Project Self-Assessment Tool
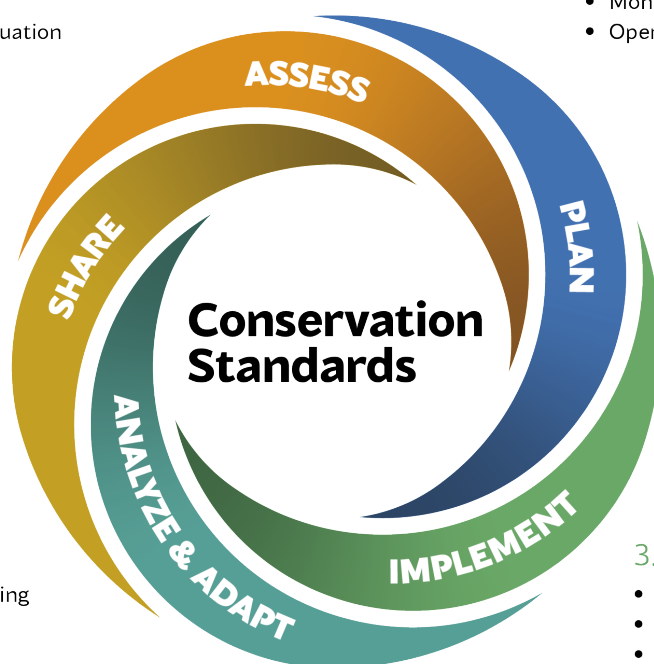
This self-assessment tool collects perspectives from a range of people prior to developing or updating a Plan.

1. ASSESS
- Purpose & team
- Scope, vision, & targets
- Critical threats
- Conservation situation

2. PLAN
- Goals, strategies, assumptions, & objectives
- Monitoring plan
- Operational plan

5. SHARE
- Document learning
- Share learning
- Foster learning

3. IMPLEMENT
- Work plan & timetable
- Budget
- Implement plan

4. ANALYZE & ADAPT
- Prepare data
- Analyze results
- Adapt plans

Conservation Standards

(diagram: circular adaptive management cycle showing ASSESS, PLAN, IMPLEMENT, ANALYZE & ADAPT, SHARE surrounding "Conservation Standards")

Instructions

Each page in this document covers key aspects of the adaptive management approach as documented the Conservation Standards. Attributes are identified at 4 levels which indicate a gradual increase in quality and maturity of a project plan. Read through the descriptions and choose a rating of 1 to 4 for each section. Add comments where indicated.

Project Name:

Plan Date and Version:

Assessment Date:

Assessed by:

Contents

1. DEFINE THE PROJECT TEAM

Key Questions: Is the project team clear of their roles and responsibilities?

Rating	Description
1	- Team is only loosely defined and is missing key team member roles (e.g., important partners, key disciplines); not clear who is Project Leader.
2	- Project team member roles are covered, but roles may be poorly defined or members insufficiently engaged, or members can't put sufficient time into the project, or there are some serious gaps in representation of stakeholders/partners/disciplines. - Community relationships may be lacking or poor.
3	- Core and extended team is explicit (i.e., they see/think of themselves as a Team), team members are engaged, and roles are clearly assigned, including a clear Project Leader. - Key partners are represented on at least the extended team or as advisors (and see/understand their role in relation to others). - Most disciplines appropriate to the project are represented on the core team, the extended team, or advisory groups. - Project has sufficient local community relations.
4	- Core project team is explicit (i.e. they see/think of themselves as a Team) and roles are clearly assigned, including a clear Project Leader. - Key partners and stakeholders are included as team members, engaged, and understand their roles - Core team members are clearly engaged and have sufficient time allocated. - All disciplines appropriate to the project are represented on the core team, the extended team, or advisory groups*. - Collaboration with partners is strong; relationships and engagement are clear. - Project has strong local community relations. * Advisors may change as targets are selected, threats identified, and strategies developed.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

2. DEFINE PROJECT SCOPE, VISION AND TARGETS

Key Questions: How does the project fit into a regional picture of conservation? Is there a clear vision stated for the project, and has the team selected Assets/Targets on which to focus their efforts?

Rating	Description
1	**Scope** or **Vision** is lacking or unclear - OR – Key Assets/Targets are not selected.
2	**Scope**: A text description or map may or may not be consistent or widely-shared, but the team has some general idea of the scope of project. **Vision**: An overarching Vision is stated for the project, but it may not meet the criteria of being Relatively General, Inspirational, and Brief. **Targets**: Assets/Targets are selected, but the rationale for decisions may not be given or logic is unclear.
3	**Scope:** The Project Scope has been documented, supported by clear map(s), and is available and understood by Project Team. The project scope matches the scale required to protect the Assets/Targets. **Vision:** A Vision is stated for the project, but it may not meet all criteria of being Relatively General, Inspirational, and Brief. **Targets**: The rationale for selecting the Key Assets/Targets to represent the project's biodiversity is well documented.
4	**Scope:** The Project Scope has been documented and is well understood by team. Clear map(s) showing the scope of the project are available and understood by the Project Team. Maps show the location of Targets and other relevant features. The project scope matches the scale required to protect the Targets. **Vision:** A clear Vision is stated for the project (Relatively General, Inspiring and Brief) and describes the desired state that the project aims to achieve. The Vision clearly fits within the context (overall mission and Strategic Plan), and complements broader strategies. **Targets:** The rationale for selecting the Assets/Targets to represent the project's biodiversity is well documented. Cultural and "Human wellbeing" Targets are included in the project where appropriate. Nested Assets/Targets are defined where appropriate.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

3. ASSESS VIABILITY OF KEY CONSERVATION TARGETS

Key Questions: What defines the viability of our Assets/Targets, and how far off is the current viability status from the desired status? Which are most in need of attention?

Rating	Description
1	Key Attributes and indicators have not been selected for *most* of the Assets/Targets.
2	**Key Attributes:** Team has selected one or more attributes for *some* of the Assets/Targets **Indicators:** - Indicator(s) are selected for *some* attributes. Acceptable range of variation may be missing for many indicators. Current and desired future status may be missing for many indicators.
3	**Key Attributes**: - Team has selected at least one attribute for *most* Assets/Targets. - Attributes represent a reasonable mix of key environmental regimes, area requirements, species composition and structure for system targets. Attributes show a reasonable mix of population & habitat requirements for species targets - Attributes are culturally and socially relevant to key partners. **Indicators**: - At least one indicator has been defined for *most* attributes. An acceptable range of variation is defined for *many* indicators. A best estimate of current and desired future status is given for *many* indicators, even if it is a rough-guess. **Documentation**: Brief documentation of literature used, experts interviewed, and rationale for ofattributes, indicators, indicator ratings, and current and desired status.
4	**Key Attributes**: - Team has selected at least one attribute for *each* Asset/Target. - Attributes represent a reasonable and comprehensive mix of key environmental regimes, area requirements, species composition and structure for conservation targets. Needs of nested targets were explicitly considered in selection of attributes for system and assemblage targets. - Attributes represent a reasonable and comprehensive mix of population and habitat factors for species targets - Attributes are culturally and socially relevant to key partners **Indicators:** - At least one indicator has been selected for *each* attribute. - Indicators are brief, consistent across categories, and at an appropriate scale. An acceptable range of variation is given for *most* indicators. A best estimate of current and desired future status is given for *most* indicators. **Documentation:** Brief documentation of literature used, experts interviewed, and rationale for choice of KEAs, indicators, indicator ratings, and current and desired status

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

4. IDENTIFY CRITICAL THREATS

Key Questions: What threatens the future of our Conservation Targets? Which Threats are most pressing?

Rating	Description
1	- Threats are poorly identified, if at all.
2	- A comprehensive list of Threats is given for *some* Conservation Assets/Targets. - Some sort of determination of which Threats are most critical has been made, although it may not be a formal or systematic ranking. - Severity, scope, and irreversibility ratings may be inconsistently applied.
3	- A comprehensive list of Threats is given for *each* Asset/Target. - A ranking of the Threats affecting each Target has been made - The team understands the *critical* Threats affecting the overall project - Climate change impacts have been explored and documented
4	- A comprehensive list of Threats is given for *each* Asset/Target. - A ranking of the Threats affecting each Target has been made, has been verified through field assessments (for large / complex projects), and is up to date - Rankings are clearly agreed to by the Project Team, including partners, etc. - A determination of the *critical* Threats affecting the overall project has been made and is being used to identify priorities. - Climate change impacts have been explored and documented - Documentation of information and assumptions made is presented in Miradi, with supporting information in project files where appropriate.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

5. COMPLETE SITUATION ANALYSIS

Key Questions: What are the underlying causes of Threats or Opportunities for successful actions? How are they related to each other and to the stakeholders involved? What is the most effective point in the chain of causation to intervene with conservation strategies?

Rating	Description
1	- No situation analysis. - Team members have a weak understanding of (and/or ability to communicate) factors affecting the Project's Targets.
2	- A basic conceptual model of the situation of some of the Assets/Targets, critical Threats, stakeholders, or linkages is presented. - Team members have an understanding of the factors affecting the Project's Assets/Targets, but may not communicate them well.
3	- One or more Conceptual Models of the situation show the key, hypothesized causal relationship between Assets/Targets, critical Threats, related indirect threats, opportunities and stakeholders. - Team members understand the factors affecting the Project's Assets/Targets, and can communicate the situation well. - Key Stakeholders have been identified and listed
4	- A robust Conceptual Model of the situation has been developed, showing the key, hypothesized causal relationships between Assets/Targets, critical Threats, related indirect threats, opportunities and stakeholders. Team members understand the factors affecting the Project and can communicate the situation well. - The Conceptual Model is simple and does not show extraneous factors, yet is complete enough and specific enough to encourage understanding of the situation and provide a good basis for identifying opportunities for developing strategies and monitoring. - The Conceptual Model can be used to help communicate the situation and our work to key stakeholders, particularly funders. Where appropriate, multiple Conceptual Models have been used to show simplified or sub-sets of the model, so that it can be easily read by people unfamiliar with the project. - An interdisciplinary team and Stakeholders/partners have been involved in developing the situation analysis, especially in identifying underlying causes of threats and opportunities. - Key Stakeholders have been identified and listed with supporting commentary

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

6. DEVELOP GOALS, OBJECTIVES and STRATEGIES

Key Questions: Are we clear about the Goals – the desired impact of our work. Have clear Objectives been set and Strategies developed to ensure that the greatest threats are abated and target viability is maintained or enhanced? Are the Objectives worded in such a way that the project team will know if the conservation actions are successful?

Rating	Description
1	**Goals:** Goals not identified, or are not explicitly linked to Assets/Targets, or are not well defined (*impact-oriented, measurable, time-limited, specific*) **Objectives** and **Strategies** not identified, or are not SMART (*Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Realistic, Time-bound*), or don't address critical threats or degraded Attributes.
2	**Goals:** Some Assets/Targets are not explicitly linked to a Goal, or Goals are not clearly defined. Goals do not state the desired status of the Assets/Targets over the long-term. **Objectives**: Objectives for *some* of the most critical Threats or degraded Attributes are presented. Objectives may not meet several of the SMART criteria. **Strategies**: *Some* Objectives may not have Strategies linked to them; Strategies are identified, but may not be linked to Objectives. Results Chains have been developed for *some* Strategies, making explicit the assumptions about how the strategy will reduce Threats or contribute to the health of the Assets/Targets.
3	**Goals:** All Targets are explicitly linked to a Goal, defining the desired status of the Targets over the long-term. Each Goal is well defined (*impact-oriented, measurable, time-limited, specific*). The number of Goals is feasible given project resources. **Objectives:** Objectives for *each* of the *most* critical Threats and degraded Attributes are presented. Objectives meet most of SMART criteria. The number of Objectives is feasible given project resources. **Strategies**: *Each* Objective has one or more Strategies linked to it. All Strategies are linked to Objectives. *Most* Strategies have been broken down into specific Activities. Results Chains have been developed for *most* strategies.
4	As for 3 above plus - **Goals:** Goals have been critically analysed to assess likelihood of success given likely project resources; tough decisions have been made if required; team is confident that the project can achieve its aims. **Objectives:** Objectives for *all* critical Threats and degraded Attributes are presented. In addition to SMART criteria, Objectives are politically, socially, and ecologically appropriate. Partners are involved in the development of Objectives. **Strategies:** *Each* Objective has one or more Strategies linked to it; *all* Strategies are linked to Objectives. Partners are involved in the development of Strategies, where appropriate. Results Chains have been developed for *all key* strategies. Strategies are high-leverage, and are ranked for benefits, cost, and feasibility.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

7. ESTABLISH MEASURES

Key Questions: Will it be clear if progress is being made to achieve Objectives? How will the Project Team know if threats are increasing or decreasing? How will the Project Team know if target viability is getting better or worse?

Rating	Description
1	Indicators and monitoring, if described, are not tied to essential elements of plan (Objectives, Assets/Targets viability information, Threats).
2	- Indicators are described but many stated Objectives, critical Threats, and Key Ecological Attributes are not the subject of monitoring. - The monitoring plan may include very little or no detail on proposed methods. - Monitoring has been identified and is linked to at least some Objectives, threats, or attributes.

3	- Indicators are described for:
	  - *Nearly all* Objectives to track the effectiveness of planned Strategies.
	  - *Key* Threats & Assets/Targets to determine if a change in status warrants new Strategies.
	- Indicators are linked to the Objective, Threat, or attributes they are intended to measure.
	- An appropriate range of *Output* and *Outcome* indicators have been defined to help assess progress at key points through the project's implementation, as identified in Results Chains.
	- The monitoring plan includes descriptions of monitoring methods for *all* high priority indicators.
	- *Most* indicators are measurable, consistent, cost-effective and timely in response. Most indicators are at an appropriate scale.
	- The number of monitoring indicators is feasible given project resources
	- Monitoring indicators are prioritized
	- Research needs are documented

4	As for 3 above plus -
	- Indicators are described for:
	  - *All* Objectives to track the effectiveness of planned Strategies.
	  - All Threats & Assets/Targets to determine if a change in status warrants new Strategies
	- *All* indicators are *measurable*, *precise, consistent*, *cost-effective, sensitive*, and timely in response. *Nearly all* are at an appropriate scale.
	- Partners are involved in the development of indicators, especially those conducting their own monitoring (agencies, universities, etc).
	- Monitoring program is not limited to biological or environmental sciences but incorporates social sciences and other sciences as appropriate.
	- Team is confident that the results produced from the monitoring plan will lead to sound decisions about conservation actions.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

8. DEVELOP WORK PLANS

Key Questions: Is there a detailed work-plan & budget outlining the steps needed to complete conservation actions and monitoring? Are roles and timelines clearly assigned? Are there enough resources for the implementation of conservation actions and monitoring?

Rating	Description
1	- Activities and monitoring tasks have not been identified or are unrelated to critical threats or viability information.
2	- Some Activities have been identified, but few assignments made, effort estimated or expenses budgeted. - Some monitoring tasks have been identified, but few assignments made, effort estimated or expenses budgeted.
3	- Lists of major Activities and monitoring tasks are presented in the Workplan. - The team has estimated the effort and expenses for most Activities, developed a reasonable timeline, and assigned appropriately-skilled individuals to the Activities. Roles and responsibilities for tasks are agreed upon by team members and others that will be performing them. - These estimates define a level of activity and a timeframe appropriate for achieving the stated Objectives for each Strategy. - The total workplan has been adjusted to take into account seasonal factors and minimise peaks of activity where possible. - The project and total budget have been discussed with fundraisers to assess feasibility of funding, with adjustments made where required. - Sufficient funding is available for the project to proceed through implementation. - Donor communication & reporting commitments have been incorporated into the workplan - Work plans are in alignment with Regional or National plans.
4	As for 3 above plus - - Opportunities for external resourcing of activities (through Partner organisation, universities etc) have been explored and included in the workplan. - Work plan is integrated into annual Objectives for Regional or National programs. - Activities are scheduled for communication of results; key audiences and appropriate communications products for each have been identified. - Activities are scheduled to periodically analyse monitoring results, review overall progress, and to adjust the plan when changes are required.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

9. IMPLEMENT ACTIONS & MONITORING

Key Questions: Is the plan being implemented, on-time and to budget? Is progress being recorded and reported widely? Is the project getting support from partners, stakeholders, upper management, and particularly donors?

Rating	Description
1	- Activities and monitoring identified in plan have not been implemented to any degree.
2	- Some of the Activities in plan are being implemented (or have been implemented). - Some monitoring tasks in plan is being implemented (or has been implemented).
3	- Key Activities are being implemented (or have been implemented). - Key monitoring tasks are being implemented (or have been implemented). - Measures are being entered against Indicators and Objectives at required intervals - Regular progress is being reported against Strategies and Activities, so that other internal stakeholders can see what is happening, assist with issue resolution, ensure appropriate resource allocation, and monitor financials - Partners and other external stakeholders are receiving updates at appropriate intervals - Donors are getting regular reports of the activities underway and the outputs and outcomes being achieved.
4	As for 3 above plus - - Strategies and Activities and associated timeline, effort and expenses are being adjusted in light of progress; issues are being pre-empted and the required resources are in place as and when required. - Monitoring program follows indicators and methods described in plan, and plan is adjusted as necessary and with good rationale. - The project is broadly running on-time and on-budget. - Internal stakeholders and management are well informed of the project's implementation and monitoring status and the results being achieved, and regularly communicate details to external stakeholders - External Partners, stakeholders and particularly donors are continually educated about the project and are involved with, or at least informed of, implementation and monitoring status. - Sustainable sources of funding are available and planned.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

10. ANALYZE AND ADAPT

Key Questions: Is feedback / data analyzed and interpreted regularly and explicitly? Is it used to update plan elements and to re-assess assumptions and strategies to further progress towards Goals and Objectives?

Rating	Description
1	- Monitoring data does not exist, has not been summarized, or used to adapt the plan. - Objectives, Strategies, and work plans are not regularly updated based on new information.
2	- Monitoring data may be summarized, but not adequately used to adapt Objectives, Strategies and Activities. - Some review of the implementation of work plans and progress towards achieving the intended results is made. - Modifications to Objectives and Strategies may be made, but not documented.
3	- Monitoring data has been entered into systems, and analysed at planned intervals - Scheduled reviews are undertaken of progress towards achieving the project's desired results, as defined through Objectives and Indicators - Viability and Threat assessments and the Situation Analysis are periodically reviewed and updated. - Modifications to Objectives, Strategies, and work plans are made as warranted with adequate explanation for the changes made. - Communication products are prepared periodically to allow communication to external stakeholders.
4	As for 3 above plus - - Viability and threat assessments and the situation analysis are updated and revised as needed; *revisions are based on results of analysis*. - Modifications to Objectives, Strategies, and work plans, are made as soon as warranted with *clear and complete* explanations for the changes made including reassessment of any changes to the resources (people, skills, equipment, finances) required by the project. - Managers are informed of results early and involved in revision of plan elements. - Monitoring program is flexible and adaptable while remaining cost-effective; effectiveness of indicators and methods are analyzed as well as effectiveness of Strategies being taken.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

11. LEARN AND SHARE

Key Questions: Are results being regularly and clearly communicated with partners, stakeholders, supporters and other audiences? Does the team periodically review and communicate lessons learnt?

Rating	Description
1	- Project outputs and outcomes results not summarised and communicated. - Monitoring data not shared with appropriate audiences - No documentation of the lessons learned
2	- Monitoring data may be summarized, but not adequately shared or not communicated in a manner suitable to different audiences. - Modifications to Objectives and actions may be made, but rationale not shared. - Some documentation of the lessons learned
3	- At least some results are regularly shared with key audiences. - Progress status is regularly reported to supervisors and managers - The team periodically reviews lessons learned and incorporates findings into updates of the plan, and documents results.
4	- Communication products are tailored for each key audience. Interpretation is made as clear and practical as possible to all audiences, but conclusions are not overstated. - A variety of communication mechanisms are used to reach a broad range of supporters and potential supporters - Joint meetings with project partners, stakeholders and supporters are held periodically. - The team periodically reviews lessons learned and incorporates findings into updates of the plan, and clearly documents results in a way that can be shared with other teams and organisations.

Overall Rating (choose 1 – 4):

Positive Findings:

Opportunities for improvement:

Recommended next steps:

Glossary of Key Terms

Activity – A specific action or set of tasks undertaken by project staff and/or partners to reach one or more objectives. See relationship to strategies below.)

Asset/Target – The ecological entities: communities, species or species assemblages cultural or human well-being elements which have been selected. The protection of the set of key assets/targets is the basis on the organisations decides what it will do in the landscape, or on an individual property. They are the basis for setting goals, carrying out conservation actions, and measuring conservation effectiveness.

Attribute - An aspect of a target that if present, defines a healthy target and if missing or altered, would lead to the outright loss or extreme degradation of that target over time.

Conceptual Model – A diagram that represents relationships between key factors that are believed to impact or lead to one or more targets. A good model should link the targets to threats, opportunities, stakeholders, and intervention points where a team can develop strategies that will influence those factors. It should also indicate which factors are most important to monitor.

Contributing Factors – a term used in Conceptual Models for those factors (also known as root causes and drivers) which create the Threats against Targets. These factors can be negative (also known as Indirect Threats) or positive (opportunities).

Critical Threat – Direct threats that have been prioritized as being the most important to address.

Direct Threat – An activity or process that immediately degrades one or more conservation or Human well being targets. For example, "logging", "grazing" or "fishing." Typically tied to one or more stakeholders. Sometimes referred to as a "pressure" or "source of stress." Compare with indirect threat.

Goal – A formal statement detailing a desired impact of a project, such as the desired future status of a target. A good goal meets the criteria of being –

- **Linked to Targets –** Directly associated with one or more of your targets
- **Impact Oriented –** Represents the desired future status of the target over the long-term
- **Measurable –** Definable in relation to some standard scale (eg numbers, percentage, or all/nothing states)
- **Time Limited –** Achievable within a specific period of time, generally 10 or more years
- **Specific** – Clearly defined so that all people involved in the project have the same understanding

Human wellbeing target - An element relating to human and social factors at a project site that we have chosen to focus on, for example indigenous cultural heritage, staff welfare etc. A limited suite of elements are chosen to represent and encompass the desired human values of the system. These factors can be planned and documented using similar steps in the process to those used for conservation targets.

Indicator – A measurable entity related to a specific information need such as the status of a target, change in a threat, or progress toward an objective. We differentiate between **Output Indicators** (which help measure levels of activity, eg number of fox baits laid) and **Outcome Indicators** (which help measure the end results in terms of ecological outcomes, e.g. abundance and diversity of small mammals). A good indicator meets the criteria of being –

- **Measurable** – Able to be recorded and analysed in quantitative and qualitative terms
- **Precise** – Defined the same way by all people
- **Consistent** – Not changing over time so that it always measures the same thing
- **Sensitive** – Changes proportionately in response to the actual changes in the condition being measured

Indirect Threat – A factor identified in an analysis of the project situation that is a driver of direct threats. Often an entry point for conservation actions. For example, "logging policies" or "demand for firewood." Sometimes called a root cause or underlying cause.

Key Attribute Viability Analysis - involves developing specific key attributes for each target and specific indicators for each key attribute; then determining an acceptable range of variation for each indicator – i.e. to determine what a healthy target would look like. Finally, the method requires that you specify both the

current status of each indicator as well as the desired future status. Collectively, the desired future status for all attributes becomes the goal for this target.

Monitoring – The periodic collection and evaluation of data relative to stated project goals and objectives

Objective – A formal statement detailing a desired outcome of a project such as reducing a critical threat. In addition to being **Results Oriented** (representing necessary changes in critical threat and opportunity factors that affect one or more conservation targets or project goals), Objectives should be "SMART" -

- **Specific** – defines the relevant "six Ws" – who, what, where, when, why, which - and is worded in a way that anyone with a basic knowledge of the area can understand it;
- **Measurable** – how much / how many / how will we know when it's done; clearly define the best measure to help us quantity progress along the way and know when it is complete
- **Achievable** – the key stakeholders agree there are reasonable odds that we will get there
- **Realistic** – within the availability of resources, knowledge and time; we believe that it can be done
- **Time Limited** – there is enough time to achieve the objective, and there is an explicit end-date.

Results Chain – A graphical depiction of a project's core assumption, the logical sequence linking project strategies to one or more targets. In scientific terms, it lays out hypothesized relationships - "*if we do this action, then this result will occur*".

Scope – The broad geographic or thematic focus of a project.

Situation Analysis – A process that helps develop a common understanding of the project context -.– including the biological environment and the social, economic, political, and institutional systems that affect the conservation targets you want to conserve. By understanding the biological and social context, you will have a better chance of designing activities that will achieve your conservation goals and objectives. Results in development of a Conceptual Model.

Strategy – A group of actions with a common focus that work together to reduce threats, capitalize on opportunities, or restore natural systems. Strategies include one or more activities and are designed to achieve specific objectives and goals. A good strategy meets the criteria of being –

- **Linked –** Directly affects one or more critical factors
- **Focused** – Outlines specific courses of action that need to be carried out
- **Feasible** – Accomplishable in light of the project's resources and constraints
- **Appropriate** – Acceptable to and fitting within site-specific cultural, social, and biological norms

Target – Shorthand for conservation target or human welbeing target. Often called assets or values

Threat – An activity or process that has caused, is causing or may cause the degradation or destruction of biodiversity and natural processes, and therefore directly or indirectly degrades one or more targets. Often tied to the activities of one or more stakeholders. See also direct threat and indirect threat.

Viability Assessment – An assessment of a Targets health and how to measure its "health" over time. The viability assessment helps to -

- Define the most important ecological requirements of the healthy target
- Identify the current health of the target
- Set appropriate and measurable goals for desired future health of the target
- Set up monitoring plan

Vision – A description of the desired state or ultimate condition that a project is working to achieve. A good vision statement meets the criteria of being –

- **Relatively General** – Broadly defined to encompass all project activities
- **Visionary** – Inspirational in outlining the desired change in the state of the targets toward which the project is working
- **Brief** – Simple and succinct so that that all project participants can remember it