Governance Quality for Protected Areas

PA Governance Workshop Iran 31 July 2016

Group work
Taking one area that you know:

- What issues have arisen in your protected area?
- How were these dealt with?
- What has been the result?

…across the world, "conservation" is changing…

a movement that has been building up for years among local communities, indigenous peoples, conservation professionals, policy makers, government staff and protected areas officials…

- **Conservation needs the capacities, concerns & engagement of society as a whole, not of expert professionals or government officials only…**

- **Conservation needs to pay more attention to the crucial ties between biological and cultural diversity**

…the conditions that allow indigenous peoples and local communities to be empowered for conservation

- **Conservation needs equity—a fair sharing of the costs and benefits of conserving biodiversity and managing natural resources in a sustainable way**

- **Conservation needs to respect human rights and indigenous peoples' rights:**

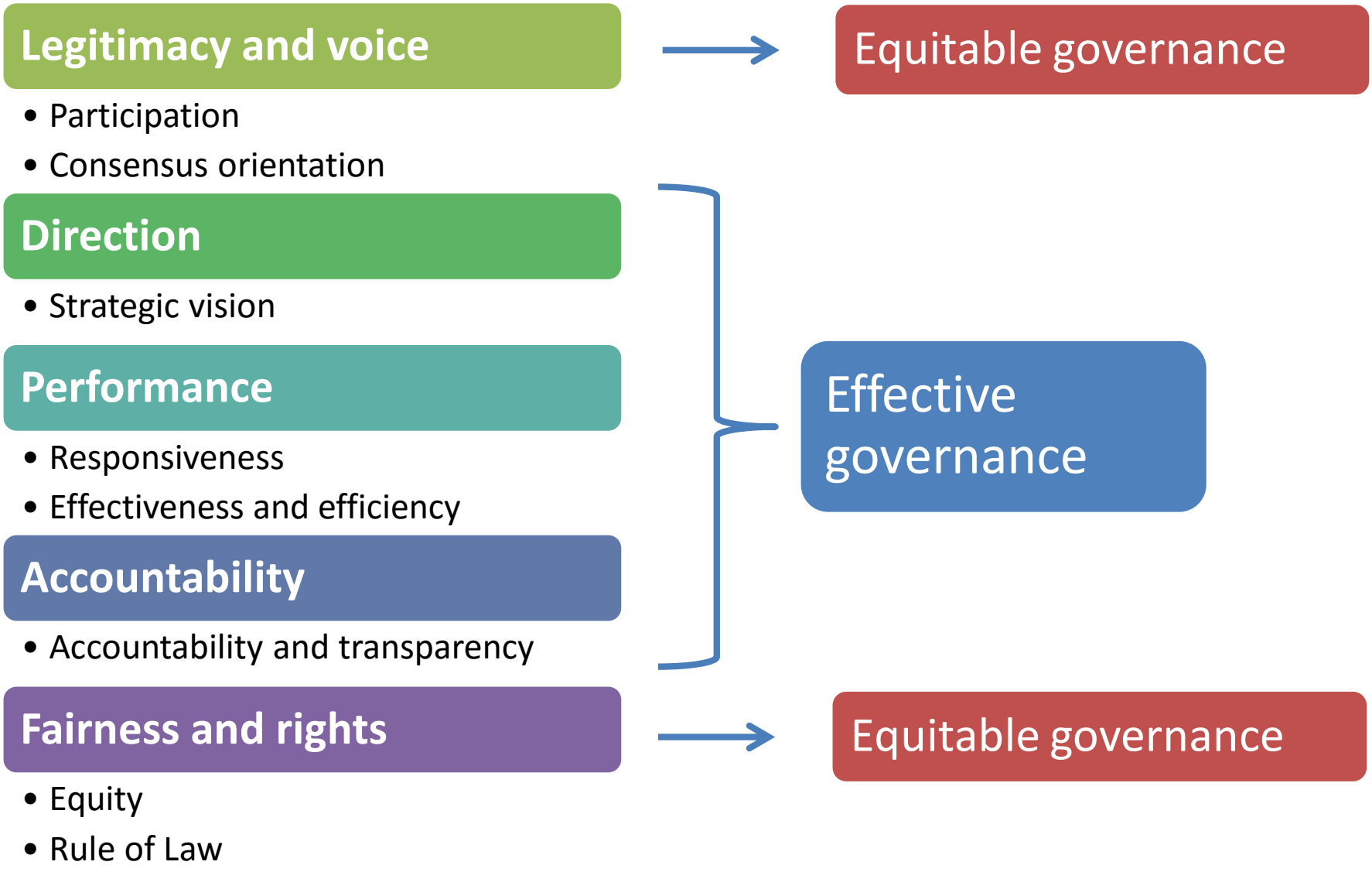
…do all that is possible to "do no harm" and, rather, have a positive impact on livelihoods…

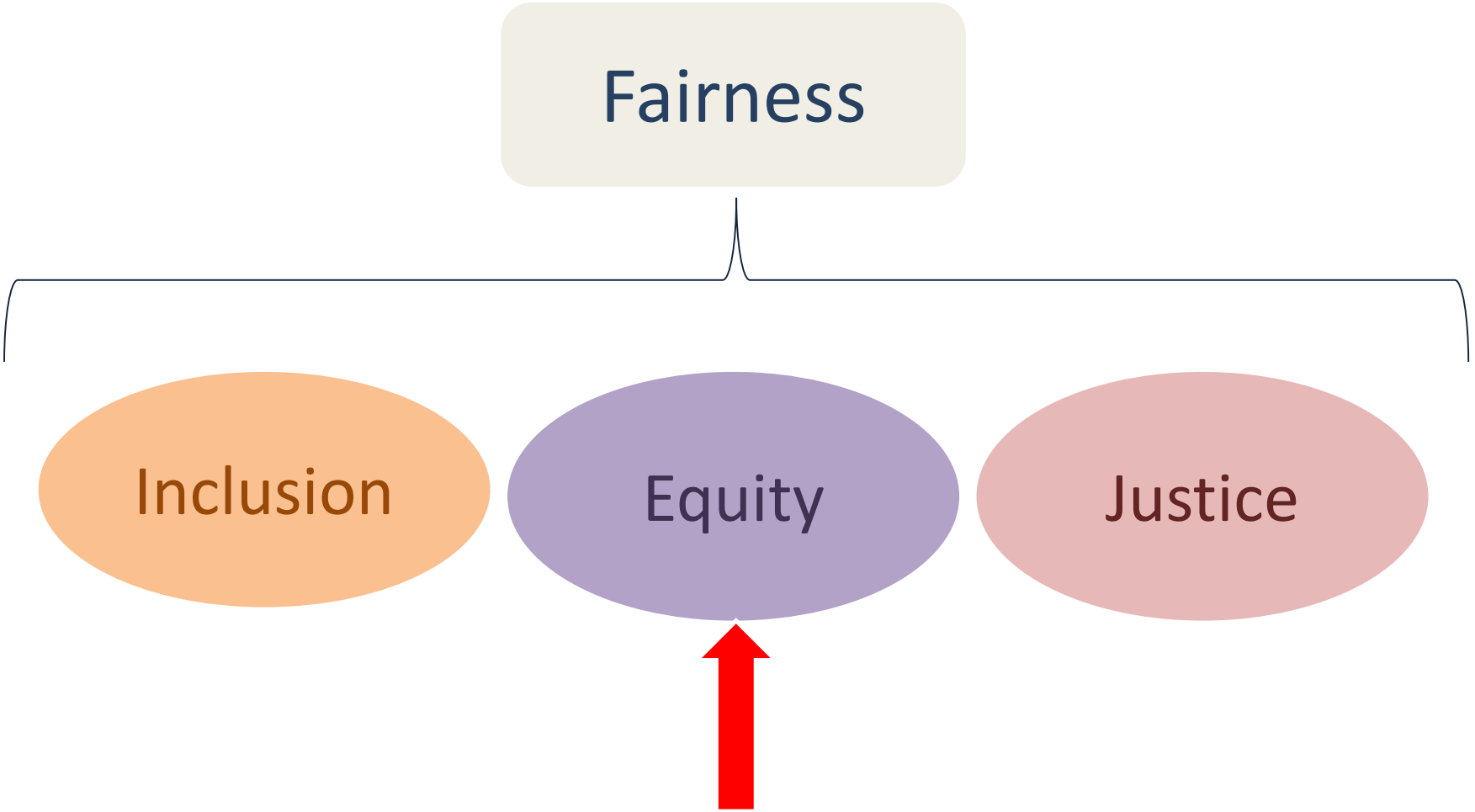
Quality:
principles of "good governance"

...the IUCN recognises:

- **Legitimacy and Voice**
- **Direction**
- **Performance**
- **Accountability**
- **Fairness and rights**

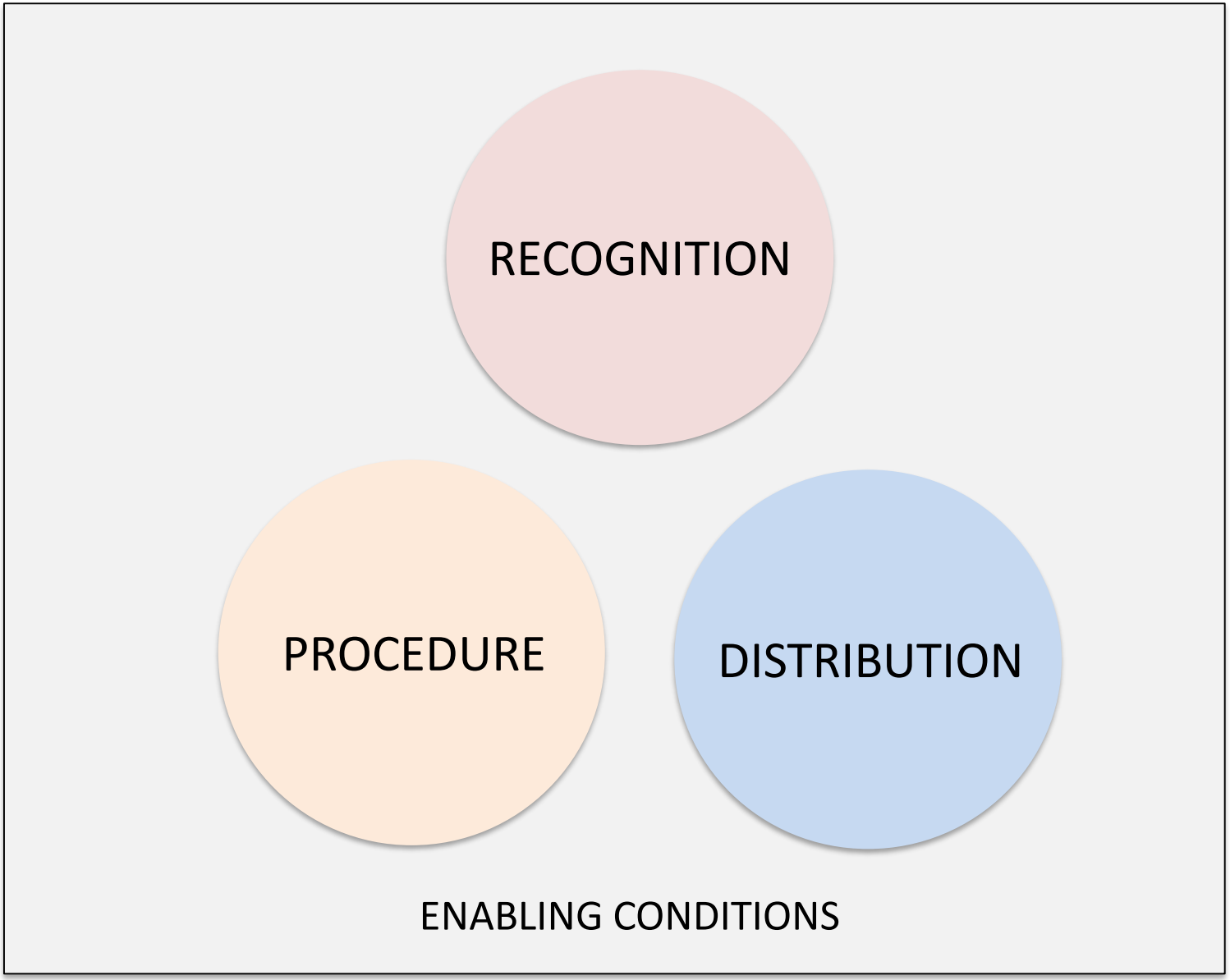
Principles of good governance





Equity/equality is the language of CBD and widely used in SDGs

3 Dimensions of Equity



RECOGNITION

- Human rights
- Resource rights
- Right to self-determination
- Identities, knowledge, values, institutions
- Actors and their interests
- Non discrimination

PROCEDURE

- Participation
- Responsibilities
- Accountability
- Dispute resolution
- Transparency
- FPIC for actions affecting rights of IPs and LCs
- Customary institutions
- Assess costs, benefits, risks

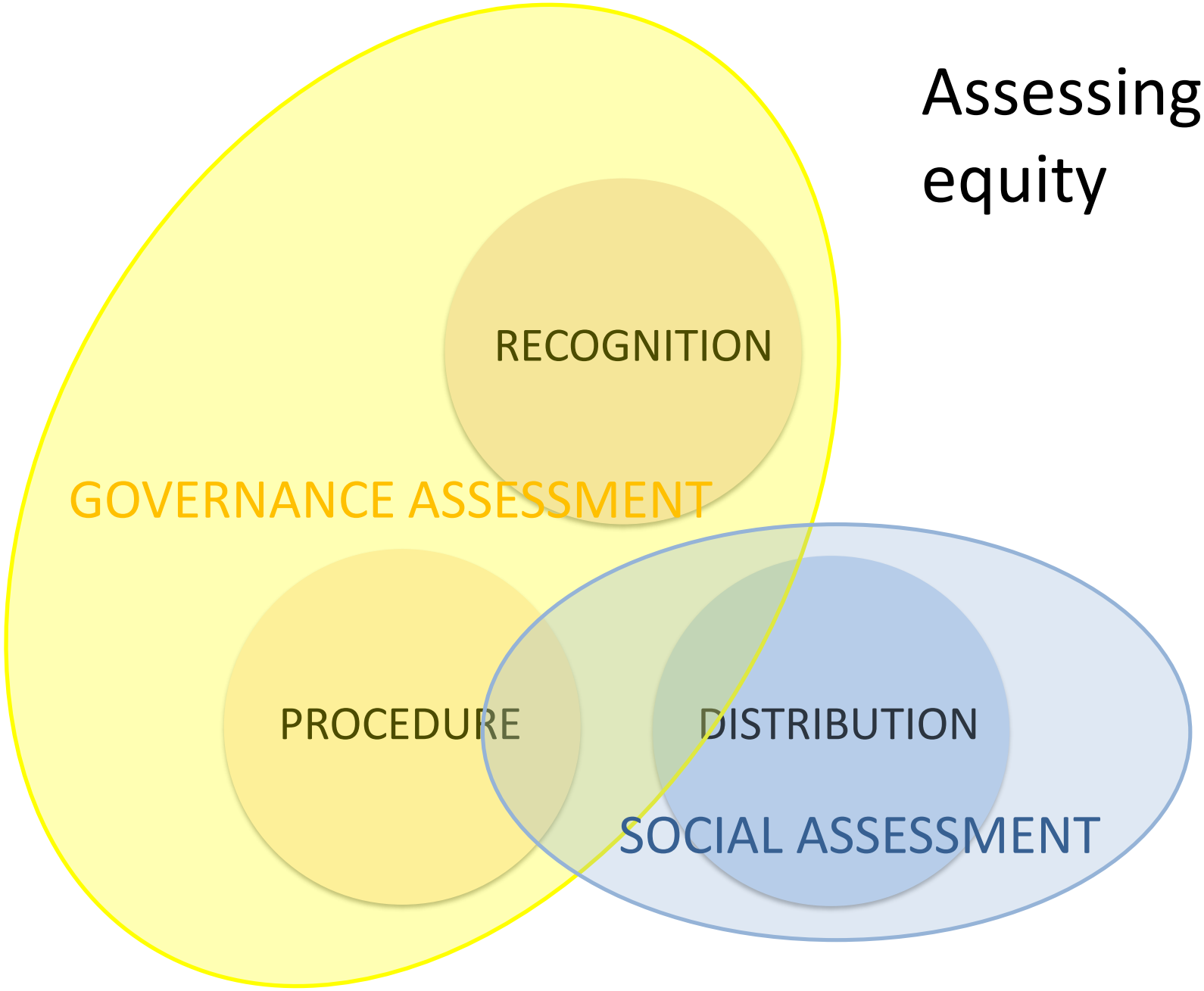
DISTRIBUTION

- Mitigation of costs
- Benefit sharing
  - Equally
  - According to rights
  - According to needs
  - According to costs incurred
  - According to contribution to conservation
- Maintain future benefits

ENABLING CONDITIONS

- Legal, political and social recognition of all PA governance types
- Relevant actors have awareness and capacity to achieve recognition and participate effectively
- A process for aligning statutory and customary laws and norms
- An adaptive learning approach

Assessing equity



Assessing and evaluating PA governance

Assessment

System level

- History and culture
- Actors and institutions
- Spatial analyses
- Governance process & quality

Site level

Evaluation

- How does the situation compare to our objectives?
- What options exist to improve the situation?

Improving action

- What do we want to do about it?

the governance assessment, evaluation and action process

Phase1:

the Team plans the process

Phase 2:

gathering information and technical support, promoting awareness, helping participants to organise (some weeks or months)

Phase 3:

workshop to assess and evaluate governance and plan for action (one week to ten days)

Phase 4:

taking action and obtaining results (..for as long as it is needed)

- Listing and mapping of protected areas
- History and culture
- Actors and institutions
- Conservation *de jure* (legal analysis)
- IUCN Protected Area Matrix analysis
- Spatial analysis of governance for protected areas
- Listing, mapping and conservation status of APIs
- Active damage and risk analysis for APIs
- Spatial analysis of governance for APIs
- Governance quality

"phase III"
assessment steps for a PA system...

APIs= areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services (cfr. Aichi target 11)

Step example: legal analysis

- What legal frameworks (legislation and/or policy, possibly included in different sectors) regulate governance of protected areas in your countries ? Do they allow a diversity of protected area governance types?
- In practice, how diverse are the protected area systems in terms of governance types?

Spatial analysis of governance

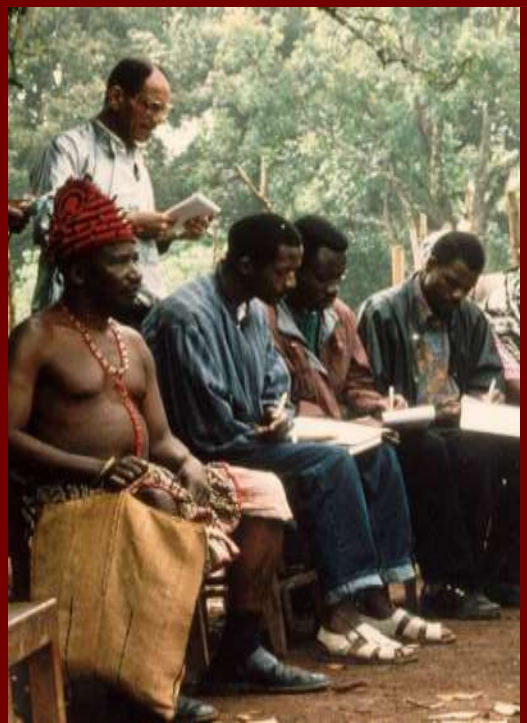
- Mapping APIs, protected areas, "threats to nature" and governance types…
- Identifying overlaps and associations
- What governance types appear associated with KBAs, protected areas, and/or "active damage and risks"?
- What governance types appear preferentially associated with KBAs *within* the protected area system? With KBAs well conserved *outside* the protected area system? With KBAs under threat?

Quality analysis of governance

- Examine the functioning of the system (how are decisions actually taken?)
- Assess whether the legal and institutional framework for protected areas is suited to promote "good governance"
- Evaluate how the protected area system can be governed as legitimately, purposefully, effectively, accountably, fairly, and respectfully of rights as possible...

Evaluating a system of protected areas

- Legal and other options to improve governance quality & recognize diverse governance types…
- …and thereby strengthen conservation



Reporting and action

- Governance Assessment and Evaluation Report (to be used in national reporting to the CBD, PoWPA and others)
- Governance Action Plan to address governance issues at a system or at an individual site level

Identify priority actions

- What actions can you take to enhance the diversity of PAs in your country?
- What actions can you take to enhance the quality of PA governance, including enhancing equity?