BIOPROSPECTING/BIOTRASH ECONOMY

08-10 March 2018
East London Convention Centre
East London

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#EntrepreneursmeetInvestors
Background

- SMME training
- SADC Dialogue on NP on ABS/ CITES
- Break away Sessions
  - Multi-stakeholder perspectives on sector growth, economic value addition and investment attraction
  - ABS compliant Biotrade in South(ern) Africa- newly established project to support the development of the biotrade sector
  - Shaping a future-Fit investment bioprospecting Industry
Issues

• Regional Coordination on Nagoya Protocol on ABS/CITES
• Funding instruments
• Partnerships/mentorship/incubation
• Access to markets
• Capacity (to produce sufficient product)
• Business Skills
• Infrastructure (land)
• Permits (beneficiation, process efficiencies)
• Sector Coordination (cluster/nodal approach)
Challenges

• Delays in the issuance of permits
• Lack of regional negotiation coordination on Nagoya Protocol
• Funding instruments are not tailored to the needs of the Bioprospecting/Biotrade Sector
• Unethical partnerships
• Insufficient mentorship and incubation programmes
• Closed networks
• Inability to upscale to meet market demand
• Lack of basic entrepreneurial experience
• Lack of resources to acquire infrastructure and capacity to scale up
• Lack of resources to do relevant research and development to develop, test and produce safe, effective and innovative products.
Solutions

• Amendment to legislation without the loss of the main policy objective
• Transactional Advisory on the economic value of indigenous biological/genetic resources to assist in ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits to resource and Traditional knowledge providers.
• Business and financial planning support
• Tailored-made financial incentive programmes
• Facilitated partnerships
• Cluster approach business solutions
• Broaden business incubation opportunities to include Bioprospecting/biotrade Sector specifics/uniqueness.
Opportunities

• Investor developing an understanding of the Sector = Investors are exploring appropriate funding solutions
• Rich biodiversity = high potential for novel and diverse product development
• BioPANZA = Sector growth (endorses the business case for the sector)
• Access to markets by highlighting Ethical sourcing methods through both sustainable harvesting and fair and equitable benefit sharing.
Key Messages

• Growth of the Sector depends on:
  – Sound and tailor-made investment incentive instruments
  – Local value addition
  – Coordinated efforts
  – Enabling legislative that facilitates fair and equitable beneficiation
Actions

• Fast-tracking the finalisation of BioPANZA Operationalisation
  – Partnerships
  – Access to markets
  – Local Value addition

• Finalising NEMBA and BABS amendments

• SADC secretariat to organise a formal regional preparatory meeting towards COP-MOP3/CITES CoP18

• Transactional advisory on Indigenous biological/genetic resource value for appropriate provisions to promote fair and equitable beneficiation.
Thank You