

IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERPRETATION AS MANAGEMENT TOOL IN DRC NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION.

BY

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Introduction.

Regarding natural and cultural resources conservation, there are two types of communities: community living around Protected Areas (PA) buffer zone (50 Km from PA limits and therein PA (Hunting game reserves, Okapi Fauna Reserve, Biosphere Reserves) and, community living other natural zones and towns. The first is constituted mainly with native people; the second, with different social layers. In the buffer zone, ICCN is mandated to manage wildlife, forest and hunting. In different ways, Ministries of Environment, Nature Conservation, Water and Forests, and of Agriculture work in the same area but having different perspectives from those of ICCN.

For long time, ICCN had been worked without caring of communities described above. Consequently, they have been exploited natural resources they depend upon to such extent resources get in scarcity to cope their survival needs. As result, they usually break law by entering the PA to extract natural resources. In a recent past, there are people buying valuable cultural statues. Communities ignore the value of their cultural sites and, to some extent, of their own culture as a part of universal heritage.

In order to respond to this situation, ICCN has relatively recently initiate Community Conservation Based Program. This program deals especially with environmental education/sensitization and, with socio-economic micro projects. During the 8 years of wars situation, despite the intensive environmental/sensitization activities directed towards communities and benefices they have been from the program, most of them destroyed PA natural resources today still, as they do not have stronger emotional and intellectual connection that interpretation uses to create between communities (audience) with resources. Dealing specially with ecosystems and their biotic components, environmental education/sensitization does not establish such a connection. Moreover, by indirect means, interpretation allows to make a balance between tourism development activities and natural and cultural resources conservations.

Therefore, interpretation is needed to be set up as management tool in DRC natural and cultural resources conservation equally as other tools: research, monitoring, law enforcement, community conservation based program and tourism.

This Action Plan will make communities to be more awareness and conservation committed/supported regarding natural and cultural resources issues.

In so doing, it aims to contribute to the improvement of both resources conservation.

Goal: To set up, in DRC, interpretation as natural and cultural resources management tool.

Objectives. There are three objectives:

- (1). To include, in DRC conservation legislation framework, interpretation as natural and cultural resources conservation management tool.
- (2). To arise, throughout interpretation, emotional and intellectual connection between community and resources and, the values of these resources.
- (3). By the fulfillment of objectives (1) and (2), to significantly contribute to the improvement of natural and cultural resources conservation.

Constraints or barriers.

- (1). Political will good and support.
- (2). Communities engagement and implication.
- (3). Financial and humane resources.
- (4). Security conditions.

Matrix.

Table n°1: Objective 1.

Activities	Indicators of success	Resources Needed
Objective 1.	Interpretation has been integrated in national legislation as natural and cultural resources management tool and applied effectively	1.Financial and human resources
1.1.Provision of a best deep understanding of interpretation: history, theory, techniques and impacts	Government, Politicians, Communities had understood what interpretation is and its usefulness	1.Financial resources 2.Professors/ interpreters
1.2. Lobbying for the incorporation of interpretation as management tool in the reviewing legislation in process	Interpretation has been incorporated in DRC conservation legislation framework	1.Financial resources 2.Lawyers 3.Biologists 4.Professors/Interpreters
1.3. Integration of interpretation in Environment, Nature Conservation, Water and Forests, Art and Culture and, Tourism Ministries and ICCN structures	Structure Chart of these three Ministries and ICCN with interpretation therein and effective use of interpretation	1.Financial resources 2.Ministers, ICCN general Director, interpreters, Managers

Table n°2: Objective 2.

Activities	Indicators of success	Resources Needed
Objective 2.	Communities have understood natural and cultural resources values, support their conservation through an effective participation way	1. Financial and human resources
2.1. Recruitment of new personal	Interpretation program has been effective	1.Financial resources 2.Human resources: interpreters, psychologists, ethnologists, archeologists, geologists, anthropologists, sociologists, biologists
2.2.Training of trainers, managers and communities members	Trainers, managers and communities' members have been trained.	1.Financial resources 2.Universities professors 3.Materials
2.3. Involvement of personal interpretation	Communities become very natural and cultural resources conservation supported and committed: existence of local conservation NGO, increasing conservation volunteers number Politics support	Idem
2.4. Involvement of non personal interpretation (brochures, exhibits, signs, audiovisual shows...)	Communities become very natural and cultural resources conservation supported and committed: existence of local conservation NGO, increasing conservation volunteers number Politics support	Idem
2.5. Refreshment course	Trainers, managers and communities' members are more efficient than before	1.Financial resources 2.Professors 3.Materials
2.6. Tourism lobbying/marketing	Increase tourists number Increase incomes from tourism activities	
2.7. Restoration and/ or Identification of cultural sites	Existing cultural kwon Sites had been restored, others identified, restored and opened to tourism	1.Financial resources 2.Ingeners 3.Archiologsists 4.Geologists 5.Communities leaders
2.8. Construction of museums	Museum have had been constructed	1.Financial resources 2.Ingeneers 3.Archelogsists 4.Geologists
2.9. Tourism incomes sharing	Communities standing of live has been increased through tourism incomes shared system	1.Financial resources 2.Educated/trained people

Table n°3: Objective 3.

Activities	Indicators of success	Resources Needed
Objective 3.	Conservation of natural and cultural resources has been improved	1.Financial and human resources
3.1. Activities 1.2, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 & 2.6.	Poaching, encroachment, deforestation had been considerably reduced See other indicators related to objectives 1 & 2.	See objectives 1 & 2
3.2. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation of interpretation program	Interpretation has been implemented, monitored and fully evaluated	1.Financial and human resources

Expected output.

Activities	Expected output	Sources of verification	Responsibilities	Time table
1.1.	Government and communities are fully interpretation supported	Meeting reports	ICCN Director ICCN scientists ICCN communities conservation based program service The three Ministries	First quarter of year 1
1.2.	Government has voted law related interpretation as management tool	Official journal Legal text	ICCN Director ICCN scientists Local and International conservation NGOs	Third quarter of year 1
1.3.	The three Ministries and ICCN have integrated interpretation in their structure chart	Structure charts	Ministries concerned ICCN	Last quarter of year 1
2.1.	New personal has been recruited	Increase in personal number Work contracts	Ministries concerned ICCN	First quarter of year 1
2.2.	Trainers, managers and communities' members had been trained	Training report	Ministries concerned Colorado University (Peter Newman & Chris Mayer), University of Montana	Second quarter of year 2
2.3.	Politicians and communities are resources conservation supported / committed	MOU related to resources conservation Increase government budget for conservation Seminars, conferences, meetings reports Radio and television schedules related to interpretation program	Ministries concerned ICCN Local and international conservation NGOs	Second quarter of year 2
2.4.	See 2.3.	See 2.3.	See 2.3.	See 2.3.
2.5.	Trainers, managers and communities' members have been retrained	Retraining report	Ministries concerned ICCN Local and international conservation NGOs Communities	First quarter of year 4
2.6.	Increase tourism number	Tourism activities report	Ministries concerned ICCN Local and international conservation NGOs	First quarter of year 2
2.7.	Tourism activities in cultural sites	Tourism activities report in cultural sites	Ministries concerned ICCN Local and international	First quarter year 3

			conservation NGOs Communities	
2.8.	Cultural objects are protected therein museums Tourism activities therein museum	Museums reports	Ministry of Art and Culture	First quarter year 3
2.9.	Communities standing of live has increased through tourism incomes sharing	Tourism activities report	Ministries concerned ICCN Local and international conservation NGOs	First quarter year 3

ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN.

WHY ?

- 1. To have an overview of overlapping activities throughout the duration of the Action Plan implementation.**
- 2. To evaluated, through the Execution Rate, the level of activities implementation.**

Year	Activities	Chronogram				Execution Rate
1.	1.1	X				
	2.2.		X			IER= 100%
	2.3.			X	X	GER= 29 %
	3.1.				X	
2.	2.1.				X	IER= 100%
	2.2.		X			GER= 50 %
	2.3.		X	X	X	
	2.4.		X	X	X	
	2.6.	X	X	X	X	
	2.7.					
3.	2.6.	X	X	X	X	GER = 53%
	2.7.	X	X	X	X	
	2.8.	X	X	X	X	
	2.9.	X	X	X	X	
4.	2.5.	X				
	2.6.	X	X	X	X	GER = 57%
	2.7.	X	X	X	X	
	2.8.	X	X	X	X	
	2.9.	X	X	X	X	
5.	2.6.	X	X	X	X	GER = 57%
	2.7.	X	X	X	X	
	2.8.	X	X	X	X	
	2.9.	X	X	X	X	

EVALUATION OF THE INTERPRETATION PROGRAM FINAL REPORT.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND POTENTIAL PARTENERS.

POSITIVELY IMPACTED.

Impacted Entity	How impacted
1. Ministries Concerned	Increase of their positive pictures at national and international level
2. ICCN	Increase its positive pictures at national and international level
	Conservation of biodiversity and cultural sites therein Protected Areas and Buffer zone
	More management to do
5. Managers	More management to do
	More knowledge
6. Communities	Natural and Cultural resources conservation
	Effective relationship with their resources
	Incomes from these resources through tourism activities
	Job opportunity
7. Universities	More knowledge
8. Primary and Secondary schools	More knowledge
	Awareness

NEGATIVELY IMPACTED.

Impacted Entity	How impacted
1. Poachers	Increase of change to detected and punished Decrease of incomes
2. Art Artists	Less raw materials Decrease of their business
3. Fauna and Flora Traders	Less Fauna and Flora available Decreasing of business activities

POTENTIAL PARTENERS.

1.INTERNATIONAL MESEUM SOCIETIES

2.UNIVERSITIES: Colorado, Montana, Belgium Universities
University of Uele

3.LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION NGOs

4.UICN, BSP, UN AGENCIES, WB....