

Conservation and Wellbeing



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Background



- Conservation initiatives are increasingly recognising the relationship between biodiversity and poverty alleviation goals
- Historically DI focussed on biodiversity and supporting biodiversity conservation efforts in developing countries
- In 2011 Darwin introduced a combined biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation objective

The Wellbeing Framework



Used the MEA* definition and framework for thinking about poverty, human wellbeing has multiple constituents:

1. The basic material needs for a good life
2. Freedom and choice (capacity to act)
3. Health
4. Good social relations
5. Personal security (governance, rights)

**Millennium Ecosystem Assessment - <http://www.millenniumassessment.org/en/>*

Darwin Thematic Review



- As part of thematic review we examined how Darwin projects understand the concept of poverty
- We also considered how projects have integrated such considerations into their projects, and changes over time



Quantitative Content Analysis



- Stage 1 of the study used QCA to analyse existing project docs to identify how active and closed DI projects understand and address poverty and biodiversity
- Since 2011, 100 of these have been funded by DFID and were therefore relevant to this study
- A number of the remaining 539 projects funded before 2011 may have both biodiversity and poverty dimensions

Quantitative Content Analysis

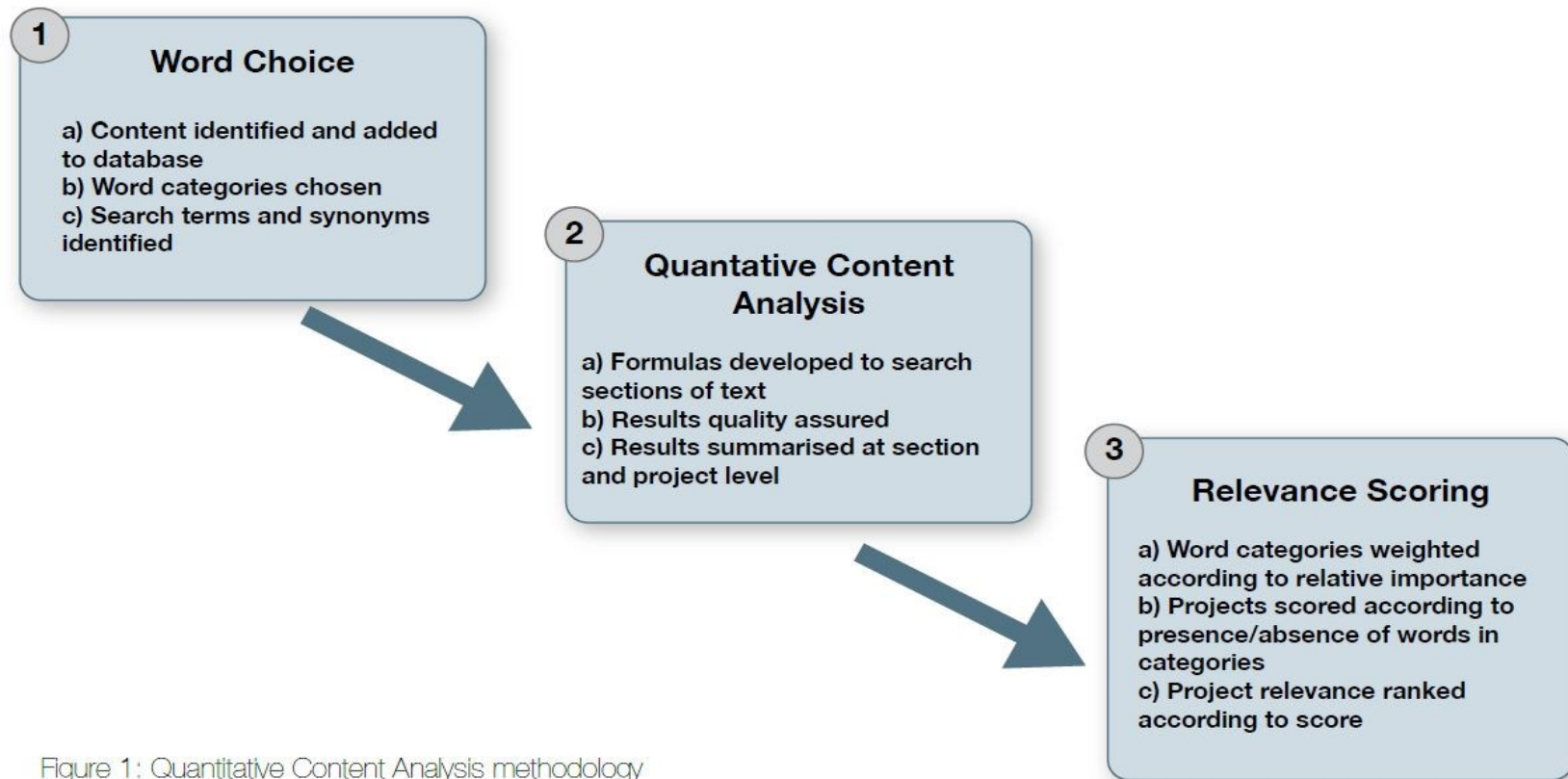


Figure 1: Quantitative Content Analysis methodology

Quantitative Content Analysis



| Category | Search terms |
|------------------------------|---|
| Basic material needs | Livelihood*; food; shelter; income; asset*; resource*; agricultur*; material; job; econom*; trad*; harvest*; product*; sustainable use*; hunt*; consum*; extrac*; money; forest product*; NTFP; farm; employ; touris* |
| Health | Health*; water supply/water quality; air; energy; disease*; vector*; ecosystem service*; medicin*; sanitation; CLTS; ethno |
| Good social relations | Social; famil*; gender; communit*; friend*; women; human; conflict; _cultur/_cultural; ethnic; politic*; cooperate/cooperative*; dispute* |
| Security | Security; disaster; law*; rule*; polic*; legal; legislation; land title; land tenure |
| Freedom of choice and action | Empower*; participat*; capacit*; knowledge*; right*; freedom; power; choice*; value*; awaren*; advoca*; educat*; goverance; decision*; train*; justice; access; control; equit*/equal* |

Talking About Poverty



| | Wide coverage (>10% of projects) | Limited coverage (<5% of projects) | Notable gaps (0 projects) |
|--|---|--|--|
| Findings from projects pre DFID funding (n=487) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human capacity, education, and training ✓ Participation and communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable use, production, resources, trade and livelihoods • The economic dimensions of poverty such as income, assets or jobs • Health issues such as diseases, vector, and medicine • Governance issues such as politics, policy, and security | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Food ✗ Social issues related to gender ✗ Ecosystem services ✗ Freedom of choice issues, such as access, land rights and tenure, power, equality, justice. |
| Findings from projects post-DFID funding (n=152) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human capacity ✓ Livelihoods, food, income ✓ Ecosystem services ✓ Governance issues, such as policy and security | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable use • Social issues related to women and gender • Freedom of choice issues, such as, rights, access and equality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Freedom of choice issues, such as justice and power ✗ Health issues such as diseases, vectors, and medicine |

Talking About Poverty



- Pre 2011/12 DI projects already had poverty alleviation benefits
- Over time this focus on poverty has become broader and more explicit
- Some components of wellbeing are commonly addressed by Darwin Projects
- Gaps and areas for improvement were also identified:
 - Gender/Women
 - Access to resources
 - Equality

Exercise – Wellbeing & Conservation



- **Working in pairs:**
 - Undertake a simple, manual, QCA of project title, description and problem statement of your partner's Stage 2 application form
 - Note down which components of the wellbeing framework are addressed; note down which are absent
 - Feed back to your partner identifying any ways in which gaps could be addressed
- **Feed back to the rest of your table; identify commonalities and differences.**
- **Report back to the wider group**
 - Which components of wellbeing were most frequently cited?
 - Which were least?
 - What challenges and opportunities are presented by adopting the concept of poverty as a lack of wellbeing?