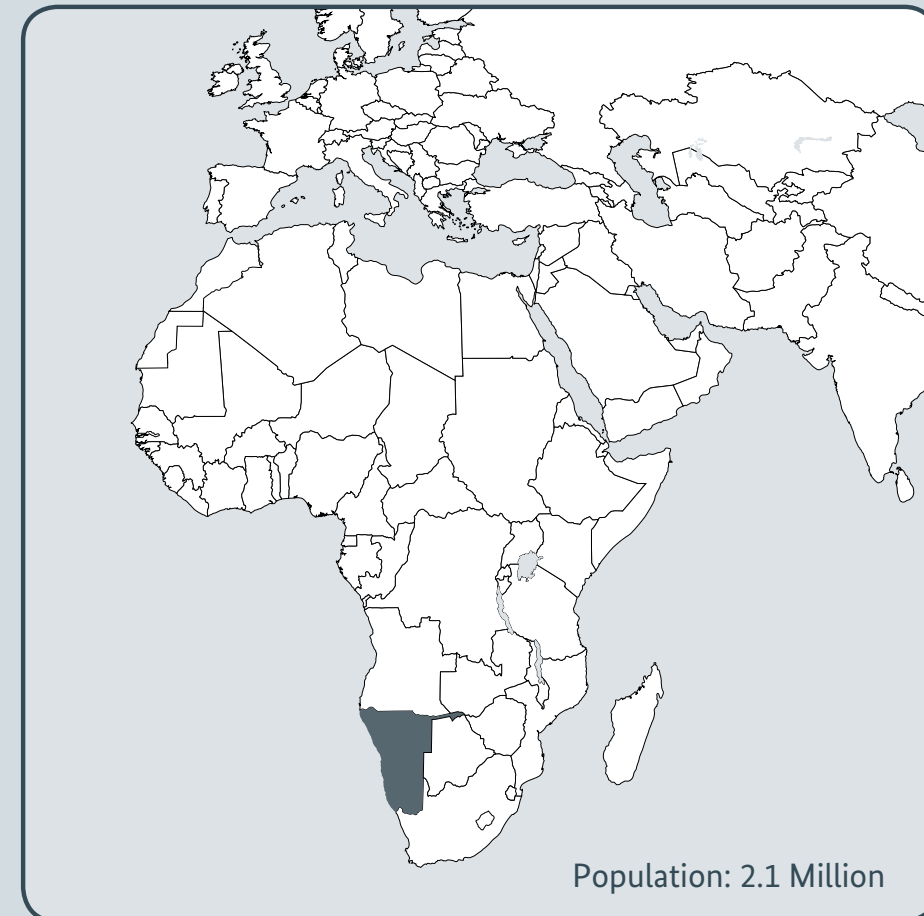


Republic of Namibia – Efforts towards conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity



Population: 2.1 Million

Namibia is the most arid country in Sub-Sahara Africa. It's natural resources and biodiversity offer high potential for the country's socio-economic development. The sectors based on natural resources i.e. mining, fisheries, tourism and agriculture form the basis of its economy. In addition, 70% of the Namibian population depends directly on natural resources for their livelihoods.

Ecosystems are being increasingly threatened and degraded by unsustainable practices. In order to address these challenges, Namibia continues to develop an environmental policy framework in line with the UN conventions on biological diversity, climate change and desertification.

Namibia is implementing its second NBSAP, covering the period 2013-2022 with its vision for "Namibia's biodiversity to be healthy and resilient to threats, and for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to be key drivers of poverty alleviation and equitable economic growth, particularly in rural areas." This poster is displaying Namibia's efforts towards achieving the Aichi Targets and was compiled by the NBSAP focal person from MET supported by the BMCC project.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABS	Access and Benefit-Sharing
BCC	Benguela Current Commission
BMCC	Biodiversity Management and Climate Change, MET supported by GIZ
CA	Conservation Areas
CBNRM	Community based Natural Resource Management
EBSA	Ecologically and Biodiversity Significant Areas
EMA	Environmental Management Act
Benguela Project	Conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Benguela Current Marine Ecosystem Project, Benguela Current Commission and Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources supported by GIZ
Gef	Global Environment Facility
GR	Genetic Resources
GTRC	Gobabeb Training and Research Center
ILCs	Indigenous and local communities
IRLIP	Integrated Regional Land Use Planning
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
NACCSP	National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan
NAFOLA	Namibia Protected Landscape Conservation Areas
NAM-PLACE	Namibia Protected Landscape Conservation Areas
NAP3	Third National Action Programme 2014 - 2024 for the implementation of the UNCCD
NBSAP2	Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NPC	National Planning Commission
NBR	National Botanical Research Institute's
PA	Protected Area
PLCA	Protected Landscape Conservation Areas
ResMob	Resource Mobilisation for Biodiversity Conservation, MET supported by GIZ
SCORE	Scaling up community resilience to climate variability and climate change in Northern Namibia, with a special focus on women and children project, Met and MAWF supported by Gef
UNAM	United Nations of Namibia
UNCCD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Conventions to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

C



Namibia's Nam-Place Project

MET, through its NAM-PLACE project, aims to lift barriers for the establishment of a large scale network of protected landscapes and in doing so addresses the threats to habitat and species loss through a landscape level approach. So far the following has been achieved:

- An additional 15,550 ha of land under Protected Area collaborative management.
- 5 PLCA management plans prepared, roles and responsibilities agreed, land use zones and resource use agreed.
- Adaptive collaborative management frameworks for 5 PLCAs operationalised in line with agreed national framework for PLCAs.
- PLCA management costs are underwritten by stakeholders through an agreed financial management system with appropriate revenue/benefit sharing mechanisms in place.

The successful NAM-PLACE project is coming to an end in 2015. A handing over to the landscapes managers and a best practice workshop for all landscapes will be conducted.



A network of protected landscapes is established (MET NAMPLACE project).

- 11 Overall, 42% of Namibia's landmass is under some form of conservation management including private game parks and nature reserves, tourism concessions, conservancies and community forests.
- 12 Threatened and vulnerable species are identified in order to promote their conservation and sustainable use for the benefit of all.
- 13 Outstanding – Info will be obtained a.s.a.p.

A



Namibia's Biodiversity Action Day in celebrations of the International Day of Biodiversity

Since 2010 Namibia has been celebrating the International Day for Biological Diversity on an annual basis through its Biodiversity Action Days, primarily organized by MET and BMCC. This year the event took place at Waterberg Plateau National Park under the theme "Biodiversity for Sustainable Development". A week-long science education program for 30 Grade 11 learners from schools around Namibia formed the basis of the celebrations. They were exposed to the scientific process through a week of intensive fieldwork, which addresses specific environmental topics and the training culminates with a public report-back of research results. The learners impressively presented and role-played findings of the various mini-researches on biodiversity and tourism.

A broad range of over 300 participants attended the event to explore the meaning of the theme through practical awareness raising activities. Accompanied by competent scientists, the participants gained hands on experiences on topics related to invertebrates, small mammals, birds, flora, and geology as well the history of the area. Topics including bush-encroachment, rangeland management, and sustainable tourism as well as plant genetic resources for food and agriculture were discussed by various stakeholders and experts, including the Deputy Minister of MET – Hon. T. Nambaho.



Awareness and understanding of biodiversity and conservation has increased through the celebration of Namibia's 5th Biodiversity Action Day.

- 1 A cross-sectoral environmental economics network has been established, to promote and mainstream the use of environmental economics within Namibia.
- 2 The status quo of ecosystem services and their drivers of change are assessed in the study Inventory of ecosystem services in Namibia.
- 2 MET is currently updating the natural resource accounts and works towards the establishment of ecosystem accounts.
- 3 Economic instruments to finance biodiversity conservation and the removal of harmful subsidies are currently assessed, including options for taxes, levies or market based instruments.
- 3 The focal points of the line ministries are trained on the environmental fiscal reform.

D



Awareness raising and capacity building of equitable access and benefit sharing in Namibia

MET convened a consultative workshop targeting traditional leaders, leaders of community forestry and CBNRM and the general community to reengage and create awareness on ABS, inform participants on the status of ABS in the country, and sort their input in the strategy for engaging and including ILCs in ABS implementation. The workshop also created a platform for examination of the current strength of local, traditional and national institutions in dealing with ABS related issues. Key concerns, fears, gaps and needs were discussed. The main outcome of this workshop was a strategy to engage ILCs in the implementation of ABS in Namibia. The goals of this strategy include increased awareness of the country's GR and associated traditional knowledge, renewed respect and interest in traditional knowledge and increased sense of ownership and pride in the countries GR. It also aims at improving competencies and skills of ILCs and of local, national and traditional authorities to effectively implement ABS and the Nagoya Protocol. Strengthened institutional arrangements and collaborative mechanisms of ILCs are further objectives of the strategy.



- 14 The implementation of water accounts will provide a more profound decision-making basis for integrated water management plans.
- 16 The ABS bill has been submitted to the legislative drafters under the Ministry of Justice.
- 16 An Intellectual property and ABS Interface workshop attended by 60 people was held in Namibia in August 2015.

A Practical Workshop on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions was held in Namibia and attended by 28 people from 6 different countries.

B



The IRLUP in the Otjozondjupa Region is a suitable tool to bring the LDN concept from the global policy down to the regional/more practical level.

- 6 Stakeholders to assist in the Marine Spatial Planning and the management of marine biodiversity are identified.
- 7 Sustainable Land and Forest Management is promoted in over 500,000 ha, especially in dry forests (NAFOLA Project).
- 7 The adaptive capacity to droughts and flood for approximately 4000 households, of which 80% are women-led, in the Northern area of the country are being strengthened.
- 8 Environmental Inspections took place at 51 sites in Namibia to monitor compliance with the provisions of the EMA. A total of 19 mines and quarrying sites were visited.
- 9 The Namibia focal point for invasive alien species was appointed by MET and the working group is in place.
- 9 The report on National review of invasive alien species Namibia from 2004 is being updated under supervision of the new national focal point for invasive alien species.
- 10 Three vulnerability assessments have been conducted and ecosystem-based adaptation measures have been developed in 3 pilot areas (BMCC project).
- 10 A multi-sectoral initiative will assist small-scale farmers in coping with climate variability and global change in the Kavango East and Erongo Regions.

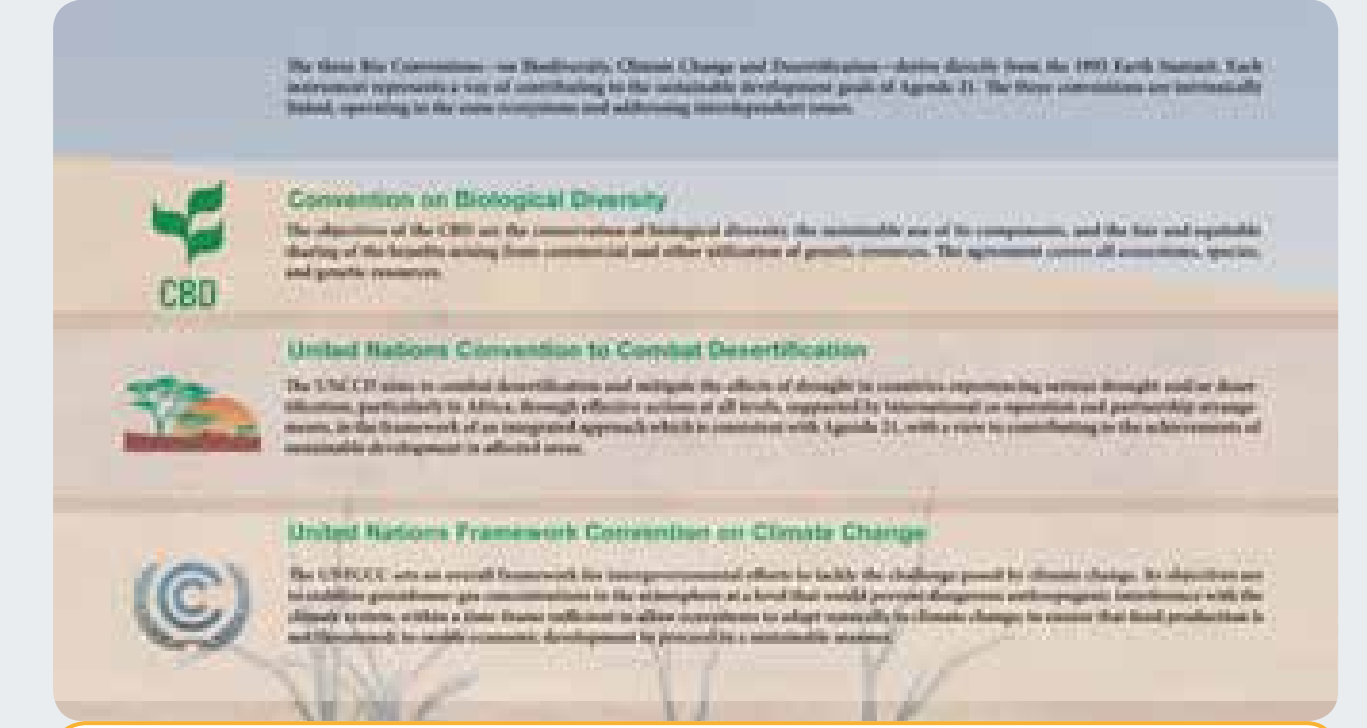
Protecting key biodiversity areas through integrated land use planning

Phase 1 of Namibia's NAP3 was successfully implemented taking LDN objectives into account. Main achievements were the:

1. Establishment of a national working group on LDN in Namibia.
 2. Review reports on
 - The assessment of land degradation and its drivers in Namibia,
 - The discussion about the LDN progress indicators suggested by the UNCCD,
 - Namibia's national strategies to address land degradation,
 - The integrated investment framework to address land degradation in Namibia.
 3. Pilot sites have been identified across the country for testing of the LDN principles.
 4. Base line data was collected at each pilot site and national LDN baseline data (area degraded in the past 14 years) are being reviewed for finalization of the country LDN targets.
- The following actions are being proposed for Phase 2 which will potentially be funded by the Government of Germany and implemented through the GIZ:
1. Integration of LDN into the national development agenda.
 2. Setting up/strengthening existing monitoring mechanisms for land degradation.
 3. Support the implementation of needed intervention /restoration activities identified for the pilot sites.
 4. Support a study to update the land degradation risk analysis and produce an updated risk map for Namibia to be used for planning purposes.
 5. Setup a single web based portal for exchanging land degradation data for Namibia.



E



Namibia's national approach to the 3 Rio Conventions

Despite the inherent vulnerabilities as the driest country in Sub-Saharan Africa, Namibia has maintained good progress and achieved good scores with regard to economic, social and environmental development. Today the necessary legal and institutional frameworks for the protection of the environment are in place. Namibia ratified the 3 Rio Conventions, namely the UNCCD, UNCCD, and the UNFCCC. These strategies and action plans have been approved by Cabinet, were launched in 2014 and rolled-out in the 12 Regions this year. The aim was to brief and discuss the approved strategies and action plans as well as priorities of future socio-economic projects for the respective regions with traditional authorities, community members and representatives of various Ministries. The workshops were attended by over 100 participants.

Namibia's economic indicators show that the country is on the right path but the blind pursuit of only economic development may rapidly deplete the resources available. This is particularly true for tourism and agricultural development. Informing the broad public about these above mentioned strategies and action plans as well as discussing them is of utmost importance in order to insure a sustainable use and understanding of the countries resources by all Namibians.



The Indigenous Local Communities Communication Strategy has been developed by the local communities together with the MET and ABS focal point.

The development and implementation of the Bio-cultural Community Protocols is in process.

Core stakeholders in all 12 regions were updated on the three Rio Conventions and Namibia's role.

- 19 Documentation on traditional knowledge of medicinal plants to be aligned to the Nagoya Protocol.
- 20 The baseline level of financial resource made available for biodiversity management has been evaluated in the "biodiversity expenditure review". This was one of the first studies of its kind and served as an international best practice and has been presented at COP 12.
- 20 A comprehensive resource mobilization strategy is drafted, including proposals on economic instruments, policy options and communication plans.

Target 17: Already achieved by Namibia in 2013.

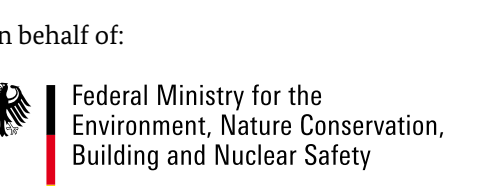
Target 18: By 2020, Traditional knowledge and the innovations relating to biodiversity and ecosystem management are improved and made relevant to political decision-makers.

Target 19: By 2022, knowledge, science base and technologies relating to biodiversity and ecosystem management are improved and made relevant to political decision-makers.

Target 20: By 2022, mobilization of financial resources from all sources has been increased compared to the period 2008-2012 to allow for the effective implementation of this strategy and action plan.



NAM-PLACE
namibia landscape conservation



of the Federal Republic of Germany

IMPRIINT

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NAMIBIA'S BIODIVERSITY TARGETS STRATEGIC GOALS

Target "dashboard"

- Moving away from target (things are getting worse rather than better)
- No significant overall progress (overall, we are neither moving towards the target nor moving away from it)
- Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate (unless we increase our efforts the target will not be met by its deadline)
- On track to achieve target (if we continue on our current trajectory we expect to achieve the target by 2020)
- On track to exceed target (we expect to achieve the target before its deadline)

A Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

- Target 1: By 2020, at least 75% of surveyed key target groups know the meaning of biodiversity and can identify important reasons for biodiversity conservation
- Target 2: By 2018, biodiversity values and prioritized ecosystem services are quantified, monitored and mainstreamed to support national and sectoral policy-making, planning, budgeting and decision-making frameworks.
- Target 3: By 2018, selected incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are in place and applied, and the most harmful subsidies are identified and their phase out is initiated.
- Target 4: Not a priority in Namibia's context/conditions.

B Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

- Target 5: By 2022, the rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats outside protected areas serving as ecological corridors or containing key biodiversity areas or providing important ecosystem services is minimized through integrated land use planning.
- Target 6: By 2022, all living marine and aquatic resources are managed sustainably and guided by the ecosystem approach.
- Target 7: By 2022, Principles of sound rangeland and sustainable forest management, and good environmental practices in agriculture are applied on at least 50 per cent of all relevant areas.
- Target 8: By 2022, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to biodiversity and ecosystem health and functioning.
- Target 9: By 2015, National review of invasive alien species in Namibia from 2004 is updated (including identification of pathways, and by 2018, priority measures are in place to control and manage their impact.
- Target 10: By 2016, ecosystems most vulnerable to climate change and their anthropogenic pressures are identified, and by 2018, appropriate adaptation measures are developed and implemented in priority areas.

C To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Target 11: By 2018, existing terrestrial protected areas (national parks) are conserved, effectively and equitably managed, within an ecologically representative and well-connected system, and by 2020, coastal and marine areas, of particular importance to biodiversity and ecosystem services, are identified and measures for their protection initiated.
- Target 12: By 2016, threatened and vulnerable species lists are updated and measures implemented by 2010 to improve their conservation status.
- Target 13: By 2020, Genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed animals is maintained and enhanced.

D Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Target 14: By 2022, ecosystems that provide essential services and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being are safeguarded, and restoration programmes have been initiated for degraded ecosystems covering at least 15 per cent of the priority areas.
- Target 15: Not a priority due to Namibia's dry conditions.
- Target 16: By 2015, national legislation giving effect to the Nagoya Protocol is in force and by 2018, fully operational to ensure that benefits are fair and equitably shared from the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

E Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

- Target 17: Already achieved by Namibia in 2013.
- Target 18: By 2020, Traditional knowledge and the innovations relating to biodiversity and ecosystem management are improved and made relevant to political decision-makers.
- Target 19: By 2022, knowledge, science base and technologies relating to biodiversity and ecosystem management are improved and made relevant to political decision-makers.
- Target 20: By 2022, mobilization of financial resources from all sources has been increased compared to the period 2008-2012 to allow for the effective implementation of this strategy and action plan.