

Capacity Building Lessons from East Africa

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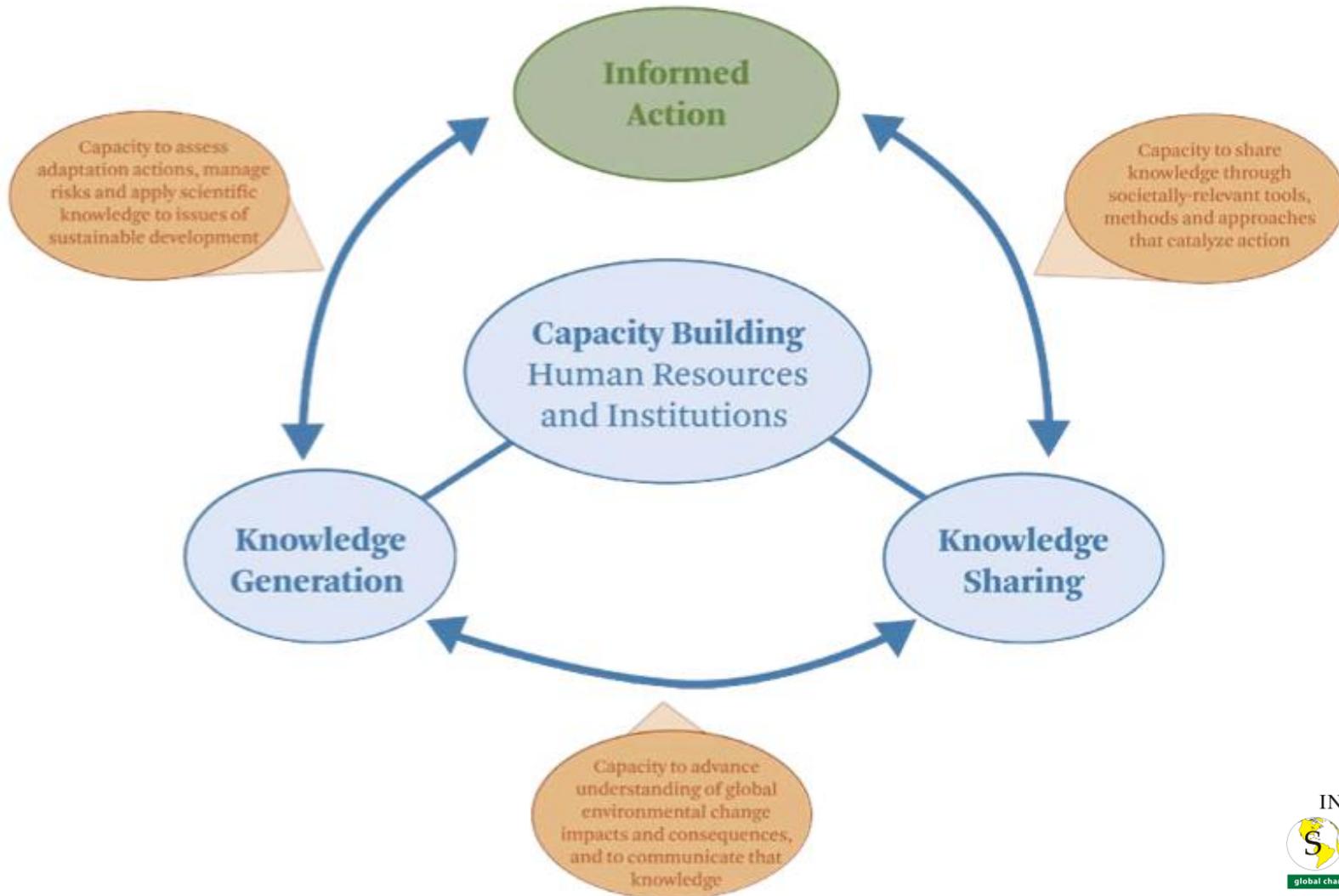
SysTem for Analysis, Research and Training (START)



Washington, DC, July 19-20, 2011

START's Scope of Action

Capacity building needs within interacting domains of knowledge generation, sharing and informed action



Approach to Capacity Building

Capacity Building....

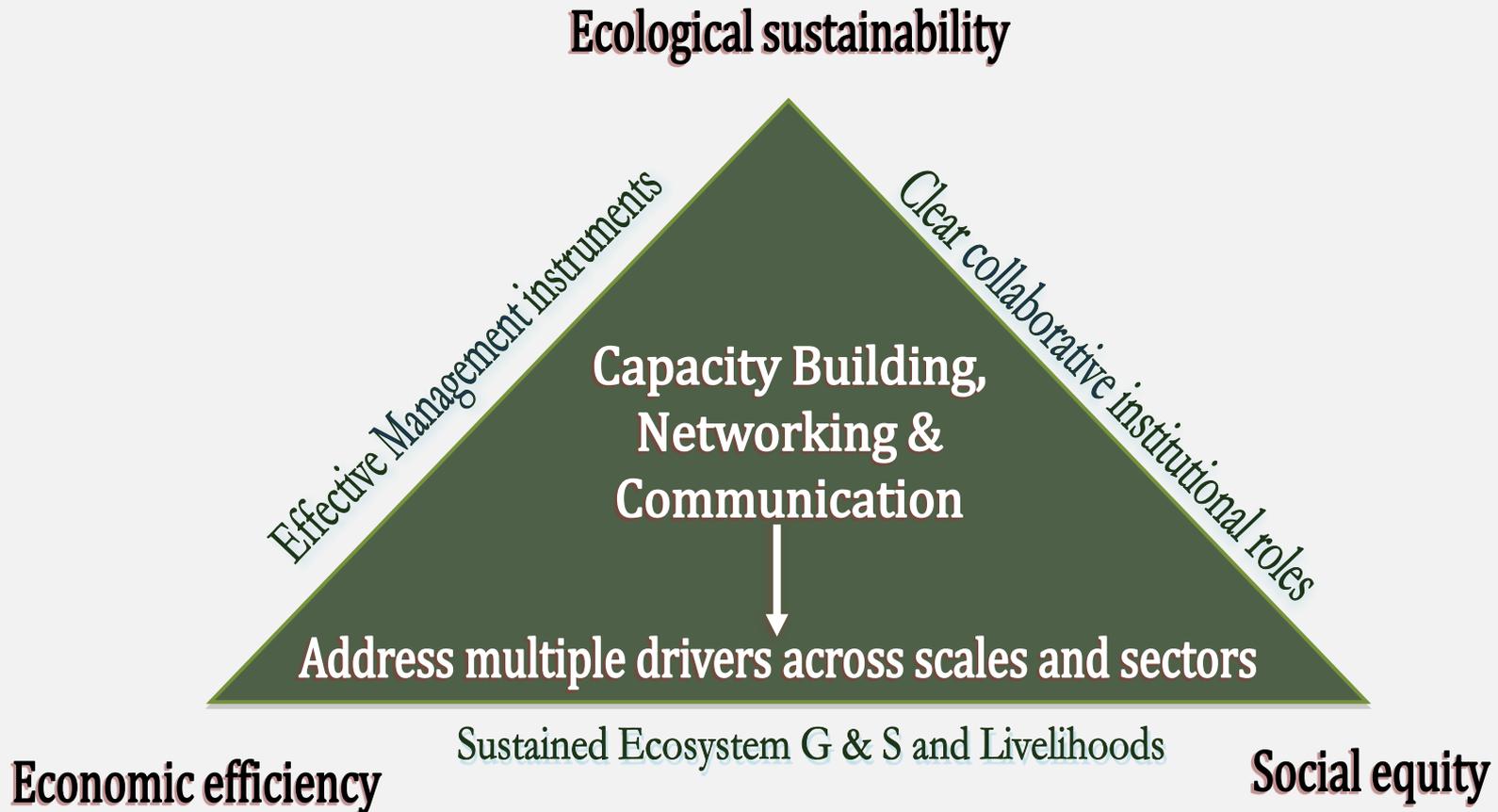
1. Should be country driven and issue based

2. Should occur within a framework of integrated interdisciplinary problem solving

3. Is much more than training; requires institutional strengthening and human resource development

4. Should encourage potential for interaction and dialogues among diverse stakeholder groups

The Conservation Context



Adapted from: Elco van Beek (2009). Managing Water under Current Climate Variability. In, Ludwig, F., Kapat, P., van Schaik, H. and van der Valk, M (Eds.), *Climate Change Adaptation in the Water Sector*, Earthscan.

START's Capacity Building Portfolio Relevant to ABCG

Advanced Training

- Climate Change & Biodiversity Conservation in the Albertine Rift

Fellowships, Grants

- Sustaining Ecosystem Goods & Services under Climate Change (ACCFP and GEC grants)

Assessments

- Peri-Urban agriculture & climate change
- AIACC,
- CORDEX

Communication

- Science-Policy & Stakeholder dialogues
- CORDEX – Climate services
- ACCCA

Foster collaborative networks of individuals and institutions at local/national/regional and global scales

Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change

Albertine Rift Countries: Burundi, Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda

Partner: Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam

Funding support: The MacArthur Foundation

- Advanced Education and Training, networking and communication.
- For: practitioners, researchers, graduate students, educators and policy community
- Phase 1 (2007-2008); Phase 2 (underway)
- Emphasis on sustaining ecosystem goods and services and livelihoods



Biodiversity Program Achievements

Activity	Capacity building contribution
Curriculum	Advanced Training courses; updated Master's program at UDar; distance learning platform (in progress)
Advanced Training and Assessments	Theoretical training, special Training of Educators and practical hands-on assessment experience in 2 program Phases
Stakeholder Dialogue	Planned: Stakeholder discussions on regional implications of climate risks for ecosystem goods and services; shared experiences; and recommendations for action.
Networking - regional/global	Program alumni (diverse organizations) and faculty (NUR, Makerere, etc.) WCS, RNCEAR, SANBI, CORDEX, Advisory Committee, etc.
Communication and Outreach	NWP, CBD, DIVERSITAS, COP-15, Peer reviewed and grey literature, synthesis documents, web-platform, etc. ELAN, IPBES, GEO-BON, AEO

Alumni Engagement

- **Government Institutions/Ministries** : e.g. TAWIRI; TAFORI; Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania; Geographic Institute of Burundi; Department of Forestry (Burundi); Ministries of Environment and Agriculture in Uganda; Uganda Wildlife Authority; Rwanda Development Board (Tourism)
- **Protected area personnel**: TANAPA
- **Non-government institutions**: JGI; WWF – Rwenzori; Greenwatch; TCCB, Congo; CARPE/IUCN PACO; OCEAN: Center for Research in Natural Sciences, DRCU; BCRD, Uganda; UDar; NUR.
- **Higher education**: Master’s and PhD programs (potential experts)
- **Other training programs**: UNITAR’s climate diplomacy program; SEI-UNISDR-UNU writeshop; ACCFP; UC Davis
- **University Educators**: In all Albertine Rift countries

Programmatic Challenges and Lessons

➤ **Strengthening individuals**

- Access to information
- Access to training in relevant tools and methodologies
- Building communication skills
- Building collaboration skills
- Building skills to transform knowledge to action

➤ **Strengthening institutions**

- IRA success story, others? Need “stars” at the institutional level

➤ **Building and sustaining networks** – Individuals and Institutions

➤ **Sustaining the effort**

➤ **Evaluating outcomes**

Cross-Cutting Challenges

- **Scaling-up**
 - Spatially
 - Sectorally
 - **Inclusive of Disaster Risk considerations!**
- **Integration across issues and actors**
 - stakeholder categories
 - disparate programs
 - international efforts – e.g. IPBES, ELAN, GEO-BON, etc.
- **Knowledge dissemination and linking knowledge to action**

START Programs and the ABCG

- START's programs are very relevant to needs/lessons identified by ABCG (capacity building as an important need; emphasis on sustaining eco-services and livelihoods).
- Potential for mutual benefits from individual programs, experiences, outcomes and outputs – e.g. advanced training opportunities, locally relevant and context specific knowledge for curricula, externships contributing to broader assessments and adaptation actions, etc.
- Stakeholder dialogues at national/regional levels – enable communication and linking knowledge to action.
- ***START welcomes opportunities to engage with ABCG.***

Thank you!