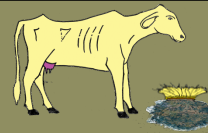


DIVERSIFYING AND INTEGRATING COMMUNITY-BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT TO INCLUDE RANGELAND MANAGEMENT IN THE ZAMBEZI REGION

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It's hard to be a cattle farmer in Zambezi



- Poor quality of herbage
- Constant threat of predation
- Outbreaks of livestock diseases; lung disease in 1990s, endemic FMD outbreaks, abattoir closed more than it was operational over the past few years + finally closed permanently in early 2016



Conservancies diversify income but local economy remains heavily based on cropping and livestock (cattle and goats)

Tourism surpassed agriculture in GDP contribution to Namibian economy, but at communal conservancy level in Zambezi Region, government pensions followed by cash generated by the sale of cattle (when the abattoir is operational) are largest source of income. Agriculture remains the mainstay of the rural economy.

Who owns the cattle?

Approximately 26.3% of the rural population depend on livestock farming and 52.9% depend on crop cultivation

Agricultural Census data:

- 58% people in Zambezi own cattle
- 42 % do not own cattle

Of the 58% who own cattle:

- 43% own 1 – 30 heads of cattle
- 15% own more than 30 heads of cattle



Less than 15% of the population, but influential and wealthier sector of the community

IRDNC HRM work started in 2009 to demonstrate that there are ways for agriculture to thrive without diminishing the economic opportunities that are presented by tourism and wildlife.

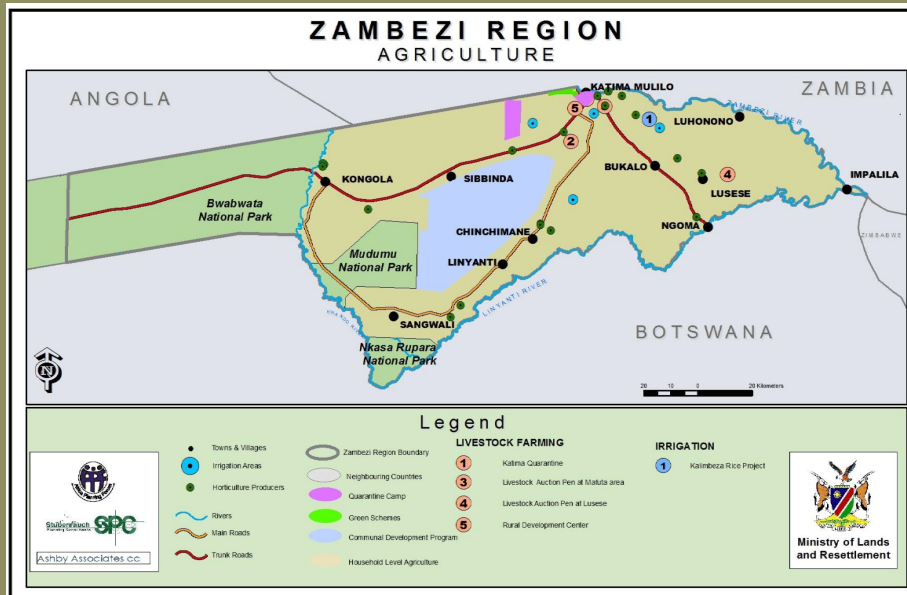
- 6 sites in 5 conservancies
- Water points improved and/or developed at all sites (in some cases using existing water points)
- General awareness-raising + introductory training followed by mentoring to 149 cattle owners in selected conservancies
- 37 farmers committed to implementing HRM

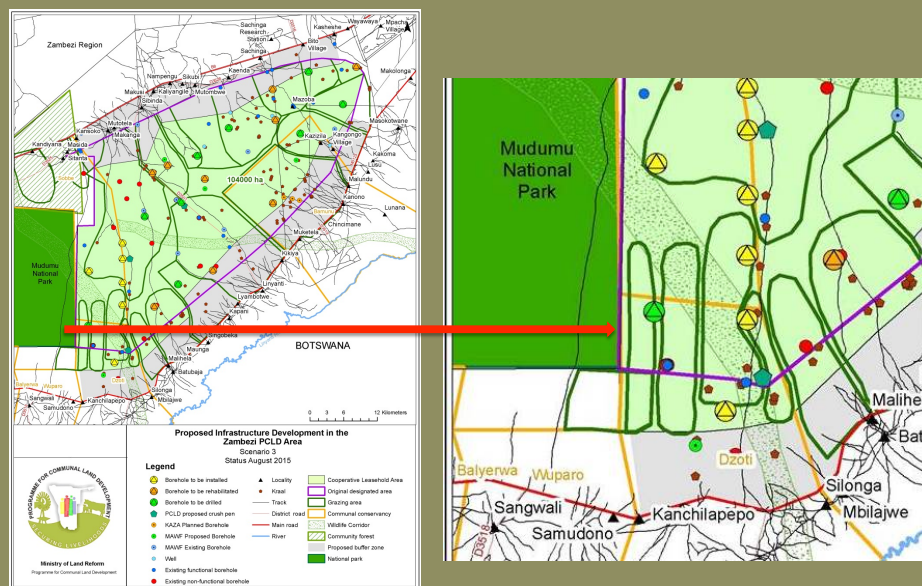
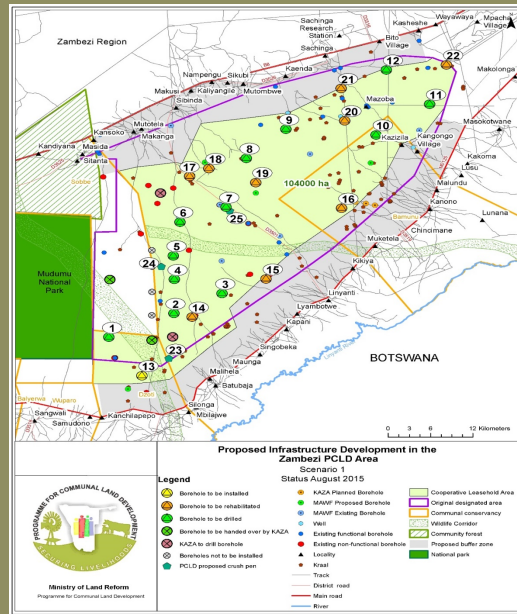


Struggles...



- Herders don't stay
- It is hard work and expensive
- Opening up more land for settlements and livestock
- Traditional beliefs
- What is the point if there is no market





Open Communal Areas

But ultimately –
success will
depend upon
sustainable
markets for beef
from the Zambezi
region

