BIODIVERSITY
MAINSTREAMING IN
BOTSWANA

With relevance to the Rapid Diagnostic Tool
Introduction

- Botswana has been a party of the CBD since 1995
- 39% of Botswana’s area is under conservation.
  - Forest reserves
  - Game reserves
  - Wildlife Management Areas
- Botswana is home to more than 5000 species
- Botswana has developed laws, strategies and policies which guide biodiversity management
Biodiversity Management: Legislation

- A National Conservation Strategy for Natural Resources Management has been developed
- Community Based Natural Resources Management Policy has been developed and is being implemented
- Forest Policy; Wildlife Conservation Policy
- An NBSAP is in operation
- Environmental issues have been factored in as a cross-cutting element in the NDP process
Biodiversity Management: Institutional

- The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism coordinates national biodiversity management.
- Implementation of Flora and Fauna programmes is the responsibility of other institutions (DFRR, DWNP) and they engage in this through close collaboration with the DEA.
- Support is provided by local NGOs (KCS, ST, TSF, TL):
  - Formulation of project concepts
  - Technical assistance on project management
  - Funding or resource mobilization
The Case for Mainstreaming

- Integration of environmental studies at basic education levels
- Valuation studies for the Okavango Delta and Makgadikgadi Wetland system
  - Informs planning and decision making processes
- Natural Resource Accounts (water, livestock, minerals)
  - Used to inform project development and decision making processes.
The CBNRM and the Poverty Environment Initiative are key in mainstreaming biodiversity.

Integrated planning: considers other development facets such as land use; policy; livelihood issues; tourism; economic valuation; and biodiversity issues.

- eg ODMP, MFMP, BioChobe e.t.c.
Mainstreaming into national development planning processes

- Factored as a cross-cutting issue (National level sustainable development thematic working group established for NDP Mid term review)
- It forms a greater part of Botswana’s National Development Planning processes at all levels
- This has positive implications on mobilising funding for biodiversity related projects
Opportunities

• Integrate Natural Resource Accounting into the National System for Accounting (adjusted GDP)
• Undertake resource inventories and valuation, and monitoring
• Capacity/awareness raising on mainstreaming and its benefits for policy and decision makers
• Sound development and implementation of the Revised NBSAP
The Tool

- It will integrate poverty/livelihood improvement in the whole process of managing biodiversity
  - Most of the rural population depends on natural resources
  - Alternatives for the rural poor should be provided

- The tool will provide an opportunity to identify and close gaps in the poverty and biodiversity interface
- It will be useful in identifying synergies for most of Botswana’s programmes.
- It will be important in the process of updating NBSAPs.
Thank you

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