



7th WAVES ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING

“POLICY CHALLENGES”

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KIGALI, RWANDA

PORTIA SEGOMELO
WAVES ADVISOR FOR AFRICA



WAVES

Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services
www.wavespartnership.org

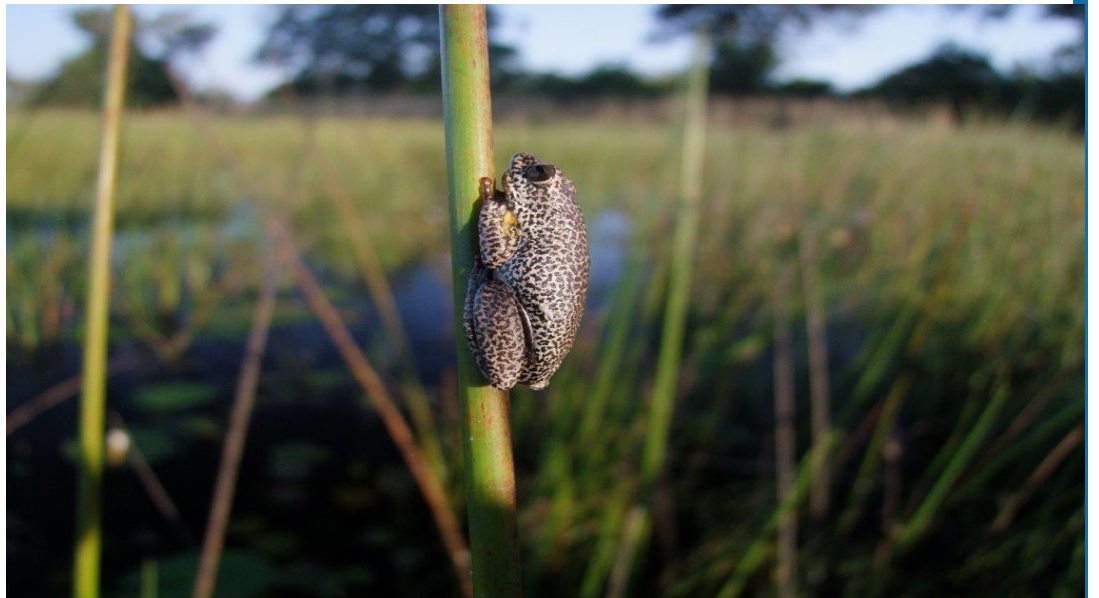


WORLD BANK GROUP

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1) POLICY PILLARS

2) POLICY CHALLENGES



POLICY RELATED PILLARS

- 1. RELEVANCE:** NCA relevance to: policy framework; policy priorities. Eg. poverty alleviation, drought mitigation, economic diversification, climate change adaptation, rural development, natural resource management
- 2. RESPONSIVE:** Integrated approach to policy framework - desirable imperative towards adoption of NCA results; to influence political decisions; inclusive participation at policy and social levels eg. data providers, policy makers, users of NCA results, general public



POLICY RELATED PILLARS CONTINUED....

3. **RESILIENCE:** Results of the NCA programme should be part of the normal planning, policy & budgetary mechanism of Government for sustainability. Capacity building in NCA techniques to be sustained across planning sectors and regular update of accounts, analysis and communication of results.
4. **RETENTION:** The National Vision and Development Planning processes are strategic national frameworks present an opportunity to maintain NCA activities. The changing political, economic and institutional processes should be complemented by NCA as a management tool that provides information about the contribution of natural resources economic development



POLICY CHALLENGES

1. Change in policy priorities: Policies are dynamic and change to embrace the demands of diversification, economic growth, poverty crisis and consumption patterns. NCA provides the requisite information to adapt policy to these changes. When policy changes and disregards NCA results, potential for ill-informed policy may be experienced.



POLICY CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

II) Compromised institutional capacity: the technical capacity, analysis of results, coordination of participating agencies and synchronizing planning systems if not adopted may relegate NCA to the periphery of planning systems. Maintain critical mass of planners equipped with NCA skills across sectors is key. Establish NCA units and maintain training.



POLICY CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

III) Weak data management: inconsistent formats, irregular data capture, inaccessibility and unavailability of data, and outdated data is a primary challenge to NCA. Data is intensive.

Investing in effective and efficient data systems is important lest the results mislead policy decisions.

IV) Failure to identify targeted policy entry points: development and review of policies;

NDP planning, maintaining sustainability objectives are key to keep NCA practitioners abreast of policy dimensions and to stay relevant and timely in issuing and reporting results.



POLICY CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

- V) Legislative backing:** Policy if not supported by legislative instruments to compel implementation may fail to reach the desired results and to sustain effort with respect to some results.
- VI) Inadequate Budgetary provision:** NCA viewed as add-on; costing NCA outside normal planning programmes (project mode); may frustrate sustained infusion into budgetary processes sector budgeting decisions should be informed by the contribution to the sector for economic development



POLICY CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

VII) Policy monitoring: If not monitored closely policy implementation may fail to respond and adapt to changes timeously and NCA presents itself with actual information to monitor progress – for example consumption patterns, degradation, contamination, scarcity.

VII) Weak IEC systems: timeliness of information provision; cross-referencing of information to avoid conflicting messages; capacity of planning cadres to carry out accounting activities with confidence; communicating the NCA results in a plausible way to influence policy decisions.



POLICY CHALLENGES CONTINUED...

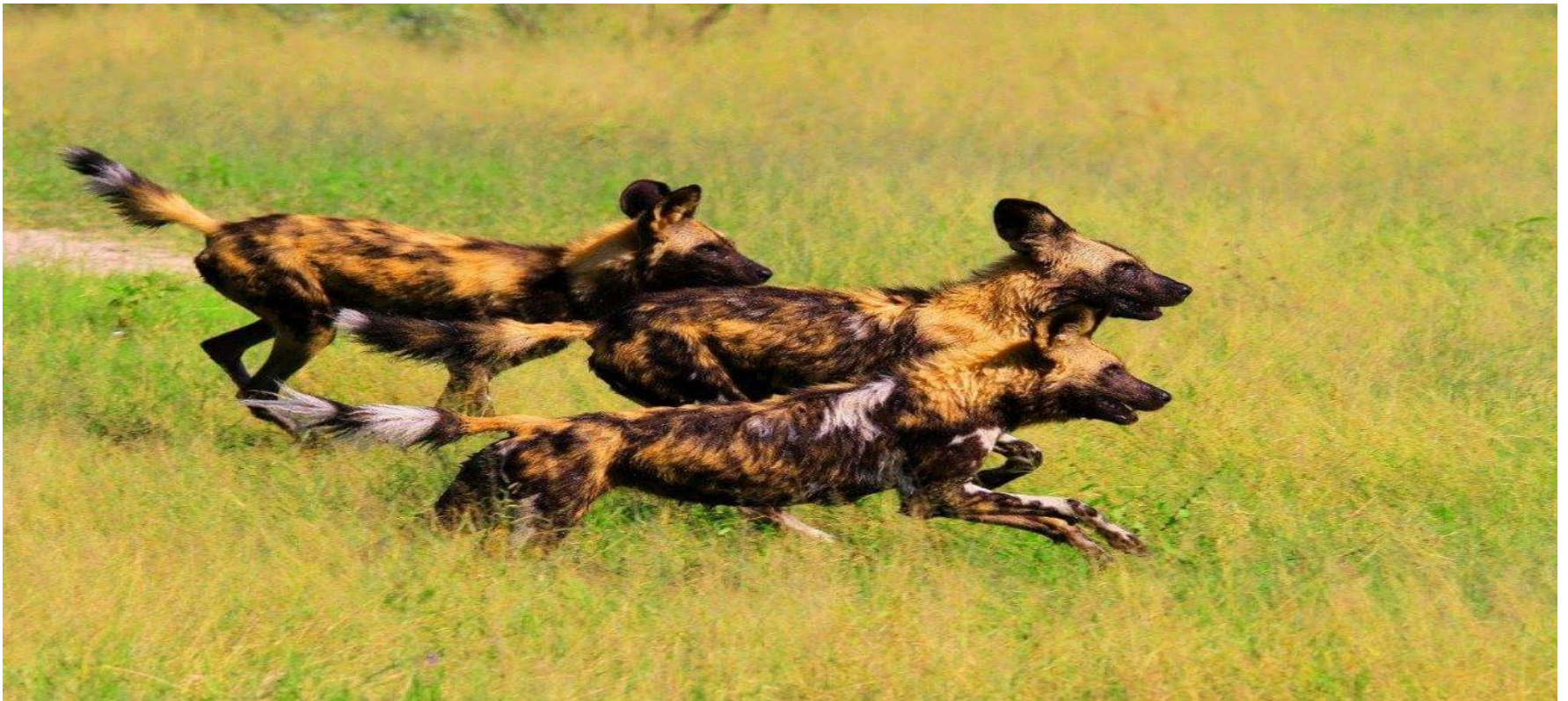
IX) External threats: These factors are characterized by global or natural systems beyond the control of national processes:

- Natural changes resulting in drought, floods, loss of biodiversity play a major role in policy challenges.
- NCA provides information about status of the natural resource base and if not observed may result in policy challenges
- Political unrest is a threat to policy in terms of priorities for planning, budgeting and even destruction of natural or ecological systems
- Economic recession – global economic trends may constrain national policy if governments are not kept abreast of global changes



Conclusion

Way Forwardthe wild dog known to have great relationship values and well coordinated....



3. Conclusion

*****CHANGE IS INEVITABLE – BUT NEEDS MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION*****

.....the wild dog known to have great relationship values and well coordinated....

THANK YOU

