

# No Net Loss for People & Biodiversity

Training Course

14<sup>th</sup> February 2019, Kampala, Uganda

Dr Julia Baker



# Welcome & Introduction





# Overview



# ESIA

Scoping

Assess baseline

Assess impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy to  
significant impacts

Assess final outcomes

Development with 'insignificant'  
biodiversity loss



# ESIA

Scoping

Assess baseline

Assess impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy to  
significant impacts

Assess final outcomes

Development with 'insignificant'  
biodiversity loss

# Biodiversity Offsets

Scoping avoidance

Measure baseline

Measure impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy for NNL

Measure final outcomes

Development with NNL



**People depend on  
& value  
biodiversity**



# ESIA

Scoping

Assess baseline

Assess impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy to  
significant impacts

Assess final outcomes

Development with  
insignificant biodiversity loss

# Offsets

Scoping

Measure baseline

Measure impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy for  
NNL

Measure final outcomes

Development with NNL

# People & NNL

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?

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**Why is This  
Important?**

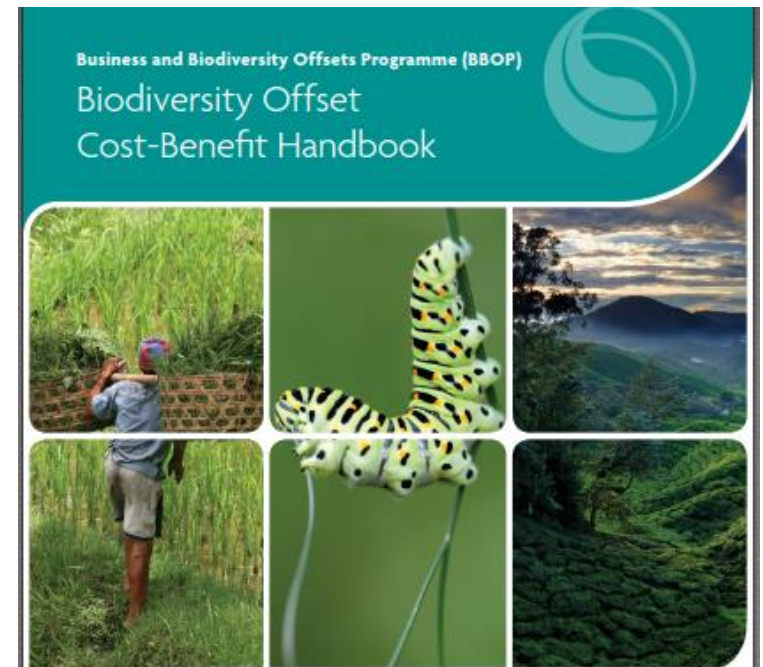


## Standard on Biodiversity Offsets



Biodiversity offsets should achieve no net loss of biodiversity with respect to species composition, habitat structure, ecosystem function and ***people's use and cultural values associated with biodiversity***

Ensure ***local people are no worse off; considering local needs***



## **Performance Standard 6**

### **Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

January 1, 2012

Mandates NNL in certain situations, requiring implementers to consider ***how their project affects ecosystem services***

# Standards, guidelines & legislation protecting people

- International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 8 (IFC 2012)
- UNESCO 1872 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)
- Convention on Biological Diversity requires “to protect and encourage the customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use”

what's the  
Problem?



**Guidance on biodiversity but no specific  
guidance on NNL for people**

**Silo-working**

**Not considering people = offsets failing**



# Achieving NNL for biodiversity & communities in Uganda

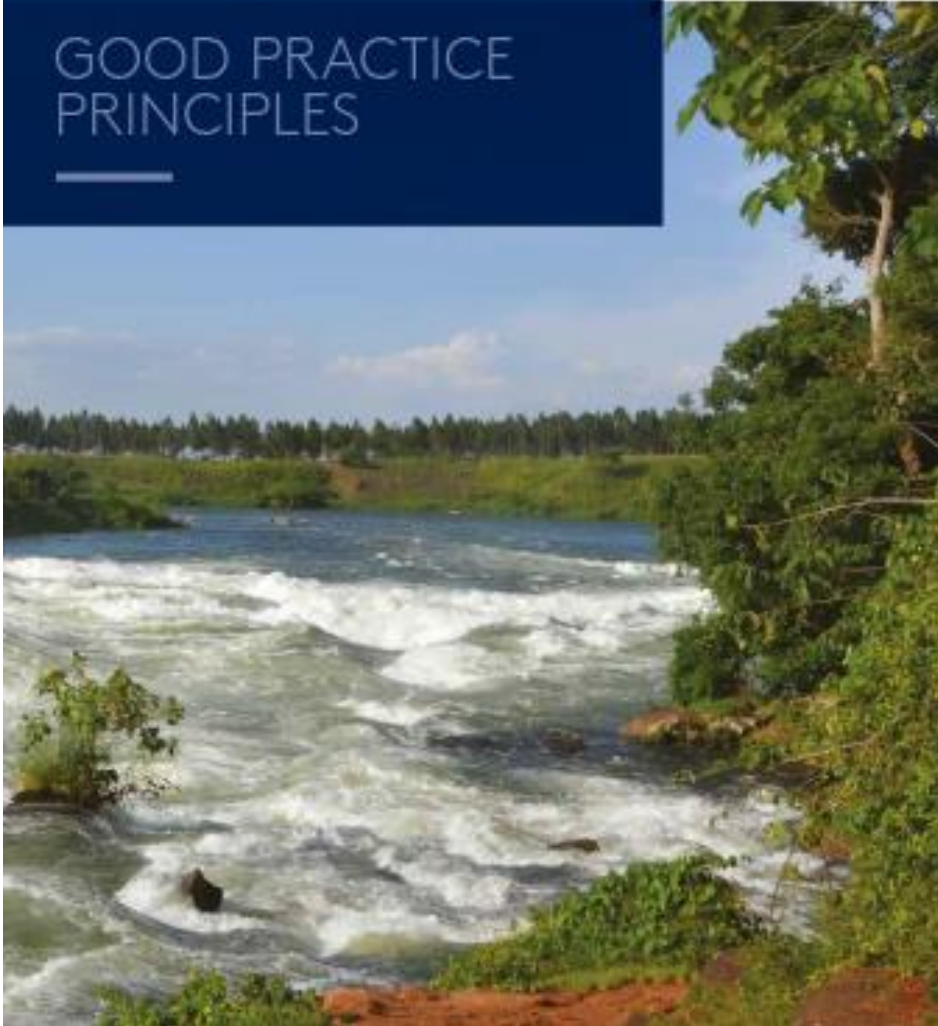




# ENSURING NO NET LOSS FOR PEOPLE AS WELL AS BIODIVERSITY:

## GOOD PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

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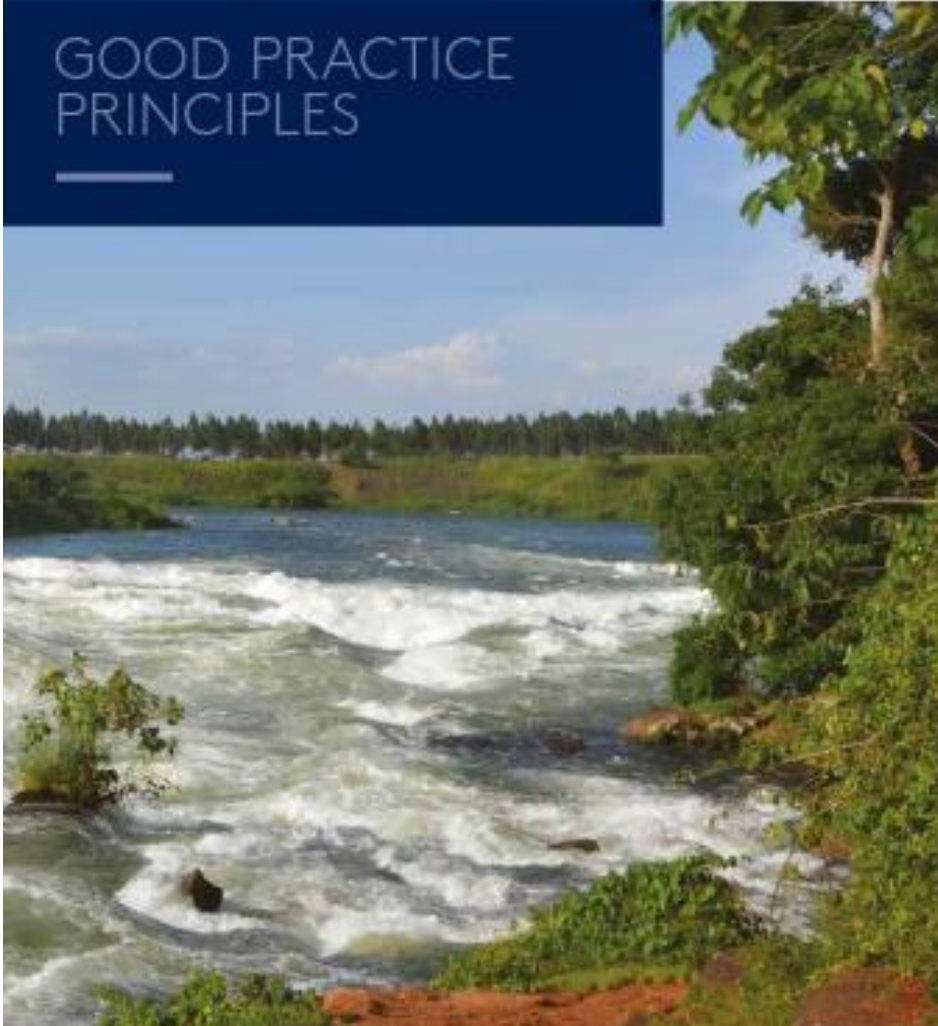
- Defines the outcome

People perceive their wellbeing to be at least as good as a result of the development's NNL

# ENSURING NO NET LOSS FOR PEOPLE AS WELL AS BIODIVERSITY:

## GOOD PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

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- **Good practice principles for implementation**



1

Measure change in wellbeing.

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2

Focus on affected people within the project's area of influence.

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3

Maintain the desired social outcomes from NNL/NG throughout the project's lifetime.

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4

Compare social outcomes from NNL/NG against an appropriate reference scenario.

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5

Exceed existing obligations to achieve the desired social outcomes from NNL/NG.

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6

Assess wellbeing for defined groups of people e.g. by gender or interest.

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7

Benefit the people who have been affected.

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8

Align the biodiversity and social objectives of NNL/NG.

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9

Achieve equitable social outcomes from NNL/NG.

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10

Avoid impacts on wellbeing that are deemed unacceptable by the people affected and cannot be compensated for.

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11

Design and implement social aspects of NNL/NG with inclusive stakeholder engagement.

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12

Ensure biodiversity and social specialists collaborate on NNL/NG.

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13

Implement effective conflict-resolution mechanisms.

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14

Monitor social outcomes from NNL/NG throughout.

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15

Validate social outcomes from NNL/NG throughout.

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16

Be transparent throughout.

# How does this apply to Uganda?



# Training objectives

To improve understanding of:

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL.
2. Assessing wellbeing.
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.

### Check list 1. Assessing types of impacts on people from No Net Loss

People can be affected by losses and gains in biodiversity from a development project. For example people at the development site can lose access to resources that they depend on for subsistence such as firewood and medicinal herbs. People at a biodiversity offset site can benefit, e.g. from woodland creation, or can suffer e.g. when local use of natural resources is prohibited. The ESIA report should clearly describe the types of impacts on people from NNL, so that the mitigation hierarchy can be applied to both biodiversity and to people.

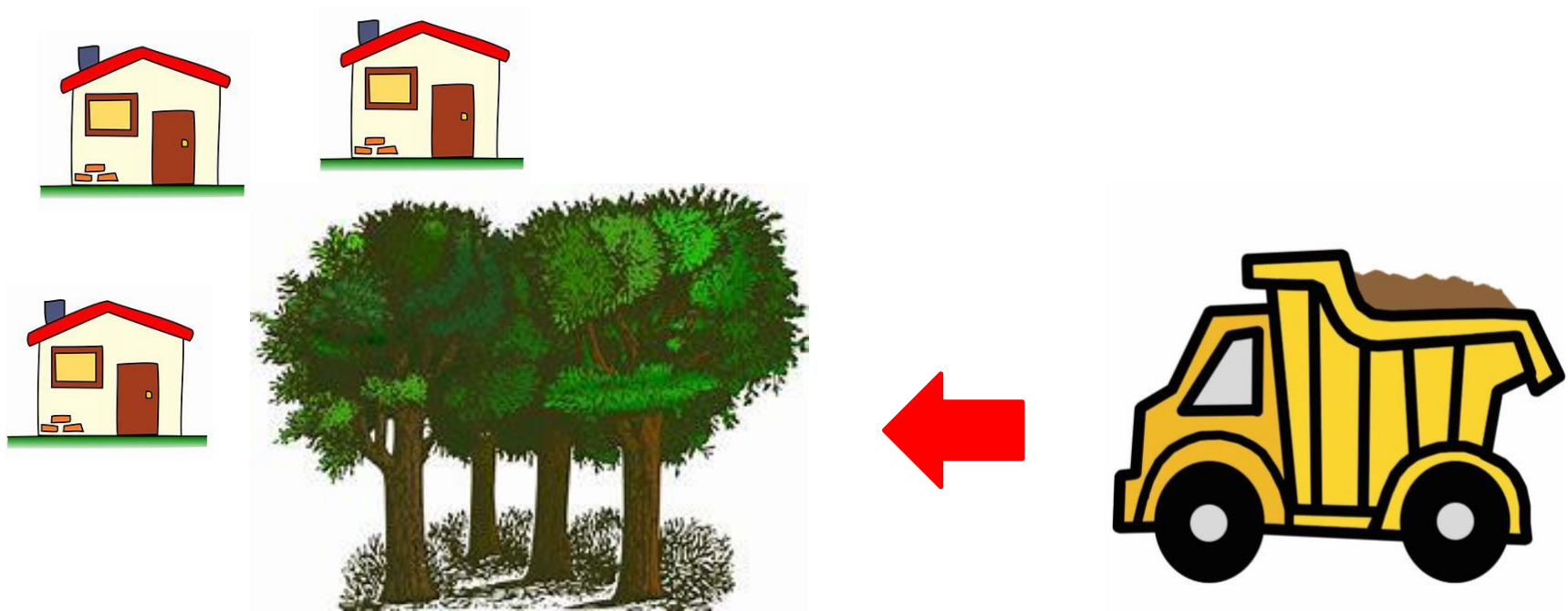
Impact assessment		Yes / No	Your Notes
Level of impact assessment	What level has the impact assessment been undertaken, e.g. by village, interest group, gender etc?		
	Is this level appropriate to identify all significant impacts on people from NNL?		





# Agenda

- 1. Types of impacts on people from NNL.**
2. Assessing wellbeing.
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.



- Traditional hunters undertake illegal hunting bushmeat for subsistence purposes & to sell surplus locally
- Specialist herbalists collect medicinal plants to sell locally
- All households collect firewood
- In groups, women visit cultural sites within the forest

Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity		
Traditional hunters			
Specialists collecting medicinal plants			
All households (women) collect firewood			
Women visiting cultural sites			

Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity		
Traditional hunters	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition – illegal activity?		
Specialists collecting medicinal plants	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition		
All households (women) collect firewood	Essential subsistence resource		
Women visiting cultural sites	Cultural tradition, social cohesion		



Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity	Who indirectly	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity
Traditional hunters	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition	Villagers from sale of bushmeat	Traditional customs; bushmeat to treat sickness
Specialists collecting medicinal plants	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition	Villagers from sale of medicinal plants	Traditional customs; treatment of sickness
All households (women) collect firewood	Essential subsistence resource		
Women visiting cultural sites	Cultural tradition, social cohesion		

Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity	Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity
Traditional hunters	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition	Villagers from sale of bushmeat	Traditional customs; bushmeat to treat sickness
Specialists collecting medicinal plants			Traditional customs; treatment of sickness
All household (women) collect firewood	resource		
Women visit cultural sites			

Which level of assessment:  
 Individuals?  
 Villagers?  
 Specialists?  
 Women?

the level at which significant impacts occur

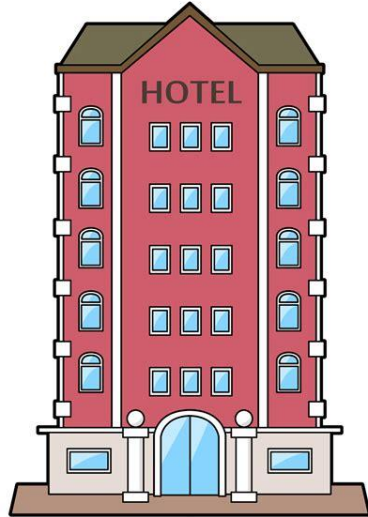
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Impact assessment		Yes / No	Your Notes
<b>Level of impact assessment</b>	What level has the impact assessment been undertaken, e.g. by village, interest group, gender etc?		
	Is this level appropriate to identify all significant impacts on people from NNL?		
<b>Who</b>	Does the ESIA report describe who is affected from NNL e.g. by village, interest group, gender etc?		
	Have all people affected by NNL been identified e.g. people directly affected and those indirectly affected?		
<b>How</b>	Does the ESIA report clearly identify how people are potentially affected from NNL?		
<b>Duration</b>	Does the ESIA report describe the duration of the impacts e.g. temporary or permanent?		

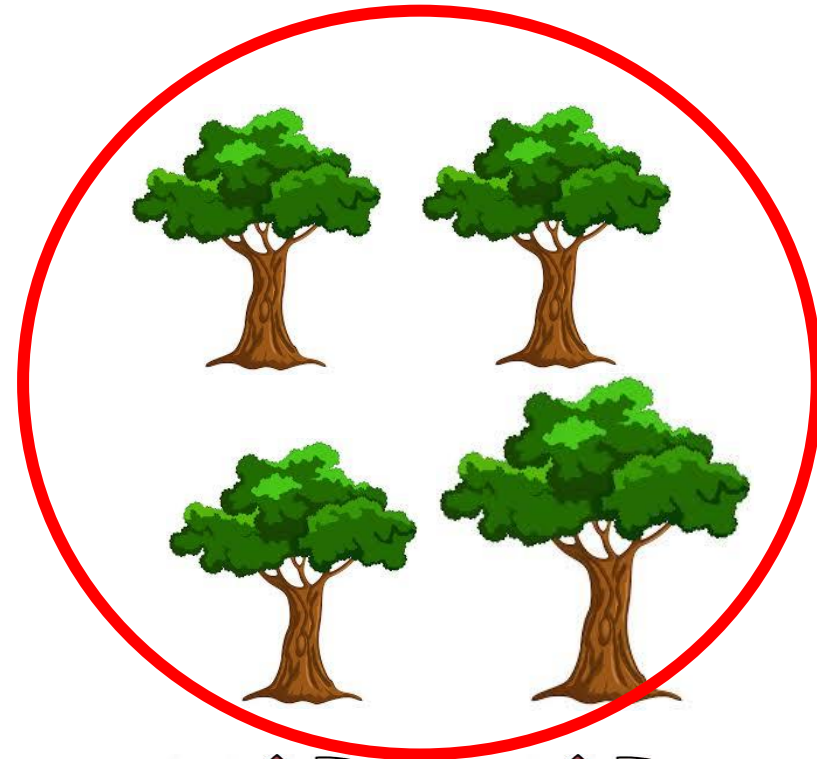
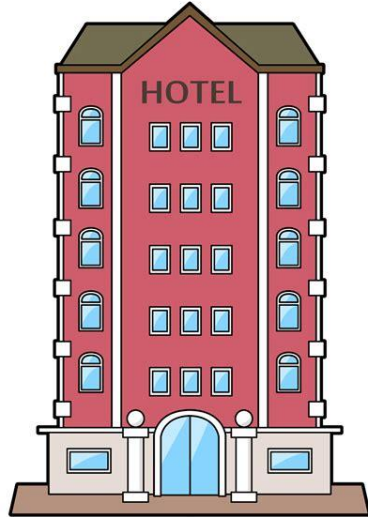






- ✓ Biodiversity No Net Loss
- People at development site lose biodiversity permanently
- Different people benefit from the offset
- Fewer people benefit

**Offset is protected from  
local use**



- **People at offset site lose access to biodiversity permanently**



### Check list 1. Assessing types of impacts on people from No Net Loss

People can be affected by losses and gains in biodiversity from a development project. For example people at the development site can lose access to resources that they depend on for subsistence such as firewood and medicinal herbs. People at a biodiversity offset site can benefit, e.g. from woodland creation, or can suffer e.g. when local use of natural resources is prohibited. The ESIA report should clearly describe the types of impacts on people from NNL, so that the mitigation hierarchy can be applied to both biodiversity and to people.

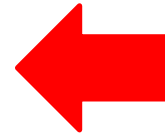
Impact assessment		Yes / No	Your Notes
Level of impact assessment	What level has the impact assessment been undertaken, e.g. by village, interest group, gender etc?		
	Is this level appropriate to identify all significant impacts on people from NNL?		
Location	Does the impact assessment cover people at both the development site and at the biodiversity offset site?		

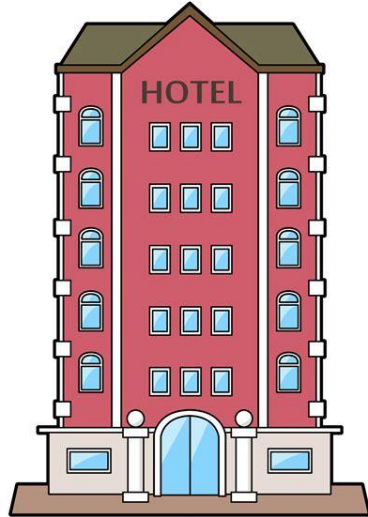
**Offset often not identified until later stages**

# Group work

- **Do ESIAs clearly assess impacts on people from NNL?**
- **What are the main data gaps & challenges?**
- **What actions will address the gaps & challenges**
- **Who is responsible for undertaking each action?**







- ✓ Biodiversity No Net Loss
- People at development site lose biodiversity permanently
- People at offset site are affected

# Improving understanding of:

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL = the better the understanding, the better the mitigation hierarchy will be applied
2. Assessing wellbeing.
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.

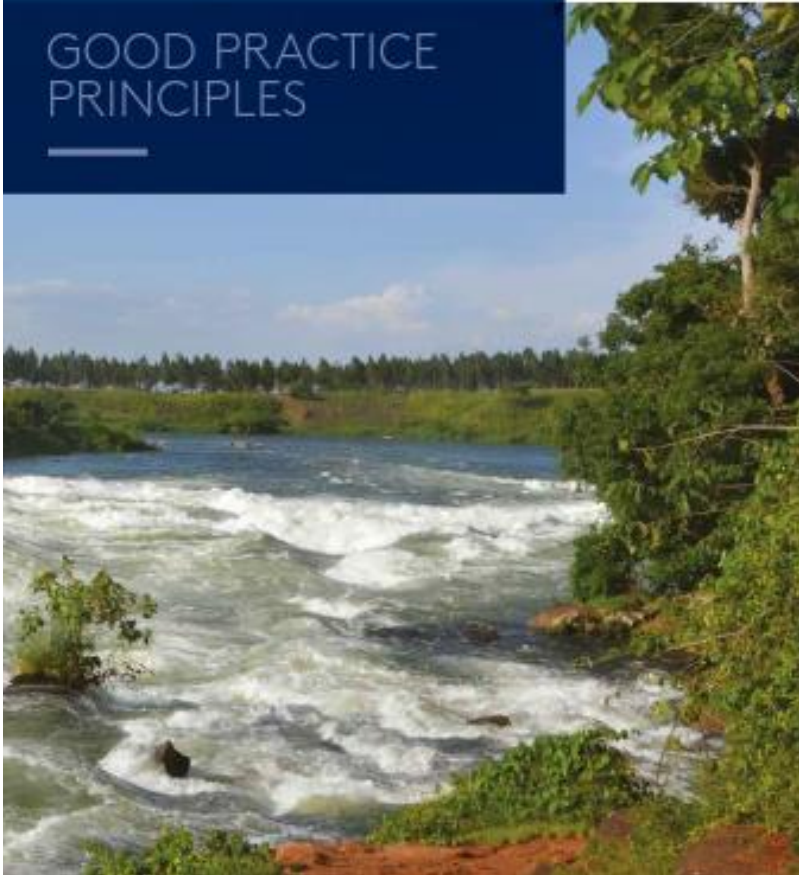
# Agenda

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL.
- 2. Assessing wellbeing.**
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.

**ENSURING NO  
NET LOSS FOR  
PEOPLE AS WELL  
AS BIODIVERSITY:**

GOOD PRACTICE  
PRINCIPLES

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People perceive their **wellbeing** to be at least as good as a result of the development's NNL

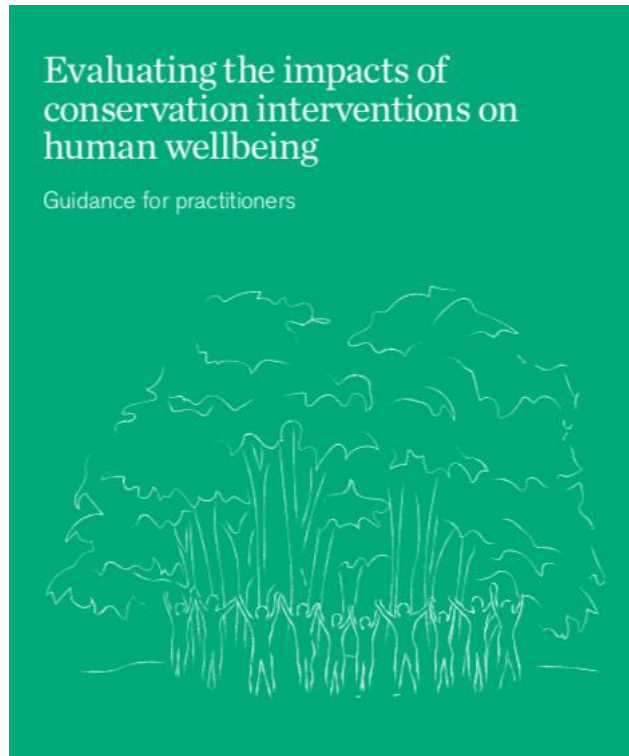
**How does NNL affect people's wellbeing?**

*Recognises wellbeing assessments are not mainstream in several countries - aspiration*



# What is wellbeing?

**A positive physical, social & mental state**



**Requires intensive training!**

iied

UCL

OXFORD

ICES

WCS

Imperial College  
London

Emily Woodhouse, Emiel de Lange, E.J. Milner-Gulland

with Emily Woodhouse, Jonathan G. and Katherine Thompson, Charlotte Mitchell, Ben Palmer, Amy Dutton, Helen Smith, and Rebecca Simpson

Wellbeing dimensions

**MATERIAL**

What you have

**RELATIONAL**

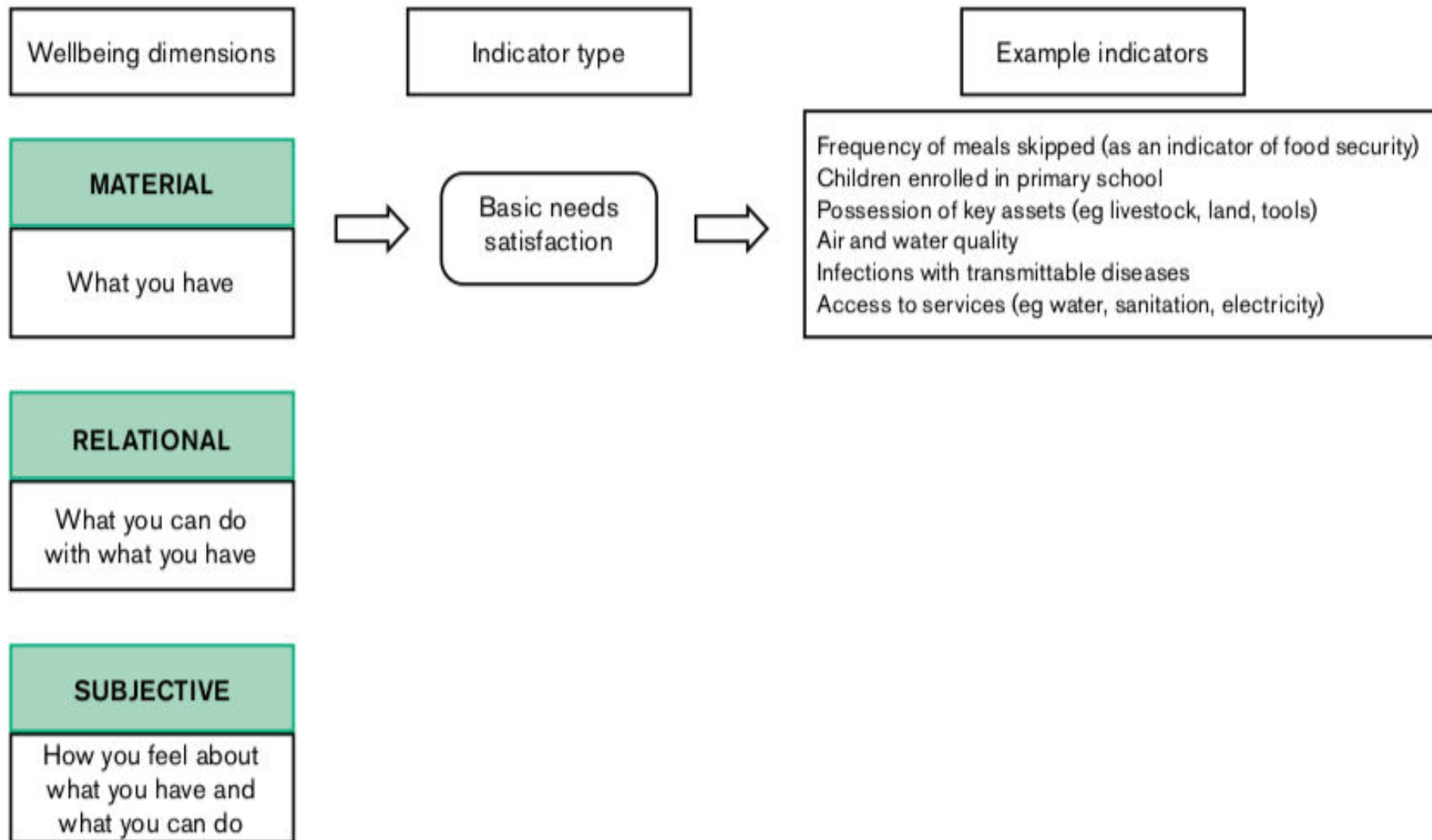
What you can do  
with what you have

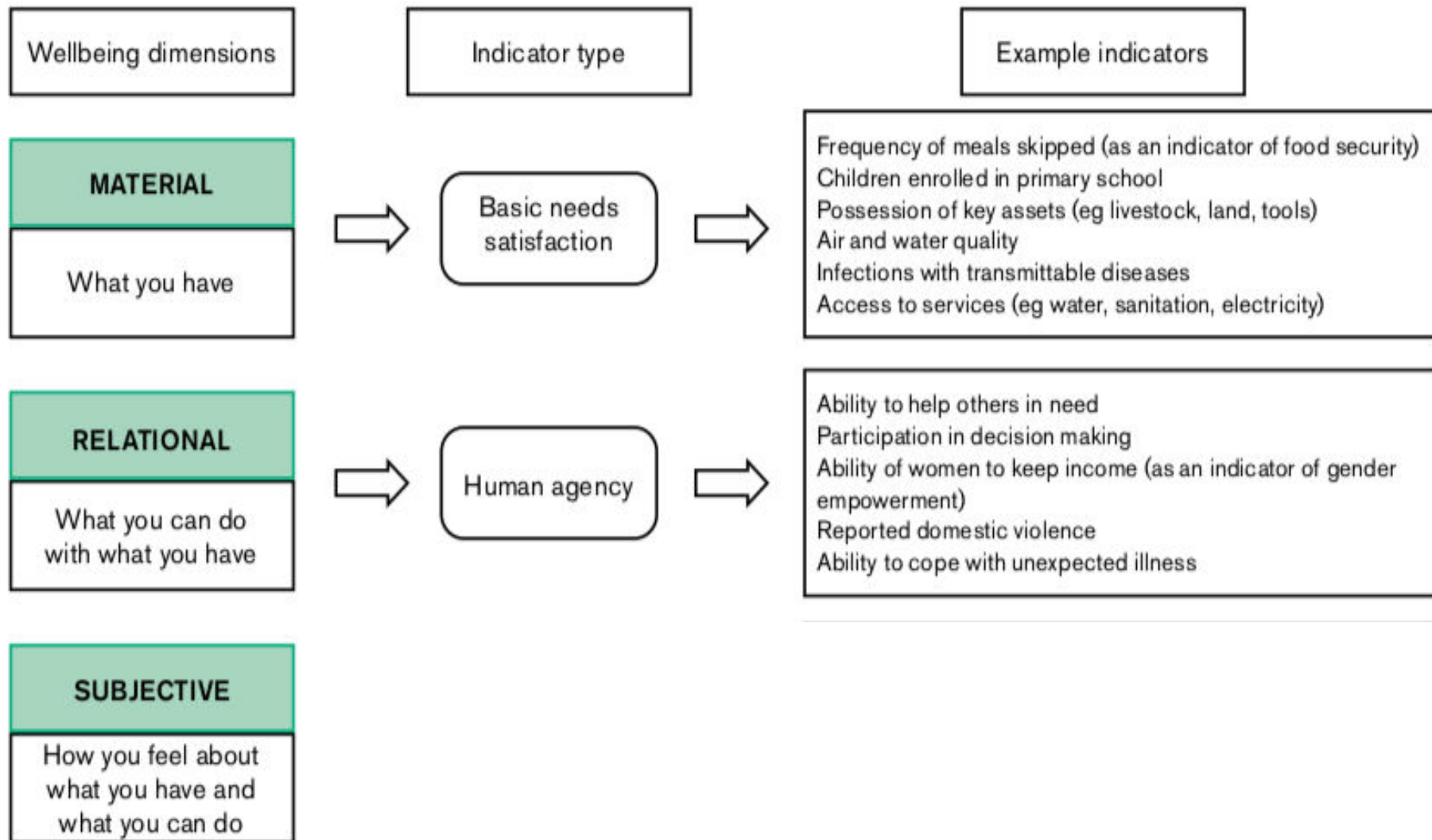
**SUBJECTIVE**

How you feel about  
what you have and  
what you can do

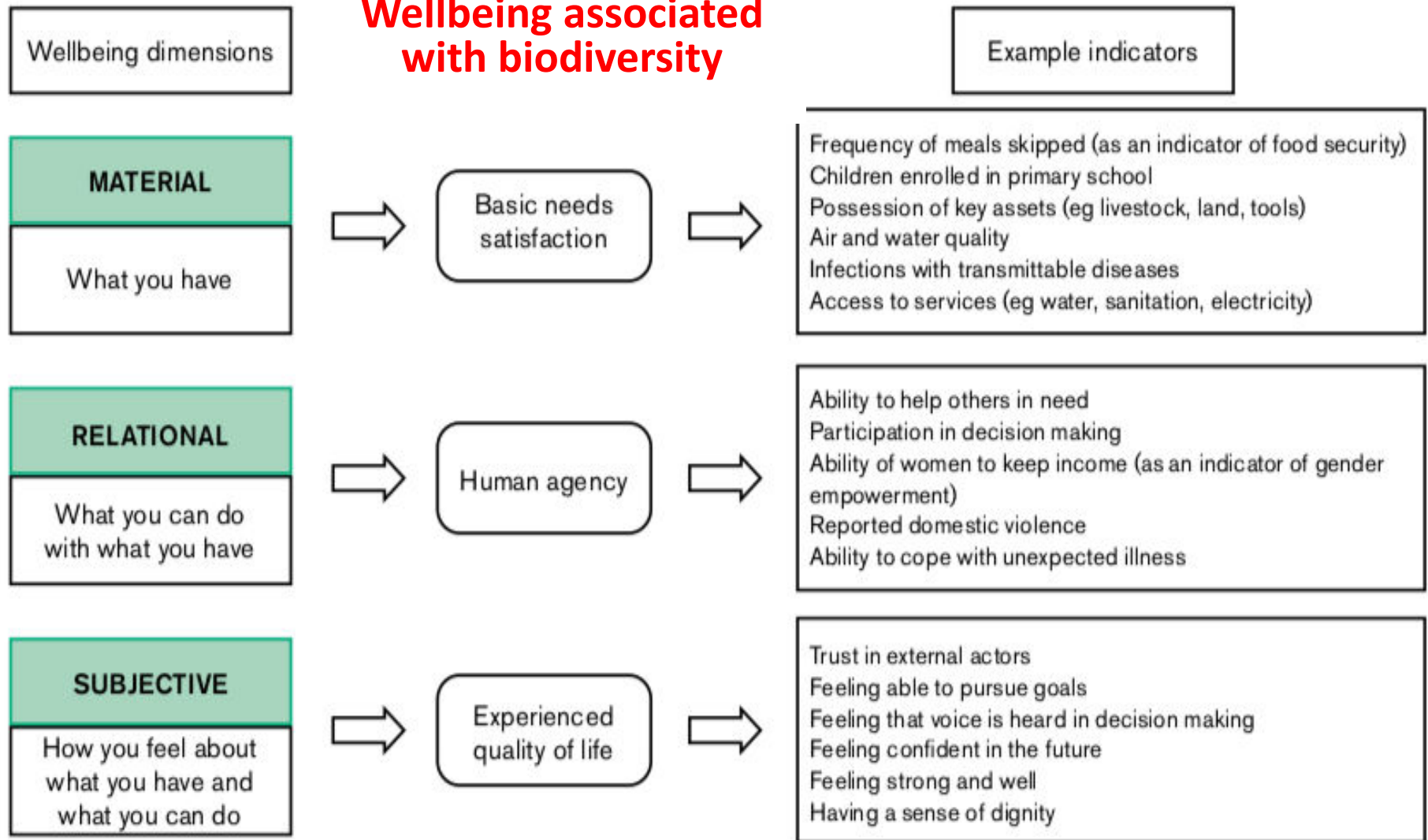
What does it  
mean to lead a  
good life?

ESIA surveys: pragmatic &  
proportionate





## Wellbeing associated with biodiversity



## Assessing change before & after NNL



## Check list 2. Assessing wellbeing

Wellbeing assessment		Yes / No	Your Notes
<b>Participation</b>	Did stakeholders participate in the wellbeing assessment, especially local people affected by NNL?		
	Was participation sufficient and inclusive e.g. with the poor, vulnerable and marginalised and not just with village leaders		
<b>Social specialist</b>	Has the wellbeing assessment been undertaken by a suitably trained and experienced social specialist?		
<b>Baseline: before development</b>	Does the ESIA report clearly establish people's wellbeing before the development?		
<b>After development and NNL</b>	Does the ESIA report sufficiently assess how people's wellbeing changes as a result of NNL?		
<b>Location</b>	Does the wellbeing assessment cover people at both the development site and the biodiversity offset site?		

## Check list 2. Assessing wellbeing

<b>Material: what people have</b>	Have the material components of people's wellbeing associated with biodiversity been sufficiently assessed?		
<b>Relational: what people can do with what they have</b>	Have the relational components of people's wellbeing associated with biodiversity been sufficiently assessed?		
<b>Subjective: how people feel about what they have &amp; what they can do</b>	Have the subjective components of people's wellbeing associated with biodiversity been sufficiently assessed?		

# Group Work

- **Individually, write what it means to lead a good life (10 mins)**
- **Each person shares their beliefs**
- **As a group:**
  - **Place each answer into one of the three wellbeing domains of material; relational; subjective**
  - **Within each domain, identify themes of the answers e.g. health, family, wealth, culture, nature etc**
  - **Discuss how important nature is compared to other aspects**

	<b>Material</b> What you have	<b>Relational</b> What you can do with what you have	<b>Subjective</b> How you feel about what you have
Place each answer into one of the domains			
Identify themes			
Assess how important is nature			

# Improving understanding of:

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL
- 2. Assessing wellbeing = before & after the development**
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.



# Recap

- **What is No Net Loss?**

**Development with no overall loss of biodiversity.**

- **What's the difference between ESIAs and NNL?**

- Early consideration of avoidance
- Measuring biodiversity
- Outcomes: development with NNL

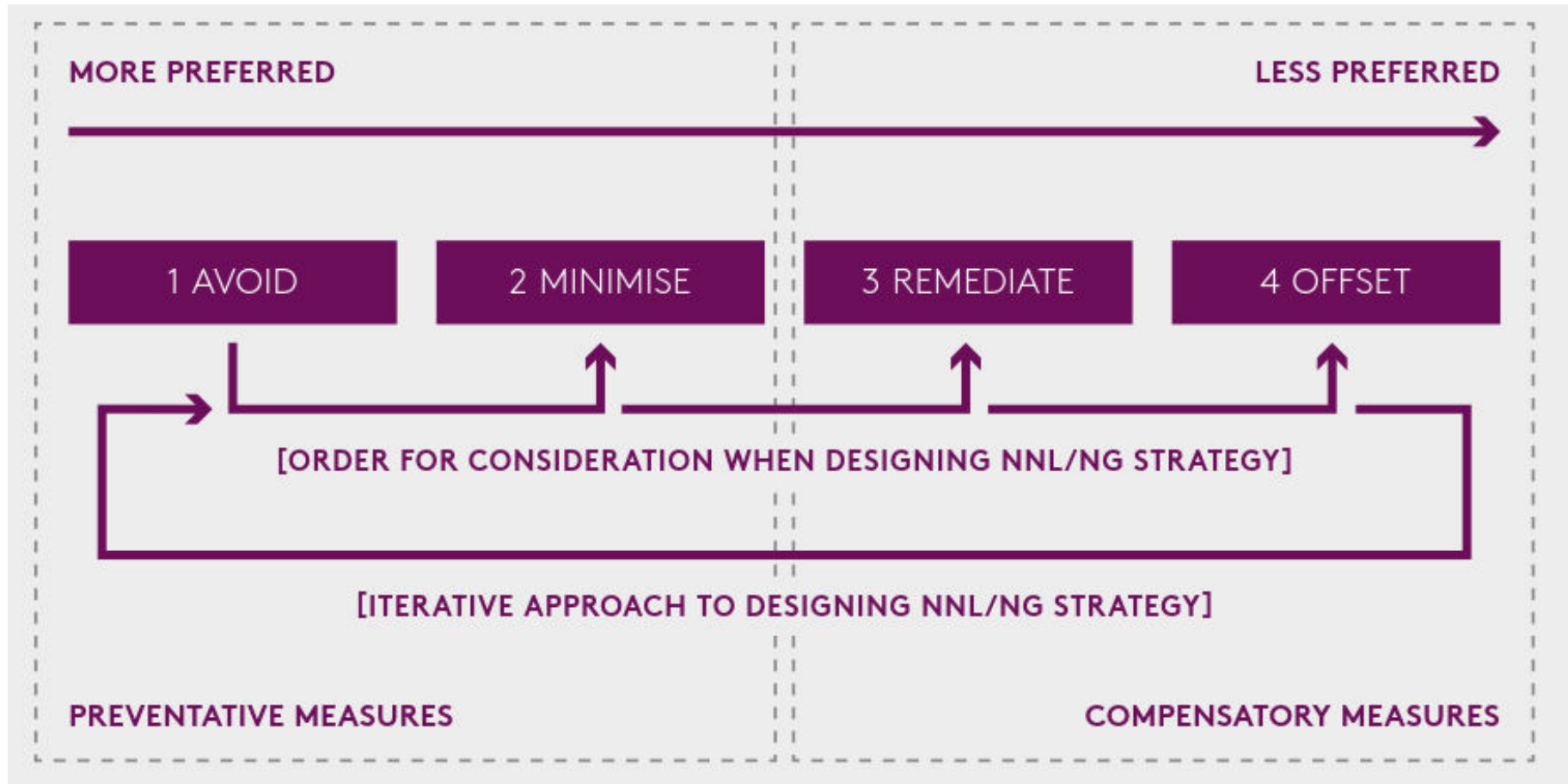
- **What are the types of impacts on people from NNL?**

- **How do these impacts affect people's wellbeing?**

# Agenda

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL.
2. Assessing wellbeing.
- 3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.**
4. Designing NNL with good practice for people.

# Mitigation hierarchy – to people as well



## Check list 3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy

<b>Avoidance</b>	Have all possible measures to avoid all impacts on people from NNL been identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
	Are there other avoidance measures that the ESIA report should describe?		
<b>Minimisation</b>	Have all possible measures to minimise impacts on people from NNL been identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
	Are there other minimisation measures the ESIA report should describe?		
<b>Compensation</b>	Are compensation measures sufficiently justified as being a last resort after avoidance and minimisation?		
	Have all possible measures to compensate people affected by NNL been identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
	Are there other compensation measures the ESIA report should describe?		

# Thresholds

- Irreplaceable biodiversity cannot be offset to achieve NNL
- If lost, then permanently lost
- NNL cannot be achieved

**ESIAs should clarify permanent loss of biodiversity for decision-makers**









# Thresholds – people?

- People lose a use or value of biodiversity that cannot be compensated for
- Unacceptable impacts to people from NNL
- The biodiversity itself may be low value
- Completely avoid these impacts

ESIAs should clarify these impacts on people cannot be compensated for equitably or sustainably

## Check list 3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy

Mitigation hierarchy		Yes / No	Your Notes
<b>Unacceptable impacts</b>	Does the ESIA report clearly describe any impacts from NNL that local people themselves consider unacceptable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
	Have all possible measures been undertaken to avoid unacceptable impacts?		
	Does the ESIA report clarify that unacceptable impacts on people from NNL cannot be compensated to achieve equitable or sustainable outcomes?		

# Group work

- **List examples of ‘unacceptable impacts’ on people from NNL**
- **List actions to improve application of the mitigation hierarchy to all impacts on people from NNL**
- **Identify who is responsible for each action**

# Improving understanding of:

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL
2. Assessing wellbeing
- 3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people = especially avoid unacceptable impacts**
4. Designing NNL in accordance with good practice for people.



# Agenda

1. Types of impacts on people from NNL.
2. Assessing wellbeing.
3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy to both biodiversity & people.
4. **Designing NNL with good practice for people.**

# ESIA

Scoping

Assess baseline

Assess impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy to significant impacts

Assess final outcomes

Development with insignificant biodiversity loss

# Offsets

Scoping

Measure baseline

Measure impacts

Apply mitigation hierarchy for NNL

Measure final outcomes

Development with NNL

# People & NNL

Scoping

Wellbeing before the development & NNL

Who & how affected by NNL, how does this affect wellbeing?

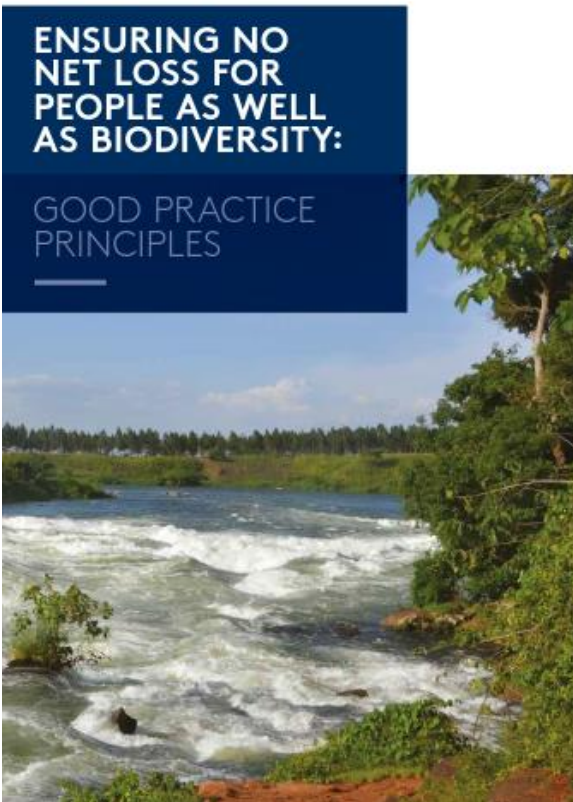
Apply mitigation hierarchy

Outcomes?

?

# Designing NNL for people

## Set 'smart' outcomes



People perceive their wellbeing to be at least as good as a result of the development's NNL

**Check list 4. Designing No Net Loss with good practice for people**

The ESIA report should clearly state the desired outcome for people as a result of NNL. Good practice is that people’s wellbeing is at least as good as a result of the development project and NNL, than it was before. The ESIA report should describe how this outcome will be achieved. In practice this is integral to applying the mitigation hierarchy, so this Check List is to be used with Check List 3.

Designing NNL for people		Yes / No	Your Notes
Outcomes for people	Does the ESIA report clearly state the desired outcome for people as a result of NNL?		
	Does this outcome align with good practice where people’s wellbeing is at least as good as a result of the development project and NNL?		

# Designing NNL for people

## Who

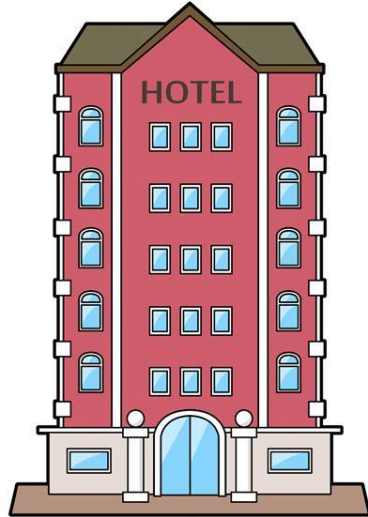
**People affected by NNL receive compensation**

- **At the development site**
- **At the biodiversity offset site**

**Might need biodiversity offsets & separate social compensation measures**



✓ Social compensation at the development site



✓ Biodiversity No Net Loss





# Designing NNL for people

## What

**Compensation is commensurable & equitable**

- **At the development site**
- **At the biodiversity offset site**

Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity	Compensation?
Specialists collecting medicinal plants	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition	?
All households (women) collect firewood	Essential subsistence resource	?
Women visiting cultural sites	Cultural tradition, social cohesion	?

**Truly understanding the impacts is critical**

# Designing NNL for people

## When

**No time-lag e.g. compensation is not issued next year**

**Transitional activities while long-term outcomes are realised  
(e.g. tree planting for firewood)**

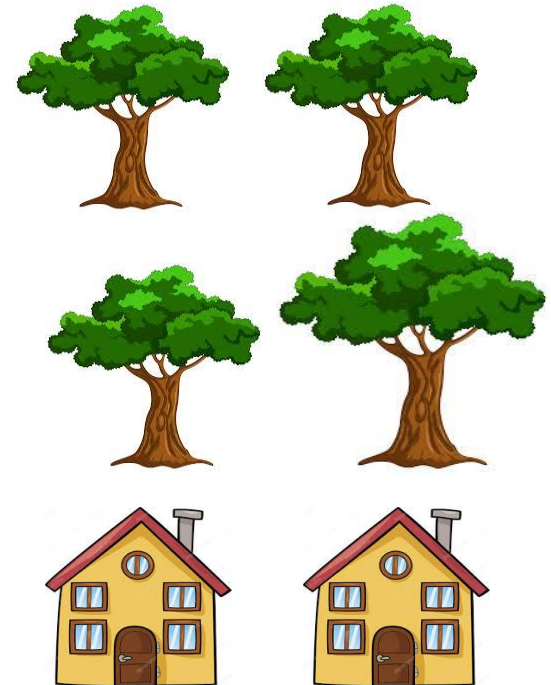
**At least as long as the impacts last**

# Designing NNL for people

Additionality: exceed existing obligations

Not something that would have occurred anyway

- ✓ Biodiversity No Net Loss by enhancing existing nature reserve
- This nature reserve is already protected for cultural reasons
- Its on-going protection is not additional



## Check list 4. Designing No Net Loss with good practice for people

<b>Who</b>	Are people affected by NNL the same people who receive compensation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
<b>What</b>	Do people affected by NNL receive commensurable compensation for the impacts they endure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the development site</li> <li>• At the biodiversity offset site</li> </ul>		
<b>Additionality</b>	Does the compensation demonstrably exceed existing obligations?		
<b>When</b>	Is the compensation issued so there is <u>no</u> time-lag when people incur impacts but have not yet received any compensation?		
	Does the compensation last at least as long as the impacts endure?		

**Other factors on the check list**

# Group work

**For each group, describe compensation measures for their wellbeing is at least as good as before NNL**

Who	How affected by losses & gains in biodiversity	Compensation
Specialists collecting medicinal plants	Subsistence, income, cultural tradition	
All households (women) collect firewood	Essential subsistence resource	
Women visiting cultural sites	Cultural tradition, social cohesion	



# Reflections

- Each person: list your 2 most important learning points from today
- Share as a group

**What will you do differently in your work following this training?**

# Feedback forms





# Training Certificates



# Closing remarks





# Acknowledgments



The training was funded by the UK Government's Darwin Initiative, which assists countries that are rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to implement their commitments under the international biodiversity conventions.



Funding was also provided by the ESRC Impact Accelerator Award to Bangor University

# Key References

Bull J. et al (2018) Ensuring No Net Loss for People and Biodiversity. Oxford, UK.

Bidaud, C, Schreckenberg, K & Jones, JPG 2018, 'The local costs of biodiversity offsets: comparing standards, policy and practice' *Land Use Policy*, vol. 77, pp. 43-50. DOI: [10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.05.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.05.003)

Bidaud, C, Schreckenberg, K, Rabeharison, M, Ranjatson, P, Gibbons, J & Jones, JPG 2017, 'The sweet and the bitter: Intertwined positive and negative social impacts of a biodiversity offset' *Conservation & Society*, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 1-13. DOI: [10.4103/0972-4923.196315](https://doi.org/10.4103/0972-4923.196315)