What are Community-based monitoring and information systems (CBMIS)?

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Indicators and CBMIS

COP12 (2014):

"Encourages Parties and indigenous and local communities to consider how indigenous and local communities might effectively participate in the development, collection and analysis of data, including through Community-Based Monitoring, and further explore **how indigenous and local communities' Community-Based Monitoring and Information Systems can contribute to monitoring of Aichi Target indicators**"

What are CBMIS?
(no single definition - work in progress)

- CBD (in doc for this meeting): Initiatives managed and controlled **by** indigenous peoples and local communities to monitor their community's well-being and the state of their territories and natural resources applying a mix of traditional knowledge and innovative tools and approaches.

Some key elements:

- Community-based: IPLCs are the main actors and control the systems

- Monitoring: is an activity or process of checking the progress or quality (of something) over a period of time (not just once)

- Information: data generated by monitoring is used to produce information and knowledge to be deployed for a purpose(s)

- Systems: systematic process of data generation, collation, analysis, management and use.

Some characteristics

- Usually involves complementarity of traditional knowledge and innovative tools and approach, involving elders and youth

- It is not a new approach but new aspects are an effort at systematization and the fact that many IPLCs nowadays often use and adapt new technologies, and their work is becoming more visible because of the use of the internet and social media

Methodology

- CBMIS is very diverse and can range from technically simple and basic to very technologically advanced approaches.

- Methodologies and processes include community mapping (3D or GIS), resource inventories, survey research, case studies, questionnaires, eco/agri-calendars and biodiversity surveys/registers, case studies.

ODK Collect Mobile tool

Some of the tools used

- The tools being used include questionnaires and forms (hardcopies), cameras, GPS, participatory video, smartphones and tablets, community radio, measurement kits (e.g. for water and soil samples) and testimonies.

- Many communities work with selected software to link their data to maps and computer databases (e.g. EpiCollect, Sapelli, ODK, GIS Cloud, OpenStreetMap).

Potential purposes

- Knowledge generation (e.g. documentation of their resources and their wellbeing)
- Basis for community planning, decision-making, action and development
- Gain rights or access to land and resources
- Policy advocacy (e.g. counter policies that are discriminatory or propose policy or legal change)
- Present data, maps, reports to national agencies for action
- Contribute to (sub)national and global assessments
- Contribute to monitoring implementation of international commitments
- (Self) Empowerment of communities to carry out own monitoring and manage data and information about key issues identified by them