Wildlife & Sustainable Rural Development in Namibia: Are There Applications to The Northern Great Plains?

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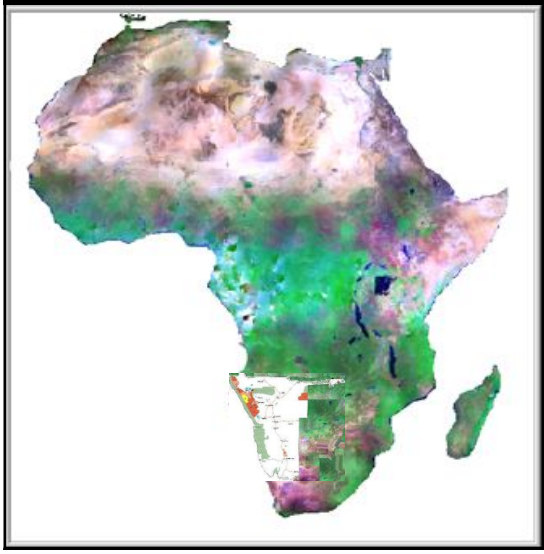
Key Topics To Be Covered:

- Setting & Context of Namibia
- Shifting Paradigm – Unlocking Indigenous Biodiversity Production
- Different Models Used to Promote Conservation
- Changing Trends
- Lessons Learned
- Conclusions
- Food for Thought

Setting & Context of Namibia



Namibia:

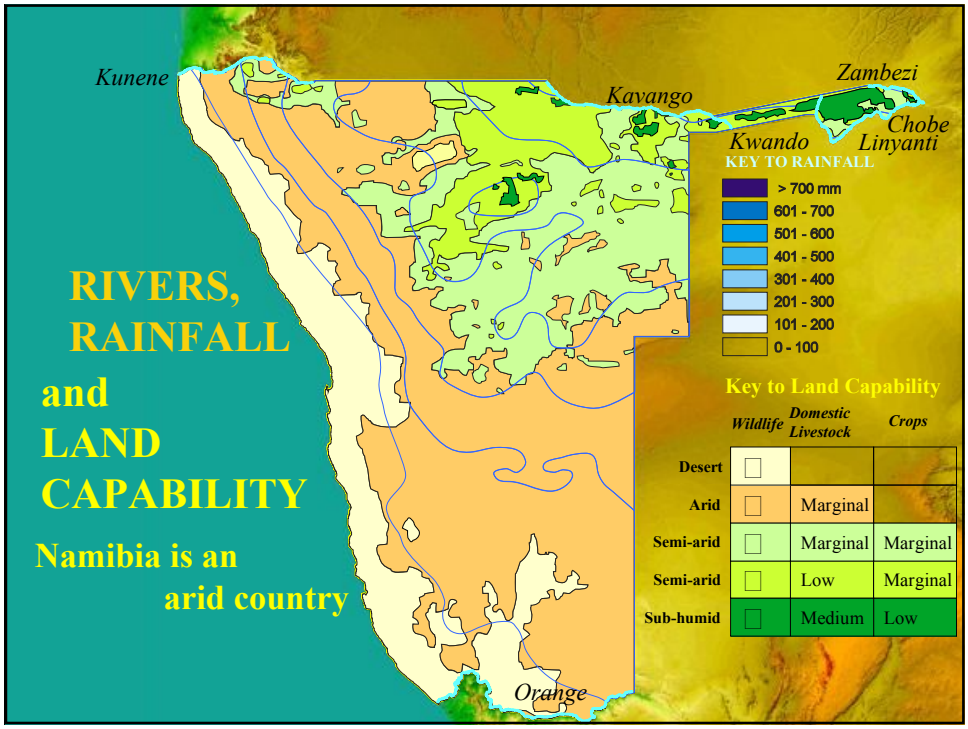
- 317,888 sq miles
- Pop: 2,000,000
- Density: 6.23 sq mile

Nebraska, N. Dakota, S. Dakota, Wyoming:

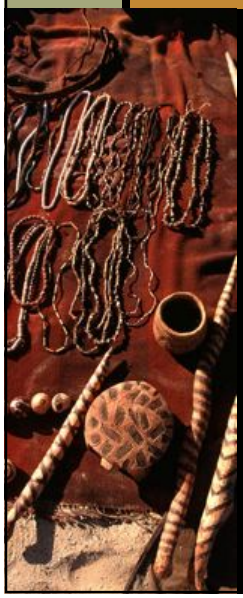
- 322,404 sq miles
- Pop: 3,629,164
- Density: 11.23 sq mile

Namibia – A Country of Mixed Land Tenures

- Private Land - 43%
- Communal Land - 41%
- State Land - 16%



Historical Development of Namibia



- Initially settled in the mid 1800s as a German colony
- Land originally rich in wildlife
- Wildlife populations eroded as land converted to livestock production
- Livestock populations peaked in early 1900s, but crashed with drought of 1930-32
- Livestock populations recovered from 1940s onward, but gradually regressed as overgrazing resulted with bush encroachment and reduced rangeland productivity
- Until late 1960s, cattle production was the major landuse for the productive central savannahs of the country (i.e., farms often sold as “guaranteed game-free”)

Namibia – A Country of Diversity

Presence of Africa's Big 5 In Parks & Communal Areas

Namibia Has Seen Rapid Change Since Its Independence 18 Years Ago

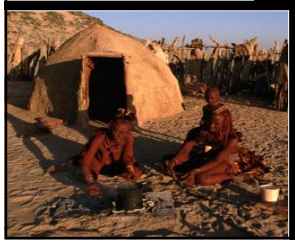
- Independence of Namibia and the end of colonial rule in 1990 resulted with the abolishment of apartheid
- First African nation to adopt conservation of the environment into its constitution
- Namibia has recognized and built upon the comparative advantages of its natural capital
- Rapidly evolving economy and associated changes in land use – moving away from livestock production as predominant land use to integration of wildlife, tourism and indigenous biodiversity into rural development approach
- Considered by many to have the most dynamic and effective conservation / rural development program in Africa

WHAT ARE NAMIBIA'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES ?

✓VAST OPEN SPACES AND WILDERNESS AREAS

✓ ABUNDANT AND DIVERSE BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE POPULATIONS that are well adapted to Namibia's harsh climatic and physical conditions, and have extremely high *direct* & *indirect use value.*

✓ UNCONTAMINATED MEAT AND FISH PRODUCTS



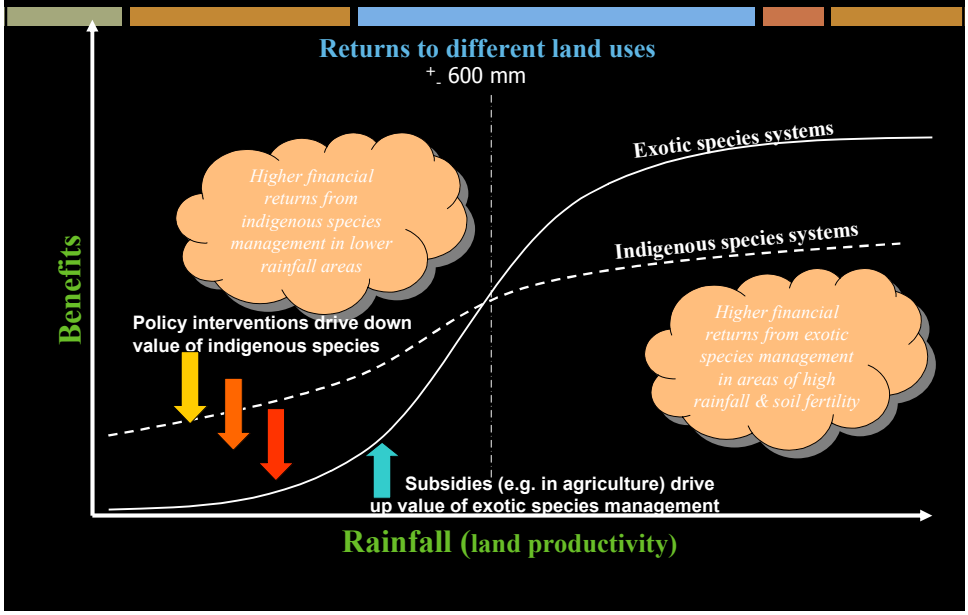
✓ Rich CULTURAL diversities and valuable TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

✓ Efficient SERVICE Industries

How Is Namibia Unlocking and Promoting Its Comparative Advantages?

- Recognition Given to Natural Environmental Limitations
- Policy and Legislative Reform
- Promotion of Innovative Conservation / Development Support Approaches
  - ➢Freehold Conservancies
  - ➢Communal Conservancies
  - ➢Public / Private Conservation Linkages
  - ➢Private Game Reserves
  - By Working With Private Sector and Local Communities to Promote Namibia As An International Tourism Destination

Land Productivity Limitations: Arid & Semi-Arid Landscapes Favor Indigenous Species Production



Unlocking Opportunities Through Policy & Legislative Reform

Nature Conservation Ordinance No. 4 of 1975

Government Gazette of the Republic of Namibia

N$1.20 Windhoek - 17 June 1996 No. 1333

Government Notice	Page
No. 151Promulgation of Nature Conservation Amendment Act, 1996 (Act 5 0f 1996), of the Parliament ……	1

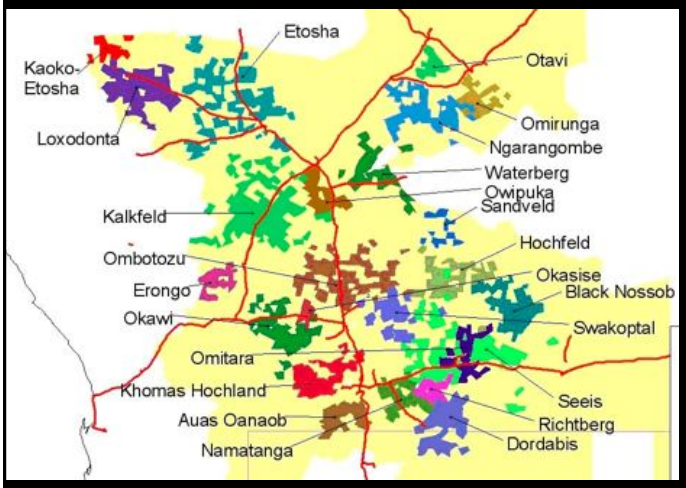
Rights granted:

- Rights of ownership over huntable game
- Rights to revenues from the sale of game or game products
- Rights over tourism

Namibia's Conservation / Rural Development Approaches

- Freehold (private) Conservancies
- Communal Conservancies
- Public / Private Conservation Partnerships
- Private Nature Reserves

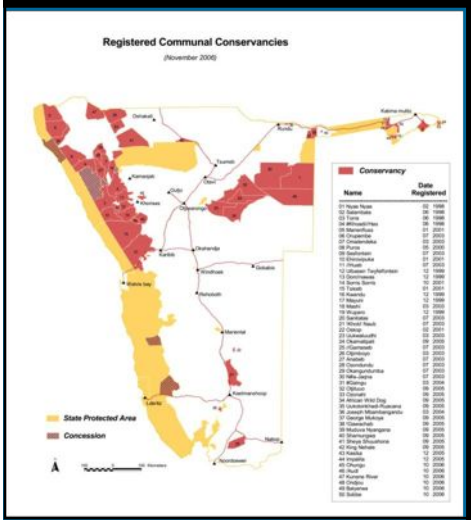
Freehold Conservancies - CANAM

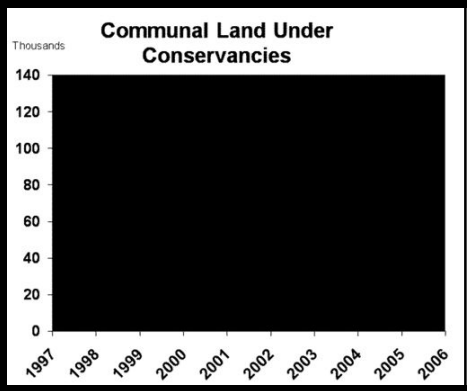


- 23 Freehold Conservancies
- 415 Member Farms
- Covering 3.5 million hectares

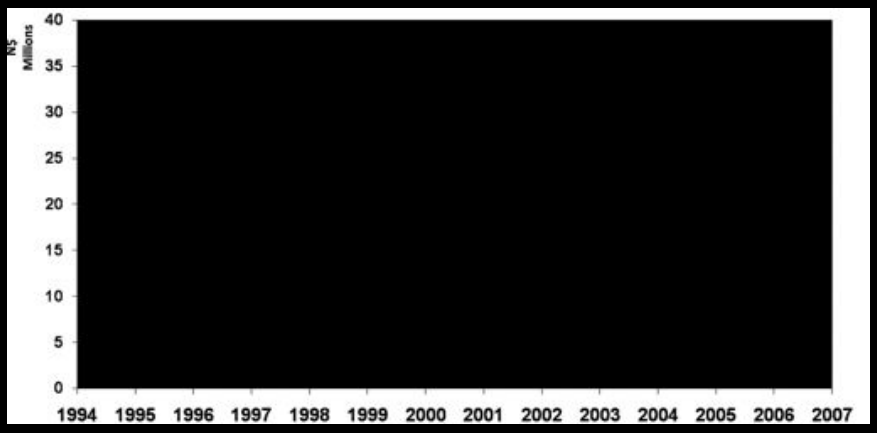
Communal Area Conservancies

- 50 Conservancies gazetted to date
- 11,827,600 Hectares



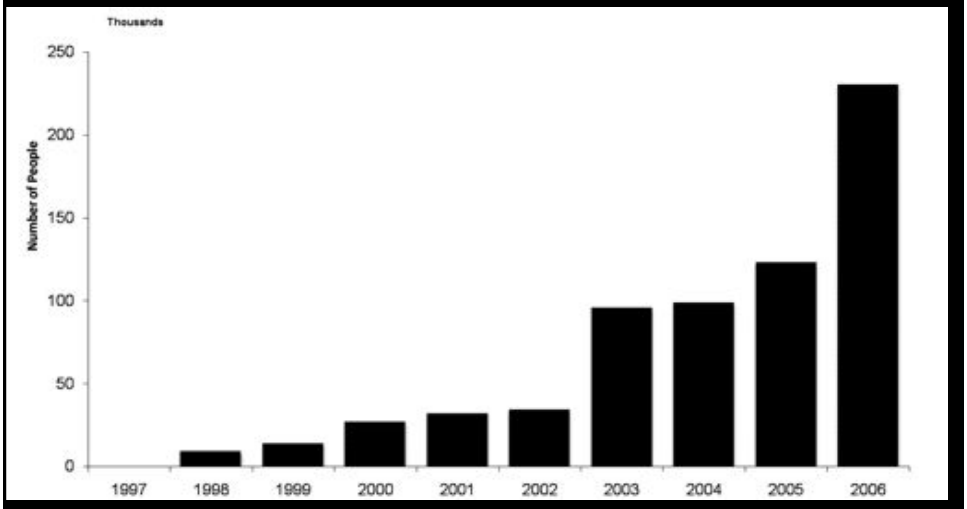


Financial Program Benefits Are Growing



US$5,147,059

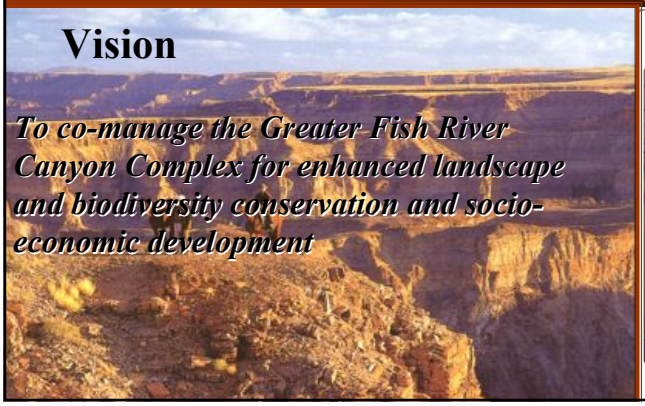
1 in 8 Namibians Participates in A Conservancy

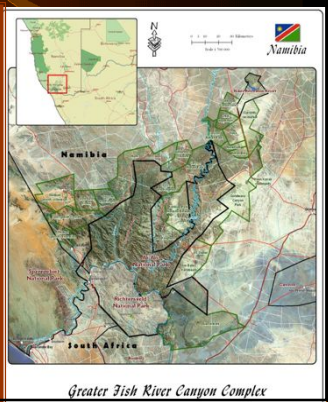


- >80 Communities mobilized into representative governance bodies
- Additional 70,000 people in emerging conservancies

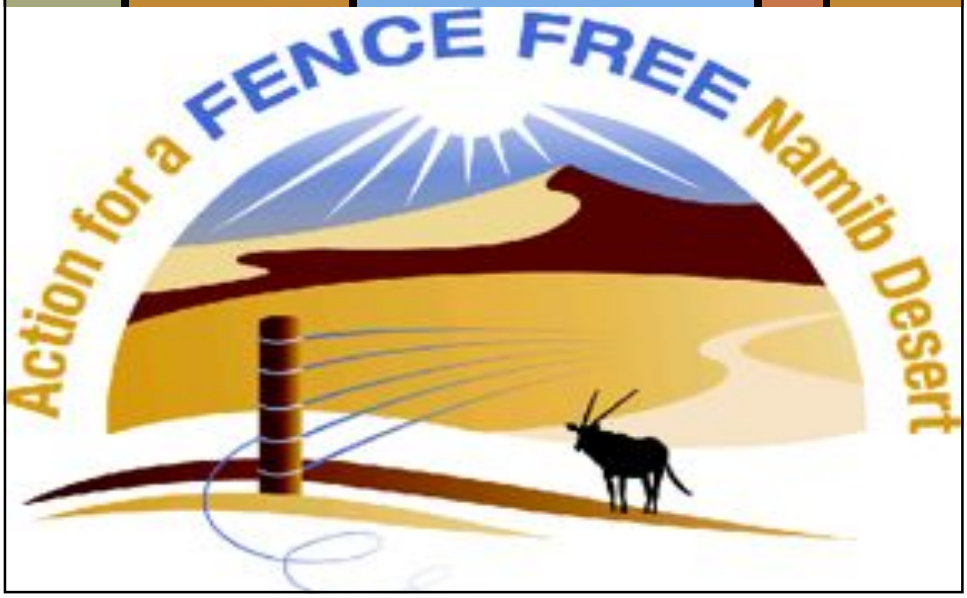
Public / Private Partnerships

Greater Fish River Canyon Complex





Removing Barriers & Creating Scale

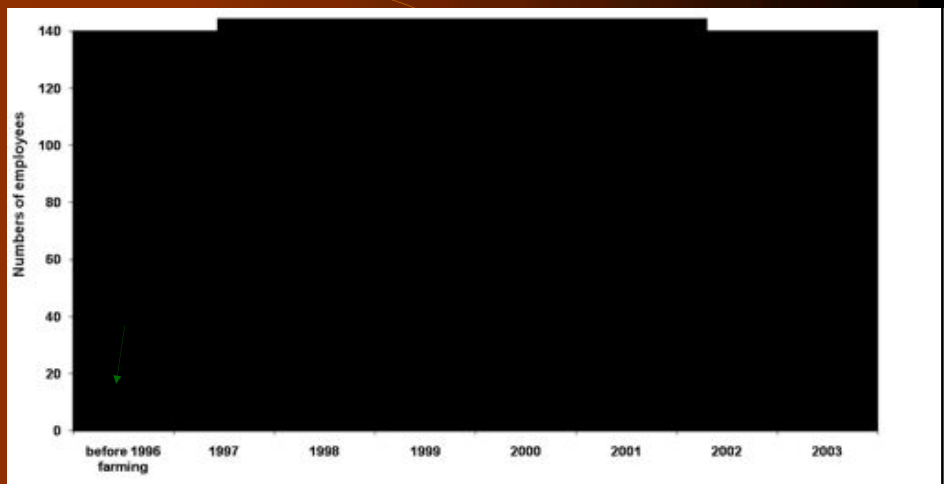


A Private Initiative – Gondwana Nature Reserve

Best returns on land - financial results: Karas region

Item	Communal livestock	Freehold livestock	Tourism
Financial gross income per hectare (N$)	4.71	15.00	165.00
Net cash income per hectare (N$)	0.93	0.48	23.00
Livelihoods income (N$)	1.08	3.27	19.00
Financial rate of return	5.5%	9.8%	12.9%

Job creation: farming versus tourism



A Paradigm Shift Is Occurring As Namibia Taps Its Comparative Advantages

- Indigenous Biodiversity Has Now Passed Agriculture In Terms Of Namibia's Gross Domestic Product

Agricultural Production - 2005

Commodity	Output value (million N$)	
	Commercial	Communal
Cattle	637.1	5.8
Small stock (sheep & goats)	285.1	
Other livestock (pigs, dairy. karakul, hides & skin)	258.2	
Crops (cereals, grapes, etc)	188.7	154.5
Other agriculture		290.0
Construction for agriculture	59.0	
TOTAL	**1,878.4**	

Indigenous biodiversity-based production - 2005

Commodity (Commercial only)	Output value (million N$)
Trophy hunting	316.0
Live game sales	14.3
Wildlife viewing	2,700.0
Fuel wood sales	63.0
Charcoal	75-100
Selected plant products	21.6
TOTAL	**3,200**

National level

Total gross annual output of whole agricultural sector (large & small stock, and crops) – commercial and subsistence sectors	N$1,878 million
Total gross annual output of non-agricultural natural resource based "sector" (tourism, trophy hunting, wildlife products, indigenous plant products, etc i.e. indigenous biodiversity) – commercial sector only	N$3,200 million

Indigenous biodiversity production systems have overtaken agricultural production systems and exceed them by a factor of at least two times

Livestock numbers on private land 1971 - 2001

(Based on MAWRD stock census data)

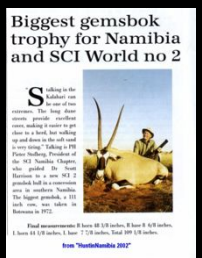
	1971	1981	1991	2001
Cattle ('000)	1,800	1,400	1,300	910
Decline (%)		22%	7%	30%
Overall decline (%)				49%
Small stock ('000)	4,550	4,350	3,500	2,700
Decline (%)		4%	20%	23%
Overall decline (%)				41%

Game numbers (key huntable game on private land) 1972 – 2005 (MET data)

Species	1972	1982	1992	2005
Springbok ('000)	231	227	554	**620**
Increase (%)				*268%*
Gemsbok ('000)	67	126	311	**350**
Increase (%)				*522%*
Kudu ('000)	181	203	389	**340**
Increase (%)				*188%*
Warthog ('000)	86	145	235	174
Increase (%)				*202%*
TOTAL ('000)	**565**	**701**	**1,489**	**1,484**
Overall increase (%)				***262%***

Market Forces Are Driving Change

Wildlife Utilization



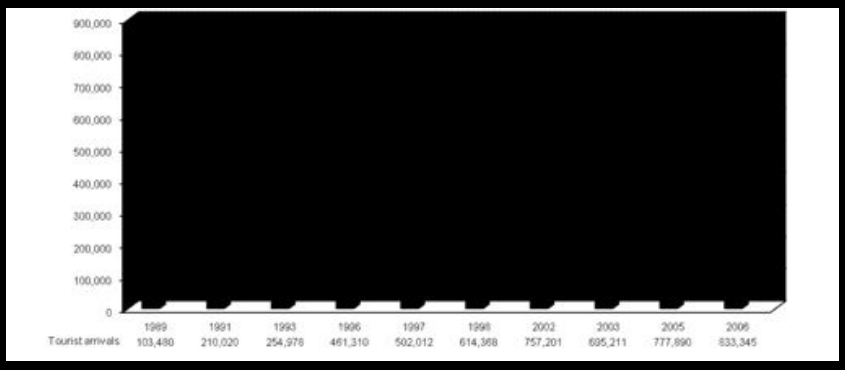
Joint Venture Lodges & Campsites

Live Sale Values (N$)

Springbok –	N$ 750
Oryx / Kudu –	N$ 1,750
Giraffe –	N$ 10,000
Roan –	N$ 80,000
Sable –	N$ 90,000
Buffalo –	N$105,000
White Rhino –	N$160,000

Cattle – N$3,000
Goats – N$ 400

Number of Tourist Arrivals To Namibia: 1989-2006



- Massive growth in Tourism Sector since 1989
- Now over 800,000 visitors a year
- 6.9% growth projected for next 10 years
- 72,000 tourism related jobs
- Estimated 16% of GDP

Increasing Number of Foreign Hunters To Namibia: 1994 - 2006

- A hunter spends between US$8,000 - $10,000 per trip in Namibia

Conversion To Wildlife & Tourism Is Leading To Large Landscape Linkages, Strengthened Ecosystem Health, and Enhanced Rural Development in Namibia

Land Under Conservation:

1990 - 12%
2008 – 38%

Lessons Learned

- Foreign and/or national subsidies can perversely affect resource values
- Enabling policies must be in place to allow rural communities to realize enhanced resource values
- Linkages must be made between benefits acquired and resource management
- Conservation can be enhanced by harnessing values at different points of the marketing chains
- Benefits derived from natural resources must be competitive with other land uses for resource users to have the incentive to conserve them
- Effective conservation requires a paradigm shift

Conclusions:

- The development of IBD production systems will often out-perform traditional farming systems in arid areas of Africa
- The strongest incentives for wise and sustainable use of wildlife and IBD and their long-term conservation are created by these resources having a high and tradable value – the higher the value the better
- The best way to operationalize an incentive-based approach is to devolve rights over wildlife and other IBD to the lowest appropriate operational level – farmers, land-owners, communities, custodians of the land, etc.
- Policy reform is critical to unlocking increased values of wildlife & IBD
- Wildlife-based tourism can generate greater employment than extensive livestock production
- Wildlife-based tourism can be a viable rural development approach if appropriate attractions and markets are developed
- The integration of wildlife-based tourism with agriculture in Namibia has proven to be an effective livelihood enhancement strategy, by jointly increasing income and reducing risks

Food For Thought:

- What are the competitive advantages of the Great Plains States?
- Are there policy changes that could be made in the Great Plains States that would unlock increased returns to landowners from wildlife and indigenous biodiversity production?
- Are there emerging markets or under-developed markets that could be tapped ?
- Are there market trends that reflect anticipated increased demands for indigenous biodiversity?
- Will rising agricultural production costs make wildlife and tourism a more competitive landuse?