



TRAINING WORKSHOP ON FOREST PLANNING AND FOREST MANAGEMENT IN DIFFERENT FOREST TYPES IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA 24 – 28 JULY 2023, ARUSHA (TANZANIA)

STAKEHOLDERS AND THEIR ROLES IN FOREST PLANNING AND FOREST MANAGEMENT

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Plan of the presentation

1. INTRODUCTION
2. IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS
3. ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS
4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION
5. CONCLUSION





INTRODUCTION



African forests are rich in **biodiversity** and provide a **livelihood** for more than **1 billion people**

Forests, which represent both **public and private assets**, are under increasing **pressure** to fulfill a broad range of functions for many **different stakeholders**

Sustainable forest management is a “**dynamic** and **evolving concept**, which aims to maintain and enhance the **economic, social** and **environmental** values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations”

FAO (2020)





INTRODUCTION



Forest planning is the most important condition or requirement for ecologically sustainable and economically efficient forest use
(Akishin, 2014)

Planning must be carried out across a range of **hierarchical levels** (international, national, local) to ensure that the process is acceptable to all **stakeholders**
(FAO, 1999)

Good forest plans can only be developed and effectively implemented when the **stakeholders** involved have the requisite skills

FAO (2020)





INTRODUCTION

The presentation aims to **identify the stakeholders involved** and **their roles** in forest planning for different forest types

1. Identify the types of **stakeholders** in forest planning
2. Understand the **roles of stakeholders** in different forest types





IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholder

An **individual** or **institution** with an interest in a business or project

→ **affect** or **is affected** by the activities of the project, in this case of **forestry-related activities**

→ people or institutions with an interest in **forests** and **forestry-related activities**





IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

Different levels of stakeholder

International

International organisations involved in regulations, international standards, and conventions for forest management. These include the FOA (Food and Agricultural Organization), donor agencies, international research organisations and more

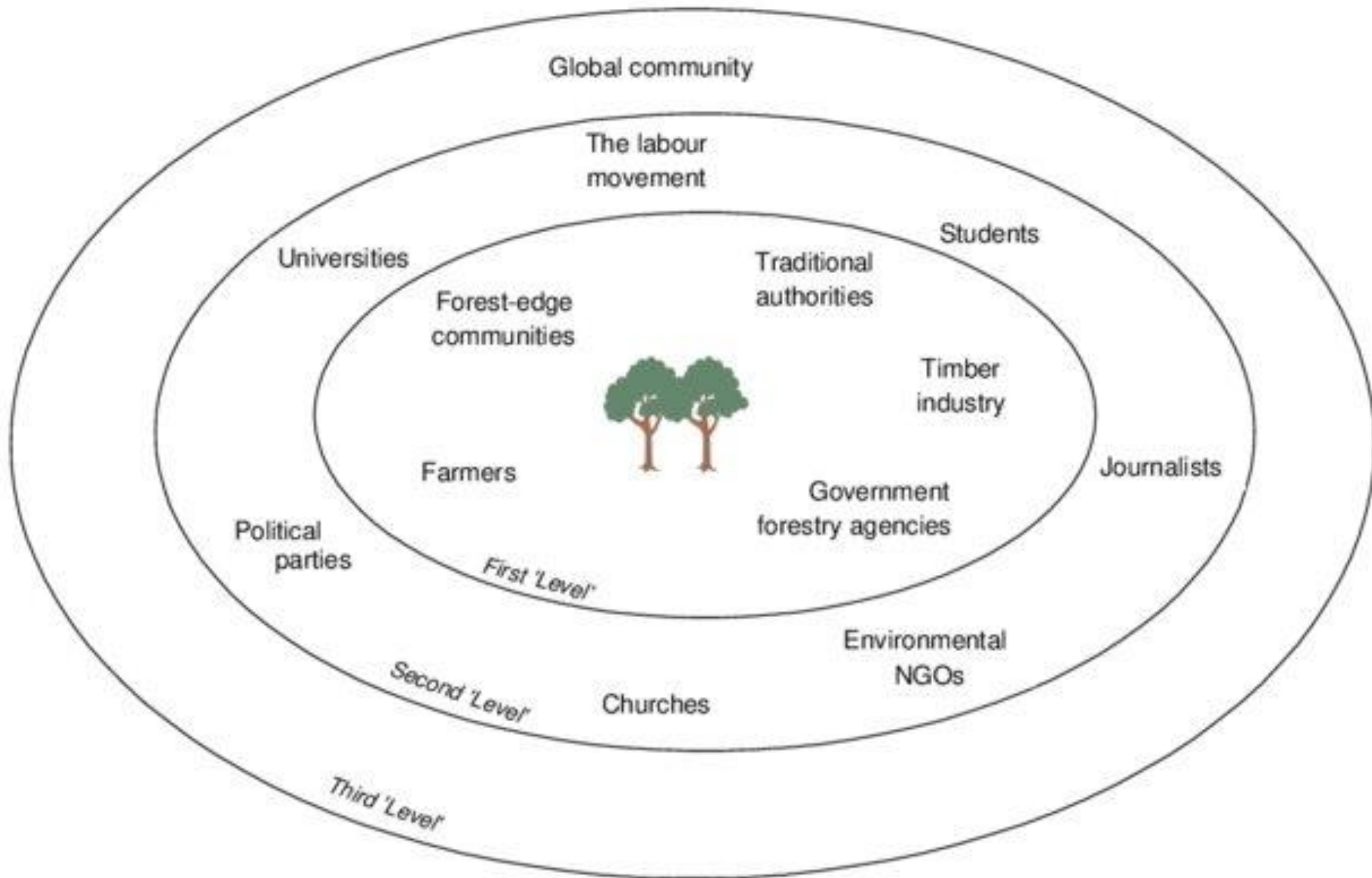
National

Institutions that assist the local communities in managing and regulating forest resource use, through legislation and policies. These include government ministries, research institutions, and universities

Local Stakeholders

The day-to-day users and beneficiaries of forest resources, comprising traditional authorities, local government authorities, extension officers, and local communities that reside in forest areas and are directly involved in the use and management of such resources

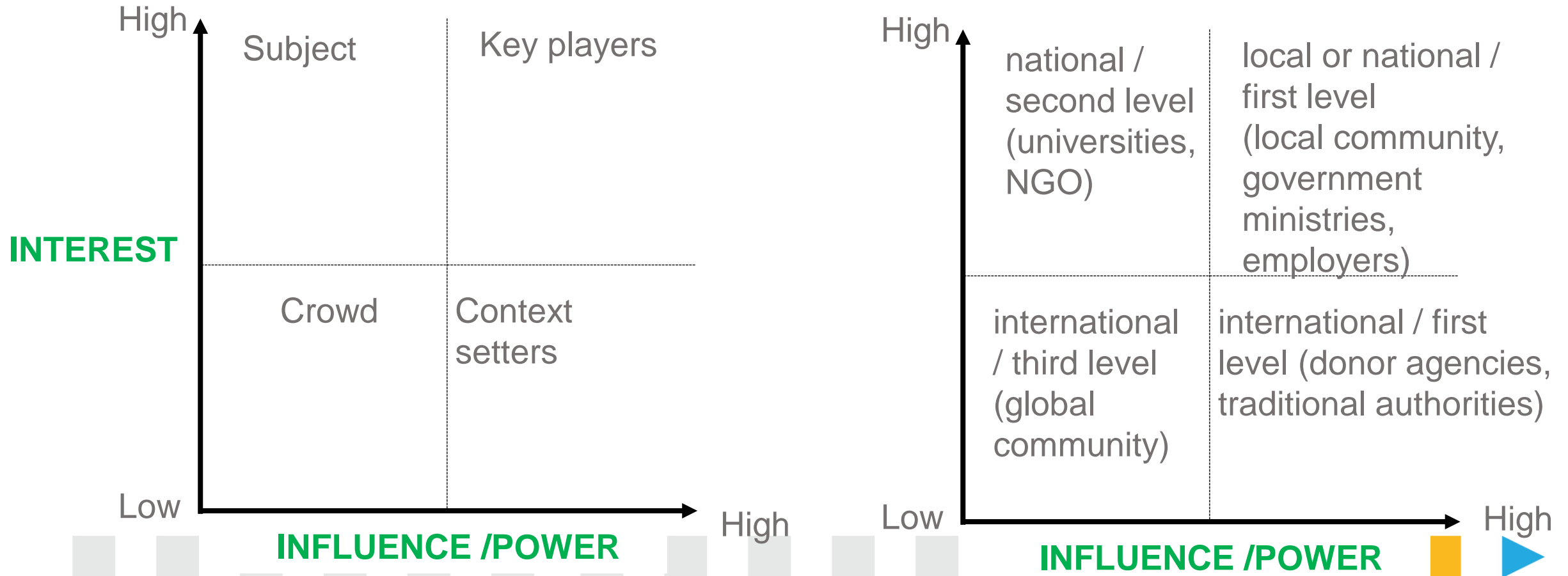






IDENTIFICATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

Matrix of the importance and influence of stakeholders





ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

The four main **stakeholder** groups include any people or organizations that can directly or indirectly affect or be affected by forest planning:

1. Local community
2. Government
3. Forest managers
4. Civil society organizations (including international stakeholder) and researchers





ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

Local community

- Provide leadership and consent to allow the gazetting of Community Forests
- Approve the boundaries of Community Forests.
- Lead conflict resolution within the community
- Make use of local authority (provincial/district government) expertise
- Identify multiple use needs of communities.
- Assist in arranging the equitable sharing of benefits from forests



Saving Tanzania's Coastal Forests: Community members send their thanks to WLT supporters





ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

Government

- Provide policies, legislation, mechanisms, staff, education and training, resources and encouragement for the ecologically sustainable use and management of forest, land and water resources, on all classes of land ownership, for the benefit of all of society.
- Facilitate training and funding for implementation with international organisations and donors





ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

Forest managers

- Serve as signatories of the Community Forest formation agreement with the minister
- Responsible for the day-to-day management, planning, and control of Community Forest operations
- Use their resources wisely in a way that will maintain options for future development and so provide for their long-term benefit.
- Maintain the capacity of the forest resource to supply essential needs.
- Monitor operations for compliance with good practice.



Logging of trees at Itare Forest (Kenya)





ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS

Civil society organizations and researchers

- Provide research support and training in forest management for foresters and other key staff members
- Provide education and promotion of good practices of forest planning
- Support communities in their management and planning efforts





STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Stakeholders' participation plays an important role in forest resources planning to ensure the sustainable forest management

According to World Bank (1996), **participation** is “a **process** through which **stakeholders' influence** and **share control** over development initiatives, decisions and resources which affect them”.

Stakeholder participation was thus described as a process of institutional arrangements in which **stakeholders** are actively involved in **different levels of management** (including: decision making, planning activities, projects and programs designs) of forest resources.





STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Best practices for stakeholder participation

In order to ensure effective outcomes of stakeholder engagement it is important to ensure:

- **Strong baseline consultations**, to allow for all relevant stakeholders to be identified and made part of the process.
- **Regular communication among stakeholders** to keep everyone informed about the happenings relating to Sustainable Forest Management.
- **Collaborative training** whenever possible to ensure that all stakeholders are equipped with the necessary skills for Sustainable Forest Management.
- **Co-financing**: Stakeholders should explore opportunities for cofinancing, which would make the financing of Sustainable Forest Management projects easier through the pooling together of several funds.





STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Engaging implementation stakeholders in thematic areas

- 1
 - Governance and policy framework
 - Forest biodiversity
- 2
 - Financing sustainable forest planning
 - Sustainable use of forests and forest products
- 3
 - Participatory planning
 - Institutional capacity for REDD+
- 4
 - Education and awareness
 - Training
- 5
 - Availability of data for sustainable forest management
 - Inclusion, and gender equality





STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Challenges to stakeholder participation

- Disputes among different stakeholders
- Language barriers, especially in working with rural communities
- Communities' acceptance of new concepts with which they are unfamiliar
- Poor or limited understanding of legal documents
- Unrealistic expectations among stakeholders before discussions are held
- Different cultural or educational backgrounds of stakeholders





CONCLUSION

The forest is a common asset

- To facilitate forest planning, concerted efforts are required by all stakeholders. All the categories of stakeholders should be allowed to participate in decision-making process of forest planning.
- This will give the stakeholders the sense of ownership necessary for sustainability and protection against illegal forest activities.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

