRM Net: Knowledge management and networking for the global CBNRM community of practice

Email: mail@cbnrm.net
URL: http://www.cbnrm.net
Background

• CBNRM Net grew out of networking activities, policy-level work, training and operational work in the World Bank, incl.:
  – The Bank’s Common Property Resource Management Network (CPRNet)
Rationale

• Serve the global CBNRM community of practice
• Connect CBNRM stakeholders
• Provide CBNRM knowledge management services, incl.:
  – (1) Collection of knowledge
  – (2) Use of knowledge
  – (3) Production of knowledge
Management

- ICTs – WWW vs. mail
- Membership
- Geographic focus
- Constraints and incentives
Network issues

• Sustainable development & poverty alleviation
• Scale – societal levels & comparative advantages
Lessons & future

• Networks to span public & private sector and civil society to be optimally effective
• ICTs misused
• Networks again North-South axis and for South-South Axis
• Further decentralization
• Collaborate with local networks and NGOs
• Advice on project implementation
Paper no. 4

Author: Webster Whande

Title: Networking for NRM. Reconciling the technology gap between rural communities and urban decision makers in Southern Africa

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