

Framework for IAP compatibility checking

The integrated action planning process should have resulted in actions being proposed that are compatible with reconciling aquatic biodiversity conservation and livelihoods and socioeconomic development objectives. A simple assessment of Actions¹ proposed in the IAP following Springate-Baginski et al. (2009, p5) guidelines would be appropriate in this regard (Table 2). To alleviate concerns and ensure the process is as transparent as possible it would be advisable to elaborate why certain actions are deemed compatible and others incompatible. Ideally the assessment should be conducted jointly with an array of primary and key stakeholders to ensure the assessment incorporates local knowledge and responds to contemporary social and economic realities, and that outcomes stand up to independent scrutiny.

Table 2. Compatibility assessment matrix for IAP components (*with example text in italics*)

Aquatic biodiversity conservation objectives	Integrated Action Plan components	Livelihoods and socioeconomic development objectives
Conservation and enhancement of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem services from wetlands and wetland agroecosystems.	Incompatible components: <i>R1. Total ban on fishing activity, even when within sustainable limits</i> <i>R3. Instigate stocking programme for valuable non-native species</i> <i>etc ...</i>	Continued access to aquatic resources to sustain livelihoods; Supply water for electricity generation and irrigation; Sustain ecosystem services supporting social and economic systems.
	Compatible components: <i>R2. Wise-use of highland aquatic resources is advocated to enhance poor livelihoods</i> <i>R4. Nursery grounds of</i>	

¹ Actions are considered here as the main sub-units of IAPs, whilst various Activities will need to be undertaken to address a particular Action

[adapted from: Bunting SW, Smith KG, Lund S. 2012. Guidelines for planning and reporting on implementation and monitoring strategies agreed for IAPs for HighARCS sites in China, India and Vietnam. HighARCS Project Working Paper.]

	<i>endangered fish species are protected but access by local communities is permitted elsewhere</i>	
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