

Innovative funding for post-graduate training and research at BUAN

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Presentation format

- Introduction
- Conceptualization – The big Question; Whose role is to fund post-graduate training in Agriculture
- Importance of post-graduate training
- What is innovation?
- Who are the stakeholders
- Stakeholder participation
- Challenges
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Globally, the demand for education is growing
- Expand the educated workforce [ie Vision 2016]
- Use education as vehicle for social mobility
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- And deliver widespread economic growth (IFC 2010)

- Thus acknowledge role of science & research
- At individual level:
- Education gives a break for better employment
- Career mobility, better remuneration and social status
- In OECD countries relative earnings of tertiary-educated adults is 1.5 times that of upper secondary education (OECD 2013).

The big question is whose responsibility is it to fund education

- Government (Tax payers)
- Parents, individuals (loans, savings etc) Motshelo??
- Civil society, Associations, interested groups ???
- Churches have a history of funding education
- Industry and private sector???

[In the context of Botswana!!!]

Importance of post-graduate training

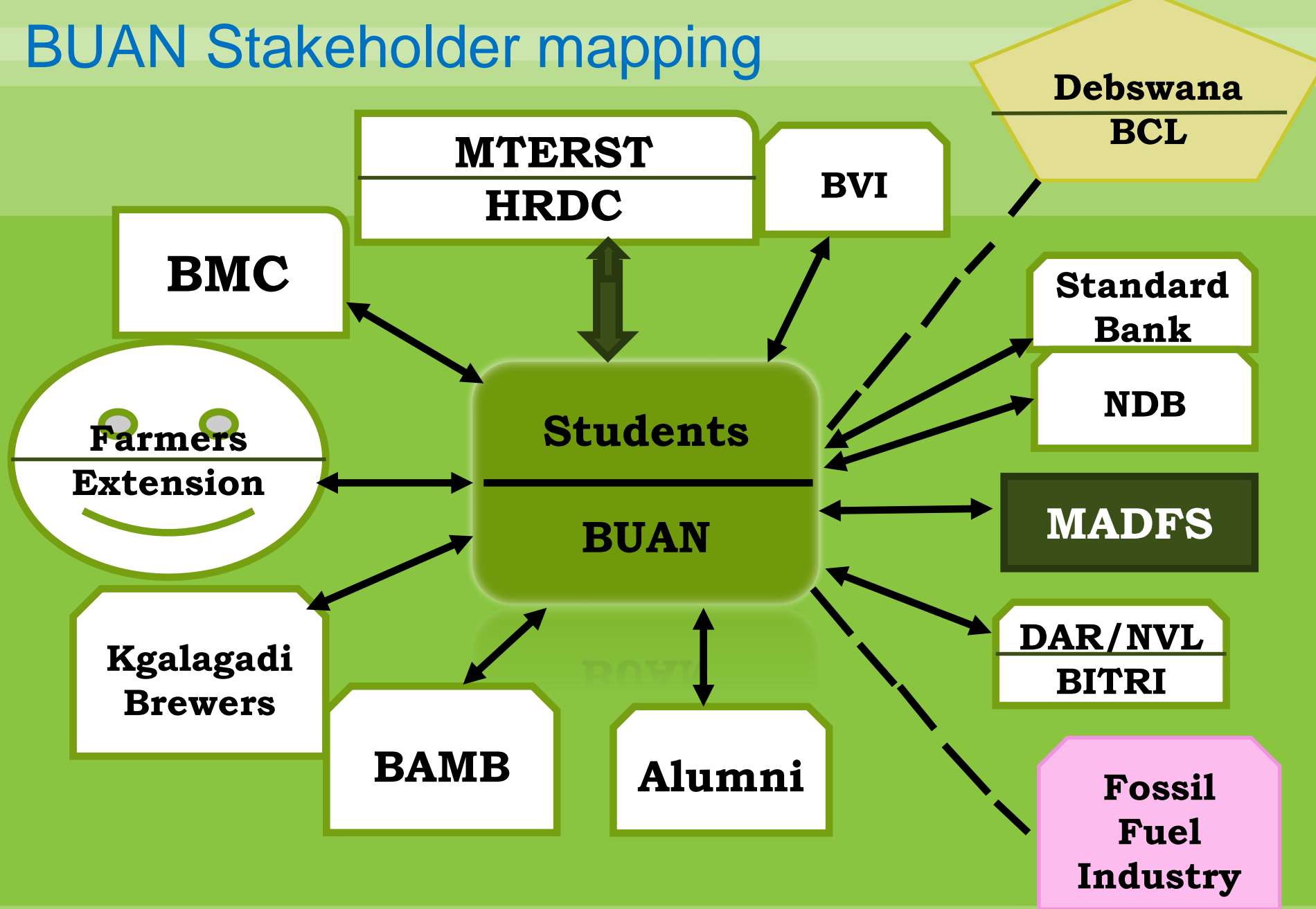
- Training of post-graduate students is epicenter of generation of research and technology
- Dovetailing post-graduate training with research agenda, you achieve two goals;
 1. Providing funds for higher education
 2. Generating knowledge and technology

- Department Tertiary Education Financing (DTEF) currently not funding post-graduate akin to undergraduate scholarships
- Perhaps notion that government needs administrators and not innovators predominate even today.
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- BUAN a public university should contribute to the national food systems by training at this level (PhD).
- Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) is live to importance of post-graduate funding & increasing national research outputs

Innovation Funding; What is it?

- The reviewer to the paper asked; does merely moving away from government subversion constitute innovation?
- The answer is YES
- When everyone in the village uses a sledge for transport and one chap decide to put wheels on the sledge; that's innovation
- The point here is any departure from the inefficient norm that improve outcomes is innovation

BUAN Stakeholder mapping



BUAN Stakeholder mapping and analysis

- In this analysis, forming partnership with relevant organizations and communities such as;
 1. BUAN Alumni
 2. Agro-Business companies
 3. Private Bank
 4. Farmers Association
 5. Mining companies and Fossil fuel Companies would be critical

Role of BUAN Alumni

- Alumni is a very important university community.
- Apart of giving a positive image and branding, Alumni is a strategic fund raising arm of the university.
- Could be building laboratories, student exchange programs or scholarships.
- Some are important people in society; (**members of boards of companies, Permanent Secretaries of ministries, MPs and Dikgosi**)

- Food security is important to Botswana
- Any responsible citizen offered opportunity to contribute to securing food security would welcome the assignment >>> civil calling
- Recently graduated students, peer-to-peer fundraising is suitable >> social media animals and ICT savvy
- For older graduates, their social connection, network & experience come in handy

Agro-Business companies

- These have foremost business calling to support future agricultural scientists, innovators & farmers
- Will result both monetary and non-monetary benefits
- Such companies are; BMC, BAMB, BVI, Botswana Kgalagadi Breweries, Food Botswana, milling companies

Botswana Meat Commission

- For emphasize, BMC will be used as a case study
- BMC has benefited from BUAN education [BAC >>BCA and BUAN; Boralopalo, Bakenti]
- Frontline drivers in beef through providing extension education
- BMC has duty to grow livestock industry through supporting post-graduate training >>**adding value to its mandate**

- Meat from grazed animals has more beneficial fats (omega-3) than from grain-fed animals and these benefits human health (Daley et al 2010)
- This should be a marketing strength for Botswana beef.
- Empirical data needed to support this under Botswana's system. >>> **unearthed by research**
- Such strategic knowledge would propel known reputation Botswana Beef to higher level and thus command premier prices

Broad areas for BMC to collaborate with BUAN

- Production systems & breeds in different environments
- Effects of breed and nutrition on product (beef) quality
- High level beef genetics (molecular markers for economic value)
- Feedlot and grass effects on beef quality & product development
- Production efficiency, sustainability and carbon footprint
- Beef production economics and profitability
- Beef marketing research
- Cattle diseases

Other innovative ways

- Work for education; during undergraduate training or internship, companies place students in exchange to support their post-graduate training
- Before the advent of crowd funding Batswana were already doing it >> Motshelo
- University of Botswana use it in the 1970 before it became in vogue

- Setting up endowment investments for special project
- Sponsoring research chairs by private companies
- Examples; South Africa, ABSA Bank fund research chairs at UNISA and University of Pretoria at these institutions' business schools.
- From time to time NDB emphasize commitment to agriculture; here is the time to add value to that commitment

Challenges

- Partnering with external stakeholders may result in undue donor influence.
- Exerted on the selection of faculty or faculty chair during hiring,
- On program or course selection,
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- On selection of heads of units, institutes
- And trampling on academic freedom.



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Regulation

- Policies that regulate donations, gifts and approval processes for donor-sponsored centres.
- Policy for asset naming and philanthropy donation
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- Open records policy will help and force BUAN to disclose the details of such donations to the law and public



Thanks you