




Understanding the Relationships between Protected Area Management and Local Communities

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Objectives

- ▶ to gain a better understanding of the factors influencing relationships between protected area managers and local communities
 - ▶ to assess an existing framework against a specific case study and other relevant literature
 - ▶ to propose an amended framework
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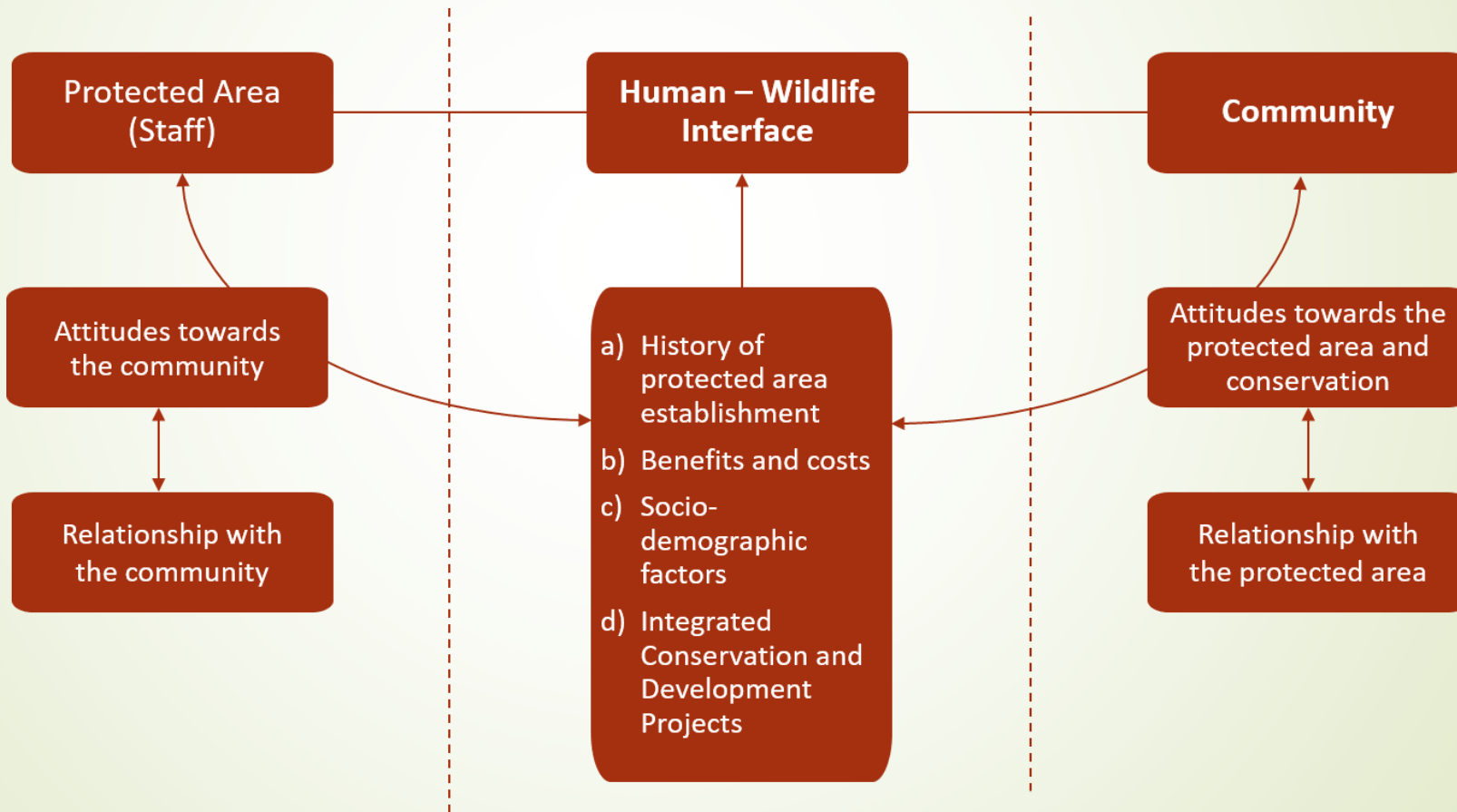
Relationships in the literature

- the importance of relationships
 - positive
 - negative
- the context of relationships
 - environmental
 - social
 - economic
- factors influencing relationships
 - general
 - frameworks



Relationship Framework

Mutanga et al, 2015



Analysis

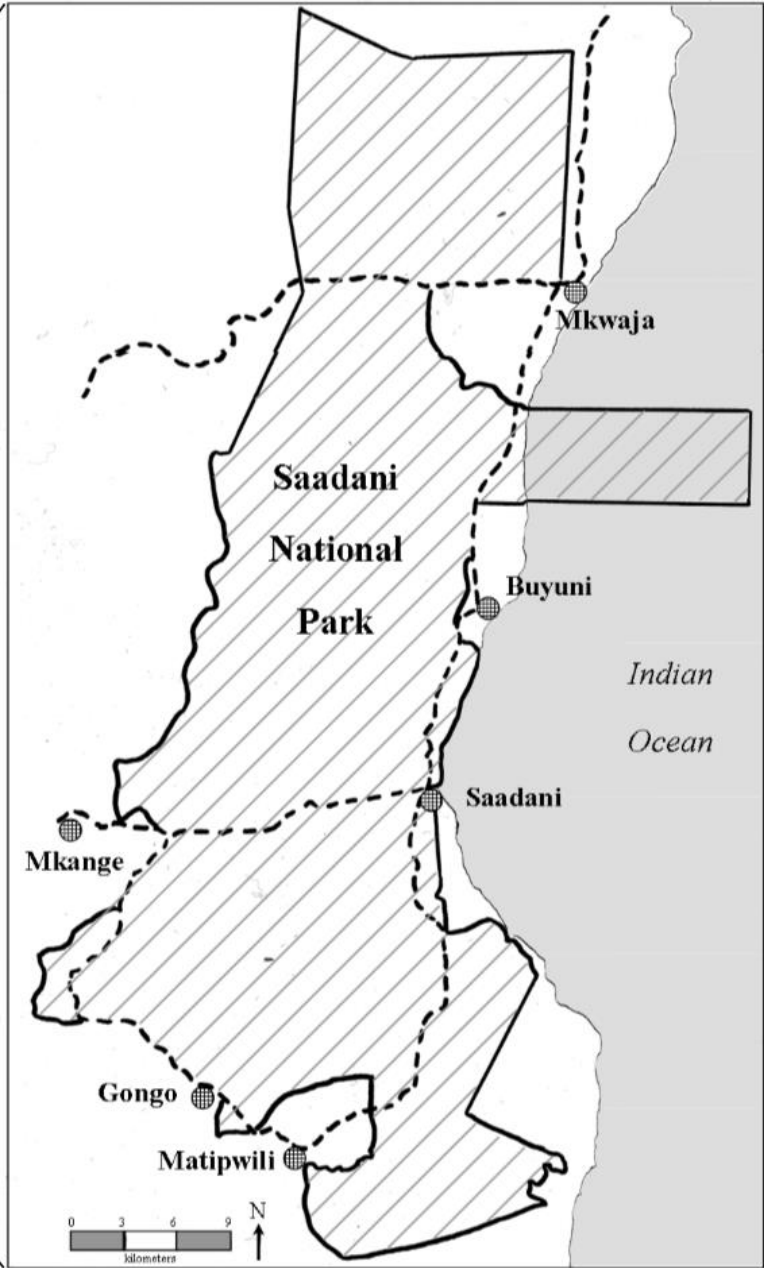
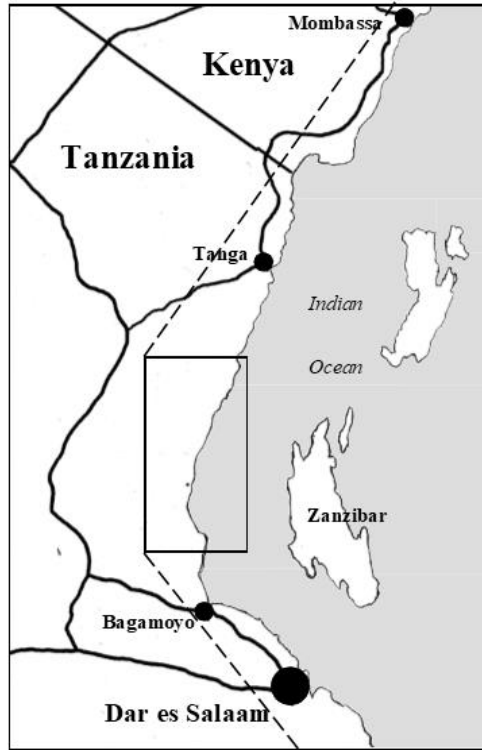
- strengths
 - two way relationships
 - history
 - socio-demographic characteristics
- weaknesses
 - ICDPs
 - time



Case Study: Saadani National Park Tanzania

- **location**
 - coastal, north of Dar es Salaam
 - associated communities
- **history**
 - land assembly – existing and negotiated village land
- **relationship issues**
 - Protected Areas and Poverty Reduction Research Alliance





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Relationship Issues

- boundaries
- jobs
- community services
- restrictions
- attitudes

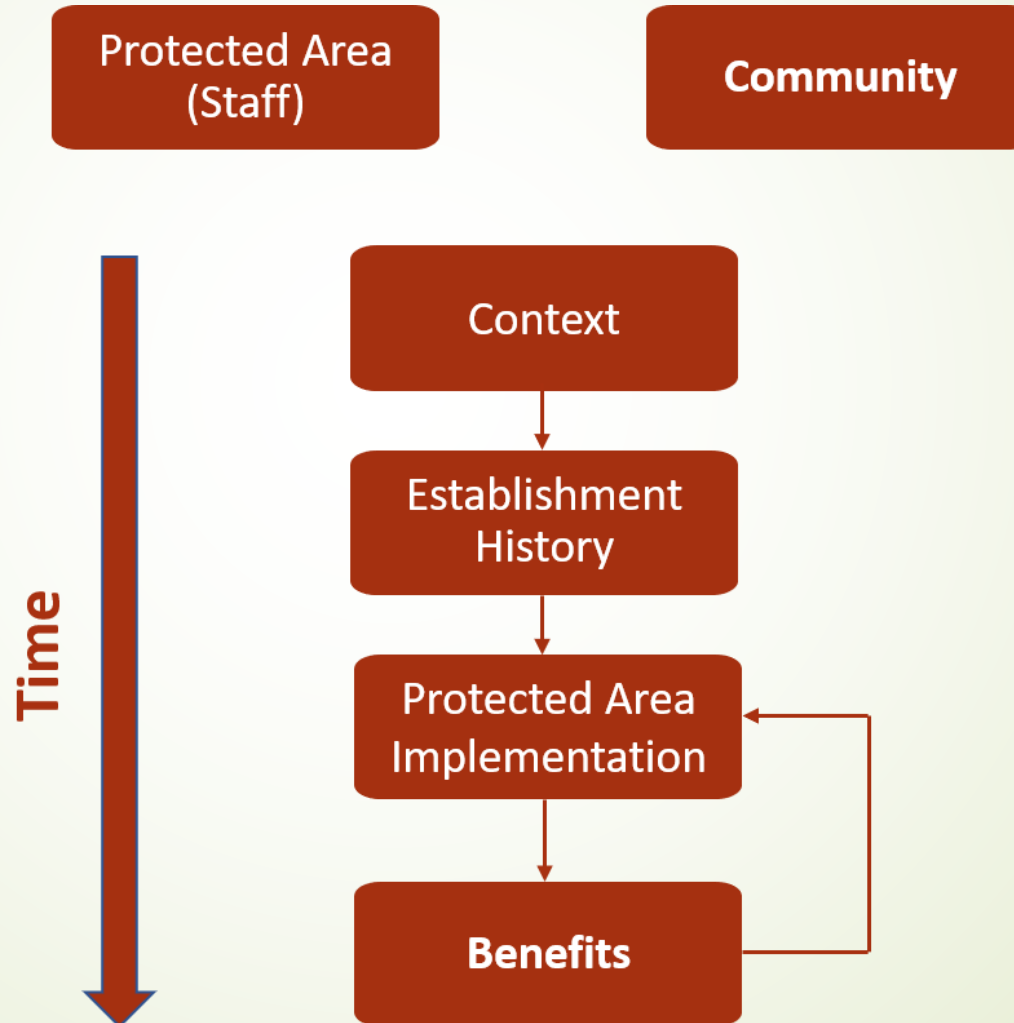




Reflections

- ▶ underestimated aspects of relationships
 - ▶ relations evolve over time
 - ▶ power dynamics are critical in shaping relationships
 - ▶ attitudes based on background and experience
- ▶ inconsistencies
 - ▶ ICDPs are a means through which influences are applied rather than an influence in themselves

A revised framework





Context stage

Protected area management

- ▶ policies
- ▶ system commitments (national & international)
- ▶ historical procedures and practices
- ▶ scientific knowledge

Communities

- ▶ assets
- ▶ livelihood patterns
- ▶ socio-economic characteristics
- ▶ culture & traditional knowledge



Protected Area Establishment History

Protected Area Management

- conservation objectives
- assembly of protected land base
- negotiated settlement promises / commitments
- strategies for maintaining ecological integrity
- strategies for areas or activities in which negotiation was unsuccessful

Communities

- resistance to change
- priorities – maintain existing livelihood and practices
- sacrifices
- expectations of compensatory benefits from negotiations



Protected Area

Power Relationship Illustration

Park Management

- conservation priority for land
- increase in environmental quality and increase in wildlife populations
- levels of cooperative management
- attitude to enforcement

Communities

- reduced areas to land and resources
- losses due to increased conservation
- reduced involvement in decision-making on land and resources
- attitude to conservation



Benefits Stage

Protected Area Management

- ecological integrity
- ease of management
- recognition – achievement of conservation objectives / commitments
- economic return – tourism
- avoid conflict with communities

Communities

- realized expectations
- achievement of priorities
- economic / livelihood
- cultural integrity
- well being



Conclusion

- ▶ the importance of protected area and community relationships
- ▶ substantial degree of alignment
- ▶ some very key elements drawn from the case study suggest potential avenues for augmenting existing frameworks
- ▶ an amended framework
- ▶ need to further investigate and monitor these relationships as they are constantly changing over time.



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