

# LOCAL COMMUNITIES

## First Line of Defence against Illegal Wildlife Trade (FLoD)



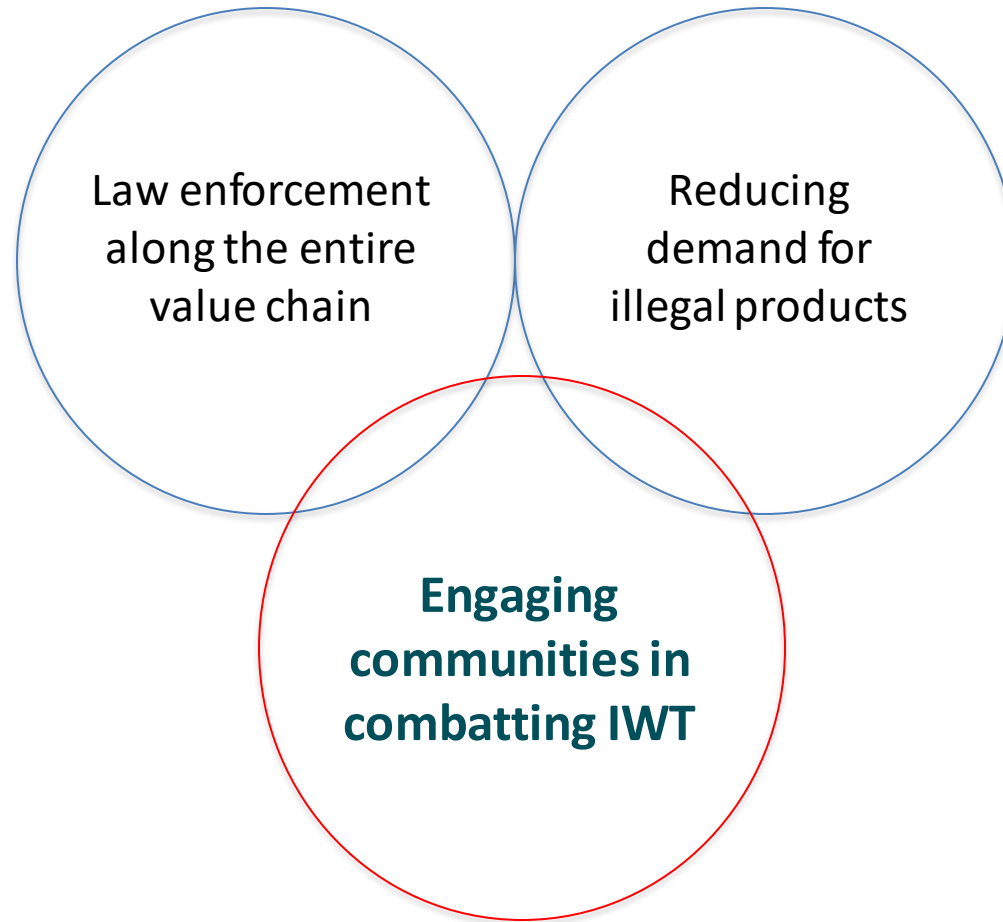
Holly Dublin, Dilys Roe and Diane Skinner



# HIGH-VALUE ILLEGAL TRADE



# THE POLICY RESPONSE: WHAT WAS MISSING?



# HELP ESTABLISH A SOLID POLICY PLATFORM

**BUT WHAT ABOUT DELIVERING IT  
ON THE GROUND?**

African Elephant Summit (2013)

London Declaration (2014)

Kasane Declaration (2015)

Pravara Declaration (2015)

UNGA Resolution 69/314 (2015)

SDG Targets 15.7 & 15.c (2015)

Hanoi Declaration (2016)

UNEA Resolution 2.14 (2016)

UNGA Resolution 71/326 (2017)

CITES Rural Communities Working Group (2017)

**ENGAGEMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES  
IN COMBATTING IWT**

# HELP GUIDE DONORS AND IMPLEMENTERS

**BY BETTER UNDERSTANDING HOW  
TO MEANINGFULLY ENGAGE LOCAL  
COMMUNITIES  
IN COMBATTING IWT**



# THE BASIC EQUATION

**BENEFITS  
FROM  
CONSERVING  
WILDLIFE**

-

**COSTS OF  
CONSERVING  
WILDLIFE**

>

**BENEFITS  
FROM  
ENGAGING IN  
IWT**

-

**COSTS OF  
ENGAGING IN  
IWT**



Photo credits: IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group

# UNDERSTANDING THE FULL PICTURE

- Identified a gap between success and failure of interventions
- Goes all the way back to uninformed - often flawed and sometimes naïve - Theories of Change by intervention planners
- The Action Research approach helps us to deeply interrogate the difference between conceptual strategies and the reality on the ground



Photo credits: Micah Conway

# Decreased pressure on species from illegal wildlife trade

LONG-TERM IMPACT

OVERALL OUTCOMES

Reduced poaching / trafficking for IWT by community

Reduced poaching / trafficking for IWT by outsiders



CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOMES

Reduced recruitment of community members by poachers / traffickers engaged in IWT

Reduced active or tacit community support for poaching / trafficking for IWT

Strengthened community action against internal or external poachers / traffickers engaged in IWT

PATHWAY OUTCOMES

Formal and traditional disincentive mechanisms are strengthened, socially acceptable, and applied

Communities value wild plants and animals more as a result of increased benefits

Decreased antagonism toward wildlife

Viable non-wildlife-based livelihood strategies in place & generating sufficient income to substitute for poaching income



RESULTS

Stronger and more effective collaboration between well-capacitated community scouts and well-trained formal enforcement agencies

Social norms effectively imposed on individuals engaged in poaching / trafficking for IWT

Communities are more empowered to manage and benefit from wild plants and animals

Communities recognise and access tangible and intangible benefits from wild plants and animals

Costs to communities imposed by presence of wildlife are reduced

Communities can mitigate conflict better

Communities have a greater diversity of non-wildlife-based livelihood options



INDICATIVE ACTIONS

e.g. Train & equip community members to act as effective law enforcement partners

e.g. Train & equip formal LE agents to act as effective LE partners w/ communities

e.g. Strengthen partnerships between community scouts & formal LE agencies

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e.g. Support practical approaches to deterring problem animals at the site level

e.g. Support insurance, compensation or offset schemes that reduce the cost of living with wildlife

e.g. Support land use planning that reduces the human-wildlife interface

e.g. Support interventions to generate livelihood options from non-wildlife-based activities



ENABLING ACTIONS

Support development & implementation of legal & institutional frameworks for effective & fair wildlife protection & management

Fight corruption and strengthen governance

Build community capacity and institutions

Analyze to better understand the differences in accrual of costs and benefits at the individual vs. community level.

**A. Increase the cost of participating in IWT**

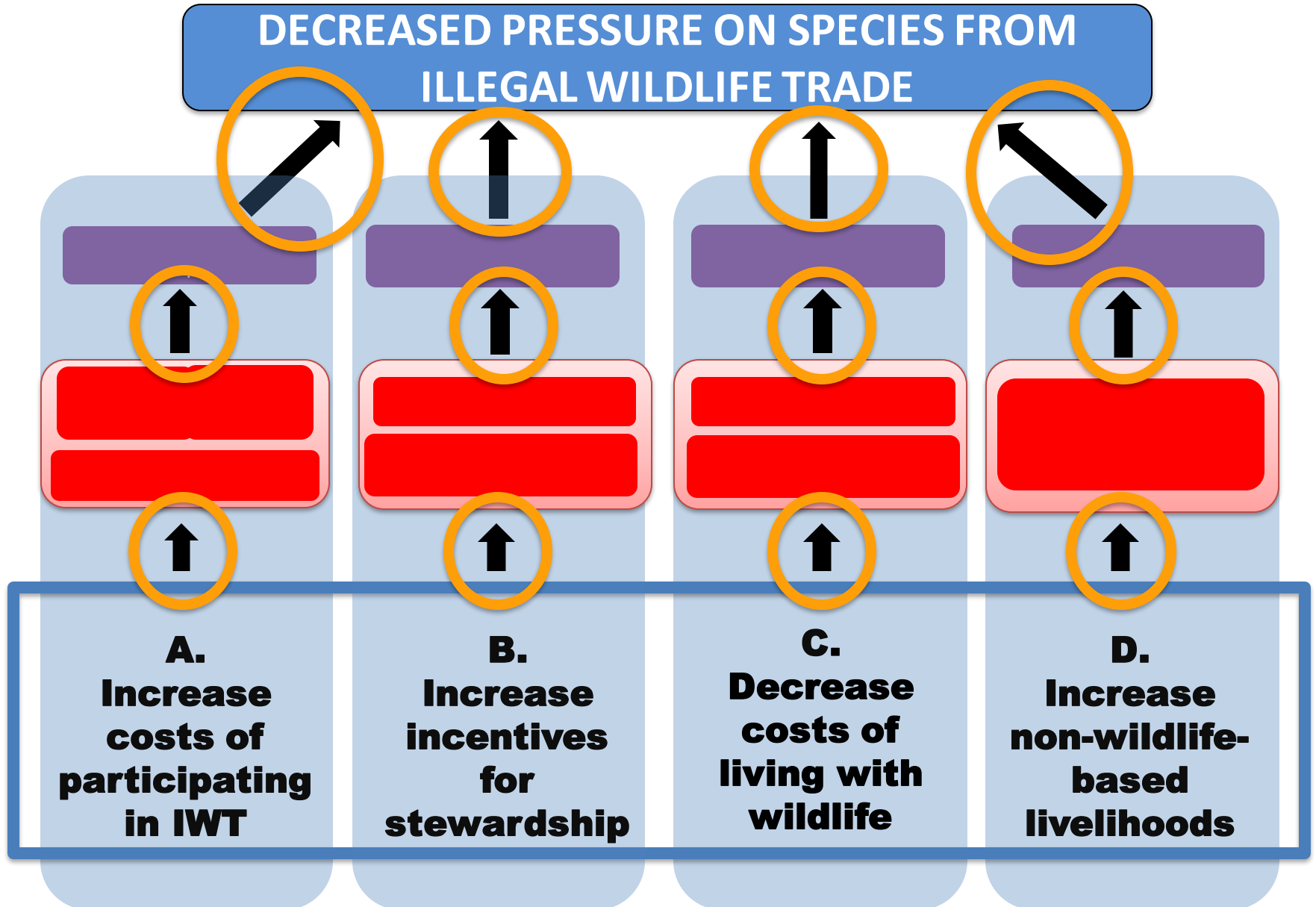
**B. Increase incentives for stewardship**

**C. Decrease costs of living with wildlife**

**D. Increase non-wildlife-based livelihoods**



# FOUR PRIMARY PATHWAYS & KEY ASSUMPTIONS

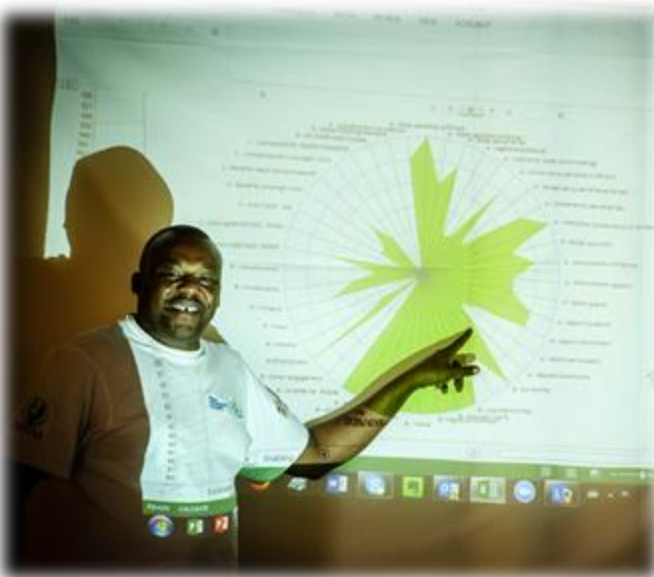


# QUESTIONS?



Copyright: P. Poncet

# TAKING IT TO THE FIELD...



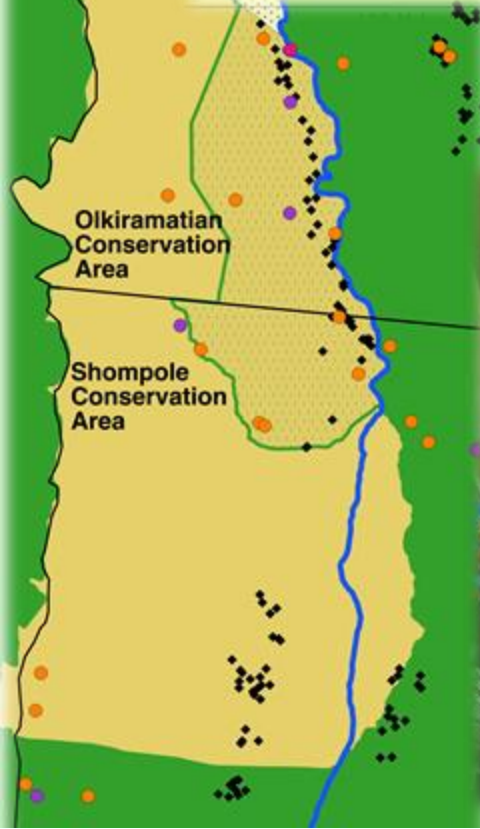




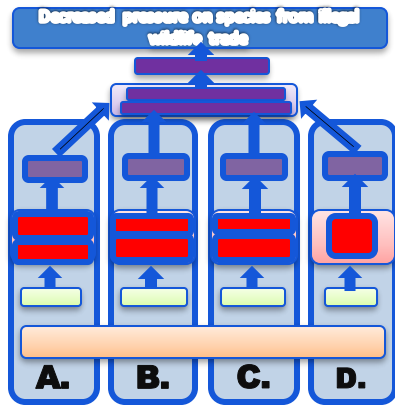


# Shompole-Ol Kiramatian SORALO

- Maasai pastoral economy
- 111,200 acres / 45,000 ha together in conserved area
- Southern Rift Valley
- ~16,000 people, 3,000 registered

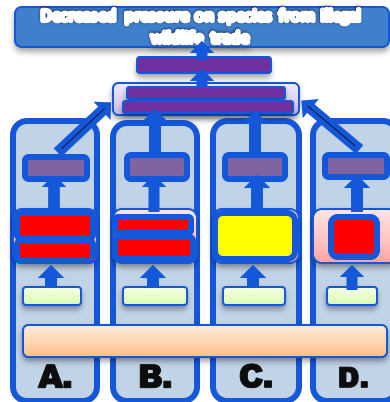


# TESTING THEORIES OF CHANGE



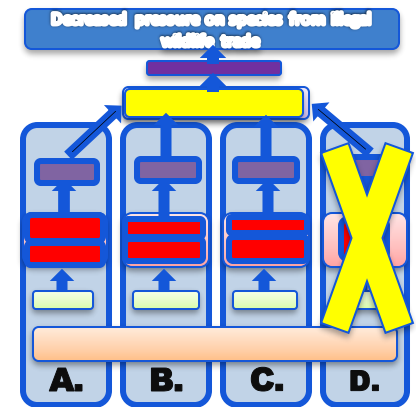
BASELINE TOC

1



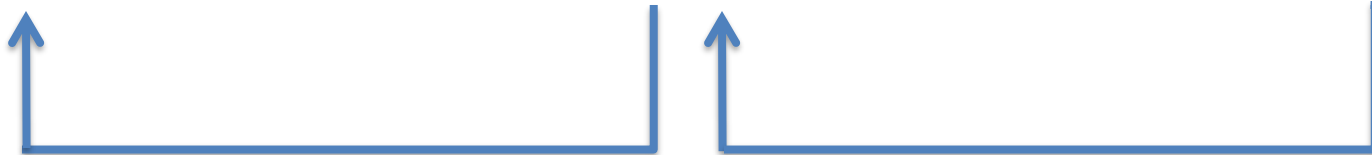
IMPLEMENTER /  
DESIGNER TOC

2



COMMUNITY TOC

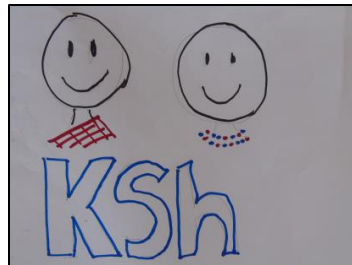
3





# LESSONS FROM THE FIELD (1)

- All four pathways of ToC supported although emphasis varies
- Very similar communities have differing views
- Within communities, different perspectives based on gender and age
- Greater concern about managing a healthy ecosystem (and all the associated benefits), rather than poaching



# LESSONS FROM THE FIELD (2)

- Communities recognize the importance of law enforcement - IF it is in partnership with them
- Strong laws and heavy penalties generally seen as fair
- Belief that both social sanctions and pressure, reinforce government penalties & stop poaching

## **BUT**

- Strong objections that government response to IWT and retaliation killings is stronger and faster than the response to deaths, injuries and other losses to wildlife



# LESSONS FROM THE FIELD (3)

- A strong sense of “ownership” results in a motivation to protect
- Management of conflict and coexistence through land zoning – traditional or contemporary is critical
- Strong trust and/or transparency with tourism ventures around earnings and sharing is essential



# LESSONS FROM THE FIELD (4)

- Communities recognize differences between individual vs community costs and benefits
- Revenues from wildlife not sufficient
- Sometimes non-wildlife based livelihoods **are** totally critical to the story – but must not be in conflict with long term wildlife-based interventions and outcomes



# LESSONS FROM THE FIELD (5)

- The voices of local communities living with wildlife have not been heard.
- Political will is needed to reform existing policy and practice to better reflect clear, consistent lessons on ensuring greater community ownership, rights and tenure
- Rapid land transformation and increasing habitat loss is a greater threat than IWT.
- Incentives are needed to support wildlife as an economically viable and competitive land use option.



# QUESTIONS?



# PROCESS LESSONS (1)

- Must clearly define 'site' or 'community' from the start
- Helps to have a site-based 'champion'
- Translating complex concepts in local languages, requires skilled interpreter
- Impartial, independent facilitator is critical
- Transboundary approach interesting but adds complexities
- Needs to be fully resourced



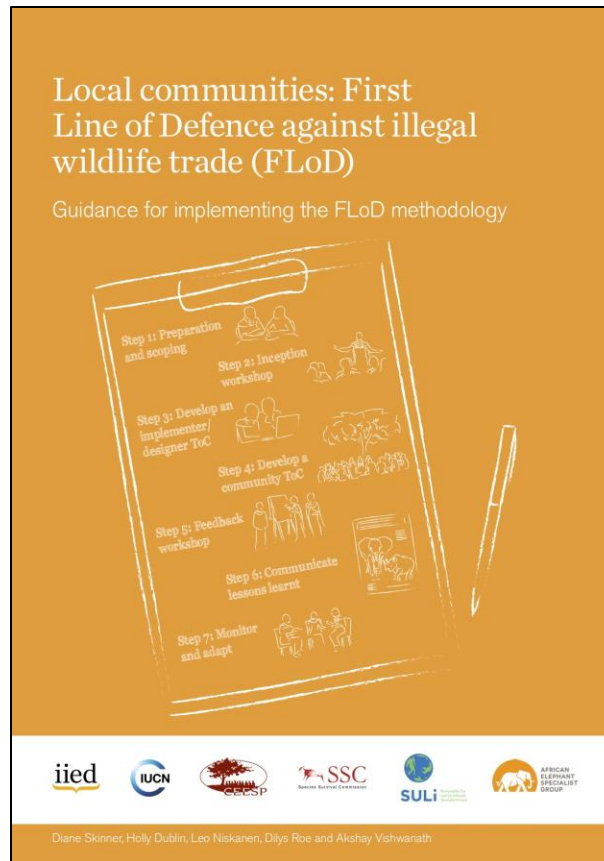
# PROCESS LESSONS (2)

- Clear explanation of process to “designer/implementers”
- Gain deep understanding of “designer/implementer’s” ToC
- Requires honest self-appraisal
- Community focus groups—gender, age, ethnic groups
- Critical to manage overly dominant voices
- Repeated feedback for verification and triangulation throughout process





# GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE FLoD METHODOLOGY



<https://www.iucn.org/flod>

# STRENGTHS OF THE METHODOLOGY

- Enhances all stakeholders' understanding of:
  - Implicit ToCs of both communities and designers
  - Articulates differences within communities and between communities and designers
- Can effectively:
  - Explore site-specific drivers of IWT
  - Enhance achievement of outcomes / impacts
  - Help donors improve effectiveness of investments in combating IWT
  - Provide lessons for other projects (existing & new)
  - Provide lessons to help enhance the local, national, regional and international response to IWT

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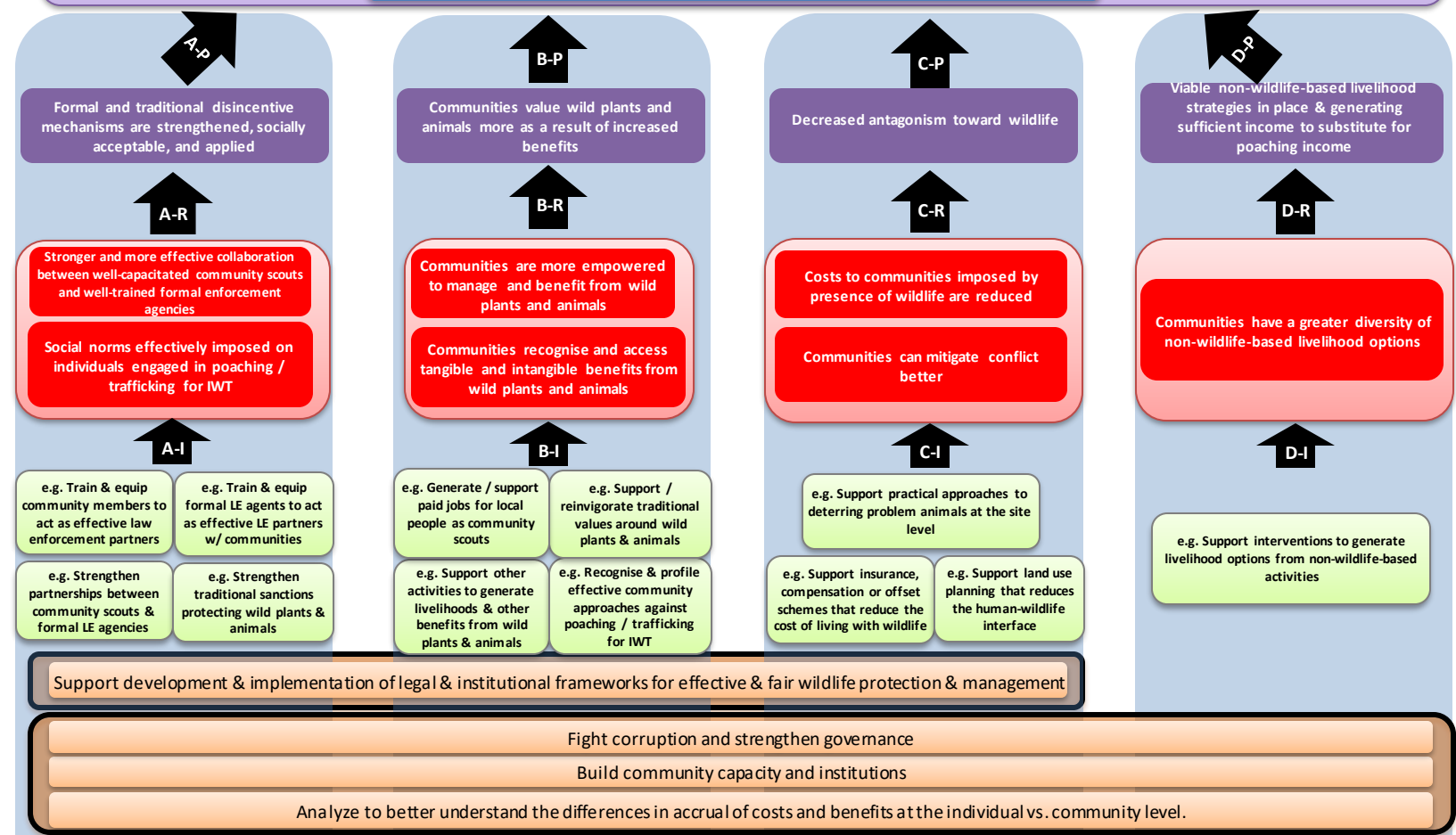
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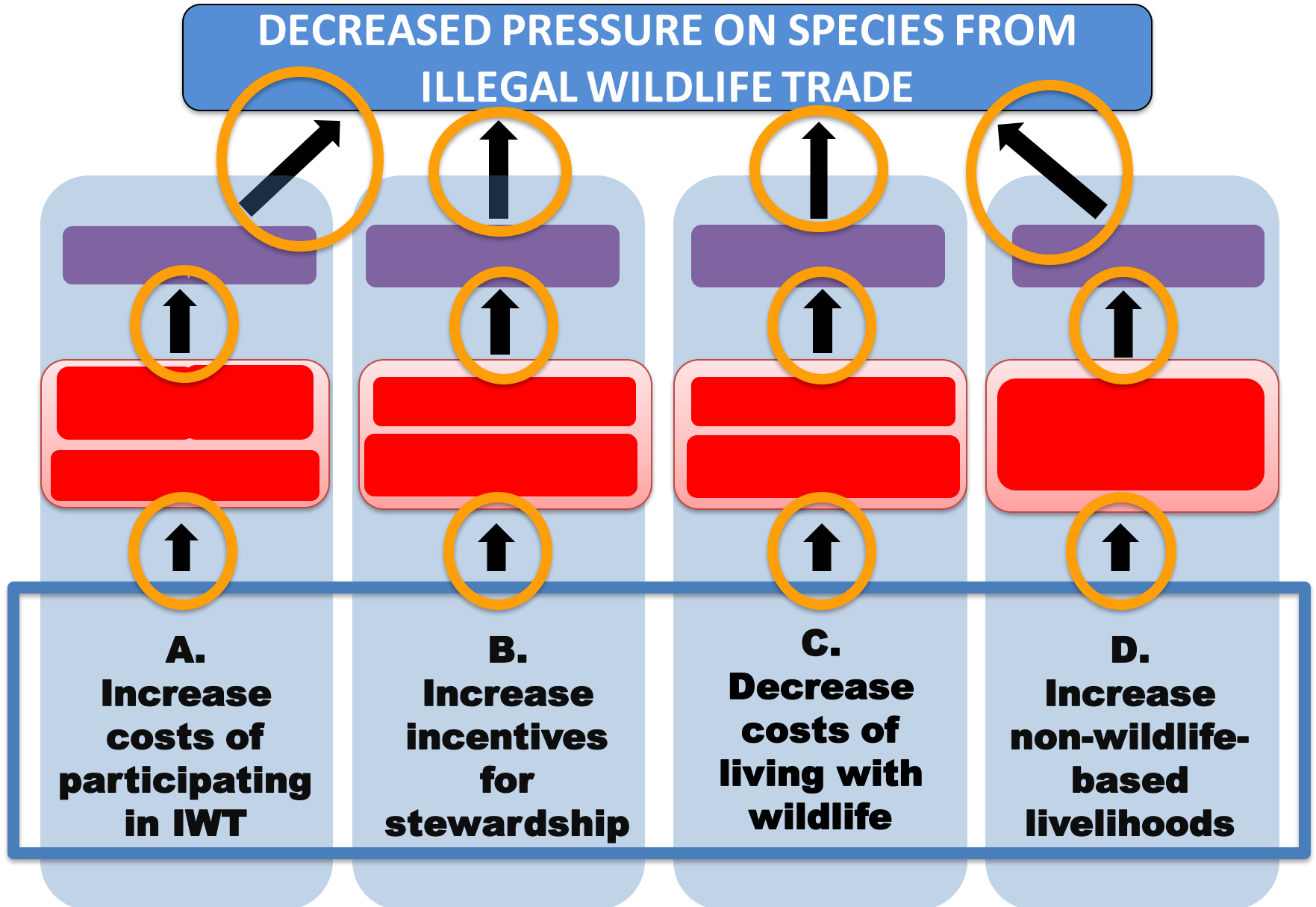
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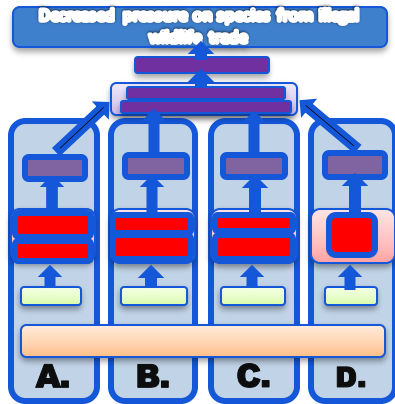
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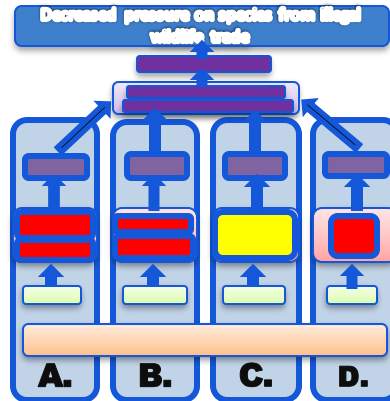


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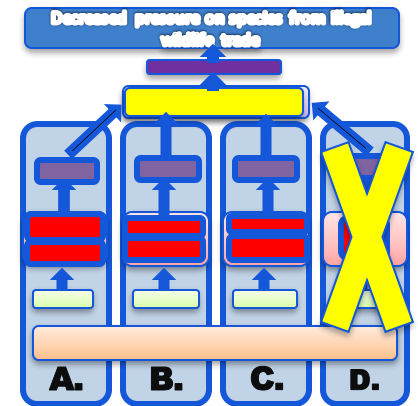
BASELINE TOC

1



IMPLEMENTER /  
DESIGNER TOC

2



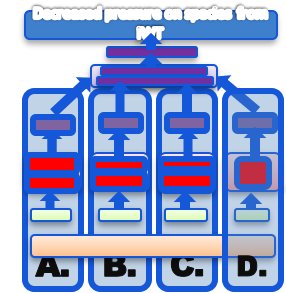
COMMUNITY TOC

3



1. SCREENING / SCOPING

2. INCEPTION WORKSHOP / MEETING



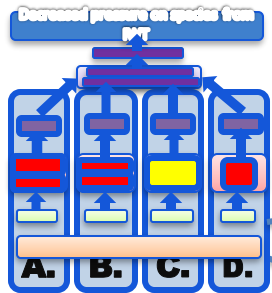
BASELINE TOC

3a. IMPLEMENTER / DESIGNER INTERVIEW

3b. CONSTRUCT IMPLEMENTER / DESIGNER TOC



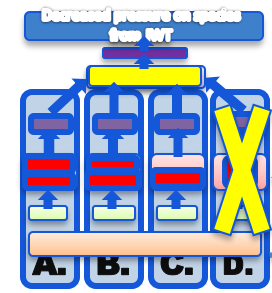
KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS



IMPLEMENTER / DESIGNER TOC

4a. COMMUNITY FIELDWORK

4b. CONSTRUCT COMMUNITY TOC



COMMUNITY TOC

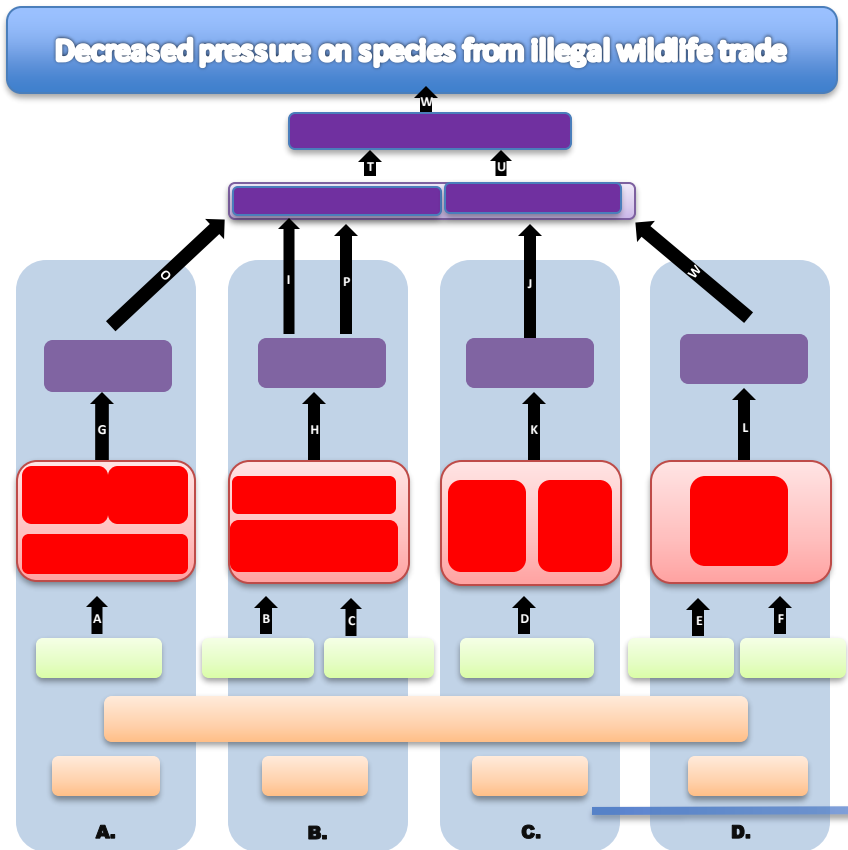
5. FEEDBACK WORKSHOP

6. COMMUNICATE LESSONS LEARNED

7. MONITOR & ADAPT

# ENGAGING IN ACTION RESEARCH

## Testing the Theory of Change



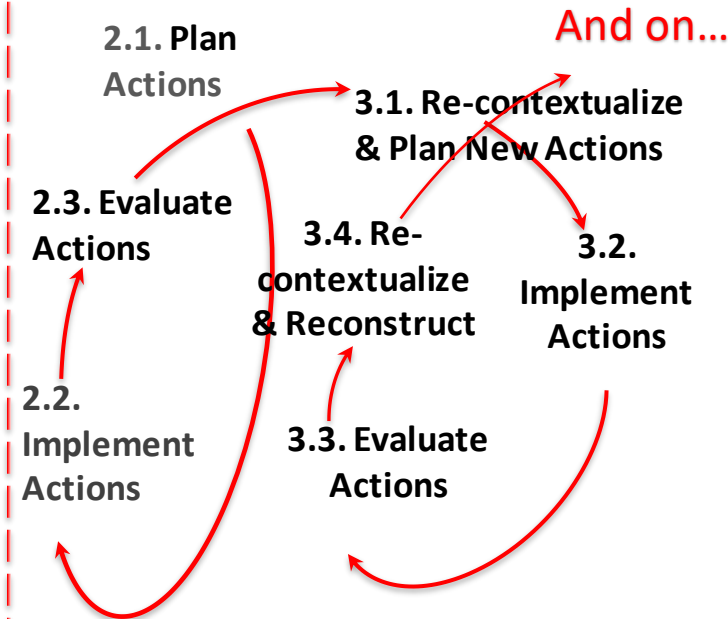
First Line of Defense Straw Model

Contextualize  
&  
Re-construct

Transition Zone

Understanding  
between  
implementer and  
community

## Adaptive Process



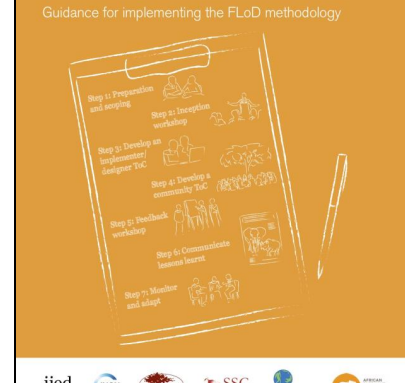
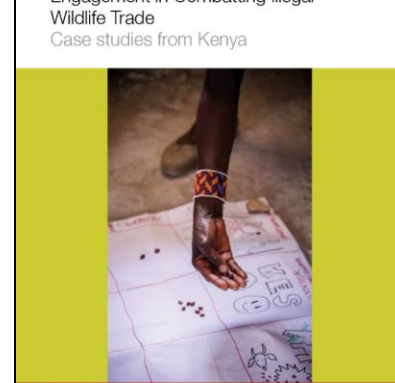
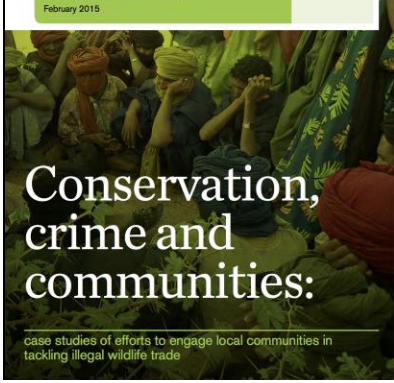
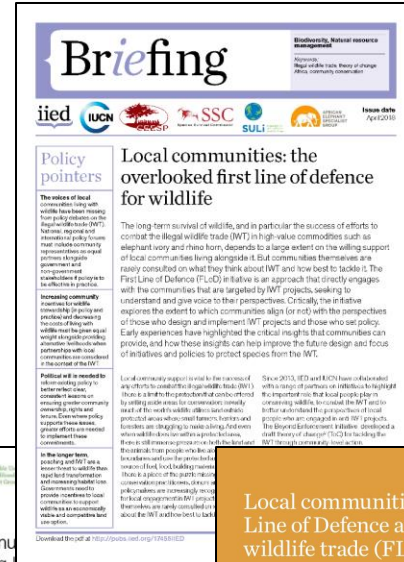
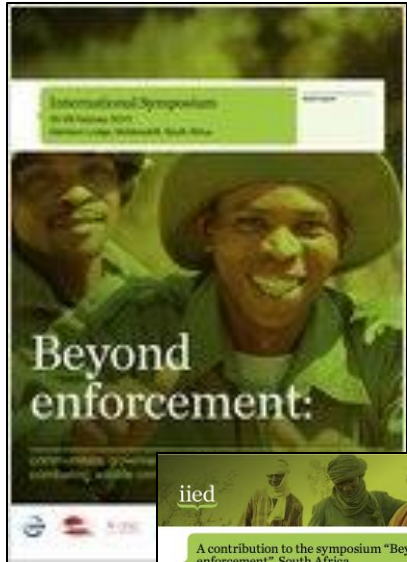
Site-level ownership

# QUESTIONS?





# GATHERING INSIGHTS AND ANALYSING EXPERIENCES

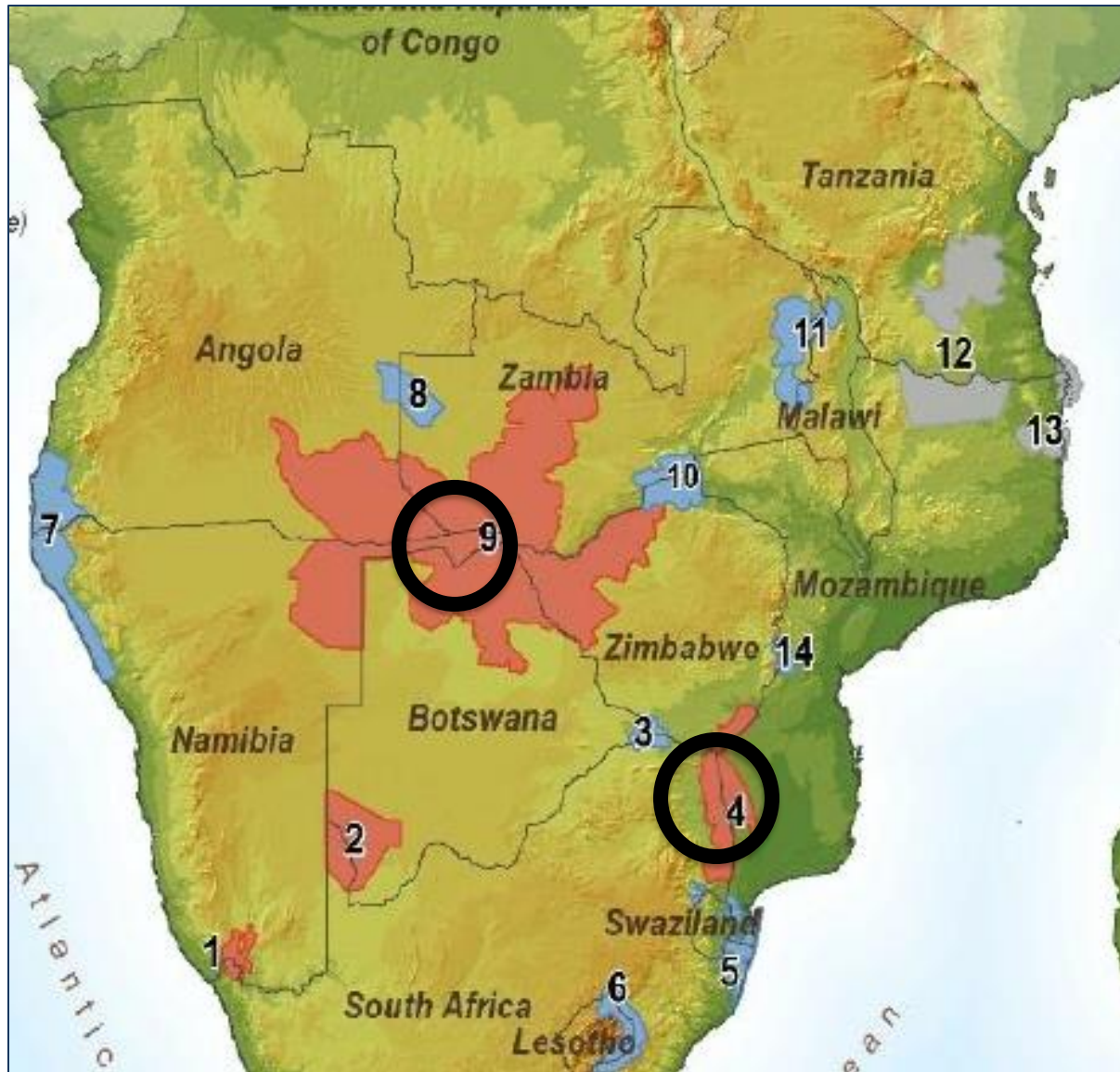


[www.iucn.org/flod](http://www.iucn.org/flod)

[www.communitiesforwildlife.iied.org](http://www.communitiesforwildlife.iied.org)

**TWO PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS: CONSERVATION BIOLOGY & CONSERVATION LETTERS**

# EXPANDING FLoD ROLL OUT



**EXPANDING FLoD ROLL OUT**

**AT THE SITE WHERE  
YOU WORK?**

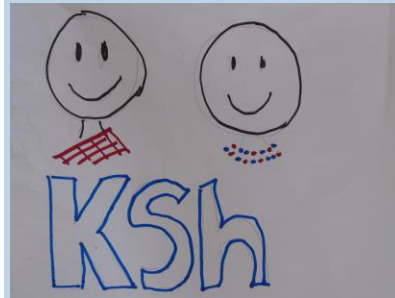
# Tell us about your experience

- Write down up to 3 activities implemented to engage your communities as partners in combatting wildlife crime
- Write 1 card per activity

# DECREASED PRESSURE ON SPECIES FROM ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE



**A.**  
**Increase**  
**costs of**  
**participating**  
**in iWT**



**B.**  
**Increase**  
**incentives**  
**for**  
**stewardship**



**C.**  
**Decrease**  
**costs of**  
**living with**  
**wildlife**



**D.**  
**Increase**  
**non-wildlife-**  
**based**  
**livelihoods**



# THANK YOU



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

**SORALO**  
South Rift Association of Land Owners



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network

**USAID** | KENYA AND EAST AFRICA  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**SSC**  
Species Survival Commission

**SULi** Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group

**AFRICAN ELEPHANT SPECIALIST GROUP**

**iiED** International Institute for Environment and Development

**KWCA**  
Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association  
Living nature. Living people

# FIND FLoD @



<https://www.iucn.org/flod>