

Main lessons learned from an innovative pilot project



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Adversity strengthens alliance of partners

Solidarity of conservation partners under UNESCO neutrality



Coordinated approach to conservation and bioregional planning

Direct support to ICCN field staff

Initially focused on guards

Constraints for delivery of funds to the field

Must not be used as pretext by government for non payment of salaries and benefits

Staff rejuvenation - unwillingness of retired staff to leave stations and return to their villages



Capacity building

Scale of training requirement underestimated

Innovative Law Enforcement Monitoring and Bio-monitoring developed



Linking payment of bonuses to performance through LEM is vital

Need to ensure that LEM is not seen simply as a necessary constraint for obtaining bonuses

Community Conservation

A group of people, including men and women, are gathered under a traditional thatched roof structure. They appear to be in a community meeting or discussion. Some are wearing hats, and the setting is outdoors with trees visible in the background.

Skills and experience vary between partners

Choice of CC activities best done by linking positive collaboration of communities with various forms of support from the site

Involving the full range of stakeholders is onerous but essential

ICCN needs to be at the forefront of these activities

Alliances must be forged with institutions specialised in rural animation

International and political support

An aerial photograph of a village with many small, simple houses, situated near a river. In the background, there are green hills and mountains under a clear sky.

Best results obtained by interventions from “outside” partners rather than the field based partners

Conservation “diplomacy” under the UN umbrella requires sustained follow-up

Cooperation with the military is sometimes necessary but only on a case by case basis

Poor synergies between UN agencies in DRC led to missed opportunities

Neutral status for World Heritage Sites a priority



Sustainable funding

Involvement of UNESCO - WHC was a catalyst for mobilizing new partners

...although linkages with other UN programs proved difficult to establish

Trust Funds are extremely difficult to establish in times of war