Monitoring and Assessment with Relevant Indicators of Protected Areas of the Guianas (MARIPA-G)

1.1 Organisation

WWF Guianas

1.2 Primary methodology reference

Courrau, José. (2005) Monitoring and Assessment with Relevant Indicators of Protected Area of the The Guianas MARIPA-G. Guianas Forests & Environmental Conservation Project WWF-GUIANAS. 66 pages.

1.3 Brief description of methodology

The system was designed by adapting the PROARCA/CAPAS model to be applicable and relevant in the Guianas. It works by first selecting indicators and defining an optimum level for each, then scoring the current situation against the optimal.

The site level assessment system generated as a product of a workshop (see below) contains the following components: the desired scenario for the protected area, scopes of analysis and the indicators for each scope.

The MARIPA-G indicators have been developed to represent the six components of the IUCN-WCPA Framework.

1.4 Purposes

- ✓ **to improve management (adaptive management)**

1.5 Objectives and application

There are no records of the application of the system at this time except for a trial in Iwokrama in 2005, but Courrau makes the following recommendation for its implementation:
a. Field tests of the management effectiveness assessment process in all the countries.
b. Define the periodicity of implementation of the management effectiveness system in each country.
c. Seek official recognition for the protected area management effectiveness tool (MARIPA-G) for each country.
d. Proceed with management effectiveness assessments in a set of pilot sites or all sites in each country, whichever is considered more appropriate.
e. In order to assess biodiversity outcomes and ecological integrity, develop standardized protocols for biodiversity monitoring and ecological integrity assessments across the Guiana shield.
f. Incorporate results from assessments into the protected area management.

1.6 Origins

The methodology is based on the PROARCA/CAPAS initiative which began in Central America. This version of the system was reviewed, analysed and improved by many people, especially officials from the protected areas of the Guianas, during workshops organized and carried out in Cayenne, French Guiana (April 23-25, 2003); Paramaribo, Suriname (May 4-6,

2004); and Iwokrama, Guyana (March 1-6, 2005), by the Guianas Forests & Environmental Conservation Project, managed by the WWF-GUIANAS.

1.7 How the methodology is implemented

The methodology starts with the definition of an optimum scenario for the protected area. During the optimum scenario session each one of the indicators is reviewed and consensus is reached among stakeholders to assign the level of each indicator to each of the years of the period of time of the optimum scenario. In order to be able to determine the level of each indicator for each year is necessary to detail what each indicator level means for the protected area. Ideally, this exercise would be comprised of a work session involving all stakeholders who participate in the management, planning and decision-making of the protected area.

Generally, protected areas that have a good quality management plan already have a good projection of what they need to accomplish their objectives in a mid-term period, or at least have a source of information to build their optimum scenario. However, there are many protected areas that do not have management plans or any other source of mid-term management planning. Therefore, once the management effectiveness team of the protected area has defined the level of compliance of all the indicators (baseline or first assessment), it is necessary to carry out an exercise in which the optimum scenario is defined.

It is highly recommended that the protected areas have a permanent management effectiveness team. This team will be in charge of organizing the management effectiveness sessions as well as ensuring that the protected area has the necessary evidence for reviewing each indicator and providing the necessary follow-up for the results of each measurement.

1.8 Elements and indicators

The indicators are organised in the five scopes of the PROARCA/CAPAS methodology: administrative and operation, social, natural and cultural resources, political-legal and economic-financial. Each one of those has indicators defined in the system's manual. The manual also provides details of how each indicator should be measured.

Indicators for the MARIPA-G methodology

Scope	Indicator
The Political-Legal Scope	Legal status of the protected area
	Compliance of the law associated to the protected area
	Commitment and Support of Authorities
	Customary Law into Account in the Regulations of the Protected Area
	Compliance with the national policy guidelines on protected areas management
The Administrative and Operation Scope	Internal access for the management of the protected area
	equipment for the management of the protected arealdeal
	Equipment maintenance and operation of the protected area
	Physical infrastructures for the management of the protected area
	Maintenance and operation of the installations of the protected area
	Appropriate signs in the protected area
	Indicator: Personnel necessary for the management of the protected area
	Protected area with a training program
	Personnel trained for the management of the protected area - version 1
	Personnel trained for the management of the protected area - version 2
	Level of satisfaction of the personnel of the protected area
	Personnel rotation in the protected area
	Type of contract of core staff
	Local community representation in the staff and the management team
	Volunteers and internship in the protected area
	Management plan for the protected area

Source: Leverington *et al.,* 2008. 'Management Effectiveness evaluation in protected areas – a global study. Supplementary Report No1: Overview of approaches and methodologies.' The University of Queensland, Gatton, TNC, WWF, IUCN-WCPA, AUSTRALIA.

Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Information Module

Methodology Description

Scope	Indicator
	Operational plan for the protected area
	Management Effectiveness Assessments Implemented and Incorporated into the Management of the Protected Area
	Protected area zoned to enable park management
	Threat analysis prepared for the protected area
	Safety and operational guidelines and standards
	Accident and emergency evacuation plan
The Social Scope	Protected area with a communications plan (or program)
	Environmental education plan (or program) of the protected area
	Stakeholder analysis
	Stakeholders satisfaction
	Participation of stakeholders in the in the decision-making concerning the management of the protected area
	Participation of local stakeholders in the Field Management of the Protected Area
	Information on Land tenure within the protected area
	Satisfaction of the visitor to the protected area
Sub-Scope: Local Populations	Impact of the Protected Area on Population Dynamics
	Taking the Use of Natural Resources within the Protected Area into Account in the management plan in order to ensure to local population their traditional way of life
	Impact of the Protected Area on the Transmission of Knowledge
	Impact of the Protected Area on Employment and Income for Local Populations
	Increased well-being accrue to local communities
	Local community empowered to manage resources outside of protected area
	Training and Education Carried Out within the Framework of the Protected Area
	Taking the Gender Division of Labour into Account in the Management of the Protected Area
	Taking Cultural Heritage into Account: Material Culture (Architecture, Archeology) and Oral Memory
	Role of the Protected Area in the Integration of Local Communities in the Surrounding Environment and Role of Civil Society
	Impact of the Protected Area on Commercial Activity and Indirect Income
	Role of Protected Area in supporting Health Programs for AIDS, Malaria, Alcoholism, etc.
	User Compliance with Regulations
	Role of Protected Area in supporting Leisure and Recreational Activities for Visitors and Local Populations
	Impact of the Protected Area on Social Structures
	Impact of the Protected Area on Conflict Management
	How the Protected Area is Perceived by the Local Populations
	Impact of the Protected Area on helping local people to make choices on their future and their Access to Consumer Goods and Services
	Role of the Protected Area in Intercultural Relations between Communities
	Positive activities impacts on communities related to the protected area
	Negative activities impacts on communities related to the protected area
The Natural and Cultural Resources Scope	Types of activities compatibles with the protected area
	Types of activities incompatibles with the protected
	Positive activities impact on the natural resources of the protected area
	Negative impact on the natural resources of the protected area
	Impacts of activities which are external to protected area
	The impact of human activities on the protected area's ecology
	An adequate research program for the protected area
	Research with regulation and follow-up
	Gathering and sharing systematic information on the protected area
	The protected area values (focal management targets) are assessed and monitored
	Physical connections of protected areas are evaluated and documented
	Baseline data of biotic and abiotic components of the protected area systems are available
	Water pollution factors and indicators
	Maintenance of Ecological Integrity
	Buffer zone identified and demarcated
	Student Accommodation and Training Capacity
	Buffer zone management plan

Source: Leverington *et al.,* 2008. 'Management Effectiveness evaluation in protected areas – a global study. Supplementary Report No1: Overview of approaches and methodologies.' The University of Queensland, Gatton, TNC, WWF, IUCN-WCPA, AUSTRALIA.

Scope	Indicator
The Political-Legal Scope	Law enforcement plan for the protected area
	Effectiveness of the protected area's law enforcement plan
	Administrative authority of the protected area
	Institutional Framework
	Appropriateness and adequacy of legislation of the protected area
	Co-management agreement of the protected area
	Boundaries of the protected area are declared and demarcated
The Economic-Financial Scope	Long-term financing plan and financial mechanism of the protected area
	Availability of generated funds
	Area with goods and services, amenities, identified and valued
	Stakeholders recognize and appreciate goods and services of the protected area
	Stakeholders receive benefits
	Marketing Plan of the protected area

1.9 Scoring and analysis

Each indicator is measured in a scale of accomplishment and scored from five (5= ideal situation) to one (1= lower level of accomplishment), as in the PROARCA methodology. To each one of the scores an accomplishment scale in percentages is defined in the system's manual: those percentages vary according to the indicator.

Source: Leverington *et al.,* 2008. 'Management Effectiveness evaluation in protected areas – a global study. Supplementary Report No1: Overview of approaches and methodologies.' The University of Queensland, Gatton, TNC, WWF, IUCN-WCPA, AUSTRALIA.