1st Global Platform for Business and Biodiversity

South African Example
SA CONTEXT

DRIVERS OF Biodiversity Conservation

3rd megadiverse country

Social
National Imperatives
Economics
Livelihoods
Ecological
International obligations
Sovereignty
Business
Regional

Policy & Legal Responses
Influence
Risks & Threats
Poverty & Inequality
Knowledge
Development
Food Security

Landscape
Ecosystem
Species
Genetic
LEGAL AND STRATEGIC TOOLS: A BASIS FOR ENGAGEMENT

• South Africa’s White Paper on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa’s Biological Diversity-1998
  – Policy objective 2.1.: integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into all sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies at all levels of government and industry

Business and Industry will play several important roles in the implementation of policy:
Compliance with nature Conservation and Environmental Regulations
Acceptance of Social Responsibility for Biodiversity
Development of Economic Activities that support the Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
LEGISLATION: OPPORTUNITIES

- Any legislation by government makes provision for robust consultation with all stakeholders in the development of all regulations and policies.
- Regulations have the impact to shift and create markets.

Medupi
TRADE AND POLICY INSTRUMENTS

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

- Trade in these species is regulated by a National permit system & CITES REGs.
- Industries that influence/affected by these regulations include:
  - Wildlife industries, Zoos, Botanical Gardens, PetTrade, Food, Pharmaceuticals and Traditional medicines, Textiles and Clothing etc.

CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

- SA adopts GM technology in crop production – 8th largest producer in the world
- Unique position as a developer and importer
- SA is pursuing a robust regime that will raise biosafety standards, be an effective deterrent and provide a win-win approach

National Access and Benefit Sharing Regs

- Permit System, Benefit Sharing Agreements, Trust Funds
SA Case Studies: Cross Sectoral Engagement

Raising the bar

There are many ways to generate more support for conservation, some well established, others only just emerging. Dr Andrew Bédil explains.
DRYLANDS FUND-DEA INITIATIVE WITH DBSA

• DRYLANDS FUND is a partnership between the Development Bank of South Africa falling under the auspices of the Department of Environmental Affairs grounded in the Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
  – designed as effective vehicle to promote a variety of funding mechanisms,
  – mobilize local and international finance,
  – Provide Governments, NGOs and Business to partner and invest in environmental management and improve rural livelihoods / poverty alleviation.
  – Provides nurturing, testing and rolling out the application of creative finance mechanisms.
  – Scaling – up of tested initiatives
EXPANSION OF THE CONSERVATION ESTATE

- The Protected Areas Act provides for the establishment of a National PA system and the expansion of the conservation Estate (NPAES)
  - Concessions & Leases can make a considerable contribution to management of the protected area. e.g. 7 concessions awarded to private consortia in South Africa in 2000 guaranteed SANParks at least R202 million over a twenty-year period.
  - Direct operation of activities of commercial goods and services by the protected area, e.g. Selling of timber in Tsitsikamma section of Garden Route National Park
  - Private Public Partnerships for guaranteed sales of craft items that are crafted by local people after the settlements of land claims in protected areas. E.g. Mr Price Home has agreement with EKZN wildlife. SANParks to allow filming and video shooting

- Co management
  - Private Nature Reserves
  - Biosphere Reserves
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Infrastructure Investment in tourism /hospitality /conservation sector-large number of hospitality and tourism operators based within or around the 7 Transfrontier Conservation Areas across 9 countries within the 9 SADC countries currently participate in the Boundless initiative.

Private conservation land owners alongside or in the TFCAs: they are contribute to enlarging the conservation footprint in the region, and many of them have invested significant resources in the expansion of areas being conserved, the clearing of alien vegetation and restoration of land degradation - thereby contributing to the health of the biodiversity of the TFCAs.

neighbouring lodge owners and tour operators contribute in an indirect way by providing accommodation and services.
MARINE & COASTAL BIODIVERSITY ~ 1
OCEANS & COASTS CONSERVATION: A REDEFINED PRIORITY

• New policy and measures to protect seabirds and prevent/limit by-catch during fishing have been introduced
• An Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries has been developed and applied to key commercial fisheries
• A new draft policy for small-scale commercial fishing was published in Sept 2010 after several years of consultation
• 4X4 Bundu Bashing
  – Beach Ban
  – Sparked a self regulatory Industry
Biodiversity Stewardship Program

- The BSP provides a tool to mitigate and/or offset, at the cost of the developer (not society), and at the same time securing the mitigation or offset arrangement as an economic investment for the business in a contractual arrangement.
- Verify ecolabeling.
- Show responsible environmental management.
- Create climate change corridors.
- Implement integrated social responsibility and environmental programmes.
BIODIVERSITY FISCAL REFORM

• DEA has developed Tax incentives and Property Rates Rebates in Partnership with The National Treasury

• Tax mechanisms need to be implemented and monitored through engagement with SARS

• Across the landowner spectrum, tax- and rates-based incentives are expected to be more effective with private land owners, and particularly on land of high commercial value and with landowners generating income (not necessarily from the land).

• However, these incentives are likely to be of little value on communal land where communities do not pay rates, or with landowners generating marginal income (as the tax deductions will be limited). In contrast, a PES programme, if implemented wisely, has the potential to incentivise biodiversity conservation while addressing poverty.

• Challenge: Need to expand the envelope and make Tax Incentives attractive enough to Big Businesses
SOUTH AFRICAN MINING AND BIODIVERSITY FORUM

• SAMBF
  – Established in 2005 to promote cross sectoral interaction and co-operation aimed at improving biodiversity conservation and management in mining industry
  – Development of best practice guideline which informed the development of Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Mining –A Guideline

• Challenge: To engage small mining companies as subsidiaries of larger Companies to adopt best practice
The Grasslands Program

- Initiated as a Discussion Forum to address one of the most threatened Biomes in SA fundamental to SA’s Economic Growth
- Expanded to a 20 Year GEF funded Initiative: Partnership between Government, private sector, civil society and academic sector
- Uses a Mainstreaming Approach into the major production sectors: Agriculture, Forestry, Urban Development and Coal Mining

Challenge: Grasslands Program has reached its Mid-Term Review: Ensuring the continued participation of partners is not always consistent with some production sectors not always reaching their targets: Market Dynamics
NEW TRENDS

- Case for Biodiversity: Communication and marketing strategy developed
- Complemented by SA TEEB study: need considerable investment in this process
- Recognise Ecosystem Services as powering the GREEN ECONOMY
- Annual Grasslands Partners Forum in partnership with UNDP and the Gordon Institute of Business: Discussion Forum: Biodiversity Powering the Green Economy
- Biodiversity and Business Seminars held (Partnership with CBD, NBI, Government) in the run up to COP 17
- Further dialogue on Biodiversity powering Business at the Rio Pavilion, COP17
- Review NBSAP with strong engagement of Business