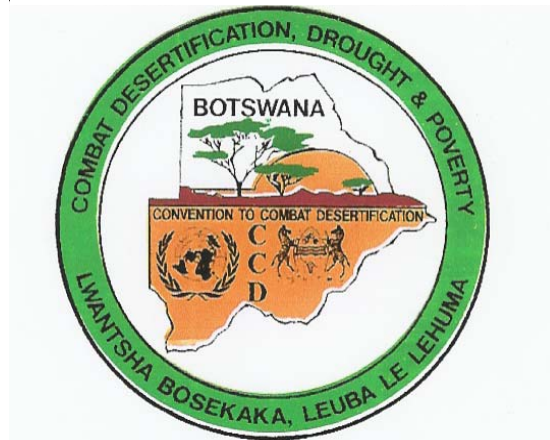




**Republic of Botswana**

# **Botswana National Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**



**November 2004**

# **Botswana National Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

*Prepared by*

*National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency  
Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism*

*Private Bag 0068  
Gaborone  
Botswana*

*Email: [envirobotswana@gov.bw](mailto:envirobotswana@gov.bw)*

## Table of Contents

Abbreviations .....	iv
Executive Summary .....	1
1. FOCAL POINT INSTITUTION .....	3
2. STATUS OF NAP IN BOTSWANA .....	3
3. MEMBER OF SRAP/RAP .....	3
4. COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE .....	4
5. TOTAL NUMBER OF NGOS ACCREDITED TO THE PROCESS .....	4
6. TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTS AND LAWS PASSED RELATING TO UNCCD .....	4
7. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS .....	5
7.1. Partnership Agreement* .....	5
7.2 Consultative meetings on UNCCD implementation .....	5
8. PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER IMPLEMENTATION WHICH ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RELATED TO THE UNCCD .....	6
9. STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND POLICIES .....	8
9.1 National Plans and Strategies available in other Social and Economic Areas ...	8
9.1.1 Draft Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Policy	8
9.2 National Plans or Strategies in the field of combating desertification developed prior to UNCCD NAP .....	8
10. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION .....	9
10.1 Established and Functional National Coordinating Body (NCB) .....	9
10.2 Institutional Framework for Coherent and Functional Desertification Control .....	9
10.3 NAP as part of the national Economic and Social Development Plan .....	9
10.4 Linkages with other Conventions and National Development Plans .....	10
10.5 Gaps between NAP and existing National Sustainable Policies .....	10
10.6 Coherent and Functional Legal and regulatory framework .....	10
10.7 Linkage achieved with Sub-Regional and Regional Action Programmes (SRAPS and RAPs) .....	10
10.8 Government Response to NAP .....	10
10.8.1 Adoption of NAP by Government .....	10
10.8.2 Financing of NAP .....	11
10.8.3 NAP implementation .....	11
11. PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME .....	11
11.1 Methods of Participation of various actors .....	11
11.2 Nature and Scope of Information Education and Communication Action .....	11
11.3 Extent of Uptake .....	12
12. CONSULTATION PROCESS IN SUPPORT FOR THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP AND THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED ENTITIES .....	12
12.1 Effective Support from International Partners for Cooperation .....	12
12.2 Catalytic support for the formulation of the NAP and the National Environmental/Desertification Fund (NDF) .....	12

13.	MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES .....	13
13.1	Adequate diagnosis of Past Experiences.....	13
13.2	Established technical programmes and functional integrated projects to combat desertification.....	13
13.3	Action Programmes implemented in compliance with priority fields set out in the convention.....	13
13.4	Linkage achieved with sub regional and regional action programmes.....	14
13.5	Effectiveness of measures in local capacity building .....	14
13.6	Partnership Agreements .....	14
14.	FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGET IN SUPPORT OF IMPEMETATION AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION.....	14
14.1	Adopted Financial Mechanisms.....	14
14.2	Resource Mobilization for the NAP process .....	15
15	REVIEW OF BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS UTILISED TO MEASURE PROGRESS AND ASSESSMENT.....	15
15.1	Operational mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation.....	15

## ANNEXURES

- Annexure 1: Country Profile**
- Annexure 2: Land Degradation**
- Annexure 3: List of People Consulted**
- Annexure 4: Photographs**
- Annexure 5: Integrated NDVI**

## **Abbreviations**

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
FAB	Forestry Association of Botswana
GEF	Global Environment Facility
MEWT	Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism
NAP	National Action Programme
NCB	National Coordinating Board
NCSA	National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency
NDP	National Development Plan
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NTF	National Task Force
RAP	Regional Action Programme
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SRAP	Sub regional Action Programme
TLIMS	Tribal Land Integrated Management System
TGLP	Tribal Grazing Land Policy
TPN	Thematic Programme Network
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combating Desertification
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNSO	United Nations Sudano–Sahel Organization

## **Executive Summary**

This report provides an update on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) by the Republic of Botswana. This is the third report to be submitted to UNCCD Secretariat, the first having been submitted in 1999 and the second in 2002.

Botswana is a semi arid country with a fragile ecosystem that is susceptible to land degradation that may lead to desertification. Land degradation in Botswana is mainly caused by a combination of human and natural/climatic factors. The government has recognized this problem and has been making efforts to address the situation. It has ratified a number of international conventions including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, and the UNCCD. The UNCCD was signed by the Government in October 1995 and ratified in 1996.

The Government has developed a Draft National Action Programme (NAP) to Combat Desertification. The draft NAP recognizes linkages between poverty and land degradation and the need to adopt plans, strategies and legislation aimed at addressing poverty at community level. Policies and measures aimed at addressing poverty alleviation have therefore been instituted and a number of project activities and programmes initiated which directly and indirectly address the desertification problem in the country. Notable policies and legislative measures introduced include the National Development Plan 9, Draft Forestry Policy, and Natural Resources Conservation and Development Policy, the Agricultural Resources Conservation Act and the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act. Government efforts are also being complemented by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) who have instituted programmes at community level aimed at sustainable livelihoods.

Government has also established institutional setups such as the National Focal Point and the National Task Force to implement the UNCCD. The Ministry of Agriculture was initially designated the National Focal Point but the responsibility has since been moved to the National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency (NCSA) under the Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism (MEWT).

Botswana continues to actively participate in regional efforts to combat desertification. This is demonstrated through the implementation of the Indigenous Vegetation Project (IVP), the Subregional Action Programme, the Desert Margins Programme and the proposed Kalahari-Namib Transboundary Project.

Though not yet formally approved by government, some facets of the Draft NAP have been incorporated into NDP 9 (2003-2009) as a component of the Land Resources Management Programme.

To date four projects have since been funded under the draft NAP with funds from the UNDP/UNSO. These are the Lehututu Community-based Natural Woodland Management Project, Rakops Tree Planting, Matsiloje Land Reclamation and Agroforestry Project and Mokobeng Agroforestry Woodlot.

Botswana is in the process of preparing for submission a project proposal to GEF for funding the development of a Land Degradation Policy.

Government continues to fund the projects that are related to combating desertification as part of departmental mandates. Moreover, Government has gone a step further to allocate funds for possible funding of NAP activities under NDP 9.

Consultations with stakeholders revealed the following constraints/challenges with regard to the implementation of UNCCD in Botswana.

1. Government still has to approve NAP so as to give it a formal status.
2. Lack of a clear framework for the implementation of Conventions at country level. Such framework would ensure collaboration and lead to sustainable land Utilization.
3. Uncoordinated efforts within and between stakeholders including government, Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community-based Organizations (CBOs).
4. Inadequate awareness among communities with regard to how to access money for projects
5. Insufficient capacity and resources to implement projects.

## 1. FOCAL POINT INSTITUTION

Name of Focal Point	National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency (NCSA)
Address including e-mail address	National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency P. Bag 0068 Gaborone  Email: <a href="mailto:envirobotswana@gov.bw">envirobotswana@gov.bw</a>
Country specific websites relating to desertification	<a href="http://www.envirobotswana.gov.bw">www.envirobotswana.gov.bw</a>

## 2. STATUS OF NAP IN BOTSWANA

Date of validation	Draft NAP (still to be validated)
NAP Reviews	None
NAP integration into poverty reduction Strategy	No
NAP integration into the national development strategy	NAP integrated in the National Development Plan 9
Expected NAP validation	No date has been set
Final Draft of NAP exists	Yes
Formulation of Draft NAP is under way	Draft in Place
Basic guidelines for a NAP have been established	Yes
Process has only been initiated	In place since 1997
Process has not yet started	Yes in draft form

## 3. MEMBER OF SRAP/RAP

Name of Sub-Regional and Regional Cooperation framework		Involvement in specific topics such as water harvesting techniques, soil erosion
1	UNCCD	Desert Margin Programme
2	RAP	Indigenous Vegetation Project
3	RAP	Kalahari-Namib Transboundary Project



#### 4. COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE

Name of institution		Government	NGO	Male/Female
1	National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency, Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism	√		Male and Female
2	University of Botswana	√		Male
3	Botswana Technology Centre		√	Female
4	Kalahari Conservation Society		√	Female
5	Agricultural Resources Board	√		Male
6	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	√		Female
7	Forestry Division, Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism	√		Male
8	Thusano Lefatsheng		√	Male
9	Department of Animal Health and Production, Ministry of Agriculture	√		Male
11	UNDP		√	Male
12	Department of Meteorological Services, Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism	√		Male
13	Department of Crop Production and Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture	√		Male

#### 5. TOTAL NUMBER OF NGOS ACCREDITED TO THE PROCESS

\_\_\_\_\_Three (3)\_\_\_\_\_

NGO National Coordinating Committee on desertification established	Yes, but coordinating NGO has folded
--	--------------------------------------

#### 6. TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTS AND LAWS PASSED RELATING TO UNCCD

\_\_\_\_\_Twenty-five (25)\_\_\_\_\_

Five relevant Acts/Regulations

<b>Title of Law</b>		<b>Date of Adoption</b>
1	Agricultural Resources Conservation Act, Cap 35:06.	1974
2	Herbage Preservation Act (Prevention of fires) Act	1977
3	Tribal Land Act, Cap 32:02.	1968
4	Forest Act	1968
5	Agricultural Resources Conservation (Harvesting of Veld Products) Regulations	2004

## 7. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

### 7.1. Partnership Agreement\*

	<b>Official Title of partnership</b>	<b>Donor (s), international organization (s), and/or agencies of the UN system involved</b>	<b>Date of (expected) conclusion</b>
1	Support for Preparation of UNCCD National Report	UNCCD	December 2004

### 7.2 Consultative meetings on UNCCD implementation

	<b>Name of Consultative meeting</b>	<b>Date/year</b>	<b>Donor Countries involved</b>	<b>International organization (s), and/or agencies of the UN system involved</b>
1	Community level workshop on best practices and launching of pilot activities in Agroforestry and Soil Conservation techniques	2-4 December 2003	Financial support of the Governments of Germany and Norway	UNCCD Secretariat
2	Practising Synergy Initiative	13 –17 September 2004	Financed by CBD Secretariat	CBD Secretariat

Name of country that has taken over the role of *Chef de file*: N/A

**8. PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER IMPLEMENTATION WHICH ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RELATED TO THE UNCCD**

The following are some of the projects under implementation that are directly and/or indirectly related to UNCCD.

Name of Project		Project implemented within framework of the NAP/SRAP/RAP	Project Implemented with the framework of UNCCD	Time frame	Partners involved	Overall Budget
1	Lehutu Community Based Natural Woodland Management	NAP	Yes	1989-date	Lehututu community, UNDP/UNSO, Forestry Association of Botswana, Kgalagadi District council	US\$ 45,125.00 or P180,500.00
2	Rakops Tree planting Project	NAP	Yes	1999-date	Rakops Community, UNDP/UNSO, Ministry of Agriculture	US\$16,322.00 or P65,288.00
3	Matsiloje Land Reclamation and Agroforestry	NAP	Yes		Matsiloje Community UNDP/UNSO, Ministry of Agriculture	US\$ 30,500.00 or P122,000.00
4	Mokobeng Agroforestry woodlot	NAP	Yes			<b>BWP 82 000</b>
5	Indigenous Vegetation Project	RAP	Yes		UNEP, Government of Botswana	US\$ 4 Million
7	Desert Margins Programme	No	Yes	2002-2008	Botswana College of Agriculture; Ministry of Agriculture; University of Botswana; Veld Products and Research Division and local committees in Bobirwa Sub-District and Kgalagadi District.	US\$ 530,000.00
8	Natural Resources –Based Livelihood Strategies in the Villages of East Hanahai, Paje and West Hanahai	No	Yes		IUCN, DED, GTZ	
9	Tribal Land Integrated Management System	NAP	Yes	3 years for pilot project after which it will be rolled out to the entire Country	Ministry of Lands in conjunction with District Land Boards	BWP 4,3 Million

## **9. STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND POLICIES**

### **9.1 National Plans and Strategies available in other Social and Economic Areas**

There has not been much change since the last report with regard to strategies and plans thus Botswana continues to manage the environment using the following policies, acts, plans and strategies as described in the 2002 report. These include:

- National Policy on Natural Resources Conservation and Development
- Agenda 21
- Botswana's Vision 2016
- Community Based Development Strategy For Rural Development
- Tourism Policy
- Revised National Policy for Rural Development
- National Master Plan for Arable Agriculture and Dairy Farming

Moreover, implementation of the 5 year National Development Plans which aim at improving the standard of living for Botswana continues. The government is currently implementing NDP 9, a development plan which aims to achieve sustainable development and to implement poverty alleviation programmes.

Of worthy note is the recent (November, 2004) decision by government to submit a draft Environmental Impact Assessment Bill to Parliament. Once passed as law, the legislation will go a long way in enforcing environmental management in all developmental interventions thus facilitate developments that are environmentally benign and promote sustainable utilization of natural resources i.e. land and resources thereon.

#### **9.1.1 Draft Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Policy**

Botswana now has a draft CBNRM policy (2003) though CBNRM activities in Botswana date back to 1989. The draft policy provides a broad framework that provides opportunities for communities to make use of the available resources in a sustainable manner, benefit from the natural resources in the form of employment creation and general rural development. Though the focus of CBNRM has been on wildlife, there is a shift towards management of other resources such as thatching grass, tourism attractions and veldt products.

### **9.2 National Plans or Strategies in the field of combating desertification developed prior to UNCCD NAP**

There has not been much change since the last report of 2002 with regard to strategies and plans. However progress has been made with respect to biodiversity (See 9.2.1 below) the positive effects of which are expected to ripple through to combating desertification via ensuring that the valuable resources such as vegetation/tree species are not over exploited as explained below.

### **9.2.1 Biodiversity**

Botswana has recently completed a draft Biodiversity strategy. The strategy aims at the protection of the biodiversity resources which include vegetation, promoting sustainable use as well as promoting equitable sharing of the resources “for the benefit of and livelihoods of current and future generations” (MEWT, 2004). Biodiversity still remains central to subsistence livelihoods. Most of these communities as noted by the Botswana draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan-2<sup>nd</sup> Draft (2004) are found in the Kgalagadi, Chobe, Ngamiland and Ghanzi Districts. Dependency on wild biological resources for livelihoods if uncontrolled can result in dwindling biodiversity and consequently degradation. To mitigate this poverty-biodiversity loss cycle, welfare policies such as the Revised National Policy for Rural Development noted above have been introduced and alternative sources of livelihood sought. Through the Draft CBNRM Policy, communities are encouraged to use resources for tourist attraction as opposed to consumptive uses that could be destructive.

## **10. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION**

### **10.1 Established and Functional National Coordinating Body (NCB)**

The National Focal Point for the Convention has since been moved from Ministry of Agriculture to the National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency, under the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism. NCSA has the overall mandate of coordinating environmental issues in Botswana. A new Task Force which comprise partially of old members has been put in place. The composition still comprises of the NGOs, Government Departments, the University and the donor community.

Currently, two people in the NCSA have been assigned to coordinate the implementation of the UNCCD over and above other assigned official duties.

### **10.2 Institutional Framework for Coherent and Functional Desertification Control**

The NTF through the NFP is the institution in place which has the mandate to undertake coherent and functional desertification control activities in Botswana. Most government departments which implement desertification control measures are part of the NTF.

### **10.3 NAP as part of the national Economic and Social Development Plan**

The process of incorporating the NAP in the national economic and social development plans has been slow. However though NAP has not yet been formally approved by government, it has been entrenched in NDP 9 under relevant activities such as those that relate to the Ministry of Agriculture, forestry, wildlife, land administration etc.

#### **10.4 Linkages with other Conventions and National Development Plans**

The government has developed a draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan whose aim is to protect the biodiversity in Botswana as part of the implementation of the Convention on Biodiversity. NCSA is also the focal point hence it is expected that the natural synergies that exist between the two Conventions will be explored easily and duplication of efforts avoided. Botswana is also a signatory to the convention on Climate Change where there are efforts to promote use of renewable energy sources and water conservation. Botswana was fortunate to host the Regional Workshop for Africa on Practising Synergy Initiatives in September 2004.

#### **10.5 Gaps between NAP and existing National Sustainable Policies**

No gaps exist between NAP and the existing National Sustainable Policies because the underlying principles are the same *i.e.* poverty alleviation and environmental protection. NAP reinforces the principles and assists in defining the implementation strategies.

#### **10.6 Coherent and Functional Legal and regulatory framework**

Currently various pieces of legislation aimed at protecting the environment are implemented and enforced by different arms of Government.

#### **10.7 Linkage achieved with Sub-Regional and Regional Action Programmes (SRAPS and RAPS)**

Botswana actively participates in regional initiatives as shown by the undertaking of projects such as the Desert Margin Initiative Programme and the Indigenous Vegetation Project. There are also efforts to implement the Kalahari-Namib-Transboundary project.

#### **10.8 Government Response to NAP**

Government has not yet approved the draft NAP version but has supported the process. As noted earlier, the government has gone a step further to incorporate NAP in NDP 9. In general, the government approves the principles hence the support for related activities.

##### **10.8.1 Adoption of NAP by Government**

Processes are under way to facilitate the approval and validation of NAP. However, it is worth pointing out that, several aspects of the NAP are already embedded into ongoing programmes under the auspices of different Ministries.

### **10.8.2 Financing of NAP**

Although still a draft, funds have been set aside in NDP 9 for possible funding of activities under NAP. On the other hand, Government continues to fund the projects that are related to combating desertification as part of departmental mandates.

### **10.8.3 NAP implementation**

Four pilot projects have since been implemented under NAP with mixed results in that though they are success stories in as far as measures to halt desertification are concerned, from the community participation/involvement time has seen the numbers of participants dwindling. The reasons advanced for this low participation is that projects thrive mainly on volunteerism as opposed to incentive-based system. The four pilot projects are: Lehututu Community based Natural Woodland Management Project, Rakops Tree Planting, Matsiloje Land reclamation and Agroforestry project and Mokobeng Agroforestry woodlot. The situation is being closely monitored.

## **11. PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME**

### **11.1 Methods of Participation of various actors**

The previous report presented a detailed outline of the participation of stakeholders leading to the formulation of the NAP. To ensure empowerment and full participation by key relevant stakeholders, participation was taken to community level in Districts throughout the Country. From the community level, participation went up to the Central Government through decision making bodies such as the Rural Development Council.

The key players have continued participation through activities such as tree planting days and observing the World Environment Day and World Day to Combat Desertification.

The NTF recently mobilized the stakeholder comprising of the NGOs, the government and UNDP in a workshop to discuss the National Report, current constraints and the way forward with regard to implementation of NAP in Botswana. The workshop was also attended by representatives of the four NAP pilot projects.

### **11.2 Nature and Scope of Information Education and Communication Action**

As part of the on-going education campaigns, the NFP still continues to sensitize the communities as shown by the commemoration of the World Day to Combat Desertification at Lephepe Village in the Kweneng District in 2003. (See **annexure 4 for pictures**) Moreover, National Tree Planting Day which comes every last Saturday of the month of November and was this year held in Lentsweletau on November 27<sup>th</sup> where the



newly appointed Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism was the guest of honour and the World Environment Day are some of the occasions still used to raise public awareness.

The information kit to schools continues to be used as part of the environmental education programme.

### **11.3 Extent of Uptake**

The relevant stakeholders are aware of the NAP. As highlighted in the previous report, consultation on NAP went down to the community level. However, there is still need to create more awareness among various Government Departments on UNCCD aspects. This will require more resources in terms of both human and funding.

## **12. CONSULTATION PROCESS IN SUPPORT FOR THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAP AND THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED ENTITIES**

### **12.1 Effective Support from International Partners for Cooperation**

Government is still to approve the NAP and thereafter seek support from Donors. However the UNDP has since supported the formulation of the NAP process as reported in the last report. Opportunities for support are available especially through the Global Environment Facility grants.

### **12.2 Catalytic support for the formulation of the NAP and the National Environmental/Desertification Fund (NDF)**

The government continues to support Departments to undertake activities related to combating desertification, although, there are no plans for setting up Desertification Fund as yet.

## **13. MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES**

### **13.1 Adequate diagnosis of Past Experiences**

As previously reported, Botswana has from time immemorial, managed natural resources through the traditional system of chiefs (local authorities over-seeing affairs of communities). As populations increased and demand for resources became complex, Land Boards were established in 1968 and an integrated approach to planning and management of land resources started in 1975 with the enactment of the Tribal Grazing Land Policy (TGLP, 1975). TGLP saw the zoning of land for various uses. For effective management of land, District Land use Planning Units were established. Following the implementation of TGLP, many other attempts by various relevant Ministries i.e. the Ministry of Agriculture, included inventorying of rangeland resources, forests etc to develop land evaluation methodologies and subsequent determination of land suitability. Of late, the Ministry of Lands in association with the District Land Boards has embarked on a Tribal Land Integrated Management System (TLIMS) which, although still at a pilot stage will go a long way in encouraging sustainable management of communal land in the Country through its ability to monitor and update records on land use..

### **13.2 Established technical programmes and functional integrated projects to combat desertification**

The government continues to implement the four NAP projects of Lehututu, Mokobeng Rakops and Matsiloje as well as the regional projects such as the Desert Margins Initiative and the Indigenous Vegetation Project which has established pilot projects in the country. Efforts are still underway to have the Kalahari–Namib project on stream. Government recognizes the role of communities in combating desertification hence the many community based natural resources project that the government has established mainly in the form of woodlots.

### **13.3 Action Programmes implemented in compliance with priority fields set out in the convention**

Though NAP has not yet been approved, implementation of priority fields identified by the National Forum is as per the existing government policies, strategies and plans. For instance, government continues to implement poverty alleviation projects and has assigned Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to monitor the projects. The Eco-Tourism programme initiated via the National Development Programmes is one example of the many efforts by Government to diversify economic activities thus reducing pressure on natural resources and promoting environmental sustainability. To enable effective implementation, the Botswana Eco-Tourism Strategy was formulated in 2001.

### **13.4 Linkage achieved with sub regional and regional action programmes**

Within the SRAP and the RAP, Botswana is implementing the Desert Margins Initiative Programme and the Indigenous Vegetation Project (IVP). The Desert Margins Programme is a project whose main objective is to reverse land degradation in countries that are vulnerable to desertification especially in areas that occur in the fringes of deserts. Similarly, IVP targets rehabilitation of bare areas i.e. for forests it is done through natural rehabilitation. Moreover, plans are underway to implement the Kalahari-Namib-Project once the project funding has been approved. The latter is funded by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and GEF and it will specifically address sand dune stabilization in the Kgalagadi areas of Vaalhoek and Bokspits (**See sand dune picture annexure 4**). Over and above sand dune stabilization, the project will combat degradation through harnessing alternative means of livelihoods i.e. ecotourism activities such as camel riding, management of small stock and learning from our counterparts namely the Republic of South Africa and Namibia.

### **13.5 Effectiveness of measures in local capacity building**

Local capacity building continues targeting areas of concern such as veld fires, overgrazing, livestock management etc. The Agricultural Resources Board continues to educate the communities through holding workshops on fire management and other aspects of veld resources management

### **13.6 Partnership Agreements**

No partnership agreements were signed during this period.

## **14. FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGET IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION**

### **14.1 Adopted Financial Mechanisms**

The Government continues to allocate funds to departments that have the mandate to implement projects for combating desertification. No funding mechanism has been put in place as yet.

## **14.2 Resource Mobilization for the NAP process**

The Government continues to allocate funds for Government Departments engaged in projects that indirectly address desertification and drought problems. The Government has also set aside funds for possible funding of NAP activities under NDP 9.

## **15 REVIEW OF BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS UTILISED TO MEASURE PROGRESS AND ASSESSMENT**

### **15.1 Operational mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation**

Environmental monitoring and observation continue to be vested in various ministries. The National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency has developed a National Environmental Database as part of the State of the Environment Reporting. Departments are expected to feed in data from their monitoring process. NCSA recently engaged a consultant to develop a district framework for state of the environment. Once the framework is operational, it is hoped that it will improve monitoring and evaluation.

## References:

1. Botswana National Report on the Implementation of UNCCD, (1999)
2. Botswana National Report on the implementation of the UNCCD, (2002)
3. MEWT (2004), Draft Botswana Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Government of Botswana
4. Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (2003), National Development Plan 9, Government of Botswana.
5. Ministry of Agriculture (2003), Handover notes on the Implementation of the UNCCD
6. Ministry of Agriculture, Departmental Annual Reports for 2003
7. Ministry of Agriculture, (2003): Draft National Action Programme to Combat Desertification
8. Ministry of Agriculture (1997), Comparison of Range Degradation in Botswana Using Satellite Imagery
9. National CBNRM Forum in Botswana, (2004), Proceeding of the Third National CBNRM Conference in Botswana 25-26 November 2003 and the CBNRM Status report
10. NSCA, (2002), State of the Environment Report, Government of Botswana,
11. UNCCD, (2003), National Reporting Process of affected country parties – Explanatory Note and help guide
12. Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Affairs, (2000): National Water Master Plan

# ANNEXURE 1

## UNCCD Country Profile

### BOTSWANA

This UNCCD country profile has been provided by: **The Government of the Republic of Botswana**

Name of focal point institution/ministry/office: **Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism, National Conservation Strategy Coordinating Agency**

Date: **November 2004**

Mailing address: **Private Bag 0068, Gaborone, Botswana**

Telephone: +267 3902050 Fax: +267 3902051

E-mail: [envirobotswana@gov.bw](mailto:envirobotswana@gov.bw)

#### Biophysical indicators relating to desertification and drought

##### **1. Climate**

1.1 Index of aridity: This has not been computed for the period

1.2 Normal rainfall: **About 400mm**

1.3 Rainfall standard deviation : ( Coefficient of variation of Annual Rainfall **35%**)

<b>Sub-national Areas</b>	<b>mm</b>
1.Chobe (Northern Part)	650
2. Central and East	400
3. Western Part	350

##### **2. Vegetation and land use**

2.1 NDVI (normalized difference vegetation index) (see annexure 5)\_\_\_\_\_

2.2 Vegetation cover (%) of total land area) 75% \_\_\_\_\_

2.3 Landuse (percent of total land) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Landuse</b>	<b>1990-1999</b>	<b>200-2003</b>
Communal Areas		44.2%
Forests Reserves		0.8%
National Parks and Game Reserves and Wildlife Management Areas		38%
Stateland		12%
Freehold		5%

### 3. Water Resources

- 3.1 Fresh water availability (million m3) 14,700  
 3.2 Fresh water availability per capita (m3) 9,400  
 3.3 Agricultural water use (million m3) 53  
 3.4 Industrial water use (million m3) 22

### 4. Energy

#### Consumption

- 4.1 Energy use per capita (kg oil equivalent) 0.0359 Terra-joules  
 4.2 Agricultural energy use per hectare (millions of BTU) **Data not captured**

*\*Note: Data is captured in terra-joules*

#### Production

- 4.3 Energy from renewable excluding combustible renewables and waste (% of total supply).

#### Renewables–Consumption

- 4.4 Industry (% of total renewable consumption) 27%  
 4.5 Residential (% of total renewable consumption) 38%  
 4.6 Agriculture (% of total renewable consumption) 2%

### 5. Types of land Degradation\*

Type of degradation	1990-1999		2000-2003	
	Million ha	Percent of total area	Million ha	Percent of Total area
<b>Overgrazing</b>	<b>26.190000</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>14.550000</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Deforestation</b>	<b>2.910000</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.910000</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Soil Erosion/degradation</b>	<b>5.820000</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2.851800</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Bush encroachment</b>	<b>5.820000</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3.724800</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Desertification</b>	<b>5.820000</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.820000</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Partially Degraded Areas</b>	<b>3.550200</b>	<b>6.1</b>	-	-

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

*\*Note: The above data is derived from the 1994-95 Study "Comparison of Range Degradation in Botswana Using Satellite Imagery (1997) by Prof. S. Ringrose; Dr. Van der Post; R. Kwerepe and M. Mulalu.*

## 6. Rehabilitation

The available data is not in the format required under the reporting guidelines. For the available data see Annexure 2 in this report.

### Socio-economic indicators related to desertification and drought

## 7. People and Economy

7.1 Population (total): **1,680,863**

- Population: urban (percent of total): **54.2%**
- Population: rural (percent of total) **45.8%**

7.2 **Population growth (annual %): 2.39%**

7.3 Life expectancy (years): **55.7 years**

7.4 Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births): **56**

7.5 GDP (current US\$): **4226.45 or Pula 28,636.5**

7.6 GNI per capita (current US\$): **4254.6 or Pula 16,971.9**

7.7 National Poverty rate (% of population): **30%**

7.8 Crop production (metric tons): **17,570**

7.9 Livestock production (metric tons): **18000**

## 8. Human Development

8.1 Primary education completion rate (% age group) \_\_\_\_\_

8.2 Number of women in rural development (total number) \_\_\_\_\_

8.3 Unemployment (% of total) **19.6**

8.4 Youth unemployment rate (age 15-24) **40.9%**

8.5 Illiteracy total (% age 15 and above) **21.1%**

8.6 Illiteracy male (% age 15 and above) **23.9%**

8.7 Illiteracy female (%) 15 and above) **18.5%**

## 9. Science and Technology

9.1 Number of scientific institutions engaged in desertification-related work (total number) **3** (University of Botswana, Botswana Technology Centre and Botswana College of Agriculture) \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Please specify the data sources

\_\_\_\_\_ Central Statistics Office; various Government Departments: Ministry of Agriculture; Department of Water Affairs; Department of Meteorology; National Task Force; Ministry of Mineral Energy and Water Affairs and secondary sources listed as references.



## **ANNEXURE 2**

### **REHABILITATION OF DEGRADED ARABLE LANDS**

The progress regarding the rehabilitation of the degraded arable lands is as follows:

□ Catchment survey

Three catchments have been surveyed for rehabilitation purposes as follows:

- (i) Lesoma – 45 ha (North West District)
- (ii) Boatlaname – 502 ha (Gaborone)
- (iii) Sesitajwe – 500 ha (work ongoing) (Southern)

□ Field survey

The following fields have been surveyed and are awaiting construction:

Francistown: Sekukwe – two fields measuring 30 ha and Madibeng – 24 ha. All these are in Tonota district.

Gaborone: Egepeto – 8 fields totaling 44.45 ha.

North West District: Tsau – one field totaling 7.5 ha.

□ Construction

Gaborone region (522.83 ha protected): Boatlaname- 11 ha protected by 5 x 19m gabion and 2 x 699m channels; Lesilakgong- 17 ha protected by 21 gabions; Mmanoko- 110 ha protected by 10 gabions; Kubung- 60 ha protected by 4 x 910 m channels; Thamaga – 11 ha protected by 2 x 181 m channel; Mmamarobole – 7 ha protected by 2 gabions; Ditshegwane – 30 ha protected by 6 x 18 m gully structure; Morwa – one field totaling 9.30 ha protected by 2 x 585m contour bands; Bokaa – three fields totaling 21.30 ha protected by 3 x 615m contour bunds; Sikwane-2 fields totaling 23.20 ha protected by 4 x 1258m contour bunds and a 1 x 319.4m diversion channel; Dinogeng south- one field of 8.85 ha protected by 2 x 595m contour bund; Mathubudukwane – 2 horticultural projects totaling 2.37 ha protected by 2 x 452m diversion channel; Ramokobetwa – 198.35 ha protected by 5.45km channels; Mmamogofu – 121.4 ha protected by 4.3 km channels; Mokata – 23 ha protected by 1 x 8m and 2 x 2.5m gabions.

Francistown region (11 ha protected): Moroka – 11 ha protected by 7 gabions.

North West District (7 ha protected): Ngarange – 2 ha protected by 3 gabions; Qaangwa – 4 ha protected by 4 gabions. 1 x new well dug for Tubu project.

Central District (333.2 ha protected):Mookane – One field measuring 14.6 ha protected by 4 x773m bunds; Shoshong – 14 ha protected by 1 x 1.5 km channe; Kalamare – 28 ha protected by 2 x 660m channels; Modiane – 34.6 ha protected by 5 x 591m channels; Mahutagane- 3 x channels protecting 14 ha maintained; Palla road – 7 x channels and 18 bunds protecting 35.5 ha maintained; Semolale – 28 x bunds in 12 fields totalling 112.5 ha maintained; Mantsibodi catchment in Seleka – 6 x bunds/channels and two retention ponds constructed protecting 80 ha.

Lack of engineering expertise and machinery breakdown continue to affect the progress and quality of the construction works..

### **ANNEXURE 3**

#### **a) LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED DURING THE COMPILATION OF THE NATIONAL REPORT**

<b>Name of Stakeholder</b>	<b>Department/Institution</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Ms A. Kanego	National Coordinating Strategy Agency	Consulted
Mr. E. Otsogile	National Coordinating Strategy Agency	Consulted
Mr Hiro Okuda	UNDP	
Mr. Leonard Dikobe	UNDP	Consulted
Mr. Hudson Gabaitse	Department of Crop Production and Forestry	Consulted
Ms. Boitumelo Matlhaga	Rural Development Coordinating Unit	Sent Questionnaire/ response awaited
Mr. Gaseratwe Keforilwe	Forestry Divisions (MEWT)	Consulted
Ms. Mercy Motladiile	Kalahari Conservation Society	Sent Questionnaire/ Response awaited
Mr. Dambe	Meteorology	Contacted
Mr A.B. Lefaphane	Meteorology	Consulted
Mr. George Maphane	Department of Animal Health and Production	Consulted
Mrs. Nozipho	BOTEC	Consulted
Prof Darkoh	University of Botswana	Consulted
	Thusano Lefatsheng	
Mr Kwerepe	Range Ecology Division (Ministry of Agriculture)	Consulted
Mr .Modisaotsile	Former Desk Officer for Focal Point (Ministry of Agriculture)	Consulted
Mr. Isang Pilane	Former GFF National Coordinator	Consulted
Mr. Masilo	Former member of NAP drafting team	Consulted
Ms. Molefe	Department of Curriculum Development and Evaluation	
Ms Kabaija	Central Statistic Office	Consulted
Ms L. Ncheng	Ministry of Minerals ,Energy and Water Affairs	Consulted
Mr K.Kalaote	Department of Water Affairs	Consulted
Mr S.K. Seopane	Forestry Division	
Mr Baruti	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	Consulted
Mr. Wotho	Department of Crop Production and Forestry	Consulted
Mrs. Lesolle	Department of Meteorology	Consulted
Mrs. Makhumalo	Central Statistics Office	Consulted
Ms. Dema	Central Statistics Office	Consulted
Mr. Bok	Energy Affairs	Consulted

**b) List of Stakeholders who attended the Workshop**

<b>Name of Stakeholder</b>	<b>Department/Institutions</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Mr. Russell Clark	Permaculture Trust	Tel: 46332428
Ms. Matshediso George	Farmer	
Mrs. Mandaba Makola	Farmer	Tel:4915707
Ms. Nkgowa Utlwanang	Farmer	Tel:2975105
Ms. Victoria Morapedi	Forestry	Tel: 2978996
Ms. Q.Turner	Botswana National Museum	Tel: 39111864
Mr. Samuel Bok	Energy Affairs	Tel: 3640205
Dr. M. Tapela	Botswana College of Agriculture	Tel: 3650123
Mr. Sedi M. Bose	Forestry Division	Tel: 5442371
Mr. S.M. Mokgwathi	Forestry Division	Tel: 6517039
Mr. J.O. Kebalefetse	Forestry Division	Tel: 6517039
Mr C.V Ntogwa	Forestry Division	Tel: 2413666
Prof. M.B.K. Darkoh	University of Botswana	Tel: 3555029
Mr. Mushanana L. Nchunga	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Mr. J.S. Ewane	Environmental Heritage Foundation	Tel: 2418641
Mr. O.B Maruapula	Environmental Heritage Foundation	Tel: 3500841
Mr. W.P. Emmanuel	Department of Agricultural Research	Tel: 5441547
Ms. B. Matlhaga	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	Tel: 3950242
Mr. E. Otsogile	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Mr. E. Tshamekang	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Ms. A. Kanego	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Mr. M. Ntana	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Mr. K. Chigodora	NCSA	Tel: 3902050
Mr. R. Moaneng	UNDP	Tel: 3952121
Mr. H. Okuda	UNDP	Tel: 3952121
Mr. J. Jamare	Geoflux (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 3975105
Mr. G.Keforilwe	Forestry Division	Tel: 3914955
Ms/ M. Motladiile	Kalahari Conservation Society	Tel: 3974557

<b>Name of Stakeholder</b>	<b>Department/Institutions</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Ms. M. Mosimanyana	Kgalagadi District Council	Tel: 6540061
Mr. D. Dambe	Department of Meteorological Services	Tel: 3909031
Mr D. Mmui	Agricultural Resources Board	Tel: 3950591
Mr. R. Kwerepe	Department of Crop Production and Forestry	Tel: 3950511
Mrs. S. George	Department of Lands	Tel: 3901402
Mrs. E. Nthebolan	Geoflux (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 3975105

## **ANNEXURE 4: PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Plate 1: Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism plants a tree at Lentsweletau, Kweneng District.**



**Plate 2: National Tree Planting Day Banner**



**Plate 3: District Lands Officer Planting a Tree in Lentsweletau, Kweneng District**



**Plate 4: Sand Dune**

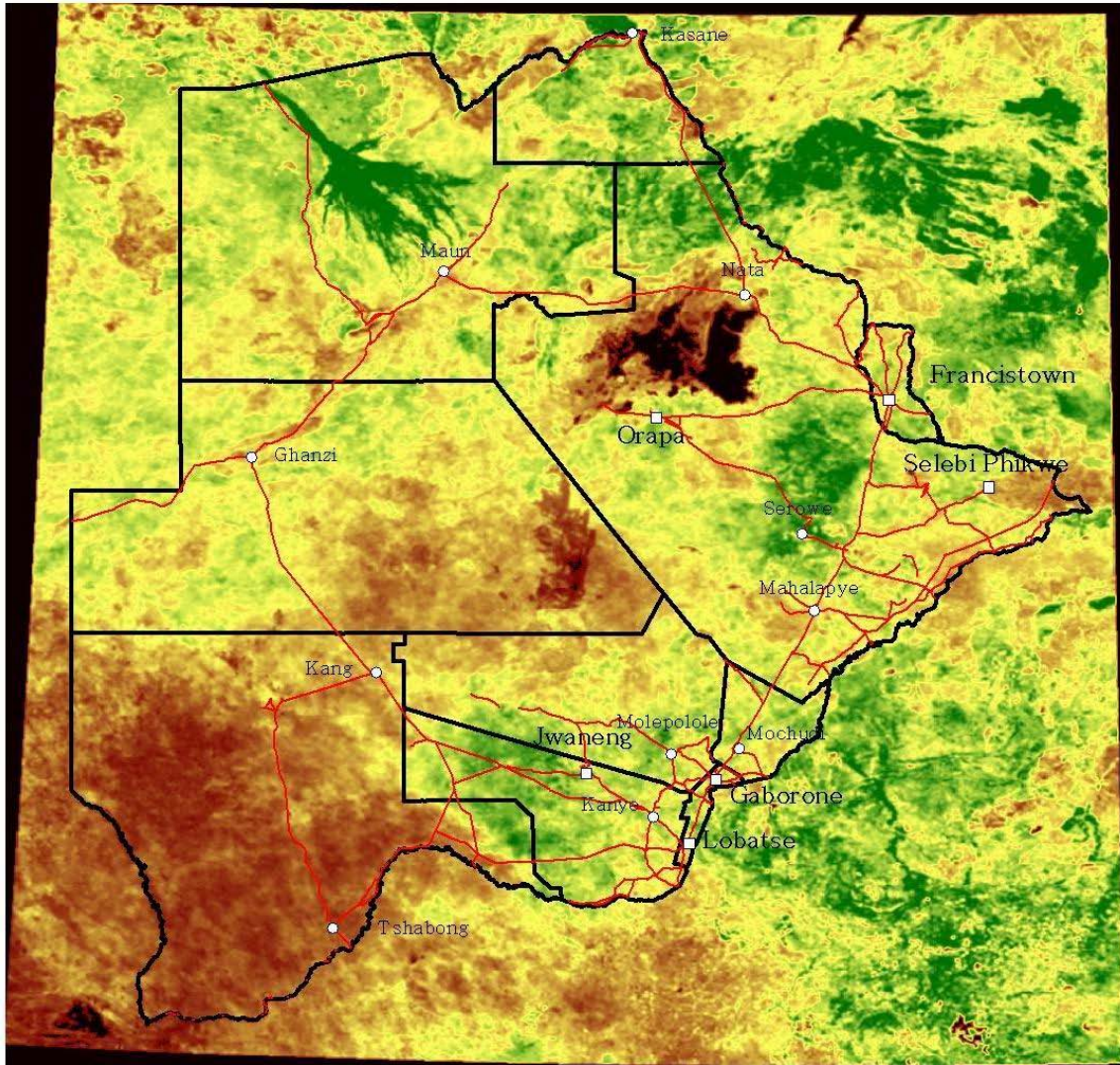




# ANNEXURE 5: NDVI

## Integrated Seasonal NDVI - 2000/2001

Botswana Range Inventory and Monitoring Project (BRIMP) - Ministry of Agriculture



- Administrative Districts
- Main Roads
- Towns
- Major Villages

- NDVI Values
- Bare Ground/Water
  - Low
  - Medium
  - High