



Domptail, S.; Dreber, N.; Falk, T.; Groenewaldt, A.; Hinz, M.; Kirk, M.; Mapaire, C.; Namwoonde, E.; Nuppenau, E.A.; Petersen, A.; Proepper, M.; Tjipitua, N.; Vollan, B.

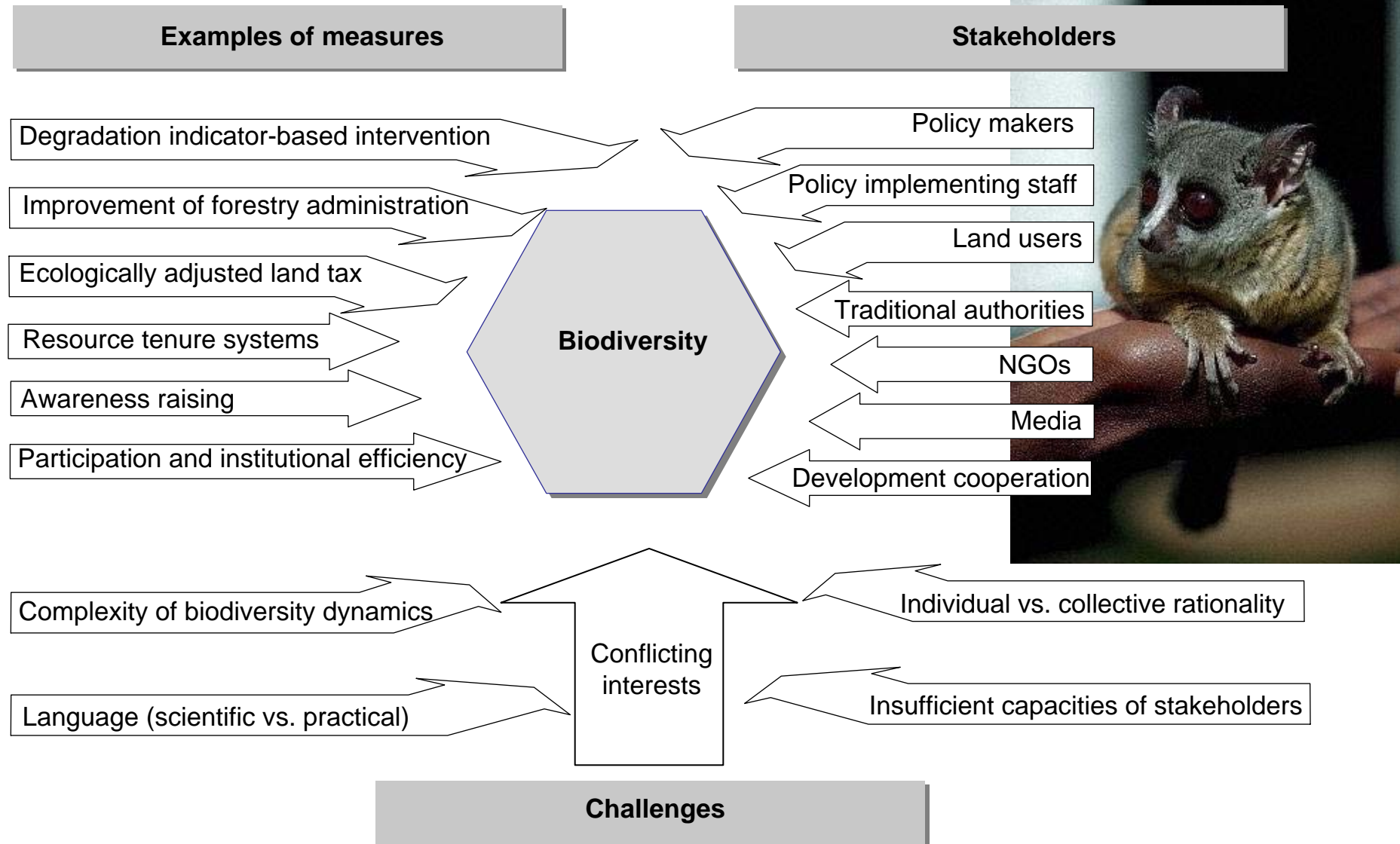
Institutions and Policies for Better Management of Natural Resources in Namibia

Structure of presentation

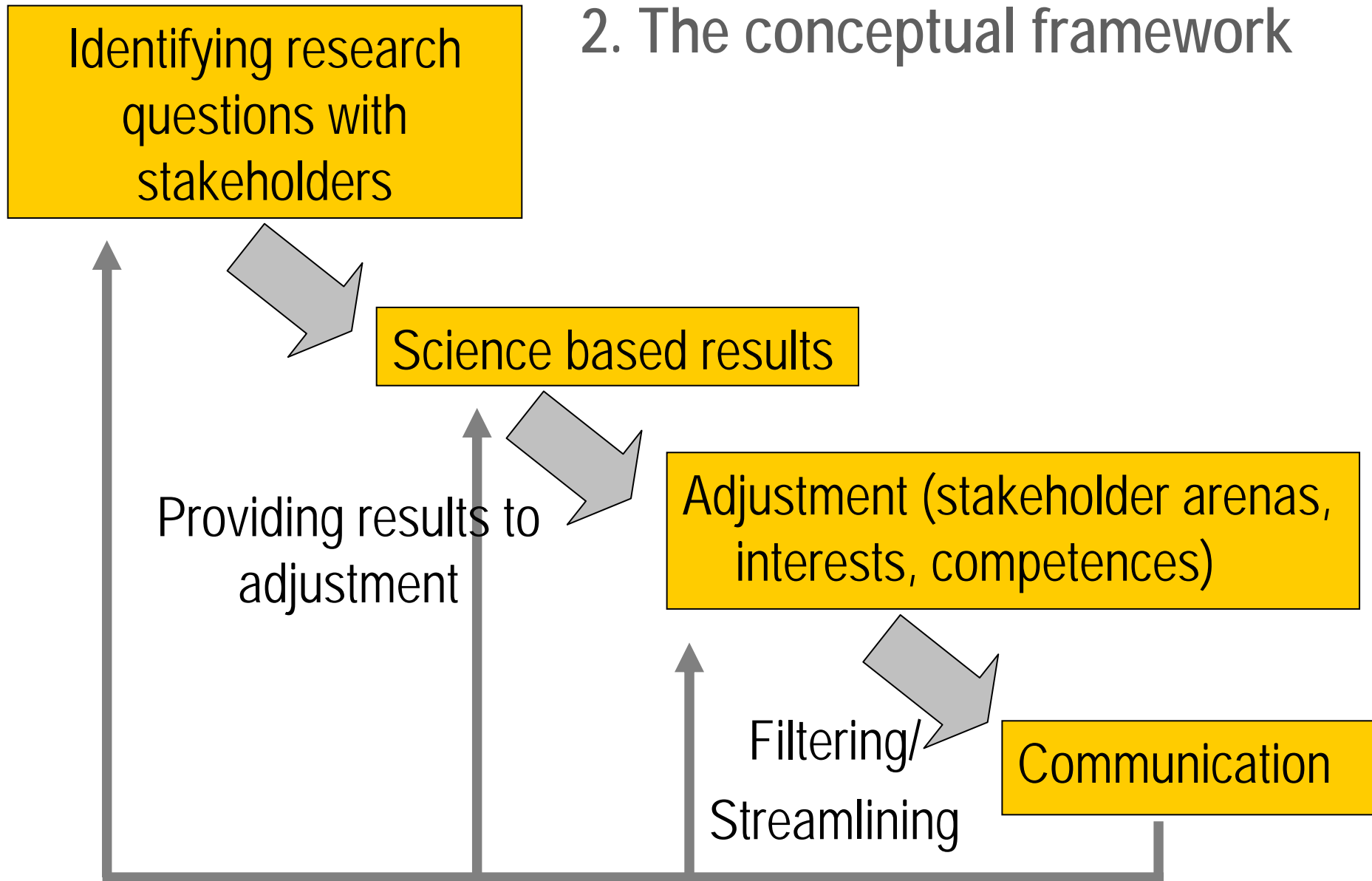
1. Objectives and challenges
2. Conceptual framework
3. Exemplary presentation of science based measures
4. The adjustment process
5. The communication process
6. Outlook



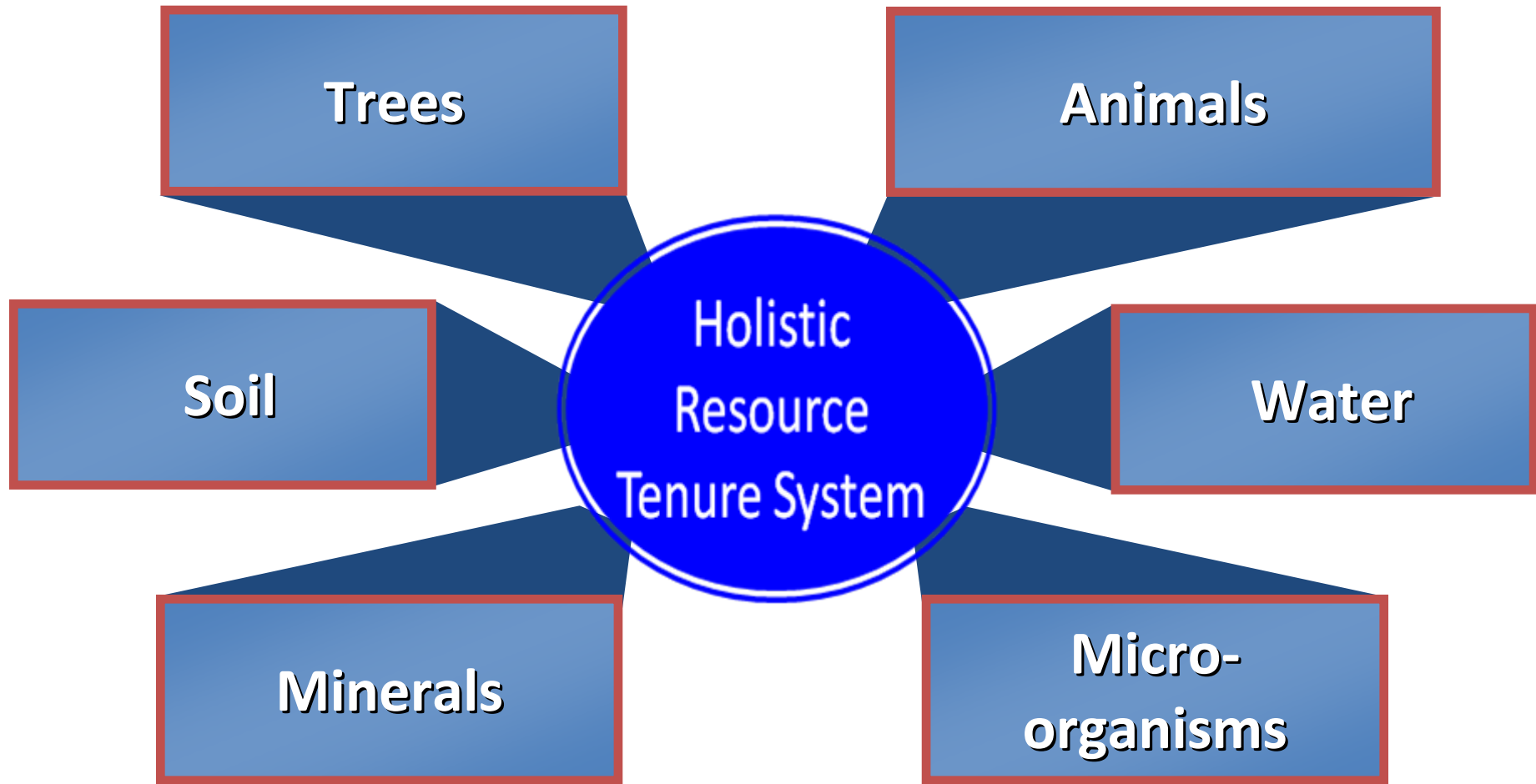
1. Objectives and challenges



2. The conceptual framework



3.1 Scientific results: Fragmentation of the environment



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Federal Ministry
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3.2 The unnecessary overlap

Ministry of Environment and Tourism

- Dealing with wildlife;
- Regulated by the Nature Conservation Act;
- Local rules formalized in conservancy constitution and management plans;
- Managed by conservancy committee.

Ministry of Agriculture

Community Forests

- Dealing with forest resources;
- Regulated by the Forest Act;
- Local rules formalised in community forest constitution and management plans;
- Managed by community forest committee.

Conservancies



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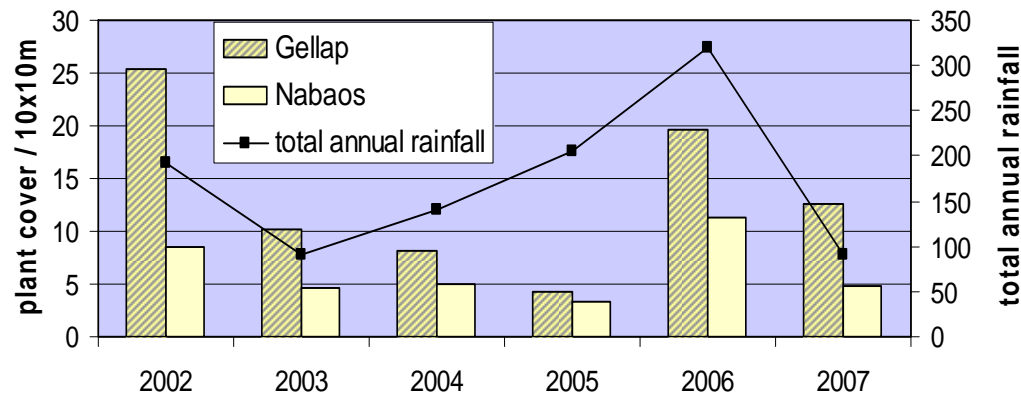
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3.3 Scientific results: Degradation facts

Gellap



Plant cover averaged for 20 plots (10x10m) per observatory and year.

Nabaos

- high plant cover
- high infiltration rates
- „resource conserving landscape“

(Ludwig & Tongway 2001)

- increased bare ground
- increased topsoil crusting & sealing
- decreased water infiltration
- runoff & erosion



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3.4 Scientific results: Concept of an eco-land tax

Aims for an **eco-land tax**:

- Maintain generation of revenues for the state and
- Foster on-farm rangeland conservation using an **incentive** concept

Current land tax (Namibia):

Tax rate (0,75%)

*

Unimproved Site Value (USV)

15 to 420 N\$ per ha

(Source: Data from main valuation roll, Directorate of Valuation, Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation, 2007)



Fixed value per farm over time

Eco-land land tax:

Tax rate (0,75%)

*

Land value depending on
rangeland condition (6 states)



Principle:

Rangeland degradation => Degradation costs

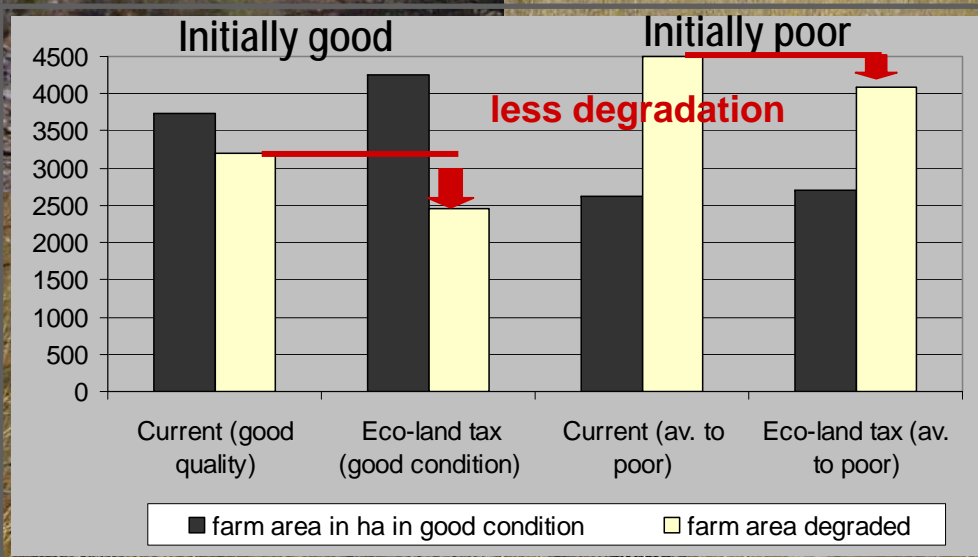
Rangeland close to climax => **Waiver: no tax**



Differentiated Eco-Land Tax **accounts**
for the condition of the rangeland

3.5 Why think of eco-land tax design ?

- Farmers need support and recognition for the good management of their rangeland
- A regular monitoring of the state of the rangeland on farms can help farmers improve their practices
- Involving the ministry of lands and resettlement as well as the ministry of agriculture in the concept of conservation of rangelands can play a positive role in a more sustainable range management

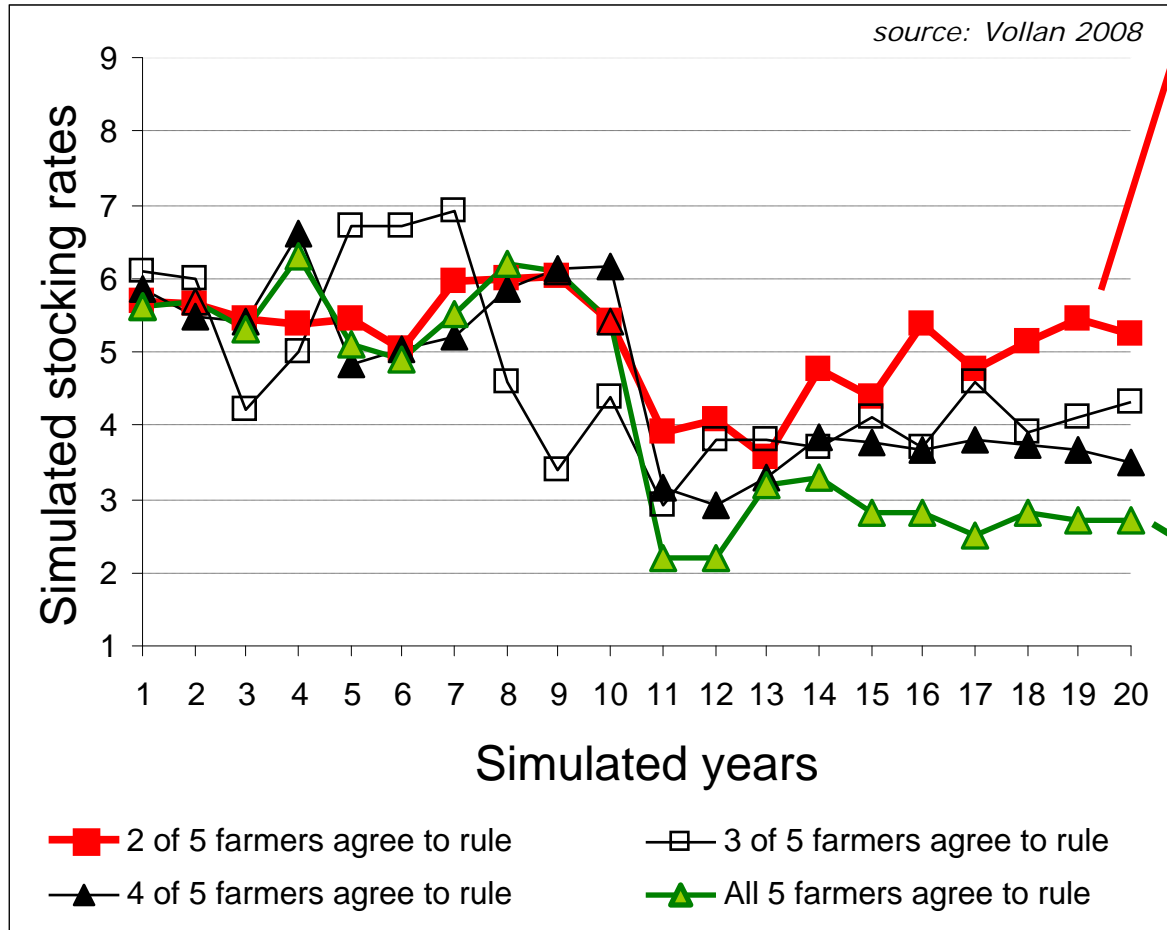


Key for conservation: Resting when it rains

Domptail 2005

Domptail 2005

3.6 Scientific results: Efficiency of institutional framework depends on participation



Low agreement to rule



high stocking rate



inefficient rule

High agreement to rule



low stocking rate



efficient rule

4. Adjustment process

Confronting science with stakeholders' experience and expectations:

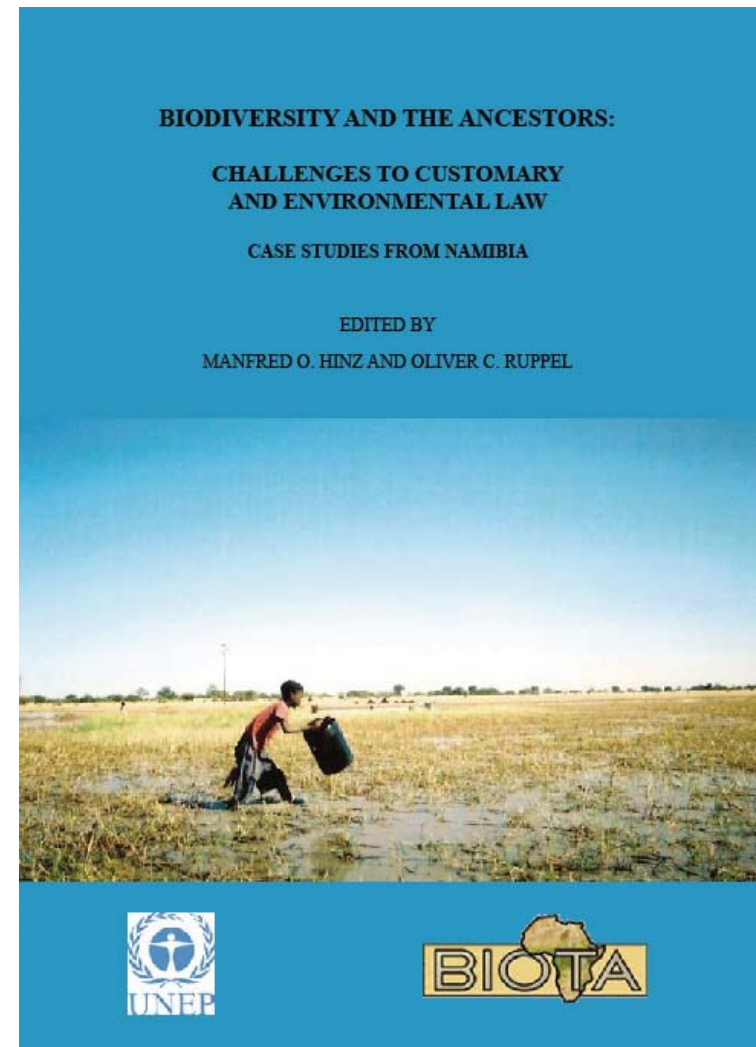
- feedback meetings,
- critically discussing scientific recommendations,
- participatory identification of limitations for interventions,
- comparing scientific with indigenous knowledge,
- critically discussing the impact of existing policy tools.



5. Communication

Instruments:

- publication via professional journals for practitioners,
- lectures at universities,
- books published in Namibia,
- discussions with politics,
- tv documentaries,
- offering concepts to development cooperation.



6. Outlook

- Extend range of partners and depth for co-operation to transform results into policies (e.g. interface with development cooperation),
- Make use of already built up trust and networks for a stronger integration of biodiversity issues into policies and normative frameworks (e.g. with respect to conservancies and community forests),
- Capacity development in particular in methods of data use and interpretation (e.g. economic models in tertiary education, simulating cooperation),
- Identify potentials/limitations for upscaling beyond Namibia (e.g. transborder perspectives).

Thank you very much!