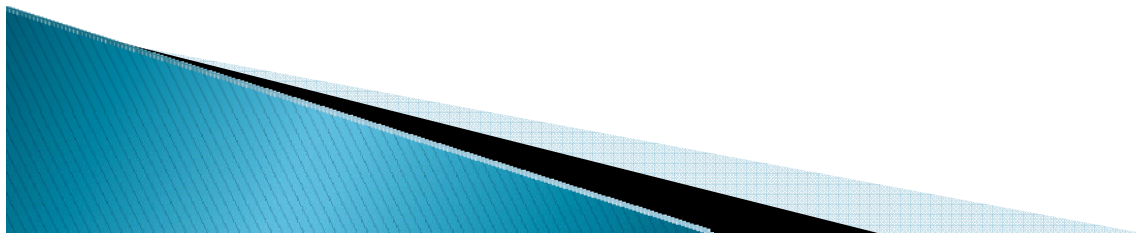


Communicating climate change in the Kalahari, Botswana

Presented by J. Athlapheng

- ▶ University of Botswana, Dept of Environmental Sciences.

SBSTA workshop, Bonn Germany (June 2–3, 2011)



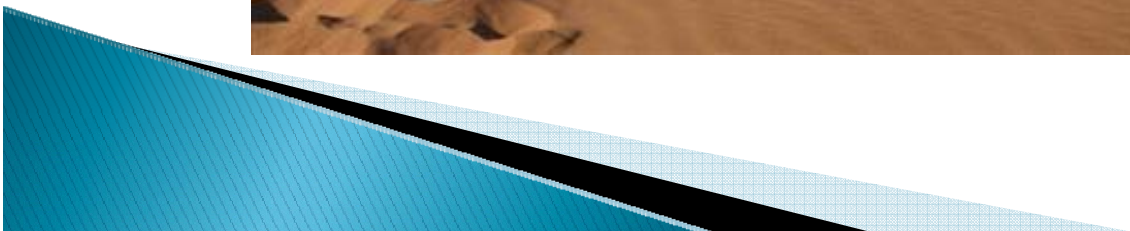
The natural environment



Water stress



Geotourism



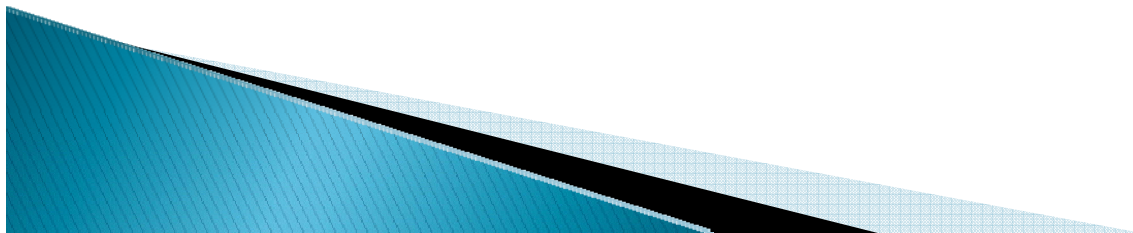


Handicrafts



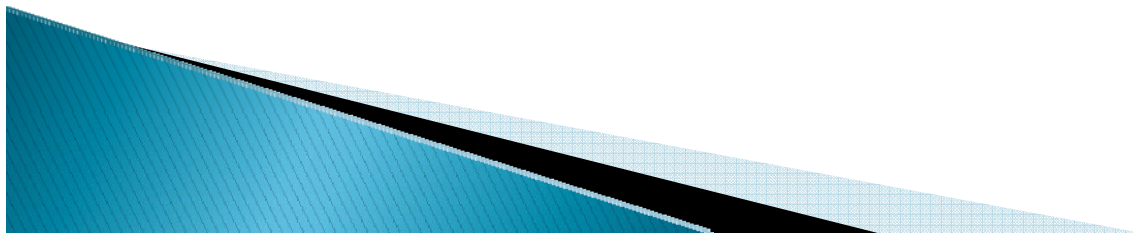
Study objectives

- ▶ The climate change data comes mainly from scientific sources, in the form of a) modeled data – both global or regional models and b) instrumental data, after stats analysis.
- ▶ People, live and have lived in these environments, but their experiences not documented in the climate change discourse.
- ▶ Is climate change a reality or not for the local people.

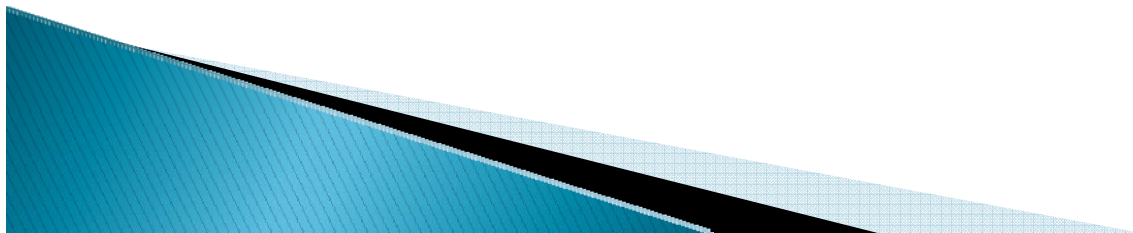


Study approach


- ▶ The study is multi-disciplinary, based on team of geosciences/climate change, geographer, business and environmental disciplines.
- ▶ Used interviews in a pilot study in the Kalahari
- ▶ Design of interviews, sampling procedures, data analysis relied on social science methods.
- ▶ Whether the local people of the Kalahari, perceive climate change as a shock to their natural environment, and its sustainability.



- ▶ The ecological /environmental; socio-economic, weather patterns – and their prediction of the future are the parameters under review to assess environmental change, in the eyes of the people of the Kalahari.
- ▶ Study done as a pilot – but now most of Kalahari covered, in more detailed studies.

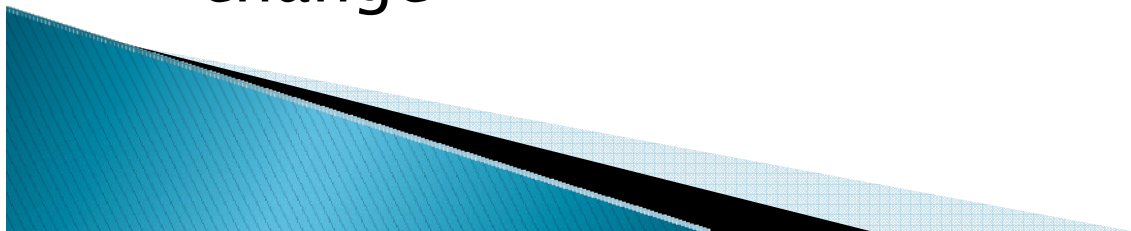


Future impacts of climate change, Kalahari people views

- ▶ Droughts to be more frequent, if rains continue to decrease
 - ▶ Can't tell, will depend on type of weather for month of August
 - ▶ Increased temps
 - ▶ All depends on God; will have to wait and see
 - ▶ There will be more dependence on govt: for food; to feed livestock; and to avail water.
 - ▶ Drier conditions anticipated, leading to poverty as a result of new, drier environment.
 - ▶ A lot of uncertainty.
- 

Conclusions & Discussions

- ▶ ¾ females believe climate change is happening
- ▶ For males, (5 / 6) believed climate change was happening
- ▶ No gender influence, or level of education.
- ▶ Time lived in the area, did not have any effect either.
- ▶ So, what to adapt to?
 - ▶ – Heightened/increased temps
 - ▶ – Reduced precipitation– and more droughts (more frequent)
 - ▶ – Poverty due to poor state of environment, and limited livelihood alternatives under climate change



Dissemination and Outreach

- ▶ TV discussions on cc
- ▶ Print media e.g. tourism/climate change
- ▶ Radio e.g. meaning of cc; cc and youth
- ▶ Publications & conferences
- ▶ Institutions – BNCCC, BGCC, DMS, NDP10, NGOs
- ▶ Initiatives – cc discussion forum, UB/DMS

