

Sustainability Assessment Methodology – An Approach and Method for Assessing Human and Environmental Conditions and Progress Toward Sustainability

IUCN–The World Conservation Union
IDRC - International Development Research Centre

The Sustainability Assessment methodology provides a way of engaging stakeholders in defining the key sustainability issues affecting their lives, and practical ways of assessing the wellbeing of people and ecosystems together in one integrated assessment framework. The method guides users through the development of their own vision of sustainability and the development of indicators to measure changes towards realizing that vision. The method includes the **Egg of Sustainability and the Barometer of Sustainability** as both conceptual, analytical and visual tools.

Developed by the IUCN M&E Initiative with support from IDRC (International Development Research Centre), this methodology was developed and tested in Asia, Africa and Latin America at local and regional levels. It is also the methodology used in the global assessment of 180 nations, **Wellbeing of Nations** (Island Press) as well as current IUCN work on the **Wellbeing of Forests**:

- ▶ **PART A: Overview**: describes the conceptual and technical features of Sustainability Assessment, how it can be used and how this method relates to other approaches to measuring sustainable development.
- ▶ **PART B: Facilitators' Materials**: provides resources for using the methods in the field and for training others to use Sustainability Assessment. This section includes case studies, classroom exercises, guidance on facilitating training and field exercises.
- ▶ **Part C: Slides for Facilitators**: contains a set of training overheads that are used by IUCN facilitators for Sustainability Assessment training sessions.

The full Resource Kit for Sustainability Assessment and examples of Sustainability Assessment can be found on the IUCN Evaluation Website -

http://www.iucn.org/themes/eval/methods.htm#sustainability_assessment

For more information – please contact:

Nancy MacPherson

Head, Monitoring and Evaluation
IUCN - The World Conservation Union
Rue Mauverney 28 Tel: ++41 22 999 02 71
CH-1196 Gland Fax: ++41 22 999 00 25
Switzerland E-mail : nmm@hq.iucn.org
Website: <http://www.iucn.org/themes/eval/index.htm>