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Scott Kloeck-Jenson International Internship
Report on Funds/Activities
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As the recipient of a Scott Kloeck-Jenson International Internship grant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002, I was able to undertake an internship with a local non-governmental organization in Namibia. Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation, or IRDNC, is one of the most prominent organizations in Namibia working with local communities to ensure their participation in and ability to benefit from conservation projects. In particular, IRDNC has become involved in transboundary natural resource management in the Caprivi, the northeasternmost region of Namibia, which borders four other countries (Angola, Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe). These shared borders make the integration of conservation efforts across them particularly salient in the area. I was in Namibia from early September until late December of 2002. This extended period of time will allow me to write a chapter of my dissertation about conservation initiatives in Namibia as a complement to my upcoming work in South Africa, which also focuses on the intersection of transboundary conservation and local communities.

During my time working with IRDNC I was able to participate in a large number of meetings, conferences, and events about transboundary conservation issues as well as other topics (see Appendix 1). I occasionally helped with office work, took notes at meetings and wrote reports, helped prepare for visitors to the organization such as on study tours, and made several presentations on my work both to IRDNC and to larger groups in the Caprivi. I traveled to an international conference on transboundary in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, and had the opportunity to conduct a survey of the participants to ask about their concerns and priorities for transboundary conservation, the results of which I submitted to IRDNC and other organizations in Namibia for their information. I also conducted a series of village level interviews about transboundary conservation and the distribution of economic benefits from conservation and tourism projects on behalf of IRDNC, and submitted summary reports on my findings to IRDNC, community-based conservation organizations, and other organizations. I was also able to contribute to

informal discussions within the organization and was asked to make policy recommendations based on my thoughts and observations during my time there. Towards the end of my stay, I was able to travel to Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, and meet with IRDNC partner organizations to share feedback with them on my work in the Caprivi as well as collect information about their work on transboundary conservation.

Overall, the experience was one of tremendous value for me. I had the chance not only to contribute to ongoing projects in IRDNC but to conduct several small ones of my own and provide IRDNC with information that they might not otherwise have had the chance to gather. In this way I was able to pursue my own interests, while having opportunities to learn about other issues and projects in the region at the same time. I am grateful for the support of the Global Studies program and Scott's family, which has helped me not only with this project but in the past as well. Having this kind of opportunity has made me a better student at Wisconsin and will surely make me a better teacher, researcher, and practitioner in the future.

APPENDIX I

Meetings/Conferences/Events

- Weekly Meeting, IRDNC Office, Monday mornings (as possible).
- Presentation to the Mozambican Study Tour at Salambala Conservancy, 10 September
- Presentations to the Mozambican Study Tour at Kwandu Conservancy, Mashi Crafts, and Bwabwata National Park, 11 September.
- Quarterly Planning Meeting of the Conservancies (Caprivi), Salambala Campsite, 25-27 September. Summary notes submitted to IRDNC for their records.
- Discussion of budgeting and elections, Salambala Conservancy (with Chris Weaver), 12 September.
- Meeting with African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) representatives about TBNRM in Caprivi (Chris Weaver, Richard Diggle, Nesbert Samu, and Leonard Dikobe), IRDNC office, 13 September.
- East Caprivi Hunting Concession Meeting, Kongola Conservation Office, 24 September.
- Legal Assistance Center Workshop, AIDS and the Law, Caprivi Teacher Training College, 3 October.
- Salambala Basket Competition (judge), Salambala Campsite, 4 October.
- Meeting with Diggle, Nheta, Roussett on TBNRM, IRDNC Office, 7 October.

- Basket buying trip with Charlie Paxton of Rossing Foundation/Mud Hut Trading, Masokotwani Craft Center, 8 October.
- Masokotwani Basket Competition, Masokotwani Craft Center, 11 October.
- Salambala Financial Planning Meeting/Budget Workshop (conducted by Chris Weaver), Salambala Conservancy Committee, Bukalo Agricultural Center, 15-16 October.
- Workshop on Benefits Distribution in Salambala Conservancy, Bukalo Agricultural Center, 22 October (conducted by Daisy Nheta).
- TBNRM Discussion with the Salambala Conservancy Committee, Bukalo Agricultural Center, 22 October (conducted by RBD).
- Discussion of TBNRM research project (RBD) with the Bukalo Kuta, Kuta office, 22 October.
- Meeting of conservancy representatives to discuss/prepare for Regional TBNRM Forum (conducted by AWF), 28 October.
- Regional TBNRM Forum (conducted by AWF), Victoria Falls, 29 October – 1 November.
- TBNRM Exchange Visit Preparation Discussion, Kwandu Conservancy members (going to Imusho, Zambia), Kwandu Conservancy Office (Caprivi), 26 November.
- CBNRM Working Group regular meeting [I also made a brief presentation on connections between TBNRM and CBNRM at the request of IRDNC], Katima Mulilo, 27 November.