

Past Population, Health and Environment Project Profiles

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Conservation International – Madagascar Health-Population– Environment (HPE) Project

<http://www.tasc2.org/Documents/Madagascar%20SOW.pdf>

http://www.conservation.org/explore/africa_madagascar/madagascar/Pages/default.aspx

http://www.conservation.org/learn/forests/Pages/project_makira.aspx

http://www.conservation.org/learn/forests/Pages/project_mantadia.aspx

http://www.conservation.org/publications/Pages/improving_human_health_and_biodiversity_conservation.aspx

http://www.conservation.org/learn/communities/health/Pages/healthy_families_forests.aspx

Conservation International (CI) has been working in the Zahemana-Mantadia Biological Corridor in eastern Madagascar for five years, supporting the government and the biodiversity conservation goals in its National Environmental Plan. Since 2003 the HPE Project has worked in partnership with local NGOs MATEZA and ASOS to deliver health and reproductive health services, educate farmers on sustainable agricultural practices, and establish systems for community natural resource management (NRM) which contribute to improved biodiversity conservation in key biodiversity areas.

Development Challenge

Madagascar is the third most densely populated country in sub-sarahan Africa, with 21 persons per square kilometer and the lack of access to reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP) services is critical in the rural and remote areas, which are also some of the most pristine biodiversity areas. Demand for RH/FP services is high in rural areas, while contraceptive use is low at 18 percent (Madagascar DHS 2003/2004).

Economic security for these growing rural populations is based on largely unsustainable land use practices which contribute to habitat loss and reduced biodiversity. Many farmers still practice slash-and-burn farming or “tavy,” despite the fact that it is illegal. Since many poor people in remote areas do not have adequate protein in their diets, people practice bush meat hunting in the forest zones. Income is also generated thorough the illicit exploitation of forest products. Other economic factors such as rising gas prices increase pressures on biodiversity in Madagascar, by increasing the reliance of the utilization of charcoal in urban area, and of fuel wood in rural areas.

Approach

The HPE project collaborates with the principal stewards of natural resource management -- the population or communities living around the areas of key biodiversity -- to implement interventions that improve community awareness of health care, demonstrate links to natural resource management, and provide alternatives to environmentally destructive agricultural practices. To ensure sustainability, the project partners build local community capacity and

ownership to ensure that activities continue after the project ends. CI does this by building relationships and support for integrated health and conservation programs that deliver tangible economic and health results to participants.

Activities

- HPE increases local demand for RH/FP services and commodities through targeted communication (e.g. theater groups,) and training activities (focus on adolescents and health volunteers) that link family planning and environmental outcomes.
- HPE strengthens systems for and promotion of community-based distribution of appropriate RH/FP products.
- HPE trains communities in NRM planning, provides NRM and agricultural extension services, and promotes conservation of important ecosystems.
- HPE collects data on hunting practices and human nutritional demands for protein
- HPE trains Women's Nutrition Teams in alternative livelihood and nutrition.

Conservation International / Cambodia - Population Environment Project

<http://www.conservation.org/EXPLORE/ASIA-PACIFIC/CAMBODIA/Pages/people.aspx>

To achieve the goal of reduced population pressure on biodiversity in the Cardamoms Conservation Landscape (CCL), Conservation International (CI), CARE Cambodia and local partners are implementing a reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP) component that is integrated into existing CCL conservation and development activities. Begun in 2004, the project aims to reduce population pressures on the CCL and provide alternative livelihood options in order to reduce illegal use of the natural resources that exist within protected areas of the CCL.

Development Challenge

Total species diversity and globally threatened species measures make the Cambodia's CCL a priority landscape within the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot. The government's disproportionate reliance on logging revenues, a slow growing national economy, extensive conversion of forests for commercial and subsistence agricultural uses, annual population growth rates reaching 2.24 percent, and unregulated migration have led to intense pressure on Cambodia's forests. Today, 43 percent of the population is under the age of 15, thus nearly half the population has yet to enter its reproductive age. If present trends continue unchecked, population growth, and associated migration could overwhelm conservation efforts.

Approach

CI Cambodia works with local communities and stewards of the CCL's natural resources to improve protection of the key species, and their critical natural habitats, through participatory local and regional strategic planning efforts and strengthening service provision. The project mitigates pressures on key biodiversity areas through interventions that: 1) Enable target communities to adopt safe RH/FP practices, to improve access to quality RH/FP and primary health care services and thereby mitigate population pressure on Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs); and 2) Support effective integration of "population and environment" into local government planning, and 3) Build local capacities for natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.

Activities

- Meet the demand for RH/FP services through improved supply and emergency referral service
- Augment and improve existing health services to increase access to RH/FP, especially in remote areas.

- Promote new livelihood strategies through women's participation and networking, so that women increase use of RH/FP services and women's role in "population and environment" decision-making is strengthened.
- Continue the Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) process in remaining areas and support implementation of land use plans, integrating community resource needs with conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas.
- Facilitate the addition of Population and Environment strategies into Commune and District development plans for Thma Bang District.
- Strengthen the capacity of local institutions for Community Based Natural Resource Management, through implementation of land use plans and livelihoods diversification.

Conservation International Philippines - Population Environment Project

<http://www.conservation.org/explore/asia-pacific/philippines/Pages/overview.aspx>

Since 2002 the CI Philippines Population Environment Project has implemented an integrated Population-Environment program that demonstrates the link between reduced population pressure and improved biodiversity conservation. In the northern Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor, CI Philippines works with local partners and local government units (LGUs) to help the Indigenous People (IP) groups and others in remote upland communities to understand that having smaller and healthier families will improve their living conditions. The project provides these remote communities access to desired basic services that foster healthy families, while improving capacity of families and communities to manage forest resources.

Development Challenge

There is a growing popular realization that uncontrolled population growth is driving the destructive exploitation of forest resources and is an important root cause of increased frequency and severity of natural disasters. Native upland forests are threatened by the encroachment of human settlements, and the resultant conversion of forest into upland agricultural plots through slash-and-burn cultivation is one of the principal causes of habitat loss in the Sierra Madre. Both in-migration and high fertility have led to the expansion of existing settlements and the creation of new ones in the upland regions where primary forest remained. Decreases in migration notwithstanding, the people who moved to the region remain living on subsistence farming, largely in poverty with high fertility rates, and minimal access to government services including Reproductive Health and Family Planning (RH/FP). Livelihood prospects are deteriorating because of lack of alternative employment opportunities, poor knowledge of sustainable forestry, minimal conservation awareness and lack of political will to enforce forestry regulations.

Approach

The project combines integrated natural resource management and RH/FP services and education with holistic, community-based activities that empower local residents to improve family welfare and safeguard their environment. Working with its local partners, CI builds on-the-ground capacity to manage activities that link reproductive health and family planning services functionally with natural resource management in general, and biodiversity conservation in particular. CI also assists managers of forestland concessions with revision and implementation of their forest management plans, ensuring that the plans balance the needs for resource extraction with protection of critical habitat and threatened species. And CI helps maintain other ecosystem benefits such as watershed protection and a safe, steady water supply.

Activities

- Provide training to Midwives, barangay (provincial) health workers and traditional midwives (Hilots) to enhance their skills in delivering RH/FP services and skills, improving the referral system and localized delivery centers.
- Build the capacity of the People's Organizations (POs), Indigenous People (IPs), and LGUs to implement their development plans and enforce conservation policies and initiatives.
- Support the organizational strengthening and external networking efforts of the POs and their desire to adopt and implement sustainable and environment-friendly livelihood projects.
- Help LGUs and communities monitor and assess changes in the population-environment links in the project site, enabling them to review and modify their development plans in achieving balanced population growth and natural resource use.

Conservation Through Public Health (CTPH) - Uganda: Population, Health and Environment around Bwindi Impenetrable Area.

<http://www.ctph.org/>

Conservation through Public Health (CTPH) is a Uganda-based NGO that promotes conservation and public health by improving primary health care to people and animals in and around protected areas in Africa. CTPH works in three primary fields: 1) Wildlife Health Monitoring, Human Public Health and Information, Education and Communication; 2) Controlling disease transmission where wildlife, people and their animals meet, and 3) cultivating a winning attitude to wildlife conservation and public health in local communities. CTPH implements a significant amount of its work in the area surrounding the Bwindi Impenetrable Area (BIA) in Uganda, one of the last refuges for wild Mountain Gorillas. CTPH works to mitigate wildlife/human conflict and reduce threats to the Mountain Gorilla caused by growing human populations.

Development Challenge

Bwindi is home to approximately half of the world's estimated population of 700 mountain gorillas. The mountain gorilla population is also surrounded by parishes with some of the poorest people in Africa who have limited access to modern health services and who have very high population densities of 200 to 300 people per square kilometer. Gorilla tourism contributes up to 50% of the tourism revenue for the country. The principle threat to the survival of the mountain gorillas, and to the important economic impact they bring, is human/wildlife contact and conflict due to a high human population density around the BIA. Gorillas often leave the park boundaries to eat peoples' crops, because there is no buffer zone between the park and the surrounding communities. This is where gorillas are at greatest risk from getting preventable infectious diseases from people, such as scabies, TB and amebic dysentery. Population growth is high around the park and human encroachment and resource use in park buffer zones and core areas are increasing.

Approach

CTPH will integrate family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) interventions into ongoing CTPH activities, and into the work of local Health Clinics. CTPH will also mobilize dormant community health workers and engage in large scale information, communication and education activities that will help to reduce family size in zones bordering the protected areas.

Reproductive health and family planning will ultimately lead to reduced human/wildlife conflict, increased survival of the mountain gorillas and greater tourism revenue and income for the local population, who will in turn have a smaller family size and budget to make better use of the family income.

Activities

CTPH will re-activate community health workers and train new community workers in PHE activities. These workers will identify and engage couples with information on FP/RH, and link them to commodity providers, who will strengthen systems for commodity provision and access. Additionally the community workers will saturate the community with messages through theatre, target couples of reproductive age with individual messages that are reinforced by radio listener groups. Leveraging dormant capacity, already prepared IEC materials, existing capacity and platforms will help couples address their demand for RH/FP. Finally, CTPH will develop specific IEC materials on the links between family planning and sustainable environments, which will be distributed at the drama shows.

David and Lucille Packard Foundation: Population and Reproductive Health

<http://www.packard.org/categoryList.aspx?RootCatID=3&CategoryID=62>

<http://www.packard.org/itemDetails.aspx?RootCatID=3&CategoryID=62&ItemID=3431&isFromModule=1>

http://www.packard.org/assets/files/population/program%20review/2007_pop_report_full_041707.pdf

The Population and Reproductive Health program works to slow population growth in high fertility areas of the world and to enhance and protect women's reproductive health and reproductive rights, especially for marginalized and disadvantaged girls, women, and communities. Access to voluntary, quality family planning services and comprehensive reproductive health services empowers women and couples to fulfill their reproductive desires and helps to achieve a broad range of positive health and development outcomes. Enabling women to manage their fertility improves the health of women and families and contributes to slowing population growth. Nearly one-third of maternal deaths, for example, are from pregnancies that were unintended. During the last decade, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation invested primarily in the supply side of family planning and reproductive health. Because we now know that demand-side issues represent approximately 70 percent of the barriers to family planning and reproductive health advances in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, the Population and Reproductive Health program has adjusted its strategic focus. We work in partnership with grantee organizations and other stakeholders to achieve four objectives:

- Promote and advance family planning and reproductive health on the global, regional and national development agendas.
- Develop and share innovative models for delivering family planning and reproductive health information and services, especially those models that effectively reach young people and underserved women.
- Address root causes of reproductive health outcomes and population growth, especially through targeted investments in the education and empowerment of girls ages 12 to 18.
- Enhance reproductive rights, including by improving the quality and availability of safe abortion and/or post-abortion care.

We support work toward these four objectives in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and the United States and also through grant making at the Global level in advocacy and leadership development for family planning and reproductive health.

Jane Goodall Institute - Community-Centered Conservation in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

<http://www.janegoodall.org/where-we-work#Tchimpounga>

<http://www.janegoodall.org/where-we-work#DRC>

Through a USAID supported partnership the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) has collaborated with Conservation International (CI) and the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International (DFGFI) in the design and implementation of a community-centered conservation (CCC) program in the Maiko-Tayna-Kahuzi Biega Landscape of eastern DRC.

The DRC-CCC Program is designed to complement DFGFI's conservation and community mobilization work and to take advantage of JGI's unique model of community-centered conservation which links sustainable development activities in household livelihood, health, family planning prioritized by the community as part of their work to conserve and sustainably manage natural resources.

Development Challenge

In a 7.4 million-acre conservation corridor stretching from Maiko National Park and the Tayna Gorilla Reserve to Kahuzi-Biega National Park reside an estimated 5,000 eastern lowland gorillas and 15,000 chimpanzees. Despite its high ecological and biodiversity value, this region is experiencing a severe conservation crisis due to agricultural/pastoral expansion, high levels of subsistence hunting, bushmeat extraction, exotic animal trade, extensive gold, coltan and other mining. The uncontrolled exploitation of the resources in this region are driven by socio-economic depression resulting from more than a decade of civil war.

Approach

Collaborating with the partners mentioned above as well as other local civil society and government stakeholder groups, JGI organizes and helps to implement community-centered conservation initiatives modeled after JGI's TACARE (Lake Tanganyika Catchment Reforestation and Education) Project, which supports socio-economic development and sustainable natural resource management in western Tanzania. The DRC program improves health care, provides family planning training and methods, and supports local people in the development of sustainable and more efficient agricultural and livestock practices that contribute to economic growth. The program also focuses on improving local governance, empowering communities, and the use of information technology to support sustainable practices.

Activities

JGI integrates activities across sectors. Health activities include:

- Targeted training for health care providers and Community Based Distribution Agents (CBDA) in reproductive health and family planning,
- Provision of family planning methods to health care providers and CBDAs
- Monitoring the use and adoption of family planning and reproductive health products by the local people through eight local health centers
- Family planning data collection to evaluate impact of JGI's intervention in targeted area

Economic Development and Agricultural activities include:

- Construction of a hydroelectric plant that will increase local opportunities for economically productive activities.
- Research on and construction of cow sheds, chicken pens, and fish ponds to reduce pressures on forest resources including bushmeat and to improve livestock outputs.
- Training and provision of improved seeds by establishing seed multiplication plots
- Initiation of a beekeeping project for economic diversification

Jane Goodall Institute - Lake Tanganyika Catchment Reforestation and Education (PEACE Project).

currently Jane Goodall Institute -Lake Tanganyika Catchment Reforestation and Education (TACARE) Project, Tanzania

<http://www.janegoodall.org/where-we-work>

JGI initiated the Lake Tanganyika Catchment Reforestation and Education (TACARE) project in Tanzania in 1994. The program was designed as a pilot project to address poverty and support sustainable livelihoods in villages around Lake Tanganyika while arresting the rapid degradation of natural resources, especially in the remaining indigenous forest. The program focuses on community socio-economic development and offers training and education in sustainable natural resource management. TACARE implements a community-centered conservation approach, which effectively addresses human needs while promoting conservation values. TACARE's activities are divided into five primary project areas: Community development, Forestry, Agriculture, Health, and Roots & Shoots – environmental education for youth. TACARE is the flagship PHE Project for the Jane Goodall Institute and its successful approach is being modeled and replicated in other JGI PHE Activities.

Development Challenge

The populations living in villages around Lake Tanganyika have limited economic opportunities as well as limited access to health and other public services. These rapidly growing populations are forced to therefore exploit local natural resources and have depleted natural forests to the extent that they now threaten the last remaining natural forest in the region, also the location of the world-famous Gombe Stream Chimpanzee Reserve.

Approach

TACARE addresses human development issues to provide people with the opportunity to exercise environmental stewardship as part of their own livelihood improvement. TACARE is a holistic and participatory program supporting locally managed education, socio-economic development and sustainable natural resource management. The Program improves health care, provides family planning training and methods, and supports local people in the development of sustainable and more efficient agricultural and livestock practices that contribute to their economic growth. The Program also focuses on improving local governance, empowering communities, and the application of information technology to support sustainable practices.

Activities

The community development aspect of TACARE focuses on improving the standard of living in the region of Lake Tanganyika. It contains activities in Saving and credit, Promotion of fuel-saving stoves, Village Development Fund for village infrastructure, and a Scholarships for girls.

TACARE's forestry initiatives are multi-faceted. Tree nurseries support reforestation efforts and provide economic opportunity. Tree planting in and around villages promotes a conservation ethic as well as reforestation. Village-managed forest reserves provide a regulated long-term means of conserving forest. TACARE promotes agricultural practices that follow sustainability principles by focusing on demonstration plots, training farmers and peer educators in on-farm agro-forestry and soil erosion control measures. TACARE's health projects focus on improving access to family planning and reproductive education and supplies and include outreach and capacity-building on Voluntary Counseling Services and Family Planning Methods, formation of Community-Based Distribution Agents - , community members selected by peers to disseminate family planning information and resources, and environmental health interventions such as water and sanitation. Finally TACARE implements the Roots & Shoots, a global environmental and humanitarian initiative for youth who take an active role in developing and implementing projects relating to animals, the environment, and their communities

Nepal ADRA - Integrating Population & Health into Forest Management Agendas

<http://www.adranepal.org/programs/detail.php?id=19>

In Nepal, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has extensive experience in promoting family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) through projects like the “Eastern Region Family Planning Expansion Project” with over 500,000 beneficiaries. ADRA will bring this experience to bear as it assumes the role as the coordinating NGO for the two year “Integrating Population & Health into Forest Management Agendas” Project. In this pilot PHE Project, ADRA will guide and oversee the integration of FP/RH into ongoing natural resource management work implemented by WWF and RIMS Nepal that is focusing on Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs). The purpose of this project is test the concept of using community forestry institutions to plan, implement, and monitor community-based and integrated PHE strategies and activities that improve human and ecosystem health and contributes to post conflict rebuilding in Nepal.

Development Challenge

A recent assessment of USAID/Nepal’s assistance to community forestry confirmed that USAID-supported activities have strengthened the capacity of user groups to manage forest resources in a sustainable and democratic way and their efforts are helping to conserve biological diversity. Notable progress was also observed in the promotion of health-related technologies such as improved cooking stoves and biogas-latrine systems. In the same communities, high levels of unmet need for family planning (FP) and other reproductive health (RH) services are observed. Provision of FP/RH services is hampered by a lack of appropriate local institutions. Noting that CFUGs are often the only viable and functioning local institutions in much of rural Nepal, the Project seeks to build the capacity of these user groups to respond to the FP/RH needs of their members and the environmental challenges posed by increasing population pressure in forest corridors and buffer zones.

Approach

With over 14,000 CFUG and federations operating nationwide, and the presence of large conservation projects covering several globally-significant protected areas, national forests and nature reserves in Nepal - the potential for rapid scale-up of successful PHE approaches on a district-wide or landscape-wide or ecoregion-wide basis is promising and unique in the developing world. As the NGO responsible for coordinating integration of FP/RH programs into ongoing User Group activities, ADRA will help to establish models for integrating FP/RH capacity into CFUGs. The proposed model will integrate FP/RH and environment components into community forestry users groups and literacy groups. This is expected to bring about the desired change in the lives of the targeted women, their families and communities in the project districts.

Activities

ADRA will supervise, provide technical assistance to, and train staff of the two implementing NGOs (WWF and RIMS). This will focus on integrating FP/RH capacity into the NGOs and ultimately into the user groups themselves. ADRA will work with SSF and RIMS to ensure that User Groups will support community based commodity distribution systems, build Peer Education and Behavior Change Communication skills in adults and youth. ADRA will support this work by updating and revising existing training materials/modules/curriculum for use in the sequential training workshops, and by existing NGO partners to incorporate FP/RH and PHE information and modules into their ongoing literacy training programs for CFUG members.

Nepal Resource Identification and Management Society (RIMS) -World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Integrating Population and Health into Forest Management Agendas, 2006-2008.

<http://rimsnepal.org/introduction.php>

RIMS is an Nepali NGO that specializes in the identification and sustainable management of local resources with a focus on building skills and capacity of women, the poor and Dalits. Its programs work to enable CFUG and other grassroots organizations to advocate for gender and social inclusion and to actively manage the forest, conserve agro-biodiversity, harvest and market Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) in a sustainable manner, and disseminate improved cooking stove technology. RIMS will participate with the WWF and will receive support in Reproductive Health and Family Planning by International NGO ADRA in this Project, the purpose of which is test the use of community forestry institutions to plan, implement, and monitor community-based and integrated PHE activities.

Development Challenge

A recent assessment of USAID/Nepal's assistance to community forestry confirmed that USAID-supported activities have strengthened the capacity of user groups to manage forest resources in a sustainable and democratic way and their efforts are helping to conserve biological diversity. Notable progress was also observed in the promotion of health-related technologies such as improved cooking stoves and biogas-latrline systems. In the same communities, high levels of unmet need for FP/ RH services are observed. Provision of FP/RH services is hampered by a lack of appropriate local institutions. Noting that User Groups are often the only viable local institutions in much of rural Nepal, the Project seeks to build the capacity of these user groups to respond to the FP/RH needs of their members and the environmental challenges posed by increasing population pressure in forest corridors and buffer zones.

Approach

With over 14,000 CFUG and federations operating nationwide, and the presence of large conservation projects covering several globally-significant protected areas, national forests and nature reserves in Nepal - the potential for rapid scale-up of successful PHE approaches on a district-wide or landscape-wide or ecoregion-wide basis is promising and unique in the developing world. RIMS/Nepal brings programming experience, partnerships with key Nepali government and local organizations, and an extensive existing programming platform to this PHE Project. The project will support RIMS to promote family planning and PHE concepts in the same 27 VDCs where Improved Cook Stove (ICS) promoters and Non-Forest Timber Products (NTFP) facilitators currently operate. RIMS will be a lead partner for modeling and testing mechanisms for promoting RH/FP within the context of sustainable livelihood and in conjunction with ICS and NTFP technologies. With Support from ADRA/Nepal RIMS will develop and apply IEC strategies that simultaneously create demand for FP/RH and ICS services and products at the community level.

Activities

The RIMS/Nepal will target VDCs and CFUGs in 27 villages in the Mid-hill district of Dhading, District. PHE outreach activities will include:

- Community-based distribution (CBD) of non-clinical FP methods.
- Interpersonal Peer-mediated behavior change communication (BCC)
- Literacy training courses that disseminate information about FP/RH, environment, etc,
- Public information campaigns using local media to increase community awareness of PHE
- Inputs to Community Forestry Operational Plans that integrate population and RH perspectives
- Meetings and dialogue between local CFUGs and health officers
- Program monitoring activities to track progress towards PHE objectives

Nepal and India: World Wildlife Fund (WWF) - Integrating Population & Health into Forest Management Agendas (2006 – 2008)

http://nepal.panda.org/our_solutions/conservation_nepal/tal/

The Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) in Nepal and India encompasses one of the most biologically diverse habitats on Earth. Its alluvial grasslands and subtropical deciduous forests support 86 species of mammals, 550 species of birds, 47 species of reptiles and amphibians, 126 species of fish, and over 2,100 species of flowering plants. TAL covers the only remaining natural habitat on the southern slopes of the Himalayas for the Royal Bengal tiger, Asian elephant and one-horned rhinoceros.

With 40 years of presence in Nepal, WWF has transitioned from an early focus on species conservation, protected areas and research, to a more collaborative approach that promotes participatory involvement of local people in conservation in broad landscapes. To do this, WWF works in partnership with donors, stakeholders, interest groups, and local people. WWF/Nepal is building on this platform by integrating health and population activities into the ongoing community forestry user group (CFUG) activities in the Khata area near Bardia National Park in the southwest of Nepal, with support from Johnson & Johnson and USAID. With Johnson & Johnson funding that started in 2003, support has been provided to: establish a health clinic promote biogas and improved cook stoves; and improve of water supplies. The project also collaborates with the Nepal Red Cross Society to train women health workers in family planning and reproductive health work, and to promote awareness on reproductive health care among adolescent groups through peer education.

The USAID-funded project complements and expands this work, aiming to test the use of community forestry institutions to plan, implement, and monitor community-based and integrated population, health, and environment (PHE) activities. WWF will participate with the Nepali NGO RIMS and will receive support in Reproductive Health and Family Planning from International NGO Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in this project.

Development Challenge

A recent demographic analysis by WWF Nepal in the Terai Arc revealed that the population in the landscape has more than doubled since the 1970s (from 2.5 million in 1971 to 6.7 million in 2001). Population growth rate during 1991 – 2001 was 2.83%, compared with the national rate of 2.25%, and future projections for the Terai estimate that population size will reach 8.8 million by 2016. This will cause increased pressure on the Terai's already threatened natural resources and biodiversity. In communities already working with successful USAID/Nepal projects targeting forestry user groups, high levels of unmet need for family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) are observed. Provision of FP/RH is hampered by a lack of appropriate local institutions. Noting that user groups are often the only viable local institutions in much of rural Nepal, this follow-up USAID-funded Project seeks to build the capacity of these user groups to

respond to the FP/RH needs of their members and the environmental challenges posed by increasing population pressure in forest corridors and buffer zones.

Approach

With over 14,000 CFUG and federations operating nationwide, and the presence of large conservation projects covering several globally-significant protected areas, national forests and nature reserves in Nepal - the potential for rapid scale-up of successful PHE approaches on a district-wide, landscape-wide or ecoregion-wide basis is promising and unique in the developing world. WWF/Nepal brings years of programming experience, partnerships with key Nepali government and local organizations, and an extensive existing PHE programming platform to this project. WWF/Nepal's own capacity to deliver different aspects of FP/ RH programming will be strengthened, and in turn will build FP/RH extension capacity of local user groups. ADRA will support WWF in building both their own and user group capacity to deliver FP/RH extension.

PATH Foundation's Integrated Population and Coastal Resource Management (IPOPCORM) Initiative Philippines

<http://www.pfpi.org/>

IPOPCORM (2001 – 2008) is a flagship PHE program that by virtue of attaining its health and environment objectives, has become a source of best practices for the international PHE field. The goal of IPOPCORM is to improve food security and quality of life of human communities that depend upon coastal resources while maintaining biological diversity and productivity of coastal ecosystems. Its purpose is to encourage and support the integration of population management and reproductive health (RH) strategies into coastal resource management (CRM) agendas in selected biogeographic zones characterized by high marine biodiversity and high population growth and momentum. . Within these coastal "hot spot" areas, PATH Foundation works through local government and NGO partners to: 1) improve RH outcomes; 2) enhance community-based management of coastal and marine resources; 3) support alternative livelihood options; and 4) increase policymakers' awareness and support for integrated approaches. .

Development Challenge

Between 1966 and 1986, the productivity of the Philippines coral reefs dropped by one-third as the national population doubled. More recent data showing that population growth has outstripped food fish production in coastal Visayas indicates the beginning of a crisis in the security of food from aquatic resources. This was acknowledged by the government in a 1999 report: "if current trends of over fishing and environmental degradation continue, coastal resources will not be able to provide enough food for the Philippines growing population."

Results of IPOPCORM's baseline ecology and population surveys (2001) reveal evidence of environmental degradation and critical overfishing" in coastal and island ecosystems surveyed in Northern Palawan. High levels of fertility, childhood malnutrition, poverty and chronic food insecurity were also found in households surveyed in the same areas.

Approach

IPOPCORM's change theory is based on Marten's "linked eco-social system" concept and the belief that small improvements in social and/or ecological systems reinforce one another and can turn around both systems from degradation to health. Trends observed in the aforesaid baseline data informed the project's holistic approach to improve human and ecosystem health, incorporating integrated coastal management (ICM) as a strategy for food security, and family planning as a "strategic intervention" to reduce fishing effort and population pressures in the coastal zone.

Activities

IPOPCORM works at international, national, provincial and local levels to support the impact and sustainability of community-driven field interventions. It also works at the cutting edge to document synergies and capture successful approaches to PHE scale-up. Lessons learned from a province-wide scale-up in Siquijor (2006) and ongoing ecosystem-wide scale-up in the Danajon Barrier Reef (Central Visayas) continue to inform PHE strategies and programs around the world. Key IPOPCORM activities are summarized as follows:

- Policy advocacy at international, national, provincial and local levels
- Community organizing, participatory planning and resource assessment
- Community-based and ICM activities including habitat protection, enforcement of fisheries code, alternative livelihood development and population-environment IEC
- Community-based family planning and RH management including contraceptive social marketing, AIDS prevention education, and RH referral services
- Program monitoring and behavior change monitoring (illegal fishing, FP practice etc)
- Operations research to test the hypothesis that integrated approaches yield bigger payoffs than single sector approaches.

The ACQUIRE Project—Access, Quality, and Use in Reproductive Health

<http://www.acquireproject.org/archive/html/index.html>

<http://www.acquireproject.org/>

The ACQUIRE Project—Access, Quality, and Use in Reproductive Health—was a five-year (2003–2008) global project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Bureau for Global Health/Office of Population and Reproductive Health’s Service Delivery Improvement Division. ACQUIRE’s goal was to increase the use of RH/FP services, with a focus on facility-based services and clinical contraception, especially long-acting and permanent methods of contraception (LAPMs). Given the project’s focus on facility-based care, strengthening training and improving the health care infrastructure for provider-dependent clinical services (including LAPMs, postabortion care, and integrated RH services) were central to ACQUIRE’s efforts.

Wildlife Conservation Society - Madagascar: Integrating Health and Family Planning Interventions into the Makira Forest Project.

<http://www.wcs.org/saving-wild-places/africa/makira-masoala.aspx>

The Wildlife Conservation Society, as an international conservation organization active in Madagascar since 1994, is committed to ensuring the conservation of Madagascar's biodiversity through sound management practices based on solid research. The WCS Makira Forest Project, in collaboration with PSI Madagascar and CARE International, addresses this issue of biodiversity protection and resource conservation in the face of expanding rural human population pressure. This project demonstrates the importance of PHE in linking improved health and productivity with improved livelihoods and land stewardship.

Development Challenge

The species diversity and endemism levels of the Makira landscape are among the highest in the country and, as a result, some of the highest in the world. The Makira forests also serve as the principle resource base for a largely rural subsistence-based human population of greater than 150,000 individuals. Driven by subsistence need, these populations are putting continuous pressure on the forest resources primarily through slash-and-burn clearing of the forest for agriculture and unsustainable extraction of non-timber forest resources. Limited access to basic health services and lack of health, welfare and family planning outreach programs in these rural communities further exacerbate the situation; depressing human productivity, livelihoods and motivating continued unsustainable resource use. With an estimated annual growth rate of 3.2% and over half of the population represented by individuals 17 years of age or younger, the severity of these threats are expected to increase as land access lessens and resource demands climb.

Approach

The long term goal of the WCS Makira PHE program is to improve human health while reducing unsustainable human resource use pressures thereby enhancing community well-being and their ability to effectively steward the land. Specific objectives of the PHE project are, using the Makira Forestry Project as a platform to: 1) Establish community awareness of and needs for health and family planning information, products and services; 2) Link health and family planning education with access to PSI health and family planning products. 3) Increase use of improved health and family planning methods within the communities. In the long term, integration of a PHE component into a wider suite of development activities will reinforce the links between improved human health and productivity, improved livelihoods, improved land stewardship, and resource conservation.

Activities

The WCS Makira Forest Project, PSI, and CARE will integrate health and family planning interventions into an established community environmental development program in the communities bordering the Makira Protected Area. The interventions will couple health and family planning education in these communities with access to PSI health and family planning products. This will include PSI-lead training to build the health outreach capacity of the WCS and CARE teams. WCS and CARE staff will then collaborate to launch an environment, health, and family planning education program in the project sites while building a cadre of the CARE program community-based health outreach agents. These agents will be trained by PSI, and supported by WCS, to sell PSI health and family planning products. The Team will create integrated health and environment messages which will be disseminated in the Makira region on a variety of health topics using radio.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF)- Successful Communities from Ridge to Reef in Madagascar.

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/pop/techareas/environment/ridge_reef.pdf

Stretching from Somalia to South Africa, the Coastal East Africa Eco-region is globally recognized for its marine biodiversity, with over 11,000 species, 60-70% of which are unique to the Indo-Pacific Ocean. On the Eco-region's northern edge sits Kenya's Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR), an area whose ecological integrity affects human and marine health along Africa's entire Northeastern coast. In 2004, WWF partnered with African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) to undertake a population-health-environment project in the KMNR

This Project is supported by funds from USAID for population-environment activities, and from Johnson & Johnson for basic health activities including HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention. The goal of this collaboration is to improve basic health care and moderate population growth in priority areas in and around the KMNR to improve community health, enable couples to have the family size they desire, promote sustainable natural resource management and improve local livelihoods. Through these partnerships, the Project is supporting substantial improvements in family planning and reproductive health outcomes in the KMNR area and building capacity for sustaining these successes.

Development Challenge

Local livelihoods are dependent on the region's outstanding marine and coastal resources. Unsustainable fishing practices, pollution, poor farming methods, habitat alteration, unchecked harvest of marine resources, and rising sea temperatures all threaten the rich marine and terrestrial habitats of the KMNR – and the communities that depend on them. The local natural resource base, including freshwater and fisheries are already severely depleted and yet population is growing at a rate of 2.5% per year. Resource depletion is entrenching job insecurity and perpetrating poverty, which in turn fosters out-migration to urban centers. Resulting female-headed households depend more on traditional products directly extracted from the already fragile ecosystem, including turtle meat and eggs to support families. The economic migration of males to and from urban areas exacerbates the spread of HIV/AIDS. The region also suffers from an almost complete lack of access to health services and commodities, further undermining livelihood opportunities for local families.

Approach

The USAID-funded Project provides reproductive health and family planning services in key areas where there is an unmet need for family planning, and population growth has serious impacts on natural resources and biodiversity. Project activities focus on reducing population pressures and on finding sustainable solutions for local livelihoods. Existing health services are strengthened, particularly in providing quality reproductive health (RH) care. In KMNR and its

catchments where government health services do not reach, the Project's partners provide general health, family planning (FP) and RH through mobile clinics.

Activities

The Project increases awareness and adoption of FP/RH by implementing an integrated reproductive health education program and promoting and providing FP/RH and ante-natal care. Training of health volunteers, commodity distributors, health professionals, youth, women's and fishermen's groups are the cornerstone of this education effort. The Project supports sustainability of these services by improving health infrastructure, strengthening health service institutions, and developing improved logistical channels to optimize the movement of health commodities. Natural resource management themes are integrated into all health activities, and the Project links local populations to opportunities that support them in their efforts to improve their economic well-being.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) - Successful Communities from Ridge to Reef

Encircled by the populace of three developing nations (Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines), the Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME) is a plethora of marine biodiversity. The marine resources of the SSME are critical to commercial fisheries and the livelihoods of over 35 million coastal people. The coastal population density in this region is among the highest in the world. In 2005, WWF, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Roxas District in Palawan, the Philippines, and Save the Children, acting on the priorities identified by a local participatory planning assessment, started working together to improve family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) while also integrating marine resource management and awareness into natural resource management planning. The overall goal is to ensure sustainable natural resources management in priority areas of the SSME by addressing environmental threats as well as underlying population issues.

Development Challenge

The SSME has large coastal populations, high population density, rapid population growth, porous borders, transmigration, and illegal fishing -- all contributing to environmental degradation. Population is on track to double in SSME by 2035. The exponential growth of population, coupled with widespread poverty, increasing international market demand and rapid technological changes is fueling rapid depletion of natural resources in the SSME that market forces alone are incapable of repairing. All this is compounded by inefficiencies in governance and a lack of awareness and/or acceptance of some laws among local populations. These key root causes all contribute to illegal practices and corruption, and result in severe marine resource depletion and ecosystem degradation.

Approach

WWF (with capacity in environmental and natural resource management) has partnered with the LGU in Roxas to implement integrated population, health and environment (PHE) activities. Save the Children provides health and family planning expertise, and technical assistance in applying integrated PHE approaches and tools. Officials from Roxas and Project staff took part in exchange visits to other PHE projects in the Philippines to understand the important linkages between environmental stewardship, population growth, community health, and economic sustainability. In partnership with the LGU, the Project aims to build local capacity to provide access to high quality reproductive health in key areas where population growth has serious impacts on natural resources and biodiversity. The Project integrates environmental and resource management activities that help local populations find more sustainable solutions for local livelihoods, while institutionalizing PHE planning in LGU government processes.

Activities

The Project raises awareness of FP and RH options through its integrated PHE message. Community health volunteers and commodity distributors are identified, trained and become part of the FP/RH outreach and access structure that the project facilitates. Exchange visits are an important educational activity for these community workers. The Project strengthens health service infrastructure and supply lines for FP/RH commodities, coordinating with private sector and government entities and facilitating establishment of commodity outlets that are functioning businesses. Simultaneously, the Project builds local capacity in marine resource monitoring and planning. WWF has already introduced a new strain of seaweed to help improve seaweed farming, an alternative livelihood, and is promoting sustainable fishing practices, while helping to establish marine protected areas. These activities are implemented within a context of mainstreaming PHE planning and integrating PHE concepts and approaches into local behaviors and culture.

World Wildlife Fund - Successful Communities from Ridge to Reef: Population-Health-Environment Analysis

WWF is conducting in-depth interviews with population, health and environment (PHE) practitioners around the developing world to inform an analysis of PHE programming approaches. This worldwide analysis will contribute to knowledge, tools and increased capacity that will enable conservation and health organizations including WWF to prioritize efforts and increase their effectiveness in this field. The PHE analysis aims to develop and strengthen field PHE approaches and scaling-up strategies.

Development Challenge

Integrated development programs, because of complexities inherent in implementing activities in different disciplines, present challenges in developing best practices, tools for programming, and systems for monitoring and evaluation, and that can be applied broadly. The PHE field is no different. After a dozen years of PHE experience by different organizations in countries around the globe, practitioners have expressed a strong need to collect lessons learned, articulate best PHE practices, and generate programming tools.

Approach

WWF is implementing USAID-supported PHE project activities in four countries: Madagascar, Kenya, the Philippines and Nepal. The WWF experiences in these countries will provide valuable inputs to the PHE analysis, but the analysis also draws on results from other health and environment projects of WWF and of other conservation organizations. The analysis complements and develops synergies with other USAID-funded reproductive health-environment activities in the PHE field, for example those of Conservation International and the Jane Goodall Institute. There is also close collaboration with Population Reference Bureau (PRB), drawing on its research and capacity-building experiences, and with PRB action research programs in PHE. The worldwide analysis will produce conclusions with respect to the value of reproductive health actions in meeting biodiversity conservation goals, and evaluate different approaches for the same.

Activities

WWF engaged field partners in a participatory planning activity that informed the design of the analysis. Data is gathered through in-depth interviews with PHE project managers and other PHE field practitioners, and reviews of reports and documents from PHE projects around the world. Key analysis areas are:

- review of the value-added of integrated PHE approaches
- identification of factors contributing to effective PHE partnerships

- review of opportunities for scaling up PHE approaches beyond the site and landscape levels
- identification/.development of tools for PHE .

Based on information gathered through this activity, WWF will develop a decision-making framework and tools for conservation field practitioners. Finally, WWF will use the analysis to inform approaches for capacity building activities in population-health-environment work, especially in the conservation sector, providing technical support to population-health-environment projects in WWF field sites as well as undertaking networking and outreach on population-health-environment issues.