



**POSTER PRESENTED AT THE ALLIANCES WORKSHOP AT THE
IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS ENTITLED:**

**“FOLLOWING THE NATURE, WEALTH AND POWER TRINITY TO HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENTS AND HEALTHY PEOPLE”**

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BARCELONA, SPAIN

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Posters Presented By:

1. Peter Coppolillo, Wildlife Conservation Society – Chickens, nutrition and bushmeat in Tanzania.
2. Charles Foley, Wildlife Conservation Society – Conservation easements in Tanzania.
3. David Meyers, Madagascar Bamboo – Bamboo and carbon offsets in Madagascar.
4. Sharon Gordon, Millennium Development Goals Centre, East & Southern Africa - Using incentives for energy and resource management in Kenya

Panelists:

1. Lisa Naughton, Land Tenure Center, University of Wisconsin
2. Ann Koontz, Enterprise Works/Vita
3. Alice Ruwheza, Forest Trends
4. David Wilkie, Wildlife Conservation Society

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TransLinks

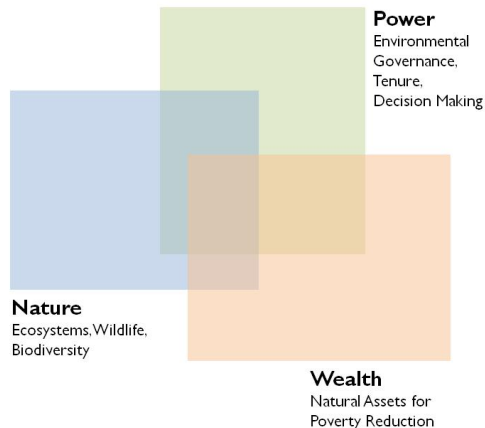
Promoting Transformation by Linking Nature, Wealth and Power

Linking Resource Management, Poverty Reduction and Equitable Governance

TransLinks is a 5-year Leader-with-Associates (LWA) cooperative agreement designed to integrate and increase social, economic and environmental benefits through sustainable natural resource management. This partnership of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS, lead organization), Enterprise Works/VITA, Forest Trends, the Earth Institute of Columbia University, the Land Tenure Center of the University of Wisconsin, and USAID draws on



best practices such as the USAID-funded Nature, Wealth and Power framework and TransLinks partners' expertise in biodiversity conservation, payments for ecosystem services, sustainable enterprises and livelihoods, and land tenure and resource property rights.



Nature ■ Wealth ■ Power

Many of the world's poorest people live in rural areas that are extremely rich in biological diversity, but isolated from social services and economic opportunities. Lack of livelihood options in these areas results in heavy dependence on natural resources as a source of sustenance and income.

Where local governance systems are unable to establish and enforce natural resource use norms, the very resources upon which the rural poor depend may be depleted through unsustainable use. Where globalization has increased the industrial scale extraction of natural resources, local access to ecosystem services is often diminished, sustainable management systems are frequently compromised and resource dependent families are commonly impoverished.

Overdependence on declining natural resources can result in a poverty trap for rural families that may exacerbate existing challenges with health, education, clean water, fuel and income. Persistent poverty and livelihood insecurity can foment or perpetuate conflict, further diminishing the investments needed to foster economic growth.

For these reasons, understanding the relationships between Nature (ecosystem services), Wealth (income from natural and social assets) and Power (governance systems that manage and distribute benefits from natural resources) is critical for developing more effective approaches towards rural poverty alleviation and sustainable natural resource management.

The TransLinks Approach

TransLinks aims to address these issues by:

- identifying practical field-tested approaches that simultaneously promote natural resource conservation, rural wealth creation and strong, equitable governance;
- developing diagnostic and decision support tools for conservation and development practitioners



- sharing knowledge and skills across partners to speed learning about good governance, conservation and wealth creation practices, and
- global dissemination of knowledge, tools and best practices for promoting wealth creation of the rural poor, environmental governance and resource conservation.



Over the 5-year life of the program, TransLinks aims to develop a coherent, compelling and, most importantly, useful corpus of information about the value of, and approaches to, integrating Nature, Wealth and Power. To do this, TransLinks is structuring the work around two core issues – 1) payments for ecosystem services and 2) property rights and resource tenure.

Linking Payments for Ecosystem Services and Governance

TransLinks is focusing on Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) because it is a relatively new and rapidly evolving approach for conserving biodiversity and securing livelihoods outside of protected areas over the long term. Given this, we need to better understand when and why

these PES approaches are most viable and effective. As PES systems typically require willing buyers to purchase services from willing sellers, the latter must have either traditional or legal authority to sell or lease these services. Understanding the role that property rights and resource tenure play in facilitating and maintaining PES markets is critical. TransLinks will explore these issues to characterize how rights and tenure influence the establishment of markets and the distribution of benefits to ecosystem service providers or guardians.

For PES markets to deliver the desired outcomes of natural resource conservation and rural poverty alleviation over the long term, governance systems that regulate the access to and meter the use of natural resources, and ensure the equitable sharing of benefits from their sale need to be in place. Given this, TransLinks is also investigating how local governance systems can establish and enforce resource use norms that limit and meter access to communally-shared ecosystem services.

These local-level institutions for managing natural resources, or community assets, are, in effect, micro-scale versions of the macro-scale institutions required for democratic and accountable government at the national level. Thus, helping rural communities develop functional natural resource governance systems is one of the most effective ways to provide the public with a clear and practical knowledge of not only how good systems of government work, but why they are important. By doing so, we are effectively building demand for mu-

nicipal, regional and national level systems that are transparent, accountable and democratic.

More information

For more information on TransLinks please visit our website at <http://translinks.org>.

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