



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.

Cont...

- 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.

Cont...

- 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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