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Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management in the National Biotrade programme - Case of Uganda

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Presentation Flow

1. Background to the programme
2. BT experiences related to streamlining SLM at sector, enterprise and supplier levels
3. Drylands review study, conclusions and recommendations
4. Brief insight to trade related issues and implications for SLM

Background to the BioTrade Programme in Uganda

- Introduced in 2003 through Ministry of Trade
- National Committee established to guide the BT process (trade & environment ministries, R&D, etc)
- Addresses national development priorities (PEAP, PMA), environment strategies and National export strategy
- Baseline study to establish level & nature of trade. 4 priority sectors selected; **natural ingredients, wildlife trade, eco-tourism & carbon trade**
- Sector assessments carried out and strategies developed for three sectors.
 - ** *Project approved for joint support by UNDP, NL, GOU & UNCTAD.*
 - ** *Wildlife Trade Review Project application approved by CITES*



Minister Ministry of Tourism, Trade & Industry at the signing of the MOU between GOU and UNCTAD

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BT approach to streamlining SLM

1. Generation of biological data e.g resource assessments, botanical monographs, taxonomic information

- Partnership and collaboration with national agencies (e.g National Forestry Authority, Presidential Initiative on Karamoja, Makerere University, etc)
- Co-opted to national trade and biodiversity committees with similar objectives e.g BOZONET and BIO-EARN projects, Inter-institutional Committee on Trade, etc

Streamlining SLM – *Con't*

2. Technical support

- Sensitization on policy and regulation for trade in biodiversity products
- Technical inward missions (e.g CITES)
- Harmonization of UNCTAD and national SLM methodologies (Workshops, information updates)



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Technical support

- Enterprise support on breeding and species multiplication techniques (*onsite, study tours, etc*)
- Joint work plans (focused on assessments for compliance to BT P&C, market requirements)
- Supplier documentation (*by geographic region, socio-economic attributes, etc*)
- Assessment of supplier production practices and designing improvement programme



Streamlining SLM – Con't

3. Private sector engagement

- Support to sector association formation
- Mediation in public/private sector conflicts
- Awareness and information provision



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The case of drylands in Uganda

- Occupies 33% of total area including cattle corridors with known challenges of land degradation, water shortages



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Review study for dryland products *(work in progress)*

Proposed recommendations:

1. The BT responds to the National Action Plan (NAP) for combating desertification. Specific interventions should however be designed to further support its implementation
2. BT priority products focused on biodiversity rich areas, markets viability, enterprise interest, etc. Product prioritization should also be based on factors of; impact on land degradation, integration of SLM technologies, etc.
3. Expand BT National Committee to include NAP Secretariat.
4. Enhance institutional linkages with national and international projects and programmes related to drylands
5. Enhance capacity of BT staff to integrate dryland issues and the UNCCD

Recommendations – Con't

- Valuation of biodiversity resources should include dryland areas
- Through the VCA approach, explore community economic activities to enhance their involvement in biodiversity conservation e.g *nurseries to replenish wild collections*



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Trade related issues and liberalization impacts

- Informal cross-border trade in response to emerging regional market opportunities (*UBOS Study 2006*)
 - Total estimated value USD 200m (*while formal exports at USD 810m*) in 2005
 - Informal exports est. 85.3% of formal exports
 - Leading trading partners; Kenya, DR Congo, Rwanda & Sudan
 - Over 50% are agricultural products (maize and beans), others include G/nuts, millet and sorghum grains, horticulture products.
 - Biodiversity goods earned USD 0.2m (honey, crude salt, firewood, charcoal)
 - Offers employment opportunities for communities e.g money changing, transportation, repackaging, etc.

Trade related issues and liberalization impacts – con't

- Study recommendations: more appropriate national & regional policies, elimination of trade obstacles, organised trade for easy computation and to maximize benefits from existing trade regimes
- Key concern areas
 - Price offers lower than in formal trade
 - Poor quality
 - Food security concerns
 - Revenue loss
 - Income and employment generation

***** At President's Export Award in Oct 2006, UEPB tasked to implement study recommendations and streamline the trade – an opportunity to consider SLM issues.***

Thank you

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