Conservation of tropical biodiversity



Primary problem:

Growing human population

Secondary problems:

Habitat destruction and fragmentation Environmental pollution [including global warming] Non-sustainable use of renewable resources [freshwater, soil, marine fisheries] Alien biota

... and others

Possible solutions:

©Techno-optimism

[technological progress solves more problems than it causes]

Techno-pesimism

[technological progress in dangerous]

Scientists of "Club of Rome" modeled in 1968 the future of civilization and predicted increasing scarcity of non-renewable materials (oil, metals, etc.) followed by a collapse of industrial production, agriculture and finally human population size



Spine 12.3 Compare model of the proveh in the law podebox and its impact on resource availability pollution. In open load supply and per impair industrial costor. The weble was produced by a group of assertions economics, and assertion, pollocal interacts and internations who re-1984 (other Headows et al. 1972).



Figure 7 People undernourished, 1949–2030, in numbers (million) and percentage (of developing world). Prediction for 1998-2030. Estimates for





2000

Source: Global Footprint Network, National Footprint Accounts, 2009 Edition.

We must develop conservation strategies for the world where everybody is (reasonably) rich

GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINTS



Voluntarily sustainable life styles failed to gain mass following or turned into a farce: e.g. pay GBP1.84 carbon credit for a Prague-London flight and – problem solved, conscience clear!



Ecological footprint: when fossil fuels (= past biosphere production) are included, we have already exceeded the planetary capacity



Figure x. Humanity's Ecological Footprint, 1961-2006

The population growth has been terrifying – but not any longer!



Population growth is **always** terrifying when extrapolated with constant fertility too far. There will be only 300,000 people in the Czech Republic 10 generations in the future at our current fertility (1.43 children per woman), 100,000 people at S. Korean fertility, but >100 billion people at Nigerian fertility....



Current World Population

7,374,778,293

view all people on 1 page >



Gerland et al. 2014. World population stabilization unlikely this century. Science 346: 234



Growth in the 2nd half of the century will be driven entirely by Africa – but extrapolation from the current 1 billion people in Africa to 4 billions less than 100 years from now is highly uncertain

Global population: still growing, but at steadily diminishing rate



Constant population requires 2.1 births per woman

8

6

5

4

3

1940

births per woman

Population still growing in Asia and S. America, but already aging there – only Africa does not age



Demographic transition



Demographic transition (Mauritius)



Figure 1. Birth and death rates in Mauritius since 1871. Grey line, crude death rate; black line, crude birth rate.



Life-time fertility of women decreases with income





Total fertility rate (children per female) related to female literacy rate and to per capita GDP: time series for different countries

Figure 5. Bivariate relationship between literacy rates for females aged 15+ and total fertility rates for time-series of 65 developing countries, 1960–2000. Each line corresponds to the time-series of one country.

Figure 6. Bivariate relationship between GDP per capita (constant 1995 US\$) and total fertility rate in 55 developing countries (same countries as in figure 5 with available income data), 1960–2000. Each line corresponds to the time-series of one country.

Lutz & Quiang 2002

Life-time fertility is correlated with infant mortality



Demographic transition 1960 -----> 2006

Life-time fertility is correlated with infant mortality









Population growth rate is determined by energy consumption!



No correlation between wealth and forest cover: cutting forests does not necessarily make you rich



III EAC - Ecod and Anticulture Consultation

Good news for nature: people are increasingly living in cities

UN finds more than half of people now live in cities

More than half of the global population currently lives in urban areas, with that proportion projected to reach two-thirds by 2050, according to the UN World Urbanization Prospects report





Good news for nature: people are increasingly living in cities





Tokyo (above), Trantor (right)





And now for something completely different: habitat conservation

Figure 2: Estimated deforestation, by type of forest and time period



Source: Estimates based on Williams, 2002; FAO, 2010b.

Borneo forests: in 1950 - 1973 - 2010 - 2012





Map 4 a to d.—Natural forest in Sumatra in 1985, 1990, 2000 and 2008/9 (green) and lost since 1985 (red).





Kim et al. Remote Sensing of Environment DOI: 10.1016/j.rse.2014.08.017.



Mayaux et al., Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B (2005) 360, 373–384



Humid tropical forests cover loss 2000-2005

Hansent et al., PNAS 2008, 105: 9439–9444



How to monitor changes in vegetation cover

Recent tropical deforestation is still less severe than historical deforestation in Europe

Forest cover in Europe



Logging of tropical forests is almost always selective



Logged dipterocarp forests

Lowland dipterocarp forest 5 years after selective logging



Fig. 34.4. A profile diagram of a lowland mixed dipterocarp rain forest five years after selective and mechanized logging at Sekundur, northern Sumatra, Indonesia. The diagram was made within the two-hectare block shown in Fig. 34.3. Note the wide gaps with a low developing sapling layer (shaded black). (After Abdulhadi et al., 1985.)

Logged forest: equally species-rich per individual as the primary forest





First selective logging does not lead to loss plant species diversity, but the problem is repeated logging Third forest cut in Borneo

> Fig. 1. Cumulative species-area relationships for (A) all trees >20 cm in diameter and (B) small trees 20 to 30 cm in diameter. Cumulative species-individual relationships for (C) all trees >20 cm in diameter and (D) small trees 20 to 30 cm in diameter. See (16) for details.
Problem of tropical forestry: too many tree species, often at low population densities

Table 10.8 Numbers of timber species in the top five end-use classes and their share of total log production

	Number of species	% Total log production	Production* $(m^3 \times 10^4)$
Southeast Asia [†]	195	59	50
Africa	7	45	10
South America	13	40	31

Extracting timber from tropical forests: large collateral damage



Figure 9.5. The effect of extracting 8% of trees by selective logging on an area of forest on South Pagai, Mentawai, West Sumatra. (After Alrasjid and Effendi 1979.)



Production, consumption, export and import of tropical logs



Fig. 12: Major Tropical Log Exporters

Fig. 11: Major Tropical Log Importers

Top timber exporters are developed temperate countries



Trading in tropical logs [2007] more sophisticated countries do not export unprocessed logs



Trading in tropical sawnwood [2007]



Trading in tropical plywood [2007]





Local processing of timber is preferable to export of raw logs, but not always such a good deal socially as often thought



Papua New Guinea: "old" pressures on tropical forests: subsistence agriculture by local population and commercial logging



Deforestation in Papua New Guinea 1972-2002

Civilization land use development



jonathan A. Foley,¹* Ruth DeFries,² Gregory P. Asner,³ Carol Barford,¹ Gordon Bonan,⁴ Stephen R. Carpenter,⁵ F. Stuart Chapin,⁶ Michael T. Coe,¹† Gretchen C. Dally,¹ Holly K. Gibba¹ Joseph H. Helkowski,¹ Tracay Holloway, Erica A. Howard,¹ Christopher J. Kuchar Ki, ¹ Chad Monfreda,¹ Jonathan A. Patz,¹ L. Colin Prentice,⁸ Navin Bamankutty,¹ Peter K. Snyde² Sustained agriculture in tropical lowlands requires additional inputs (energy, fertilizers, ...) to sustain productivity without them, shifting slash-and-burn agriculture has to be "shifting" to new forest areas every few years



Decrease in yields in slash-and-burn agriculture

Papua New Guinea 1972-2002



lowland populations, with shifting agriculture, cause higher per capita deforestation than lowland populations where agriculture land can remain productive much longer.

Shearman et al. 2008

Slash-and-burn [swidden] shifting agriculture in tropical lowlands









High-intensity subsistence agriculture in the mountains (sweet potato in New Guinea)

Brazil: "new" pressures on tropical forests: land conversion to agriculture



1) Other includes fires, mining, urbanization, road construction, dams; 2) Logging generally results in degradation rather than deforestation, but is often followed by clearing for agriculture; 3) Data from Holly Gibbs 2009

Cattle pastures:

the most common reason for forest clearance in South America



Land use in Amazon: rainforest ---> cattle pasture ---> soy plantations

Soaring soybean growth



Brazil's soybean production

'n millions of metric tons



Soybean production in the cerrados, Brazil's tropical savanna, has risen sharply in the past several years. Some environmentalists are worried about what that means for the world's largest rainforest.





RON BRACKETT | Times §



1. Increased corn production for ethanol...

 Leads to decreased soybean production as U.S. farmers convert to corn...

3. Which leads to Brazilian farmers planting more soybeans...

Diagram based on: Grunwald, Michael, 04/07/2008. "The Clean Energy Scam." Time.

Which pushes ranches further into the rain forest

Oil palm: the fastest expanding plantations in the tropics



Oil palm: rapidly growing plantation areas, great potential for conflict with natural forests



Oil plam plantations: biological deserts?



protection of the second secon

Koh & Wilcove, Conservation Letters 2008

Coconut and cacao: another biological desert





A man-made landscape: intensive paddy fields around Hanoi

What is a realistic "best case scenario" for tropical rainforest landscapes?





And now for something completely different: species conservation

Species extinctions of birds to date: mostly on oceanic islands



Table 1. Dates of descriptions of 9,975 bird species, their dates of extinction, those that are conservation-dependent (CD), and additional species that are critically endangered

Description					
Before				After	
<1600	<1700	<1800	<1900	1900	Sum

Extinction date Before							
1600	0	0	0	0	6	6	
1700	0	0	2	4	4	10	
1800	0	0	4	10	13	27	
1900	0	0	10	37	1	48	
After 1900	0	0	12	39	12	63	
Sum	0	0	28	90	36	154	
CD	0	0	5	16	4	25	
Critically endangered	0	0	13	91	53	157	
All	0	0	1,689	7,079	1,207	9,975	

Known animal extinctions since c. 1600: Birds

From 9,875 described species went 154 species extinct, and 157 are now critically endangered



Figure 17.6 Habitat distribution of threatened mammals and birds

Note: Mammal data for Australasia and the Americas, excludes Cetacea; bird data are global.

Very few species extinctions have been actually documented

Table 12.3	Recorded extinct	tions of various groups of t	errestrial organisms since	1600
Taxon		Continental	Island	Per cent of species
Mammals		30	51	2.1
Birds		21	90	1.3
Reptiles		1	20	0.3
Amphibians		2	0	0.01
Fish		22	- F	0.1
Invertebrat	es	49	48	0.01
Vascular pla	ints .	245	139	0.2

Source: Primack 1998. Many more species have presumably gone extinct without being recorded by biologists.

Estimated rates of extinction

ESTIMATE	% GLOBAL LOSS PER DECADE	METHOD OF ESTIMATION	REFERENCE
One million species between 1975 and 2000	4	Extrapolation of past exponentially increasing trend	Myers (1979)
15-20% of species between 1980 and 2000	8-11	Estimated species-area curve; forest loss based on Global 2000 projections	Lovejoy (1980)
12% of plant species in neotropics. 15% of bird species in Amazon basin		Species-area curve (z=0.25)	Simberloff (1986)
2000 plant species per year in tropics and subtropics	8	Loss of half the species in area likely to be deforested by 2015	Raven (1987)
25% of species between 1985 and 2015	9	As above	Raven (1988a.b)
At least 7% of plant species	7	Half of species lost over next decade in 10 'hot spots' covering 3.5% of forest area	Myers (1988)
0.2-0.3% per year	2-3	Half of rain forest species assumed lost in tropical rain forests to be local endemics and becoming extinct with forest loss	Wilson (1988, 1989)
5-15% forest species by 2020	2-5	Species-area curve (0.15 < z <0.35); forest loss assumed twice rate projected by FAO for 1980-85	Reid and Miller (1989)
2-8% loss between 1990 and 2015	1-5	Species-area curve (0.15 < z < 0.35); range includes current rate of forest loss and 50% increase	Reid (1992)



Species-area Relationship on Log-log Axes



Extinction (decrease in number of species) is estimated from reduction in habitat area, using speciesarea relationship

Species-area Relationship on Arithmetic Axes

Species-area relationships always overestimate extinction rates from habitat loss



The upper and lower blue curves are the fits of the power-law SAR and EAR, the red curves are for the random placement SAR and EAR.

Yasuni [Ecuador] Lowland tropical forest, 50 ha plot, 307,279 stems 1,128 species z[SAR] = 0.126 z[EAR] = 0.0623SAR overestimates species loss for 25% area reduction by 100.4%

Biodiversity distribution in birds, mammals and amphibians



Threatened species: vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered in the IUCN Red List. Small-ranged species: geographic ranges are smaller than the median range size for that ta

Jenkins et al. 2013, PNAS

Overlap in biodiversity centers in birds, mammals and amphibians



Overlap of species richness centers (centers are among the richest 5% of cells for at least one of the taxa): A: All species, B: IUCN threatened species, C: Small-ranged species. D:.Priority ecoregions based on small-ranged vertebrates

Jenkins et al. 2013, PNAS

Biodiversity hotspots and tropical wilderness areas



Hotspots: 0.5% of land area includes 20% of global diversity (plants)

Wilderness area: >1 million ha, >70% intact, human population <5 people/km²



24 wilderness areas cover 44% of land and are inhabited by 3% of human population Mittermeier et al. (2003)




Centres of endemism for one, two, three or four taxa

Fig. 1. Global clines in species richness of fish (A), corals (B), snails (C), and lobsters (D). Scales show number of species present. (E) Concordance of the top 10% most species-rich cells among taxa. Red cells were included for all four taxa, orange for three, yellow for two, and blue for one. (F) Threats to reefs in each grid cell, calculated using data from Bryant *et al.* (3, 13). Blue represents low risk (ave-

rage threat score between 1 and 1.67); yellow, medium risk (score between 1.68 and 2.33); and red, high risk (score \geq 2.34). (G) Concordance in patterns of range rarity among the top-scoring 10% of cells for each taxon. Color codes are as in (E). Places outlined show multitaxon centers of endemism (13) [Web table 2 (8)], numbered as in Table 2.

Forest fragmentation experiment in Manaus



Diversity half-life:

time needed to lose 50% of species from a forest fragment



st fragments in Manaus The graph shows three 95% bounds (triangles), ars (empty circles), and :ay (filled circles).

Loss of bird species from rainforest fragments since isolation



Fig. 1. Plots of species loss for all fragments according to four different methods: minimum under perfect isolation, Bayesian with μ = 0.1 and step-decay, \mathcal{M} runs-test, and jackknife estimates. The gray bars indicate the timing of isolation.

SAFE: Stability of Altered Forest Ecosystems (replicated fragments of lowland rainforest in an oil palm matrix in Borneo



Sources and destinations of alien plant species

A: Expected flow of naturalized plant specie **B: Observed flow of naturalized plant** based on the numbers of native species (in species Pacific (9,747) Ant. C brackets). South Ant. Temperate Asia C pacific b UNOP CA.148 Australasia (22,891) South America Asia (78, H-SOLOCI ENAUX SHOP ered to bolt 1661:291801 Temperate Asia (46,703) North America Each tick along the outer circle corresponds to 1,000 species. Left (white) parts of inner bars Pacific Islands along the circle represent flows of imported species; right (coloured) parts represent Antarctica exported species. grey: no data 1 753

Number of naturalized plant

Van Kleunen et al. 2015, Nature 525: doi:10.1038/nature14910

Europe

Invasive species – one of the most serious threats to biodiversity



Eichhornia crassipes (water hyacinth), Lake Victoria, Madagascar (and elsewhere)



Lates niloticus, Lake Victoria



Boiga irregularis, Guam island

Avian malaria introduced to Hawaii: contributed to several extinctions

1830 Culex quinquefaciatus introduced1900's Plasmodium relictum introduced





Hemignathus munroi limited by malaria to montane areas

Malamprosops phaeosoma reported extinct in 2004



An alien landscape in Tanzania: tea plantation with introduced *Eucalyptus* plantation flanked by *Montanora hypiscifolia* alien



Global traffic is ever increasing: daily air passengers





Biodiversity and human cultural diversity are spatially correlated





Figure 2. A comparison of language and species richness in sub-Saharan Africa. Each variable has been partitioned into 10 equal-frequency ranks. Cells of equal rank for both variables are coloured in grey scale from black (both low rank) to white (both high rank). The degree of colour saturation indicates that the ranks are different. A cell is green if the species-richnest rank is high relative to language richness and blue if language richness is high relative to species richness.

Plant and language diversity distribution



Figure 2

Maffi 2005, Annu. Rev. Anthropol. 34: 599

Plant diversity and language distribution. From Stepp et al. 2004. Used with permission.

Global distribution of human cultures



Annual Rainfall (mm)

Collard and Foley

Latitude (degrees)

And now for something completely different: rainforests and their inhabitants

Do traditional forest societies know secret of nature conservation?



Extinction of large mammalian herbivores in past 130,000 years: hunting humans are the prime suspects



(a) The percentage of genera of large mammalian herbivores that have gone extinct in the last 130,000 years is strongly size dependent (data from North and South America, Europe, and Australia combined). (After Owen-Smith, 1987.) (b) Percentage survival of large animals on three continents and two large islands (New Zealand and Madagascar). (After Martin, 1984.)



Body size distribution of herbivorous mammals in Late Pleistocene [black – species now extinct, blue – species surviving]

Johnson 2009, Proc. R. Soc. B 2009 276, 2509-2519



Gaharu fever in the Hotmin village









Agarwood (gaharu) tree [*Aquilaria*, Thymeleaceae]

Economically successful rainforest products create demand for unsustainable harvest and their mass agricultural production

Establishing of Demonstration Plot of Eaglewood (Gaharu) Plantation and Inoculation Technology

Atok Subiakto, Erdy Santoso, Pratiwi, Erry Purnomo, Ragil S.B. Irianto, Bambang Wiyono, Eka Novriyanti, Sri Suharti, Maman Turjaman



R & D CENTRE FOR FOREST CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION FORESTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (FORDA) MINISTRY OF FORESTRY INDONESIA 2011







Brand: AgarHarvest Product Code: CHP5A1000GM Availability: 91

Price: \$2,995.00 Ex Tax: \$2,995.00

Add to Cart	Qty: 1
-------------	--------

Market valuation of fruits and latex produced by 1 ha forest in Peru: USD 698 per ha and year

Common name	Species	No. trees	Annual production per tree	Unit price (US\$)	Total value (US\$)
Aguaje Aguajillo	Mauritia flexuosa L. Mauritiella peruviana (Becc.)	8	88.8 kg	10.00/40 kg	177.60
	Burrett	25	30.0 kg	4.00/40 kg	75.00
Charichuelo	Rheedia spp.	2	100 fruits	0.15/20 fruits	1.50
Leche huayo	Couma macrocarpa Barb. Rodr.	2	1.060 fruits	0.10/3 fruits	70.67
Masaranduba Naranjo podrido	Manilkara quianensis Aubl. Parahancornia peruviana	1	500 fruits	0.15/20 fruits	3.75
	Monach.	3	150 fruits	0.25/fruit	112.50
Sacha cacao	Theobroma subincanum Mart.	3	50 fruits	0.15/fruit	22.50
Shimbillo	Inga spp.	9	200 fruits	1.50/100 fruits	27.00
Shiringa	Hevea quianensis Aubl.	24	2.0 kg	1.20/kg	57.60
Sinamillo	Oenocarpus mapora Karst.	1	3.000 fruits	0.15/20 fruits	22.50
Tamamuri	Brosimum rubescens Taub.	3	500 fruits	0.15/20 fruits	11.25
Ungurahui	Jessenia bataua (Mart.) Burret	36	36.8 kg	3.50/40 kg	115.92
Totals		117			697.79

Fruit yields measured for M. flexuosa, J. bataua, P. peruviana and C. macrocarpe: estimated yields for other fruit trees based on interviews with local collectors.

Logging income valuation of the same 1 ha forest in Peru: USD 1,000 per ha for forest logging

TABLE 2 Merchantable volume and stumpage value of the commercial timber tree in one hectare of forest at Mishana, Rio Nanay, Peru

Commercial name	Genera included	No. trees	Wood volume (m ³)	Mill price (per m ³) (US\$)	Stumpage value (US\$)
Aguano masha	Trichilia	4	0.55	14.80	4.88
Almendro	Caryocar	1	0.08	14.80	0.71
Azucar huayo	Hymenaea	1	0.10	14.80	0.89
Cumala	Iryanthera, Virola	83	19.77	19.00	225.38
Espintana	Guatteria. Xylopia	7	1.47	21.00	18.52
Favorito	Osteophloeum	2	3.90	14.80	34.63
Ishpingo	Endlicheria	4	0.82	14.80	7.28
Itauba	Mezilaurus	3	0.29	14.80	2.57
Lagarto caspi	Calophyllum	. 2	0.25	40.30	6.04
Loro micuna	Macoubea	1	1.37	14.80	12.17
Machimango	Eschweilera	5	0.76	20.15	9.19
Machinga	Brosimum	10	24.61	14.80	218.53
Moena	Aniba, Ocotea	6	0.75	42.00	18.90
Palisangre	Dialium	1	0.27	14.80	2.39
Papelillo	Cariniana	1	1.19	14.80	10.57
Pashaco	Parkia	19	4.19	14.80	37.21
Pumaquiro	Aspidosperma	12	10.22	14.80	90.75
Quinilla	Chrysophyllum, Pouteria,				
	Manilkara	34	9.18	31.80	175.15
Remo caspi	Swartzia,				
-	Aspidosperma	28	11.65	14.80	103.45
Requia	Guarea	4	1.06	14.80	9.41
Tortuga caspi	Duquetia	1	0.13	14.80	1.15
Yacushapana	Terminalia	2	0.71	14.80	6.31
Yutubanco	Heisteria	2	0.53	14.80	4.70
Totals		233	93.85		1.000.78

Twenty-three commercial names represent 28 genera and 60 tree species.





Galip nut (Canarium indicum): great market potential, but probably unavailable in your supermarket



Sales of Fairtrade certified products in the UK



2004 2005 2006 2007 2002 2003

Shade coffee

Fair trade certification



Pelicious Fairtrade Coffee. Drink in or Take Away



every cup sold helps to protect rainforests

Payment for rainforest conservation to forest owners: direct vs. indirect approaches

Potential Investments for Biodiversity Conservation			
Investment	(Least direct)	Examples	
Support for the use/marketing of extracted biological produc	ts	Logging, nontimber forest product extraction, and hunting	
Subsidies for reduced-impact land and resource use		Sustainable agriculture on already cultivated lands, "alternative income generation"	
Support for the use and or marketing of biodiversity within relatively intact		Eco-tourism, sport hunting, bioprospecting, wild honey production	
Payment for other environmental services (generating biodiversity conservation as a side benefi	t)	Watershed protection, carbon sequestration	
Payment for conservation land or "retirement" of biodiversity use rights		Easement, "nonlogging" concessions	
Performance-based payment for biodiversity conservation	•	Paying for bird breeding success, paying for occupied	

wolf dens

(Most direct)

Ferraro & Kiss, 2002, Science 298: 1718

REDD: reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation



Figure 1. GHG emissions in 2000 by source³: From 'Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change'. In the rest of this report, the IPCC's estimate of deforestation as 20% of global emissions has been adopted.





The Little REDD+ Book

An updated guide to governmental and non-governmental proposals for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation

1.4 Advised 10 constrainty Transmission (see New York, Aprenda Printigen), and Salama Arithmetic Rev (EP) preservation for Personant's on 1910.

Functional arguments ("ecosystem services") to protect tropical biodiversity are dangerous

16,000 tree species in Amazonia

227 hyper-dominant species comprising 50% of all trees



Surely the 227 spp. will be able to provide most services so we do not need to worry about the remaining 15,773 spp.



Hyperdominance in the Amazonian Tree Flora Hans ter Steege *et al. Science* **342**, (2013); DOI: 10.1126/science.1243092





• Apocalypse is coming (and it feels good)



Waiting for a happy apocalypse has a long (religious) tradition

• Apocalypse is coming – to stop it, anything goes



End of the world is nigh – justifying the end to democracy and/or capitalism

• Climate change is a serious problem (as many others)



Unfortunately there is only one IPCC – monopolies are not good

• Climate change (semi-)sceptics



Treatment of heterodox views in climate science – not a pretty pictur

• Climate change a priori deniers



Non-scientific advocacy for commercial interests does exist



Brunei: rainforest protection bought by oil

French Guyana: the best EU rainforest sustained by aerospace industry







Biofuels : how we (biologists) screwed up in a big Way Biofuels from palm oil: we are burning SE Asian rainforests (sustainable certification notwithstanding)



Energetically, palm oil makes sense as a source of biofuels

The big four: The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Wildlife Conservation Society, Conservation International



Clovek v tisni "made it": but where is a Czech conservation NGO with a global reach?

Can NGOs save tropical biodiversity?

International NGOs are remarkably ineffectual in tropical countries



They often operate in intellectually and socially unreceptive environment (cf. introduction of democracy by the Czech Army to Afghanistan)



Emergence of the local middle class and educated elites is the key for



In conclusion: what to do and where to go?

- how much biodiversity should be conserved is a cultural choice, not a results of any objective scientific calculation
- how to conserve biodiversity is a social, not a biological problem
- wisdom on traditional societies is not terribly relevant to current conservation problems

