

“Just Begin”

scenarios & experimental spaces in a time of systemic change

talk for

Centre for Liveable Cities

Singapore, 15 August 2013

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Coordinator, Barbets Duet

New Baltimore, New York, USA

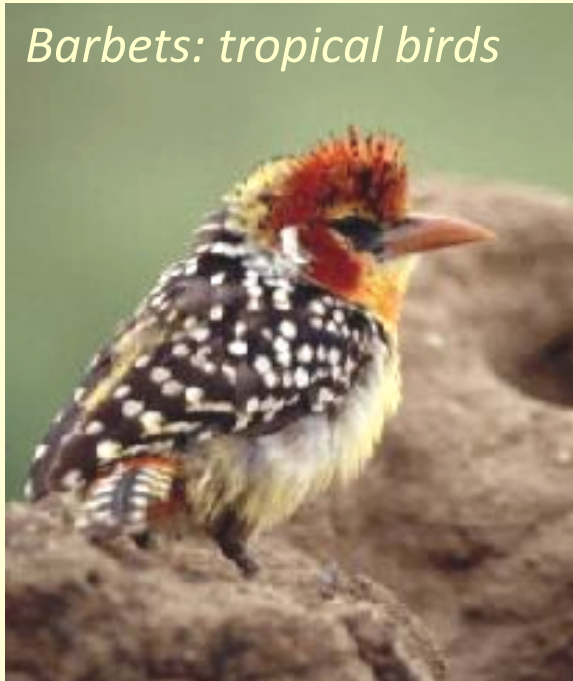
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www.barbaraheinzen.com

www.barbetsduet.com

Basic Concepts Of Barbets Duet

Barbets Duet, 2006

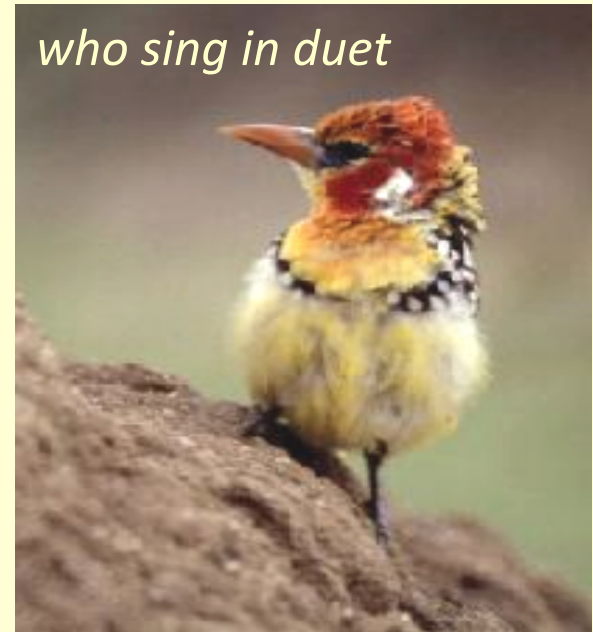


*Environmental care:
Gift → economic necessity*

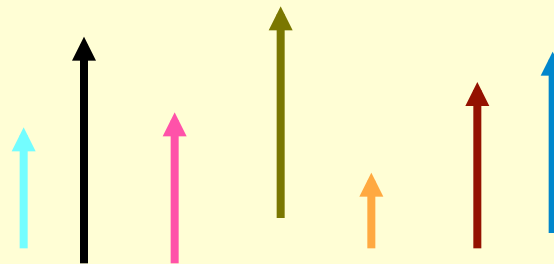
***A Business Idea,
Not a Charity***

SUPPORT
people
who support
the
natural world

INVENT
New institutions
e.g. property rights
& marketing structures
organisational forms



LEARN
from
2 cultures:
Africa + West,
Modern & Traditional
on equal terms



(“It will take 20 years...”)

Diverse Ecologies → →

Accelerated Learning



Property Rights from Two Systems

Mosaic rights

Women: food crops, Men: tree crops,
Herders: grazing after harvest
Gov' t: mineral rights,
Those who dug the well, own the water



Fields near Mt. Elgon, Uganda

Footpaths

Both systems are failing.

Column rights

Minerals, land, buildings,
air rights, all under one owner

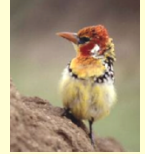
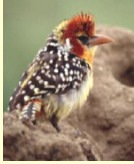


Downtown NY, from Times Square

Fences

Mosaic rights → high social equity, high biodiversity;
Column rights → successful markets

Role of Scenarios



Scenario Origins of the Barbets Duet

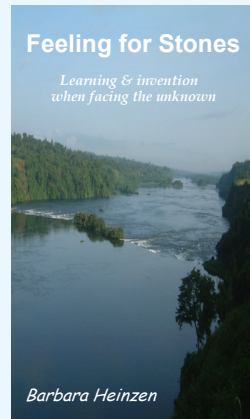
Limits to Growth, 1972

1997 - WBCSD



Can Markets Manage Ecosystems?

B Heinen - 2004



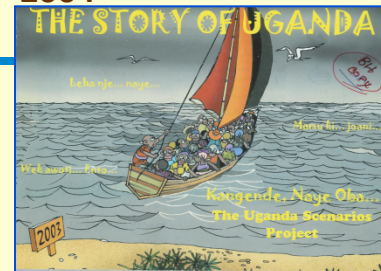
2000



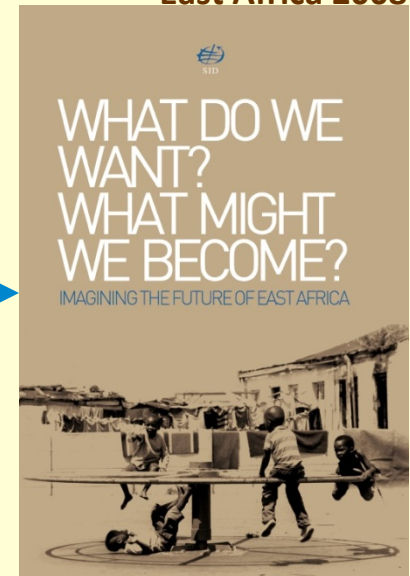
2003



2004



East Africa 2008



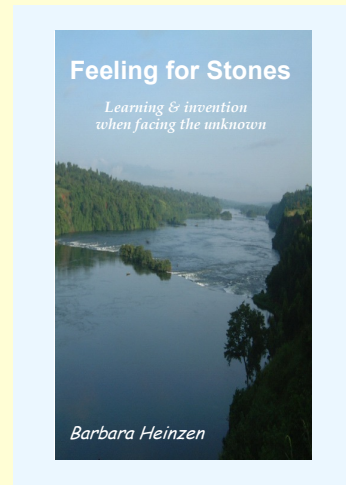
Early English Lessons in Systemic Invention

E

Engagement
& aEsthetics

Experiment
& Education

Extremity
& NEcessity





Society for International Development
East African scenarios work
1997-2008

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, E, African region



Tanzania, Mar 2002*

Ten years of social capital



E. Africa, May 2007



E. Africa, Nov 2006

Politics of learning in E Africa

29/30 April 2008

**Launch of
East African Scenarios**

Kigali, Rwanda



Uganda, 2003

* No digital photo of the Kenyan team, but many members are in the other photos.

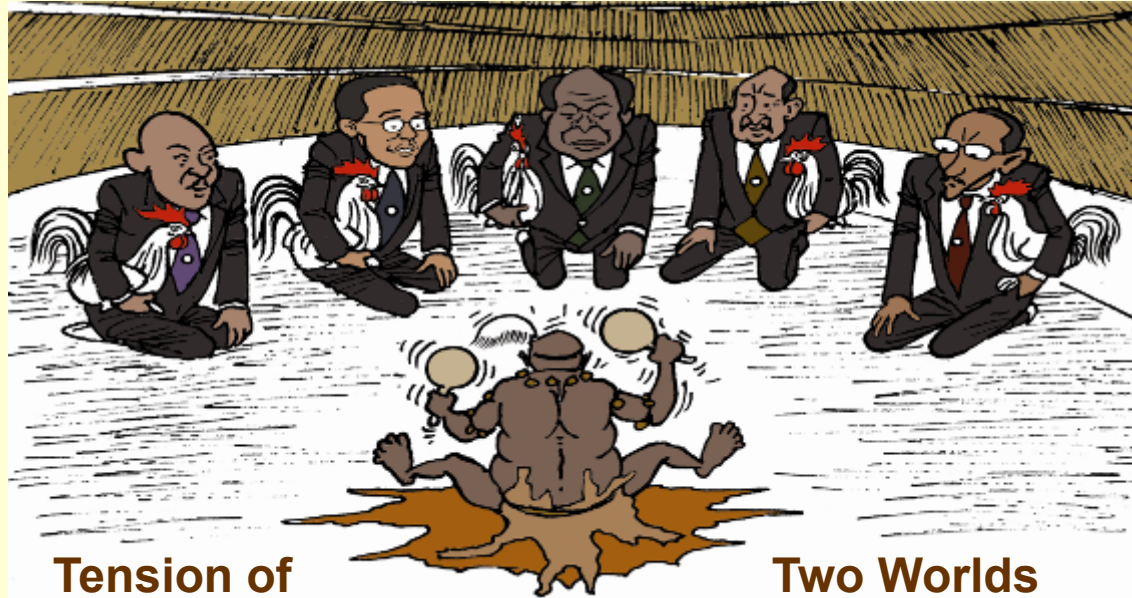


WHAT DO WE WANT?
WHAT MIGHT WE BECOME?

IMAGINING THE FUTURE OF EAST AFRICA

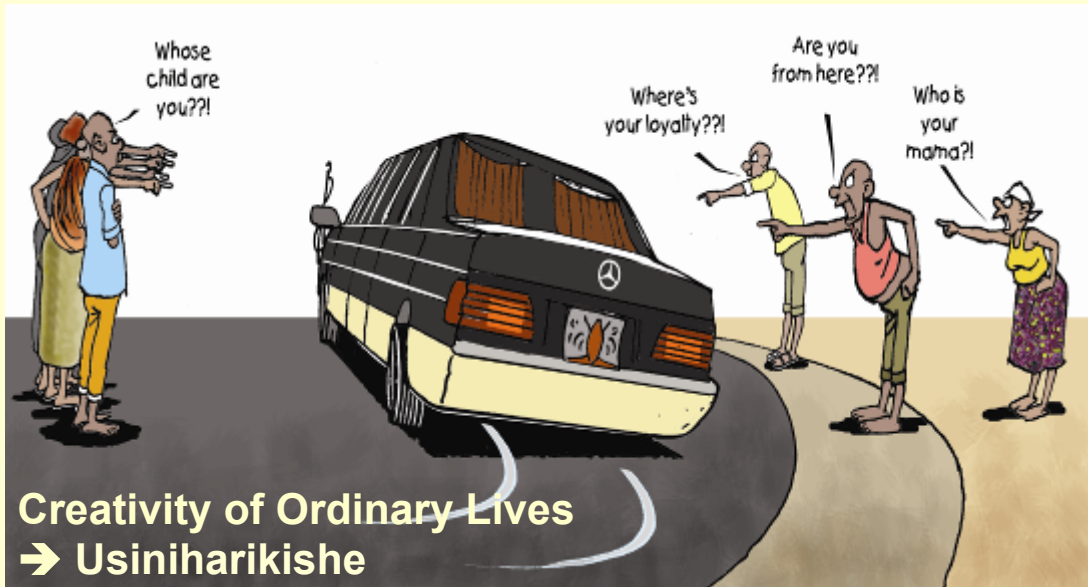


Driving Forces in East Africa, 2008



Tension of

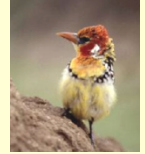
Two Worlds



Creativity of Ordinary Lives
→ Usiniharikishe



Nature Under Pressure



Scenario Origins of the Barbets Duet



2007/8
Kenya Crisis → “Just Begin”
Ideas Are Not Enough



Kenya Scenarios 1998-2000

El Nino Violence Lasts a Very Long Time

SID &
Institute of
Economic
Affairs
© 2000

Security & Well-being

2008

Time

2020





Kenya

Sunday, 27 January 2008
'el Nino' was 1 month old

Masai Lodge, outside Nairobi



Photo: B Heinzen

"What do we do now?"

Violence in Naivasha

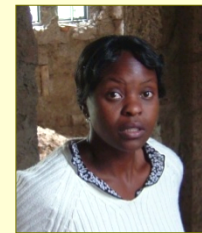


Oby Obyerodhyambo

"We just begin."



June 2008
5 Learning Sites



Hilda Adhiambo

Results of Barbets Duet 2008-2013



Barbet Partners & Sites

experiments begun, conventions & cross-learning, self-financed

**Sammy Muvelah,
Lukenya,
nr Nairobi, Kenya**



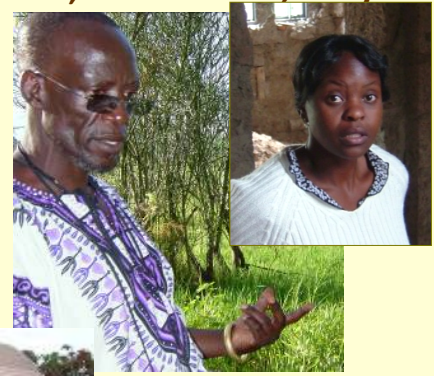
**James Magode Ikuya
Molo, near Tororo, Uganda**



**Msichoke Seaweed Farmers
& Mwajuma Masaiganah,
Mlingotini, Bagamoyo, Tanzania**



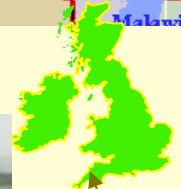
**Oby & Hilda Obyerodhyambo,
Seme, near Kisumu, Kenya**



**Barbara Heinzen,
Coordinator, UK &
Hudson R. NY, USA**



**Chris Jones,
Woodland Valley
Farm, Cornwall, UK**



**Rose Lyimo,
Himo, Tanzania
(proposed)**

Utu Net Benefits



"I sat there. It had just rained. It was big, it was dug humanly ... and then it rains and I lose all the water. ... So that place is green in the middle of nowhere."

*Sammy Muvelah,
Nkoroi Partners Meeting, August 2010*



Tree nursery

"It is a wonderful metaphor for the communal thing, because nature will conspire to redistribute resources."

*Oby Obyerodhyambo,
Nkoroi Partners Meeting August '10*



A new community dam, shared costs & benefits – new mosaic rights



Community dam, Dec '08



Community dam, April 2011

Conventions & Cross-Visits



Invention Convention, Mlingotini, Tanzania - Oct. '09



Safari Convention, Molo, Uganda - April 2011

Oil seeds



Safari Convention, Seme, Kenya - April 2011



Woodland Valley Farm & Eden Project, UK, 2011

Useful Principles

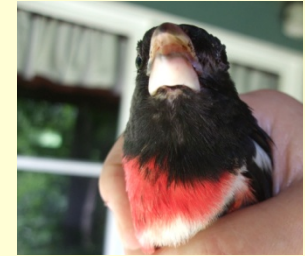
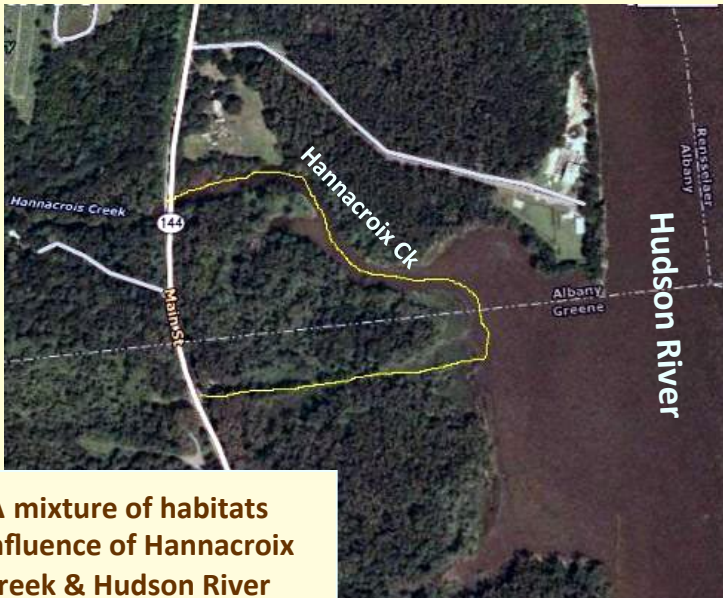
Barbets Duet Working Assumptions	Initial Governance Principles	Establishing a Barbet Site
Multiple experiments & diverse sites → rapid learning	Each site evolves in its own way to its own conditions.	“Just Begin” With something that bears fruit quickly
Equity & engagement across knowledge, power & culture	There is value in coming together.	Barbet activity is consistent with its site
Give & gain: Everyone has something to give & something to gain.	In coming together, all have a stake and all share responsibility.	Shape environmental ambitions around immediate needs.
Mosaic Rights → support environmental goals.		Learning by demonstration
		Thinking step by step; one thing follows on another
		Follow the path of least resistance; start with what is most possible.
		Utu Net Benefits

*“Rather than asking
how can Lukenya
support a Friesian cow,
I ask:
what can Lukenya support?”*
Sammy MuveLah, '10

Hannacroix Creek, New York

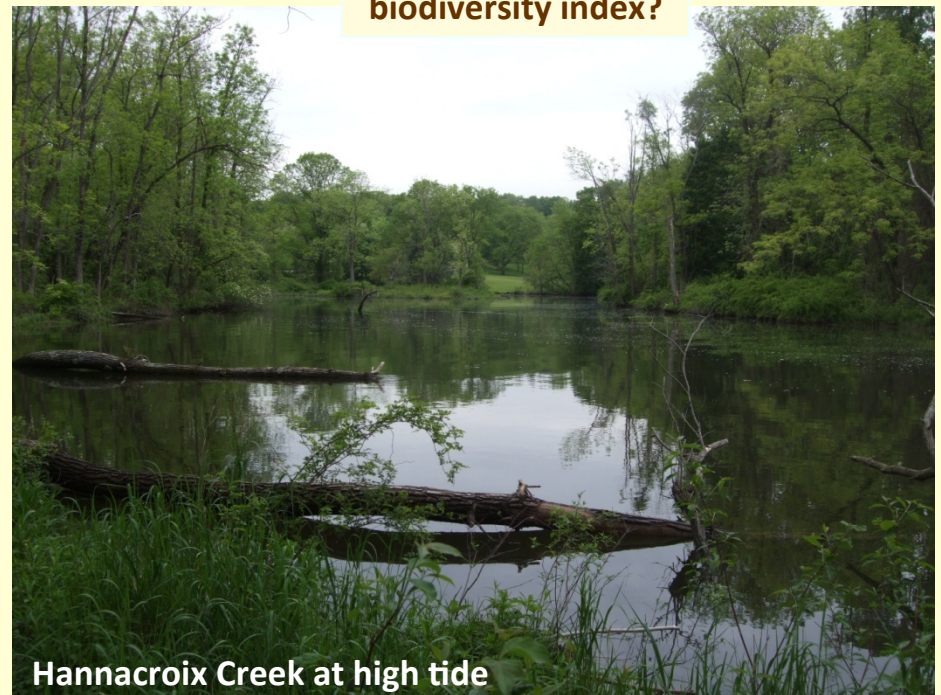
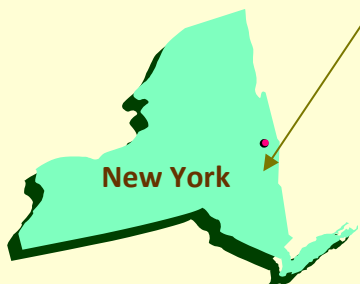
Barbet Learning Site
Confirmed May 10

USA



Can we create a
simple tradable
biodiversity index?

A mixture of habitats
confluence of Hannacroix
Creek & Hudson River



Hannacroix Creek at high tide

Barbara Heinzen

New owner of
a swamp forest on west
bank of Hudson River, at
Hannacroix Creek, New
York, USA

Barbet Learning Site
Jan06 - July11

Wilmington Square, London

UK



A micro-site of plant pots
in Wilmington Square, Central London.
A place to meet neighbours
& organise local events & connections

An office in Gray's Inn for:
"Making our thinking familiar" to others &
searching for the right people to join the experiment



Barbara Heinzen

Independent scenario
planning practice;
co-author of
Barbets Duet
Conceptual Framework;
Author:
Feeling for Stones



Outstanding Issues



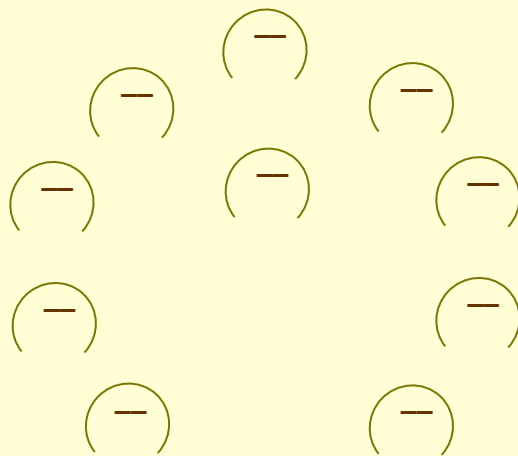
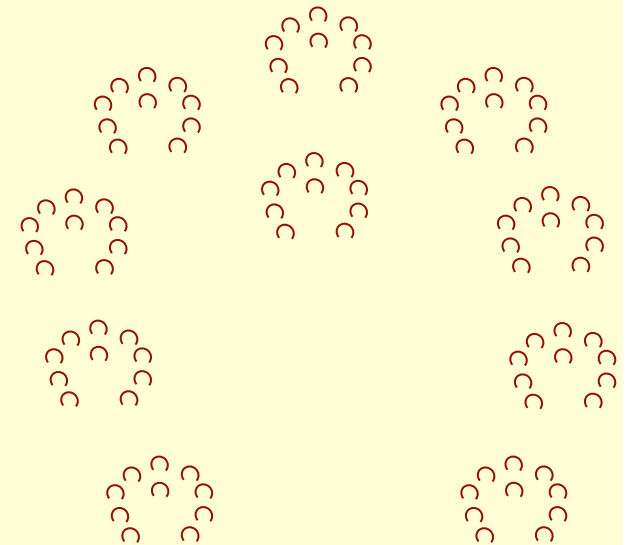
Outstanding Issues

MARKETS

What can be owned & traded?

*Can price signals reward abundance,
not scarcity?*

*Can smallholders benefit?
How?*



FRACTAL GOVERNANCE?

*“Each site evolves according to its own conditions,
but there is value in coming together.”*

Magode Ikuya, Invention Convention, October 2009

*Diagram after photos in *African Fractals*, by Ron Eglash, 2000

<p><u>POTENTIAL MARKETS</u> <i>How do we reach them?</i> <i>How do we create them?</i></p>	<p><u>Products of “Thing” Culture:</u></p> <p>Moveable products <i>Tangible, portable,</i> <i>Species-specific</i></p>	<p><u>Products of “Earth” Culture</u></p> <p>Environmental products <i>Intangible, immovable,</i> <i>Site-specific habitats</i></p>
<p>Utility: creating things we need e.g. clean water, air, food, medicine, cosmetics, building materials; biofuels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber & grasses <i>(wild & domestic)</i> • Medicinal plants • Domestic biodiversity <i>(e.g. seed & semen banks)</i> • Edible – wild & domestic <i>(e.g. roots, bush meat)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground water recharge • Water purification • Carbon sinks <i>(e.g. swamps, grasslands, uncut forests)</i> • Waste management <i>Decomposition services</i>
<p>Insurance: reducing risks of climate change, flooding, loss of ground cover due to climate extremities; loss of food species to disease or bad weather</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlots & grasses • Medicinal plants • Diverse food supply • Domestic biodiversity <i>(e.g. seed & semen banks)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood control • Micro-climate change • Wild biodiversity • Carbon sinks
<p>Aesthetics Fashion, bragging rights, tourism, meditation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edible wild: <i>(e.g. teas, roots, bush meat)</i> • Wild biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species habitats
<p>Intellectual property Genetic reserves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicinal plants • Domestic biodiversity <i>(e.g. seed & semen banks)</i> • Wild biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species habitats to support genetic reserves
<p>Learning & Advisory Services Practical land management & business, Integrating income & environ’tal restoration, Managing experiments & systemic invention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbets Game • local field guides • ‘How-to’ manuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Centres (c.f. Eden Project) • Advice on environment/economics integration • Working stays at sites

*This may be necessary,
but is it possible?*

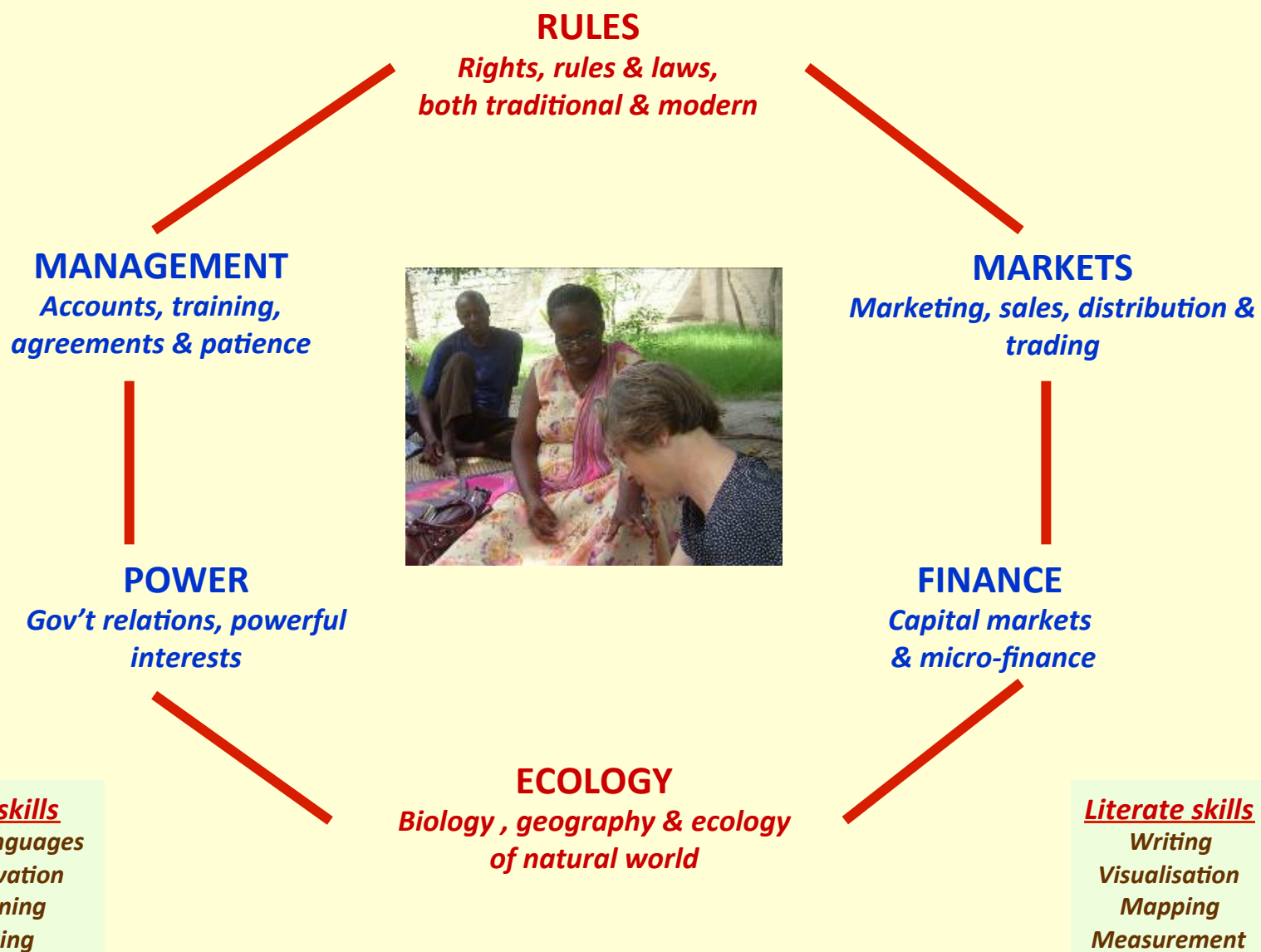


*“If it is necessary,
it must be possible.”*

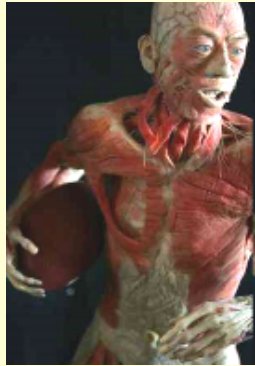
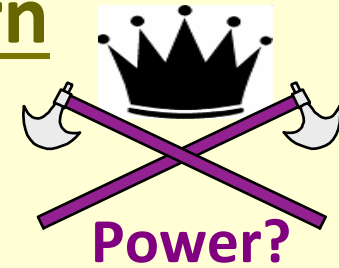
Julius Kipng' etich
Director, Kenya Wildlife Service
17 October 2007

Discussion

Necessary Knowledge & Experience



Discussion: How Societies Learn



A physical experience: feeling, doing, playing



Slow time, right pacing

E M E R G E N C E
 (Rules of thumb v rules)



Hope, pride, demonstration

~~Anxiety, fear and violence
 → 'answer grabbing', parroting, imitating~~