

Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Development: CBNRM Namibia

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CBNRM background

- 1996 legislation:
 - Rights over wildlife and tourism to communities through conservancies
 - Conservancy: Defined membership, defined boundaries, elected committee, benefit sharing mechanism
 - Conservancies add wildlife and tourism to existing land uses
 - Conservancies earn and keep income from wildlife use and tourism (no revenue sharing with govt.)

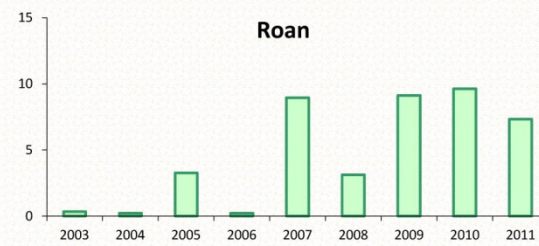
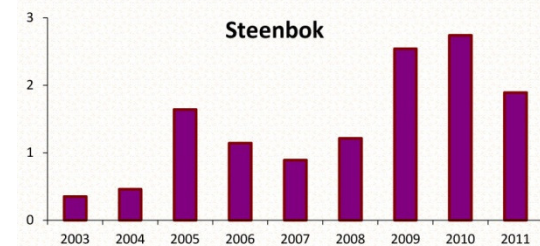
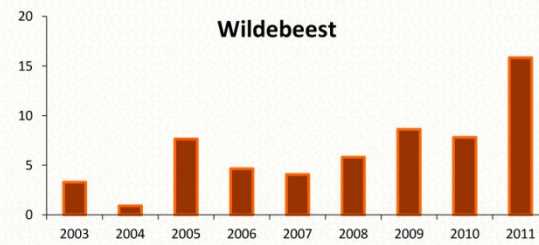
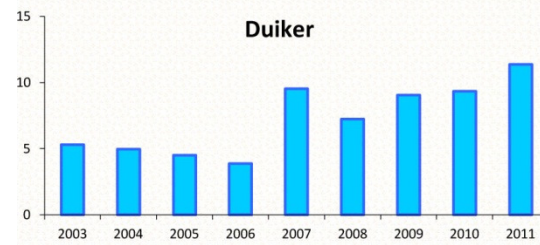
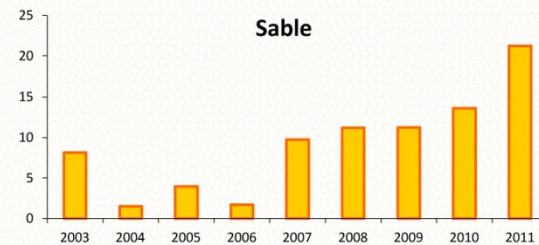
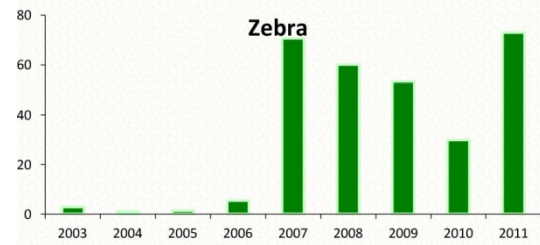
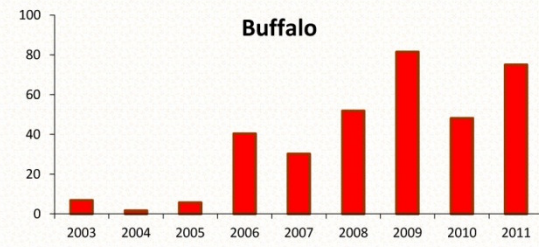
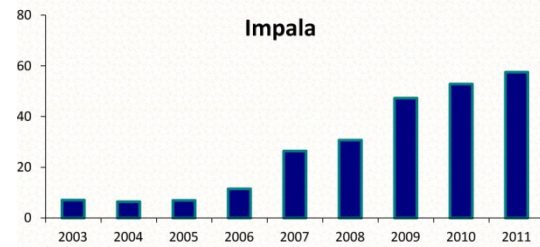
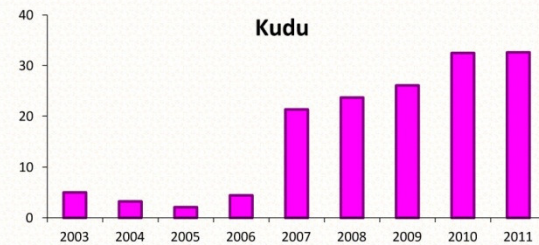
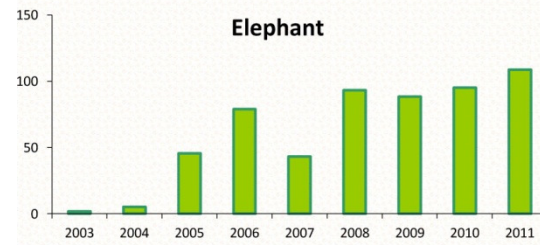
Background 2

- Since 1996:
 - 1998: 4 conservancies; 2012: 75
 - 2011: 67 conservancies covered 146,312 sq km
 - 2011: No. of people covered by the conservancies 243,850
 - 2011: Total cash income of conservancies N\$31,868,109 (US\$4 24 9 081) used to cover operational costs & community benefits
 - 2011: Value of meat distributed N\$3,153,750 (US\$420 500)
 - 2010: No of jobs provided by conservancies 619
 - 2010: No jobs from hunting and tourism 717

Background 3

- Wildlife trends
 - Increases in north west including black rhino, elephant, lion, cheetah
 - Increases in north east including elephant, buffalo, sable, roan
 - More than 7 000 animals translocated to conservancies 1999-2009 including black rhino

Trends – Numbers per 100km



Mainstreaming success

- CBNRM/conservancies used by MET to report on contribution to national development goals
- PTT on land reform: extend conservancy approach to other resources: accepted by Cabinet
- Conservancies as pilots for group land tenure (?)
- CBNRM/Conservancies recognised in:
 - NDP3,
 - MDGs,
 - Vision 2030,
 - National Poverty Action Reduction Programme
 - Food security reporting

Mainstreaming 2

- Achieved through:
 - Demonstrated demand: Consultation – surveys, national workshop
 - Strong technical case (freehold, regional experience), good data (e.g. conservancy income, jobs, spending etc.)
 - Political resonance – independence: end of apartheid
 - Political champions: Minister etc.
 - Coalition of actors – Politicians/officials/NGOs – sustainable devt. Paradigm
 - “Selling campaign” – politicians, senior officials (supported by USAID/LIFE) – probably over done!
 - Use of resource economics – demonstrate potential benefits from wildlife and tourism

Lessons

- Need for political champions crucial
- Committed senior officials with vision driving technical process crucial (+fingers in pies!!!)
- Donor support not donor driven
- Strong technical case backed by good data
- Need process focus – takes time
- Process is political not just technical
- Be realistic about what can be achieved