

THE ABS
CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE



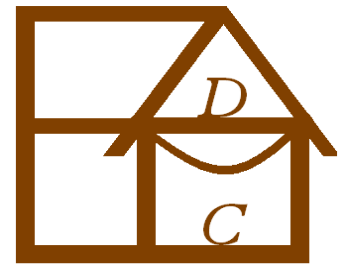
L'INITIATIVE DE
RENFORCEMENT
DES CAPACITES
POUR L'APA

 **NATURAL
JUSTICE**
LAWYERS FOR COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT



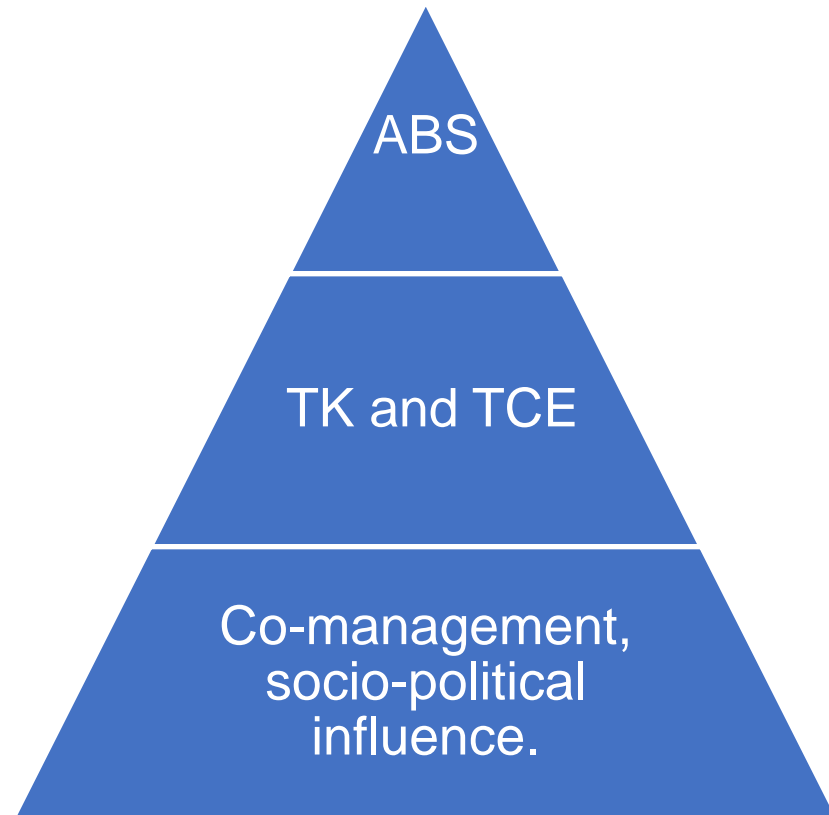
Community Protocol of Endorois, Kenya

Endorois Welfare Council & context



Objectives of the protocol

- ❖ **Protection of their natural resources** to ensure that future generations are able to benefit from their use and are in a position to provide FPIC
- ❖ Articulation of community-determined values, procedures and priorities and clarification of decision-making process of the Endorois **for prior informed consent, in the context of upcoming ABS agreements and beyond**
- ❖ Use as a base of **participation of the Endorois in other government policy, planning and decision-making processes**



Process

1

Preparatory meetings

Meetings between the EWC, KWS and Natural Justice to deliberate the approach and objectives of the community protocol.

2

Development of a work plan

To ensure the involvement of as many people as possible from the community.

3

Meeting with community leaders

- To inform them about the BCP development process.
- To announce and arrange the community-level visits.

4

Consultation meetings at community level in 16 locations

These meetings were held in locations defined by the customary structure of the Endorois, including with the diaspora of the community in other counties.

5

Draft community protocol

The EWC wrote the draft with technical input from Natural Justice.

The meetings served to:

- raise awareness about the community protocol.
- clarify concepts and expectations around ABS.
- gather information on resources and traditional knowledge, community rules, procedures and practices.

6

Planned steps after the drafting

The draft community protocol will be taken back to the community through the EWC for consultation.

It is also expected that there will be another meeting that will include representation from other key government agencies engaged in the ABS process.

The protocol will then be finalized and validated by the community in a consultative forum.

EWC is on the committee for the drafting of the integrated management plan for the reserve, of which the BCP will become an annex.

The EWC also wants to hold awareness raising forums to disseminate the final protocol to the broader community.

The meetings involved

- all sectors of the community: elders, youth, women and persons with disability etc.
- government institutions involved in the management of the reserve (KWS, County Government), and local decision-makers such as members of the County Assembly.

Natural Justice was involved in the first three meetings; the subsequent meetings were conducted independently by the EWC. The game warden of the reserve helped with the collection of information.



Main content of the community protocol



The protocol contains, among others, the following elements:

- Who the Endorois people are, and their connection with their lands around Lake Bogoria;
- Information on sacred areas; Their traditional knowledge; Their cultural practices; Their social organisation;
- Decision-making processes and rules regarding natural resource use;
- Community principles for:
 - Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)
 - Access and benefit-sharing
- Participation and representation
- Legal frameworks supporting these principles;
- Challenges and community concerns;
- Annexes with information on resources, customary use and natural resource management rules.





Ensuring fair and equitable benefit sharing

The Lake Bogoria National Park is a source of revenue for the government while having cultural significance for the Endorois people.

A joint plan for management and use is the best way forward for competing interests.