Bio-enterprises, Endogenous Development and Wellbeing

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Defining

- Community: *A group of people in an ecosystem/ landscape undertaking a shared activity and prescribing to common principles*

- Bio-enterprises : *economic activity based on biological resources and ecosystems.*

- Endogenous development: *'Development from within' led by communities/ proximate stakeholders*

- Wellbeing: *an overall feeling experienced by people as a result of various needs being met.*

Why are we doing this?

- It is acknowledged that most communities depend on biological resources for their livelihoods. *Sustainable use*

- Increasingly these resources are also bringing in augmented incomes through various value added activities, broadly termed as bioenterprises. This could include products or services (ecotourism) . *Beyond sustainable use*

- We would like to know what factors, from the experience of communities, facilitate the development of a successful bio-enterprise activity

- And consequently, how decisions and actions relate to wellbeing goals (*both the Process and the Outcome)*
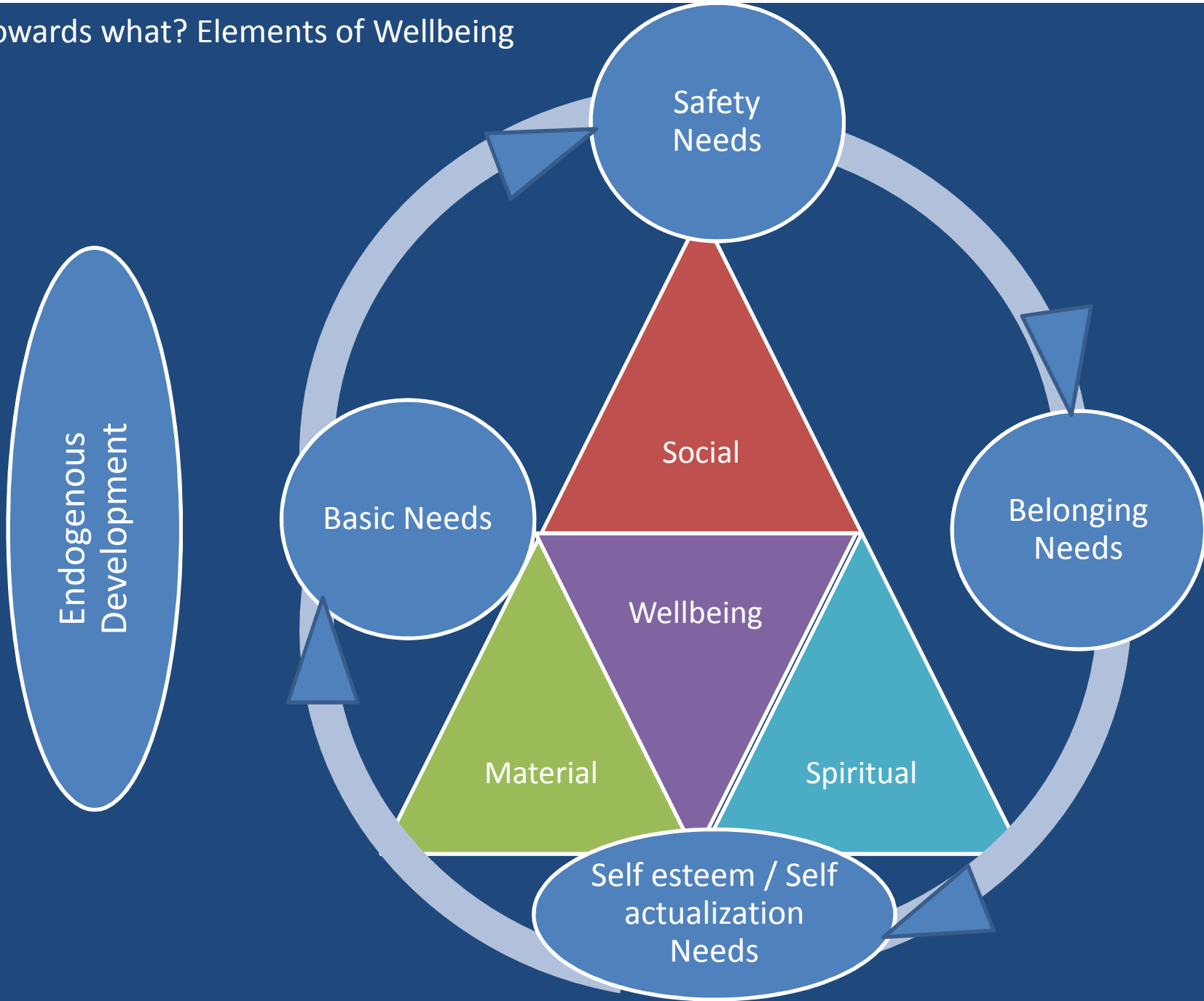
In the CBD context

- Sustainable and equitable transactions in the supply chain of a biological resource

- Respectful interactions with communities w.r.t their resources, knowledge, practices and institutions.

Our basis

- From our experience, we believe that the most successful enterprises are those that capitalise on their inherent strengths and resources (*capabilities)* with selective inputs from external agencies . *Endogenous Development process*

- Sen and Nussbaum's *capability framework* and Maslow's *'hierarchy of' needs* and definitions of wellbeing as meeting social, material and spiritual aspirations of people.

- Based on premise that broad based decentralised development possible that actually meets international policy obligations *3 objectives of the CBD and MDGs*
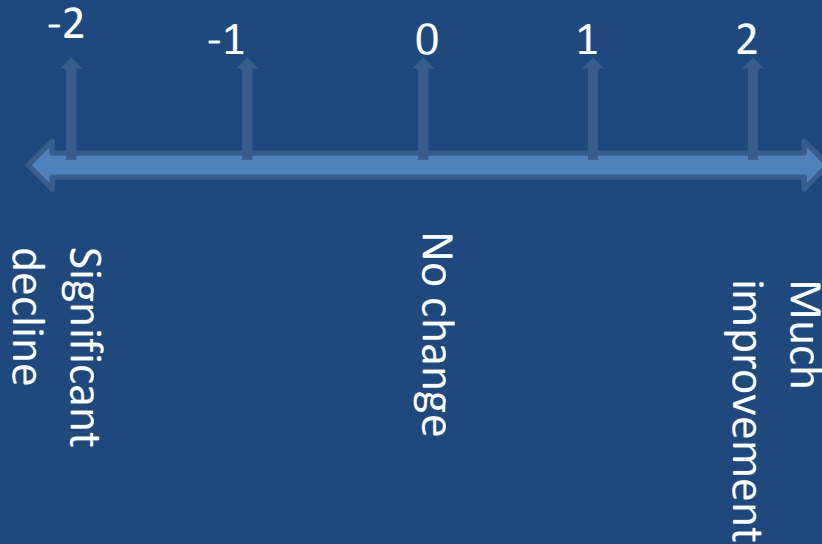
Towards what? Elements of Wellbeing

Endogenous Development

Safety Needs

Basic Needs

Belonging Needs

Self esteem / Self actualization Needs

Social

Wellbeing

Material

Spiritual

Measuring changes

Develop indicators and measure changes on parameters

Scores

trends

-2 -1 0 1 2

Significant decline

No change

Much improvement

↑ steep upward trend

↗ slow/some increase

→ No change

↘ slow/some decrease

↓ steep downward

Indicators

- The indicators have been defined in consonance with policy priorities – for instance, Food security.

- However, the framework lets communities define the parameters that result in food security- eg., this could be increase in quantity of food consumed and food buffered- and each community defines what foods (staples) and quantities and quality they consider as appropriate to reflect their security.

- Indicative parameters for each indicator are provided by us, but communities may modify them as appropriate to their milieu.

Indicators

- Hence, it is intended as a dynamic hybrid mechanism that meets objectives at the macro-planning level and facilitates reflection, planning and monitoring at the local level.

- It also allows cross-linking of issues- hence for instance, if food security cannot be met and there is inequity in access to resources or adverse tenure systems- it becomes evident that the first can be solved by addressing the latter – setting a clear context for claims to rights.

Indicator: improved clarity of tenure

Account for: Types of tenure rights and number of people under each type.

Tenure rights
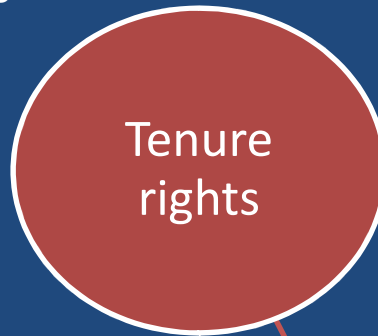
Indicator:
• Savings
• Alternate livelihoods
• Insurance

Account for:
Types of
• Savings
• Economic activities,
• Insurance schemes

Indicator:
• Types of funds
• Types of activities

Account for:
Types of
• Community funds
• Conservation activities

Safety Needs

Security from natural risks

Economic security

Indicator:

1. Social groups

Gender equity

2. Women in economic activities

3. Women in leadership

Non-discrimination

4. Access to resources to all members

5. Access to leadership to all members

6. Equity in sharing benefits

7. Autonomy to regulate/ manage resources

Belonging Needs

Account for:

1. Number and type of social groups

2. Number of women engaged in different economic activities

3. Number of women in leadership positions

4. Resources used, and types of restrictions to use them

5. Number of different kinds of stakeholders in the community and representation in leadership of each type

6. Prices of major products paid to different stakeholders

7. Types of rules to manage resources

8. Number of institutions and leaders and the number of followers

Autonomy
9.Autonomy in economic activity
10.Autonomy in local governance

Belonging Needs

Account for:

9. Type and number of rules to undertake different economic activities
10. Types of governance bodies and number of bodies with external representation

Indicator:
1. Ability to meet Educational aspirations
2. Confidence level

Self Esteem Needs

Account for:
1. Number of schools, affordability and number of children getting higher education
2. Types and Number of external partnerships , and number that are still active

Indicator:

Tangible

1. Sacred places (natural sites and manmade shrines) protected
2. Spiritual leaders and sacred sites custodians exist and perform their roles

Intangible

3. Traditional festivals and celebrations secured
4. Ability to practice spiritual beliefs and undertake ceremonies

Spiritual wellbeing

Account for:

Tangible

1. Number of sites and people respecting and using them
2. Number of spiritual leaders and sacred sites custodians

Intangible

3. Number of festivals and the number of people attending
4. Number of beliefs and ceremonies practiced freely

Initial notes

- Varying Aspirations (of what communities seek to achieve)

Community contexts vary

- Varying Worldviews

Both with mainstream and between community systems

- Autonomy (hierarchies within, between communities and with government/ dominant governance structures)
- Equity (what is equitable in one context not so in others)
- Economy (integration discourses related to monetization; homogenous exchange systems)
- Governance (norms, taboos, customary law and common law)
- Spirituality and 'rootedness' (even if external methods and processes are adopted, cultural norms provide a sense of rootedness that forms basis of interactions)

What does all this indicate?

- WB Assessment results, though from the community context, are also in line with macro indicators.
- Further, such an assessment has the potential to allow holistic planning processes with due emphasis on various interlinked factors that foster community wellbeing

Policy making should take cognizance of
- Facilitated access rights to resources to communities (natural and infrastructural)
- Tangible and intangible rights of communities to manage and use natural resources
- Encourage multistakeholder linkages and co-operative discussions
- Enable appropriate market support considering alternative economies
- Encourage participatory governance systems
- Investing in adequate awareness raising on supportive programmes
- Integration of cultural rootedness and worldviews in formal and informal learning

We welcome you to join us!

Thank you!

Contact us:

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Partners

UNU-IAS, UNEP, Equator Initiative, COMPAS-ETC