



Ministry of Environment and Tourism

Namibia's National Biodiversity Programme 1994-2005

Some Lessons Learnt

*Biodiversity Knowledge
Management*

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Foreword

To analyse and synthesize the “knowledge” accumulated in almost 10 years of operations of the Namibian National Biodiversity Programme (NBP) is a challenging task, and doing so within a limited time frame renders that such an undertaking will necessarily be incomplete. We, the team of consultants tasked to carry out this assessment, heavily depended on consulting people, who had been part of the programme in one or another way. Various members of the “Biodiversity Task Force” (BDTF) were interviewed as part of the assessment, and others participated in review processes and a verification workshop. Alternatively, we could have facilitated a self-assessment process, which would have helped to highlight the strengths and the weaknesses of the programme by its participants. However, our freely held interview schedule provided for flexible and wider ranging contributions by the interviewees.

The objective of the “knowledge management” exercise was to document in an easily accessible format: (i) the main thematic fields in which knowledge was built by the National Biodiversity Programme (what), (ii) through which processes (how), and (iii) how the knowledge was used and disseminated (impact). The programme’s overall objective was to promote the protection and/or sustainable use of Namibian biodiversity whilst deriving tangible added value and benefits from biodiversity resources. It is recognised that knowledge will only be used, if it is presented in a digestible form and directly linked to the needs of identified clients or users.

A total number of 13 interviews were conducted all with key resource persons who played a major role in the process of the NBP. The structure of the NBP was unique, integrating specialists from wide ranging fields of expertise, representing government officials and technical experts from different line ministries, the scientific community and the NGO sector. Most of these experts served on various thematic working groups, operating independently but with facilitation and coordination support from the programme staff, and guidance of the BDTF. The top-level coordination ensured the smooth operation of the groups, whilst the groups themselves focussed on in-depth work on thematic subjects (related to specific tasks and interests of each group). One drawback of this set up is that a lot of “isolated knowledge” is locked up in the “heads of individual specialists” and “grey literature”, which should be made available more broadly.

Linking the work of the individual groups to the overarching BDTF and the NBP guaranteed technical cross-fertilisation and inspired more holistic views across the “classical” sectors, leading to a more integrative overall approach to biodiversity management. The management of “biodiversity” has a long history in a country such as Namibia. In the past, however, “biodiversity” was often equalled with large mammals and wildlife. Integrating agricultural, other terrestrial or aquatic and marine “use systems” into conservation and biodiversity management is a newly emerging concept, greatly facilitated through the NBP and its various operational arrangements. The first step required for achieving such changes is normally referred to as “agenda setting”, meaning simply making a concept and its implications known to society. Agenda setting is based on clear messages and the need of disseminating such key messages to all parts of society. The newer and the more complex a subject is, the longer it takes to reach out to society.

“Agenda setting” and “awareness creation”, the next step in a suite of related activities, can only be done in a convincing way, if key information is made available that directly links the subject to existing targets and problems. Awareness creation forms usually the basis for any political decision making process, which in the long run defines responsibilities, rules and regulations for interventions. Thus there is a logical progression that will lead to successfully addressing an issue, i.e. biodiversity as a management concern in a broader political spectrum.

“Working with knowledge” has an objective; it is not of value as an activity by itself. If we simplify complex definitions, we could simply say that we want to influence changes and assess “who does what differently, if we are successful?” Thus we are looking for the impacts our interventions have had – a change in behaviour. That means that we cannot give ourselves a pat on the back if we managed to gather and compile information in the form of a nice book or a database. Rather

we have to inquire further: What changes have we induced in support of biodiversity conservation?

The process must include: To hear – to be informed – to understand – to reflect –to act! This is a very cumbersome process and a difficult result to achieve.

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Acknowledgements

Teasing out the major knowledge modules and lessons learnt from a decade of biodiversity management support and interventions relating the National Biodiversity programme in Namibia needs the support of the many people actively involved in the programme. Thus we would like to acknowledge the inputs from the Biodiversity Task Force members who agreed to be interviewed and those who participated in the one-day verification workshop held at Heja Lodge on 23 November 2005. Special thanks go to Sem Shikongo (DEA/MET), Dr. Juliane Zeidler (IECN), Dr. Kirsten Probst and Albert Engel (both GTZ, Windhoek) who supported the process and contributed to the shaping of the knowledge modules and the report. Letitia Britz (DEA/MET) is thanked for her administrative support especially in the organisation of the Heja Lodge workshop.

Abbreviations

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
BCHM	Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism
BDTF	Biodiversity Task Force
BIOTA	Biodiversity Transect Africa project
BCLME	Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystems projects
BMZ	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNRM	Community-based Natural Resources Management
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism
DEA	Directorate of Environmental Affairs
DRFN	Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
DSS	Directorate of Scientific Services
DWAF	Directorate of Water Affairs and Forestry
EEl	Etosha Ecological Institute
ELTOSA	Ecological Long-term Observatories Southern Africa
FG	Focal Group
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
GRN	Government of Namibia
GTRC	Gobabeb Training and Research Centre
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation
IECN	Integrated Environmental Consultants Namibia
ILTER	International Long-term Ecological Research Network
LUP	Land Use Planning
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
MLR	Ministry of Lands and Resettlement
MSc	Masters of Science
NABA	Namibian Biotechnology Association
NABID	Namibia Biodiversity Database
NaEON	Namibian Environmental Observatories Network
NAMDEB	Namibia De Beers (Partnership)
NAPCOD	Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification
NBP	National Biodiversity Programme
NBRI	National Botanical Research Institute
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NNF	Namibia Nature Foundation
PA	Protected Areas
PESILUP	Promoting environmental sustainability through improved land use planning project
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisals
PS	Permanent Secretary
RoE	Roster of Experts
SABONET	Southern African Botanical Network
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAfMA	Southern African Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
Sardep	Sustainable Range and Animal Development Programme
SNARE	Southern Namibian Restoration Project
SOER	State of the Environment Reporting
SPAN	Strengthening Namibia's Protected Areas Network project
UNAM	University of Namibia

UNCCD	United National Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United National Conference for Environment and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank
WG	Working Group

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Over a decade the German Government through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) supported the Namibian Government i.e. the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) in its capacity to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity and develop capacities for improved biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
2. A team of GTZ and Namibian local consultants was commissioned in November 2005 to assess lessons learnt from the National Biodiversity Programme and to integrate such information into GTZ's internal "knowledge management" system. So-called learning modules were identified describing the major areas of learning through the programme. *"Learning modules are brief descriptions of those topics or themes which the project managed to implement successfully and which could provide valuable information and guidance to other people and institutions working in a similar context or seeking documentation, whether within Namibia or abroad."*
3. Members of the Biodiversity Task Force, a platform for coordination and exchange among biodiversity specialists created under the national programme, were consulted and interviewed to generate in-depth information underlining the identified learning modules, and verifying these. Fourteen people were consulted through face-to-face interactions, one through telephonic interview, whilst thirteen participated in a so-called "verification" workshop.
4. Overall, seven learning modules were elaborated: (1) Policy and strategy development to support biodiversity use and management, (2) Monitoring and evaluation to track biodiversity status, (3) Agenda setting, awareness creation and access to biodiversity information, (4) Institution building and cooperation, capacity development and mainstreaming into other sectors, (5) Leverage for getting international support, (6) Protection and rehabilitation of priority biodiversity areas, (7) Promotion of sustainable use and management of natural resources.
5. The "knowledge cards" filled in for each module contain the following information: (i) Short description of module, (ii) Specific steps/activities implemented, (iii) Methods, Tools/Instruments applied, (iv) Specific experiences made during implementation: What functioned well? What problems were encountered?, (v) Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area: Promoting factors/Hindering factors, (vi) Assessment of impact, (vii) Assessment of sustainability, (viii) Assessment of replicability, (ix) Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it? (x) In what documents can one find relevant information?
6. The systematic assessment of the "knowledge" generated and coordinated through the programme, revealed that a great body of information was "brokered" through the programme. The NBP established an inter-sectoral platform for experts, working together on biodiversity related topics. Considering that the NBP was established shortly after the ratification of the CBD by Namibia, many "modern" and relatively "new" biodiversity topics were introduced to Namibia via this platform. The NBP "secretariat" at MET provided coordination support to the various working groups formed under the BDTF.
7. Major contributions were made through influencing "agenda setting" with regards to newly emerging topics revolving around themes such as biosafety, biotechnology and access and benefit sharing. Overall a policy environment more cognizant of the value and importance of biodiversity was created i.e. through mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use considerations in Namibia's development planning (National Development Plans), the National Poverty Reduction Action Programme, Namibia's Vision 2030. Specific biodiversity related policies such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2001-2010), a national Wetlands policy and policies and draft legislation revolving around biosafety and biotechnology were developed under the leadership of the NBP. Although some major

environmental legislation is still not in place in Namibia (the Environmental Management and Assessment Bill has been submitted to Cabinet a while back and has not been passed as yet), a greatly improved policy and legislative framework exists today compared to ten years ago.

8. Much of the work of the NBP revolved around the implementation of and adherence to the major reporting obligations under the CBD. In this regard the NBP provided the required capacity to coordinate the required work and Namibia has not only produced a national country study and the NBSAP, but also submitted any report required under the CBD in a timely and competent manner. Namibia is one of few African countries complying with these international standards.
9. The NBP supported working/focal groups operating under the BDTF developed their theme specific work plans (included in the NBSAPs) and financial support was leveraged for the implementation of priority interventions. A suite of projects benefited from “small grants” provided especially through the early GTZ support. These projects generated a diversity of outputs, often research and information based, as reflected in the great number of publications underpinning each of the identified learning modules.
10. Much of the “knowledge” generated through the NBP is scientific in nature and has contributed to biodiversity conservation planning and management. It is notable that the NBP did not specifically institute “outreach” and “community-based natural resource management” initiatives, thus that little experiences were gained in local and regional level biodiversity management projects. However, it is envisioned that the great body of knowledge generated over these past years could now be used in specifically designed awareness and capacity building initiatives. This could take place through the implementation of targeted key interventions or the application of the knowledge in other biodiversity projects i.e. those supported by the GEF.
11. One key bottleneck that has not been addressed satisfactorily through the NBP is the question about sustainability. Up to today the Namibian Government is depending to a large extent on international donor support in the environmental sector. Few of the through the NBP created institutions are supported through routine budgetary allocations. Furthermore it is observed that the administrative and technical capacity of MET is limited to successfully continue the implementation of the NBSAP and other related policies and policy instruments.
12. A special emphasis has to be placed on further mainstreaming the excellent available biodiversity information in Namibia throughout other Directorates in MET than DEA and other relevant institutions. An action plan for follow-up activities should be developed within the “International Environmental Conventions Unit” to further create awareness about the outcomes and impacts of the NBP. A brochure for “non-biodiversity-specialists” will be produced in the coming months, communicating some of the key findings from this assessment to a broader target group of decision makers as a first step.

1. Introduction

The Namibian National Biodiversity Programme (NBP) was officially set up in 1994 and housed in the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). Today, a small number of “secretarial” staff coordinates the activities under the programme, overseen by the Head of the “International Environmental Conventions Unit”. The Head of the Unit serves as Namibian National Focal Point to each of the Rio Conventions (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Director of the DEA is the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Focal Point.

A multi-stakeholder National Biodiversity Task Force (BDTF) was formed in 1995 and expanded during the late 1990’s. The Task Force involved eight ministries and 15 departments within those ministries, two tertiary education institutions, parastatals and the private sector, as well as 10 NGOs and Unions. The 20 thematic working groups under the programme were housed in various ministries and other institutions (see Box 1). Chairmanship was, wherever possible, assumed by the competent authority, government or scientific institution, in that field. Currently the BDTF is no longer active in its initial form as only little coordination support can be provided by DEA. However, a number of working groups have developed their “own initiative” and now operate independently. The programme has a number of on-going projects at the national level, and is partner in several regional projects.

Box 1: National Biodiversity Task Force working groups and focal groups
(chairmanship in parentheses)

Terrestrial Biomes Group (IECN, NNF)	National Wetlands WG (DEA/ DWAF)	Coastal & Marine Biodiversity WG (MFMR)
Namibian Environmental Observatories Network (DRFN/GTRC)	Mountain Ecosystems Group (DEA/ EnviroScience)	Restoration Ecology WG & SNARE Project (EnviroScience)
Forest Biodiversity FG (Directorate of Forestry, MAWF)	Agricultural Biodiversity WG (Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF))	National Biosystematics WG (NBRI/ National Museum)
Namibian Biotechnology Alliance (UNAM)	Biotrade FG (DEA / NBRI)	Traditional Knowledge FG (DEA)
Biodiversity, Land Use & Land Tenure Project team (MLR / MET)	Awareness & Education WG (UNAM)	Alien Invasive Species WG (UNAM/ Polytechnic)
Tree Atlas Project (NBRI)	Sperrgebiet Interest Group (DEA/EnviroScience)	Finance Committee (DEA)
Carnivore Atlas Project (DSS)	BIOTA Liaison WG (NBRI / DRFN)	SABSP Committee (DEA)

The German Government supported the NBP from 1996 to 2005 with targeted interventions and technical and financial support. The programme was implemented in three phases.

The overall goal of the last phase (2000 – 2005) was: “The biological diversity and biological resources of Namibia are protected and the livelihood of the population is sustained.” The project purpose was: “Biodiversity information and values are cooperatively developed and used in planning, development, management and inventory processes at national and local levels.”

- Result 1:** Appropriate information and values at all levels are made accessible to current / potential users.
- Result 2:** Mechanisms for uptake by and exchange of information/values with current and potential users are established & functioning.
- Result 3:** The capacity (knowledge, skills and attitudes) of key stakeholders to manage biological diversity in Namibia is considerably strengthened.
- Result 4:** Mechanisms to protect and/or rehabilitate priority biodiversity areas as identified in the national biodiversity strategy & action plan are tested and implemented on a pilot basis.
- Result 5:** An appropriate monitoring and evaluation system to track biodiversity status in selected pilot areas is adapted and functioning.
- Result 6:** The policy and socio-economic frame conditions to enhance biodiversity values / information at national to local levels are improved.
- Result 7:** Co-operation at regional (SADC) and international levels is improved.

Since August 2004 GTZ supports MET through an integrated project, to some extent merging the former support to the NBP and the National Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD), entitled “Strengthening the Capacity of the MET in the field of Sustainable Natural Resource Management”. The support mainly has three components focusing on the following:

- Component 1:** Environmentally Sustainable Land Use (Support integrated land use/development planning systems)
- Component 2:** Ecological restoration of degraded land in pilot areas
- Component 3:** Develop and promote a natural product development programme (National Biotrade and Bioprospecting Programme)

With regards to Namibia’s conformation to the international requirements under the CBD, the following has been done:

CBD implementation in Namibia:

- Namibia ratified the CBD in 1995
- National Programme & Task Force established; integrated under International Environmental Conventions Unit at DEA/MET (1995)
- Country study compiled and published (1998)
- NBSAP 2001-2010 drafted and published (2002);
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd National Report submitted to CBD Secretariat, as well as several voluntary reports (www.biodiv.org)
- Biosafety protocol prepared for ratification; Biosafety Bill drafted (Namibia Biotechnology Alliance (NABA) www.unam.na/research/NABA/Index.html)
- A large number of programmes & projects implemented (see NCSA stock-take document, www.met.gov.na/programmes)
- Integration of biodiversity concerns into NDPs, Vision 2030 & other macro-level and sectoral policies and laws

2. Methodology

Two consultants were engaged to carry out the “Knowledge management” assignment and document the lessons learnt from the NBP: Ms. Viviane Hoveka of Integrated Environmental Consultants Namibia (IECN) and Dr. Rolf Mack, Coordinator of the Sector Project “People and Biodiversity” at the GTZ head office in Germany. Ms. Hoveka served on the BDTF herself for some time and is familiar with the set-up of the NBP and its stakeholders, whilst Dr. Mack is experienced in biodiversity-related agenda setting and programme implementation. The work of

the two consultants was guided by two similar assignments previously carried out in Namibia (i) for the Sustainable Animal and Range Development Programme (Sardep) (Kressirer & Werner, 2004) and (ii) for Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD) (Kressirer & Werner, 2005). The methodology was adapted and modified from these two assessments. The team of consultants followed the following steps:

- (1) Identification and definition of draft knowledge modules and knowledge card content
- (2) Consultations/information generation (Interviews with key resource persons)
- (3) Verification of draft results
- (4) Finalisation
- (5) Communication of results

(1) Identification and definition of draft knowledge modules and knowledge card content

A brainstorming meeting was held with staff of the International Environmental Conventions Unit at the DEA/MET (head of the unit, Sem Shikongo, and Letitia Britz), IECN (Dr. Juliane Zeidler, long-term BDTF member and co-editor of NBSAP, and Viviane Hoveka) and Kirsten Probst of GTZ. Based on the experience of the meeting participants a first draft list of 17 potential knowledge modules was drawn up. First discussions in the approach and methodology for consultations were later discussed once Dr. Mack arrived from Germany. The draft list of modules was condensed to nine modules, and later reduced to seven (see section 3. Results). Based on the work of Robert Kressirer and Dr. Wolfgang Werner, the content of the knowledge cards was developed and later condensed to:

- Short description of module
- Specific steps/activities implemented
- Methods, Tools/Instruments applied
- Specific experiences made during implementation,
 - *What functioned well*
 - *What did not go well*
- Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area
 - *Promoting factors*
 - *Hindering factors*
- Assessment of impact of module
- Assessment of sustainability
- Assessment of replicability
- Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it
- In what documents can one find relevant information

Differing from the NAPCOD assessment no ranking of modules was undertaken. The consultants felt that the seven identified modules all were of similar importance and quality. A ranking would distort the findings.

(2) Consultations/information generation

Thirteen interviews were held, of which one was a telephonic interview (see Annex 2). Although an interview template was developed, the interviewers decided to hold the interviews a bit more generally (open/flexibly) to capture the essence of the contributions more fully. The interviewers later transcribed the interview information into the knowledge card format.

(3) Verification of draft results

Based on the interviews draft knowledge cards were compiled for the seven proposed knowledge modules and circulated to invitees to a one-day verification workshop (23rd November 2005, Heja Lodge). Fourteen biodiversity experts attended the meeting (Annex 3). At the workshop each knowledge card was reviewed. The content for knowledge module 6 "Protection and rehabilitation of priority biodiversity areas" and module 7 "Promotion of sustainable use and management of natural resources" was generated during the workshop, as none of the interviewees had made

contributions. This was probably due to the way the relatively “free” interviews were moderated. A final agreement on the content of each knowledge card was reached. The participants agreed to the seven proposed modules with no modifications.

(4) Finalisation

Based on the contributions at the verification workshop the draft knowledge cards were revised and updated. The final report was drafted.

(5) Communication of results

It was decided that a publication aimed at “the non-converted” middle to high level manager in Namibia not necessarily familiar with biodiversity management concepts and the achievements of the NBP would be produced, integrating the outcomes from the knowledge assessment exercise. Thus the information and knowledge documented will be made accessible to a wider audience in Namibia. It is envisaged that such a publication be produced within three months of the finalisation of this report.

3. Results of the knowledge management process

3.1 Identification of knowledge modules

“Learning modules are brief descriptions of those topics or themes which the project managed to implement successfully and which could provide valuable information and guidance to other people and institutions working in a similar context or seeking documentation, whether within Namibia or abroad.”

Finally seven modules were agreed to:

- Module 1:** Policy and strategy development to support biodiversity use and management
- Module 2:** Monitoring and evaluation to track biodiversity status
- Module 3:** Agenda setting, awareness creation and access to biodiversity information
- Module 4:** Institution building and cooperation/ capacity development/ mainstreaming into other sectors
- Module 5:** Leverage for getting international support
- Module 6:** Protection and rehabilitation of priority biodiversity areas
- Module 7:** Promotion of sustainable use and management of natural resources

The modules were not ranked in any particular logical order or importance.

3.2. Knowledge Cards

For each identified knowledge module a set of knowledge cards has been drafted, following the format described in section 2.

NBP operational principles

The following principles were central to the implementation of all seven knowledge modules

- The working/focal groups were supported by a coordinating team; consisting of the National NBP coordinator, programme officer, programme administrative officer, a working group coordinator who was employed to support chairs of the different working groups and the programme also had two MET funded biologists.
- In later years each of the working groups had its own budget.
- The task force met regularly to discuss and advice work of the different working groups

Module 1: Policy and strategy development to support biodiversity use and management

<p>Short description of module: Article 95 of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia sets the scene for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources. One of the foci of the NBP was on the development of policies and legislation that would create an enabling environment, put up appropriate structures and institutional mechanisms that would support implementation, adaptive management and evaluation of biodiversity.</p>	
<p>Specific steps/activities implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NBP comprised of working groups, each covering a specific thematic area; the working groups operated under the National Biodiversity Task Force (BDTF) • Several of these working groups formulated policies and drafted legislations relevant to the theme covered by the group, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft wetlands policy - National Policy on Enabling the safe use of biotechnology, with subsequent bill - Draft Bill on Access to Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in Namibia - Establishment of an interim bioprospecting committee - Cabinet memorandum on Sperrgebiet proclamation under Nature Conservation Act • A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) was developed. Although this document is not legally binding, it serves as a guide for policy formulation and for implementation of activities • The BDTF provided input into sector policies such as the Water Resources Management Act, Environmental Management and Assessment Bill • The team also ensured that biodiversity is mainstreamed into national development planning, such as in the National Development Plan II and Vision 2030 	<p>Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking mainly through the task force (BDTF) • A series of workshops to identify issues for the development of policy and legal instruments • Individual/group commitment in formulating contents of relevant documents • Several of the working groups took the lead in formulating policies and laws and were responsible for outsourcing work when necessary • A Working group coordinator was employed to support chairs of the different working groups • Each working groups had its own budget
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the various policies, biodiversity is mainstreamed into different sectors • The programme was able to identify important biodiversity components that have not previously received attention and prioritised such. For example, although Namibia developed new National Water Policy and Water Resources Management Bill, these two did not put enough emphasis on wetland protection, which was later addressed in the draft Wetland's Policy 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NBSAP was signed by the then President of the Country, thus even though it did not pass through parliament the president's signature enabled the document to be recognised. The NBSAP is now used as a planning and reference document • Environment/biodiversity has been and remains a priority for international and bilateral development cooperation in Namibia

<p>draft Wetland's Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most participants in the programme were actively involved in the various activities throughout the programme. • The programme served as a platform facilitating consultations among different stakeholders • Critical awareness existing in all other sectors <p><u>What did not go well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wetland policy and the two bills that were formulated through the programme are still not passed through parliament, thus delaying the implementation of the proposed activities • The delay in passing the policies/bills may be because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the policies/bills are attached to individuals and not institutionalized - of Government Bureaucracy; changes in government; changes in management structure: new minister needed to be updated and wanted to consult with others; lengthy consultation process • The NBSAP was prepared for Cabinet ratification but MET was reluctant to table it, apparently on technical grounds. It was intended to have high-level endorsement in a way which would bind ministries to implement it. Former President Nujoma's signature may or may not be sufficient to achieve this. 		<p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADC does not view environment as a priority sector any more: this has a significant impact on donor support for the region • Little change in national budget allocation towards the sector; no specific budget line for biodiversity conservation • Lacking regulations, incentive systems, enforcement structures and capacities for policy implementation 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some policies in place (but not implemented); NBSAP as guiding document • Mainstreaming biodiversity into various sectors; • Strengthened institutions; improved planning and policy integration 		<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some working groups have been able to generate their own funds through project development (PESILUP, SPAN, NABA etc.) • Sustainability is linked to availability of (external) funds 	
<p>Assessment of replicability:</p> <p>There are lessons for other environmental themes (climate change etc.) and countries</p>			
<p>Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P. Barnard (SANBI, South Africa) • S Shikongo (MET/DEA) • M. Kandawa-Schulz (UNAM) • J. Tarr (Private, Windhoek) • N. Nashipili (MAWF/DWA) • S. Bethune (Polytechnic) 			
<p>In what documents can one find relevant information?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Government of the Republic of Namibia. 2002. <i>Biodiversity and development: Namibia's ten-year strategic plan of action for sustainable development through biodiversity conservation 2001-2010</i> (edited by Barnard P, Shikongo ST & Zeidler J. prepared by National Biodiversity Task Force working groups and numerous others) ISBN 0-86976-587-6. 2. Government of the Republic of Namibia. 1999. National Policy document: enabling the safe use of biotechnology. Based on the work of the Namibian biotechnology Alliance. Windhoek, 24 pp. 3. Draft Access to Genetic Resources and the Protection of Associated Traditional Knowledge Bill 4. Draft Biosafety Bill. Namibia Biotechnology Alliance 5. Sperrgebiet Land Use Plan 6. Draft Wetlands Policy 			

Module 2: Monitoring and evaluation to track biodiversity status

<p>Short description of module: For sustainable use and management of biodiversity it is crucial to track the status of the biological resources, ecological functions and changes in environmental and social conditions that influence the resources. Monitoring of these aspects started way before the NBP but the programme enhanced the efforts through multi-disciplinary research, monitoring and a strong focus on inventories and “atlassing”.</p>	
<p>Specific steps/activities implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several of the working groups conducted inventories on their thematic areas resulting e.g. in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tree Atlas book and database describing trees and shrubs of Namibia - Map of forestry hotspots outside protected areas - Prioritization of mountains in Namibia from biodiversity perspective (unpublished) - Documentation of constraints faced by taxonomic institutions in Namibia - Carnivore Atlas - Wetlands database • A strength of the programme was that information for the inventories were mainly collected and made available by dedicated volunteers • Data was collected through field work, workshops and face to face consultations • For long-term monitoring, the Namibian Environmental Observatories Network (NaEON) formed collaborative relationships with other organisations with similar functions within and outside Namibia. In Namibia NaEON collaborates with BIOTA and the MAWF on data sampling. At regional level (East and Southern Africa) it collaborates with ELTOSA (Environmental Long Term Observatories Network of Southern Africa) collaborating internationally with ILTER. Through such networks Namibia benefit in terms of data and information sharing and platform to leverage funding. Namibia hosts two Global Environmental Observatory (GEOSS) sites • The programme enabled data cleaning at NBRI; Gamsberg invertebrate inventory developed; the biosystematics working group facilitated the first survey of nematodes in the country 	<p>Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field research was conducted for primary data collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On trees and shrubs of Namibia in all regions of Namibia - Estimation of forestry hotspots in Namibia outside protected areas - Continuous data collection for long term environmental monitoring - Ranking of mountain ecosystems biodiversity hotspots • Compilation and analysis of data • Training workshops for data collectors and government field staff • Where needed consultants were hired to conduct training of field assessors
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with other ongoing initiatives e.g. 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The arrangement of NBP created a platform

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making use of government staff at regional and local levels - linking of NaEON work with BIOTA, monitoring activities at MAWF stations and other monitoring sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement of the public in the tree atlas project <p><u>What did not function well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good information base was created by the programme, however there is a need to translate the baseline information into management tools 	<p>where practitioners met</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest and willingness of volunteers in data collection • Maintenance of data outside realm of individual scientist; meta database at MET/DEA • International and regional linkages e.g. link NaEON to ILTER and ELTOSA <p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity conservation even though a cross cutting issue is still very much viewed as a priority of MET • BDTF no longer meets regularly • MET/DEA is responsible for data management but due to limitations in staff this responsibility is not adequately carried out.. The permanent retention of an outsourced independent web portal, might be considered as an alternative for creating a permanent, dynamic (frequently updated), lively biodiversity web portal. • Long term monitoring generally expensive, funds limiting • Lack of consensus on data needs 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p>	<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p>	<p>Assessment of replicability:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive body of research • Knowledge however not synthesized except in Country Study • Knowledgeable body of people able to identify trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to donor funds • Need passionate and qualified individuals • Money generated from Tree Atlas sales will be used to update the database 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible to replicate, coordinates available • Involvement of volunteers who are now knowledgeable about the subjects will make it possible for replication
<p>Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Henschel (GTRC) • R. Simmons (Percy Fitz Patrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town) • I. Zimmermann (Polytechnic) • D. Joubert (Polytechnic) • A. Burke (NAMDEB and Enviro-Science, http://www.enviro-science.info) • W. Killian (MET, EEI) • B. Curtis (NBRI) • J. Irish (NBRI) 		
<p>In what documents can one find relevant information?</p>		
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Module 3: Agenda setting, awareness creation and access to biodiversity information

Short description of module:	
Making comparatively new concepts of biodiversity; biosafety, access and benefit sharing (ABS) concepts known in Namibia as a base for relevant action has been important over the past decade and since the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in Rio de Janeiro, 1992. Collecting, compiling and publishing biodiversity relevant data is an important component.	
Specific steps/activities implemented:	Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an innovative multi-disciplinary "learning platform" comprising different government services, NGO's and science institutions. Sub-division in thematic oriented working groups but coordinated by a coordination unit comprising 3 individuals. Creation of synergies between the working groups. • Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism (BCHM) in place • Online Namibia biodiversity database was created (NABID) www.biodiversity.org.na • Wetlands database was developed • Distributed biodiversity posters to all schools and government offices, embassies, border posts • Tree Atlas book distributed to all secondary schools and relevant government offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic multi-disciplinary working groups, integrated publications • Permanent Secretary(PS) Roundtable Meeting approach • Books, Posters and leaflets according to targeted group on specific subjects (Biosafety, Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)) • Establishment of specific units • Setting of priority activities on the basis of proposals using a common financing instrument (NNF) • Publications, public awareness campaigns, high level policy maker round tables, presentations at international conferences • Made use of media e.g. Talk of the Nation TV show as well as radio and other media (newspapers) • Several talks on biodiversity at UNAM, Polytech of Namibia, Namibia Wildlife Society, FIRM, CBNRM, NACSO gatherings • Workshop at local level (Grootberg) dedicated to synergies amongst the Rio conventions • Site events and presentations at CBD related

	<p>events and other international events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosystematics needs assessment carried out • Biodiversity training framework developed (in-service training within MET, national level) • UNAM / Humboldt University MSc programme started • School quizzes on World Wetlands and Water Days 	
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>	
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The learning platform was an excellent instrument to get different people on board, and to mainstream “isolated knowledge” into a bigger frame. There are also a great number of publications derived from NBP participants; hands-on involvement of people in the work of the task force and its working groups created certain ownership and “pride”, motivating the members to carry on with their activities. • Integration of the NBP into DEA and its core activities helped institutionalize and integrate certain functions such as the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) (now MET webpage). • The MET/DEA based Meta Database was initiated through the NBP and is now fully integrated into the core functions of the Directorate. • The MET/DEA based Resource Centre was strengthened through NBP support <p><u>What did not function well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some doubt concerning the wider use of the knowledge and information within the different institutions, mainly in the different government services attached to the NBP. • Individuals serving on the BDTF not always reported back effectively on BDTF activities to the institutions they represented. • A reason could be the lack of “tailoring of information” to specific target groups. 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One frame condition, which is not to be neglected, is the basic interest within the Namibia society for nature. This is proven by the huge quantity of volunteer work in the collecting and compiling of nature relevant data (Carnivore and tree atlas) • Nature protection is engrained in the Namibian constitution (Art. 95); the concept of biodiversity as defined in the CBD (protection, sustainable use and access and benefit sharing) has now become more widely understood, through the interventions of the NBP; previously Namibia has mainly been concentrating on protected areas and on wildlife/ large mammals. • To get these new concepts through quite a lot of efforts were made by the programme including on the political side. There are a number of proposals in the pipeline to translate this modern biodiversity concept into laws, rules and regulations in Namibia (Biotrade, ABS, Forest, etc.) • A central role can be attributed to the NBSAP, which is not yet fully accepted by the government institutions but plays an important role in defining new donors supported projects (conception). <p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty to reach out to diverse target groups • Volunteer atlassers and other biodiversity field data collectors are too seldom black • Difficulty in accessing information (particularly in electronic formats) • Not very much into public awareness • Change in focus in GTZ support to Namibia (shifting the goal post) – merge with NAPCOD 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p>	<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p>	<p>Assessment of replicability:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the BDTF a common understanding of biodiversity and the strategic steps to maintain and use is well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The roster of experts, publications, different databases are more or less available; there seems to be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good number of positive elements concerning agenda setting for new subjects within the political arena but

<p>defined and shared.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility of information • Paradigm shift in understanding the concept of wildlife in the broader biodiversity sense • A number of decision-making tools (e.g. publications and maps) defining different hotspot areas (Wetlands, Ramsar, sites, Mountain Biodiversity Hotspots etc.) have been produced. • Introduction to systematic conservation planning • It is difficult to judge how far this information is being used for designing development processes (i.e. social forestry, management of Ramsar sites, extension or consolidation of the protected areas (PA) network). • There seems to be a lack in tailoring the information to the needs of potential clients/users in a very regional orientated practical way. 	<p>a common understanding about cooperation amongst NBP collaborators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A critical point is that knowledge is associated with individuals rather than being institutionalised (within DEA e.g. meta database) 	<p>also technical set-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The models of open learning platforms and joint and multi-stakeholder working groups, and on innovative financing could be applied in other technical contexts than biodiversity
<p>Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Shikongo (MET/DEA) • P. Barnard (SANBI, South Africa) • E. Noongo (meta data base) (MET/DEA) • L. Nakanuku (resource center, CHM and meta data base) (MET/DEA) • M. Kandawa Schulz (UNAM) • J. Irish (NBRI) • J. Katjirua (MET/DEA) • K. Roberts (MAWF/DWAF) 		
<p>In what documents can one find relevant information?</p>		
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Module 4: Institutional building and cooperation/ capacity development/ mainstreaming into other sectors

<p>Short description of module: The by the NBP chosen model of creating an “open ended learning platform for biodiversity issues” through the National Biodiversity Task Force (BDTF) and its various associated working groups served the aim to build up or intensify collaboration and increase individual capacities by exchange of information. This generated added value to knowledge.</p>	
<p>Specific steps/activities implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key aim was the integration of representatives of different important line ministries (mainly responsible for policy and implementation), science institutions (mainly responsible for research and secondary education) and NGO’s (in Namibia not only advocacy groups but usually implementers). • Excellent GRN-NGO partnership • There was a joint funding model for coordination, setting of priorities and project implementation in support of the working groups. • Needs of Biosystematic institutions assessed by biosystematics Working Group • Co-financing mechanisms were developed e.g. with SABONET • A biodiversity management and research MSc course was developed and is now running at UNAM 	<p>Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint execution of actions was promoted through implementation of Sub-projects, development of joint funding models, thematic sub-groups, joint publications, scientific publications, integration in wider, sub-regional scientific networks, etc., close follow up of the international discussion around CBD and the different working programmes by taking over responsibilities in the CBD set up. Proposals of bills (water, biosafety, biotrade, ABS)
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intersectotal coordination enhanced through BDTF and Working Groups, open learning • Interest of Working Groups allowed work to be done • Continuity of activities in some WG <p><u>What did not function well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It extremely difficult to estimate, except for the BDTF, the real capacity building process within the different line ministries. Its difficult to evaluate if the “spear heading function” of the task force members was played out partly of 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating experts from a diversity of sectors in the BDTF and its working groups fostered institutional knowledge transfer. • Committed individuals (task force members) <p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problematic was the broad scale integration and institutionalization of the accumulated information and knowledge within the different institutions • Majority of Working Groups not functioning

<p>fully, leading to increased capacities concerning the subject matter in the different line ministries and related institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The knowledge gained was mainly concentrated in individuals representing the different line ministries within the group. • The biotechnology and ABS concerned working groups seemed to have achieved a relatively wide outreach through workshops and information sessions, involving people from a diversity of sector and institutions. This process unfortunately came to an almost standstill as the required regulatory framework is not in place yet. • Even more difficult is an estimation of the capacity building elements for actors/clients on the field level (local governments, extension services, land boards, protected areas managers, community organisation through direct NBP related interventions). It seems that most of these activities were taken care of through different project interventions. • Some public awareness was created through the very broad dissemination of different publications/products accessible by the public (e.g. posters for schools and administrative units, publications like the tree atlas available in book shops). It is, however, difficult to establish in how far such information has found any use in application. 	<p>anymore, lack of governing body, lack of funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme had to readjust after merge with NAPCOD, the new orientation was not favourable to most of the working groups • Funds availability after merge with NAPCOD was limiting • Irregular release of funds by GTZ • Little coordination in programme towards the end due to limited funds and platform to report ceased • Lack of recognition, motivation • Limited human resource capacities at DEA 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p>	<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p>	<p>Assessment of replicability:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BDTF and working groups represent a "roster of experts" (RoE) on different biodiversity relevant subjects. This RoE could be tapped within the institutions, across the institutions and by implementing actors and agencies. • A great number of publications support knowledge sharing and exchange. • A number of data bases exist (e.g. taxonomy); MET/DEA maintains a meta database. • The MET homepage is the access portal to several data bases; there is a problem of maintenance and updating of those databases (limited funding and personal capacities). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The passing of the formulated policy and legislative instruments would be some proof of cooperation and an overall measure of success. • A conceptual frame for the formulation of priority implementation projects is needed to be able to assess an added value i.e. through changes of behaviour and action on the ground. • It is important to tailor down the information and knowledge on client/user orientated modules/check lists, based on the needs and requirements thereof • If MET is to provide coordination and funds to coordinate, then biodiversity is to be mainstreamed into MET budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept of task force and Working Groups can be replicated, not just for Namibia but also for other countries by looking at the lessons learned from the Namibian experience.
<p>Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the different working groups according to their expertise, must be taken from the overall list, 		

<p>especially taking into consideration the people working in the important line ministries, MLR, MAWF, MRLGHRD (spear heads, multipliers in the line ministries)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Shikongo (MET/DEA) • P. Barnard (SANBI, South Africa) • L. Britz (MET/DEA) • N. Kisting (South Africa) • J. Katjirua (MET/DEA) • U. Kaura (MET/DEA)
<p>In what documents can one find relevant information?</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nangulah, S. & Zeidler, J., 2004. Biodiversity Professionals Training Framework for Namibia. Assessment report for the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Windhoek 2. Irish, J. (ed.) 2003. Namibia's Biosystematic Needs. Biosystematics Working Group, Namibian National Biodiversity Programme, Windhoek. http://www.biodiversity.org.na/documents/EUWSProceedings/Nam%20EUWS%20Proceedings.pdf 3. Government of the Republic of Namibia. 2002. Biodiversity and development: Namibia's ten-year strategic plan of action for sustainable development through biodiversity conservation 2001-2010 (edited by Barnard P, Shikongo ST & Zeidler J. prepared by National Biodiversity Task Force working groups and numerous others) ISBN 0-86976-587-6.

Module 5: Leverage for getting international support

<p>Short description of module: There is no doubt, that on basis of the collected, compiled and published information a solid base for the leverage of different programmes was laid. In addition the multiple contacts, the different workshops and the function of National Coordinator within the NBP set up were positive factors to get hands on the different projects already on the ground or in the pipeline (Annex 4).</p>	
<p>Specific steps/activities implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Namibian Government has good relations with different donors and has an active acquisition strategy. There are two important joint publications (Biological Diversity in Namibia – Country Study 1998 and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) crucial to triggering international support for Namibia. • Namibia has adhered to all reporting requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) i.e. submitted National reports 1, 2 and 3, and several thematic reports (voluntary). • Active participation in international fora such as the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, and related fora; lead role in Africa. 	<p>Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda setting on the political level; thus leveraging support for the subject within the government set up (foreword of the President in the NBSAP, roundtable meetings of the Permanent Secretaries of the different line ministries) • Participatory formulation of a very ambitious action plan (NBSAP) as a framework or reference for suitable interventions with a great range of stakeholders, partially members of the BDTF and the working groups. • Commitment to international fora such as the CBD. • Own fund raising initiatives such as the development of GEF, GBIF proposals. Any Working Group still functioning is mainly through own initiatives of getting funds
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A diversity of individuals and organisations participated in the programme and raised funds for biodiversity interventions, (e.g. Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, National 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain and protect Namibia's biodiversity is not only a matter of protecting endemic species, or maintaining a protected area network, but has very important implications on

<p>Botanical Institute (NBRI) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF), UNAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been some success in translating activities from the NBSAP into tangible project interventions, thus leveraging action and impacts on the grounds. <p><u>What did not function well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was an overall critique within the taskforce members interviewed that the group did an excellent job in awareness creation, in compiling and publishing information even in designing action plans, but there is very limited information available on how to put the ideas and concepts into practise • Many of the BDTF members are scientists and experts not development practitioners. There is a divide between the background science and implementation on a community level. 	<p>the social and economic side especially tourism, one of the most important economic sectors bound to biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of NBP relevant initiatives ongoing in Namibia such as an intense CBNRM programme, the National Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD) and others, which can carry forward the NBP created knowledge and messages. • The positive will of the government and the comparatively good databases on biodiversity are the main attracting factors for external support. • Success of NBP enabled Working Groups to get funds • International science collaboration: Phoebe Barnard member of MA board, Sem Shikongo Safma fellow, other task force members involved in global research initiatives • Namibia representative on CBD bureau • Strong international Research coordination (GTRC, Etosha Ecological Institute research) • Namibia has good financial track record regarding donor funding <p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment is no longer a priority for SADC and this have implication on availability of funding 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p>	<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p>	<p>Assessment of replicability:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently there are a great number of biodiversity relevant project interventions underway/ planned (see Annex 4). • Most of these refer to the NBSAP or other NBP related information/ frameworks • With all these projects on the ground there seems to be an excellent opportunity to mainstream NPB information and make it “workable”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to prove that the implementation of the different projects have an impact on sustainability (ecological, economic and social) • It has to be evaluated if such implementation is supported by favourable frame conditions e.g. in the different government institutions and on a regional level. 	<p>Some of the approaches can be replicated</p>
<p>Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Shikongo (MET/DEA) • T. Nghitila (DEA/MET) • J. Zeidler (IECN) • P. Barnard (SANBI, South Africa) • Coordinators of projects • Donor representatives 		
<p>In what documents can one find relevant information?</p>		
<p>The programme had input in the development of the following projects and programmes; of which most are GEF funded</p>		

1. BCLME - Integrated Management of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem
2. Environmental Protection and Sustainable Management of Okavango River Basin
3. D-LIST (Distance Learning & Information Sharing Tool)
4. The Southern Africa Biodiversity Support Programme
5. National Biosafety Framework Project (UNEP implemented project)
6. National Capacity Self-Assessment – NCSA
7. GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP)
8. Country Pilot Partnership (CPP) for Sustainable Land Management (Preparatory Phase, FSP approved November 2005)
9. Strengthening the System of National Protected Areas (Preparatory Phase, FSP approved November 2005)
10. Strengthening the System of National Protected Areas (USAID Components)
11. Mainstreaming Environmental and Sustainable Development Concerns into the National Poverty Reduction Action Programme (NPRAP) of Namibia
12. Integrated Community-Based Ecosystem Management Project (ICEMA)
13. Namib Coast Biodiversity Management Project (NACOMA)
14. Promoting Environmental Sustainability through Improved Land Use Planning Project (PESILUP)

Module 6: Protection and rehabilitation of priority biodiversity areas

Short description of module:

Although most of the protected areas (PA) work in Namibia is not directly linked to the NBP, and much of the outside PA managed natural resources management interventions are linked to Namibia's community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) programme, the NBP provided strong scientific and biodiversity information to these areas. This is, for example, through systematic biodiversity conservation planning exercises, and the prioritization of high value areas for biodiversity conservation. Measures to protect and rehabilitate such areas were developed, for terrestrial, aquatic and marine ecosystems.

Specific steps/activities implemented:	Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of SNARE restoration guidelines • Work on Marine Protected areas through association with the BLCME programme • Development of methodology for forest biodiversity assessments • Determination of priority mountain areas • Identification and analysis of biodiversity hotspots • Identification of red listed species and their distribution • Identification of areas outside protected areas that have high biodiversity value that need protection • Understanding of affected institution on importance of biodiversity protection • Awareness of biodiversity issues in community forests or areas with high biodiversity value • Development of the Sperrgebiet LUP • Introduction of wild species into previous range • Auas mountain workshop – awareness creation on unprotected priority area • Systematic conservation planning (e.g. C-plan, Mandy Lombard South Africa; Target Chris Margules Australia; training of young professionals Tigana Hamukwaya and Ndaenda Noongo) • Formulation of policies related to biodiversity protection • Workshops and consultations on invasive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some systematic conservation planning tools • Brainstorming with experts • Topographical and climatologically analysis • Compilation from existing data bases • Field research (PRA, experimental replanting of disturbed areas, biophysical data collection) • Communication and networking among knowledgeable individuals • Development of info materials on Namibia's important invasive species (posters) • Country study on Namibia invasive and alien species • Mapping of indigenous livestock species (Animal genetic resources) • Biosafety- potential impact of GMOs on Namibian biodiversity i.e. human health, animal and plant health and the environment

species and aliens		
Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:		Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:
<p><i>What functioned well:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous updating of the databases • Information packaged appropriately to enhance decision making • Precursor for the Strengthening of Protected Areas Network (SPAN) project (linked to NBSAP Strategic Aim 1.1) <p><i>What did not function well:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the recommendations/analysis have not been incorporated into decision making • Since end of 2003 there was uncertainty on funding and what elements of the programme could continue • NBP quite DEA based, other MET directorates not very active (Parks and Wildlife, DSS); individuals might have been active but not on management level • Outreach to conservancies and other CBNRM • Translation of conservation recommendations (management) on forest biodiversity to conservation actions (implementation on ground), communication to land boards, conflict in land use options • There has not been a consensus as to the data needs and requirements to inform protection, rehabilitation, sustainable land management by MET and other relevant stakeholders 		<p><i>Promoting factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively good databases available for systematic conservation planning • Namibia's climatic & geographic location is not favourable to many invasive species <p><i>Hindering factors:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty on funding and what elements of programme should continue since end 2002 • Have good data base but still lack other data • Human resource capacity to fully process data available • Lack of communication • Absence of valuation of economic value of biodiversity
Assessment of impact of module:	Assessment of sustainability:	Assessment of replicability:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proclamation of Sperrgebiet protected area • Development of Sperrgebiet regulations and LUP, management plans • More awareness on alien & invasive species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funds a constraint • If mainstreamed within government sector can be sustainable (government to spearhead budget for it) • Need consensus on what is really needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration and rehabilitation approaches can be modified to other areas
Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Burke (NAMDEB) 2. J. Zeidler (IECN) 3. P. Barnard (SANBI, South Africa) 4. P. Lane (MET) 5. T. Cooper (MET) 6. H. Kolberg (National Museum) 7. J. Katjirua (MET/DEA) 8. S Shikongo (MET/DEA) 9. M. Griffin (MET) 10. R. Simmons (University of Cape Town, South Africa) 11. K. Roberts (MAWF) 12. T. Hamukwaya (MLR) 13. J. Irish (NBRI) 		

In what documents can one find relevant information?

1. Bethune, S., Griffin, M. and Joubert, D.. 2003. National review of invasive alien species Namibia. Consultancy report for the Southern Africa Biodiversity Support Programme, Directorate of Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Government of Namibia.
2. Klaassen, E.S. & Craven, P. 2003. Checklist of grasses in Namibia. SABONET Report 20, Pretoria & Windhoek. Sakar, S., Aggarwal, A., Garson, J., Margules, C. & Zeidler, J., 2002 Place prioritization for biodiversity content. Journal of Bioscience, 27 (4) Suppl. 2: 339-346
3. Venter, J.P. 2002. Invasive alien species in Namibia. Agricultural Biodiversity Working Group, National Biodiversity Programme, Windhoek. Unpublished report.
4. Irish, J. 2002. Namibian Mountains: biodiversity potential based on topography. Mountain Working Group, National Biodiversity Programme. Unpublished report.
5. Environmental Forestry in Namibia (2001). Conservation of strategic forests for the national benefit. Workshop, 22 February 2001, Windhoek.
6. Bethune, S. 2000. Five aquatic weeds and their control in southern Africa - a review, Keynote address, SADC Water Sector Subcommittee for Aquatic Weeds and Water Quality Meeting, held in Windhoek, Namibia, 6-9 March 2000.
7. Burke, A. 2000. Restoration ecology in Namibia – Why being proactive will pay off in the long-term. Flamingo March 2000: 35-38.
8. Burke, A. 2000. Mining in a biodiversity hotspot. Restoration. Rehabilitation. Mitigation. What's in a word? SABONET News – Newsletter of the Southern African Botanical Diversity Network 5 (1): 32-34.
9. Burke, A. 2000. Southern Namib restoration ecology – a research and monitoring framework for appropriate rehabilitation and restoration. Paper presented at Symposium on Co-management of resources off the South-western Coast of Africa. Lüderitz, 21-14 June 2000.
10. Burke, A. 2000. Determining landscape function and ecosystem dynamics to contribute to ecological restoration in the southern Namib Desert. AMBIO, Journal of the Swedish Academy of Sciences (in press).
11. Griffin, M. 1999. Wilderness and the preservation of biodiversity. Proceedings of the Wilderness Management Symposium. Waterberg Plateau Park. Windhoek. Namibia, pp 155-159.
12. Curtis BA, Roberts KS, Griffin M, Bethune S, Hay CJ & Kolberg H. 1998. Biodiversity and conservation of freshwater macro-invertebrates, fish and amphibians of Namibia. Biodiversity and Conservation 7: 447-466.
13. Barnard P, Brown CJ, Jarvis AM, Robertson A & van Rooyen L. 1998. Extending the Namibian protected area network to safeguard hotspots of endemism and diversity. Biodiversity and Conservation 7:531-547.

Module 7: Promotion of sustainable use and management of natural resources

Short description of module:

In Namibia, the majority of people depend directly on natural resources. Therefore the NBP adopted and developed measures that would improve the sustainable use and management of terrestrial (land), aquatic, coastal and marine ecosystems for the benefit of people depended on these environments and maintenance of the vital ecological processes.

Specific steps/activities implemented:

- Training courses developed and conducted at tertiary level – MSc UNAM, practitioners (health officials, custom officials, journalists), farmers, general public on aquatic fish, mollusk, crustaceans, on ABS, biotechnology
- Information made available on which sustainable use and management decisions could be taken
- Development of incentives
- Material transfer Agreement for Research
- Support to CBNRM (management plans, use of NBP documents as reference materials)
- Working group on land tenure, land use and land

Methods, Tools/Instruments applied:

- Mainstreaming
- Networking and platform for discussions
- Create baseline research information e.g tree atlas, for resource management decision making
- Policy formulation – frame condition
- Participatory natural resource assessments
- Field work e.g. forestry staff with communities
- Training
- Sourcing of core financing

<p>management impacts on biodiversity developed PESILUP project including the planning of development of integrated LUP toolkits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active contribution to SAfMA and other MA outputs • Forest biodiversity promoting non timber forest products • Working Groups provided platform for training opportunities on wetlands and water resources management • Involvement of the public in collecting data (tree atlas, carnivore atlas to a much lesser extent) • Priority mountain areas for biodiversity management identified • Contribution to CBD programme of work on sustainable use i.e. introduction of consumptive use concept (Addis Ababa) • Awareness campaigns i.e. World Wetlands day/Water day • Support to research e.g. SOER • GBIF biosystematics support project feeds baseline info into natural resources management and sustainable utilization • Promotion of safe use of biotechnology 		
<p>Specific experiences made during implementation, what functioned well, what problems were encountered:</p>	<p>Important frame conditions relevant for the module/learning area:</p>	
<p><u>What functioned well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good knowledge foundation for sustainable use (Land Use Plans, Management plans, product development, monitoring) • Namibia made good progress in fields of ABS, bioprospecting, biosafety • Biodiversity components mainstreamed into climate change adaptation projects • Outcomes from the NBP were partially incorporated into an MSc course on “biodiversity management and research” at UNAM <p><u>What did not function well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual research activities but not scaled up in bigger context • Research information not translated into practical management tools (decision making tools) • Communication of information to the relevant decision makers 	<p><u>Promoting factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEA website which was independent from MET site made some of programme outputs accessible • Meta database developed and maintained at MET/DEA • Legislation revolving around Sustainable use e.g. Forestry Act, Wildlife Act, Article 95(l) constitution <p><u>Hindering factors:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some NBP documents not easily accessible, not always well known outside NBP • Although a meta-database has been developed not all information is accessible from a centralized database • MET had an outdated and poorly functional website for a very long time 	
<p>Assessment of impact of module:</p>	<p>Assessment of sustainability:</p>	<p>Assessment of replicability:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness on value of natural resources • Improved baseline information in support of sustainable use and decision making/management • Institutionalization of capacity building (UNAM course) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research information available in various forms (books, web based) • Information need to be translated into practical tools • Management plans and LUP available in some places (community forests) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be done if one have information in appropriate formats • Community Based Resource Monitoring • More research and case studies need to be done on practical application

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building (UNAM course) • Increase collaboration among stakeholders (more collaboration, intersectoral coordination) • Positive attitude towards sustainable use concept (paradigm shift on understanding of sustainable use concept) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutionalization of capacity building (UNAM course) • Fast tracking of non timber forest products 	
Who is knowledgeable about the module or elements of it?		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E. Lusepani-Kamwi (DWAF) 2. B. Curtis (NBRI) 3. S. Shikongo (DEA) 4. P. du Plessis (CRIAA) 5. M. Kandawa-Schulz (UNAM) 6. G. Maggs-Koelling (NBRI) 7. E. Maass (UNAM) 8. U. Kaura (DEA) 9. A. Iita (MFMR) 10. J. Els (MAWF) 11. S. Bethune (Polytechnic) 		
In what documents can one find relevant information?		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Curtis, B. and Mannheimer, C. 2005. Tree Atlas of Namibia. National Botanical Research Institute of Namibia 2. Kolberg, H. 2000. Establishing and managing transboundary conservation areas, with particular reference to the Orange River Mouth. <i>Southern African Journal of Aquatic Sciences</i> 25: in press. 3. Parenzee, L., Zeidler, J., Seely M. 2000. Testing biodiversity indicators for community use – a case study from Namibia. 13th Congress of the German Society for Tropical Ecology. Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, Würzburg, Germany, p. 37. 4. Seely MK, Zeidler J, Henschel JR & Barnard P. 2003. Creative problem solving in support of biodiversity conservation. <i>Journal of Arid Environments</i> 54: 155-164. 5. Shikongo, ST. 2000. The debate on access and benefit sharing. The Namibian experience within the context of southern Africa and the way forward. Paper presented at the Global Biodiversity Forum 15, 12-14 May 2000, Nairobi. 6. Zeidler, J, Seely M, Parenzee, L. 2000. Environmental indicators for community management. 13th Congress of the German Society for Tropical Ecology, Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, Würzburg, Germany, p.53. 7. Barnard, P, Robertson, M, Zeidler, J. 1999. Developing an early warning system for environmental degradation in Namibia. In: Eldridge D & Freudenberger D (eds.). People and rangelands: building the future vol. 2. Proceedings of the VI International Rangeland Congress. International Rangeland Congress, Townsville, Australia, July 17-23, 1999, pp. 662-663. 8. Hartmann, AM, Lowery, R. 1999. Technical guidelines for the safe use of biotechnology in Namibia. Namibian Biotechnology Alliance, Windhoek, 223 pp. 9. Taylor, ED, Bethune, S. 1998/1999. Management, conservation and research of internationally shared watercourses in southern Africa – Namibian experience with the Okovango River and rivers of the Eastern Caprivi. <i>Southern African Journal of Aquatic Sciences</i> 24 (1/2): 36-46. 10. Richardson, J. 1998. Economic values of biotic resources and diversity in Namibia. <i>Biodiversity and Conservation</i> 7, 549-559. 11. Hillebrecht, W. 1997. The human use of biological resources in Namibia: a bibliography. Report to the National Biodiversity Programme by the National Library of Namibia with the Social Sciences Division of the Multidisciplinary Research Centre, University of Namibia, Windhoek, 72pp. 		

3.3. Assessment of identified learning modules

Module 1: Policy and strategy development to support biodiversity use and management

- Very successful knowledge module; biodiversity issues mainstreamed into policy and legal instruments and explicit instruments formulated and implemented
- Good foundation for future implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use activities
- NBSAP participatory planning and formulation process novel in approach; BDTF and working groups had much ownership and incentives for implementation were created
- Administrative function of DEA/MET not fully capacitated to follow-on from well set venturing point; at this stage in a retrogressive stage
- Strategic interventions could rehabilitate working group concept and “adjust” to new programme focus needed
- In the past success of working groups much driven by individual engagement – appropriate incentives need to be provided
- It might be difficult to engage formerly active BDTF members again as they might be “tired” - new generation of energetic biodiversity practitioners could be supported, partially in teams with still enthusiastic “old hands”

Module 2: Monitoring and evaluation to track biodiversity status

- Great knowledge and information base created in association with programme
- Research support has lead to documentation of much “locked away” knowledge and contributed to making such knowledge available more widely
- Information still mainly accessible for biodiversity experts; needs further application and translation into more practical and user friendly formats
- It has to be recognized specifically that most natural resources and biodiversity managers are the rural farmers and villagers; when developing a communication strategy and translating the information into practically applicable tools the needs of these user groups have to be considered
- It is important to support long-term biodiversity monitoring also at a national and scientific level; foundations laid over the past decade e.g. in the building up of MET’s capacity to manage and coordinate data should not be lost
- More integrated systems with other “land and natural resources” monitoring including on socio-economic aspects have to be developed and implemented

Module 3: Agenda setting, awareness creation and access to biodiversity Information

- Significant reorientation of biodiversity conservation issues has taken place in Namibia over the past decade. A much wildlife and protected areas driven biodiversity conservation approach has been broadened out to include biodiversity concern relating to use systems e.g. in agriculture and marine environments and addressed biotechnology and biosafety concerns. The unlocking of biodiversity products and values is receiving greater recognition now. The recognitions of biodiversity related ecosystem services has increased. Placing people and livelihoods concerns at the centre of biodiversity related planning and interventions has become a major concern. Much of this change in agenda setting seems to be related to the CBD and the NBP in Namibia.
- The NBP was primarily successful on creating awareness on modern and new biodiversity approaches amongst the biodiversity community of practitioners.
- Some targeted outreach interventions were geared at higher level decision makers. One drawback has been that many higher level decision makers do not stay in their positions for a very long time, thus a higher turn over is experienced. However, such targeted

- awareness campaigns are rated as highly successful and should be continued through the communication of the key knowledge generated throughout the programme as presented in this report.
- Outreach to the public has been limited. Although some explicit campaigns were launched (e.g. through the biodiversity poster), and impact is reached through the enthusiastic BDTF members and the own initiative, it is envisioned that much more could be achieved by further using the knowledge and information created through the NBP over the past decade. No impact monitoring plan was developed as part of the NBP. Future interventions should integrate an impact M&E element.
 - Targeted communication and dissemination strategies should be developed.

Module 4: Institutional building and cooperation/ capacity development/ mainstreaming into other sectors

- Much of the GTZ support to the NBP directly supported the capacity development of MET/DEA to establish a biodiversity programme. The core activities and responsibilities of the programme have been integrated into the core functions of the “International Environmental Conventions Unit” at DEA. Some level of capacity has thus been successfully and sustainably developed through the personal commitment of some individuals.
- The creating of a platform such as the BDTF and related working groups has promoted inter-sectoral collaboration and mainstreaming of biodiversity through other institutions and sectors. As the majority of working groups do not operate as before since the termination of the last GTZ support phase, it would be desirable to develop a “succession plan” for the former structures. It would be a loss to completely cut down on the previously established structures and institutions. The future integration of element of the BDTF into platforms created e.g. through the Country Pilot Partnership for Sustainable Land Management (CPP for SLM) could be envisioned.
- Productive NGO-GRN partnerships have been implemented through the NBP and such partnerships should be supported and fostered also in future. A “next phase” of translating the generated knowledge into practical biodiversity management action requires a “new set” of practitioners, more familiar with rural development and outreach with a careful balance between researchers and science. NGO and other civil society organisations could become invaluable partners in the effort to devolve the knowledge to broad user groups.

Module 5: Leverage for getting international support.

- International cooperation and interactions have played a significant role throughout the lifetime of the NBP. Such cooperation has been scientific and more management orientated. Visiting researchers have come to Namibia through the NBP, and Namibian biodiversity experts have stepped out onto an international platform. Such international relations are invaluable for generating an interest in Namibia’s biodiversity conservation and management issues and development challenges per se. Funding and technical cooperation is promoted through such interactions.
- Namibia has an excellent track record in responding to the obligations of international agreements such as the CBD. This is a prerequisite qualifying for funding through the GEF, for example.
- To be able to continue successful leveraging of international support Namibia has to commit to fostering her international links.

Module 6: Protection and rehabilitation of priority biodiversity areas

- Some important technical information has been generated under this knowledge module. It is notable that some of this information has not found its way into the routine planning and management of the MET's directorates concerned with related issues. One focus of future application of the generated knowledge should be on applications of this information in broader scale land use and natural resources planning. Projects such as SPAN and PESILUP have benefited from actively consulting the NBP information products.
- The information needs of potential users might differ from what is currently available. It is important to tease out in what type of format information will be needed and to offer the information in a user friendly fashion.
- Rehabilitation is a key issue that should be further investigated. This is particularly true in the context of sustainable land management.

Module 7: Promote sustainable use and management of natural resources

- Similar to module 8 a strong body of information and knowledge were generated in association with the NBP. Similar observations apply.
- Key user groups will be rural farmers and villagers. Much emphasis on a strong communication and capacity building strategy need to be placed.

4. Synthesis remarks

The NBP generated a great body of knowledge over the past decade, both technically as well as institution and process oriented. One of the shortcomings of this consultancy report is that key gaps of knowledge have not been identified. It is in the nature of this assessment that existing/generated knowledge and thus lessons learnt from what has taken place are documented. It would be useful to read this assessment vis-à-vis the National Capacity Self Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and other such studies, to clearly identify what the capacity gaps are on the local level resource managers' level, the regional governance levels and on the national level. Explicit recommendations on which knowledge components should be further processed and made available more widely could then be made.

It will be useful to make the content of the knowledge cards more widely accessible through the GTZ knowledge management system, however additional follow-up actions should be taken to make the generated and documented knowledge "alive".

Annex 1: Terms of Reference (TOR)¹

„Namibian National Biodiversity Programme“ (NBP) Documentation of experiences and lessons learnt

Terms of Reference

Background

The Namibian National Biodiversity Programme was launched in 1994. External funding for the programme came particularly from UNDP/GEF as well as BMZ/GTZ. The German funded part consisted of three consecutive phases (03/1996-04/1999; 05/1999-08/2000; 09/2000-07/2005). The last phase was extended twice and came to an end in July 2005. The programme was designed to create conducive conditions for the protection of Namibia's biodiversity and the prevention of further environmental resource degradation. It was focusing on the collection of relevant data, the elaboration of a national strategy, the organization of information exchange and cooperation between the different resource users, the development of an adapted monitoring and evaluation system and the creation of adequate frame conditions for the sustainable use of its biodiversity.

After more than ten years the programme has generated a number of outputs, and a wealth of experiences was gained by those involved in the process of implementing the CBD at the national level. These outputs and accumulated experiences have, however, never been documented.

Objectives

The objectives of this consultancy are to:

- (1.) identify the key lessons learnt of the NBP and document them for knowledge management purposes;
- (2.) prepare a draft publication making these lessons available to the broader public (*“Ten + Years of Conserving Biodiversity: The Namibian Experience”*).

To this end it is necessary to:

- identify and interview the key actors who were involved in and are knowledgeable about the NBP;
- identify and assess the NBP's most important lessons learnt.
- document lessons learnt in two formats: (a.) “knowledge cards”, (b.) draft publication

Team of Consultants

Consultant 1: focus on knowledge management

Consultant 2: focus on draft publication

Consultant 3 (GTZ): feed back into the knowledge management system of GTZ

¹ See for consultants 1 and 3 ONLY; contract for consultant 2 is independent with MET with funding from UNEP, and an updated/revised contract has been awarded. Consultant 2 provided major inputs into the development of the knowledge cards and the final report.

Specific Tasks (Team)

<p><i>...for the development of „knowledge cards“</i></p>	<p><i>...for the development of a draft publication</i> <i>(“Ten + Years of Conserving Biodiversity: The Namibian Experience”)</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get familiar with the methodological approach followed to document the lessons learnt of the NAPCOD project (see report of Wolfgang Werner & Robert Kressirer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specify the outline of the publication, inputs needed and request contributions from the different working groups under the NPB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On the basis of feedback from key informants, develop a preliminary list of the NBP’s key lessons learnt write short descriptions for each of them. The list will have to be consolidated during interviews with key resource persons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review inputs provided by the working groups and identify information gaps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compare the results, identify information gaps and conduct interviews with key resource persons to fill these gaps. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Synthesize the information collected in “knowledge cards” according to the following headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - steps and important activities - instruments, tools & methods developed/applied - what functioned well / problems encountered - frame conditions (hindering / promoting factors) - impact of the specific lines of activities - sustainability - replicability - additional resource persons in the field - relevant documents ▪ Rank key lessons learnt according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wealth of information - weight given to them by interviewees - impact and replicability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Synthesize the information in a draft publication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Convene a workshop in order to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - report back on the results of both exercises to interviewees and the members of the Biodiversity Task Force - review the draft publication “Ten + Years of Conserving Biodiversity: The Namibian Experience” - decide on the way forward to produce this publication 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Document the workshop recommendations and incorporate them into both products 	

Tasks Consultant 1: Knowledge management

(Working days: 19 days)

Implementation of the above mentioned tasks for the development of knowledge cards, including:

- Adjusting the methodological approach where necessary;
- Planning and implementation of interviews in close consultation with consultants 2 and 3;
- Main responsibility for the development of knowledge cards;

- Provide inputs and comments to the publication.

Tasks Consultant 2: Draft Publication

(Working days: 26 days)

Implementation of the above mentioned tasks for the development of a draft publication, including:

- Adjusting the methodological approach where necessary;
- Planning and implementation of interviews in close consultation with consultants 1 and 3;
- Main responsibility for the development of a draft publication;
- Provide inputs and comments to the knowledge cards.

Tasks Consultant 3: GTZ

(Working days: 10 days)

Implementation of the above mentioned tasks, including:

- Providing inputs and suggestions to improve/adapt the methodological process
- Conduct interviews with selected key resources persons (planning, implementation, analysis) in close consultation with consultants 1 and 2.
- Provide inputs and comments to both products;
- Make sure that the knowledge is fed back into the knowledge management of GTZ

Tasks will be concretized and planned in close consultation with Sem Shikongo (MET-DEA) Albert Engel (GTZ-Sector Coordinator) and Kirsten Probst (GTZ-Advisor to MET).

The consultants will be provided with background information based on existing results of evaluations, progress review missions, and publications produced under the NBP.

Documentation of results

The consultants will produce the following outputs:

- (a.) A final report in English language comprising a set of “knowledge cards” (according to the format used for the NAPCOD project); max. 20 pages (plus annexes), including a 2-pages summary. The report will be submitted electronically (Word-file) to Sem Shikongo and Kirsten Probst at latest by 30.11.2005.
- (b.) A set of powerpoint slides on knowledge management/knowledge cards
- (c.) A first draft of the publication “*Ten + Years of Conserving Biodiversity: The Namibian Experience*”; max. 50 pages (plus annexes). The draft will be submitted electronically (Word-file) to Sem Shikongo at latest by 30.11.2005.
- (d.) A set of powerpoint slides on publication highlights

Annex 2: List of interviewees

National Biodiversity Programme – Documentation of lessons learnt List of interviewees

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Institution</i>
1.	Barbara Curtis	MAWF/NBRI
2.	John Irish	MAWF/NBRI
3.	Esther Lusepani-Kamwi	MAWF/Forestry
4.	Sem Shikongo	MET/DEA
5.	Tigana Hamukwaya	MLR
6.	Juliane Zeidler	IECN
7.	Martha Kandawa-Schulz	UNAM
8.	Gillian Maggs-Koelling	MAWF/NBRI
9.	Shirley Bethune	Polytechnic of Namibia
10.	Joyce Katjirua	MET/DEA
11.	Phoebe Barnard (telephonic)	SANBI, South Africa
12.	Joh Henschel	GTRC
13.	Jo Tagg	MET/DEA

Annex 3: List of workshop participants, 23rd November 2005, Heja Lodge

	Name	Institution
1.	Sem Shikongo	MET/DEA
2.	Uazamo Kaura	MET/DEA
3.	Letitia Britz	MET/DEA
4.	Juliane Zeidler	IECN
5.	Viviane Hoveka	IECN
6.	Kirsten Probst	GTZ
7.	Kauna Shroeder	NNF
8.	Ndina Nashipili	MAWF/DWAF
9.	Barbara Curtis	MAWF/NBRI
10.	Ester Lusepani Kamwi	MAWF/DWAF
11.	Simon Angombe	MAWF/DWAF
12.	Alex Moses	DRFN
13.	John Irish	MAWF/NBRI
14.	Nickey Gaseb	UNDP/SGP

Annex 4: List of ongoing/planned GEF biodiversity related projects in Namibia

A. UNDP facilitated

Regional projects:

BCLME - Integrated Management of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem

This regional project, involving Namibia, South Africa and Angola, aims to achieve sustainable use of marine resources in the shared Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem. During the preparatory phase, a transboundary diagnostic analysis was carried out, and a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) developed. During the present full phase, implementation of the activities, determined in the SAP, is taking place. The Activity Centre based in Swakopmund concentrates on transboundary studies of aspects concerning commercial and other marine species, socio-economics and legal issues. The Activity Centre in Cape Town's activities work towards an improved capacity of the region for enhanced predictability of system dynamics and ecosystem impacts. The Activity Centre in Luanda focuses on marine pollution, ecosystem health and biodiversity components. A limited number of coastal zone activities are also included.

Environmental Protection and Sustainable Management of Okavango River Basin

This project aims to strengthen joint management of the Okavango River basin among its three riparian countries (Angola, Namibia and Botswana) in order to ensure sustainable management of its water and aquatic resources. Three countries are working toward the implementation of an Integrated Management Plan for the basin on the basis of an Environmental Assessment. The specific project objectives include the completion of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and the formulation of a Strategic Action Plan. It is a regional project involving Namibia, Angola and Botswana.

D-LIST (Distance Learning & Information Sharing Tool)

A PDF-A project proposal has been approved and a Medium-sized Project will be developed August 2004-December 2004. This project will be an elaboration of the initial D-LIST pilot, in support of the BCLME programme, covering Angola, Namibia and South Africa. The over all objectives of the project, DLIST-Benguela, are to promote further involvement of regional and local decision-makers in the sustainable management of Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME), to empower local communities to develop alternative livelihoods, to strengthen decentralized governance systems for environmental management, to connect GEF-funded and other programmes to local communities and to link programmes to one another. DLIST-Benguela will achieve its objectives through two main activities: *Information Sharing* and *Distance Learning* via innovative use of ICT. For *Information Sharing*, DLIST-Benguela will foster a two-way information exchange between managers and the coastal inhabitants as well as disseminate information from the scientific community to civil society, including those who live along the coast, NGOs, local government and other entities that utilize BCLME for their livelihood.

The Southern Africa Biodiversity Support Programme

This project promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Southern Africa by strengthening regional biodiversity planning, interstate co-operation and information exchange in the following areas: 1) alien invaders; 2) access and benefit sharing.

National Projects:

National Capacity Self-Assessment – NCSA

The NCSA project aims to identify, through a country-driven consultative process, priorities and needs for capacity building to protect the global environment. It analyses capacity gaps and capacity building needs for each of the three Convention thematic areas, namely biodiversity, climate change and land degradation. This assessment is conducted at individual, institutional and systemic (policy and legislative framework) levels, and also analyses vertical (local & regional authorities - national government) and horizontal (government - NGOs/CBOs - private sector) coordination structures. The NCSA places strong emphasis on exploring synergies among the three Convention thematic areas in order to provide a highly strategic input to environmental management in Namibia.

GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP)

The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) offers NGOs and CBOs funding up to US\$ 50,000 in support of community-based initiatives that respond to the GEF criteria and objectives. The Programme is rooted in the belief that global environmental problems can only be addressed adequately if local people are involved, and that with small amounts of funding local communities can undertake activities which will make a

significant difference in their lives and their environment. The primary objective is to assist initiatives that generate local benefits as well as global environmental benefits in the GEF focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and international waters. Proposals are accepted throughout the year and the grantee kit that contains proposal format etc. can be obtained from the SGP Office at the Namibia Nature Foundation.

Country Pilot Partnership (CPP) for Sustainable Land Management (Preparatory Phase, FSP approved November 2005)

The Government of Namibia has identified land degradation as a serious problem, demanding remedial intervention, and has recognised that integrated ecosystem management strategies are needed to effectively address the underlying causes. Nevertheless, development programmes have tended to adopt a sectoral approach when addressing the problem. There is a need to institute integrated approaches, crossing the economic sectors and involving public, private and civil society institutions. However, moves to realise this are presently hampered by capacity constraints at the systemic, institutional and individual levels. The GEF Country Pilot Partnership for Sustainable Land Management will seek to address these constraints through the development and coordinated execution of a package of strategic interventions. Activities will be designed to address barriers in implementation, and progressively leverage investment finance from the Government of Namibia, donor community and communities, to take promising management model to scale. The overall goal is to reduce and reverse the process of land degradation in Namibia thus delivering significant benefits to local communities. The immediate objectives are to adopt a national integrated SLM approach ensuring coordination of SLM activities and to pilot and adapt models for sustainable land management.

Strengthening the System of National Protected Areas (Preparatory Phase, FSP approved November 2005)

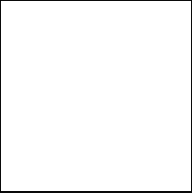
The Project aims to strengthen Namibia's National System of Protected Areas (PA) as a cornerstone of the nation's efforts to protect flora and fauna *in situ*. The project will focus on the management of the national PA network. This preparatory phase will focus on development of a full projects as well as essential studies such as economic analysis; conservation needs assessment and park management capacity assessment. It is envisaged that US\$ 8 million will be allocated for the first phase of the full project (5 years). The first phase will focus on a) improving the policy and legal framework, institutional capacity and mechanisms concerning protected area management and financing; b) supporting current initiatives of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism concerning the improvement of planning, management and tourism development of four major parks (Namib-Naukluft Park, Etosha NP, Bwabwata NP, and the Ai-Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park), the proclamation of a new park (Sperrgebiet NP), and the harmonization of management and developing functional links between parks in the Namib Desert biome, and between Etosha NP and the Skeleton Coast Park; c) identification of gaps of under-representation in the national network and options to fill these; and d) establishing long-term financial mechanisms for PAs in Namibia. The second phase (5 years) will build on the first and will focus on investments in the consolidation and expansion of the protected area network and the management thereof, by a) developing parks in biomes that are currently not represented in the national network; b) upgrading management planning for the remaining parks; c) expanding the smaller parks where feasible; and d) extensively testing long-term sustainable financing mechanisms for parks set up during the first phase.

Strengthening the System of National Protected Areas (USAID Components)

In March 2004 the MET requested the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide co-financing for the full phase of the UNDP-GEF supported project. USAID responded positively and has made USD 175, 000 available for a number of components in support of the project. The USAID-funded activities will support the efforts of MET to a) improve its own capacity and that of conservancies to deal with problem animals on the borders of the Etosha National Park, b) develop frameworks and identify options for creating partnerships between government, local communities and the private sector for the establishment of tourism joint ventures and concessions, c) support economic analysis of the potential for Etosha National Park to contribute to the local economy, d) provide limited support for project management.

Mainstreaming Environmental and Sustainable Development Concerns into the National Poverty Reduction Action Programme (NPRAP) of Namibia *Funded by GTZ (Rio Plus Programme)*

The UNDP is assisting the Government of the Republic of Namibia in conducting a biennial review of the NPRAP: 2001-2005. The review aims to assess the progress made towards poverty reduction goals; to identify implementation constraints; and to propose strategies to incorporate current development issues and concerns that affect poverty reduction into NPRAP. The ultimate benefit of the NPRAP review is to support decision-makers to monitor progress made towards the national development goals set out in National Development Plan (NDP) 2, Vision 2030 and the National Millennium Development Goals (National



MDGs). The review is nationally driven, coordinated by the National Planning Commission Secretariat (NPCS). NPCS has established and chairs the Inter-Agency Committees to coordinate the review activities. Ministry of Environment and Tourism requested NPCS to mainstream environment and sustainable development concerns into NPRAP through the review process. NPCS also recognizes the need that a strong linkage between sustainable development and poverty reduction be reflected in the document.

B. UNEP facilitated

Biosafety Project

Having succeeded in preparing the national biosafety framework, which prescribes the handling, use and transport of living modified organisms, the full phase of this project aims to support the implementation of the objective of the national policy on the safe use of biotechnology and the objective of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the signatory countries.

Assessment of Capacity Building Needs to Conserve Biological Diversity - Add on

The project objective is to obtain national consensus on the specific mechanisms needed for ongoing capacity building related to the conservation and use of biodiversity in line with the NBSAP, an internal biodiversity training framework analysis, and to coordinate with the National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) currently being implemented in collaboration with UNDP

C. World Bank facilitated

The **Integrated Community-Based Ecosystem Management Project (ICEMA)** is supporting mainly the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and local communities united in conservation units (so-called conservancies and community-forests) to use IEM principles in their resource management efforts.

The **Namib Coast Biodiversity Management Project (NACOMA)** is supporting mainly the Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and the four Regional Councils of the coastal zone to develop a policy and legal framework as well as enhancing institutional planning and management capacity for ICZM.

The **Promoting Environmental Sustainability through Improved Land Use Planning Project (PESILUP)** is supporting MET and MLRR to develop an adaptive management framework for integrated land use planning.