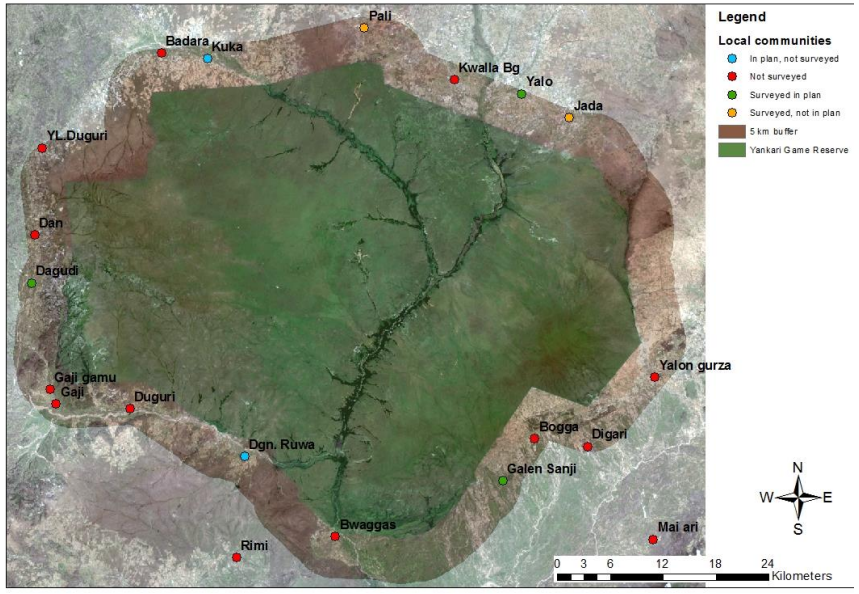
Local communities' perception of protected area management: the case of Yankari Game Reserve, Nigeria

Salamatu Fada, Naziru Muhammad, Hannatu Ismaila, Andrew Pullin, Ahmed Sabo, Danlami Garba, Matt Hayward, ***Tuyeni H Mwampamba***

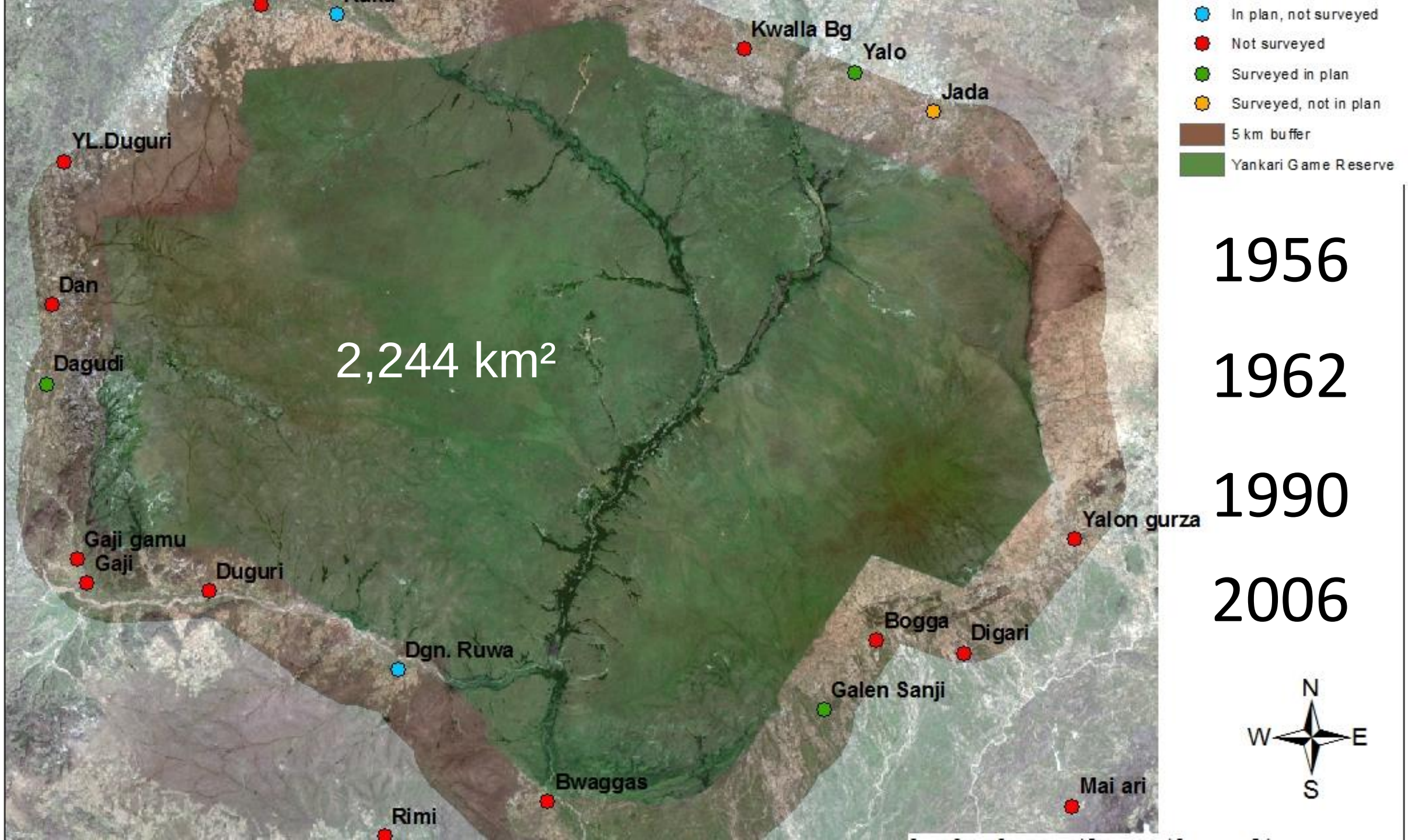
USAID Project Tanzania: “Malaria no More!”

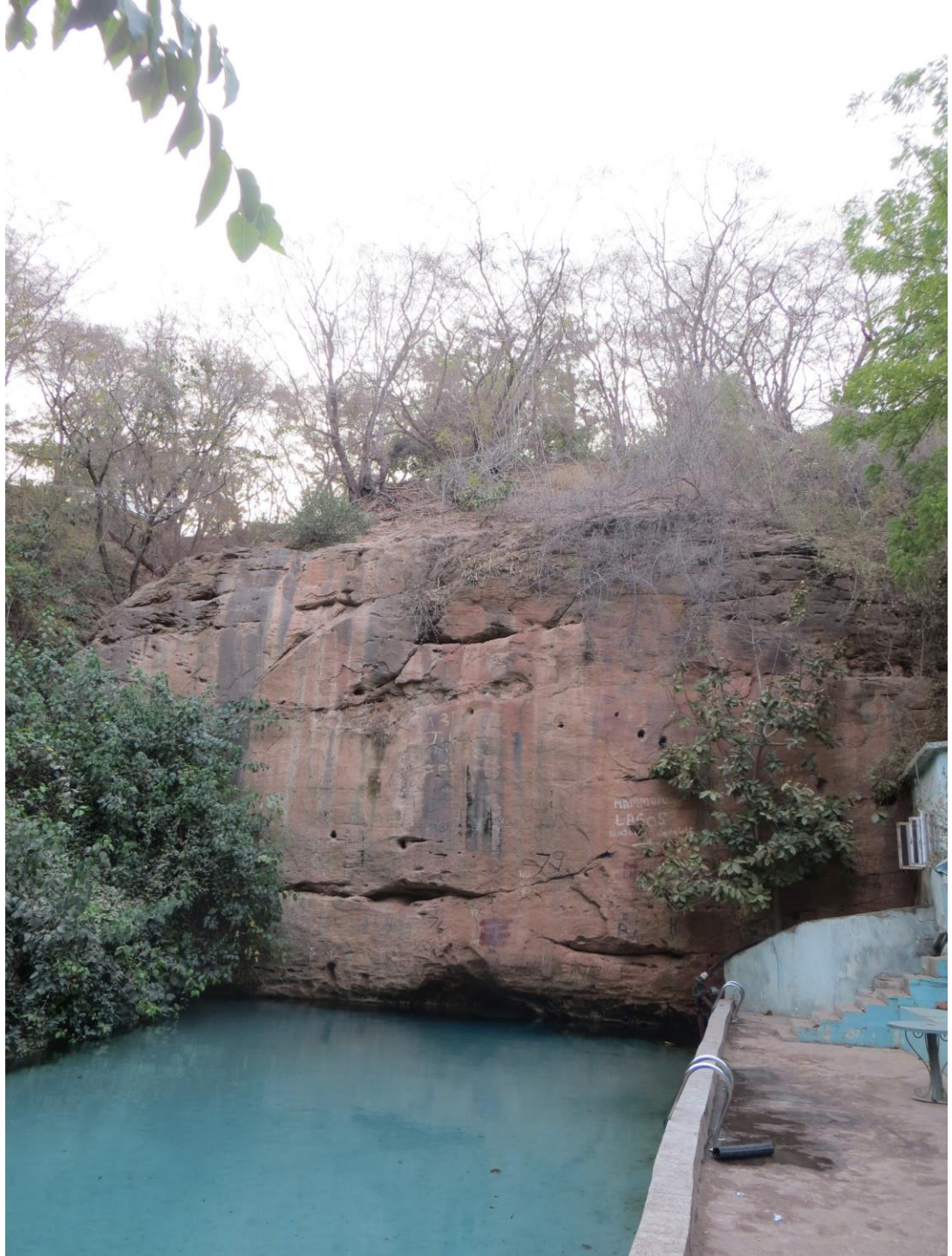
The **challenge** for conservation

HOW to ensure that ideologies of **conservation success** are **shared** among key stakeholders



The human conditions around parks have changed since they were gazetted

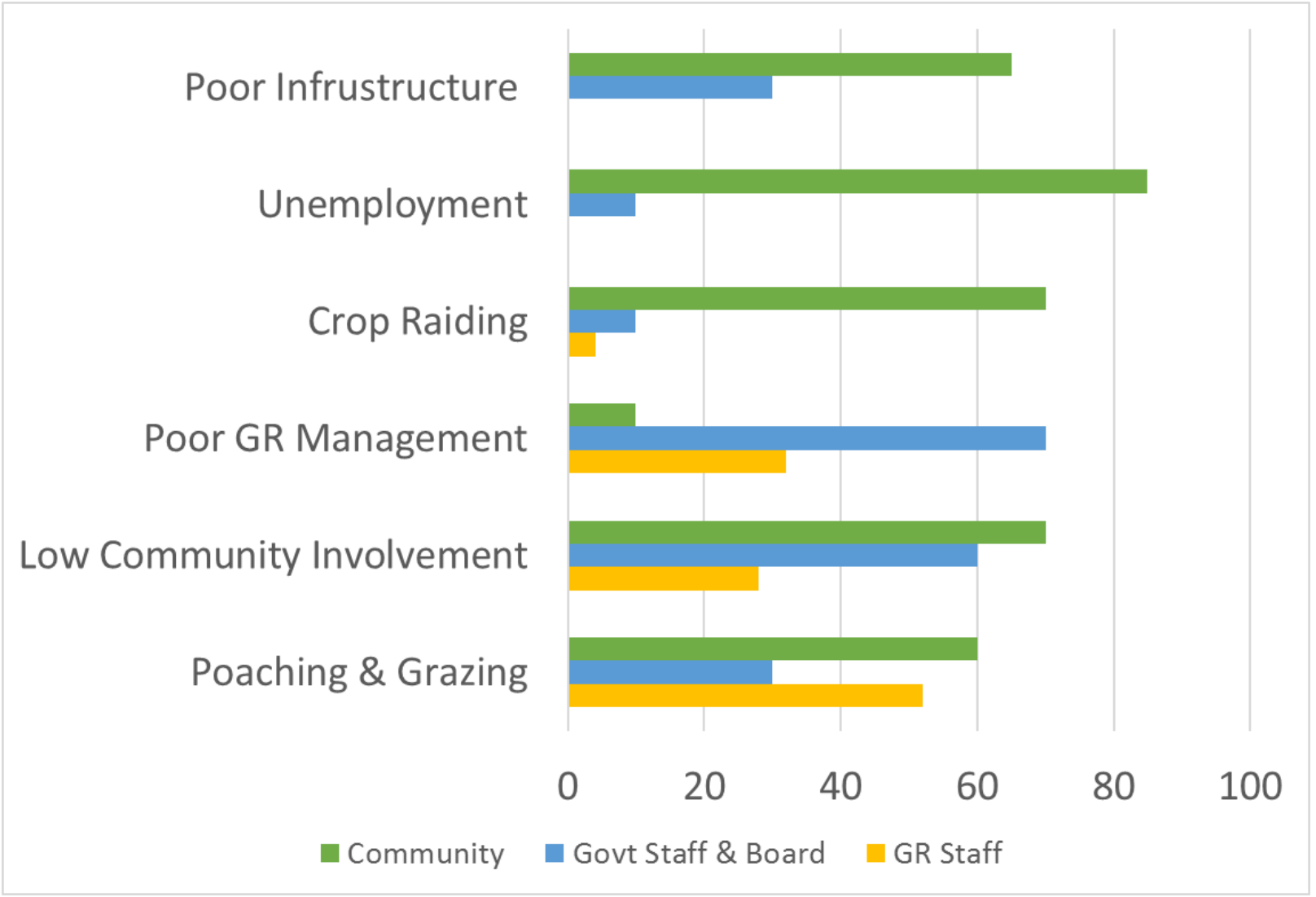

Kwalla Bg
Yalo
Jada
YL.Duguri
Dan
Dagudi
2,244 km²
Gaji gamu
Gaji
Duguri
Yalon gurza
Bogga
Digari
Dgn. Ruwa
Galen Sanji
Bwaggas
Mai ari
Rimi
In plan, not surveyed
Not surveyed
Surveyed in plan
Surveyed, not in plan
5 km buffer
Yankari Game Reserve
1956
1962
1990
2006
N
W
E
S



CONSERVATION CHALLENGES

Management of the reserve has been neglected and under-funded since 2006 when Bauchi State Government took over responsibility for the management of Yankari Game Reserve. As a result, levels of poaching have increased, with emboldened poachers operating even near the tourist camp situated in the centre of the reserve. Unconfirmed reports suggest that large numbers of elephants have been killed in recent years to supply Nigeria's illegal trade in ivory. In addition, conflict between elephants and local communities living near the boundaries of the reserve as a result of crop damage has reduced levels of community support for the game reserve and encourages local communities to support elephant poachers from outside the region. Poaching of other large mammals to supply the lucrative bushmeat trade also threatens to undermine the ecotourism potential of Yankari by further reducing opportunities for game-viewing by tourists.

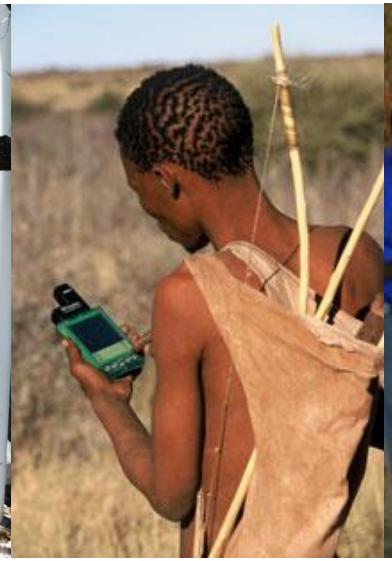
Unshared understanding of the key issues contributing to the status quo



GyaraYankari Project

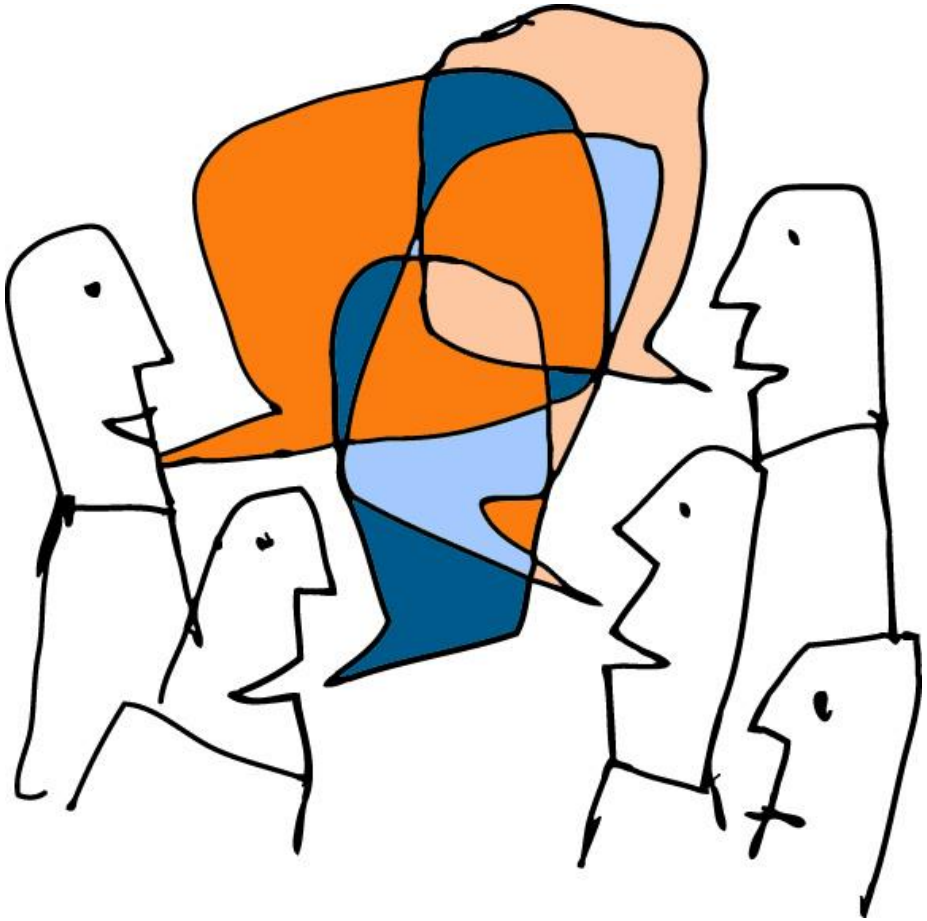
We need to AMPLIFY who provides information, who develops strategies, who makes and implements decisions

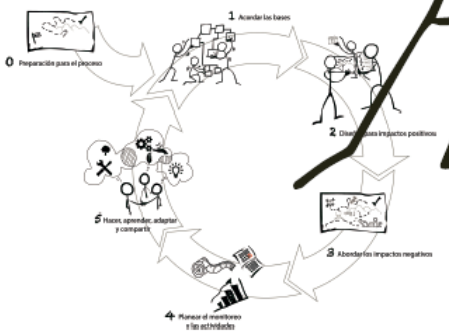
WE NEED: Co-production of knowledge



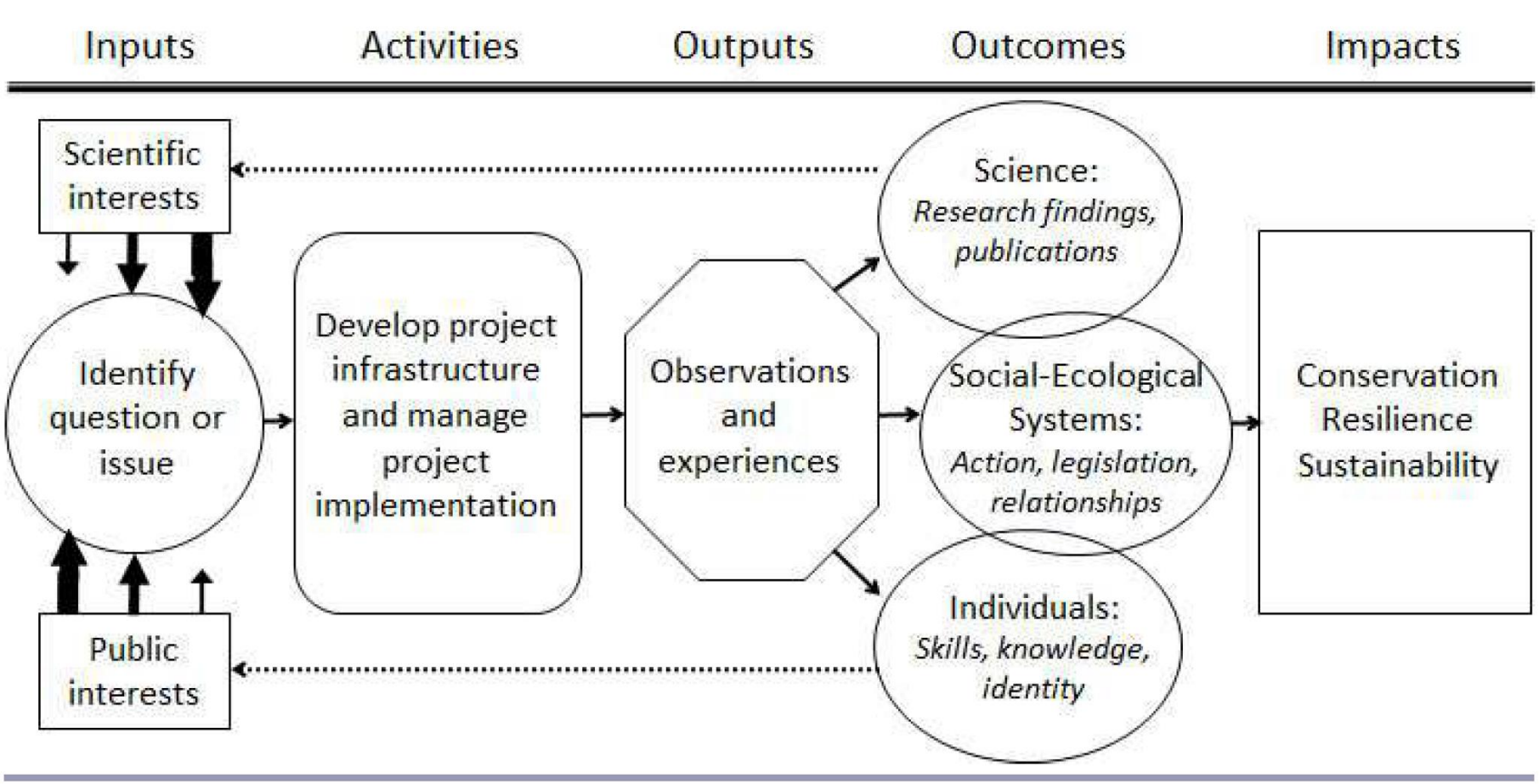
WE NEED: **Common understanding** of the problems and **shared visions**

WE NEED: Dialogue and participatory planning

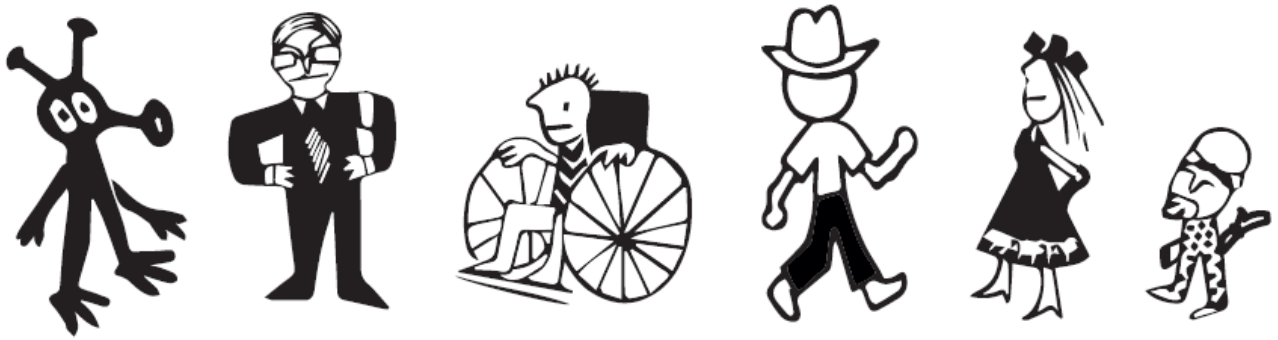




WE NEED: **Collaboration** between public, private and science sectors



Gradients of participation:
Not all participation is equal!



Low (token) participation

High-level participation

Participation + POWER

- More **trust**
- Decreased hostility
- Improved **adherence** to rules & regulations
- Increased community **pride**
- Increased **investment** in natural resources
- **Improved long-term CONSERVATION**

Thank you!

s.j.fada@bangor.ac.uk

tuyeni@cieco.unam.mx