Health, Gender, Equity, & Justice: On Integrating SDGs

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Roadmap for Talk

Three useful approaches to such integration

• Narratives – on health, gender, equity, and justice
• Modelling (CLD on peace, justice & institutions)
• ACM efforts – Moving forward on any front
Findings from Katila et al. (in press)

Sustainable Development Goals: Their Impact on Forests and People:

- **Two Key Conclusions**
- The effects of the implementation of the SDGs *depend on context*.
- There is insufficient attention to the interactions among the SDGs.
Three Key Mechanisms or Approaches

**Narratives** – Stories, prose, ethnography, anecdotes, experience

**Modeling (CLDs)** – A technique from system dynamics that allows user to discuss/explore interactions among variables, domains, elements of relevance

**ACM** – an approach to development that directly involves the people whose lives are affected by forest management & grants access to local realities
We can/should

- build on social scientists’ work (e.g., anthropologists, geographers, political scientists)
- Recognize the holistic nature of social phenomena (interactions, feedbacks, process, dynamism)
- Acknowledge the incredible variety ‘out there’

→ [recognizing the]
- Impossibility of developing truly standardized ‘solutions’
- Necessity to learn about individual places & peoples
Four SDGs Inadequately Addressed in Forests

• SDG 3 – Good Health & Well Being (e.g., Ensure universal access to sexual & reproductive health-care services...)

• SDG 5 – Gender Equality (e.g., End all forms of discrimination against all women & girls everywhere)

• SDG 10 – Reduced Inequality (e.g., Empower/ promote social, economic & political inclusion of all...)

• SDG 16 – Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions (e.g., Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory & representative decision-making at all levels)
RECOGNIZING THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF EVEN CONCEPTUALIZING 17 SDGS AT ONCE!
• Women’s reproductive rights (SDG5) can
  • Improve family health (SDG 3) & diets (SDG2)
  • Allow female involvement in education (SDG4),
    income generation (SDG1, 8), forest management
    (SDG 15), which can
    • Counter narratives of female inferiority (SDG10, 16)
  • Reduce or stabilize population, which can
    • Simplify forest management (SDG15), address
      climate change (SDG13), reduce poverty (SDG1),
      & increase H&W (SDG3) because of greater child
      spacing, recovery time for mothers, more
      food/resources per person
  • Reduce pressure on men as sole providers (SDG3, 10)
Reinforcing Behaviour: Feedback Loops can have Positive or Negative Effects

- Means change in the opposite direction

- Means change in the opposite direction

+ Means change in the same direction

- Means change in the opposite direction

diverse involvement in forest management SDG 10, 15

assumption of male dominance SDG 5

global masculinist narratives SDG 5

forest institutional equity SDG 5, 10, 16

incidence of warfare SDG 16

negative ethnic stereotypes SDG 10

assumption of male dominance SDG 5

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- Positive Feedback:
  - Global masculinist narratives SDG 5
  - Incidence of warfare SDG 16

- Negative Feedback:
  - Assumption of male dominance SDG 5
  - Diverse involvement in forest management SDG 10, 15
  - Negative ethnic stereotypes SDG 10

SDG 5, 10, 16
Adaptive Collaborative Management of Forests

• In communities where a recognized problem/conflict exists,
• Use skilled facilitation to access all voices, including at broader scales
• Develop shared goals among stakeholders
• Plan collaboratively, inclusively, respectfully
Adaptive Collaborative Management (2)

- Develop shared monitoring systems; assess what works, what doesn’t
- Strengthen ‘communities of practice’ to broaden impact areas
- Access social science capabilities, both to understand particular forest systems and to work more effectively with marginalized stakeholders (women, pygmies, lower castes, etc.)
Moving forward with such knowledge

Narratives and causal loop diagrams can teach us a great deal about local systems, but knowledge is insufficient.

To incorporate the many voices (SDG5, 10, 16), we need to work with local forest communities in a process like

Adaptive Collaborative Management of Forests