



Public Awareness through Pro- poor projects



Regional workshop on the implementation of Article 6 of the UNFCCC in Africa
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Outline of the presentation

- General introduction
- Concept of a Success Story
- The Initial Situation of Birunga National Park
- Methodology adopted to reverse the situation
- Problem tree
- Solution tree
- Challenges faced
- Key instruments
- Way forward



GENERAL INTRODUCTION

- After the Genocide 1994 that caused the lost of a great number of Human beings also the biodiversity was under degradation because of pressure on Natural Resources especially on ecosystems.
- Since the awareness in Climate Change was very low and it was very difficult to mobilize the SH in Environmental protection (Long term impact)
- Refer to the MDGs, Rwandan Vision 2020 and EDPRS Rwanda proposed many initiatives for protecting ecosystems for income generation and reducing cc effects this can not be achieved without the involvement of the public at the grass root level.



GENERAL INTRODUCTION (Con't)

- After translating those national documents into public interventions ecosystems have been rehabilitated. Eg: (12km² of Gishwati natural forest rehabilitated)
- 3 National parks (Akagera, Nyungwe and Birunga) are well protected.



CONCEPT OF SUCCESS STORY

- We understand by the success story that it is not a project or a program, it has been designed and successfully implemented and has some challenges, lessons learnt and if possible some recommendations can be highlighted (Protection of BIRUNGA National Park as a Rwandan Case). Others are :
Protection of Rugezi Wetlands, Agriculture innovations (Agro forestry) , Forests management initiatives, Renewable energy initiatives developed and implemented by the public)



WHAT WAS THE INITIAL SITUATION OF BNP

DEGRADED BIRUNGA NATIONAL PARK (By the surrounding communities : Hunters,.....) :
How now they took the lead in Environment and Climate Change Management?



Methodology

- Down-top planning (The public do their problems analysis)
- They adopt their priorities
- They state the strategies
- They Group themselves into groups for developing the projects generating revenues
- Finances requirements analysis (their shares into the pro-poor projects)
- Government shares (5% of the tourism resources)
now we are trying also to get the resources from the

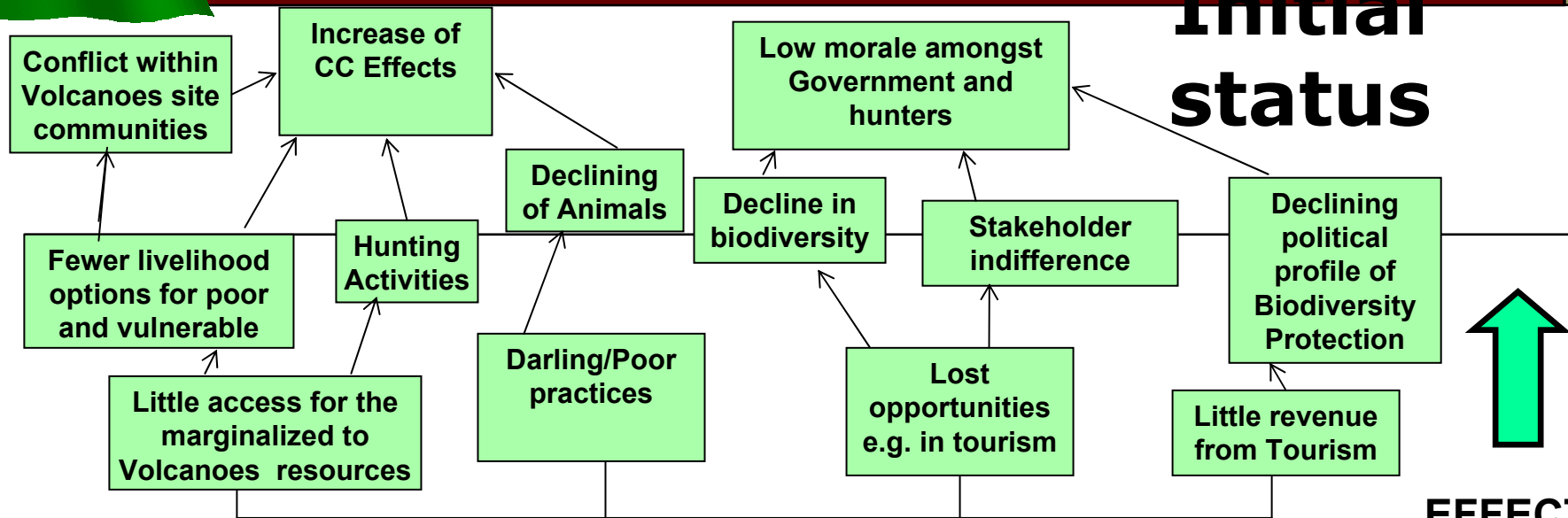


Methodology

- ❑ old vehicles taxes (which are polluting the area to restore the climate);.....
- ❑ Concrete Action and Demonstration activities are used to sensitize the whole rest of the country (On ground classrooms) : the population or Public Institutions : Each is requested to plant a forest (Schools, Ministries, Districts) : 10 trees by people, 10 are by Village,...Media (News papers , PRO, Radio, TV) disseminate the information.
- ❑ Clubs and committees sign the MoUs with the Local leaders (Imihigo : Performance contracts) for the sustainability of the projects.
- ❑ Selection of the best practices and be awarded the certificates of merit or financial awards (Symbol)

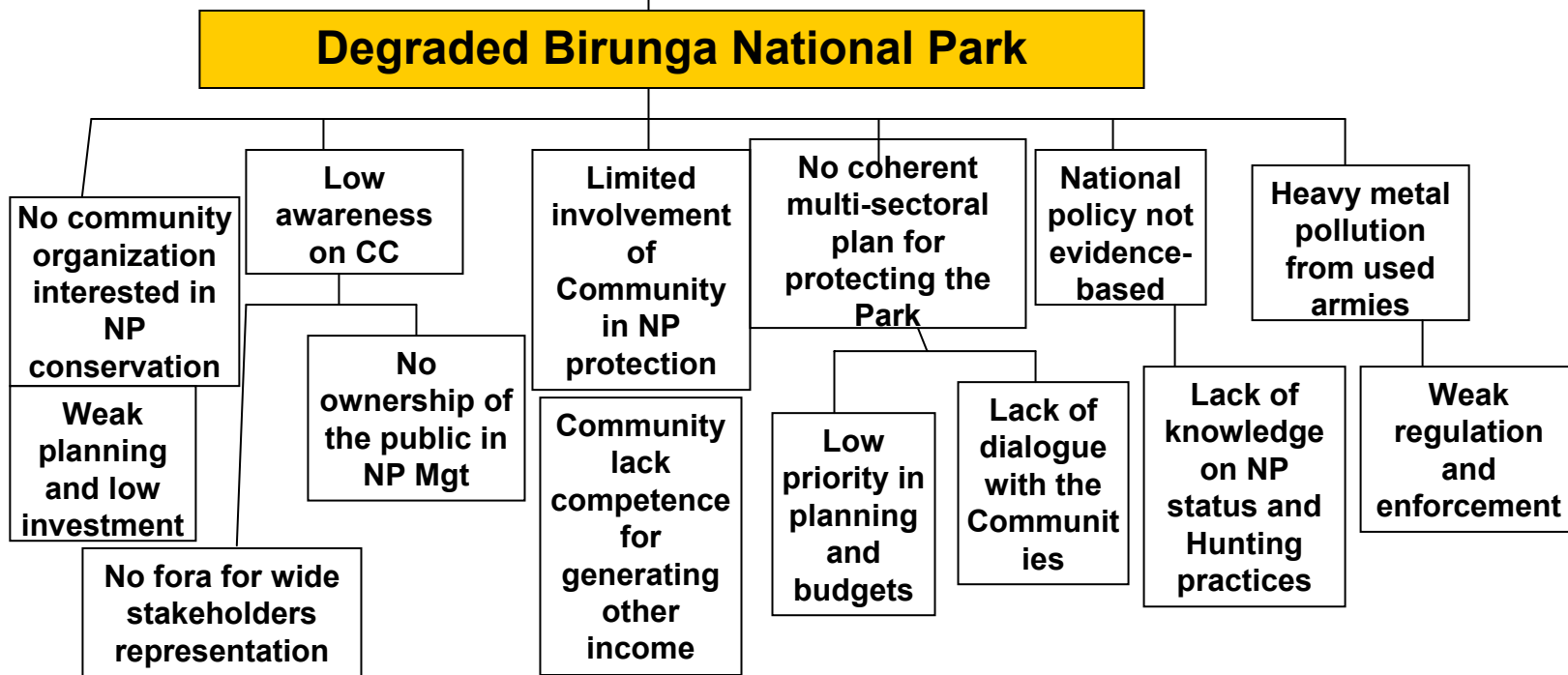


Initial status



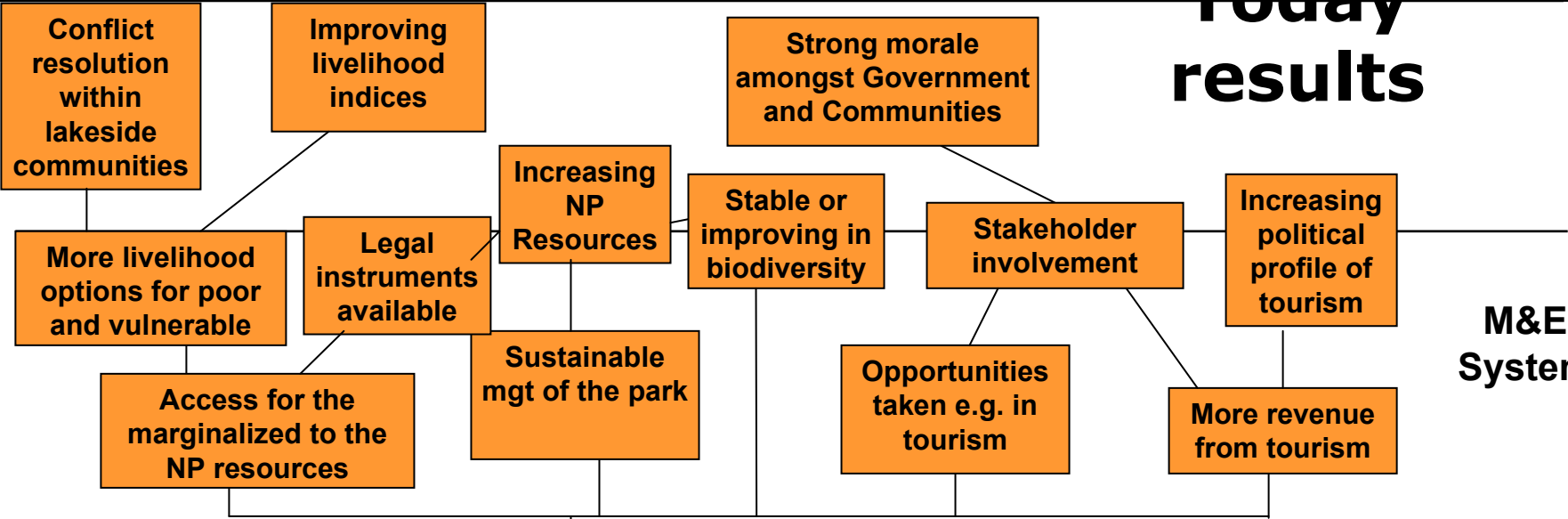
EFFECTS
So what?

CAUSES
But why?

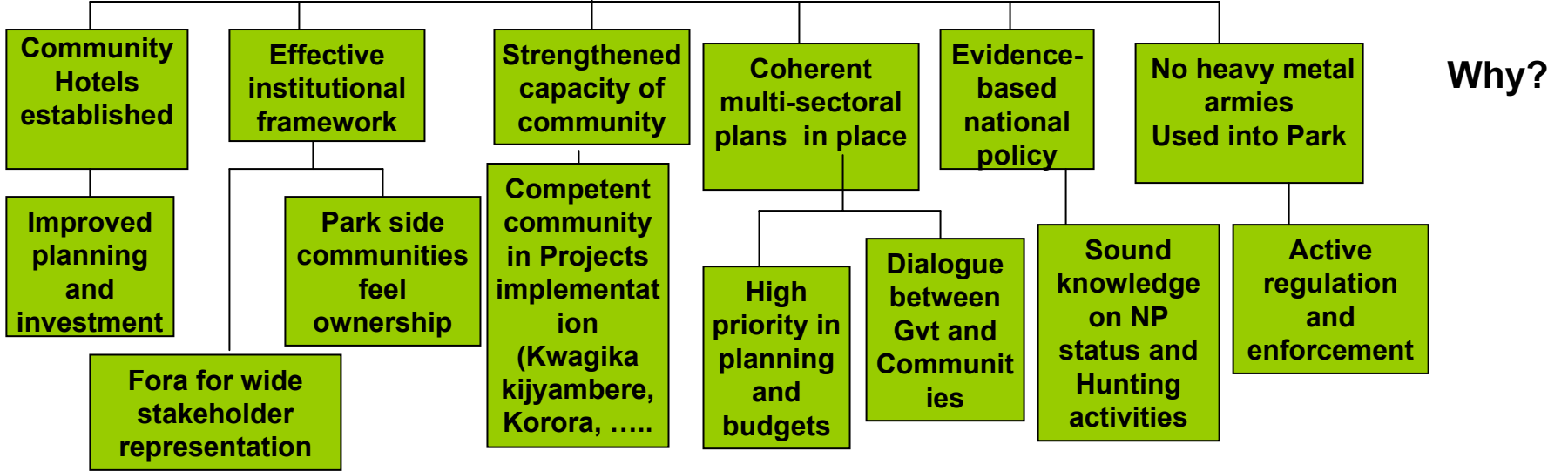




Today results



Integrated Birunga National Park management





Challenges

- ❑ Finances for the pro-poor projects
- ❑ Doing as usual practices
- ❑ Low awareness of public and Media into the Env't management



KEY INSTRUMENTS

- ❑ Strong political will of government of Rwanda in reducing the CC effects (Rwandan Environmental Law enacted in 2003)
- ❑ NAPA (National Action Plan for Adaptation)
- ❑ Regional forum (EAC, NBI,.....)
- ❑ EESD (Signed by Education and Environment Management Ministers)
- ❑ Rwanda Environment Management Authority
- ❑ Climate Change Unit
- ❑ Environment Education and Training Unit within the REMA
- ❑ Tourism policy, Strategy and Environment and Climate Change Management Sub Sector Strategic Plan (ECCMSSSP)



KEY INSTRUMENTS

- Cooperatives policy and Strategic plans
- Community mobilization
- Pro-poor projects
- All sectors consider Environment protection in Planning and Budgeting processes
- Environment and CC Management Focal Points in different Ministries



KEY INSTRUMENTS (Con't)

- Public Relation officer under REMA
- Training of the public on Climate change
- Translation of CC management documents into Kinyarwanda
- Office receptions and site visits of the National CC FP.
- Site tour of good practices of cc mitigation by Media and publish them on the Radio, News papers and TV



KEY INSTRUMENTS (Con't)

- Site visits of the Parliamentarians and increase the advocacy of the cc management in the Gvt Planning and Budgeting
- Renewable energy policies (**Biogas, Charcoal from peat and papyrus, hydropower, Solar energy, wind energy,...**)



Wayforward

- ❑ To continue to protect ecosystem areas especially National parks, Forests, Wetlands, Rivers.....
- ❑ To implement Land use, Forestry & WRM Master Plans
- ❑ To increase forest Cover as it is stated in our EDPRS (20.3%) from 20%
- ❑ To increase 5% of tourism revenues in Pro-poor activities which are helping to rise awareness in Climate Change mitigation and adaptation (Replication of such projects).



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- www.minela.gov.rw
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One world, One Africa, One voice, One...is our success.

THANK YOU

