



Smithsonian
National Zoological Park



Global Tiger Initiative

Conservation and Development Network

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Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation

GTI  Global Tiger Initiative

Global Tiger Initiative (GTI) - Conservation and Development Network

... to provide conservation leaders and policy-makers in TRCs with the advanced knowledge, tools, skill sets, and sustained support necessary for developing and implementing effective conservation strategies ...

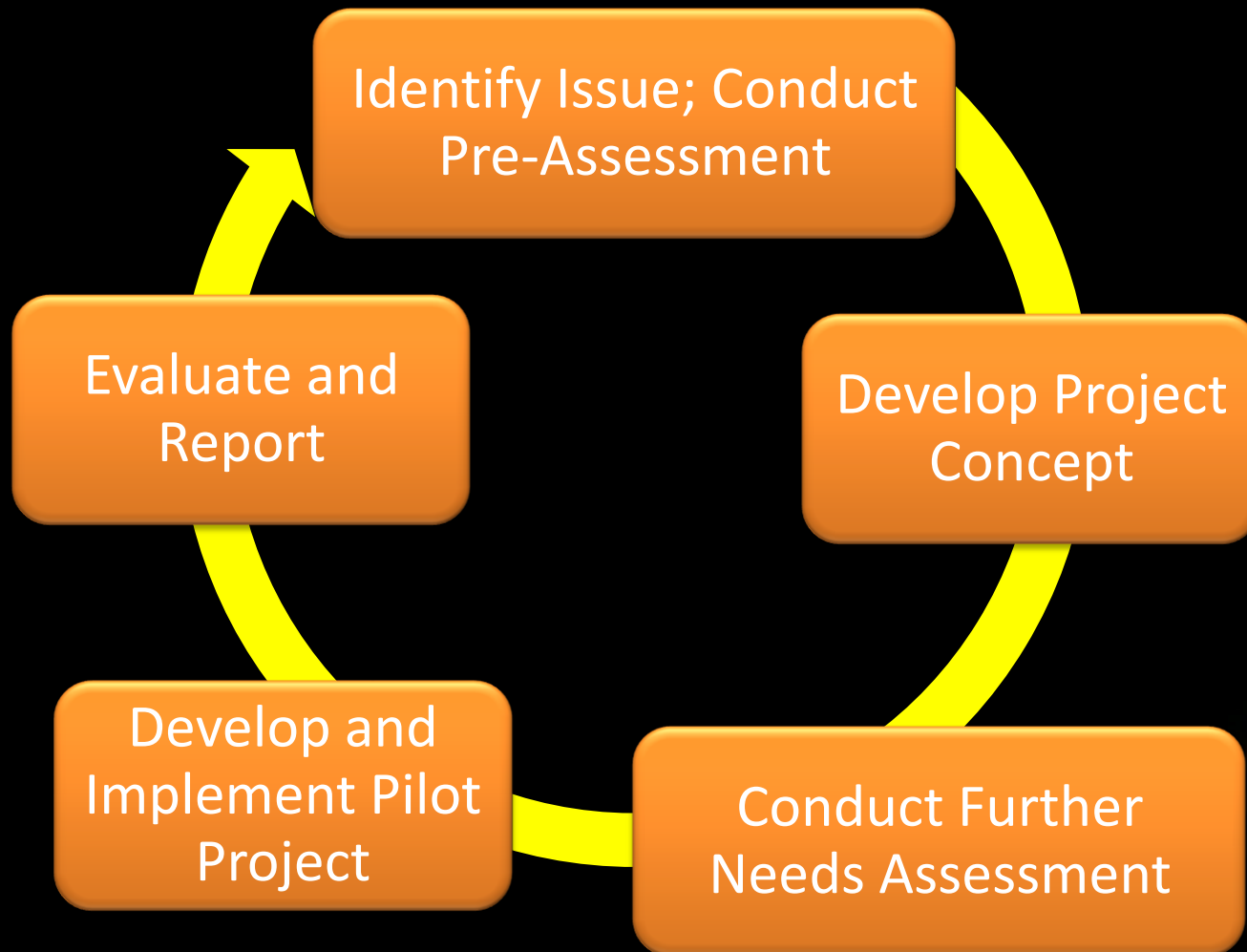


Why the Smithsonian Institution?

“Studying and understanding biodiversity, people and the environment, and training the current and next generations of conservation practitioners”

- Knowledge-based institution with reputation as convener, connector and partnership builder
- Understand the power and legacy that can emerge from capacity building, networking and partnership
- Realize it is NOT enough to train people, but we that must also expand and exploit our partnership networks

GTI - Conservation and Development Network Pilot Project Framework



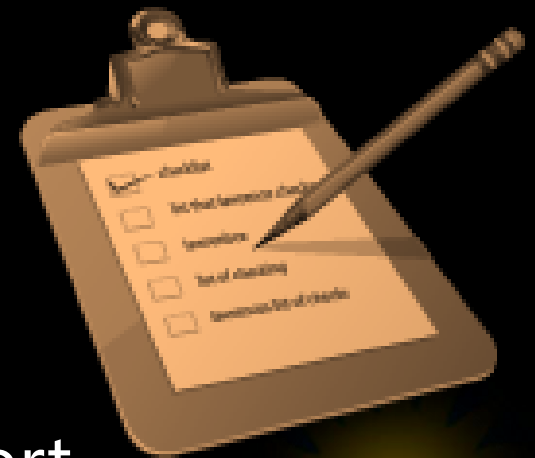
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Pre - Assessment

Issue: Capacity building is occurring yet tiger populations continue to decline

Identified factors:

1. Not enough skilled individuals
2. Difficulty in implementing skills
3. Lack of communication, collaboration and long-term support



GTI - Conservation and Development Network Pilot Project Concept

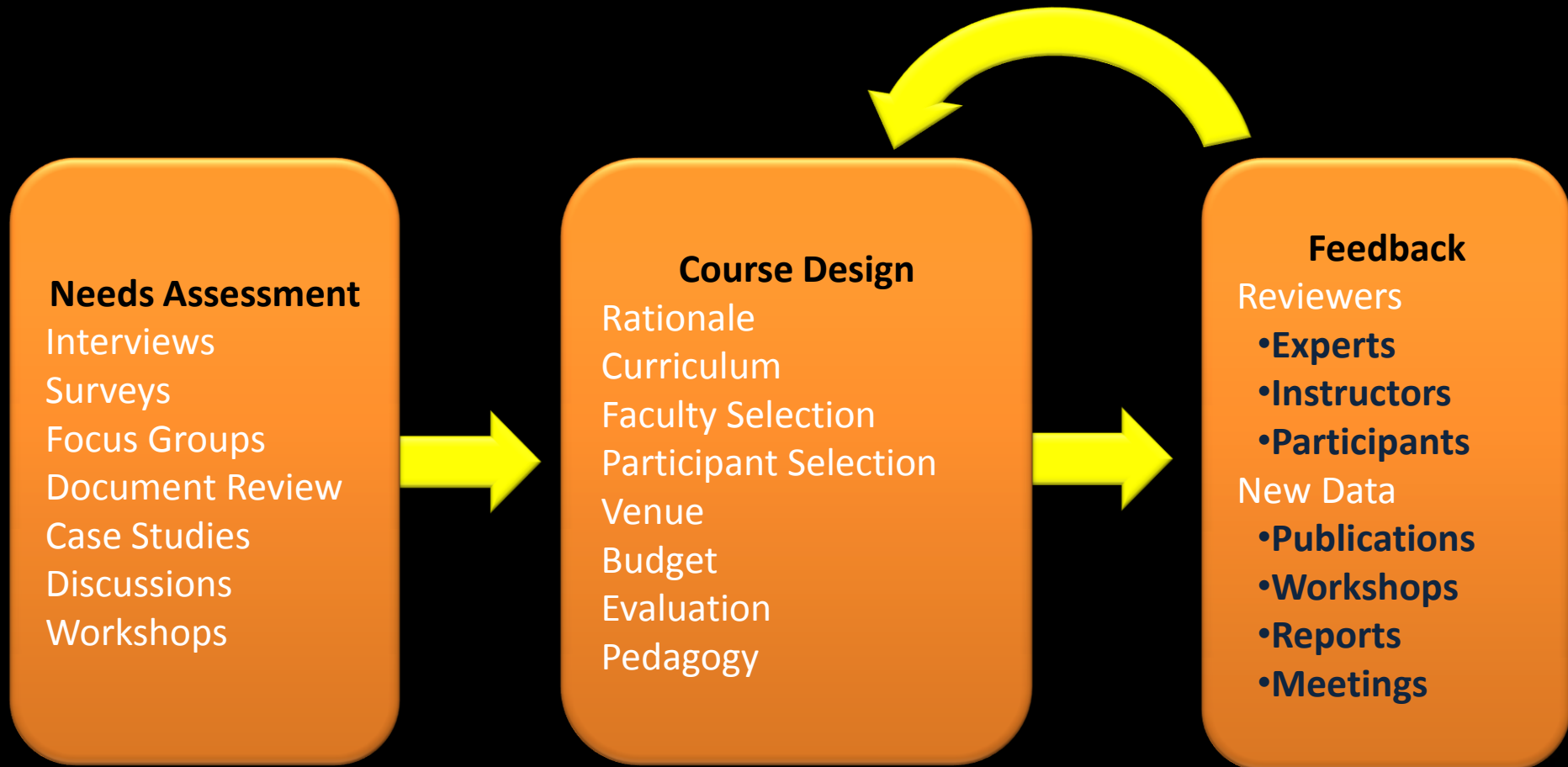
1. Increase individual capacity and numbers of trained individuals

(Training of Trainers (ToT) Program)

Strategy: develop a cadre of qualified instructors to provide training for a critical mass of conservation practitioners



ToT Course Development Process



ToT Needs Assessments: KTM

- What are the forces that hinder or support capacity building efforts?
 - Insufficient resources
 - Lack of collaboration
 - Right people are not getting training; training slots often filled on political basis
 - Bureaucracy stifles performance after training
 - Constant job transfers making it difficult to use and build on training for extended period of time
 - Lack of jobs opportunities after training
 - Lack of skilled trainers

ToT Needs Assessments: KTM

- What is essential for capacity building program and establishing a community of practice network to achieve tiger conservation?
 - High quality, dedicated trainers
 - Practical training that is relevant to challenges faced
 - Long-term training with follow-up
 - Fair participant selection process

ToT Needs Assessments -- Summary

- Exploit good practitioners and work ongoing in TRC's
- Enhance collaboration across sectors when training (govt., NGO and academia)
- Learn what is going on in other areas of the world
- Holistic approach needed (topics and perspectives)
- Emphasize practical training – balance of theory and application
- Selecting right participants is very important

ToT Pilot Course Development

- Target Audience
 - Mid- to high-level conservation leaders
 - Regional focus - India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh
- Partners
 - Host – Wildlife Institute of India (WII)
 - Dozens of government and NGO partners/instructors
- Topics
 - Holistic perspective (social, economic, political, biological, etc.)
 - Leadership, communication and training skills
 - Best conservation practices
- Design
 - Small course size – 25 persons
 - Two parts – various locations and hands-on experiences

ToT Framework

- Part 1 in India: February 19 - March 27, 2010
 - Dehradun, Delhi, Rajaji NP, Pench NP, Kanha NP
 - 12 Training modules (e.g., wildlife trafficking, tiger monitoring, prey surveys, eco-development, etc.)
 - Initiation of Community of Practice
- Interim - Project development preparation
- Part 2 in US: June 1 -15, 2010
 - Washington, DC and Front Royal, Virginia
 - Site visits to protected areas and to various organizations
 - Leadership, management and training skills
 - Continuation of Community of Practice development
 - ToT – Project Implementation and conduct training

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2. Facilitate communication, collaboration and long-term support

(Community of Practice)

- Enable communication and collaboration
- Provide access to cutting edge conservation training, news, reports, legislation, funding sources and more
- Inform the public about tiger conservation

Integrating ToT and Community of Practice

Holistic Concepts Competency

- Economic
- Political
- Biological
- Historical
- Cultural
- Social

Field Skills Competency

- Habitat Monitoring
- Wildlife Trafficking
- Prey Surveying
- Tiger Monitoring
- Wildlife Health

Leadership and Communications Competency

- Communication Techniques
- Team Building and Motivation
- Project Management

Community of Practice

- Communications
- Collaboration
- Networking
- Funding Contacts
- Continuing Education
- News and Updates

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3. Encourage Institutional Change Management (Executive Leadership Forum – ELF)

- Senior level representatives from TRCs – individual and institutional capacity building
- Engage leaders in multilateral communication and action
 - Intra-departmental, cross disciplinary and trans-national collaboration
- Provide foundation for conservation knowledge, tools, strategies and practices to be implemented

Pilot event: April 15-22, 2010 in Washington, DC

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Long Term Goals

Offering more ToT and other programs based on pilot year evaluations.

Establish Regional Conservation Centers/Hubs

- Support cross-country, -regional, and -disciplinary communication
- Establish partnerships
- Conduct effective in-country training
- Facilitate long-term professional support

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- Identify best practices, exploit existing experience, develop new models, where appropriate
- Build capacity at multiple levels – from practitioners and protected area managers to decision makers in government and even among infrastructure sectors
- Bolster and connect existing institutional capacity across TRCs to create a functioning network of conservation practice
- Develop a mechanism for supporting a robust, long-term and sustainable platform that will build capacity among the current and future generations of tiger stakeholders

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- Pilot phase implementation ongoing
- Thank you to those of you who have contributed to the process already
- Please help us by completing a questionnaire





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