



Regional workshop- Inter-linkages between
human health and biodiversity in Africa, Maputo,
Mozambique- 2-5 April 2013

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R.S.A – Brief Background

- Southern most part of African Continent
- Area coverage- 1 219 090 km²
- Population- 50,9 m- 2011 census
- 3 Levels of government- National, Provincial (9) and local (278 municipal) government level
- Common boundaries- Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho enclosed within R.S.A.
- Ministries and national institutions addressing health & biodiversity aspects-
DOH,DEA,DWA,DAFF,DHS,DOE,SANP,SABS,SAWS

Joint actions by health and diversity sectors at national level

- Establishment of national health and environment strategic & technical task team- various stakeholders.
- Develop SANA.
- Intersectoral collaboration in policy making-linking health and biodiversity. E.g. Different health and biodiversity sector ministries with different policies.
- Integration of objectives in health and biodiversity strategies- by different ministries.
- Identification of national priorities by task team
- Development of joint action plans for implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Partnership projects with neighbouring countries on common health and biodiversity issues

Key elements and needs for joint human health and biodiversity action plan

- Collaboration of -health and biodiversity sector policies and objectives at all levels of government, between health and various biodiversity sector ministries.
- Local and provincial-partnerships in projects between health and various biodiversity sectors.
- Strengthening available resources (human & finance)- all levels
- Strengthening health biodiversity databases
- Local- community involvement.
- Information dissemination-using various medias-all levels
- Training and capacity building strengthening-all health and environment ministries and institutions
- **Strengthening existing health and biodiversity sector structures e.g NCCM, Water quality monitoring forum**

Best practices that jointly address human health and biodiversity concerns

- National Climate Change and Health Adaptation Plan-addresses climate change factors and impacts on health.
- Various policy frameworks on health and biodiversity sector mandated to health and different biodiversity sector ministries, provinces and municipalities.
- Various ministries – human resource and financial resource to address environmental determinants of health-.
- Established Research institutions - MRC, CSIR,ARC-health, biodiversity & environment related research reports
- Established academia and basic education institutions- covers scope of health and biodiversity
- Milestone 18-19 Apr 2013- 1st SANA Meeting- brief identified stakeholders on the process and as kick start for process.
- Recognition of health and environment days by various health and environment sectors and NGOs- e.g WED- DOH & DEA and WFD- DOH & DAFF.
- Recognition of traditional medicine by health ministry and some municipalities- Policies and forums

Urgent actions needs

- Urgent –SANA conduction.
 - Policy and legislative framework reviews where necessary.
 - Intersectoral collaboration strengthening
 - Threat -Overpopulation- resources depletion- ecologic degradation- strategic intervention.
- Medium term – Training and capacity building strengthening
- long term – sustainability plan on implementation of action plans

THANK YOU