

Participation and Participatory Spatial Planning in CBDRR

Michael McCall
CENN
Bulachauri
Georgia

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Participatory Spatial Planning & Management

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*Participation means different things to
different people*



A New Vision of Spatial (Regional) Planning – RTPI



Core elements in SP:

- *Spatial* – dealing with the unique needs and characteristics of places
- *Sustainable* – looking at short, medium, and long term issues.
- *Integrative* – in terms of Knowledge, Objectives, Actions involved
- *Inclusive* – recognising the wide range of people and interests involved in / inter-connected with planning.

Concepts and Context behind PSP



- Participation
- Local-level participatory community spatial planning
- Good Governance in PSP
- Local knowledge (ITK)
- Local / Indigenous spatial knowledge (ISK)
- Conflict analysis - essential to management

'Good Governance'



- Accountability - transparency & visibility of government decisions and policies,
- accountability mechanisms,
- responsiveness to lower levels -
- community involvement - a means to generate accountability.

'Good Governance'



Accountability is not the end in itself, but a means of supporting higher-level social-political goals of:

- Legitimacy, Participation
- Respect for Rights, Empowerment
- Equity (not simply, equality), and
- Competence of Government (including efficiency).

Good Governance

Core Characteristics UNDP ('97)



- Participation;
- Rule of law; Transparency;
- Responsiveness; Consensus-orientation;
- Equity;
- Effectiveness and efficiency;
- Accountability; Legitimacy;
- Strategic Vision;
- Resource Prudence; Ecological Soundness;
- Empowering and Enabling;
- Spatially grounded in communities.

Historical Phases of "Participation"



"Self-help" schemes 1960s-1970s

Labour inputs of local people in land clearing, tree planting, ditch digging, etc., "blood & sweat".

Needs Assessment late 1970s-1980s

Problem identification & prioritising by local people.

Identification of potential Solutions 1990s

Identification of solutions by local people,
Incl. use of indigenous / local knowledge

Why 'Participation ?

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

What are the strengths
& positives about
PSP - Participatory
Community Spatial
Management &
Planning ?

What are the
Weaknesses,
Problems?



Rationale for Participatory P&M



- Democratic decision-making + equity component.
- Local accountability.
- Economic & Technical efficiency of activities .
- *Mobilise* under-utilised local physical, human, institutional, and knowledge resources.
- Policy impact (effectiveness) improved better feedback – implementation & policy more adaptive & responsive to internal conditions.
- Strengthen understanding of local variability in natural & social ecology.
- Long/term view & stability of policy & programmes, and commitments to sustainable management.

EXPECTATION: PSP alters the institutional environment of planning & decision-making



- better Understanding of all parties' Needs, Potentials, and Constraints.
- Improved Communication between all Stakeholders.
- Inclusion of more stakeholders, (esp., women in the community)
- Institutional strengthening, or establishment of local institutions : Village, Women's, NRM committees.
- Increased Planning capacity, skills, knowledge, not only professionals, also para-professionals & public.
- Comprehension by all parties of the need for Flexible, Adaptive Planning approach.
- Steps taken towards Conflict Resolution.

What is wrong with Participation?



Deficiencies / Weaknesses / Threats /
problems with Participatory local
planning?



Threats Obstacles to Implementing Participation in Spatial Planning.



- external political resistance to 'real' local empowerment.
- internal local holders of power will not give it up.
- breadth of needs, priorities, opinions, etc. between actors in the local community is too wide.
- women frequently excluded from early stages of decision-making
- minorities - ethnic groups, castes, tribes, nomads - frequently excluded.
- absolute scarcity of resources to be shared, overall poverty.
- unequal distribution of access to power - ultra-poor, elderly, children, handicapped, refugees, inarticulate.
- serious time constraints involved in the processes of participation.
- participation may be costly.
- the potential participants (the local actors) do not think it is worth their time and effort to participate - they calculate that the costs outweigh the benefits "rational ignorance" (cf. Krek 2005)

Purpose!

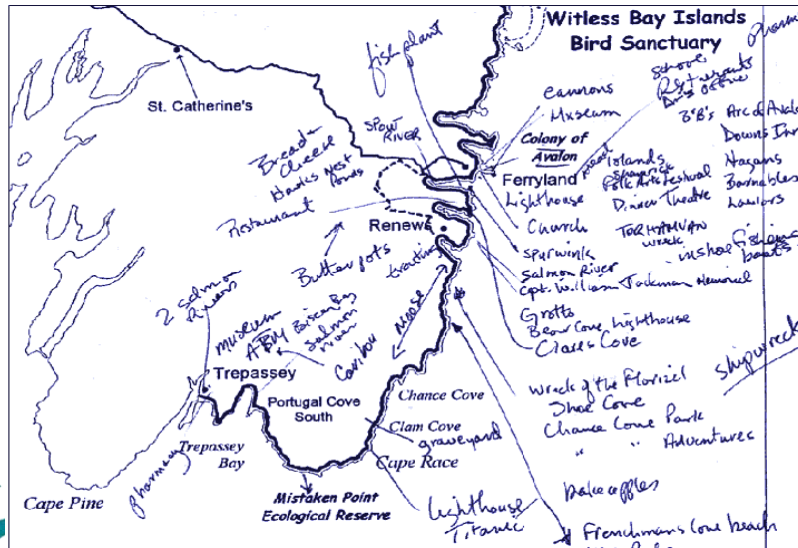
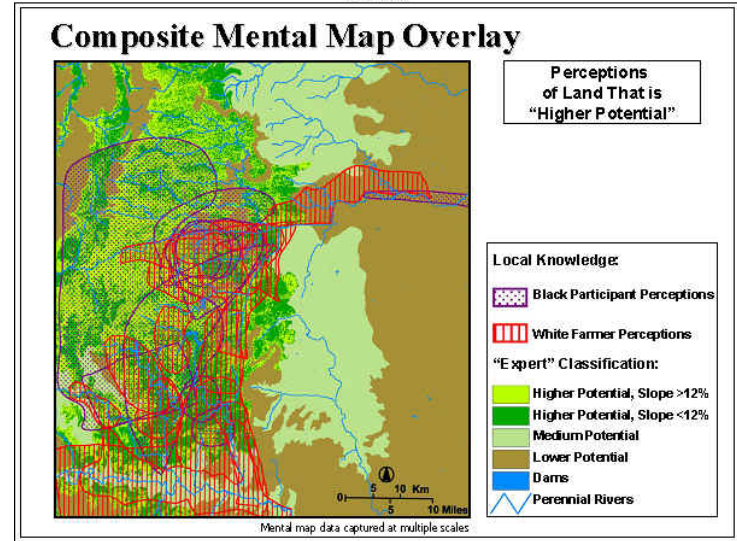


- “Purpose, - which purpose?, whose purpose?” - analytical and operational clarity about the *purpose* of the PGIS exercise is the key element.
- Be very certain about the purpose - why? do people get involved in this particular exercise, and which? people.
- many purposes & justifications for P-Mapping.

Local Knowledge for PSP- Mapped



FIGURE 10



Guidelines

Good Practice in P-Mapping & PGIS



A 'good practice' sequence or 'users' guide' to improve application & performance of CBDRR, especially P-mapping and P-GIS

- *Before* the Pre-conditions.
- *During* the Works - in the Process and Procedures.
- *After* the participatory activity

Group Exercise



Write brief Guidelines for *Good Practice*
Participatory GeoSpatial Information for
Disaster Risk Management in Georgia

- I. Pre- Field Research preparation
- II. During the Field Research activities
- III. After the Research - after data collection

 Write 3 or 4 items for the three stages

'Participation Ladder'



Initiating Actions

Involvement in
Decision-making by
all actors

Information Sharing

Consultation



Intensity of Participation

“Participation Ladder”



Information Sharing,

- communication between outsiders and local people, primarily technical information, e.g. needs assessment.

Consultation

- Outsiders refer certain issues to local stakeholders, for further details, or refinement, or e.g. for prioritising.

Involvement in Decision-making by all actors,

- Involve local people in decision-making, policy-setting.

Initiating Actions

- Initiatives of local people who are empowered e.g. self-mobilisation to perform activities

Promoting 'Participation' in Geo-Information terms



Facilitation e.g.

- elicit local knowledge of ITK and NRM,
- school children assist with GPS, p-mapping, for baselines & on-going monitoring.

Collaboration e.g.

- participatory assessment of needs, collaborative spatial problem analysis, joint prioritising of interventions, joint map legend

Empowerment

- Important to “take over” sustainably.
- self-determination & local initiative in all stages.

Instruments for Participation

"Top-Down" - Information Sharing
untargeted, one-way dissemination:

- Mass media, information dissemination
- Public meetings, public exhibitions

"Top-Down" - Consultation + Information Sharing
more targeted, partially two-way information:

- Public hearings
- Local Community meetings and workshops
- RRA methods

"Two-way" - Consultation + Information Sharing

- Public Fora; PRA methods; Focus groups, Interest groups



Instruments for Participation

"Bottom-up" - Sharing Initiating Actions

- Advocacy planning
- Petitions; Elections
- Civil Action; Demonstrations
- PRA
- Mass media

"Stand Alone" - Initiating Actions instruments for Empowerment -implementing participation within community:

- SARAR
- Social Mobilisation; animateurs, etc.
- PAR, PTD methods.



LK is a key to PSP (Local Knowledge, Indigenous Knowledge, ITK, ISK)



- LK is often unique and threatened knowledge
- reflects capability, competence of local community
- places community on equivalence with outsiders
- local knowledge is operational.
- a resource needing little investment for realisation;
- a resource that disadvantaged & marginalised groups control

What's Special about P-Mapping and PGIS?



- Inclusion of local interests and priorities
- Community representation
- Processes of Participation in info identification & selection
- Elicitation of local (indigenous) knowledge

- Capability for Spatial analysis
e.g. proximity, threshold distances, routes, land uses, networks

- Recording, Protecting, Disseminating

Which is P-GIS?

P-GIS as form of PSP which makes use of maps and GI output, especially GIS.

- Core is 'degree of participation' in planning,
- essential issues are: processes, activities, instruments, and procedures that involve participation?

P-GIS is 'doing (technical) GIS with some degree of people's participation -

- Participation could be simply data collection, or choice of data inputs, data layers, analysis, data queries.
- Core activity is the GI outputs (maps, etc.)



