Connecting Diverse Knowledge Systems for Enhanced Protected Area Governance - The Multiple Evidence Base approach

World Parks Congress
14 November 2014

Pernilla Malmer
Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC)
Pernilla.malmer@su.se
Point of departure: Need for a mindshift towards equity in the relation between knowledge systems

- Indigenous, local and scientific knowledge systems are different manifestations of valid and useful knowledge systems...

...which generate complementary evidence for interpreting conditions, change, trajectories, and causal relationships critical for governance of ecosystems, protected areas, and resilience of social-ecological systems at large.
Indigenous and local knowledge: examples of recognition in ongoing biodiversity / ecosystem related policy processes

• Within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, efforts are ongoing to use a diversity of knowledge for measuring the achievements towards its indicators (e.g. Target 11 Protected area, Target 18 Traditional Knowledge)

• The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES):
  "Recognize and respect the contribution of indigenous and local knowledge to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems"

• IPBES Task Force on ILK developing principles and procedures for making use of synergies across knowledge systems in its work programme and assessments.
Guna Yala dialogue – key factors for successful exchange

Essential attitudes:

- Trust
- Respect
- Resiprocity
- Equity
- Transparency
Three general approaches to exchange between knowledge systems

**Integration:**
Components of one knowledge systems incorporated into another through a validation process

**Parallel approaches:**
Placing knowledge systems next to each other, using separate validation mechanisms and assessing insights.

**Co-production of knowledge:**
Engaging in mutual processes of knowledge generation
The Multiple Evidence Base in an assessment process connecting indigenous, local and scientific knowledge systems

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Diverse knowledge systems

Joint analysis and evaluation

Generation of new knowledge

Feedback

Co-production of problem definition
Reindeer herding as indicator for the Sápmi cultural landscape

Collaborative study between Swedish Biodiversity Centre and the Saami Parliament 2013
Dictates

Influences

Landscape

Form together

Reindeer and the herder

Biotopes, Habitats and grazing-ground
Reindeer grazing increases biodiversity

- Grazing is variable in time and space
- Area of shrubs and bushes is increasing due to less grazing and trampling of reindeer
- Grazing can lower the alpine tree-line
- Grazing gives less competitive organisms the opportunity to establish and survive on mountain meadows or grass heaths
Spheres of knowledge about the reindeer and its landscape

- Academics and Universities
- The saami communities and knowledge holders
- Government Practitioners
Thank you!

Pernilla Malmer

pernilla.malmer@su.se

Subscribe to our newsletter

www.stockholmresilience.org/subscribe