

# EFFECTIVE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Outcome indicator

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## Indicator Phrasing

**INDICATOR PHRASING:** number of communities with an effective natural resources management system in place

**Français:** to be added later

## What is its purpose?

The indicator assesses the number of communities with an effective system for managing their local natural resources, such as common grazing land and forests.

## How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

Determine the indicator's value by using the following methodology:

1) In collaboration with the NRM specialists and local stakeholders (i.e. community representatives, farmers, relevant authorities, extension workers, etc.), **define when a natural resources management (NRM) system can be perceived as “effective”**. When setting such criteria, avoid being overly ambitious. The criteria can include, for example:

- local presence of people with specific roles and responsibilities for NRM
- existence of a clear plan / strategy for the sustainable management of local natural resources
- evidence that the plan / strategy is being implemented
- confirmations by NRM specialists that the implemented actions are effective in protecting local natural resources
- existence of rules agreed with the community members and the extent to which they are respected by the local residents and enforced / monitored by responsible persons
- existence of a non-violent dispute resolution mechanism

When defining these criteria, keep in mind that although some communities do not have a written plan or a formal group for managing natural resources, they might have **highly developed informal / verbal agreements** that are equally effective. If this is the case in the area where you operate, ensure that such systems are taken into consideration when you define the criteria.

2) **Decide whether all or only some criteria need to be met** in order for the community to be

labelled as having “effective natural resources management system in place”.

3) **Conduct observations, reviews of relevant documents and interviews** with the key people responsible for / involved in the management of natural resources to identify which of the criteria are met.

4) To **calculate the indicator's value**, add up the number of communities whose groups follow the minimum number and types of responsibilities (i.e. the communities have an effective natural resources management structure in place).