

# ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION, INCLUDING A HUMAN PERSPECTIVE

Wasin Inkapatanakul, PhD



**Ecological conservation involves the efficient direct and indirect use of our environment to optimally develop our economy and society. It includes restoring and maintaining natural ecosystems through research, restoration and advocacy.**

Human-related factors including education levels, social status, economic development, and religious beliefs as well as many other factors greatly influence ecological conservation.

Countries must pro-actively protect the environment if they hope to develop sustainable economies that provide good quality of life

especially as population density continues increasing. Social costs and practices are also critical elements of a successful economy.

Ecological conservation that includes a human perspective, requires whole-hearted public participation which ultimately creates a sense of social responsibility.

FIGURE 1 ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION, INCLUDING A HUMAN PERSPECTIVE

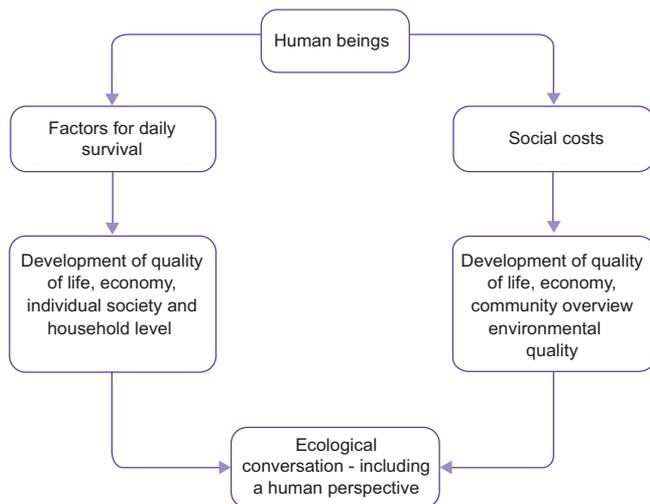
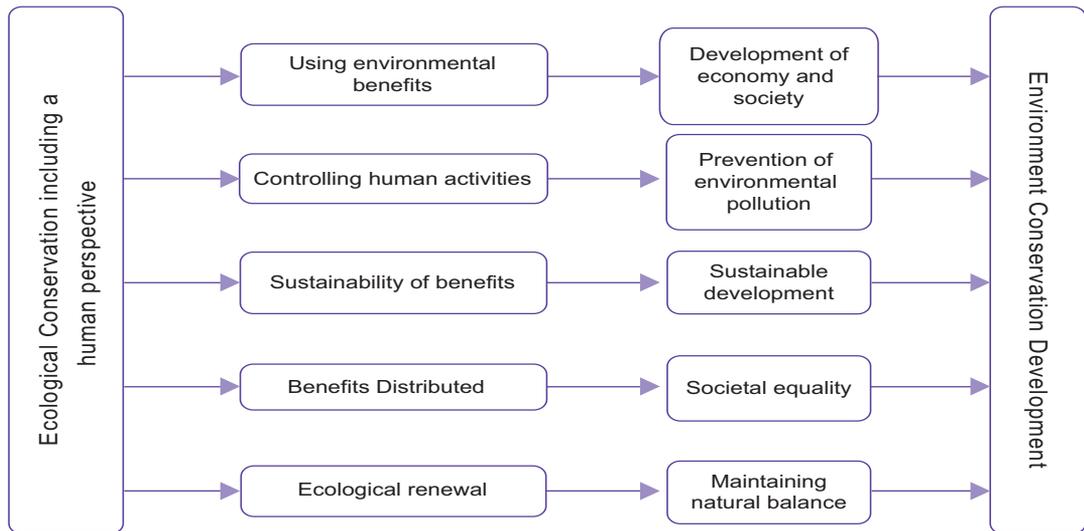


FIGURE 2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION FROM A HUMAN PERSPECTIVE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY ENVIRONMENTS.



## OPTIMIZING ENVIRONMENT'S LONG-TERM BENEFITS

Ecological conservation that include a human perspective focuses on optimizing the environment's long-term benefits, by ensuring all human activities benefit society's long-term needs.

The objective of all activities should focus on creating a sustainable society by ensuring environmental benefits are efficiently and optimally distributed. Conservation, renewal and restoration should also be critical planning factors in spite of unending population growth and density.

Optimal overall environment quality should also be a key goal (Figure 2). If ecological conservation is conducted from a human per-

spective, the environment will be optimized and sustainable over a long period.

## NATURAL ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS INTERLINKED

Natural ecological systems are inextricably inter-linked. If one element is altered, the relationship between all elements is affected.

Human activities are also a critical ecological conservation element. Therefore, all human actions affect nature and the environment.

Moreover, human-created environments such as culture and traditions, the economy, society, etc. directly affect the quality of our environment and life. Successful ecological conservation from a human perspective requires societal participation. However, a

member's participation should be based on individual environment usage.

Ecological conservation should also consider factors such as education levels, the economy, social status, technology, population, needs and social values. These factors must be developed so that environment conservation policies can be established to restore natural ecological systems.

It also involves direct activities such as research, investigation, exploration, protection, preservation, restoration of ecosystems, land and natural habitat reclamations, promotion of efficient development and usage, recycling, substitution, reduction and elimination of waste.



To optimize natural resource utilization, all transactions should be categorized and measured. Policies should also include protecting natural resources for succeeding generations.

Clear ecological conservation policies should be proposed to governments, because they have the power of implementation. Governments should establish long-term ecological conservation plans that will allow communities to work together to develop better sustainable quality-of-lives and environments.

### LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS

Ecological conservation should be developed from a knowledge-based human perspective for local communities and the general public. The mission should focus on developing long-term sustainable environments.

A sustainable development process includes managing the environment to deliver optimal human utilization, ultimately improving economic development, society and long-term sustainability.

The environment's benefits can only be optimized if it is used efficiently. Systematic and planned conservation and restoration strategies should be developed and implemented.

Individuals, families, communities and the general public should be encouraged to work together to restore and conserve natural ecological systems to ensure a sustainable and effective process.

