

## RATIONALE

- Participation of the community in matters that affect their livelihood enhances conservation of biodiversity
- Land resource degradation intensifies in the absence of appropriate land use plan and its orderly implementation
- The protection of biodiversity is linked to its usefulness for the people and to their awareness of it
- The security of biodiversity depends on household livelihood security, i.e. biodiversity can not be secured in an insecure livelihood system.

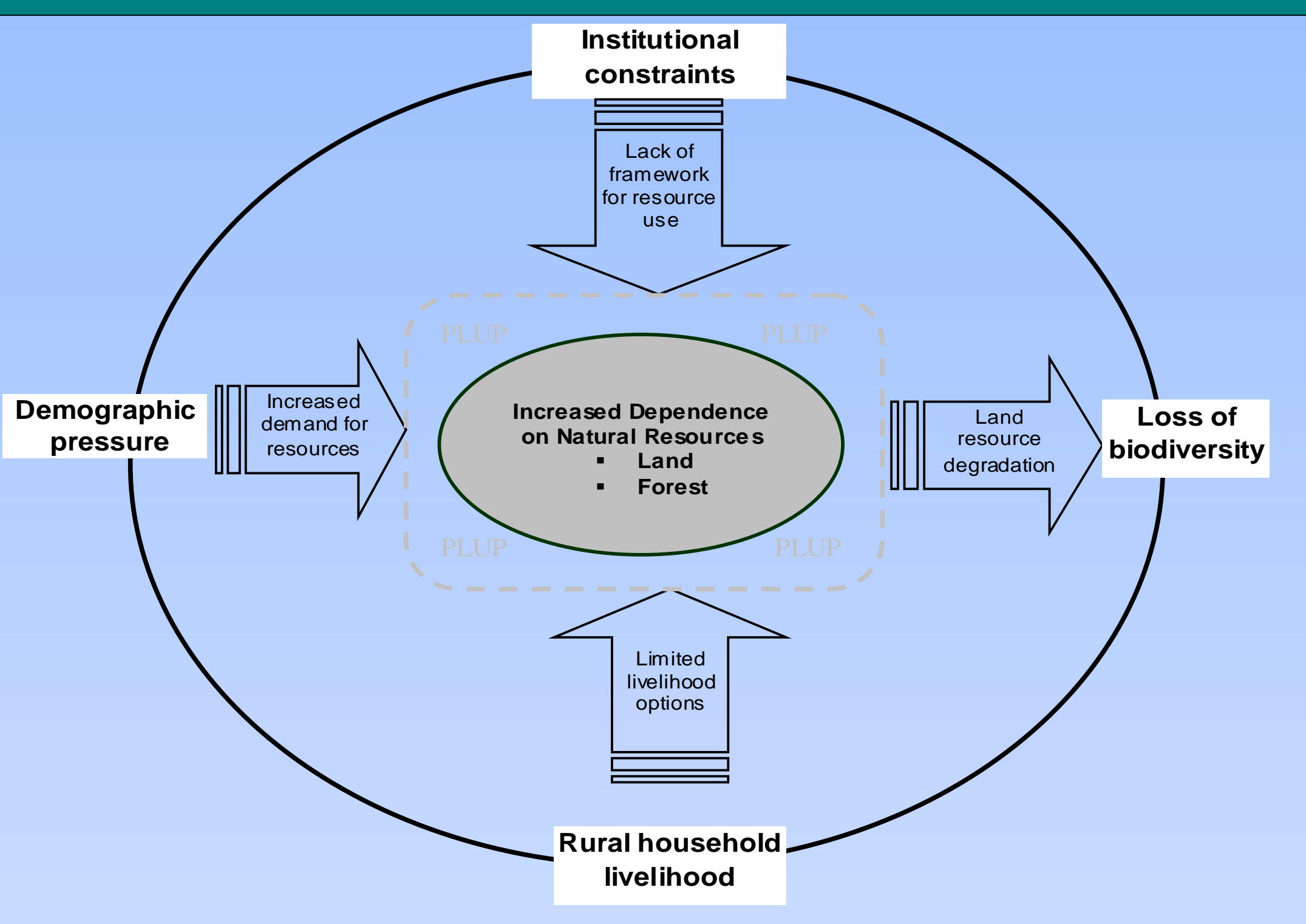


Firewood collection and hunting around Ikuywa (November 2005)

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How is rural land used in the district and what implications does it have on biodiversity in Kakamega forest?
- How are land use and rural livelihood related? How does that affect biodiversity in Kakamega forest?
- How is biodiversity important to rural livelihoods? How can the role of biodiversity in the rural household economy be enhanced?
- How best (in a sustainable way) can biodiversity be maintained in a changing human environment? What are the requirements and preconditions?

## RESEARCH CONCEPT



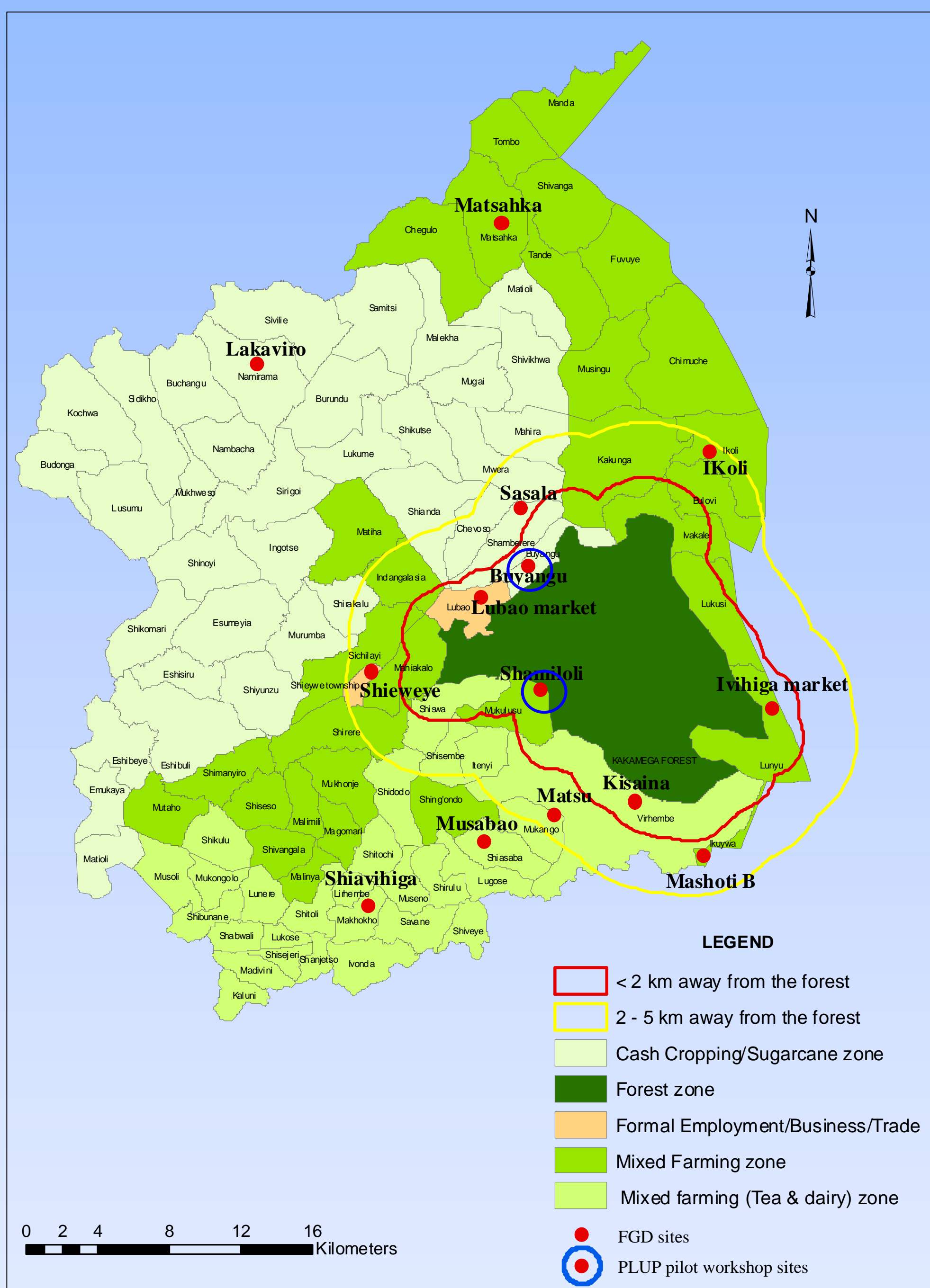
## METHODS

- DISTRICT LEVEL** - institutional interviews with district officers and staffs.
- COMMUNITY LEVEL** - focused group discussion in selected communities in the livelihood zones & community based participatory land use planning workshops.
- HOUSEHOLD LEVEL** - intensive interviews of selected households.

## METHODS



Group discussion at Shamiloli (December 2005)

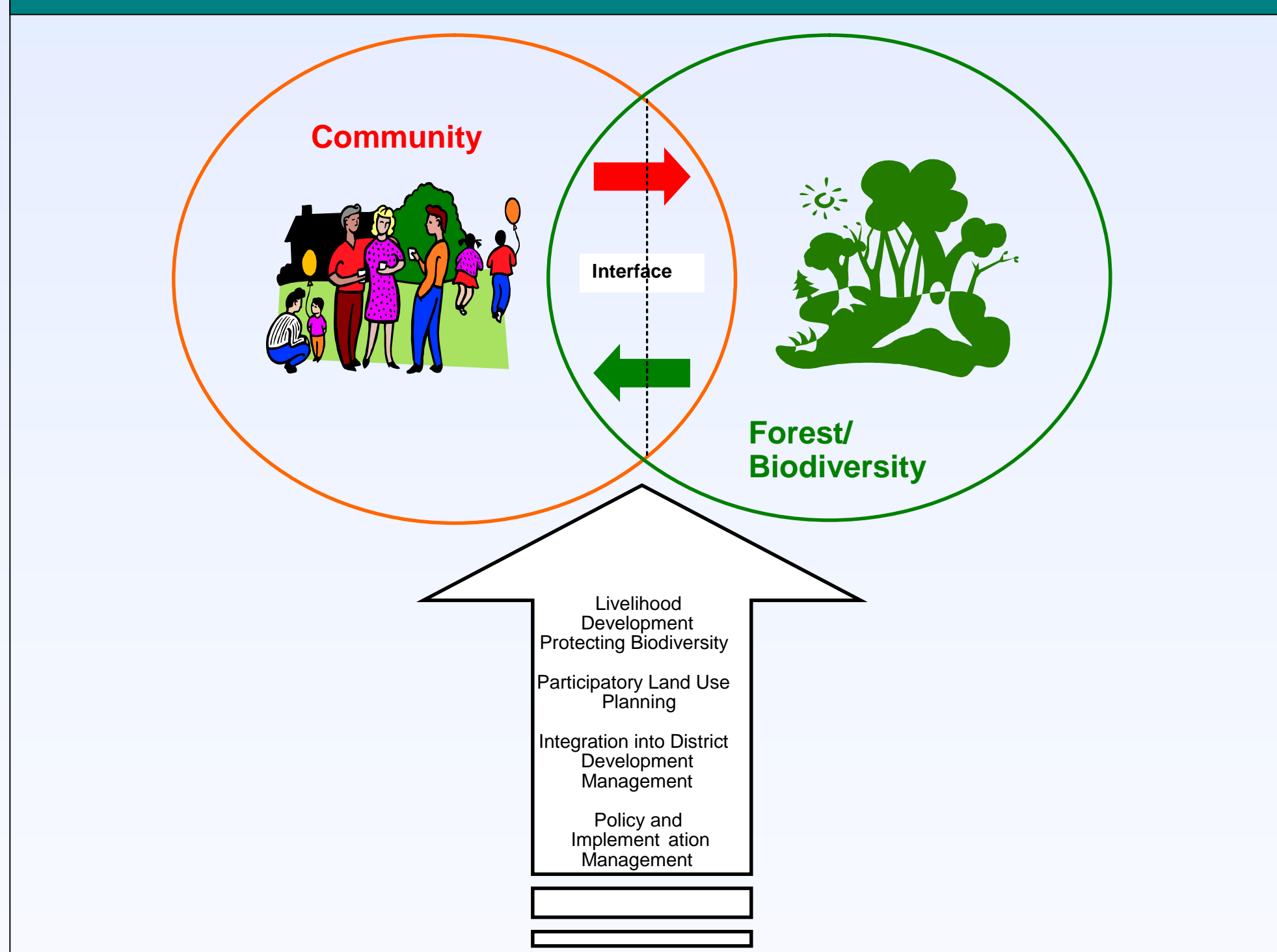


## METHODS



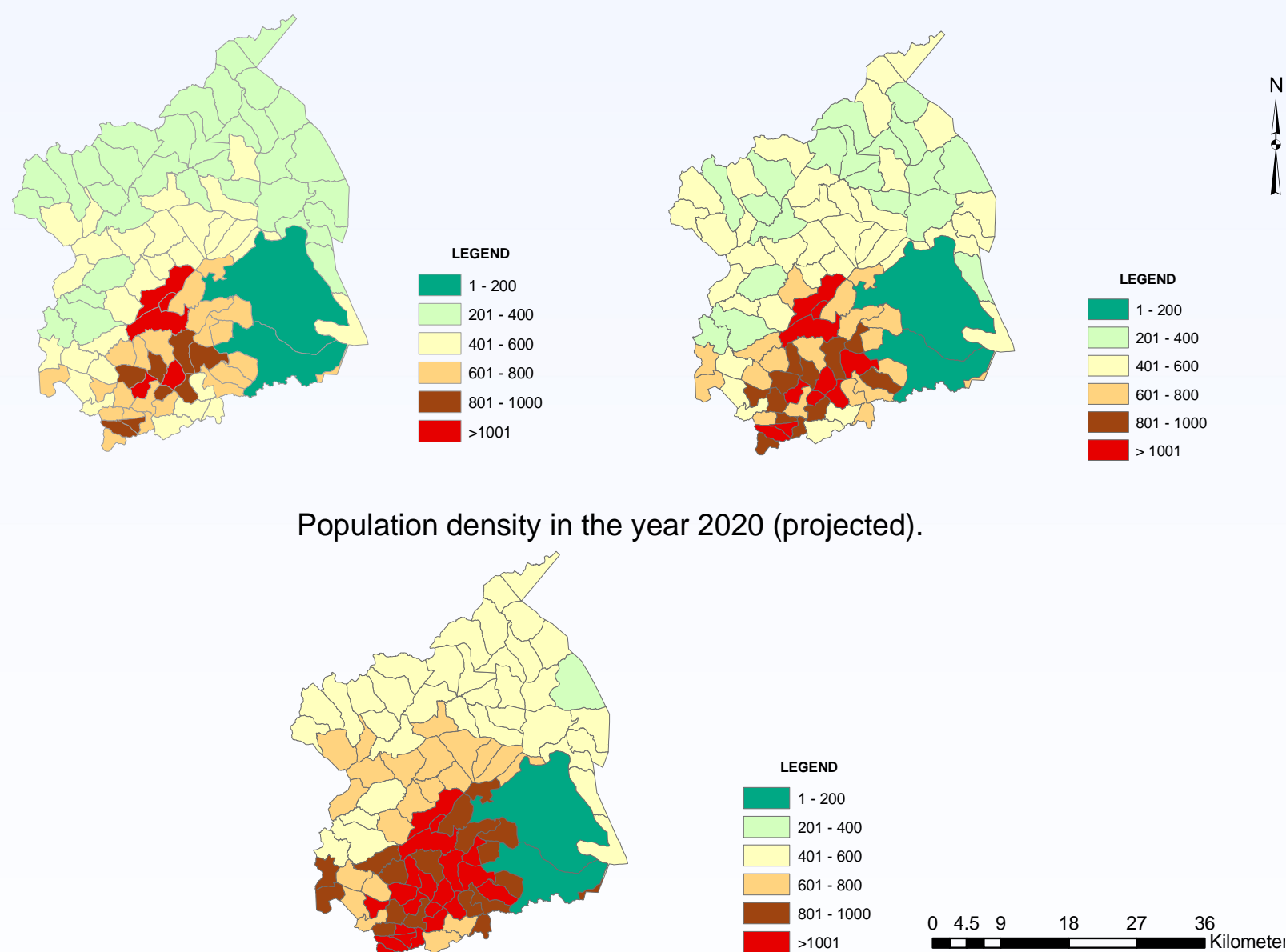
Participatory land use planning at Shamiloli (March 2006)

## FURTHER RESEARCH



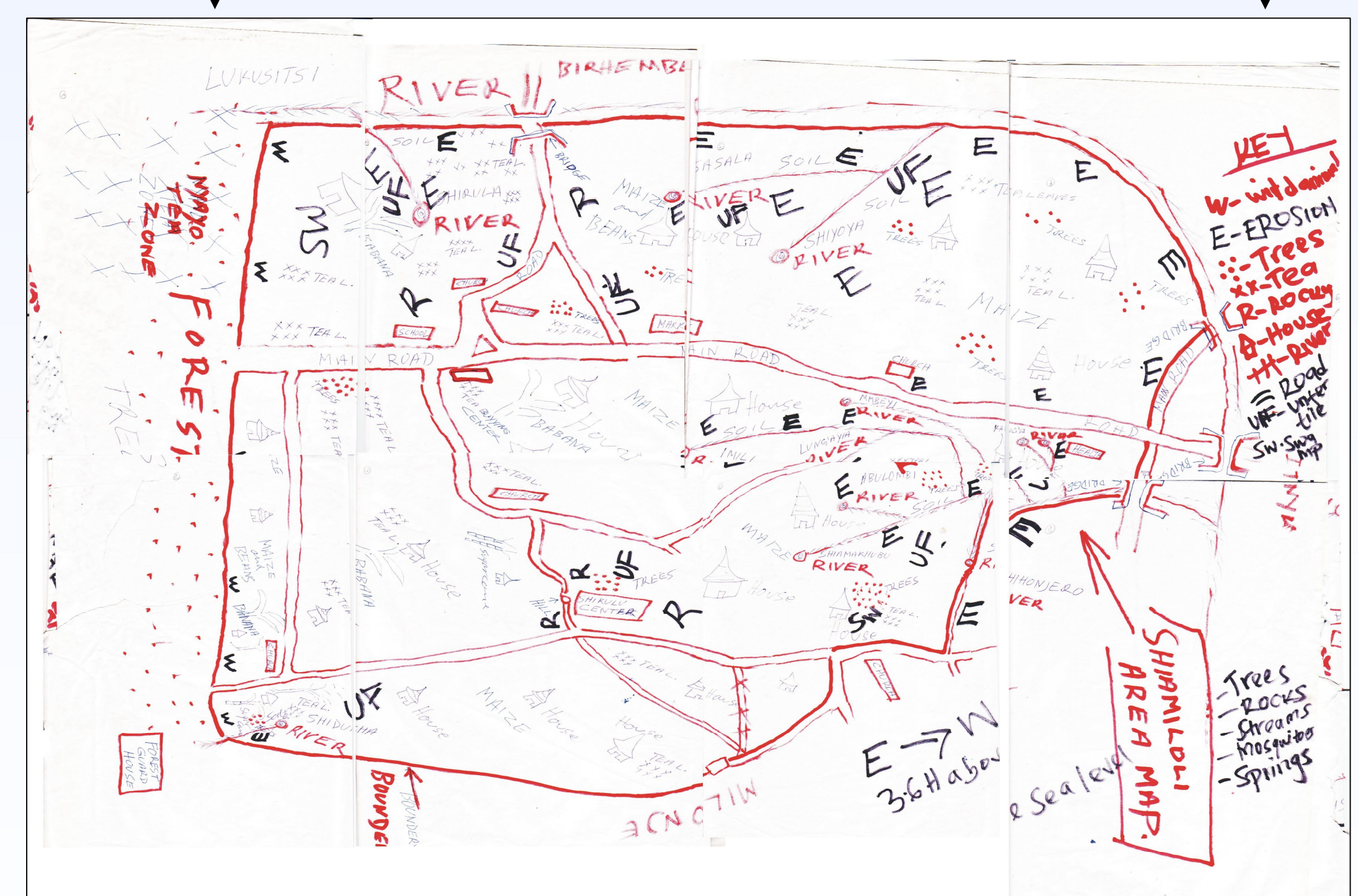
## RESULTS

The district's population density in the year 1999. The district's population density in the year 2006.



## RELEVANCE OF THE RESULTS

- Local action and practice
- Policy recommendations
- Significance for theory development
- Further participatory research



Mapping (March 2006)