Making Ecotourism Work for Peru's Protected Areas

Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services in Impact Assessment

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Presentation Content

- ☐ Brief background on Peru

- ☐ Brief description of Ecotourism in Peru's Protected Areas

- ☐ Tools for community engagement in ecotourism

- ☐ Findings of a study on public participatory processes in ecotourism

- ☐ Key things to consider

Background on Peru

- 3rd largest country in South America (Approximately the size of Alaska)

- 84 life zones (Mega-diverse country)

- 28 million (72% urban and 28% rural population)

- Largest indigenous population in South America (12.6 million)

- Economy based on the use of natural resources: mining, fishing, tourism (ecotourism)
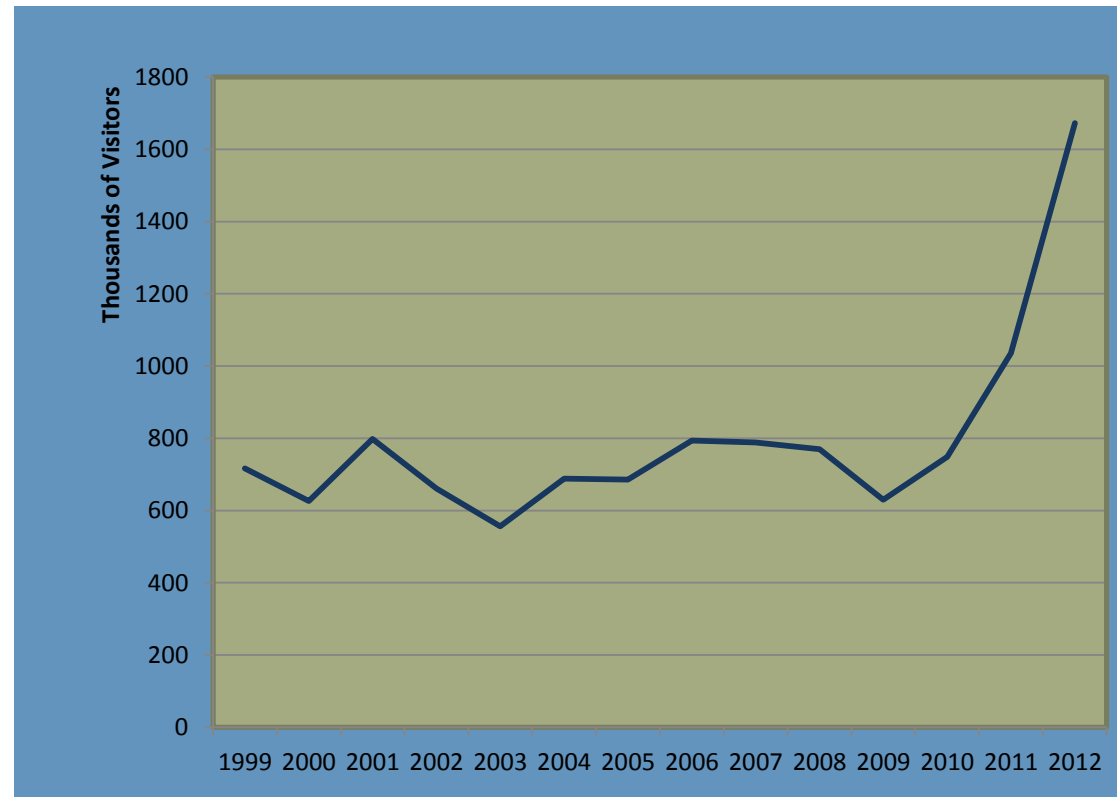
Tourism Activity in Protected Areas (PA)

- 36/77 PAs tourism activity

- Concentrated in 6 PA

- Generates 51% of the public funds for the system

- 45% of national tourism revenues

- $1.8 million SINANPE/ $10 million PNR

- 38% growth in tourism (2010-2011)

Thousands of Visitors (y-axis: 0, 200, 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800)

x-axis: 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

Master Plans - Tourism Plans in PA

- By law, they should be developed with broad participatory processes

- They should promote conservation and sustainable development

- Should cover a 5 year timeframe (renewable)

- Should promote partnerships between organizations and local groups

- Should identify the opportunities of stakeholders and communities to engage in the activities (authorizations, concessions, contracts, agreements and permits)

Engaging Communities in PA

- Methodology to map stakeholders' involvement through time

- Formation of Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Tourism-site plans with the input of stakeholders

- Community ownership and support of the plan and its implementation "partners in conservation"

- Some tourism plans have not been fully implemented (communities are not engaged)

- Social science – understanding what participants want and how they perceived participatory processes.

Participants' perception of the participatory processes

Process → Outcome → Implementation
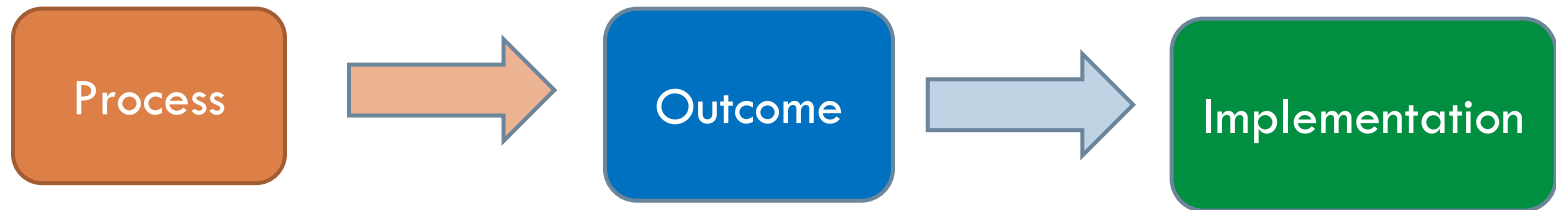
- Fairness of the process
  - Decisions
  - Inclusiveness
  - Information
- Competence of the process
  - Process
  - Knowledge

- Support and Ownership
  - Commitment
  - Good Plan
  - Support
- Network
  - Improve livelihood
  - Improve relationships

- Successful implementation of plan
  - Social, economical, conservation
- Participants' actions

Participants' Perception of the Participatory Processes

- Post-positivist research paradigm
- Two phase sequential mixed methods
  - Survey research (Qt)
  - Semi-structured interviews and archival data (QI)

- Contrasting cases
  - Different types of participatory processes (workshops, focus group, surveys)
  - Participants' support of the plan
  - At least 2 years of implementation
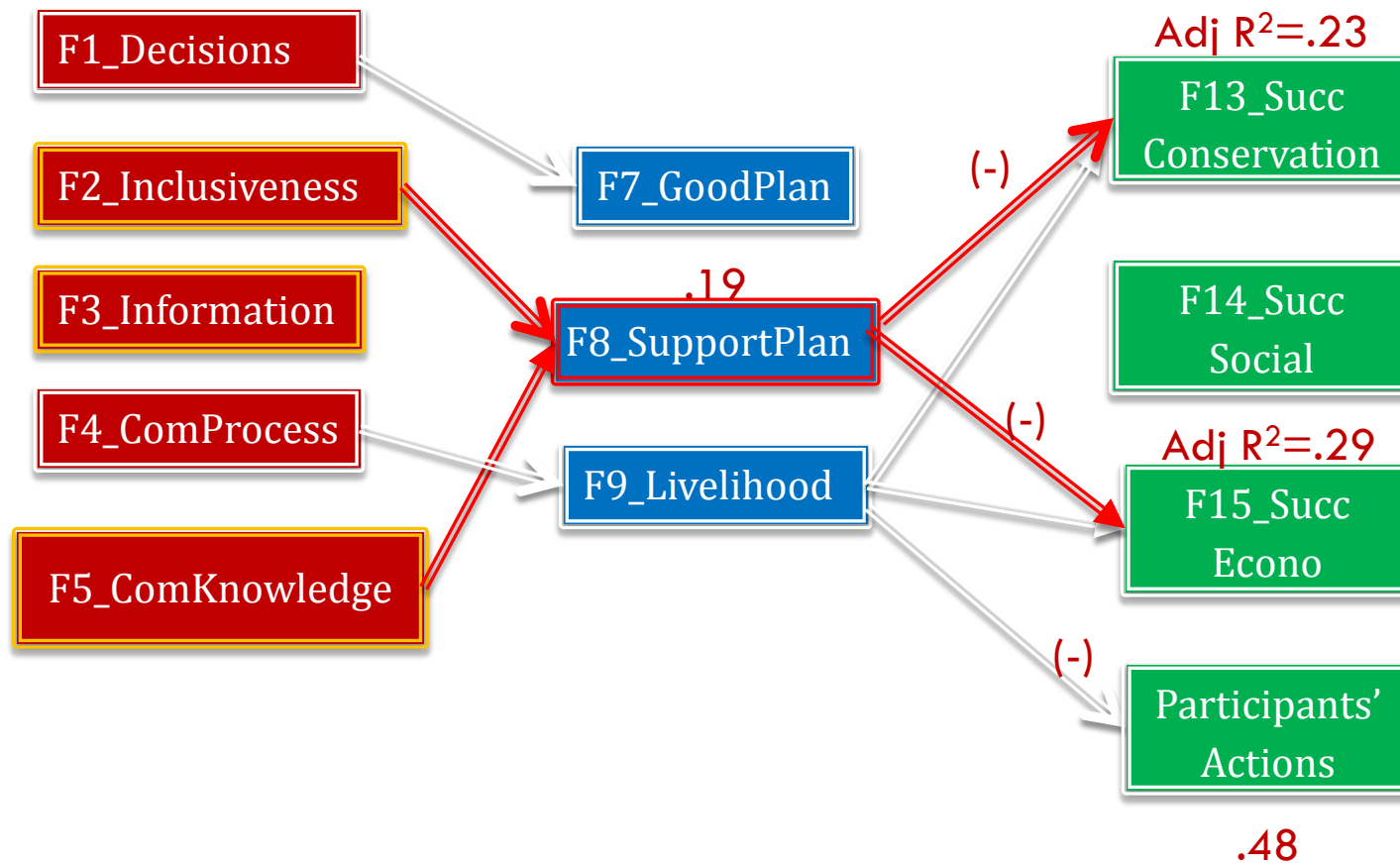 - Huascaran National Park and Yanachaga Chemillen National Park

Factor analysis

Constructs	Questions	Factors	Alpha
Fairness	9	F1_Decisions	.75
		F2_Inclusiveness	.67
		F3_Information	.83
Competence	5	F4_Competence Process	.80
		F5_Competence Knowledge	.79
Ownership and Support	8	F6_Commitment	.81
		F7_GoodPlan	.76
		F8_Support	.65
Networking	5	F9_Improve Livelihood	.71
		F10_Improve Relations	.79
Barriers	5	F11_No Barrier Politics	.67
		F12_No Barrier GovProcedures	.44
Implementation (HNP)	6	F13_Succ Conservation	.90
	4	F14_Succ Social	.89
	4	F15_Succ Econo	.86

	Factors	HNP vs YCHNP
Fairness	F1_Decisions	HNP < YCHNP
	F2_Inclusiveness	HNP < YCHNP
	F3_Information	NS
Competence	F4_Competence Process	NS
	F5_Competence Knowledge	HNP < YCHNP
Ownership and Support	F6_Commitment	NS
	F7_GoodPlan	HNP < YCHNP
	F8_Support	HNP < YCHNP
Networking	F9_Livelihood	NS
	F10_Improve Relations	HNP < YCHNP
Barriers	F11_No Barrier Politics	HNP < YCHNP
	F12_No Barrier GovProcedures	NS
Implementation (HNP)*		
Actions* (%)		HNP>YCHNP

Citizens' Perspectives

Agency Perspective

F13_Succ Conservation

Adj R^2=.50

F1_Decisions

F2_Inclusiveness

F3_Information

F4_ComProces s

F5_ComKnowledge

F7_GoodPlan

F8_SupportPlan

F9_Livelihood

F10_Improve Relations

Adj R^2=.19

F14_Succ Social

Adj R^2=.16

F15_Succ Economic

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Participants' Actions
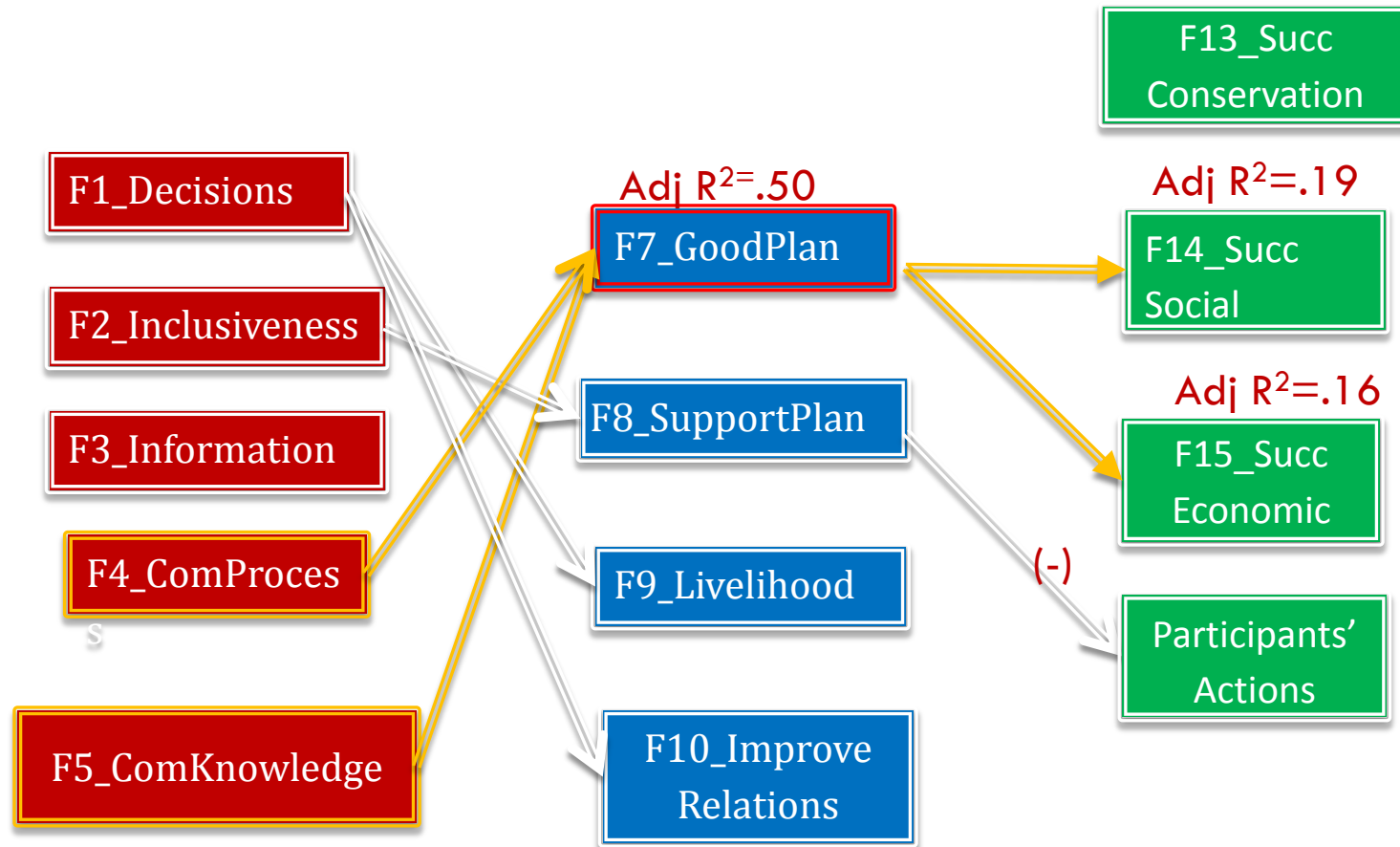
Conclusions

- The perceptions and predictors are different for citizens and agency representatives

- Fairness and competence are both important for citizens

- Competence was more important for agency respondents

- Models are different for citizens and agency respondents

- The proposed model was partially supported (hard to develop a general model)

Key Things to Consider

- Laws and regulations that promote community engagement

- Thinking of ways to approach these two different groups during the participatory processes

- Procedures to ensure fair and competent processes

- Monitoring the impact of ecotourism planning and management on stakeholders' perspectives (community and government) about the improvement on social, ecological and economic factors.

Questions/Comments?
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