

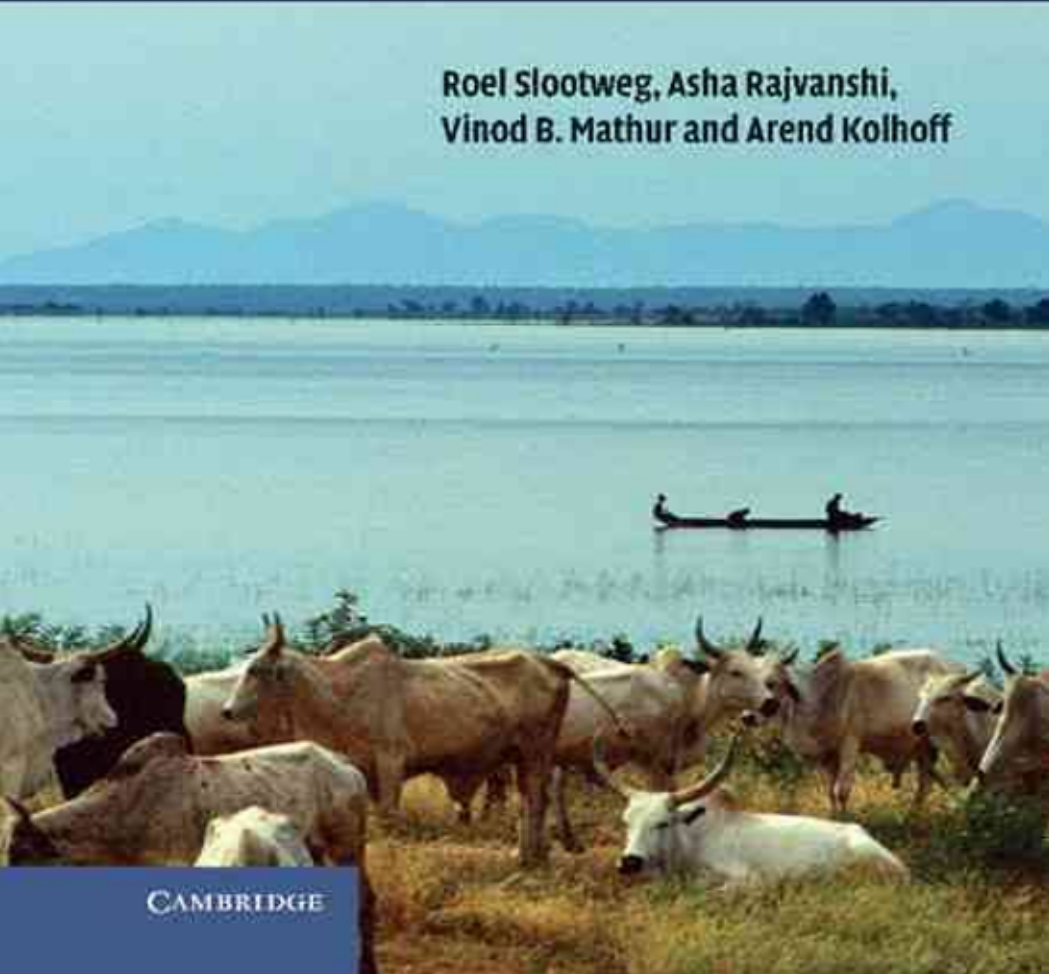
EBC

ECOLOGY, BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

Biodiversity in Environmental Assessment

Enhancing Ecosystem Services
for Human Well-Being

**Roel Slootweg, Asha Rajvanshi,
Vinod B. Mathur and Arend Kolhoff**



CAMBRIDGE

Biodiversity in Environmental Assessment: Enhancing Ecosystem Services for Human Well-Being

Human-induced development activities are introduced with insufficient attention to their consequences for our living environment, even in cases where environmental assessments have been carried out. This apparent lack of attention to biodiversity in environmental assessment is rooted in the difficulties we have in adequately addressing biodiversity within the scope, time frame, and budget allocated for assessments. This book provides a conceptual background and practical approaches to overcome these difficulties. It integrates the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its ecosystem approach, and the conceptual framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment into a comprehensive approach to biodiversity in environmental assessment. It highlights the need to consider the value of biodiversity based on its use by each stakeholder, addresses the importance of both social and economic development to reach the Millennium Development Goals, and provides insights into ways to balance present and future needs.

ROEL SLOOTWEG is an ecologist with a PhD in Environmental Science. His work focuses on natural resources management, with particular interest in the linkages between nature conservation, natural resources management, and social and economic development. His experience in environmental assessment includes assessment studies with strong emphasis on stakeholder participation, scoping and review activities, capacity development, and the development of new approaches for better assessment. Dr Slootweg has worked on four continents. He presently owns a consultancy company: SevS natural and human environment consultants, Oegstgeest, the Netherlands.

ASHA RAJVANSHI is Professor and Head of the Environmental Impact Assessment Cell at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India. She holds a doctoral degree in Environmental Science. As a teacher, trainer, and EA practitioner she has made significant contributions in professionalizing EIA through development of EIA instruments and best practice guidance tools and conducting training programmes in different continents, specially targeted at mainstreaming biodiversity in the EA framework. She also provides advisory support for environmental decision making through her membership at apex bodies of the Government of India. She is currently the Chair of the biodiversity section of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA).

VINOD B. MATHUR is Professor and Dean at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India. He holds professional qualifications in forestry and a doctoral degree in wildlife ecology from Oxford University. He has vast professional experience in conducting environmental assessments of developmental projects and in reviewing EIA reports and Environmental Management Plans. His area of special interest is wildlife ecology and management. He is a member of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM). As a trainer, he has organized several IAIA capacity building programmes on mainstreaming biodiversity in impact assessment.

AREND KOLHOFF is senior technical secretary at the international department of the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment. He has a degree in human geography from the Utrecht University and is currently working on PhD research that aims to identify guiding principles for the development of better performing EIA systems in developing countries. He has fifteen years working experience with the Commission in about twenty countries as a trainer and advisor on EIA and SEA capacity development activities.

ECOLOGY, BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

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The world's biological diversity faces unprecedented threats. The urgent challenge facing the concerned biologist is to understand ecological processes well enough to maintain their functioning in the face of the pressures resulting from human population growth. Those concerned with the conservation of biodiversity and with restoration also need to be acquainted with the political, social, historical, economic, and legal frameworks within which ecological and conservation practice must be developed. The new *Ecology, Biodiversity, and Conservation* series will present balanced, comprehensive, up-to-date, and critical reviews of selected topics within the sciences of ecology and conservation biology, both botanical and zoological, and both 'pure' and 'applied'. It is aimed at advanced final-year undergraduates, graduate students, researchers, and university teachers, as well as ecologists and conservationists in industry, government, and the voluntary sectors. The series encompasses a wide range of approaches and scales (spatial, temporal, and taxonomic), including quantitative, theoretical, population, community, ecosystem, landscape, historical, experimental, behavioural, and evolutionary studies. The emphasis is on science related to the real world of plants and animals rather than on purely theoretical abstractions and mathematical models. Books in this series will, wherever possible, consider issues from a broad perspective. Some books will challenge existing paradigms and present new ecological concepts, empirical or theoretical models, and testable hypotheses. Other books will explore new approaches and present syntheses on topics of ecological importance.

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ROEL SLOOTWEG

SevS natural and human environment consultants, Oegstgeest, The Netherlands

ASHA RAJVANSHI

Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India

VINOD B. MATHUR

Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India

AREND KOLHOFF

Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment, Utrecht, The Netherlands

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Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	page ix
<i>Foreword by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity – Ahmed Djoghlaif</i>	xi
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xvi
 Part I. Setting the stage	
1 Introduction	3
<i>Roel Slootweg, Asha Rajvanshi, Vinod B. Mathur, and Arend Kollhoff</i>	
2 Interpretation of biodiversity	14
<i>Roel Slootweg</i>	
3 Biodiversity conservation and development: challenges for impact assessment	59
<i>Asha Rajvanshi and Vinod B. Mathur</i>	
 Part II. Assessment tools	
4 The impact assessment framework	87
<i>Roel Slootweg and Peter P. Mollinga</i>	
5 Environmental assessment	125
<i>Arend Kollhoff, Bobbi Schijf, Rob Verheem, and Roel Slootweg</i>	
6 Biodiversity in Environmental Impact Assessment	154
<i>Asha Rajvanshi, Vinod B. Mathur, and Roel Slootweg</i>	
7 Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment	205
<i>Roel Slootweg</i>	

Part III. Emerging issues	
8 Reconciling conservation and development: the role of biodiversity offsets	255
<i>Asha Rajvanshi and Vinod B. Mathur</i>	
9 Valuation of ecosystem services: lessons from influential cases	287
<i>Pieter van Beukering and Roel Slootweg</i>	
<i>Epilogue – Topics in need of further elaboration</i>	328
<i>Roel Slootweg, Asha Rajvanshi, Vinod B. Mathur, and Arend Kolhoff</i>	
<i>Annex: valuation of ecosystem services: influential cases</i>	334
<i>Pieter van Beukering, Roel Slootweg, and Desirée Immerzeel</i>	
<i>References</i>	398
<i>Index</i>	434

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