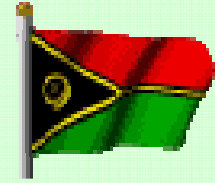


Regional Workshop on Updating and Revision of NBSAPs



3-7 October 2011

Nadi, Fiji Islands

Country Presentation: Vanuatu

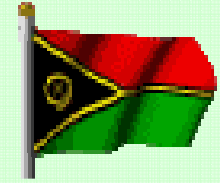
*Presented by: Trinison Tarivonda (on behalf of Vatu
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1.1 - Présentation général de votre pays en terme de biodiversité Your country's presentation on the state of biodiversity overall

- Vanuatu's state of biodiversity
- 83 islands; over 40 are inhabited, others are uninhabited. About 12 main islands on the basis of size and population.
- Total landmass of 12,930 square kilometres
- Total EEZ of 680 square kilometres,
- Total population (2009) – 220,000 approx
- Biologically speaking, Vanuatu's biodiversity is not that rich compared to neighboring countries like New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. This means these countries have a high level of biodiversity and endemism. Overall richness and endemism in Vanuatu range from low to moderate.



- Reasons:
 - Geologically, Vanuatu islands are young and smaller in size and quite isolated from large landmass
 - Frequent damages to biodiversity resulting from cyclonic, seismic and volcanic activity which have further impacted on the development of a rich biodiversity

Nevertheless, a certain number of endemic species have evolved in an environment isolated from other genetic resources.

- Little is known about the full range of fauna and flora in Vanuatu. Very few studies undertaken in the past, many of our islands have never been surveyed in detail.



From information that is available....

- only few species being studied in detail...orchids, palms, reptiles, flying foxes, avifauna, insectivorous bats, commercial timber tree species and sandalwood, freshwater fishes and crustaceans.
- Many species are in decline
- A significant number of endemic species found
- At the moment there are only three known endemic genera ...endangered palm (*Carpoxylum macrospermum*), Flycatcher (*Neolalage banksiana*) and Freshwater fish (*Akihito vanuatu*).
- Two species of giant clam (*Tridacna maxima* & *T. squamosa*) have become extinct
- *Megapodes* and coconut crab are becoming rare
- Populations of black flying foxes have declined
- Several over-exploited marine resources are locally at risk....trochus, green snail, clams, triton, etc..



- Many natural and cultural significant areas throughout Vanuatu are protected under custom law or 'taboo' (traditional resource management systems), especially in the rural areas. This helps protect our biodiversity.
- At the national level, several community conservation areas that have been established through traditional management systems are also registered under the Environmental Management and Conservation Act of 2002. Examples are Vathe and Penoru Conservation Areas (Santo-Northern Vanuatu) CA Mere-Sauwia conservation area (Nguna-Central Vanuatu)



2.1- Quels sont les éléments majeurs de votre précédent SPANB? What are the major elements of your previous NBSAP?

Major elements of our NBSAP:

- There are 6 main objectives, with a list of priority areas being highlighted under each objective:

Objective 1: Biodiversity protection and conservation

Priority 1: Watershed management

Priority 2: Management of introduced species

Priority 3: Used resources

Priority 4: Management of cultural heritage

Priority 5: Conservation of significant species and places

Objective 2: Apply policy, planning and legal mechanisms to enable sustainable management of biodiversity



Priority 1: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Priority 2: Financing biodiversity

Priority 3: Intellectual property rights

Priority 4: Import and export of species

Priority 5: Establish a Scientific Research Council (SRC)

Objective 3: Research, assessment and monitoring of biodiversity

Priority 1: Establish and maintain a biodiversity bankbook

Priority 2: Biodiversity monitoring

Priority 3: Research into priority species

Objective 4: Capacity building for environmental management



Priority 1: Improve access to technical resources necessary for biodiversity conservation

Priority 2: Establish a high level Environment Coordinating Committee

Priority 3: Technical and Management Training

Objective 5: Environmental education, awareness and information sharing

Priority 1: Encourage local communities to share experiences of biodiversity and conservation activities

Priority 2: Awareness of the value and importance of biodiversity

Priority 3: Improve awareness of the invasive risks of introduced species and their movement between islands

Priority 4: Raise community awareness of the provisions of environmental and natural resource legislation

Objective 6: Participation of local communities in the management of biodiversity



2.2 – Quelle est la méthodologie utilisée pour la mise en œuvre de votre précédent SPANB?

What is the methodology used for implementing your previous NBSAP?

Methodology for NBSAP implementation:

- 1) Consultation meetings and workshops with communities, provincial and national governments and other stakeholders
- 2) Involvement of other government departments/sectors
- 3) Trainings
- 4) Research/fieldwork
- 5) EIA
- 6) Field monitoring and compliance
- 7) Production of awareness materials and information
- 8) Media coverage

2.3 – Quelles sont les leçons tirées de votre expérience avec le précédent SPANB?

What are the lessons learned from your previous NBSAP experience?

Lessons learned:

- Lack of coordination and collaboration with other government departments/sectors in regard to implementation of the NBSAP.
- Limited number of staff and resources (budget) faced by Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) to implement fully the NBSAP
- Activities require submission of proposals to potential donors for funding but this does not happen because of lack of any specific staff to write up the proposals.
- Staffing problems. There has never been a full-time biodiversity officer with the Department until 2010.
- Apart from the above constraints many government sectors and NGOs have used the NBSAP (which is an environmental policy) to prepare their project proposals that got funding. Eg. IWRMD project, FAO/GEF project, Invasive Species projects of Govt & Live n Learn, Ad hoc researches focus on specific species or sites that are covered in the NBSAP, MESCAL project, etc.



3.1- Comment vous prévoyez la révision de votre SPANB?

What are your plans for the revision of your NBSAP?

Our plans are:

- To secure funding from a potential donor for the revision of NBSAP
- Once funding is secured, a project coordinator will be recruited to coordinate implementation of the NBSAP review.
- Review should be completed within 2 months (either late 2011 or early 2012 depending on availability of funds) and presented to the government on way forward.
- Involvement of relevant national, provincial and community stakeholders in the way forward activities for further work to compile revised NBSAP version.
- Government endorsement and onward submission of document to the Secretariat.



3.2 – Citez les différentes étapes du processus de révision.
Outline the different stages of your revision process.

Different stages of revision process:

- 1) Preparations: Rapid stock-taking and review of plans, policies, reports, etc.. National stakeholders consultation meetings
- 2) Setting national targets & priorities
- 3) Developing the strategy and actions
- 4) Development of implementation plans
- 5) Implementation of NBSAP
- 6) Reporting (e.g National reports)



3.3 – Quelles sont les opportunités offert par le nouveau SPANB?

What are the benefits of the new NBSAP?

Benefits of the new NBSAP:

- Updated copy of NBSAP after 10 years
- A document that can be implemented well with the country's budget and/or donor financial support
- Easy to follow and makes more sense
- Workable and allow relevant organizations for effective implementation.



3.4 – Quelles sont les contraintes? What are the constraints?

Constraints

- Staffing problem – no full time Biodiversity Officer since NBSAP was produced in 1999.
- Limited staff of Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) to fully implement the NBSAP.
- Limited budget for DEPC- not much political will to financially support work of environment.
- Lack of coordination between DEPC and other government departments to implement fully the NBSAP.



4.1 – Conclusions.

- NBSAP was produced in 1999 – (its now 10 years old).
- Some of the activities in the NBSAP have been implemented by DEPC.
- Other activities are yet to be implemented.
- Current NBSAP needs to be reviewed.
- Funds are needed to undertake the review of the NBSAP immediately.
- A new/revised NBSAP that is workable is needed for implementation.



Thank you!!!!

