Environmental Conservation

Themed Issue on

Community-based Natural Resource Management:
Designing the next generation of models

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) has been a pervasive paradigm in conservation circles for three decades. Despite many potentially attractive attributes it has been extensively critiqued from both ecological and sociological perspectives with respect to both theory and practice (see for example, Leach et al. 1999, Berkes 2004, Fabricius et al. 2004, Blaikie 2006). Nonetheless, many successful examples exist, although against a back drop of a greater number that seemingly has not. Is this because of poor implementation or rather a generally flawed model in the first place? If the criteria and conditions for success are so onerous that relatively few projects or situations are likely to qualify, what then is the value of the model in the first place? The question thus becomes, is it time to abandon CBNRM as an outdated and impossible ideal for conservation in a changing world, or learn from the past theory and practice to develop a new generation of flexible, responsive and implementable CBNRM models? If the latter, what are likely to be the attributes of such a model?

Submitted papers may address, but are not limited to, the following subjects (reporting on or reviewing case studies where appropriate):

- Review: CBNRM - past, present and future
- Are the goals of community development and natural resource conservation truly compatible?
- The role of local or traditional ecological knowledge in advancing CBNRM
- Unveiling the conservation benefits of CBNRM
- Dealing with spatial and temporal complexities in CBNRM formulation and implementation
- CBNRM – conserving the community or conserving natural resources?
- Designing CBNRM models to accommodate multiple and contrasting community actors
- The future face of CBNRM
- One size does not fit all – how to build in flexibility and adaptability in CBNRM
- Is Intra-community CBNRM the future?
- When is a community ready for CBNRM?
- Despite the local focus, an enabling macro context is the foundation for successful CBNRM

Managing Editor
Professor Charlie Shackleton (Rhodes University, S Africa)

Submission Guidelines
Only original and unpublished high-quality research papers are considered and manuscripts must be in English. Instructions for Authors can be found at http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayMoreInfo?id=ENC&type=ifc and papers must be submitted via the journal web submission route (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/envcon). You must provide a cover letter to indicate that the submission is for “The Issue on Community-based Natural Resource Management”. If this is not supplied, or if insufficient papers are accepted for a particular theme, they will be published by the journal as regular submissions. All papers will be submitted to a rigorous peer-review process and the mere fact that they are part of a themed issue (solicited or not) does not guarantee acceptance

Important Dates
Manuscript submission deadline: 1st Sept 2009
Publication of themed issue: around May 2010 (to be confirmed)