

Namibia National Rural Development Policy

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Outlines

Introduction

Rationale

Key Challenges

Objectives

Strategic Approaches

Implementation Framework

Summary



Introduction

- ▶ The policy has been formulated with the involvement of various stakeholders: Village Development Committee, Constituency Development committee, Regional Development Committee, line ministries, non-governmental organizations, state-owned enterprises, private organizations.
- ▶ The directorate of Rural Development Coordination through the ministry of Urban and Rural Development was the custodian of the formulation process.
- ▶ Approved by Cabinet on the 20th May 2012 and adopted by National Assembly on 28th November 2012
- ▶ Why NRDP?
 - ▶ To provide guidance to rural development practitioners towards adoption of efficient and effective, equitable and sustainable approaches to rural development, raise the matter high in national agenda and broaden public perception
 - ▶ To integrate existing sectorial policies on rural development being governed by various national institutions

Overview and Rationale

Rural areas

- The whole of the countryside other than proclaimed townships and municipalities

Rural development

- Actions aimed to improve rural people's standard of living by providing basic social and economic services and empower them through creation of political, legal, economic and social environment

The Scope of the policy

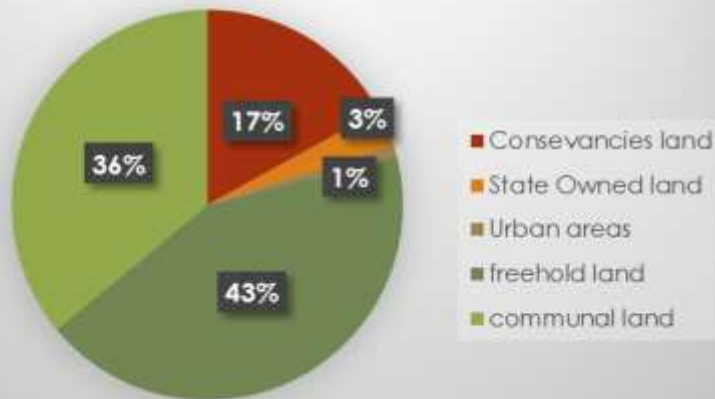
- To integrate and boost the effectiveness of the existing sectorial policies approaches on rural development interventions

1. Factors influencing Namibia rural areas

Demographic

- Sparse population density and vast areas
- 57 % of the population lives in rural
- Farming is the main economic activity
- Poorly developed infrastructural services

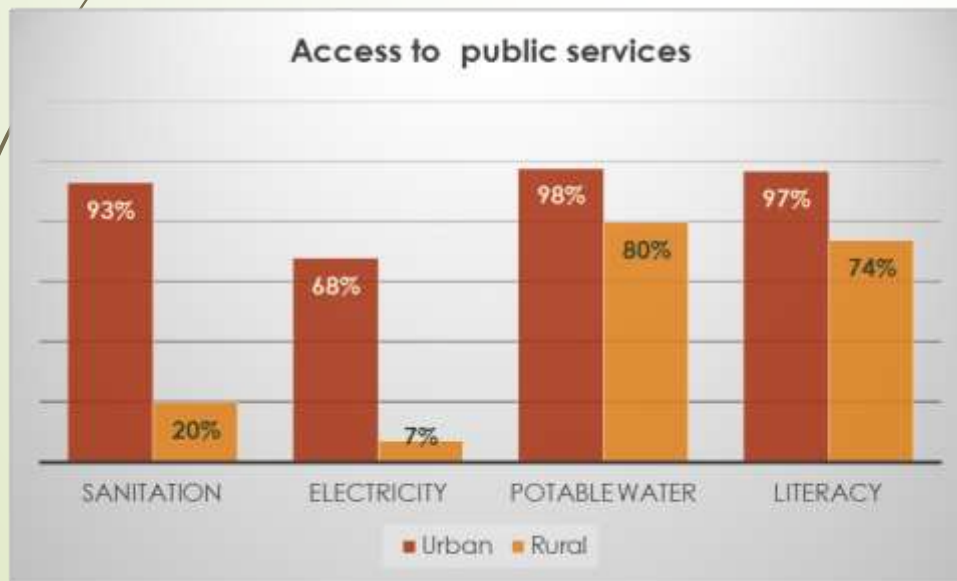
Types of land tenure in Namibia (source NPC:2001)



Factors influencing Namibia rural areas

Socio-economic

- Imbalance between rural and Urban Areas
- Less Opportunities in Rural Areas
- The cost of delivering goods and services to rural areas is high



Factors influencing Namibia rural areas

► Political factor

Colonial Era Policies

- Favored migrant labor system
- Local produce versus imports

Post independence

- Public Policy reforms-redressing imbalances e.g agriculture, forest, communal land reform
- Significant Investment in rural areas
- Decline in public funding key- sectors, agric, tourism, environment and housing

Factors influencing Namibia rural areas



Legal factor

- Namibian Constitution:
 - Chapter 3 provides for fundamental human rights and freedom for people
 - Chapter 11 provides for promotion of peoples' welfare
- SWAPO Manifesto
- V2030
- NDPs

Factors influencing Namibia rural areas

Environment Factor

Climatic condition

- Semi-arid
- Rainfall: <50 - >700mm
- Vegetation: desert, savannah & woodlands

Pre-independence interventions

- Government enforcement conservation
- No user rights by locals
- Poaching & extinction & deforestation

Post independence interventions

- Community-based natural resource management

2. Key challenges

- Weak planning and monitoring systems;
- Poor coordination of rural development interventions;
- Lack of ownership and community participation in rural development interventions.
- Limited access to development funding;
- Insufficient infrastructure facilities and services provision in rural areas; e.g lack of rural housing provision, Lack of rural market centers/system;
- Slow pace of Decentralization implementation process;
- High level of poverty in rural areas;
- High level of unemployment and unskilled labor force;

2. Key challenges Cont'd

- Rural-urban migration;
- Lack of statistical data; Low level of agricultural technology and diversification;
- Climate change and weak environmental management;
- Cultural diversity;
- The impact of epidemics (e.g. HIV/AIDS);
- Household food insecurity.



3. Policy objectives

Overall Objective:

To achieve economic and social advancement in rural areas

Through transforming rural areas to become places , where people are empowered to spearhead their own social and economic development to their satisfaction

5. Strategic Approaches

- ❖ Coordination & integration of rural development actions
- ❖ People's Empowerment and Civic Participation
- ❖ Rural Infrastructure and Services Development
- ❖ Environmental Protection and Sustainable use of Natural Resources
- ❖ Social Welfare Services
- ❖ Support to Rural Agriculture
- ❖ Sustainable Rural Economic Development

a) Coordination and integration of rural development actions

Overall coordination of rural development interventions - MURD

- Development of needs assessment and planning
- Institutional rearrangement and capacity development
- Resources mobilization and reallocation
- Collaborative implementation
- Joint monitoring and evaluation

b) People 's empowerment and civic participation



● Community ownership

● Skills development

● Training



c) Rural Infrastructure and Services Development

Roads Network & Transport Logistics

Telecommunication Network

Rural Electrification

Rural Housing Scheme

Rural Industrial Development

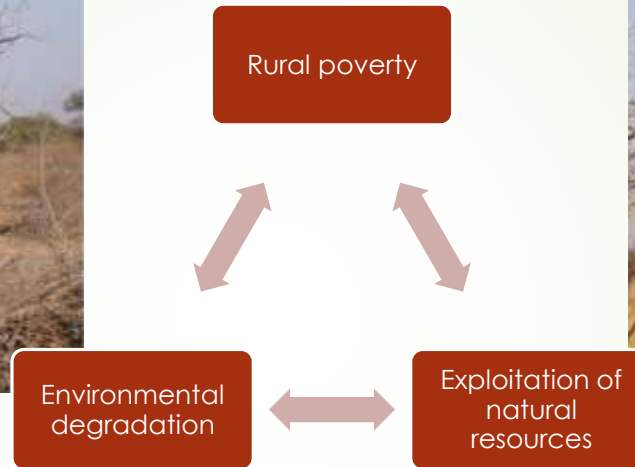
Rural Development Centre

Rural Products Markets

Rural Sanitation



D Environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources



The policy seek all role players in RD to uplift the living standard of rural communities through sustainable use and management of conservation/preservation of ecosystem with existing policies and legislations



e) Social Welfare Services



Health

Social
Safety
Nets

Integrated planning,
Reallocation of
resources, (human
resources), equitable
services delivery,
Outreach points

Educatio
n

Security
Services

Sport &
Recreation



f) Support to Rural Agriculture

Marketing agric produce- storage and preservation of agric produce

Conducting regular Vulnerability Assessment

Human Wildlife Conflict Management (preventative measures against wildlife threats)

Modernization & Agri-industrial System and developing of appropriate technology

Increase efficiency in agric production & agri-food system (formation of cooperatives to enable increase agric output, product diversification, food processing)

Compensation allowances & subsidies

Agric-environmental management (promote the use of envi-friendly methods)

g) Sustainable Rural Economic Development



Economic Diversification and Value Addition

- Promote use of local resources & strategic investment in human and financial service and technology
- Value addition

Promote and strengthen rural economy in terms of Employment Creation

- Micro-Finance Scheme
- Multi-Sectoral labour-based work e.g FFW and sanitation
- Subsidies on labour intensive technologies e.g Grass harvesting
- Rural Development Centre



5. Implementation Framework

Coordination mechanisms

- Focal Persons Forum establishment
- Technical and management aspects of policy implementation
- Annual planning & review workshops

Capacity building

- Strengthen HR capacity building interventions to achieve key strategies such as coordination, integration
- Strengthen Institutional capacity to promote people's empowerment and participation

Role players

- MURD-oversee integrated policy implementation
- Line Ministries-expected to develop their development action plans in line with the policy
- Regional Councils
- Traditional authorities
- Other partners

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Effective M&E of the policy & strategy – effectiveness & accountability
- Adopt M&E system



Summary

- ▶ This National Rural Development Policy seek for the attainment socially cohesions, stable rural communities with sustainable economy and access to social amenities
- ▶ The Policy advocate integration and coordination of efforts and resources through proper implementation framework
- ▶ Realization of efficiency and effectiveness through inclusive Monitoring and Evaluation System

Thank you

