



Sources of Information for Environmental Footprint Analysis

The team can start its exploration of key environmental and biodiversity issues by reviewing already existing information. Sources can include:

- Local and international environmental and conservation organizations' publications, literature and online information. For example, CI's Country Program Executive Program Summaries, Hotspots publication, and the Critical Environmental Partnership Profiles available at www.cepf.net.
- IUCN's Red List species listings available at www.iucn.org and www.redlist.org. These lists rate species as being Critically Endangered and Vulnerable.
- Park and protected area management plans and any zoning regulations (these should be in place for well-established park and protected areas).
- Reports and papers from scientists and conservation organizations working in the local area.
- Review of *Socio-Economic, Cultural and Natural Resource Use Assessments* for insights on how the socio-cultural context may impact or benefit biodiversity and environmental issues. The issues and opportunities identified will later be added to the footprint matrix.

Tapping into Environmental and Biodiversity Experts

Once initial research has provided enough of a basis for further discussion, the Assessment Team can rely on local environmental and biodiversity expert interviews and consultations to better understand potential impacts and opportunities in the local area. These will include:

- Conservation biologists;
- Botanists;
- Wildlife specialists;
- Ecologists;
- Researchers;
- University professors;
- MPA and protected area management staff;
- Leaders in associations and organizations who are actively involved in biodiversity and conservation issues in the focus destination.



Sample Interview for Footprint Analysis

1. What do you expect the impacts on *(insert appropriate category of impact, such as on flora and fauna, water resources, etc.)* to be?

2. Of the impacts that you listed, do you consider them to be acceptable or unacceptable?
 - a. If impacts are not acceptable, what key considerations would need to be addressed?

 - b. How controllable is this potential impact?

 - c. How likely would it be to occur?

 - d. How long would this impact last?

 - e. What would be the extent of the impact?

3. Could sustainable tourism be altered in some way to address key considerations and make the impact acceptable?

4. Are there any issues that sustainable tourism development might solve? *(Give examples from your matrix)*

5. Which key stakeholders or groups would need to be involved in addressing sustainable tourism as an opportunity or a threat?

Source: Gutierrez, Eileen, Kristin Lamoureux, Seleni Matus, Kaddu Sebunya. 2005. *Linking Communities, Tourism, & Conservation: A Tourism Assessment Process - Tools and Worksheets*. Conservation International and the George Washington University.)



Hello, Mr./Mrs./Ms. [REDACTED]. We are here to learn your opinions regarding the potential impacts, as well as opportunities of ecotourism development in the area (describe potential for ecotourism based on attractions inventory and market demand).

1. What do you expect the impacts on (insert appropriate category of impact, such as on flora and fauna, water resources area, etc.) to be?

2. Of the impacts you listed, do you consider them to be acceptable or unacceptable?
 - a. If impacts are not acceptable, what key considerations would need to be addressed?

 - b. How controllable is this potential impact?

 - c. How likely would it be to occur?

 - d. How long would this impact last?

 - e. What would be the extent of the impact?

3. Could ecotourism be altered in some way to address key considerations and make the impact acceptable?

4. Are there any issues that ecotourism development might solve? (Give examples from your matrix)

5. Which key stakeholders or groups would need to be involved in addressing ecotourism as an opportunity or a threat?