

# Introduction: Green Economy Study on Biotrade and linkages to Rapid Trade and Environment Assessment (RTEA 2009)

Juliane Zeidler (PhD)  
Integrated Environmental Consultants Namibia  
(IECN)

Windhoek, 24 August 2010

# Recap: the Rapid Trade and Environment Assessment in Namibia (2009)

- Project of Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
- Through Southern African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA) of the Trade Knowledge Network (TKN), funded by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD)
- Consultative project under chairmanship of MTI
- Commissioned 4 expert sector studies and prepared National Report (see <http://www.tradeknowledgenetwork.net/> and <http://www.iisd.org/publications/>)
- 29 & 30 July 2009 held National workshop; back-to-back planning for Capacity Building for BioTrade (CBBT) project



# RTEA Key Recommendations

1. Policy-makers need to look at creating incentives for markets in unique, specialized products.
2. Namibia should establish a national forum on trade and environment issues to continue work in areas highlighted by the assessment.
3. Namibia needs more appropriate carbon-market mechanisms that support sustainable land management and rural development (so-called co-benefits).
4. The government should commit resources to prepare and train Namibian negotiators attending international forums on the diversity of relevant domestic policy considerations.

# RTEA Key findings

1. Namibia should capitalize on comparative advantages in high-value niche sectors for specialized products and services.
2. Many good efforts in ecotourism and natural products development, for example, are already underway.
3. Namibia continues to forego many opportunities in the formal and informal carbon market.
4. Would benefit from appointing a technical body/champion (e.g. Namibian Standards Institute) to monitor international market and labelling developments and communicate updates to relevant stakeholders.
5. Need to address conflict between the rural development imperative, sustainable land management, and commercial meat exports through harmonized policies.
6. Government agencies negotiating international policies that can negate each other's efforts need to coordinate.

# Green Economy Study

- Specific activity under CBBT project
- Parallel studies in Namibia, Nepal, Peru
- Country analysis aims to identify opportunities to greening the economy including through biotrade
- A Green Economy can be characterised by substantially increased investments in economic sectors that build on and enhance natural capital and reduced environmental risks.
- In Namibia: need to look at Green Economy opportunities in context of Vision 2030, aiming to transform Namibia to an industrialised country by 2030, with a majority of people living in urban centres and a substantially reformed agriculture sector.

# Study process

- Preparation of working draft presentation for 1<sup>st</sup> National Workshop
- Stakeholder consultations at 1<sup>st</sup> National Workshop, refinement of study scope and input collection
- Draft report for national/ international review (end of September)
- Final draft to be presented at 2<sup>nd</sup> National Workshop November 2010



# Study content

## **Green Economy Study Namibia**

### ***Draft Table of Contents***

30 July 2010, *Laudika Kandjinga, Klaus Schade, Juliane Zeidler*

#### **Foreword**

#### **Key Messages**

#### **Executive Summary**

#### **Introduction**

- Rational of study – what is the “green economy” concept and why is it important for Namibia,, incl. reference to Vision 2030
- Economic profile
- Environmental profile – key issues for Namibia in terms of biodiversity

#### **Overview of the biotrade sector**

- Framework for study: Biotrade sectors in Namibia (detailed -. setting the scene for key sectors; select/confirm focal sectors for analysis during workshop)
- Stakeholders
- Current status
- Investments
- Regulations, certification and standards
- National and regional policies

#### **Rational for transitioning to a green economy in Namibia – biotrade sector contributions**

- Overall statement on rational
- Argument based on selected case studies (focal sectors)

#### **Existing barriers to trade in biodiversity based products (domestic and international) and barriers to transitioning to a green economy for Namibia**

- Overall statement on existing barriers
- Argument based on selected case studies (focal sectors)

#### **Setting Namibia up for a green future: Opportunities for investment and policy reforms**

- Overall statement on opportunities for investment and policy reforms
- Argument based on selected case studies (focal sectors)

#### **Potential impacts and projections for growth, and indicators for measuring progress**

- Overall statement on potential impacts, projections and indicators
- Argument based on selected case studies (focal sectors)

#### **Annexes**

# Environmental Profile

## *Environment Top Topics*

### **Water:**

- Demand vs sustainable use; valuation
- Availability, esp. climate change impacts
- Access, infrastructure & maintenance
- Capacity support

### **Land, natural resource & ecosystem management:**

- Land degradation, desertification, loss of productivity
- Ecosystem services & natural limits of dryland productivity; valuation
- Sustainable use and management practices; land/resource use choices; incentives
- Land reform
- Appropriate technology & development
- Capacity support

### **Biodiversity and ecosystem services:**

- Natural variability of ecosystems
- Conservation and protection; valuation
- Parks & CBNRM; incentive measures
- Sustainable use; valuation

### **Drought, extreme events & climate change:**

- Natural variability of climate
- Preparedness & adaptation
- Early warning & response measures

**Waste management & pollution;** cleaner production; environmentally sound/sustainable industries

## *Development Linkages*

### **Sustainable energies:**

- Fuel wood dependency & shortages; deforestation
- Energy crises: availability & access
- Research and technology development

### **Sustainable tourism:**

- Conservation
- Benefit sharing; incentives
- Infrastructure & services
- Political stability

### **Sustainable production systems:**

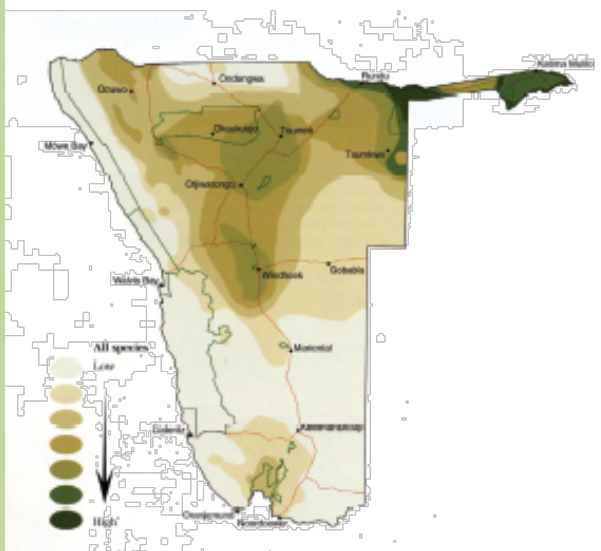
- Agriculture & rangelands
- Fisheries
- Forestry

### **Sustainable industries:**

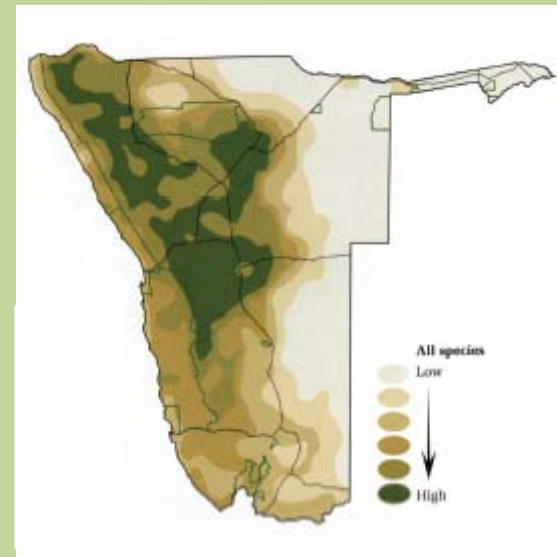
- Environmental Impacts
- Opportunity costs

# Biodiversity traits

- Superb biodiversity, with “globally recognised biodiversity hotspots”.
- Adapted to Namibia’s arid climatic conditions rich level of endemism and other biodiversity of high value (for conservation, use and economic development).
- Ecosystem services mostly not valorised in Namibia.



**Richness**



**Endemism**

# Defining Green Economy Study

## Namibia - Biotrade sectors

### **Natural resource based production sectors:**

**Fisheries** (incl. inland and marine; aqua- and mariculture)

**Forestry** (timber, and other non-timber products)

**Agriculture** (traditional commercial, novel and subsistence)

**Energy crops** (e.g. jatropha)

Wildlife (hunting, venison, other products)

### **BD sectors :**

**Indigenous plant and animals** (e.g. plant nurseries; crafts; maruela, tsama melon)

**Medicinal compounds and ABS** (e.g. Devils claw; Hoodia)

**Tourism** (wildlife, nature, landscape based; carbon-neutral destination); crafts

**Film industry**

### **Ecosystem services sectors :**

**Cultural services** (recreation, aesthetic, spiritual)

**Provisioning services** (food, water, wood)

**Regulating services** (climate, floods, disease)

**Supporting services** (soil, nutrients, growth)

### **Industrial sectors:**

**Renewable energy**

**Low-carbon transport**

**Energy efficient buildings**

**Appropriate waste management**

**Pollution management**

### **Climate change resilience investments:**

### **Thinking points:**

- Need to distinguish formal and informal sectors as well as commercial versus subsistence
- Consider degradation/overutilization issues (e.g. water a limiting resource to Namibia; urbanization problems (deforestation))