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Environmental Sustainability in Developing Countries: Case Studies from Botswana’s journey towards 2030 Agenda

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I. OVERVIEW

This publication provides a case study of how institutional systems of academia, motivated citizens and government in developing countries can collaborate and share strategies that allow for effective integrated environmental management. It will comprise of submissions from government sections on the subject, together with those of the wider academia, NGOs, local actors and other stakeholders.

The 2030 Agenda was conceptualized at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012 and has 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) together with 169 targets and at least 230 indicators. The SDGs are aimed at shaping public policy, achieving resource sustainability as well as guiding the development of human beings in their geographic setting.

Publishing state of the environment data for an African country like Botswana provides opportunities for easier monitoring of the 2030 sustainable development goals. It also provides a platform for engagement of various country and regional stakeholders who, as a group, can subsequently be encouraged to engage in the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda. However, this exercise is often the preserve of official government reporting, rather than a wider stakeholder engagement.

This publication will provide a new approach that encompasses contributions from government, academia and the wider environmental players of a country like Botswana. Contributions with a focus on southern Africa and/or Sub-Saharan Africa are also welcome.

While governments’ country reports are more focused on policy directions and implementation strategies; academia, through publishing, does provide the framework for analysis over the years, offering an opportunity for the Sustainable Development milestones to be tracked. For instance, the adopted Cape Town Global Action plan for Sustainable Development (https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/hlg/Cape-Town-Global-Action-Plan) calls for traceable data/information on sustainable development. To achieve this, countries need to start with a coherent and documented discussion, and in this regard partnership with academia in this project, through publishing becomes important.
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS – Book chapters

The topics covered in this volume will be deliberately diverse to allow for a variety of stakeholders to contribute in this important topic, at a country level. Contributions with a focus on southern Africa and/or Sub-Saharan Africa are highly welcome.

The contributors include government, civil society, academics, local actors; NGOs; and those involved and motivated to bring forward what they decide as key topics in the march towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda and sustainable development principles in their area of work. It is envisaged that this volume will act as a guideline to United Nations (UN) bodies as to which topics can be prioritized by developing countries in the operationalization of the sustainable development principles as illustrated by Botswana case studies.

By combining government and academic efforts, the book allows for synergy in knowledge development on SDGs and provides efficient way to track and monitor SDGs at a country level.

The book is even more relevant for the relatively recent document “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, adopted by the United Nations at its 70th session on 21st October 2015 General Assembly. At this meeting, 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets were outlined for every country to implement (http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/)

II. CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Authors wishing to contribute are invited to submit abstracts and book chapters, taking into account the deadlines indicated below. As already highlighted, the authors can choose any topic related to the SDGs, in particular those targeting the environment and sustainable development dimension. Submitting by a diverse group of stakeholders working in collaboration is encouraged.

➢ PLEASE NOTE: Although the geographical case study is on Botswana, contributions that focus on southern Africa and/or Sub-Saharan Africa are welcome.

Information on the various sustainable development goals and their potential relationship to environmental sustainability can be found at the United Nations website at the following link: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

A sample of broad topics for consideration include but are not limited to; natural resources management; environmental governance (e.g. Multilateral Environmental Agreements); sustainable environment in developing countries; cultural resources as environmental sustainability enablers; sustainable tourism; Poverty-environment nexus; Population-Environment nexus; Health-Environment linkages; wildlife-wilderness conservation; environmental financing; natural resource accounting; biodiversity offsetting; NGOs and environmental conservation; social innovation and environment; community-environment management; water quality; invasive species and sustainability, amongst others.

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III. INFORMATION TO AUTHORS

➢ *This book will be published by Springer Nature as Open Access content.*

Below is a synopsis of how chapter topics/abstracts/extended abstracts could be structured:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abstract/Introduction/Literature review/Methodology/Results and Discussion/Case study(ies) presentation/Policy direction towards 2030 as deducted from past and present data, observations, field experiences/Conclusions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

An example of the MDG reporting (maternal health) can be accessed at the following link: [http://www.bw.undp.org/content/botswana/en/home/library/mdg/botswana-2013-mdgs-acceleration-compact.html](http://www.bw.undp.org/content/botswana/en/home/library/mdg/botswana-2013-mdgs-acceleration-compact.html)

More information will be shared with selected contributors during production process.

➢ *Please send your contribution(s) to the following email:* sdgpub-bw@ub.ac.bw

IV. DEADLINES

- Abstract deadline – 30th January 2019
- Response on Abstracts – 28th February 2019
- Manuscript deadline – 15th April 2019
- Comments on Manuscripts to authors – 15th June 2019
- Final manuscript submission – 15th July 2019
- Manuscript production by editors and Publisher – August to November 2019
- Target publication date – December 2019

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