

Co-management and Concessions in Namibia

Mechanisms for promoting
community involvement in tourism

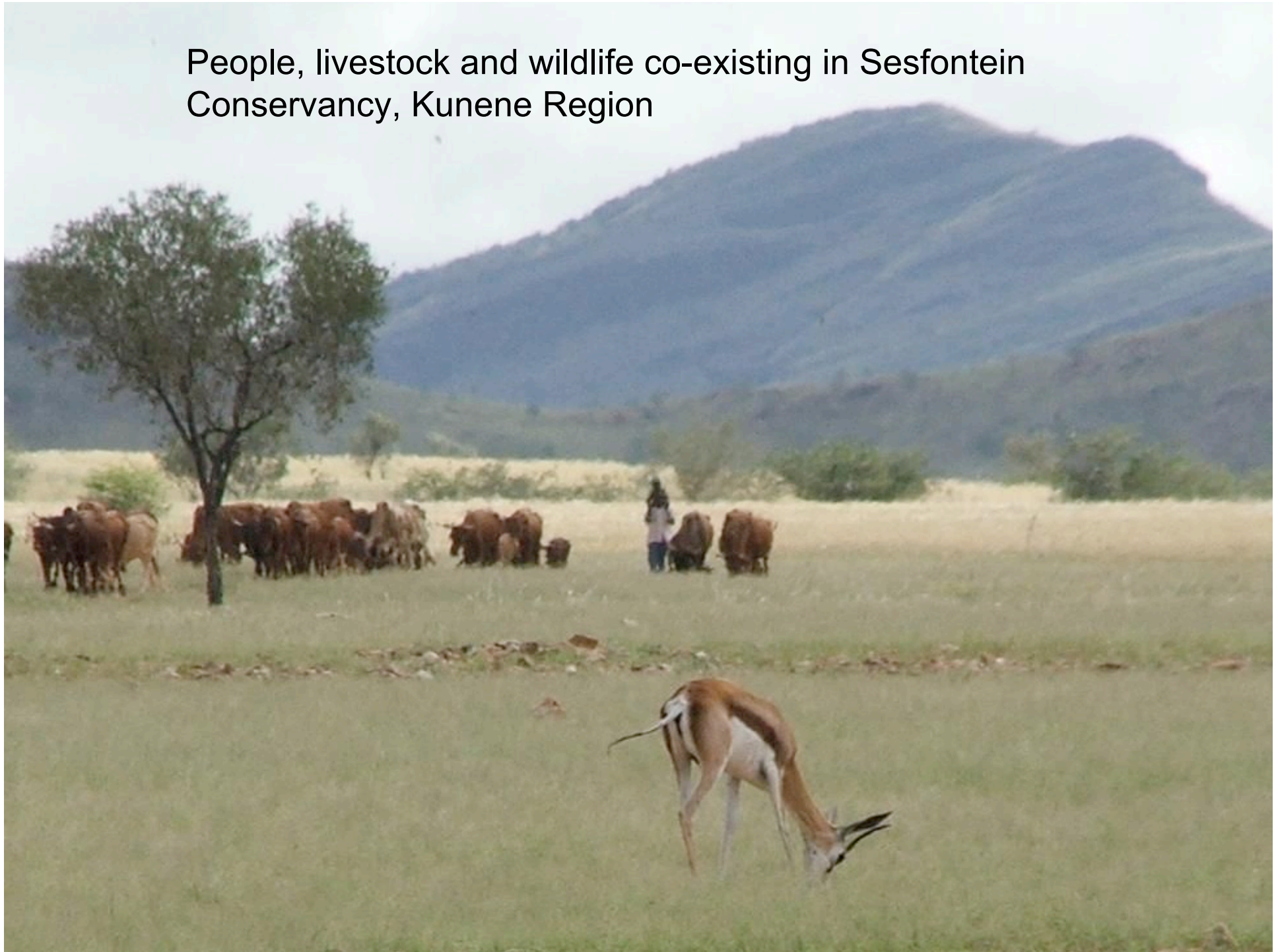
MET objectives

- MET has 2 sets of overall objectives:
 - 1. Conservation: Biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecological processes – MET responsible for Namibia's protected areas (PAs) and for conservation of wildlife outside PAs
 - 2. National Development: MET is expected to contribute to National Development goals, particularly poverty reduction & economic growth

MET Objectives (2)

- Strategies to achieve objectives
 - 1. Outside PAs
 - Promote sustainable use of wildlife through giving use rights to farmers (communal area conservancies).
 - Mechanism = form of co-management
 - Shared decision making with farmers
 - Defined rights, roles and responsibilities
 - Extension and capacity building for conservancies
 - Results: Increased wildlife, increased income

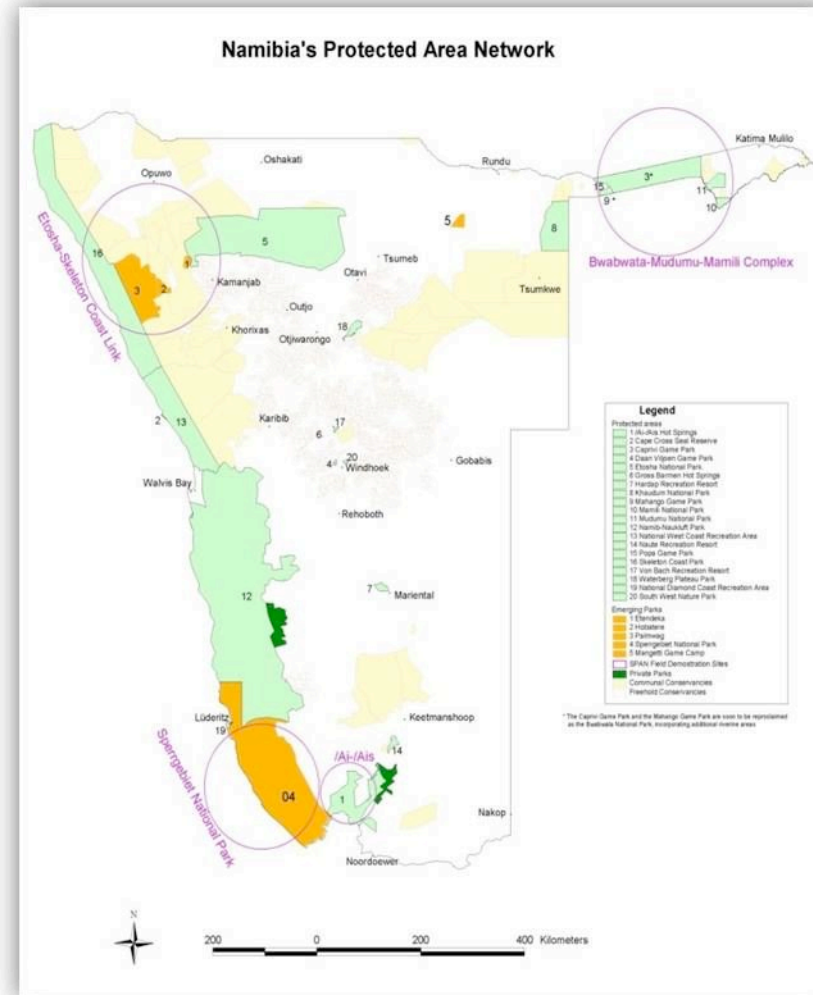
People, livestock and wildlife co-existing in Sesfontein
Conservancy, Kunene Region



MET objectives (3)

- Strategies to achieve objectives
 - 2. Protected Areas
 - Integration of PAs with surrounding economies
 - Integration of PA management with management of surrounding landscape
 - Work with people living in parks, removed from parks, and park neighbours

Namibia's PA Network



PA CO-MANAGEMENT: POLICY DIRECTIONS

- Emerging policies and legislation promote co-management including:
 - Protected Areas & Resident People
 - Concessions Policy
 - HWC policy
 - Draft Parks & Wildlife Management Bill

Existing co-management initiatives

- Bwabwata (incl. MNC):
 - Agreement with Resident community;
 - cooperation across larger landscape
- Mangetti:
 - TA, Regional Council, Land Board
 - contractual park
- Greater Fish River:
 - private sector, communities, Regional Council
 - Cooperation across larger landscape

Existing co-management initiatives (2)

- Greater Fish River:
 - private sector, communities, Regional Council
 - Cooperation across larger landscape
- Kunene:
 - Conservancies, TAs, Regional Council
 - Contractual park
- Concessions
 - Direct to communities in or neighbouring parks: Kunene; Khaudum GR.

Why co-management & concessions?

- Motivations for co-management:
 - Threats – residents/neighbours (strategic)
 - Social equity – recognition of claims on land and/or access to resources, cultural associations; HWC etc. (ethical)
 - Problem of Parks as islands (strategic)
 - Contribute to development (political/strategic)

Why co-management & concessions? (2)

- Motivations for concessions
 - General
 - Addresses social equity issues for residents/neighbours
 - Increases benefits from parks to society/national economy
 - Incentive for communities to support PAs – become real economic “stake – holders”
 - Kunene
 - Foundation for community buy-in, proof of new approach.