



Kalahari Conservation Society EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES IN IN CBNRM/ ILC PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

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Courtesy – Botswana National CBNRM Forum



Reasons for establishing CBNRM in Botswana -1

- Governments in southern Africa realised they could not carry out conservation on their own – they did not have enough staff
- It was logical to enlist the assistance of communities - a people centered approach in conservation
- It was (is) a tool for rural & community development - ***as well as community conservation participation mechanism***

CBNRM activities in Southern Africa



- ✓ Wildlife based activities
- ✓ Veld and forest products
- ✓ Cultural tourism
- ✓ Craft production
- ✓ Fisheries
- ✓ Rangeland management
- ✓ Transboundary water resources



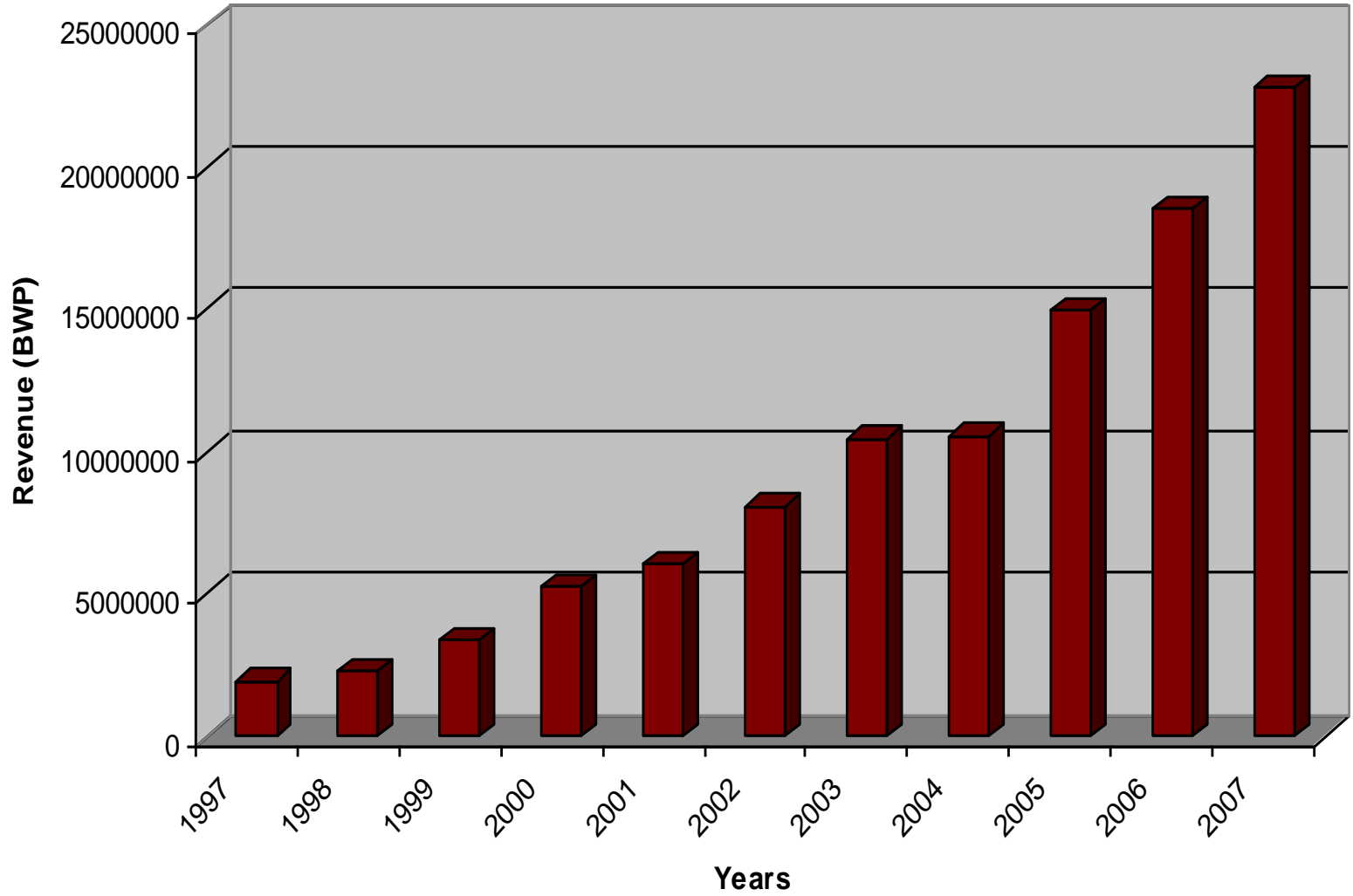
NOTABLE CBNRM Achievements

- Provision of social services ie. grants to elderly, orphans, youth, water supplies etc.
- Technology and product development;
- Exposure to private sector and business thinking and management;
- Development of skills and increased accountability (in some pro-active communities);
- Development of better working relations between communities, government, conservation institutions and donors;

CBNRM Achievements

- Local empowerment, pride development and self confidence;
- Strengthening of the village identity and culture;
- Retaining educated and productive youth in rural areas;
- Reduced dependency on government support. High social status of CBNRM members and villages;
- Establishment of representative village institutions;

Total Revenues-All CBOS



So why have we got so many
question marks in our
Recipe for CBNRM Success and what
Indigenous local communities in the
World should be cautious about?

Problems facing CBNRM 1

- Management of natural resources:
 - Some communities are ‘resource rich’ and others are ‘resource poor’ (North vs South)
 - Lack of clarity over custodian roles – communities don’t know what is expected of them when NRs belong to the state
 - Lack of management capacity and skills in communities to meet expectations (IK vs Modern Science)
 - Communities do not participate in decision making over management and use of NRs – Government decides and informs communities

Problems facing CBNRM 2

- Tenure and Access Rights
 - Lack of, or minimal, access rights over natural resources
 - Consequently communities feel alienated from their NRs and disenfranchised about their role as managers & custodians of the resources
 - Competition over limited resources in one or two communities – although others co-exist peacefully with each other ie. OCT

Problems facing CENRM 3

- Lack of ... blame ... in CBO's:
 - Commu ... table
 - ... nces
 - Little ... ket
 - ad ...
 - Lack of ent ... / ... ility to start up SMEs
 - Poor Constitution ... evelope ... – bad practices

Whose fault is this?

Problems facing CBNRM 4

- Lack of implementation capacity within support institutions such as NGOs and Government:
 - Lack of national ‘dedicated’ rural development extension programme in most countries
 - Inadequate manpower to cover all communities
 - Lack of capability in rural development extension and transformation skills amongst existing departments in Botswana
 - Lack of cohesion and collaboration amongst support organisations
 - No prosecutions of felons and embezzlers – thus no stigma or deterrent to others

Problems facing CBNRM 5

- Access to Markets & Capacity to Market
 - Most markets poorly developed or identified
 - Little Government support in developing or identifying new markets
 - Capacity only now emerging – Veld Products Research, Phytotrade Africa.

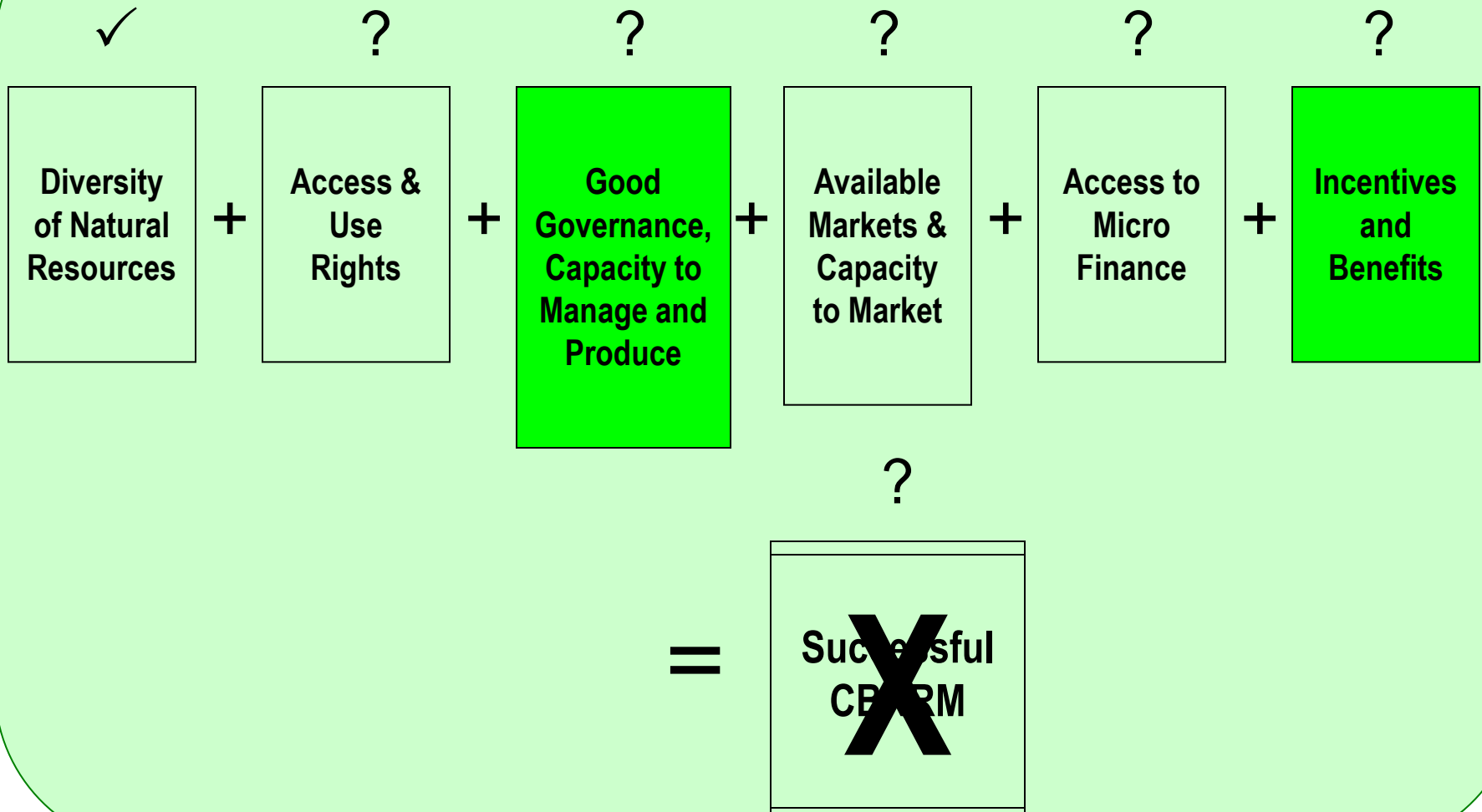
Problems facing CFNRM 7

- Incentives and Benefits
 - Lack of ... key
 - Lack of ...
 - Lack of ...
 - Benefits can ... those sitting on BoTs
 - Little flow of benefits to the household level

Whose fault is this?

An Holistic Approach to CBNRM

ENABLING GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENT



The Root-cause of Problems

- Lack of capacity in government and NGOs to carry out rural development transformation, leading to:
 - Communities have not been able to develop adequate good governance skills and ethics (weak community institutions)
 - Communities inability to hold their leadership accountable for their actions through democratic means – especially Boards of Trustees
 - Government's failure to prosecute felons and embezzlers of community funds and make examples of offenders
 - Disjointed support by NGOs

Suggested approach 1

- Focus on developing good governance and strengthening community institutions – allowing communities to hold their people accountable
- Ensure felons and embezzlers of community funds are prosecuted – we need to set an example
- Developing management capacity in communities and CBOs to prevent maladministration – especially enabling entire communities to hold their leaders accountable
- Recognise that CBNRM is a rural development and participatory conservation strategy and cannot be fast-tracked beyond the pace that communities can withstand

Suggested approach 2

- Revisit the CBNRM policy – have we given ourselves the chance to implement the 2008 Policy to enable CBNRM problems to be addressed
- Develop CBNRM policy implementation strategy
- Encourage the establishment of a representative Association of CBNRM organisations ie. Nacso in Namibia

Suggested approach 3

- Ensure that the national rural development and transformation processes are carried out by a dedicated rural development agency or department along with NGOs;
- Specialist Agencies should focus on supporting the technical elements of their mandates:
 - Wildlife focuses on wildlife enterprises
 - Tourism focuses on supporting, developing marketing tourism enterprises
 - Forestry - focuses on veld products
 - Agriculture focuses on cropping and livestock

Building Capacity through Procedural Conformance

Government should monitor procedural conformance to ensure

- Full participation and democracy,
- Equity,
- Transparency and accountability,
- Protect the weak against the **serious threat of elite capture**

Hence Capacity-building should focus on:

1. Sound constitutions and awareness of them
2. Information flow
3. Participatory financial allocation and accountability

THE END - GOD BLESS ILCs/CBNRM

