

IMPLEMENTATION OF ZAMBIA'S NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Presented by: R. M. Lungu
Principal Natural Resources
Management Officer



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Background

- NBSAP was formulated in line with the provision of Article 6 of the CBD.
- NBSAP created a national administrative framework that serves to comply with Article 6 of the Convention and realising biodiversity conservation and management in Zambia.
- Ensures that biodiversity activities meet national interests as well as prioritizes actions required for achieving the objectives of the Convention

NBSAP Process

- Process derived from the commitment to fulfill the objectives of the Convention
- Process consisted of three cyclical steps, Country Study, National Strategy and the Action Plan
 - Country Study was primarily a desk study
 - Strategy formulation was aimed at defining immediate management objectives within the goals of conserving biodiversity
 - Action Planning entailed the translation of strategies and objectives into a specific actions to be carried out
- Six priority needs for biodiversity management were identified:

NBSAP Process Ct'd

- These include:
 - Conservation of ecosystems and Protected Areas
 - Sustainable use and management of biological resources
 - Equitable sharing of benefits
 - Conservation of crops and livestock genetic diversity
 - Provision of appropriate legal and institutional framework and needed human resources to deal with biosafety
 - Provision of appropriate legal and institutional frameworks and human resources to implement biodiversity programmes
- Six strategic goals were also agreed upon based on synthesis and analysis of available information

NBSAP Implementation

- Multi-disciplinary nature of NBSAP programmes call coordinated approach in its implementation
- Ministry of Tourism , Environment and Natural Resources coordinates the implementation of NBSAP programmes
- MTENR ensures that sector ministries integrate biodiversity conservation into their policies, plan and programmes
- Inter-ministerial steering committee was set up to provide technical guidance on biodiversity issues

NBSAP Implementation

- The following are more recent initiatives that have been undertaken for protecting biodiversity:
 - Reclassification of Protected Areas
 - Participation in a regional Lake Tanganyika Project
 - Preparation of the National Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy
 - Participated in SABSP involving 10 SADC countries.
 - Formulation of the National Policy on Environment
 - Community Based Natural Resources Management

Implementation Challenges

1. Public Participation and stakeholder involvement

- Responsibility for biodiversity conservation is essentially a state function
- Public participation and stakeholder involvement is integrated into legal frameworks for biodiversity conservation
- However, Biodiversity conservation and management has continued to be driven by state funded agencies with abundance of organisational and managerial problems
- State is currently encouraging private and community biodiversity conservation initiatives
- Effective local public participation and stakeholder involvement still inadequate and country continues to struggle with finding most effective participation model

Implementation Challenges Ct'd

2. Mainstreaming and Integration of biodiversity issues

- Mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors remains to be a very big challenge for Zambia
- Biodiversity management policies have not been mainstreamed into other sectors and have not had significant impact on these sectors nor the impact of other sectors on biodiversity been well understood.
- Development frameworks intended to support national sustainable development have fallen short of properly integrating biodiversity and other crosscutting issues
- Both Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the Transitional National Development Plan (2000 – 2005) had stand alone sections on environment and natural resources.

Implementation challenges ct'd

- Zambia's experience in implementing such national strategy plans shows that these government documents are generally not influencing the main forces affecting degradation of biodiversity
- The strategies have failed to establish systems and processes that engage the dominant sectors of society and government
- A serious challenge to effective action has been the weak coordination mechanisms of biodiversity agencies.
- Mechanisms for sustaining capacities for action in place are largely project driven e.g. formation of biodiversity working group
- Formation of Sector Advisory Groups (SAGs) and proposed Biodiversity Bill may help to overcome some challenges.

Lessons Learnt

- Stakeholder participation is key to successful implementation of biodiversity programme.
- Implementation of Biodiversity programmes need coordinated approach involving key stakeholders
- Relying on donor funds to implement our NBSAPs is not sustainable



THANK YOU