



Integrated Land Use Planning

Combining Communities, Wildlife
and Tourism



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



"At this moment we have a human-wildlife conflict in the Chobe district. We have to come back to human-wildlife coexistence, just like in 1984, when integrated land use was in place."

Montle Magosi, Chobe Land Board, Botswana

Chobe District in Botswana is part of the KAZA transfrontier park, spreading in Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Angola. 70% of Chobe is national park, 30% is an area with farming communities and other economic activities. Tourism is the second most important economic activity in Botswana. The conservation area holds populations with flagship species such as elephants, lions and wild dogs. The elephant population is increasing. There are important commercial farming areas (the 'breadbasket of Botswana'). Without an Integrated Land Use Plan, Chobe faces uncontrolled development, unsustainable land use, lack of guidance for developers and lack of a longer term perspective for development.

Human-Wildlife Conflict

Since trophy hunting is banned, the human-wildlife conflict has increased. Communities complain of severe crop losses due to elephants, and of livestock killing by lions, wild dogs and hyena's. Reduction of income due to the hunting ban is also a problem raised by communities. This underpins the need of the Integrated Land Use Plan. In this plan a zoning is proposed which can guide the land management authorities in their land allocations. Also recommendations are provided to key ministries and departments to guide the development process of the District. Unique in the 'Wageningen' approach is the integration of information from different scale levels, in combination with analysis of land system characteristics and the developing of long term perspectives.

Long term perspectives for Chobe

Seasonal wildlife migrations are important for sustaining wildlife populations. Wildlife and game viewing offers important long term perspectives for tourism, and in due time more households may find employment in these sectors than in smallholder farming as is the case now. No development of commercial farming in key wildlife corridors is proposed. Sustainable use of the wildlife and forest resources holds promise for reducing poverty in the region, and increasing income from these sectors, which must also reach poorer parts of society.

Research Programs

Biodiverse Environment, Sustainable Land Use



Contact

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