VARIABLES

NEWS & INSPIRATION FROM NATURE'S FRONTLINE

02





Scientific evidence on the outcomes of Community

Forest Management -- Each square represents one data point extracted from scientific, peer-reviewed literature. The color of each square shows whether Community Forest Management showed positive , neutral , or negative environmental, social, or economic outcomes. Darker shades represent stronger evidence. Below, evidence is divided into three broad themes, and on the left, evidence is assigned into finer categories. The map shows the geographic distribution of the evidence. See next page and https:// news.mongabay.com/conservationeffectiveness/ for details on methods and references corresponding to the numbers in squares.

CONSERVATION EFFECTIVENESS SERIES: III - Community Forest Management (Nov 2017)

Studies

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Notes

To carry out this literature review, we systematically searched the academic literature search platform Google Scholar. The goal was to evaluate the outcomes of Community Forest Management (CFM) and forest governance decentralization in terms of different environmental, social, and economic variables. Studies either compare areas with and without Community Forest Management or decentralization, or before and after CFM or decentralization implementation, or document perceived changes in community managed forests. By Community Forest Management we mean a broad umbrella of very heterogeneous approaches that involve at least some degree of management of a forest by a local community, and that have a main goal of managing forest resources sustainably while providing the local community with social and economic benefits. We include cases where the community is fully responsible for the management plan as well as implementation, cases where community only implements management plan prescribed by the government, cases where the community forms a community enterprise as well as those where the community contracts a logging company to carry out timber extraction. The most common terms to describe these different management types are Community Forest Co-Management, Participatory Forest Management, Community Multiple Use Forest Management, Community Common Resource Management. By decentralization we mean a broad policy of moving decision making power closer to the resources that are managed, very often through community forest management. In our review we included studies on decentralization if they indicated that decentralization happened mostly through some form of community forest management, rather than, for example, through state-level management replacing federal-level management.

We went through the first 1000 Google Scholar search results for the keywords: community forest management OR joint forest management OR participatory forest management AND tropical forest OR Africa OR Asia OR South America AND impact OR effect* AND social OR economic OR environment. The search was carried out in 2015 and updated in 2017. Please see full methods on https://news.mongabay.com/conservation-effectiveness/. The majority of extracted data points do not imply causation, only correlation. Studies vary in the rigour of design, sample size, methodology, and scope. Therefore, data points (individual squares) cannot be summed or used to calculate overall effect! One red square does NOT cancel out one green square. Please use as a non-exhaustive map of existing scientific evidence rather than as a final verdict on whether community forest management is effective. Please contact Zuzana Burivalova for full database: z.burivalova@gmail.com