



# WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

Event co-leaders:	Lorena Acre, Taghi Farvar and Pernilla Malmer
Time and date:	15 November 2014, 15:30-17:00
Rapporteurs:	Te Tui Shortland and Fiona Wilton
Presenters:	Million Belay, Simon Mitambo, Prasert Trakansuphakon, Joaquín Meliñir and Florence Daguitan

Food sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods. It is the right of peoples to define their own food and agriculture systems. The session started from five successful cases presenting different perspectives of food sovereignty, with important implications for governance. The participants reflected over the apparent links between biocultural diversity, food sovereignty and good governance of conserved areas. Topics that were highlighted as important contributions from food sovereignty in a perspective of conservation of biocultural diversity included the need for the protection of the commons, the importance of inter-generational transfer of knowledge, the traditional seed systems as the heart of food sovereignty, and the incidence of inappropriate conservation measures such as the creation of national parks that exclude local people and their local, ecological food production systems and the close links between biocultural diversity and food.

Important focus areas to strengthen food sovereignty include: enhancing connectivity between wild habitat and cultivated areas; inter-generational transfer of knowledge; the role of the elders; nurturing the soil, a living system; connecting indigenous, traditional and scientific knowledge for mutual synergy; empowering communities to control and save their seed; respect for cultural diversity and traditional practices; cultural empowerment and self-determination. Current (and mounting) threats to food sovereignty include: mining, agri-business, seed patenting, and a focus on short-term profits in the food industry.

## **Key emerging lessons:**

Biocultural diversity is at the heart of food security and food sovereignty. Effective support for protecting and enhancing biocultural diversity should include:

- i. practical tools (mapping, agro-ecology skills) and capacity building to secure collective rights;; nurturing in situ the diversity of food crops, semi-domesticated crops and wild food; reviving customary law where food sovereignty is at the heart of the community; ensuring deep connections with sacred sites; promote synergetic links between indigenous knowledge with science.
- ii. recognizing and respecting that the needs of traditional cultures and livelihoods in conserved and protected areas also includes their right to feed themselves based on their cultures and traditional lifestyles.
- iii. ensuring that local, biodiverse food production systems are kept off-limits for extractive industries and similar destructive activities.

#### **Key recommendations:**

Challenges for bio-cultural diversity (and hence food sovereignty) include: degradation
of the environment; increase in urbanisation of rural lands; climate change; clash of
visions between modern and traditional agricultural systems; lack of respect or
implementation of core rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, the found;
the loss of cultural cohesion. Solutions hinge on supporting and enhancing bio-cultural
diversity. Food sovereignty is a powerful and efficient tool for community governance of
conserved and protected areas.

This point has been instrumental in shaping the following recommendation of the Stream final document.

Rec#	Title	
19	Food and water sovereignty	

• Food sovereignty and local governance are being undermined by the extractive industries and similar destructive industrial activities, the privatisation of seed, and through inappropriate conservation projects.

This point has been instrumental in shaping the following recommendations:

Rec#	Title	
5	Governance overlaps	
13	"No Go" policies	

• To counteract destructive industrial activities, government should support indigenous to maintain their local governance; indigenous peoples and local communities should be

invited to full and effective participation in public policies formulation for biodiversity and protected areas laws. Food and food security is a crucial part of all human culture and wellbeing, hence it is vital to conserve and protect socio-ecological landscapes that are the cradle for local, biodiverse and ecological food production.

This point has been instrumental in shaping particularly the following recommendations:

Rec#	Title
6	Governance and sustainable use
9	Aarhus and beyond
20	Governance for the conservation of nature and human well being

# Exemplary case/s and other useful links:

MELCA Ethiopia: http://www.melcaethiopia.org/

Original presentations and report are available in the event's folder (see link in annexed "Repository of original Powerpoint presentations and Rapporteur reports").

Overlapping governance types: dealing with complexity and diversity





## WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

Event co-leaders:	Neema Pathak Broome and Stan Stevens
Time and date:	18 November 2014, 08:30-10:00
Rapporteurs:	Neema Pathak Broome, Robert Deves and Stan Stevens
Presenters:	Stan Stevens, Peter Lantin, Giovanni Reyes, Glaiza Tabanao, Cristina Eghenter and Joe Martin

This workshop shared experiences and developed recommendations for redressing one of the major issues facing the protected areas movement and indigenous peoples and local communities today. A large number of countries worldwide are challenged to resolve rights violations and lost opportunities for conservation as a result of the establishment of protected