



Ministry of Environment and Tourism

# PPP and Joint Ventures in National Parks- the Namibian Experience



# Our Parks

- First Park in 1907
- Vital tools for conserving Namibia's essential biodiversity
- Draw hundreds of tourists to Namibia
- Commitment derived from the country's constitution: Article 95 "The State shall promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at the maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biodiversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future"



# Facts about Parks and Protected Areas

- 20 National Parks, comprising 17 % of the land surface
- 82 communal area conservancies, comprising 18 % of the land surface
- Conservancies act as stepping stones for wildlife moving between parks such as the Skeleton Coast with Etosha National Park.
- Several concessions areas and game farms







# Role of PAs

- Contribute to national economic development
- Cornerstone of biodiversity conservation
- Have a relationship with local communities





# Concessions Policy

To accommodate these shifts in thinking, in 2007, Namibia developed its National Policy on Tourism and Wildlife Concessions on State Land



- Enhance and promote conservation
- Control and monitor commercial activities
- Increase the economic value of Parks
- Promote empowerment of local communities
- Promote sustainable development, poverty alleviation and employment creation

# PPP and Joint Ventures

Concessions can be awarded directly to a local community. The Ministry can then assist that community to find a joint-venture partner. Concessions may be awarded directly to a tourism operator who has a new and innovative idea, or via a tender or auction process



# Data on Concessions

- 15 head concessions signed with communities
- 16<sup>th</sup> concession is being negotiated
- Of the 16, 2 are hunting concessions, 10 are lodge concessions and 4 are activity concessions
- Tourism concessions are either 20 or 25 years in duration
- Hunting concessions are for 5 years





# Direct Benefits



- 16 concessions to generate an annual average of US\$ 1.5 billion
- Government will receive about US\$ 300 000 per annum
- Rest goes towards conservation and development efforts of communities
- 340 permanent jobs and over 2000 temporary jobs to be secured for local communities

# PPP and Joint Ventures



- The awarding of the concessions will further strengthen the Namibian communal conservancies, generally acknowledged to be already a good example of community based natural resource management in Africa and provides a very timely buffer around important and well known protected areas particularly for rhinos and elephants



# Ours To Share

**E**ducation- value of parks, focus on tourists and youth

**T**ourism – creates income opportunities, contributes to the national economy and creates jobs

**O**pportunities – for private sector to market products under the Centenary banner

**S**ustainable development - as reflected in the Namibian constitution and Vision 2030

**H**eritage – celebrating our history and the legacy for our children

**A**chievements – protection of valuable species, looking at ways for neighbours to benefit from parks

**Thank you!**

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