Using Community Based Observing Networks and Systems (CBONS) for Adaptation to Global and Environmental Change

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Community Based Observing Networks and Systems (CBONS) are systematic and distributed sensor arrays consisting of resident observers. Through a structured process of training, co-identifying the variables to be observed and placing these into a social context we are able to construct local scale adaptive capacity indices (ACIs). In turn, communities can use ACIs, which consist of social, ecological and technological indicators, to establish "early warning systems" for undesired change or to anticipate change which can be used as an opportunity. In this interactive discussion we will walk through the Community Observing Network for Adaptation and Security (CONAS) and some new and innovative approaches for constructing social ecological landscapes from local to regional scales.

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