



Resource mapping helps gather village information on:

- Transport facilities
- Communication facilities
- Health and welfare societies
- Supply and service agencies
- Agricultural implements found in the community
- Animals used for agriculture
- Natural service vs. AI for various animals
- Marketing facilities
- Processing industries
- Financial facilities
- Advisory resources
- Community pastures or grazing land
- Labor availability for various purposes
- Storage or disposal facilities

Extension professionals can design and plan interventions in a village to improve extension and advisory services with this information.

A Resource Map focuses on the natural resources in a community, like land, hills, rivers, fields, vegetation, etc. and may also cover habitation. Similar to a social or village map, it is not drawn to scale and is done by the local people because they have an in-depth knowledge of the surroundings where they have lived for generations. A resource map reflects people's perceptions of the reality of their natural resources rather than precise measurements.

Steps: The mapping process main steps include:

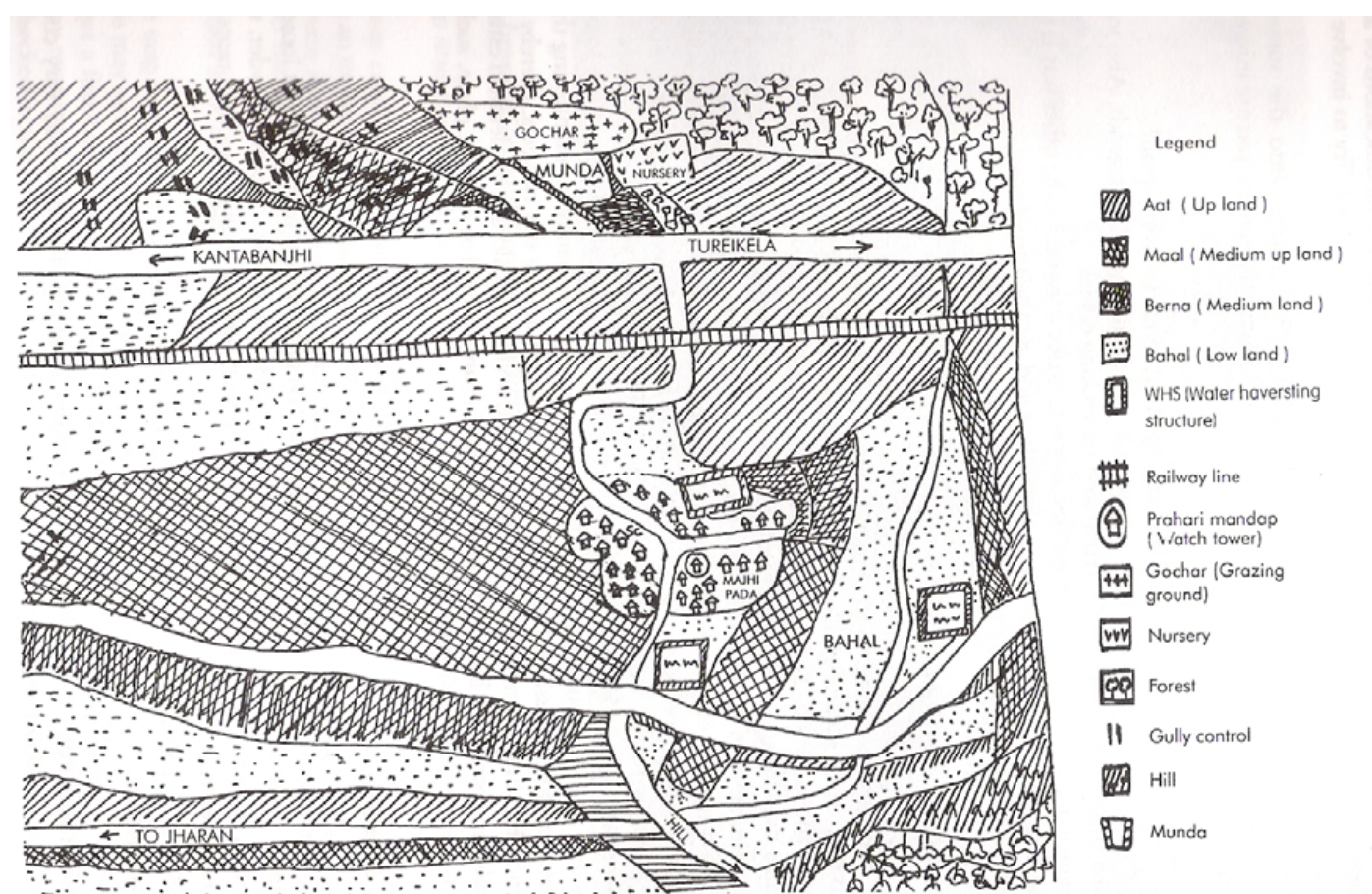
1. Consultation with the local community to identify an appropriate time and place for the exercise. Ensure that the time and location is suitable (good size, convenient, comfortable for all members of society) for as many people as possible.
2. Explain the purpose of the exercise to the participants. Ask them to start showing the major resources. Let them use whatever materials they choose (local or other materials) as creatively as possible. This may mean using twigs and rocks or yarn on canvas on the ground, or it may mean markers, depending on the community.
3. Watch the process carefully and take detailed notes. Don't rush things!
4. It is important not to disrupt this process – wait for a good time in the process if you must add or clarify anything and have patience if participants are not representing points in which you are interested
 - Ask them: "What about ...", "What does this symbol represent?" "Can you show me...in the map?" etc.
5. Ask them to depict and discuss the problems and opportunities in keeping with the objectives of the resource map.
6. Interview the map: ask specific questions so you can clarify your doubts and know about aspects you are interested in.
 - Ask them: "Can you tell me more about...? "This looks very interesting. Can you explain it to me in more detail?" etc.
7. Copy the map onto a large sheet of paper with all details, including legends. Also make a small sized copy for attaching to the report and for making copies.
8. Triangulate what is on in the map. One way is to go for a **transect**. The other way is to talk about the map with certain key people in the community and get their feedback.
9. Thank the participants for their active participation.

"Resource maps help to create a common understanding amongst the participants as well as a baseline for monitoring and evaluation. The process of creating a resource map is full of joy and it instils self-confidence amongst the participants, which later makes the interaction more meaningful."

Example of a resource map

Villagers of Naupada of Bolangir district, Orissa, depicted the different land types, water harvesting structures, grazing land, roads, railway lines, and habitation. Participants then discussed in detail the natural resource situation in the village, talking about the effects of structures on resources. They considered soil erosion and loss of soil as two major problems, which a gully-control treatment was not solving. Overall, the resource map helped them see that mismanagement of natural resources and neglect of helpful structures, like those used for water harvesting, had led to perennial droughts.

Figure 1. Resource map of Naupada



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<http://bit.ly/1yRvyXx>



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Available at www.meas-extension.org/tip-sheets

