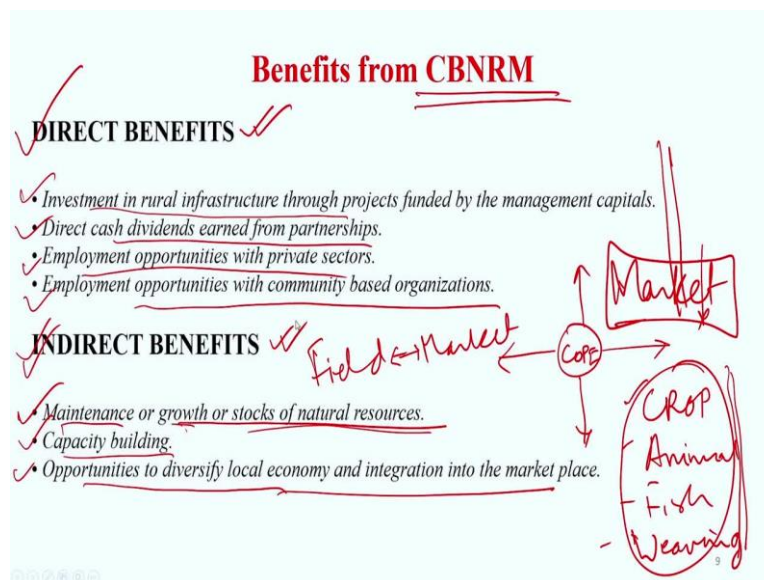
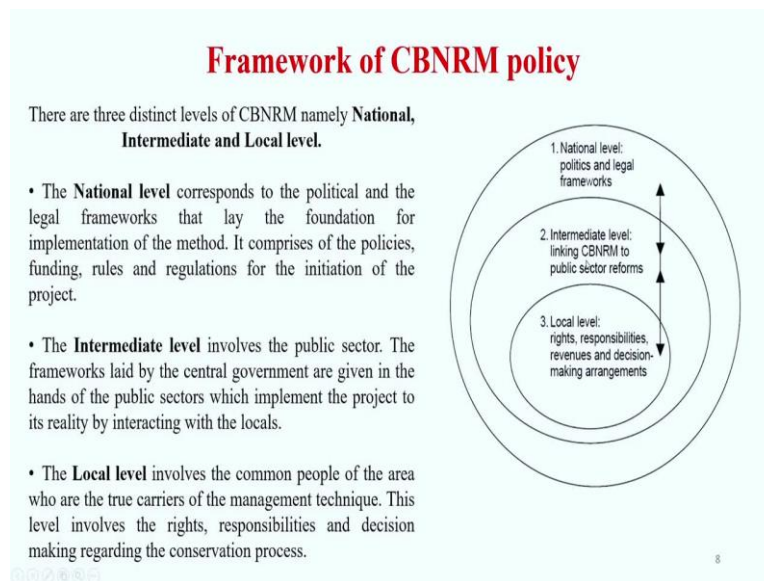


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**Week – 04**  
**Lecture - 21**  
**Community Based Natural Resources Management - Benefits from CBNRM**

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So, continuing from framework of CBNRM that is these 3 levels of CBNRM how it actually work we had national level, intermediate level, and local level. Now, what are the benefits with that we get from Community Based Natural Resource Management. So, 2 types of benefit first is direct benefit, what are those investment in rural infrastructure through various

projects that are funded by different organizations; it could be government, and these days also, corporates are also coming into picture.

Direct cash dividends earned from various kinds of partnerships, employment opportunities with private sectors, employment opportunities with community based organizations. As you will know that at the village level, there are also now, various CBOs or Community Based Organizations are coming up and these days entrepreneurship has become a kind of a mantra and it is this particular drive of entrepreneurship, it has really changed quite a lot the mindset of the communities and through various type of community based organizations, they are trying to enhance their income. So, these are a couple of direct benefits that we can one can achieve through CBNRM.

What are the indirect benefits? Maintenance or growth or stocks of natural resources. So, the natural resources which basically is the foundation for your any kind of livelihood activities, CBNRM also help in maintenance growth, as well as talks of natural resources, second capacity building, third, opportunities to diversify the local economy and it also helps in integrating it into the marketplace very, very important point, what happened is that, diversification of local economy can actually also allow the community to cope with various unseen eventualities, it could be various kinds of disasters, it could be also sudden jump in the price of inputs, maybe the market, if the demand for produced material goes down.

So, these are all kinds of things which are, unseen and if you diversify your local economy, not only just remain on crop production, but you can also go into animal husbandry, livestock management, fishery, and then weaving. So, there are various kind of way that one can diversify the local economy and also in household livelihood system.

So, higher the diversification of local economy less is the vulnerability of that particular community. And integration of all those things in the market place is critical, because, if the linkage between the field and market is not established in appropriate manner, definitely the livelihood of a community, the sustainability of a community will be affected. So, these are the two type of benefit that one can achieve from CBNRM.

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**Difficulties faced by CBNRM**

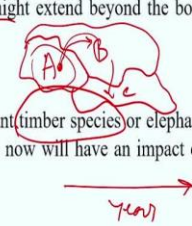
✓ Scale:  
In the case of wildlife, the home range of some species might extend beyond the boundaries of the community that is the unit of management.

✓ Time:  
Some natural resources, for example commercially important timber species or elephants, take a long time to mature. This means that decisions which are made now will have an impact on the resource only in several years' time.

✓ Complexity:  
The laws and policies controlling the use of natural resources in many countries over-lap and is outdated. Communities themselves are also very complex and diverse. As with any change, some groups might gain from CBNRM whilst others stand to lose.

✓ Implementation:  
Successful CBNRM requires dedicated and skilled implementation to change policy and legislation into action. Lack of skilled groups may affect implementation.

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Like any other system CBNRM also faces certain difficulties, what are those difficulties that one can actually anticipate in CBNRM? Scaling in case of wildlife, the home range of some species, might extend beyond the boundaries of the community that is the unit of the management for CBNRM. So, suppose you have one village boundary here and right there, another village is here, and then you have another village here. So, village A, village B and C. Unfortunately, the wildlife livestock they do not understand the boundaries.

So, suppose the livestock belongs to the zone A. So, they now because of search of food probably they can go and migrate into village B or even from village B they can migrate into village C. So, what happened is that those livestock basically are the responsibility of this village A to manage, but they migrated to B and then there is a chance that these groups of livestock may become orphan. So, these are certain scale related difficulties that CBNRM you could actually face.

Time, some natural resources, you will find that for example, timber; various kind of timber species, it takes a long time to get mature. So, that means, that decision which are made now will have an impact on the resource only in several years down the line. So, means, if you suppose go for one timber species plantation or management of a particular timber species, if you grow it now, and start managing it properly, ultimately the fruit will come when it gets mature and that could take certain amount of time. So, these are again some issues probably, that investment that you put for growing those plant species that immediately will not come back to you, you have to wait.

Complexity; the laws and the policies, which control the use of natural resources in many countries often overlap and also you will find that they are outdated. Now, communities themselves are also very complex, they are very diverse with their culture, their food habit, even the way they that manage the crops and the livestock are quite different from each other. As with any kind of change, some groups might get more benefit from CBNRM and where some other group may get little less. So, this complexity will be there. So, as an individual as a manager in that particular area or administration of that particular district or village, one has to understand this complexity and should take appropriate steps so that there is negative dynamics among different communities.

Implementation; very critical, I have couple of time mentioned in my earlier lecture as well successful CBNRM requires dedicated and skilled implementation, and that only will be able to impact the policy formulation legislations and does the action. Remember that lack of skill individuals or groups may affect the implementation quite significantly.

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### Difficulties faced by CBNRM

Partnerships:  
The most important partnership is probably that between the private sector and communities. There is real concern that many community private sector partnerships are unequal, with the private entrepreneurs being the dominant partners. Methods and skills to allow communities to mature into full and equal partners have to be developed.

Traditional leadership:  
Many newly independent governments marginalized the roles of Traditional Authorities in favor of "modern" political structures such as elected village councils. CBNRM programmes, with their aim of re-establishing community ownership over natural resources, are often faced with the dilemma of how best to structure the new local institutions.

Ecological status of the resources:  
CBNRM approaches have tended to work best in those environments that are relatively intact and provide opportunities for generating substantial financial incentives to change the way people perceive and manage their land and natural resources. In areas where natural resources are severely degraded and people are poor, there might not be sufficient incentives to change the way resources are managed.

Partnership, very important for any kind of initiative, especially at the level of community. So, in CBNRM also, you will find that, if the partnership between different organization different groups are not well, then there will be some difficulty. So, then, you will see that there are various stakeholder also will be there in an area like central government, state governments, private sector. So, there is a real concern that how these different stakeholders will work towards one single goal that is the improvement of the quality of the life of a community.

So, it is important that, somehow that this, multi stakeholders presence in a community is properly channelized, and there is a kind of a synergy before that individual stakeholders are trying to make. So, methods and skills for the communities to mature into full and equal partners also need to be developed because the community need to understand that which particular approach is actually beneficial for them, there will be as I said, a few numbers of stakeholders or players present there. So, if the community is trained a skill, so, they will be understanding that which particular way is more beneficial for them and easy for them to handle.

Traditional leadership is very important. Many newly independent governments, marginalize the roles of traditional community or authorities, especially in favor of so called modern political structures such as elected village council or VDCs. CBNRM programs with their aim for reestablishing community ownership over their natural resources are often faced with the dilemma of how best to structure the new locally based institution that is a big challenge in CBNRM.

If you go yourself to work for CBNRM at the community level, I can assure you that the institutional structure and also finding the traditional leadership is one critical component. So, we need to keep in mind that also we should respect the local traditional authorities to some extent, because, remember that they had been managing their own natural resources, whichever way for almost centuries all together. So, all of a sudden, that structure, if it is disturbed, there could be some kind of dynamics, which probably may not give you the fruits of CBNRM, which is actually intended for some good wellbeing for the community.

Ecological status of the resources, CBNRM approaches have always tried to work best for the environments. They try to keep the environment safe, and at the same time, also try to extract the most benefit for the community. So, the balance of utilizing a natural resources, as I mentioned in my previous lecture, that a monopoly of one particular land use probably lead to some problem in future and that needs to be also taken care in an appropriate manner.

So in case of CBNRM, so there will be some time challenges for the community as well, that how to manage their land and natural resources, while keeping the environment safe. In areas where natural resources are severely degraded, and people are also poor, there might not be sufficient incentives to change the way resources are managed. So, if people are already poor, and they are already living in a very challenging geography, so asking them or expecting

them, that they will be implementing CBNRM as per the principle will be a little bit over optimistic for us to think so, that is one difficulty that also you can face in case of CBNRM.