IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study		COMDEKS Project: Iipumbu-ya-Tshilongo Conservancy		
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)		United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Other contributing organization(s)		Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ), SCBD, UNU		
Author(s) and affiliation(s)		United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Format of case study		Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords	Drylands, Agriculture, Water management, Livestock management			
Date of submission		6 March 2017		
Web link	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6012/comdeks_ii_case_study_publication.pdf#page=154			

Geographical Information

Country	Namibia			Location(s)	Oshana and Omusati Regions				
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link				https://www.google.com/maps/@-18.336643,15.5715218,9z					
Ecosystem(s)									
Forest		Grassland	x	Agricultural	x	In-land water		Coastal	
Dryland	x	Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other			

Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area

The landscape can be divided into two distinct areas. Vegetation in the southern part of the landscape is predominantly shrublands. The northern part is characterized by sands and clays that are molded and mixed to form fertile soils, which can support agriculture. Consequently, the majority of the communities are in this area, and this has led to greater land degradation than in the south. Land use is divided into three distinctive zones: crop farming, livestock farming, and conservation and tourism.

Description of human-nature interactions in the area

With the Etosha National Park at its southern boundary, it lies within a transboundary wetland shared by Angola and Namibia. Although a quarter of the land is set aside for conservation and tourism, the population is dependent on agriculture and livestock farming. Due to the lack of water, crops use a “low-input, low-output” system to mitigate crop loss due to inadequate rainfall or pests. A vast majority of community members live on small farms.

Contents

Status	Ongoing	Period	06/2011 – 12/2017

Rationale

The largest challenge facing the target landscape across the three zones is scarcity of water. Poorer households are more dependent on natural resources compared to wealthier households; hence, poorer households are at a severe disadvantage in areas where community land resources have been diminished. Unsustainable use of natural resources as well as deforestation is evident in the landscape.

Objectives

Enhanced provision of ecosystem services through conservation activities, sustainable use of natural resources, and the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity; Improved agricultural productivity through of sound and sustainable agricultural practices; Alternative livelihood options to enable access to markets; Strengthened institutional systems and participatory decision-making for greater landscape resilience; A new model for landscape management as a best practice for other landscapes or communities.

Activities and/or practices employed

Bringing ecotourism to the Conservancy; Introducing sustainable agricultural practices and expanding agricultural markets; Providing micro-drip irrigation systems and training to poor families; Establishing a tree nursery to support reforestation; Mobilizing youth to create alternative income sources and establish a community youth center.

Results	
The government has issued an ecotourism concession license allowing the Conservancy to provide tourist services; 100 Farmers have received training in Conservation Agriculture; Micro-drip irrigation systems, seeds and training have been distributed; Community awareness meetings on the need for reforestation held and a tree nursery established; Funds generated from poultry and aquaculture are funding the construction and operation of a community youth center providing internet and other social services	
Lessons learned	
In addition to the Baseline Assessment, information developed for other projects can be important; Time for government involvement in project review must be factored into project schedules; Land disputes can create unexpected obstacles; It takes time to align landscape work with the support NGO; Strengthened collaboration between government, CBOs, civil society organizations, and traditional authorities has empowered the communities to implement donor-funded projects	
Key messages	
Due to their work together in the community consultation and in putting together and preparing to implement the project portfolio, the different groups involved have begun to act as one body, with a single landscape vision, rather than separate sectoral divisions. This newfound collaboration has already resulted in an annual meeting in which all projects reported their progress and plans.	
Relationship to other IPSI activities	This case study is part of the COMDEKS Project
Funding	Funding of USD 274,909.00 was provided by the Japan Biodiversity Fund through the GEF Small Grants Programme for COMDEKS Namibia.

Contributions to Global Agendas

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the following global agendas respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●				●		●			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Strategic Goal C			**Strategic Goal D**			**Strategic Goal E**			
	■	■	●	●			●	●	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)

●	●				●		■	
1 NO POVERTY	2 ZERO HUNGER	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5 GENDER EQUALITY	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
		■	●		●			
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	