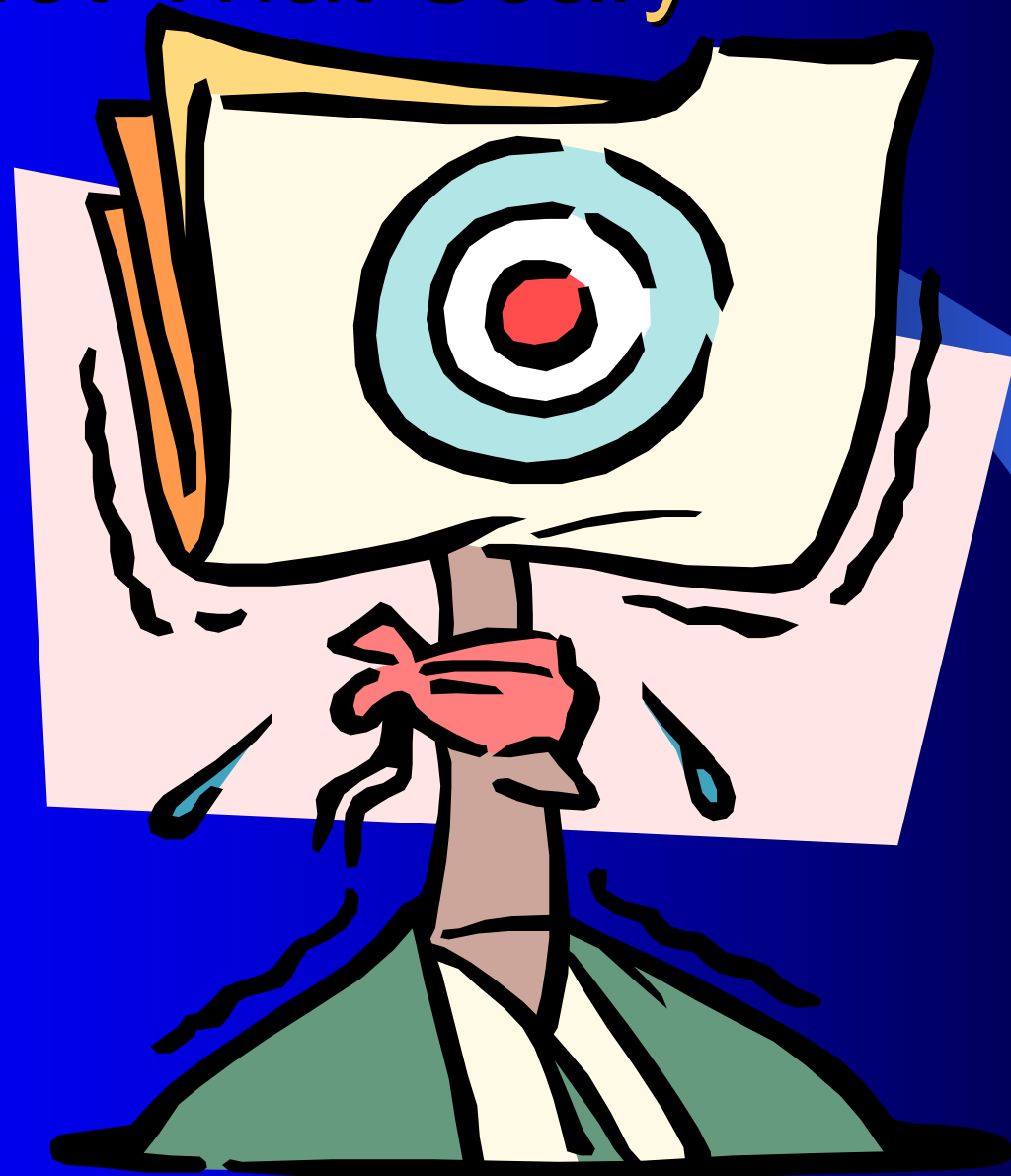


Calabash Project

Increasing Capacity of Civil Society in SADC Region to Participate in EIAs



PP is Not That Scary



Introduction

2 year World Bank and CIDA funded programme based at the Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment, Windhoek, Namibia

Overview

- Status today of stakeholder groups
- How does it all fit together? Making sure needs of industry, govt, NGOs and public are met?



Status of Stakeholder Groups

- **Government**

- Fewer resources
- Many competing interests
- Under siege – jobs, debt, HIVAIDS, unrest
- Governance challenges
- May have conflict of interest (judge, proponent, policeman)



Status of Stakeholder Groups

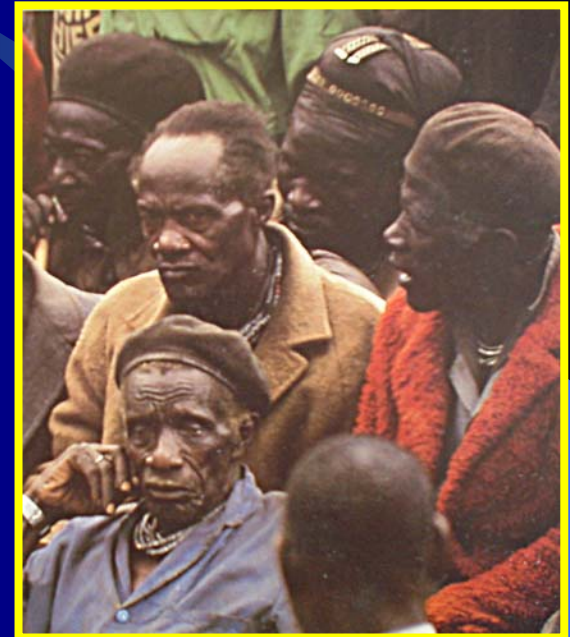
- **NGOs**

- **Sometimes better organized and funded**
- **Sophisticated responses possible**
- **Can operate at global level**
- **Watch govt and industry closely**
- **Can be useful partner**

Status of Stakeholder Groups

- **Public**

- **Willing to act???**
- **Mobilized???**
- **Expect more from govt and industry**
- **Knows rights under policy and law???**
- **Can make or break a project**
- **Key point..public is variable!**



Status of Stakeholder Groups

- **Industry**

- **Under pressure to supply resources**
- **Can no longer ignore public concerns**
- **Env policy and law more stringent**
- **Peer pressure growing**
- **Costs lower for those who engage public in meaningful way early in process**

And Consider these Quotes:

“Fundamental to the success of all our efforts at reconstruction and development is community action and participation” Nelson Mandela (1998)



Quotes continued:

“The African Union Southern Africa Regional Office agrees (with Calabash) that the participation or involvement of the public and civil society in government projects and programmes is important as it enhances the commitment and will to see the successful completion of the same”

Susan Sikaneta, African Union

Compliance Requirements for States

- Agenda 21 – 80 references to PP
- NEPAD Environmental Action Plan
- Biodiversity Convention
- SADC Policies
- ISO standards
- Millennium Development Goals
- EIAs Law, Constitutions
- Africa Charter on Public Participation
- IFI requirements

“Governments cannot do the job alone, and civil society groups have a critical role to play, along with commercial enterprises” Kofi Annan

Objectives for PP

- **Take** account of views and concerns of key stakeholders
- **Ensure** important impacts are not overlooked
- **Reduce** conflicts
- **Increase** transparency, trust and confidence
- **Obtain** local knowledge
- **Establish** basis for long-term collaborative relationship (critical!!!)

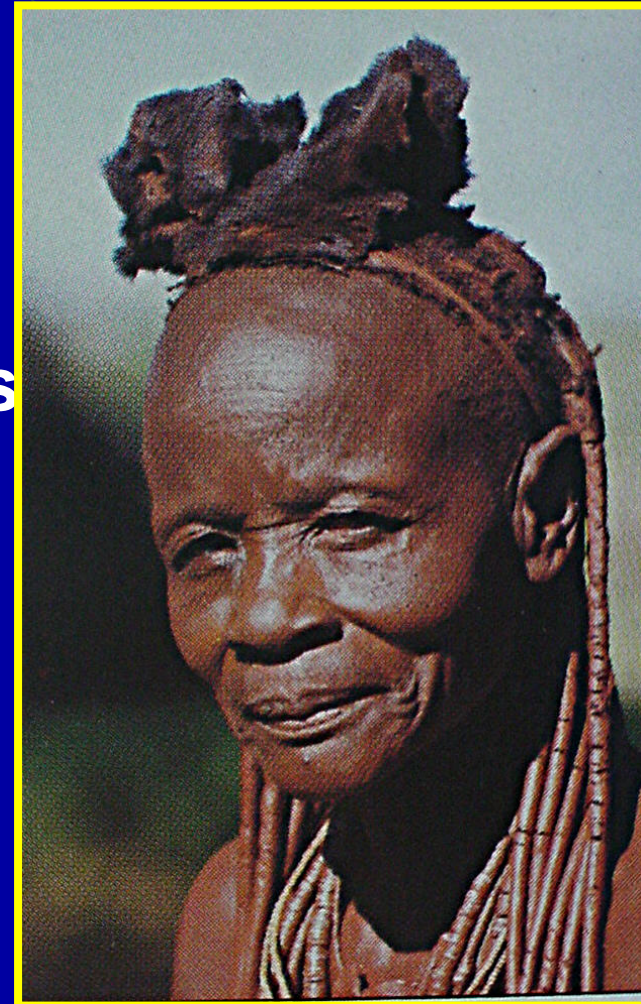
Who are participants in PP?

- IAP which can include: local people, NGOs, government agencies, other industry, academics, specialists, media, **women, children.**



Factors affecting Effectiveness of PP

- Poverty
- Remoteness
- Literacy level
- Cultural and local values
- Language
- Legal vs trad systems
- Dominance of groups
- Proponent credibility
- Not being done well



PP Benefits

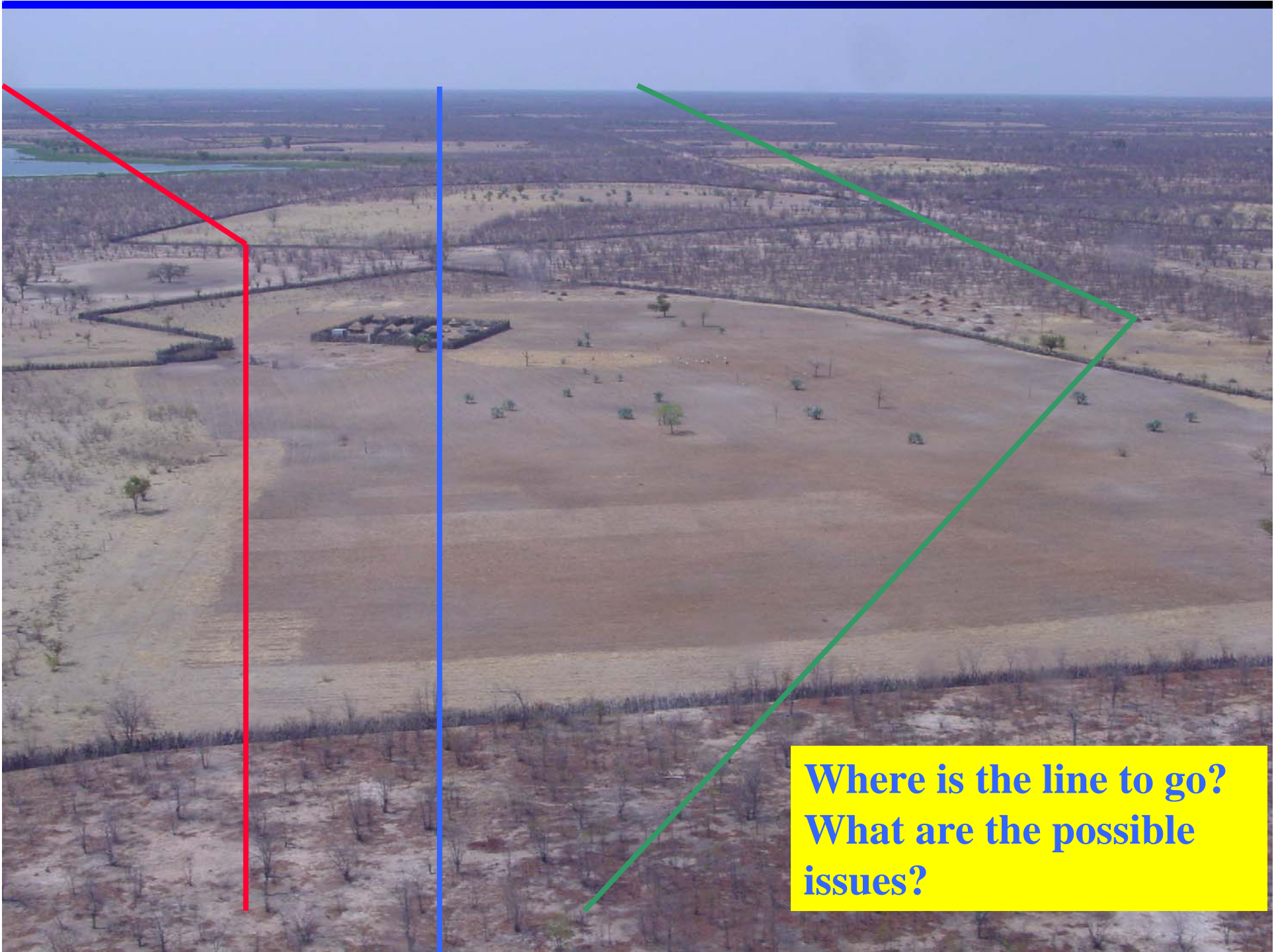
- **Builds** quicker understanding and acceptance and approval of the project
- **Provides** company with early warning system for potential problems
- **Reduces** costs by pinpointing sensitive issues and concerns not in published data
- **Fosters** positive community relationship which has huge word of mouth leverage

More Specific Issue from Public

- What about the San cultural site?
- Will clearing of veg endanger rare species?
- The view from my home will be lousy!
- Will access roads bring in unwanted campers etc?
- Can I get power from this line?
- Can I get a job on the line?

Public Issues Cont':

- **Where will I graze my cattle?**
- **Will there be more bird strikes?**
- **Will workers upset my village?**
- **Can I supply raw materials to the project?**
- **Not in my back yard!! (NIMBY)**
- **Will my house/land value decrease?**
- **What about tracks on the veld?**
- **Will you cut my locks?**
- **Do you respect us?**



**Where is the line to go?
What are the possible
issues?**

What about issues for this area?

Hint: a wealthy lawyer lurks here!



PP is really all about this:



- At a recent public hearing for a power project, a local farmer said this: **“All we want from the company is respect. Just tell us when you are going to be on our land, please don’t cut locks without permission and tell us when you are doing surveys so we can move our livestock”**

AND:

A local Induna in South Africa has authorized Africa Minerals to mine in the community without consulting them. The result: “we demand that we be consulted adequately, so that we can make our inputs and suggestions to the the entire process!!”

Conclusion: Much work remains to be done on PP in the SADC region

Calabash has completed:

- **Situation Assessment**
- **Project Team Development**
- **Planning Workshop and Proceedings**
- **Communication Plan**
- **First Newsletter**
- **Development of Contact Group**
- **Public relations with Contact Group**
- **Development of partnerships in the region**
- **Web Site with Electronic Library and Chat Forum etc**
- **2005 PP calendar**
- **PP/EIA training with Peter Tarr to Southern African Power Pool**
- **6 EIA/PP case studies**

Calabash Now Underway:

- **Development of Public Participation TORS templates (point, linear SEA)**
- **Development of PP rights to participation**
- **Next newsletter**
- **Development of procedural handbook (will incorporate TORS templates and PP rights) as well as key PP/EIA learning points generated over the last year with Calabash**
- **Planning underway for 2 day workshop late November to firm up procedural handbook.**
- **Training Programme**

Summary

- **Public participation is growing**
- **Many sectors embracing benefits**
- **Good public participation is a way for companies and governments to secure future business opportunities and establish partnerships**



Where to Get More Information??

- Go to <http://www.saiea.com> and click on **Calabash**



Many thanks from
SAIEA/Calabash!
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