- Together with affected communities to identify and develop income generating activities wherever possible;
- To promote environmentally-sound sustainable agricultural practices in these trans-boundary areas;

*"Good" veld condition on farm Surprise*

- To promote regional cooperation and exchange of experiences pertinent to integrated natural resource management, land restoration and conservation and use of alternative energy sources;
- To enable decision makers within these shared river basins/desert ecosystems to manage their natural resources sustainably.

## What the project has achieved to date:

### *Some key highlights and success*

- Regional Inception Meeting in South Africa (Pretoria)
- National Inception Meetings
- Project Demonstration sites established
- Holding of regular National Steering Committee Meetings
- Draft Communication Strategy and communication material produced
- Project showcased at UNCCD COP 11 in 2013
- Links with trans-boundary institutions (e.g. ORASECOM) established
- Baseline reports finalised and guiding implementation
- Community Environment Action Plan (CEAP) completed

## Contact details

Private Bag X 120, PRETORIA, 0001
Tel.: 012 319 7685. Fax: 012 319 7607.
E-mail: Dlusm@daff.gov.za

# Kalahari-Namib project

NC-DoALR&RD

IUCN

LANDCARE SOUTH AFRICA

agriculture, forestry & fisheries
Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

environmental affairs
Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Kalahari-Namib Project:

Enhancing decision-making through interactive environmental learning and action in the Molopo-Nossob River Basin in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa. The project will run from 2011 to 2015.

*"Good" veld condition on the farm Khuis*

*Dune stabilization sites in the duneveld at Mier*

## Background

The project is lead by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and executed by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The Department of Environment provide support as country focal point on environmental conventions while the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries through Directorate Land Use and Soil Management is the implementing body in collaboration with Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.The project demonstration sites are Rietfontein in the the Mier local municipality which forms part of the Siyanda District Municipality, while the other two project sites, the Surprise and Khuis study areas, fall under the Joe Morolong local municipality which forms part of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality.

The farms in the area are located on the so-called "duneveld" and/or "hardveld". The rainfall of the south-western Kalahari varies between 150 mm to 450 mm per year. The average temperature is 36 °C (summer) and 17 °C (winter). Most of the farms in the area are located in the Savanna Biome while a few communally managed farms are located in the Nama-Karoo Biome.The vegetation type is present at an altitude which ranges from 880 m to 1040 m above sea level. The vegetation consists of open shrubland with a lower shrub layer.

The main problem causing land degradation in the Nossob-Molopo Basin is poor land use management. This is due to a number of factors including overgrazing, alien and invasive species, overstocking, uncontrolled grazing, injudicious use of fire and limited awareness. The farmers in the Siyanda and John Taolo district municipalities derive their income from cattle, sheep and goat production. The livestock is sold in the Auction and to individual communities. Some farms that keep game animals practice professional hunting.

## Overall goal of the project

To support communities and policy makers in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa to effectively implement and upscale sustainable land management (SLM) in the Molopo-Nossob basin area and thereby contribute to improved livelihoods and the maintenance of the integrity and functioning of the entire Kalahari-Namib ecosystem.

## Objectives of the project

- To enhance the livelihoods of rural communities dependent on natural resources in the drylands of the Kalahari/Namib;
- To develop improved land-use systems with the emphasis on the marginal lands of the Kalahari/Namib ecosystem;