



Ministry of Environment and Tourism

An Overview of Biodiversity Management in Namibia





Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Strategic Goal E

Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building



Target 20

“By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties”



The basis for biodiversity management in Namibia begins with Article 95 (1) of the Constitution....

“The State shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting, inter alia, policies aimed at maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future”



Key Developments

The MET responsible for implementing Article 95 (I):

- UNCBD signed in 1992 and ratified in 1997
- National Biodiversity Programme implemented from 1994-2005
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan from 2001-2010
- Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2020 being formulated



National Biodiversity Programme (1994-2005) Objectives

- Improve the quality, quantity and accessibility of biodiversity information
- Improve planning and policy integration related to biological diversity/ecological functioning
- Analyse the adequacy of existing conservation measures
- Plan the means to monitor processes threatening biological diversity/ecological functioning
- Strengthen capacity in Namibian technical institutions concerned with biodiversity inventory and conservation work.



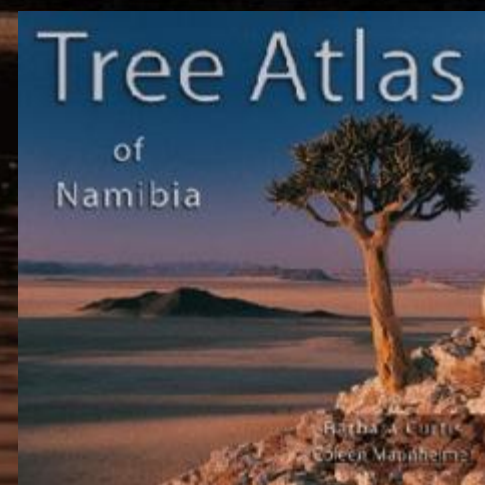
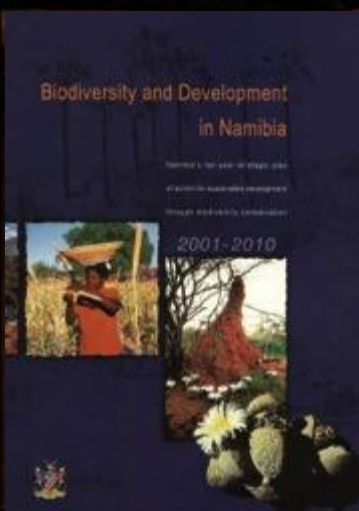
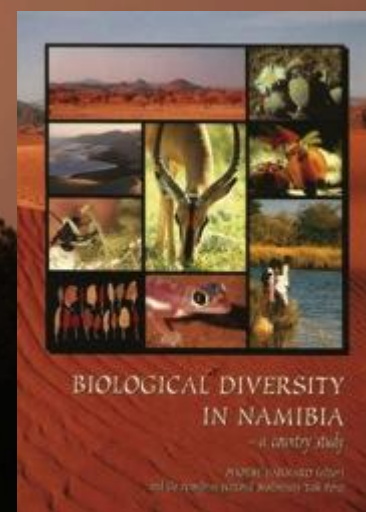
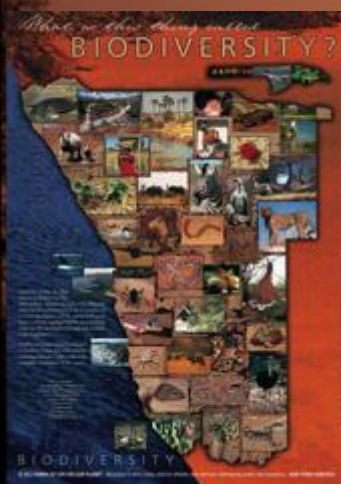
National Biodiversity Programme (1994-2005) Structure and Functioning

- Majority of Funding provided by GTZ (long term support partner of the MET)
- Project Coordinator, Head of MET International Conventions Unit, and a small number of secretarial staff responsible for project implementation
- Multi-stakeholder and inter-disciplinary National Biodiversity Task Force established in late 1990s involving 8 ministries, tertiary education institutions, parastatals, the private sector, NGOs and unions
- Taskforce set up 21 Working Groups to deal with different priority biodiversity issues and to develop the NBSAP



National Biodiversity Programme (1994-2005) Some Achievements

- Monitoring of Biodiversity Status and hotspots
- Improved Awareness Raising
- Mainstreaming of biodiversity issues into national development planning (Vision 2030 and NDP 2) and MET activities
- Policy environment more cognisant of biodiversity created (Nature Conservation Amendment Act (conservancies), draft ABS, biosafety and biotechnology)
- Formulation of expert working groups
- Online Database (www.biodiversity.org.na)





Expert Working Groups which facilitated the development of Namibia's NBSAP

Terrestrial Biomes	National Wetlands	Coastal & Marine Biodiversity
Namibian Environmental Observatories Network	Mountain Ecosystems Group	Restoration Ecology
Forest Biodiversity	Agricultural Biodiversity	National Biosystematics
Namibian Biotechnology Alliance	Biotrade	Traditional Knowledge
Biodiversity, Land Use & Land Tenure Project team	Awareness & Education	Alien Invasive Species
Tree Atlas Project	Sperrgebiet Interest Group	Finance Committee
Carnivore Atlas Project	BIOTA Liaison Group	Southern African Biodiversity Support Project Committee



The NBSAP (2001-2010)

- **Objective:** *“to protect ecosystems, biological diversity and ecological processes through conservation and sustainable use, thereby supporting the livelihoods, self-reliance and quality of life of Namibians in perpetuity”*
- **Functionality:** 10 Strategic themes of operation with 55 strategic aims to be addressed, and 242 time-bound targets to be reached
- **Implementation:** Coordinated through MET, with actions carried out by government agencies, NGOs, donor projects, and private sector



“NBSAP document has played a key role in identifying priority biodiversity areas for action and for attracting GEF funds to target these areas”

Estimated US\$35.5 million worth of national GEF-funded projects active during the NBSAP. Some Examples include:

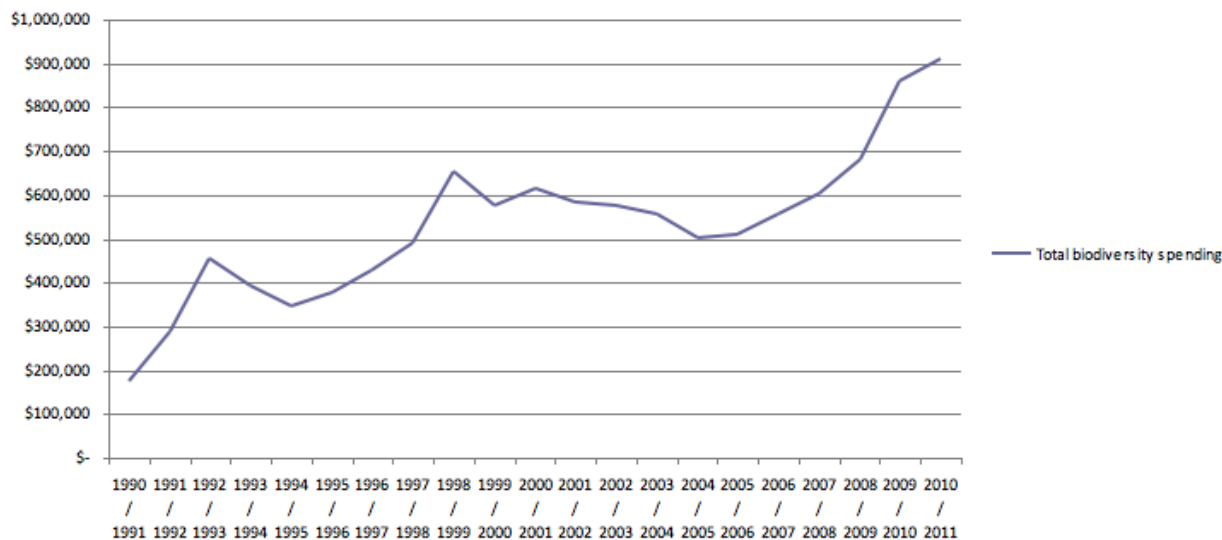
1. Strengthening the Protected Area Network (SPAN) Project in Namibia (2006-2012)
2. Integrated Management of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) Project (2002-) (Regional Project)
3. Strengthening Capacity Enhancement to Implement the Global Environmental Conventions in Namibia (CEGEM) Project (2009-2012)
4. Small Grants Programme (2003-)
5. Country Pilot Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Land Management Programme (CPP-ISLM) (2008-2018)
6. Namibian Coast Conservation and Management Project (NACOMA) (2005-2011)
7. Integrated Community-Based Ecosystem Management Project (ICEMA) (2004-2011)



Biodiversity Management in Namibia



- Strong bilateral support in the area of natural resource management, particularly from long-term partners such as Germany and the United States, has also been useful
- Private sector through private nature reserves, eco-tourism operators and Corporate Social Responsibility Programmes of large mines and banks
- Last but certainly not least, an increasing Government contribution towards biodiversity conservation



Total government spending on biodiversity is approaching N\$1 billion per year though scope for more



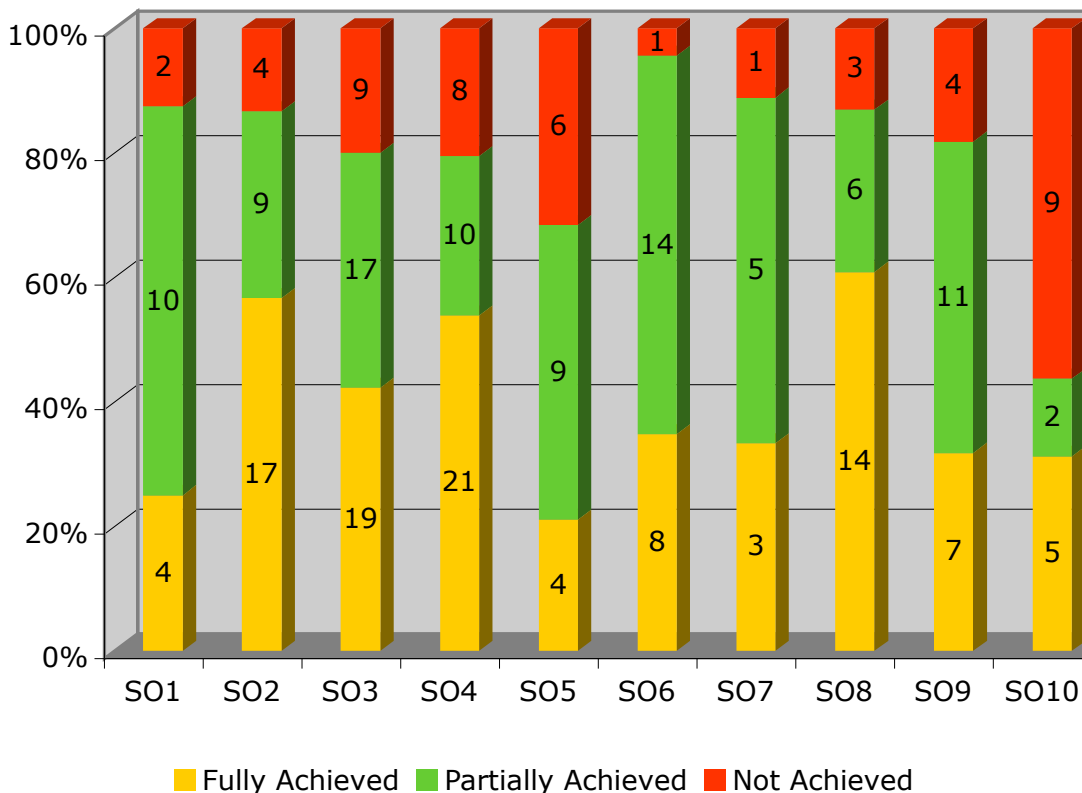
Statutory Environment funds

- The Game Products Trust Fund was created in support of the conservation and management of wildlife resources and rural development.
- The Environmental Investment Fund is aimed at enhancing the country's environmental and wildlife protection efforts.



Preliminary Results of the NBSAP

- Overall: 102 targets fully achieved; 93 partly achieved (80.4% of targets fully or partly achieved)
- Particularly strong performance under strategic objectives 1, 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9 (see below)



SO1=Biodiversity Conservation in Priority Areas

SO2=Sustainable use of natural resources

SO3=Monitoring environmental change

SO4=Sustainable Land Management

SO5=Sustainable Wetland Management

SO6=Sustainable Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management

SO7= Integrated Planning for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development

SO8=Namibia's role in the International Community

SO9= Capacity building for biodiversity management

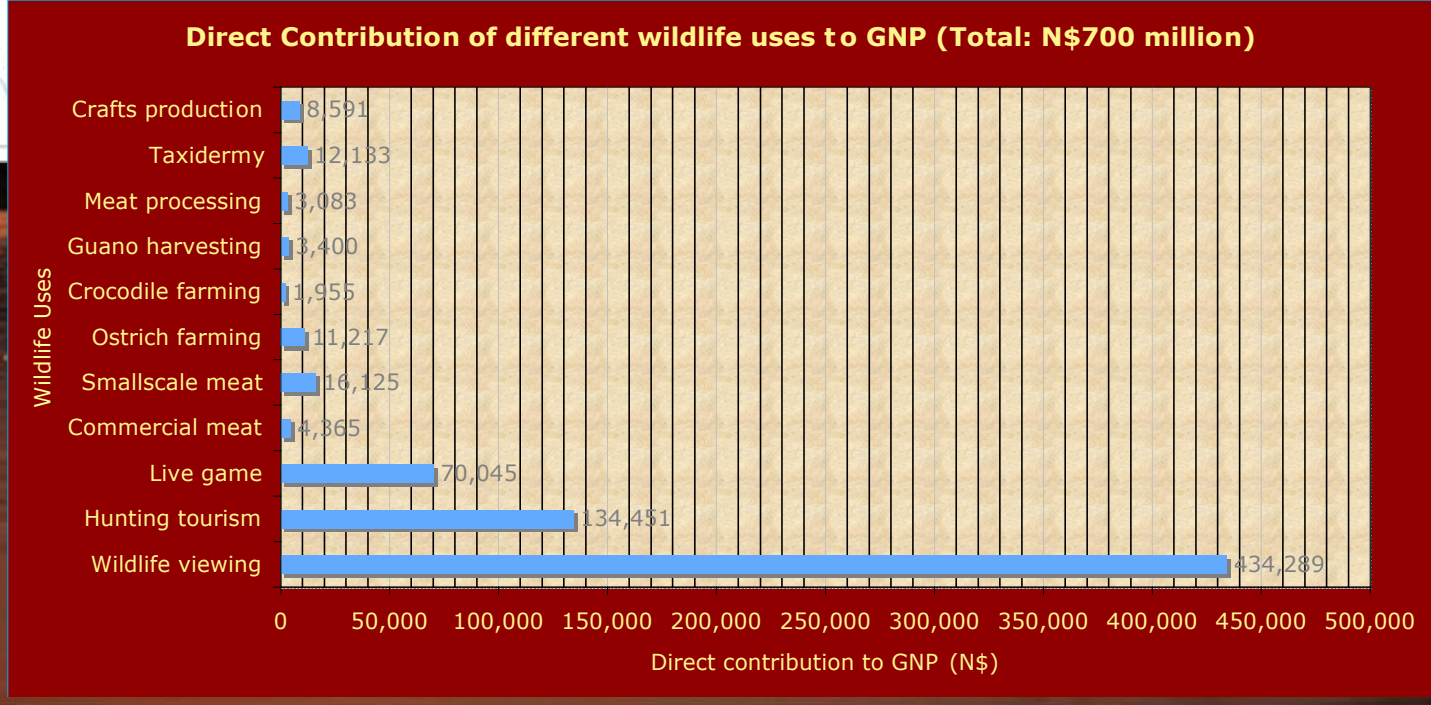
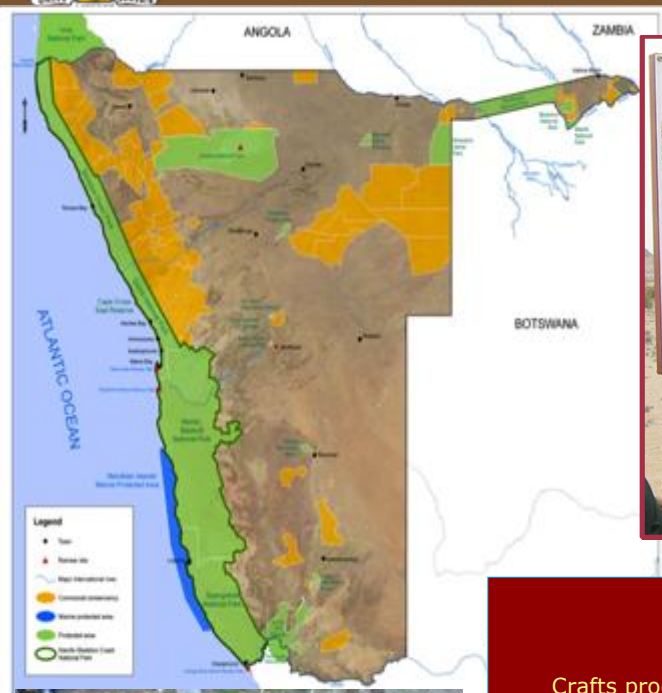
SO10=Implementation of the NBSAP



Some Examples

- Over 40% of Namibia now under conservation management with over 90% of Namibia's biodiversity hotspot Succulent Karoo protected through the Sperrgebiet NP (2008)
- Entire Coastline now one NP (8th largest in world) and first Marine Protected Area proclaimed in 2009
- Indigenous Plant Products contributed N\$13.5 million to GDP in 2009. Namibia's first ABS agreement involving commiphora resin
- Sustainable use of wildlife (mainly through safaris and trophy hunting) contributed N\$700 million to GDP in 2004 (2.5%)
- Capacity to carry out and scrutinize SEAs and EIAs in place
- National Action Plan to promote SLM in place
- Rights over resources increasingly devolved to communities in the shape of communal conservancies and community forests (nearly 20% of Namibia's land mass)

Biodiversity Management in Namibia





Way Forward for Namibia

- Complete thorough review of NBSAP1 to guide formulation of NBSAP2
 - Areas to consider include coordinating mechanism, realistic versus ambitious target setting, coordinating of donor support, making GEF projects sustainable, flexibility
- Finalize domestic ABS legislation in line with Nagoya Protocol
- Expand support to biodiversity-based livelihoods, particularly smallscale enterprises based on the sustainable use of INPs and wildlife and eco-tourism
- Improve the coverage of communal conservancies and protected areas and their management effectiveness
- Increase support from national government for biodiversity



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