



# Results and Challenges from the FRAME Workshop on Environmental Trend Analysis (ETA)

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## Introduction

- Applying computer science to natural resource management : RS/GIS/GPS, Database, Statistical techniques and packages (UNU-INRA)
- Interdisciplinary and participatory research approach.
- Research interest in geo-informatics and environmental modelling
- A Decision Support System for sustainable land use planning and management in the North region of Cameroon





## Agenda

- FRAME ETA core group and its goals
- Challenges for Environmental Trends Analysis
- Objectives of the ETA Community
- Role of each stakeholder
- Future steps



## FRAME ETA Core Group

- Experts from Botswana, Cameroon, Ecuador, Honduras, Nigeria, Norway, Finland, the United States and Zimbabwe
- Backgrounds from hydrology to computer science to anthropology and geography.
- Dedicated to an interdisciplinary approach to natural resource management (NRM).
- Interest in decision support tools and governance issues.
- Open to new experts.



### **Goals of the FRAME ETA Core Group**

- Organize a community of technical experts, practitioners, private sector actors and policy makers around ETA.
- Use the principles of the Nature, Wealth and Power framework to highlight the importance of visual data and build on success stories for the effective management of natural resources.
- Create awareness and build institutional capacity among stakeholders of natural resources to make good use of GSDI.
- Find ways to meaningfully communicate the importance of environmental trend analysis to policy makers.



### **Main Challenges for ETA**

- Communication between disciplines for effective ETA.
- How to connect to the GSDI community, and vice versa ?
- How to empower communities to 'understand and speak GIS language' ?
- How to bridge the gap between decision makers, NRM practitioners and researchers?
- Other?



### **Objectives of the ETA Community**

- Use cross-sector technical knowledge to support the need of the wider NRM community.
- Help communities to communicate with policymakers on strategic development issues.
- Make data and analysis available at different levels of society.
- Share knowledge and communication networks to create stakeholder dialogue.



### **Global stakeholders**

- Governments and decision makers
- Donors
- Civil Society
- GSDI Community



### **Role of the Donors**

- Provide funding and technical assistance to build regional and global networks of experts to share knowledge on up to date research and results from the field.
- Disseminate information about best practices and resources available to meet the needs of end user communities.
- Advocate for groups who have valuable technical information.
- Use graphics and narratives when communicating successes in key interest areas for NRM.



### **Role of Civil Society**

Includes legal, public participation, economic, social, cultural, gender, ethnic and environmental groups

- Use the spatial context as a place to interact and bring people together from different perspectives
- Define spatial data needs that are location and culture specific that the GSDI community can support
- Build capacity in communities to generate and use spatial data.
- Bridge local communities with FRAME and GSDI communities.

### **Questions for the GSDI Community**

- How to raise awareness about the wide potential of geospatial data to help communities meet their NRM needs?
- How can communities contribute to the overall research process?
- How to deal with Intellectual Property Rights and access to data?
- How to deal with cost vs. access issues for using applications and data (e.g. open source software)?
- How to link GSDI with social and poverty issues?

### **Questions for the GSDI community, continued...**

- How to create a global data infrastructure that is accessible, transparent and standardized?
- How to build social science databases to complement biophysical databases for effective NRM and poverty reduction?
- How to train communities and build capacity that is relevant to natural resource management?

## Next Steps

- Develop and use tools for communication and sharing of data between scientists from different disciplines.
- Develop ways for people to use the full potentials of geospatial data
- Build trust between members of the community through networking and information sharing
- Training communities to use tools in pilot areas to address governance issues