National Dialogue Platform on Bush Resources

Biomass Industry Conference, 8th September 2022

Namibian Chamber of Environment

Namibia Nature Foundation
Committed to conservation

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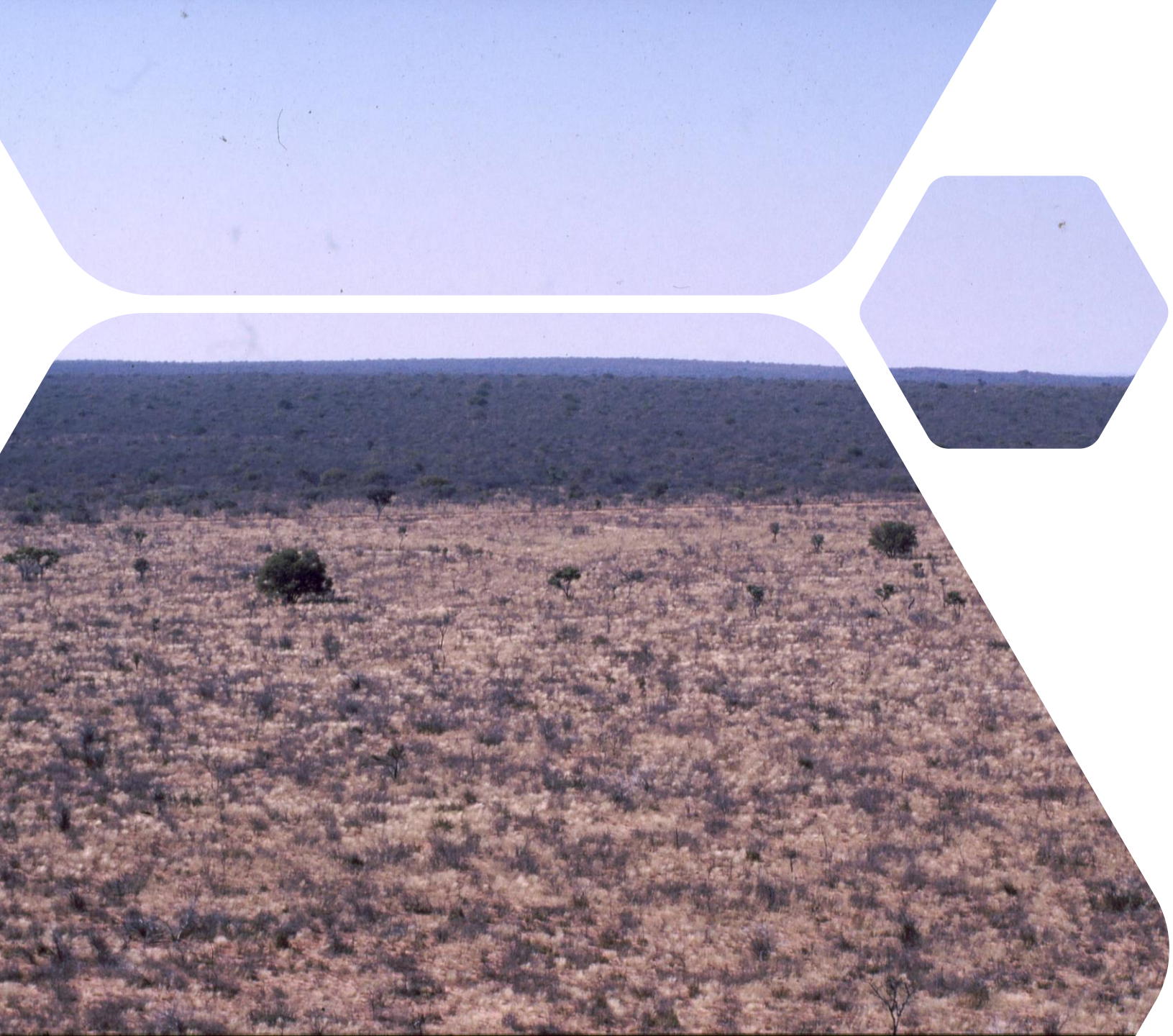
Context

- An estimated **45 million hectares** of bush encroachment.
- Key driver of **land degradation and desertification**: Reducing biodiversity, groundwater recharge and impacting key livelihood strategies and ecosystem services.
- **Bush control** to enhance and restore biodiversity, build resilience, and adapt to the impacts of climate change and ensure food security.
- **Value chains** has emerged as a major opportunity to support the rehabilitation of degraded, bush encroached land.
- Created a **multi-sectoral and cross-disciplinary** industry.

The economic potential, scale and nature of the bush encroachment problem require **multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination**.



Link to Strategy

Strategic Objective 6 of the National Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Bush Resources - Outcome 10:

By 2023, a platform responsible for the coordination of relevant activities across sectors and information sharing has been created.

Main Strategies:

- Develop a Coordinating Committee for government, private sector and civil society to engage around issues of bush management.
- Promote cooperation and integrated decision-making between stakeholders through the Coordinating Committee.
- Enhance cooperation and knowledge exchange.

→ Ensure an independent space for discussion.

The Platform

Aim: Bring together relevant ministries, civil society, and private sector to navigate the complex and multi-disciplinary problem, and:

- Discuss strategic challenges and opportunities.
- Enhance information sharing.
- Encourage the exchange of knowledge and best practices.
- Coordinate activities and research.
- Develop appropriate knowledge materials and products, as well as information systems to support responsible bush control activities and the bush biomass sector.

The development and operationalisation will be based on a participatory approach and led by key stakeholders to ensure their needs are addressed.

First Workshop Next Week 15th September 2022
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