

The Normative Concerns of Development:

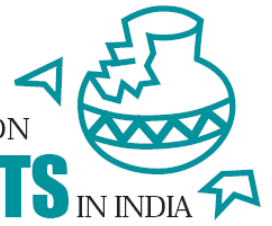
**Livelihoods, Sustainability, Equity
and Participation/Democratisation**

Training Workshop on Understanding and Resolving Water Conflicts
23-26 January 2012



From NRM to ecosystem management

- Natural resources to ecosystem resources
- Nested ecosystems
- Prioritisation, norms and management
- Normative framework



Four principal concerns

- Livelihoods
- Sustainability
- Equity
- Participation/democratisation

not in that `order' but an integrated set!

Livelihoods

- More than basic needs - takes account of needs imposed by livelihood patterns
- Objective is self reliance
 - Food, fodder, fuel and domestic water - self sufficiency *in kind* is the aim
 - Input needs from local sources *in kind* as far as possible
 - Rest of the needs mediated by cash through equal exchange in value and energy terms
- Fulfilment of needs has also to be assessed at household level
- Access to ecosystem resources (like water) to be determined by livelihood needs

Sustainability

- Conserve & enhance the primary productivity (productive & assimilative potential) of the ecosystem
- Stocks and flows:
 - Normally, use flows, not stocks
 - Use stocks in bad years, but replenish in good years
- Global aspect, especially in technology choice, reduction in non-renewable and non-local materials and energy use

Equity

- Inequality inscribed into the social structure: class, caste, ethnicity and gender
- Spatial aspects of inequality: location within watershed, between watersheds
- Inter-sectoral allocation and equity
- Equitable access to additional natural resources/productive potential created
- Positive sum game as basis for equity

Participation/ Democratisation

- Participation: Goal as well as means
- Democracy: Primacy of local community in decision making, downward accountability of higher level agencies
- More voice for marginal groups within the local community
- Outsiders have a definite role
 - Capability building for informed choice
 - Raising issues related to equity and sustainability
- Two-way traffic and learning

To sum up - 1:

- **Livelihoods:**
 - More than basic needs - takes account of needs imposed by livelihood patterns
 - Increasing levels of self reliance
 - Fulfilment of needs to be assessed at household and intra-household level
 - Access to water (or water right) to be determined by livelihood needs
- **Sustainability:**
 - Sustainable use of the water resource
 - Sustaining productivity of agricultural and common lands
 - Ensuring sustainability of downstream agro-ecosystems

To sum up – 2:

- **Equity:**
 - Greater sharing of benefits accruing from WDPs
 - More equitable access to natural resources, especially to the augmented resource generated by the WDPs
 - Livelihood assurance for the rural poor and disadvantaged
- **Democratisation:**
 - More control for local communities over the design and implementation of the WDPs, including downward accountability of the higher-level agencies
 - More voice for marginal groups within the local community