UNLOCKING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL ON LAND REFORM PROJECTS THAT ARE LOCATED IN AREAS OF BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANCE (UPDATES)

LRBSI Learning Exchange 2015
(ASCOT INN: KZN)
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1. Background

- The Guideline Document provides the LRBSI and other parties with a simple, user-friendly analytical tool.
- It helps weigh up all relevant factors when choosing projects to invest in.
- There is a complex interfaces between land reform, biodiversity conservation, livelihood generation, multiple stakeholder involvement and evolving institutional frameworks.
- The NDP calls for an inclusive and integrated rural economic development framework and well implemented land reform projects to increase job creation.
Land reform projects in threatened ecosystems and focused areas for expansion

Legend
- Cites
- Land Acquisition Projects
- Land Reclamation Projects
- Other conservation areas
- National Parks
- World Heritage Sites
- Wetland Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas
- Provincial Boundaries
- Forested Area of Expansion
- Threatened Ecosystems Terrestrial
- Critical
- Endangered
- Vulnerable

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2. Project Identification criteria

• The exercise looks at biodiversity status, the economic potential, the institutional arrangements and the social factors within the land reform project.
3. Application of criteria

• Biodiversity assessment may be done by a government officials with site assessment forms when conducting field assessments in order to ensure that the data obtained is standardise (Forms may be province specific)

NB: KwaZulu Natal (KZN) and the Western Cape have much higher capacity and systems
3. Application of criteria

• Economic criterion
  – current livelihood strategies of the individuals or group or community.
  – current land use practices and the potential economic use of the resources (highly diverse ones) for economic benefit (tourism, grazing or water).

• Critical infrastructure

• Institutional arrangements assessment should consider what structures are in place and how they may fit with opportunities available.
3. Application of criteria

- Social assessment should
  - include willingness and readiness of the local communities to take part in the LRBSI.
  - Disputes with neighbouring communities or political disputes should also be looked at, particularly in terms of the right to use the proposed property.
  - The social structures such as leadership and tribal structures should be assessed as well as the inheritance systems including land tenure and decision-making rights.
4. Matrix Evaluation

DECISION MAKING MATRIX

Impact on biodiversity conservation

Legend
- Green: High impact, high feasibility
- Blue: Low impact, high feasibility
- Brown: High impact, difficult to pursue
- Red: Low impact, difficult to pursue

Impact on biodiversity conservation
Feasibility
Steps:

**Step 1: Applying to LRBSI for assistance**
- Requests

**Step 2: Evaluating Applications & Decision Making**
- DRDLR
- DEA
- SANBI

**Step 3: Resource Mobilisation**
- DEA
- DRDLR
- SANBI
- EDD
- DoT
- Other

**Step 4: Implementation**
- Implementing Partners

DRDLR – SPLUM receives and acknowledges requests, assesses them for completeness and monitors progress from start to finish.

Steering Committee (SC) evaluates requests and conducts field assessments. Successful requests are passed on to the Project Management Unit (PMU).

The PMU prepares projects for implementation with clear deliverables, timelines, and sufficient budget. It sources funding and secures partnerships with implementing partners.

Implementing Partners work closely with communities. They enter into a formal agreement with LRBSI and the target community.
6. Preparation of Projects

• In order for project models to be successful, eight fundamental elements need to be considered and adhered to. These are:
  – Selection
  – Preparation
  – Planning
  – Capacity building
  – Clear ownership and control
  – Partnerships and the involvement of other parties
  – Monitoring and Evaluation
  – An exit strategy where applicable
7. Status of the Document

• Draft available
• Hope to implemented in the next financial Year ( approval of budgets is key)
THANK YOU

MASS EXTINCTION

BUSH FIRES

SEVERE DROUGHT

NEXT 100 YEARS