

# JOHANNESBURG SUMMIT 2002

NAMIBIA



COUNTRY PROFILE



UNITED NATIONS

## **INTRODUCTION - 2002 COUNTRY PROFILES SERIES**

Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, underscored the important role that States play in the implementation of the Agenda at the national level. It recommended that States consider preparing national reports and communicating the information therein to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) including, activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the obstacles and challenges they confront, and other environment and development issues they find relevant.

As a result, in 1993 governments began preparing national reports for submission to the CSD. After two years of following this practice, the CSD decided that a summarized version of national reports submitted thus far would be useful. Subsequently, the CSD Secretariat published the first Country Profiles series in 1997 on the occasion of the five-year review of the Earth Summit (Rio + 5). The series summarized, on a country-by-country basis, all the national reports submitted between 1994 and 1996. Each Profile covered the status of all Agenda 21 chapters.

The purpose of Country Profiles is to:

- Help countries monitor their own progress;
- Share experiences and information with others; and,
- Serve as institutional memory to track and record national actions undertaken to implement Agenda 21.

A second series of Country Profiles is being published on the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development being held in Johannesburg from August 26 to September 4, 2002. Each profile covers all 40 chapters of Agenda 21, as well as those issues that have been separately addressed by the CSD since 1997, including trade, energy, transport, sustainable tourism and industry.

The 2002 Country Profiles series provides the most comprehensive overview to date of the status of implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level. Each Country Profile is based on information updated from that contained in the national reports submitted annually by governments.

Preparing national reports is often a challenging exercise. It can also be a productive and rewarding one in terms of taking stock of what has been achieved and by increasing communication, coordination and cooperation among a range of national agencies, institutions and groups. Hopefully, the information contained in this series of Country Profiles will serve as a useful tool for learning from the experience and knowledge gained by each country in its pursuit of sustainable development.

## **NOTE TO READERS**

The 2002 Country Profiles Series provides information on the implementation of Agenda 21 on a country-by-country and chapter-by-chapter basis (with the exception of chapters 1 and 23, which are preambles). Since Rio 1992, the Commission on Sustainable Development has specifically addressed other topics not included as separate chapters in Agenda 21. These issues of trade, industry, energy, transport and sustainable tourism are, therefore, treated as distinct sections in the Country Profiles. In instances where several Agenda 21 chapters are closely related, for example, chapters 20 to 22 which cover environmentally sound management of hazardous, solid and radioactive wastes, and chapters 24 to 32 which refer to strengthening of major groups, the information appears under a single heading in the Country Profile Series. Lastly, chapters 16 and 34, which deal with environmentally sound management of biotechnology, and transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation, capacity-building respectively, are presented together under one heading in those Country Profiles where information is relatively scarce.

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## LIST OF COMMONLY USED COUNTRY ACRONYMS

3 R	Reduce, re-use and recycle principle
ACBP	Association on Capacity Building Programme
ACP-EU	Fourth Afro-Caribbean Pacific European Union Convention of Lome
Agenda 21	The set of principles to guide sustainable development that emerged at the Rio Earth summit in 1992
AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
ALAN	Association of Local Authorities in Namibia
ARC	Association of Regional Councils in Namibia
BON	Bank of Namibia
CBD	The United Nations Convention on Biodiversity
CBI	Cross Border Initiative
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management.
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
CCF	Cheetah Conservation Fund
CCN	Council of Churches in Namibia
CFED	Community Forestry and Extension Development Programme
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMA	Common Monetary Area
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
COMESA	Common Markets of Eastern and Southern Africa
CRM	Community Resource Management
CSGs	Counselling Support Groups
DAAD	Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst/ German Academic Exchange Services
DANCED	Danish Cooperation for Environment and Development
DEA	Directorate of Environmental Affairs
DERU	Desert Ecological Research Unit
DoE	Directorate of Energy
DoF	Directorate of Forestry
DRFN	The Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
DRWS	Directorate of Rural Water Supply
EA	Environmental Assessment
EC	European Commission
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EDC	Education Curriculum Development
EE	Environmental Education
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIF	Environment Investment Fund
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EPZs	Exporting Processing Zones
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAWE	Forum for African Women Educationalists
FINNIDA	Finnish International Development Agency
FTA	Free Trade Area
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GSPs	Generalised System of Preferences

GTN	Global Technology Network
GTRP	Gender Training and Research Programme
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno-Virus/Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
HIVOS	Netherlands Human Rights Organisation
IBIS	WUS-Denmark
IEC	Information Education and Communication
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMLT	Institute of Management and Leadership Training
IP	Industrial Parks
ISS	Institute of Social Studies, Netherlands
JPC	Joint Permanent Committee/Joint Presidential Commission
JSX	Johannesburg Stock Exchange
JTC	Joint Technical Committee
LA 21	Local Agenda 21
LARRI	Labour Resource and Research Institute
LIFE	Living in a Finite Environment
LRIC	Luderitz Research Information Centre
MAWRD	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development
MBESC	Ministry of Basic Education, Sport & Culture
MEAs	Multinational Environmental Agreements
MEG	Mountain Ecosystems Group
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MFAIB	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information and Broadcasting
MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
MFN	Most Favoured Nations
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MHETEC	Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Employment Creation
MLRR	Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MMIU	Mahangu Marketing Intelligence Unit
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MoL	Ministry of Labour
MRCC	Multi-disciplinary Research and Consultancy Centre
MRLGH	Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MWACW	Ministry of Woman Affairs and Child Welfare
MWTC	Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication
NABA	Namibia Biotechnology Alliance
NACOBTA	Namibia Community Based Tourism Association
NACOP	National AIDS Co-ordination Programme
NACSO	Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations
Na-LTER	Namibian Long-Term Ecological Research Network
NAMBESP	Namibia Biomass Energy Savings Project
NAMDEB	Namibia De Beers Diamond Corporation
Namport	Namibian Ports Authority
NamWater	Namibia Water Corporation
NANGOF	Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum
NAP	Namibia Action Plan
NAPCOD	Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification
NAPPA	Namibia Planned Parenthood Association

NARREC	Namibia Animal Rehabilitation, Research and Education Centre
NATH	Namibia Tourism and Hospitality
NAU	Namibia Agricultural Union
NBC	National Broadcasting Corporation
NCCI	Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
NDC	Namibia Development Corporation
NDP II	Second National Development Plan (for the period 2000 –2005)
NDP I	First National Development Plan (for the period 1995 –2000)
NEEN	Namibia Environmental Education Network
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NGPA	National Gender Plan of Action
NIED	National Institute for Educational Development
NISE	National Institute for Special Education
NMN	National Museum of Namibia
NNF	Namibia Nature Foundation
NNFU	Namibia National Farmers Union
NOLIDEP	Northern Livestock Development Programme
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRSC	National Remote Sensing Centre
NSFP	Namibia School Feeding Programme
NSX	Namibian Stock Exchange
NTB	Namibia Tourism Board
NTDP	Namibia Tourism Development Programme
NUNW	National Union of Namibian Workers
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
ProBEC	Programme on Biomass Energy Conservation
RA	Roads Authority
Ramsar	The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
RCC	Roads Contractor Company
RFA	Road Fund Administration
RSCs	Regional School Councillors
SACU	Southern Africa Customs Union
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SARDEP	Sustainable Animal and Range Development Programme
SEAGA	Socio-Economic and Gender Analysis
SESCIT	Supporting Education via School Community Involvement and Training
Sida	Swedish International Agency for Development
SMEs	Small-Medium Enterprises
SoER	State of the Environment Report
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organisation
The Rio Earth Summit	See UNCED
TUCSIN	The University Centre for Studies in Namibia
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations AIDS programme
UNAM	University of Namibia
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
UNCSD	United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCHS	United Nations Human Council for Human Settlements
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
ZERI	Zero Emissions Research Initiative
ZFU	Zimbabwe Farmers Union
ZNFU	Zambia National Farmers Union

## CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES

**Decision-Making:** The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information and Broadcasting (MFAIB) and the National Planning Commission (NPC) of Namibia are responsible for co-ordinating international agreements on sustainable development. Other line ministries in the country support these three ministries notably on crosscutting issues like sustainable development. The relevant ministries are then specifically tasked with responsibilities with regard to the formulation of strategies, plans, programmes, projects and the actual implementation of specific agreements. Plans are underway to establish the Sustainable Development Commission, which will co-ordinate all national activities pertaining to sustainable development. Namibia's Constitution addresses issues of biodiversity (Article 95) and claims (Article 100) sovereign ownership of all natural resources. Namibia is a signatory to the Rio Declaration of 1992 and has adopted Agenda 21 as the basis for sustainable development in the country. In addition to the Rio Declaration, Namibia actively supports and is party to several United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)-related conventions and other international and regional treaties. Some examples are:

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer;
- The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands;
- Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal;
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD);
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
- Protocol on Shared Watercourses Systems in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region; and
- SADC Protocol on Transport, Communication and Meteorology.

Namibia has developed sectoral strategies, policies and plans that reflect broader sustainable development issues through allocating specific responsibilities to relevant ministries. The strategies formulated require the Cooperation: and co-ordination of more than one ministry, hence the following strategies and domestic policies have been constituted:

- Natural resource management and land-use;
- Pollution control and polluter pays principle;
- Rural development and poverty reduction;
- Child welfare and violent crime;
- Precautionary Principle;
- Environmental Assessments; and
- Combating desertification

**Programmes and Projects:** There are many programmes and projects aimed at curbing unsustainable patterns of development. These are housed in different ministries, NGOs and parastatals. MET, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural development (MAWRD), the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (MLRR), and the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN) are implementing Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD). The National Biodiversity Programme within MET/DEA tackles concerns with regard to the preservation of habitat, natural resources and fragile ecosystems. At regional level, projects on shared water resources, energy, environmental education, transport and marine ecosystems have been initiated as outcomes of the Trans-boundary agreements. Examples are the Epupa Dam proposal and the Trans-Capriivi Highway.

**Status:** The National Planning Commission (NPC), in collaboration with various line ministries, monitors and measures the progress made towards sustainable development in the country. The National Development Plan I and II, the Vision

2030, and State of Environment Reports are major tools that monitor, assess and measure the progress of projects and programmes.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Public and private sector institutions are involved in Capacity-Building and awareness raising campaigns. The Rossing Foundation Environmental Awareness is geared towards local communities in rural areas; the Summer Desert Programme focuses on university and technical graduates, the Directorate of Youth and Sport, together with the Kayec Centre, offer basic training to unemployed youths. The British Council and TUCSIN offer scholarships for graduate and postgraduate scholars.

**Information:** The MFAIB, MET and NPC maintain information on international and regional agreements and conventions. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) maintains all records with regard to domestic agreements. Information on multinational environmental agreements is also available on the Internet: [www.dea.met.gov.na](http://www.dea.met.gov.na)

**Research and Technologies:** The Zero Emissions Research Initiative (ZERI), housed within the University of Namibia (UNAM), promotes the use of environmentally sound biotechnology. The Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), through the Science and Technology Division of UNAM, is involved in the design of environmentally sound technology, for example the Power can and solar energy. The National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) within the Directorate of Forestry (DoF) of MET applies remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for spatial analysis and data production.

**Financing:** National Budget, multilateral and bilateral donors such as WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, EU, DANCED, FINNIDA, Sida, NORAD, France, GTZ, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and USAID.

**Cooperation:** Rio Declaration of 1992, UNCSD, and other UNCED-related conventions.

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## **CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES - TRADE**

**Decision-Making:** The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), NPC and MFAIB and line ministries are responsible for the regulation of international and domestic agreements on trade. MTI is directly responsible for the implementation of trade-related agreements. MTI also networks with international and regional trade organisations. The International Trade Agreement as set out by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and UNCTAD guides Namibia. The Directorate of International Trade within MTI is the focal point for Namibia's trade and external trade relations. Its activities are geared towards the formulation and maintenance of Namibia's Trade Policy. The Trade Policy Division regulates bilateral and multilateral trade relations. The Directorate of International Trade formulates and refines Namibia's position with regard to global trade agreements. The policy on trade liberalisation and economic integration promotes sustainable trading patterns. MTI assists and supports local business efforts through the promotion of Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

**Programmes and Projects:** The Industrial Development Programme was launched to facilitate industrial development in Namibia, in particular by participating in the development of formal sector industrial parks. There are other projects and programmes aimed at improving trade partnerships and employment creation for Namibia. This has led to the creation of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and Industrial Parks (IP).

**Status:** The EPZ and IP are ongoing projects. No additional information could be accessed during the research period.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The tertiary institutions in Namibia, University of Namibia (UNAM) and the Polytechnic of Namibia, offer courses in economics and management sciences. Short courses are also provided to the public by a non-governmental organisation, the Institute of Management and Leadership Training (IMLT), in order to enhance business skills of local people.

**Information:** The main function of the Trade Information Subdivision in the MTI is to provide trade information to both local and foreign business communities. This is achieved by:

- Collecting trade information and disseminating it to local manufacturers, importers and exporters, as well as to the various divisions of the Ministry;
- Preparing trade publications for the provision of trade information to exporters and potential users;
- Handling trade inquiries; and
- Maintaining a trade documentation and trade data centre for use by the Ministry staff and the trading community.

**Research and Technologies:** The Research Subdivision in the MTI carries out systematic analyses of developments in foreign markets and activities of competitor countries in order to identify new market opportunities for Namibian export products. It prepares market profiles to provide a comprehensive view of the nature, characteristics and requirements of target foreign markets. The Subdivision also prepares background papers on trade with foreign countries, forming the basis for the negotiation of trade agreements or other bilateral/multilateral trade arrangements. The domestic policies, for example, Namibia's Marine Fisheries Management Policy, ensures that products are being exported in a sustainable manner.

**Financing:** National Budget Various donor agencies through the GSP schemes: Australia, Canada, EU, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and United States of America.

**Cooperation:** General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), WTO, Fourth Afro-Caribbean Pacific European Union (ACP-EU) Convention of Lome, Cross Border Initiative (CBI), Common Monetary Area (CMA), SADC, Common Markets of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and Southern African Customs Union (SACU).

## CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY

**Decision-Making:** NPC, MAWRD, MLRR, MET, the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MOHSS), as well as numerous NGOs and UN agencies in the country are responsible for co-ordinating poverty reduction. Social Pensions Act provides regulations with regard to elderly and disabled members of the Namibian society. The Maintenance Bill provides the means to achieve financial security for children under single parent care. The social pension provides financial means to the disabled and citizens above 60 years of age, which enables them to afford basic commodities. The NDP II lists several strategies geared towards the reduction of income disparities among Namibians. The strategies emphasise the following: enhancing the capabilities of low-income groups to increase their income and asset base, and creating enabling environments for employment. The NPC is finalising 13 regional Poverty Reduction Action Plans, aimed at tackling specific regional needs.

**Programmes and Projects:** Various programmes, projects and activities aiming at poverty reduction through community participation have been developed. Community based projects such as conservancies and community forestry are being established to enable local communities to manage their natural resources and obtain economic benefits in a sustainable manner. The community-based project on water points ensures the provision of potable water to communal and rural communities. The Food for Work Programme within MAWRD encourages people to develop rural areas and improve their livelihoods. The project benefits the 'drought-affected people' and the 'identified poor' in all regions of Namibia. Other projects are the Integrated Programme on Sustainable Development & Food Security, support to National Food Security and Nutrition Project and National Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development. It is closely linked to a component on women development structure funded by Norway and Finland. The Veld Food Project started in 1998 through the initiative of the Food Security and Nutrition Programme. There is also a Poverty Reduction Programme in Ohangwena funded by the UNDP and UNICEF. The region was selected based on the level of poverty and its dense population. The NPC staff benefited from the use of the socio-economic and gender analysis (SEAGA) framework. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) is conducting socio-economic fish farming projects in the Caprivi region, with the intention to expand the project to other regions along major rivers. The MAWRD is involved in the upgrading of livestock in commercial as well as communal areas, through the Animal Breed project.

**Status:** Conservancies are successfully meeting the challenges of developed natural resources management, rural poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation. The government investment in social welfare has increased through the provision of mobile clinics, primary health care centres and construction of additional schools. Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) strengthens and diversifies the agricultural base on which many poor and rural communities rely. Although significant progress has been made in an effort to reduce poverty, poverty is still visible and a lot more needs to be done.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) broadcasts self-help programmes on radio and television. Labour based construction projects offer basic training and empowerment to rural and urban communities.

**Information:** Reports are produced from surveys such as the Namibia Levels of Living Surveys and the 2001 National Census and Population Count. Data collected during these surveys are also available from the NPC. The Early Warning and Food Information System provides information on the production of agriculture sector every year, and information on causes of low productivity. Gender desegregated data and a Household Resource Management Guide was made available end of 2001.

**Research and Technologies:** The Namibia Levels of Living Survey was conducted in 1999 to provide socio-economic and living standard data. The Household Income and Expenditure Surveys conducted in 1993, and planned for 2003/4 generate information on living standards of the country's inhabitants. The 2001 National Census and Population Count will also provide information relating to poverty in Namibia.

**Financing:** National Budget, UNDP, UNICEF and the European Union (EU).

**Cooperation:** Namibia ratified the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. Namibia is also party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Association of Local Authorities in Namibia has adopted the principles of Local Agenda 21.

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## CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

**Decision-Making:** MET, MAWRD, and MME are responsible for monitoring consumption and production patterns in the country. The Government is committed to improve the quality of life for the majority of the people through poverty alleviation strategies. The National Agricultural Policy's objective with regard to consumption is to improve levels of household food security nationally, with an ultimate goal of achieving food self-sufficiency. Strategies are being developed to provide the basis for cleaner productions, pollution prevention eco-efficiency and decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation. Health Inspectors within the MOHSS are responsible for inspecting food products to find out if they are suitable for human consumption. There is a programme of agricultural extension services, which is directly involved with community mobilisation in order to enhance their agricultural outputs.

**Programmes and Projects:** Support to the processing of Indigenous Fruits and Mahangu Projects offers different and potential processing techniques for indigenous fruits and mahangu to add value to these products. The Accupower project promotes solar stoves and coal-efficient stoves. The MME encourages industries to invest in cleaner technologies.

**Status:** Namibia suffers from periodic droughts (which is perceived as natural) due to its variable climatic conditions. Hence, consumption patterns and agricultural outputs depend on the amount of rainfall received every year. The productivity of land also determines the consumption patterns of local communities, especially in rural areas.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The University of Namibia and Polytechnic of Namibia, through the Faculties of Agriculture and Natural Resources, promote Capacity-Building in the field of science, agriculture, food and technology. The media promotes awareness regarding nutrition. The Namibia Consumer Lobby advises consumers on their rights to demand value for their money on whatever products they purchase.

**Information:** Information is provided by the project: Early Warning and Food Information System, which collects, analyses and disseminates agricultural statistics. The Mahangu Marketing Intelligence Unit (MMIU) monitors Mahangu production. The Division of Agricultural Research explores new technologies for the sustainable utilisation of rangelands (Sustainable Animal and Range Development Programme) and croplands.

**Research and Technologies:** No information available.

**Financing:** National Budget  
WHO, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

**Cooperation:** Constitution of the World Health Organisation and related amendments, Commonwealth Regional Health Community for East, Central and Southern Africa.

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## CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - ENERGY

### Decision-Making: Co-ordinating Bodies

MME and MET co-ordinate activities related to energy consumption and production.

### Decision-Making: Legislation and Regulations

The Energy Policy Committee of the MME developed the White Paper on Energy Policy. It was released in May 1998, with the following goals:

- Effective energy sector governance;
- Security of supply;
- Social upliftment;
- Investment and growth;
- Economic competitiveness and efficiency; and
- Sustainability.

The Directorate of Energy (DoE) enforces the compliance of legal requirements of energy legislation and regulations and researches new and renewable sources of energy. It conducts functions such as:

- Petroleum product pricing, price equalisation and the administration of the National Energy Fund;
- Depot fire fighting and security;
- Petroleum product import and export control;
- Rural electrification; and
- The administration of the Solar Electrification Revolving Fund.

The DoE is responsible for the implementation of policies, strategies and plans via the following objectives:

- *Security of Supply*: To secure a sufficient and reliable supply of sustainable energy support to the growing needs and the Government's endeavour to develop new industry.
- *Social Upliftment*: Redress inequalities in provision of energy supplies. All households shall have access to affordable and appropriate energy supplies.
- *Economic Competitiveness/Economic Efficiency*: Ensure that increases in energy supply and utilisation are sustainable, competitive and economically efficient.
- *Effective Energy Sector Governance*: Namibia will have energy sector governance in operation, which will undertake effective planning, will be flexible in its approach, and will have adequate staff resources.
- *Investment and Growth*: Namibia will endeavour to achieve a high level of investor confidence in the energy sector, resulting in fixed inward investment and economic benefits for the country.
- *Sustainability*: Namibia will move towards the sustainable use of natural resources for energy production and consumption as far as economically possible.

Vehicle users are shifting from leaded petrol to unleaded petrol as a mechanism to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions.

**Programmes and Projects:** The DoE promotes sustainable energy consumption through the following programmes: solar electricity production, solar water heaters, wind energy, small-scale biomass energy production, large-scale biomass energy production and wave power. In addition, the DoE houses the assessment of woodland depletion, renewable energy project and the Namibia Biomass Energy Savings Project (NAMBESP).

**Status:** Proposals are underway to develop sites for safe disposal on land of oil based waste generated during petroleum exploration and production. A Used Oil Task Force to seek an acceptable solution for the re-use of used mineral oil is being proposed in the White Paper on Energy Policy. The Accupower project has produced the Power

can, which is being piloted in some rural and informal settlements, as an alternative to electricity. Rural inhabitants have been introduced to coal-efficient stoves as an alternative to firewood.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Science and Technology Division at UNAM trains young Namibians in clean technology production and energy efficient products. The Environmental Education programmes offered by various NGO's have mobilised local communities to reduce wood consumption.

**Information:** Information and reports are available from the MME Resource Centre (library) and on the website: [www.mme.gov.na](http://www.mme.gov.na)

**Research and Technologies:** The Renewable Energy Information Network of Namibia, part of the DRFN, concentrates on information dissemination, research and consultancy in the whole energy sector. Various studies on renewable energy efficiency were undertaken during the period of 1999/2000 and produced the following information.

- Assessment of energy demand patterns of urban households
- Simulation and monitoring of Solar and Electric Water Heating System
- Promotion of macro economic analysis of Solar Water Heating Systems in Namibia
- Performance testing on the Namibian JUWA PV Pumping System
- Namibian Renewable Energy and Efficiency Institute
- Energy related meteorological data acquisition strategy
- Assessment of wind pumps in Namibia

**Financing:** National Budget  
GTZ /Programme on Biomass Energy Conservation (ProBEC)

**Cooperation:** GTZ, DANCED, UNDP

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## CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - TRANSPORT

**Decision-Making:** The Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications (MWTC) co-ordinates transport activities in the country, in conjunction with the parastatals Roads Authority (RA), Road Fund Administration (RFA) and Roads Contractor Company (RCC). The Road Traffic and Transport Act regulates the internal and cross border transport operations, infrastructure and functions of government and parastatals. The Marine Traffic Act regulates bulk, breaks bulk and container traffic shipping. Namibian Aviation legislation with regard to tariffs of the International Air Transport Association and Air Traffic Policies are also formulated. The Directorate of Transport plans to conduct nationwide transport planning and studies on identified areas. The planning will determine the need for road infrastructure with regard to technical feasibility, economic viability and environmental impacts. A strategy to improve routes to neighbouring countries has been formulated. Highways and roads will be constructed and upgraded in order to attract international trading opportunities and promote the tourism industry.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Trans-Capriivi and Trans-Kalahari Highways have been completed. The Labour Based Road Construction programmes have provided training and empowerment to rural and urban communities. There are also projects focusing on the construction of new roads and upgrading of airports in Namibia. The National Transport Development Plan is an ongoing project which aims to define the future national transport network, with due consideration of all transport modes and with emphasis on a phased development strategy of the road and rail network. The network is to cater for internal needs and its integration into the regional network. The phased construction of the transport network is meant to ensure a balanced sustainable development of Namibia.

**Status:** Gravel roads have been upgraded to tar in some regions. Namibia is rated as one of the African countries with a good road network. The Trans-Capriivi and Trans-Kalahari Highways are in operation.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** A number of promising Namibian students have been trained through regional universities and have gained recognised civil engineering qualifications through Capacity-Building programmes within the MWTC. The Polytechnic of Namibia School of Engineering and Information Technology trains Namibians in the field of civil engineering. Advertisement of Namibia Ports Authority (NamPort), airlines, railways and road transportation contributes towards public understanding of the importance of transport networks.

**Information:** Information could not be accessed during the research period.

**Research and Technologies:** Information could not be accessed during the research period.

**Financing:** National Budget, GTZ

**Cooperation:** Namibia is party to the following conventions:

- SADC Protocol on Transport, Communication and Meteorology;
- Convention on Internal Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944;
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949; and
- Convention on the International Maritime Organisation, 1948.

Namibia also has a Memorandum of Understanding with SACU on Road Transportation

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## CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

**Decision-Making:** NPC, UNFPA and MOHSS co-ordinate the population programme and institutions such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and specific Non-Governmental Organisations are responsible for the implementation of relevant projects. The National Population Plan of Action is being formulated and will be implemented during the NDP II period. Policies and strategies approved to support the Population Policy are: Family Planning Policy, National Gender Policy and its plan of Action, Poverty Reduction Strategy and National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS.

**Programmes and Projects:** No information available.

**Status:** No information available.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** No information available.

**Information:** Information and Health System of MOHSS. The Central Bureau of Statistics of NPC manages demographic and other national data. The National Demographic Health Surveys and National Population and Housing Census are repeated periodically.

**Research and Technologies:** The Central Statistics Office manages demographic and other national data. MOHSS is finalising the current report on the National Demographic Health Survey, which will be repeated every 10 years.

**Financing:** National Budget, UNDP, UNFPA, bilateral donors such as WHO, UNICEF, EU, FINNIDA, France, Germany, Norway, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and USA.

**Cooperation:** International Planned Parenthood Federation and Red Cross.

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## CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH

**Decision-Making:** The MOHSS co-ordinates all activities related to human health. The provision of health services in Namibia is split among three main providers: Government (70-75%), Church missions (15-20%) and the private sector (5%). National Food and Nutritional Policy has been in force since 1995. Policy documents and protocols for both diarrhoea and acute respiratory infection are also in place. The National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS focuses on the prevention and control of the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The Malaria Campaign is carried out in malaria prone areas.

**Programmes and Projects:** Development of National Public Health Programmes focuses on immunisation activities, control of diarrhoeal diseases, acute respiratory infections, and reproductive health care. The National Malaria Control Programme is established to focus on vector control campaign, strengthen epidemiological surveillance and applied research. The main focus of the National AIDS Co-ordination Programme (NACOP) is on awareness raising and prevention. Its objectives include the following:

- Raising awareness about HIV/AIDS in order to avoid discrimination, reduce stigmatisation and promote safer sexual behaviour;
- Condom promotion and distribution;
- Training of community based educators and counsellors to inform and assist the public; and
- Supply of safe blood for transfusion and promotion of voluntary blood donation.

In addition there are other programmes such as: National Tuberculosis Control Programme, Plaque Control Programme, National Nutritional Programme, Environmental Health and Sanitation Programme.

**Status:** Public campaigns on HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB, educational pamphlets and counselling services are now available in all local and indigenous languages.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** A number of public servants have been trained as social workers, nurses, laboratory technicians and medical doctors. Major hospitals are now entitled to have social workers in service. Educational programmes in the MOHSS educate the public on the importance of reproductive health, danger of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other fatal diseases.

**Information:** The results of the 2000 National Demographic and Health Survey will provide the latest data on fertility and health status.

**Research and Technologies:** The Cancer Association of Namibia documents information with regard to cancer treatments.

**Financing:** National Budget, Church missions, Private sector funding

**Cooperation:** Namibia is party to the following conventions:

Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 ;

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 as amended by the protocol of 25 March 1972:

International Sanitary Regulations, 1951;

Constitution of the World Health Organisation, 1946 and

Commonwealth Regional Health Community for East, Central and Southern Africa

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## CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

**Decision-Making:** MLRR and the Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing (MRLGH) co-ordinate the allocation and development of settlement areas. Urban centres have master plans guiding the development and settlement development. In Rural areas, the traditional authorities under the Traditional Authority Act regulate settlement development. Cabinet adopted the National Resettlement policy in 1995, to form the basis of the National Resettlement programme. The cabinet approved National Housing Policy in 1991. The National Housing Development Act of 1993 was amended in 2000. The National Land Policy, The Agriculture (Commercial) Land Reform Act of 1995 and Communal Land Reform Bill were passed by Parliament to address issues of land distribution and ownership. The Land Survey Act defines the role of the Directorate of Survey and Mapping. The Regional and Local Government sector is responsible for proclaiming towns and villages and declaring additional settlement areas. The housing sector aims to facilitate access to adequate and affordable shelter for communities and individuals throughout Namibia in a sustainable manner. The strategy of the Directorate of Survey and Mapping is to ensure up-to-date topographic and geo-spatial data, which is a central requirement for planning regarding sustainable human settlement development in Namibia.

Following the International Conferences and Agreements on the Human Settlement/Habitat, Namibia adopted a National Plan of Action, in March 1999. This Plan of Action was devised to address the huge number of Namibians living in poverty, under conditions of inadequate shelter and homeless. A National Habitat Committee was put in place. This committee is committed to co-ordinate, monitor and review the activities of all stakeholders in order to achieve adequate shelter for all and the development of sustainable human settlements, in accordance with the Habitat Agenda. A National Housing Policy was adopted. A National Shelter Strategy for Namibia was adopted for the implementation of the National Housing Programme. The National Housing Policy is under Review for the incorporation of the Agenda 21 components. A Local Institutional Framework includes the Build-Together Committee with representation drawn from Local Authorities, beneficiary families, Community Based Organisations, NGO representatives, Town engineer/Health officer and a Community Activator. Regional and Local Authorities were set up by an act of Parliament.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Build-Together Programme within MRLGH offers loans for low cost housing to low-income earners in urban centres of Namibia. The Resettlement Programme within MLRR provides land to landless and previously disadvantaged Namibians. The Land-Use Planning Directorate, together with the Directorate of Survey and Mapping within MLRR, has developed sound, sustainable resettlement programmes. Land reform continues to be a central issue to socio-economic development in Namibia because of the continued rural base of the majority of households and the legacy of unequal land distribution. The Rural Towns Sewerage Scheme is preparing project design and tender documents for the first phase of water-borne sewerage scheme projects.

**Status:** Since the National Land Conference of 1995, the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation had an impact on the resettlement program. From 1991 to 1997/98 the Namibian Government, through the MLRR, bought more than 50 commercial farms (of about 1208341148 hectares) for resettlement purposes. By 1997/98, about 500 families across the country were resettled on these farms. In 1998 about 25 Resettlement Projects across the 13 administration regions were under way, while 17 projects were in the pipeline. There are more than 57 co-operatives across the country as part of the resettlement program.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Several Namibians have been trained in the Netherlands and Namibian tertiary institutions in the fields of land-use planning, valuation and surveying.

**Information:** Land administration, surveying, mapping and land-use planning are crucial tools in the land reform process. These tools facilitate planning of sustainable resettlement programmes. The Office of the Registrar of Deeds in the MLRR keeps registry of all registered farms in the country.

**Research and Technologies:** The Directorate of Survey and Mapping researches and updates geo-spatial data using remote sensing and GIS.

**Financing:** National Budget

**Cooperation:** The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements; Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies; and the Tripartite Agreement with the UNDP and the United Nations Human Council for Human Settlement (UNHCHS) signed in 1995, of which the Ministry of Local Government and Housing is a signatory. The Namibian government sent a high level delegation to the United Nations Conference on Human Habitat in Istanbul, Turkey in 1999. Namibia participated in a number of conferences on Habitat, including the New York and the Germany World City Conferences.

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## CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

**Decision-Making:** MET, MAWRD and NPC co-ordinate multi-sectoral challenges associated with sound environmental management and sustainable development. The Office of the Ombudsman has, as stated in the Namibian Constitution Act 91, the duty to investigate complaints concerning the over utilisation of living natural resources, irrational exploitation of non-renewable resources, the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and failure to protect the beauty and character of Namibia. The Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is a leading agency promoting sustainable development. The Environmental Management Act and Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill are still to be passed by Cabinet. The Association of Local Authorities in Namibia (ALAN) is implementing the Local Agenda 21. The DEA ensures that all industrial and developmental projects go through the process of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The DEA strategies, policies and plans strive to promote environmental protection, environmental planning, environmental co-ordination, to support the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources and national development and to protect the environment and human welfare from unsustainable, unhealthy and inappropriate practices. Namibia's 12 Points Plan for Integrated and Sustainable Environmental Management document has set out the most important areas that need to be developed to set Namibia on a sustainable development path. The Country's recent NDP II and Vision 2030 made efforts to incorporate environmental and sustainable development issues and options in planning.

**Programmes and Projects:** There are various projects in the country that integrate environment and development through provision of infrastructure, Capacity-Building and technical advisors. The CBNRM Programme enhances decision making at all levels: national, regional and local. The establishment of conservancies, community forestry and management of potable water point programmes highlight the involvement of rural communities through the establishment of committees for natural resources management. Fencing game parks to prevent poaching and the escape of large predators into farms and communal areas bordering the park enhances the conservation of wildlife, as well as increasing agricultural input as part of rural development by preventing the destruction of agricultural products by large game, especially elephants. Provision of water to Game Projects in National Parks aims to provide water to the game in order to minimise the current crisis between communities and adjacent parks. For the Directorate of Forestry, the Namibia-Finland Forestry programme is building the capacity of Namibian Forestry staff to enable them to manage forests and conserve biodiversity.

**Status:** The recent NDP II and Vision 2030 have placed sustainable development at the heart of national planning and decision-making. Integrated management plans that adequately reflect sustainable development objectives have resulted in the following policies: The CBNRM Policy; Namibia's Environmental Management Act; The enforcement of integrated water resource management and water demand management policies; Namibia's marine fisheries management policies; The National Drought Policy and Strategy and the white paper on Namibia's Energy Policy. The government ministries and departments monitor progress made towards meeting the objectives of policies and programmes and evaluate their impact at three levels:

- At national level, the NPC evaluates the National Development Plan every 2½ years;
- At the sectoral level, DEA produces the State of Environment Reporting programme; and
- At programme level, donor funded programmes, for example CBNRM, undergo periodic reviews and are evaluated against programme objectives.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** A number of Namibian graduates have furthered their education in the field of Environment and Sustainable Development and are being absorbed into both the public sector and mostly the private sector and NGO's. The Government relies on local technical experts for inputs to integrate environment and development in decision-making. This is being achieved through the creation of a pool of various technical committees comprising technical advisors from all sectors to tackle issues of environment and development in a holistic manner. Awareness creation of the need to integrate environment and development in decision-making processes, especially at local level, is being provided through consultation processes while planning, implementing and managing Community Based projects and programmes.

**Information:** The NRSC within the MET/DoF and the Directorate of Survey and Mapping within MLRR provide spatial information such as: mapping, biodiversity inventories, national aerial surveys and assessment of woodland depletion. The NRSC also works in collaboration with other projects relating to natural resources and natural environment including: the quantitative assessment of woodland resources, desertification and climate change monitoring, water monitoring, and drought and vulnerability monitoring. The Natural Resource Accounting Programme assesses the economic value of the country's natural resource capital.

**Research and Technologies:** Remote sensing, Geographical Information Systems technologies and Environmental Assessments are tools employed to provide data needed for planning and management of natural resource utilisation in a sustainable manner.

**Financing:** National Budget

**Cooperation:** [Convention on Biological Diversity](#); [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification](#); Rio Declaration of 1992; and UNFCCC; Ramsar; and CITES.

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## CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

**Decision-Making:** MET, MTI and MME co-ordinate Climate Change, Ozone Layer and Pollution Control issues. The Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill is still to be passed by Cabinet. Amendments will be made to the Import/Export Act 30 Of 1994 to regulate ozone-depleting substances. The Catagena protocol on Bio-safety guides the Ozone office in dealing with ozone depleting substances. The Montreal protocol also guides ozone-related activities in Namibia.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Institutional Strengthening Project (ISP) exists for the implementation of the Montreal protocol on substances or chemicals that deplete the ozone layer. Namibia is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change & [Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer](#). Although Namibia does not significantly contribute to the destruction of the ozone layer, it acceded to the treaty in 1993 and is therefore obliged to assist where possible and appropriate in finding solutions to the ozone problem. It is furthermore obliged to submit statistics on the production and/or use of CFCs in its industrial activities.

**Status:** The ISP is in progress although some activities are not yet implemented. Namibia is one of the nations least responsible for greenhouse gas emissions and the use of ozone threatening substances, but both global warming and stratospheric ozone depletion are likely to have a considerable impact on the country. Already Namibia suffers from increased rainfall variability and more frequent periods of drought. This implies that Namibia will suffer even more from climatic change and it will affect food production and human health in the country. The policies on public transport and unleaded petrol use have not yet been formulated.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Awareness is raised through the media and broadcasting. The schools and University curricula also address issues of climate change and ozone layer depletion. The ISP disseminates information to the public about the danger of ozone depletion through workshops, leaflets, posters, booklets, newspapers, school competitions, etc. Networking workshops for Africa institutions are held annually.

**Information:** There are international websites with information on ozone depletion. Locally, reports of studies conducted are available. There are plans to set up a Reference Laboratory that could be used to assess the safety of products for humans and the environment. The safety of Biotechnology products would be tested at the laboratory.

**Research and Technologies:** Studies are conducted in the country on methyl bromide consumption to assess what we have and how it could be developed.

**Financing:** National Budget, Finland, UNEP.

**Cooperation:** There is Cooperation: with the UNFCCC & [Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer](#); Rio Declaration of 1992; and There is a Namibia–Finland bilateral agreement on ozone depletion.

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## CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

**Decision-Making:** MET, MLRR, MAWRD and NPC co-ordinate planning and management of land resources. Environment Management Act addresses issues of management of land resources. Communal Land Act, Land Reform Act, Agricultural Land Reform Act, White Paper on Inland Fisheries, Integrated Water Resource Management Policy, CBNRM policies and the Traditional Authority Act regulate the authorisation, planning and implementation of activities related to the utilisation of land resources. Namibia's 12 Points Plan for Integrated and Sustainable Development and Environmental Management guiding documents have set out the need for policy formulation and debate, legislative reform and the need for improved environmental planning and management of resources. The Department of Natural Resource Management within MET co-ordinates planning at national level.

**Programmes and Projects:** Natural resource management and land-use programmes fall under the MLRR, MRLGH, MAWRD and MET. At local level, the CBNRM Programme has been implemented to promote wise management and sustainable use of natural resources.

**Status:** The Regional Land-Use and Environmental Board deals with land-use planning and natural resource management. The Natural Resource Management and Land-Use Programme has insufficient clarity regarding the responsibilities of the various ministries and has insufficient vision of what needs to be done in terms of land redistribution, sound resource management and tenure. Namibia's Marine Fisheries Management Policies have been commended internationally for their effectiveness and efficiency.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The University of Namibia and the Polytechnic of Namibia offer courses on land management, planning and natural resource management. The Rossing Foundation, an NGO, has been holding Environmental Education (EE) workshops with rural communities since independence. The CBNRM programmes also create awareness within local communities through planning and implementation of programmes. The Living In a Finite Environment (LIFE) Programmes have also contributed enormously with regard to community-based activities, training of potential community workers and other NGO staff.

**Information:** The creation of Regional Environmental Profiles, the National Atlas and State of the Environment Reports provide information to support planning and sustainable development.

**Research and Technologies:** National Remote Sensing Centre, Directorate of Survey and Mapping, INFOCOM programme produces State of the Environment Reports, The Desert Ecological Research Unit (DERU) based in the Namib Desert researches and documents ecological data.

**Financing:** National Budget, GTZ, UN and WWF. The Environment Investment Fund (EIF) was established by an Act of Parliament to raise funds within Namibia and from international sources. The funds realised would be invested in long-term instruments that would yield stable returns to be used to finance projects and activities for the prudent management of natural resources and for environmental protection.

**Cooperation:** Namibia has agreements with: Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF-US), UNCED, UNEP and multinational environmental agreements.

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## CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION

**Decision-Making:** MET, MAWRD and DRFN co-ordinate forestry and afforestation activities in Namibia. The National Forestry Policy emphasises the protection of soil and water resources, the maintenance of biological diversity and maximising the sustainable off-take from forests. Strategies have been put in place to address deforestation by establishing afforestation projects, community forests and conservancies. The current protected area incorporates nine of the 14 vegetation types in Namibia. Since only 9% Woodland, 8% Savannah and 2% Karoo biomes are under protection, there have been initiatives to include communal and freehold community forests, as well as private nature reserves.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Forestry Biodiversity Group was convened in 1998 after discussions with the Directorate of Forestry in the MET from 1996-1998. Its main aims are to feed input on non-timber resources, ecological processes and landscape ecological issues and biodiversity-related evaluation of management strategies into activities of the DoF and related projects. It also gives input to a DoF project on the identification of threatened areas and "strategic forests" for protection and community management. The National Forest Inventory and the Forest Cover Mapping Projects are completed and have documented the forest resources. As a result, the forestry sector is seen as a priority as it has a much lower profile than wildlife. The devolution of rights and responsibilities over natural resources to local communities and institutions led to the establishment of 'community forest reserves'. The Community Forestry and Extension Development Programme (CFED) is promoting tree planting, nurturing and protection of trees on farms and communal grazing land. The Integrated Fire Management Project addresses and prepares for forest fires in Namibia that damage the environment. Community woodlots are also being established in different parts of the country.

**Status:** Law enforcement by MET/DoF is reasonably successful on issuing permits required for controlled woodcutting.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Since independence, raising of public awareness on environment and deforestation at all levels in Namibia has been carried out through the media and by NGO's such as the Rossing Foundation and DRFN. There are two programmes on Capacity-Building within DoF, namely Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Support to Forestry Sector and the Namibia-Finland Program, which aim to build the capacity and develop the skills of the Namibian staff in community forest management and biodiversity conservation.

**Information:** The quantitative assessment of woodland resources facilitates the development of an important database for forestry. National aerial surveys, National Forest Inventory and the Forest Cover Mapping conducted by MET and NGO's provide information regarding deforestation (i.e. the change in vegetation cover over the years).

**Research and Technologies:** National Remote Sensing Centre – remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems technologies contribute to the knowledge base by assisting with vegetation biomass monitoring, veld fire scar mapping and creation of geological maps.

**Financing:** National Budget, GTZ, FINNIDA, Sida, DANCED.

**Cooperation:** United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

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## CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

**Decision-Making:** MET, MAWRD, DRFN and the OPM co-ordinate programmes to combat desertification and drought. The National Forestry Policy emphasises the protection of soil and water resources, the maintenance of biological diversity and maximising the sustainable off-take from forests. The National Drought Policy and Strategy developed by the MAWRD in 1997 aims to ensure that long-term sustainable drought mitigation replaces short-term, inefficient drought relief efforts of the past. The National Drought Policy and Strategy provides a social safety net for farmers in times of drought, while promoting a responsible and sustainable approach to natural resource management. Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification is responsible for formulating strategies, plans and policies on desertification research and other activities. The National Biodiversity Programme established strategies to maintain and preserve fragile ecosystems. The Directorate of Resource Management has a strategy of nature conservation through maintenance of National Parks and conservancies (wildlife conservation) and preservation of fragile ecosystems (wetlands protection).

**Programmes and Projects:** One process is the devolution of rights and responsibilities over natural resources to local people and institutions aiming at combating desertification, such as community forests programme and CBNRM. The afforestation programme on tree planting throughout the country, assisted by the Forestry Extension and Development Programme, addresses the issue of Environmental Protection, deforestation, desertification, food security and unemployment. Community woodlots are being established in different parts of the country. The Early Warning and Food Information System within MAWRD provides information to mitigate drought impacts on human and livestock livelihoods. The Drought Relief Programme co-ordinated through the Office of the Prime Minister and MAWRD supplements agricultural output of communities severely affected by drought.

**Status:** Namibia's status as the driest nation in sub-Saharan Africa prompted it in 1994 to establish a [National Programme to Combat Desertification](#) (NAPCOD). The environmental manifestations of desertification in Namibia via soil erosion, bush encroachment and soil Salinization cause economic loss and escalating poverty for the majority of Namibia's population through declining agricultural production and a loss of food security.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Since independence, raising of public awareness on environmental threats at all levels in Namibia has been carried out through the media and by NGO's such as the Rossing Foundation and DRFN (through NAPCOD). There are two programmes on Capacity-Building within the Directorate of Forestry, namely the Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Support to Forestry Sector and the Namibia-Finland Program, which aim to build the capacity and develop the skills of the Namibian staff in community forest management and biodiversity conservation.

**Information:** NAPCOD have produced a number of research papers and articles on the causes and threats of deforestation. In the case of a drought, predictions from the Meteorological Office are essential for the Early Warning and Food Information System programme to act efficiently and inform the nation so that it will be prepared for low production output.

**Research and Technologies:** National Remote Sensing Centre – remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems technologies have helped the knowledge base by assisting with vegetation biomass monitoring, veld fire scar mapping and creation of geological maps. Agricultural Research Centre – researches and documents information on agriculture and production.

**Financing:** National Budget, GTZ and donor funding.

**Cooperation:** Namibia signed the United Nations Conventions to Combat Desertification in 1994, ratified it on 16 May 1997 and it entered into force on 14 August 1997.

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## CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

**Decision-Making:** Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Although the Environmental Management Act specifies that environmental issues must be properly considered in the development of all future policies, plans, programs and new legislation, the mountain ecosystems are often ignored. While other fragile ecosystems in Namibia are protected, especially wetlands, little has been done regarding the protection or development of mountain ecosystems. However most mountain ranges are protected because they are geographically situated within national parks. The mountains ecosystems are at the heart of tourism in Namibia. There are no specific strategies or policies aiming at development of mountain ecosystems. All mountain ecosystem activities are conducted under the National Biodiversity Programme.

**Programmes and Projects:** The National Biodiversity Programme addresses issues of fragile ecosystems, and mountain environments fall within this programme. The Mountain Ecosystems Group (MEG) on the National Biodiversity Task Force has been established primarily to review information on the mountain ecosystem and conduct research. Decades of research on Namibia's deserts, wetlands and woodlands have identified the mountains of Namibia's variable landscape as the richest habitats for endemic species. Many Namibian mountains harbour some endemics, and some, such as our highest mountain, the Brandberg, are believed to hold mountain-specific endemic plants.

**Status:** The Mountain Ecosystem Group has just been formed and is in the process of reviewing available information. The MEG has ranked a number of Namibia's named and relatively well-known mountains for the state of biological knowledge, seriousness of conservation threats, and the urgency of future studies. Systematic surveys of biotic diversity are then encouraged according to these priorities. The work of the Restoration Ecology Working Group links strongly with this group, as Nama Karoo and Succulent Karoo inselbergs are known to harbour species no longer found on the sometimes-degraded rangelands below. This work has led to the recommendation that the Brandberg and other montane biodiversity hotspots should be given greater protected status.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** There are no Capacity-Building programmes at this stage.

**Research and Technologies:** The Mountain Ecosystem Working Group is reviewing available information on the mountain ecosystem in order to identify gaps for future research.

**Financing:** The activities of the Mountain Ecosystem Working Group are financed through the Biodiversity Programme.

**Cooperation:** Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); Rio 1992 Convention; and [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora](#) (CITES).

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## CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**Decision-Making:** MAWRD and NPC are responsible for the overall planning and running of the agriculture sector as well as rural development. Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Policy falls under numerous ministries and there is insufficient co-ordination. The National Drought Policy and Strategy provides a social safety net to farmers in times of drought, while promoting a responsible and sustainable approach to natural resource management. The principal goal for the agricultural sector is to bring out the continued growth in agricultural income in a sustainable manner. The sector contributes about 9.0% to Gross Domestic Product and 16% of the Country's export. The National Agricultural Policy realises the following objectives:

- Improve levels of household food security nationally, with an ultimate goal of achieving food self-sufficiency;
- Raise the value of agricultural exports and /or reduce the value of agricultural imports;
- Create productive employment opportunities; and
- Increase the value added within the country to national agricultural output.

The Rural Development Directorate has established Regional Centres with strategies and plans to deal with issues related to the development of rural areas and improving the livelihood of people.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Agricultural Extension Programme is an extensive service, which provides appropriate information and advice to the country's farming community. The Agricultural Extension Programme particularly focuses on the needs of small farmers to promote sustainable agriculture. The Veterinary Services seek to promote animal health and production and to ensure the orderly marketing of livestock and livestock products. In the Directorate of Planning within MAWRD, the Early Warning and Food Information System Project is established to collect information and aid in long-term planning. Sustainable Animal and Range Development Programme (SARDEP) and Northern Livestock Development Programme (NOLIDEP) were formed to improve rangeland management and livestock quality in rural areas. The Agricultural Biodiversity Group formed in 1998 is led by the MAWRD and involves NGO's and projects with similar objectives. Its aims include the integration of biodiversity conservation needs into the policy and planning of the Ministry of Agriculture and other agricultural institutions in Namibia, the identification of gaps which may exist in the conservation of agricultural diversity at genetic, species and landscape levels and the promotion of environmentally appropriate and diverse farming practices as a way of linking traditional land management practices to sustainable development.

**Status:** The Drought Relief Programme has been developed and instituted in collaboration with NGOs, particularly FAO, ILO and the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN). The Programme addresses issues of food insecurity and malnutrition. The MAWRD has introduced the Namibia School Feeding Programme (NSFP), which also contributes towards an increase in the number of children in schools in remote areas and in the attendance rate.

**Capacity-Building, Education Training and Awareness Raising:** The Government, together with other development partners, has been upgrading technical skills of MAWRD staff and also increasing the capacity of farmers to adopt improved crop and livestock production and animal health practices. The Government is also funding the development of the Faculties of Agriculture at both Neudamm and Ogongo Agricultural Colleges, which are being upgraded to become campuses of the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources of the University of Namibia. The Polytechnic also offers training in agriculture.

**Information:** Numerous research institutions in Namibia provide rural development and socio-economic information. The Agricultural Research Programme puts emphasis on communal tenure farming areas.

**Research and Technologies:** The National Botanical Research Institute and Regional Research Stations are equipped with laboratories and equipments to conduct Agricultural Research. The National Remote Sensing Centre and Directorate of Survey and Mapping provide spatial data services to the agricultural sector. The Directorate of

Agricultural Research and various research farms of MAWRD generate sufficient information to advise the Ministry.

**Financing:** The National Budget

**Cooperation:** Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

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## CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

**Decision-Making:** MET co-ordinates and implements the National Biodiversity Programme. Namibia's Constitution addresses issues of biodiversity (Article 95) and, (Article 100), claims sovereign ownership of all natural resources. The country has furthermore embarked on a number of biodiversity programmes, which effectively constitute compliance of its obligations under the Convention of Biological Diversity. The Conservation of Biotic Diversity and Habitat Protection Policy was formulated and resulted in the establishment of the National Biodiversity Programme. This programme provides the strategic framework for natural resource management, including trade opportunities and economic incentives. The programme also guides the implementation of Article 95(l) of the Constitution of Namibia and the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as providing detailed, clear, practical activities through which strategic aims can be achieved.

**Programmes and Projects:** Namibia's National Parks and Reserves were not designed for biodiversity conservation. As a result, the country's ecological diversity is not evenly represented within the 14% of the landmass that represents the country's protected areas network. The National Biodiversity Programme covers activities such as park management plans, regional profiles, environmental education, compiling red data books and a national biodiversity country study. The National Biosystematics Working Group was formed in 1999. It was initially chaired by the National Museum of Namibia (NMN) and has now been taken over by the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), with support from the museum.

**Status:** The publication "Biodiversity and Development" provides information on the progress and status of the National Biodiversity Programme. The book provides a basis for identifying national gaps and priorities. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan are almost complete. The National Biosystematics Working Group has prepared a draft national strategy for strengthening national taxonomic capacity in support of biodiversity conservation and planning.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources of UNAM and the Polytechnic School of Natural Resources also offer training in nature conservation. Various NGO's are offering short courses as part of skills development in community based conservation.

**Information:** The publication "Biodiversity and Development" provides information on the progress and status of the National biodiversity programme. Discussion paper publications in the Directorate of Environmental Affairs or website: [www.dea.met.gov.na](http://www.dea.met.gov.na) are accessible to the public.

**Research and Technologies:** National Remote Sensing Centre & Directorate of Survey and Mapping use Geographical Information Systems and remote sensing tools to provide spatial data on the status of ecosystems, rare species, as well as wildlife information. Environmental Impact Assessment tools ensure the maintenance of biological diversity.

**Financing:** National Budget, NORAD.

**Cooperation:** Namibia is a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

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## **CHAPTER 16 AND 34: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING**

**Decision-Making:** MET, MTI, Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Employment Creation (MHETEC) and UNAM are the co-ordinating institutions. The Policy on the use of Biotechnology, as well as Bio-safety, was launched to develop mechanisms to monitor the use, import and the development of biotech-based products. The National Policy Document, titled “Enabling the safe use of Biotechnology”, was approved to guide biotechnology use in Namibia. The Cabinet has adopted the Namibian Policy for Research, Science and Technology. The Policy facilitates and co-ordinates the development of research programmes in Namibia. The Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety guides the activities of the Bio-Safety and Technology office in the MTI. The line Ministries have developed strategies to improve environmentally sound biotechnology and technology initiatives. The ZERI project at UNAM aims to implement such strategies.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Bio-Safety and Technology project looks at the safe use of technology in Namibia. The Directorate of Research Science and Technology within the MHETEC has established the Namibia Biotechnology Alliance (NABA) and has formulated the National Policy on Bio-Safety Guidelines. NABA is concerned with application of environmentally sound biotechnology in the agricultural production sector. The ZERI project housed within UNAM developed new technologies to enhance sustainable production, increase the productivity of raw materials and provide simple innovative approaches for eliminating all categories of wastes. The Science and Technology Division of UNAM promotes environmentally sound technologies through research projects, especially on alternative energy use (solar energy).

**Status:** The Bio-Safety and Technology Project is still in progress. A few multinational companies dominate the production and supply of transgenic crops and application of transgenic techniques in Namibia. The Joint Namibian-Indian venture on plastic manufacturing in Ondangwa and the Leather Factory in Ondangwa employ sound technology and promote sustainable development.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Directorate of Research, Science and Technology holds talk shows on national television and radio, publishes articles in local media and compiles brochures on science and technology development. Capacity-Building is a huge task of the Bio-Safety and Technology project. The project offers training to local air conditioner and refrigerator technicians on the concept called “good practice” on refrigeration and air conditioning. Technicians in the refrigeration industry will be trained as trainers in Germany during the second phase of training local technicians. Local trainers, together with other trainers from the SACU region, will also be trained in South Africa. Customer officers will be trained to identify ozone-depleting substances in 2002.

**Information:** No information available.

**Research and Technologies:** A countrywide study on the use of biotechnology and bio-safety guidelines has been completed by NABA in collaboration with key players in biotechnology. The ZERI Project housed at UNAM is using biotechnologies for waste recycling research projects and the Science and Technology Division of UNAM is exploring the use of solar power technology.

**Financing:** National Budget, UNEP and GTZ.

**Cooperation:** Bio-Safety Information Network and Advisory Service

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## **CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES**

**Decision-Making:** MET, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) and the National Biodiversity Programme are responsible for the co-ordination, decision-making and implementation of preservation of seas and marine resources programmes. The Conservation of Biotic Diversity and Habitat Protection Policy ensures adequate protection of all species and sub-species of ecosystems and of natural life support processes. The following Acts promote sustainable utilisation of marine resources and promotion of biodiversity conservation:

- Marine Traffic Act;
- Merchant Shipping Act;
- Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil Act; and
- Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act.

The establishment of an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) prohibiting fishing by foreign trawlers except under license and the implementation of scientific quotas has helped to promote the integrity of marine resources and enhance the recovery of certain fish stocks after decades of overexploitation. The Nature Conservation Division regulates the use, mainly through tourism, of coastal wetlands and estuaries.

**Programmes and Projects:** The MFMR will integrate biodiversity and ecosystem criteria into existing marine and coastal environmental monitoring activities and serve as a forum for issues of mutual concern. The Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) and Benguela Environment Fisheries Interaction and Training (BENEFIT) projects of Angola, Namibia and South Africa will contribute considerable relevant data and expertise. The Fisheries Information Advisory Services provide general advisory services to the MFMR through the capturing of landed fish on computers for statistical records. The Luderitz Research Information Centre (LIRC) run by the MFMR carries out national duties of researching on environment, rock lobster, seaweed and sea birds. It also provides training to scientists employed by the Ministry.

**Status:** Elimination of illegal fishing and enforcement of the Fisheries Act (1992) and Fisheries Regulations contributed towards sustainable utilisation and development of the country's fisheries resources. Namibianisation of the fishing industry is promoted by encouraging access to the sector by Namibian nationals, especially those previously socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged. Consumption of fish by the local population promoted by making fish available at a more affordable price.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Namibian scientists receive training through the University of Namibia, Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources and National Marine Information Research Centres in Swakopmund and Luderitz.

**Information:** The National Marine Information and Research Centre carries out research in order to provide population and maturity status of fish and other living marine resources for sustainable fishing and exploitation. The National biodiversity programme carries out inventories on monitoring and research regarding fragile environments such as wetlands. Fisheries information advisory services provide general advisory services to the MFMR on the capturing of landed fish on computers for statistical records.

**Research and Technologies:** The National Marine Information and Research Centres in Swakopmund and Luderitz Research Information Centre are equipped with the necessary technology (e.g. vessels, computer software) to carry out research on Marine Ecology and Oceanography.

**Financing:** National Budget and donor agencies

**Cooperation:** Namibia is party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982.

## **CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES**

**Decision-Making:** MAWRD, through the Directorate of Rural Water Supply (DRWS) and a parastatal, the Namibia Water Corporation (NamWater), are responsible for the supply of freshwater and management of water resources in the country. The Water and Sanitation Act; Namibia Water Corporation Act; and Community Based Management of Rural Water Supply Act have been approved by Cabinet. These Acts guide the implementation of programmes and projects on water management, supply and sanitation. The Water and Sanitation Act highlights that essential water supply and sanitation services should be made available to all Namibians. The policy also promotes environmentally sustainable development and utilisation of the water resources. The Directorate of Rural Water Supply is directly involved in the supply and maintenance of potable water in rural areas. The Policy on Inland Fisheries favours the management by ‘subsistence households’ at local level with the government ensuring sustainable use.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Namibia Water Resources Review Programme reviews all the policies and legislation to develop a holistic water regulatory structure and to ensure proper management of water resources. Programmes geared towards maintenance of water provision in Namibia have been established. Community Based Water Committees in all regions of Namibia are responsible for maintenance of potable water points. The following programmes are visions of the NDP II:

- Water Resource Assessment and Monitoring Programme;
- Water Resource Management;
- Institutional Development;
- Legislation Development;
- Capacity-Building; and
- Implementation of CBNRM.

The Permanent Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM) aims to increase the capacity of rural communities along the Kavango River to participate more effectively in decision-making regarding natural resources in the Okavango River Basin management, particularly those decisions relating to water. The Wetlands Working Group was formed in 1997. It prioritises taxa and wetlands for research attention, develops educational materials for schools and the general public, samples threatened habitats, is planning an ecological monitoring programme for rivers and co-ordinates the national freshwater research activities of five major institutional players such as MAWRD, MET, MBESC, MFMR and UNAM.

**Status:** More Communal areas in Namibia have access to potable water sources than ever before. However, water demand is likely to increase with migration to urban areas and newly proclaimed towns. The OKACOM and Orange-Senqui River programmes are being implemented.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Namibian Scientists are being trained locally, regionally and internationally in the fields of hydrology, inland fisheries and natural resource management.

**Research and Technologies:** Hardap Freshwater Institute and NamWater are equipped with laboratories and technologies to conduct research on freshwater resources (fish) and water quality respectively.

**Financing:** National Budget, NamWater, UNDP, IUCN.

**Cooperation:** Regional Cooperation: on the utilisation of shared watercourses such as the Orange, Kavango, Zambezi and Kunene. The countries that reached agreements are Namibia, South Africa, Angola, Lesotho, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

## **CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS**

**Decision-Making:** MET has entered in agreement with the Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal. Pollution Control programme falls under the MAWRD, MME, MRLGH, MET, MOHSS and the MWTC. The Ministries formulate policies and strategies with regard to waste management in Namibia.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Waste Management and Pollution Control Project of the DEA conducted an effective awareness campaign to see how organisations are implementing waste management programmes.

**Status:** The long-term objective of the Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes is to reduce waste generation to a minimum in terms of quantity and level of toxicity. It recognises the right of any state to ban the import of foreign hazardous waste (as Namibia has done) and stresses that waste should be correctly disposed of in its country of origin. The Convention does, however, permit the controlled trans-boundary movement of waste, but under strict conditions and only where such movement does not affect human life or the environment. It recognises that developing countries have limited ability to manage their own waste, and encourages the training of personnel and transfer of technology from more advanced states.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Pollution Control and Waste Management Programme can be seen as the Capacity-Building programme for implementing the coming new legislation.

**Information:** No information could be accessed during the research period.

**Research and Technologies:** No information could be accessed during the research period.

**Financing:** National Budget.

**Cooperation:** Namibia is party to the Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes.

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## CHAPTER 20 TO 22: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS, SOLID AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** About 22 organisations (Government and NGOs) are involved in awareness campaigns, according to their objective on waste management and pollution control. The Government, through the media and primary schools, is promoting the concept of the “3 R principle” (reduce, re-use and recycle) as a waste management awareness campaign.

**Information:** No information could be accessed during the research period.

**Research and Technologies:** No information could be accessed during the research period.

### **Decision-Making:**

*Hazardous waste:* MET and MME are responsible for the overall co-ordination of hazardous, solid and radioactive wastes. Water and Sanitation Act. The Pollution Control Bill will regulate the handling, disposal and control of solid wastes and hazardous wastes. The Pollution Control programme falls under the MAWRD, MOHSS, MET, MME, MRLGH and MWTC. With regard to solid waste management, proclaimed towns have put systematic strategies in place to deal with solid waste disposal on a systematic and cost-recovery basis. There are also additional strategies adopted by private companies with regard to recycling of solid waste (e.g. bottle and rags).

*Solid Waste:* MRLGH, through Municipalities, Village councils and Local Authorities, is responsible for the management of sanitation waste, domestic and industrial waste.

*Radioactive waste:* MOHSS and MME are responsible for the management of radioactive waste. Occupational Health and System Regulation. Safe handling and disposal of medical waste remains a problem in Namibia.

### **Programmes and Projects**

*Hazardous and Solid wastes:* The establishment of improved pollution and waste management data and waste management strategies, the economics of waste, initiation of “NamWaste”, medical waste, awareness/information, the completion of the legislation and the institutional arrangements are key pillars for the short-term activities. The National Sanitation Programme within MOHSS controls management of sanitation wastes, within which the nationwide sanitation facilities provision project is housed. The project has realised that more than 75% of the rural population has no access to healthy sanitation facilities, leading to pollution of water. Therefore the project aims at improving the situation to reduce negative health effects.

The Pollution and Hazardous Waste Programme focuses on five areas:

- Basic waste management;
- Hazardous waste management;
- Water pollution;
- Public awareness/information; and
- General implementation of the coming new legislation/institutional structures.

*Radioactive wastes:* No information could be accessed during the research period.

**Status:** Human population growth, rapid urbanisation and technological development, as well as modern economic activities, are some of the contributing factors to increasing pollution risks and the volumes and variety of waste generated in Namibia. Current legislation pertaining to pollution control and waste management is fragmented and inadequate. Several ministries, with little or no co-ordination between them, administer these laws.

**Financing:** National Budget, NORAD

**Cooperation:** Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Waste.

## CHAPTER 24 TO 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS

**Women: Decision-Making:** The Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare (MWACW) addresses gender inequalities in Namibia and facilitates the communication between women and the Government and identifies priority issues related to the status of women. Article 23 of the Namibian Constitution does not permit any form of discrimination on basis of sex, age and race. The National Gender Policy, Affirmative Employment Act and the Married Persons Equality Act regulate and promote gender equality. For effective control and co-ordination, a Gender Sectoral Committee for the Prevention of Violence against Women and Children was established in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). MWACW promotes gender equality by empowering women through the dissemination of information, co-ordination and networking with stakeholders to ensure that women and men can participate equally in the political, economic, social and cultural development of the nation. The National Gender Policy (1997) has identified the critical areas of concern. These critical areas range from poverty, education, rural development, health, violence, politics, social and economic empowerment, to management of environment and legal affairs. The Development of the National Gender Plan of Action (NGPA) and the National Policy on Disabilities were adopted by Parliament in 1997. The Affirmative Action Plan is aimed at achieving gender balance in decision-making. Several Gender Committees have been established to ensure gender balance in decision-making, economic empowerment, information, education and communication, reproductive health, education and training and the girl-child initiative. Gender Focal Points have been established in all line ministries, some private institutions and parastatals. **Programmes and Projects:** There are programmes and projects addressing women in prisons, women with disabilities and women issues in general. The Agricultural Extension Programme is targeting women at community level. Other programmes targeting women are:

- The Community Based Rehabilitation Programme adopted by the MLRR;
- The improvement of health facilities, agriculture and water supply in rural areas; and
- The housing programme under the MRLGH.

The MLRR has committed itself to providing increased access and equal opportunities for people of disability in order to improve their quality of life and that of their family members and the whole community. The MWACW has improved craft and recreational centres nationwide to supplement the income generation of local communities. **Status:** The Database on women in the country who are trained in various fields, is being established to register study areas and levels of qualifications. **Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness:** The Gender Training Programme: The Gender Training and Research Programme (GTRP) under the auspice of the MRCC/UNAM aims at addressing the need for institutionalised gender training and research. The GTRP lays the foundation for gender studies at UNAM, promoting gender awareness among Namibia's future leaders. Students at UNAM are enabled to gain in-depth understanding and experience in gender research through internships and fieldwork activities. **Gender and Economic Empowerment:** A lot has been done for economic empowerment of rural communities and in particular women and people with disabilities. The MLRR has adopted a Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) strategy to address the imbalances between urban and rural resettlements. The CBR was introduced in 1996 and about 600 people have benefited via its training programs on Capacity-Building of staff in various Government and NGO sectors. The Directorate of Adult Basic Education of the Ministry of Basic Education, Sport and Culture (MBESC), under its women empowerment initiative, has enabled more than 100 entrepreneurs to obtain loans from the First National Bank to start small-scale businesses. **Information:** Agricultural programmes and interventions are targeting women at community level. The main purpose of the programmes is the development and intensification of extension services in agriculture. These extension and advisory services are directed at female-headed households. The services are provided in the form of information/communication and advisory services aimed at changing perceptions and attitudes. **Research and Technology:** The Gender Programme at UNAM has conducted courses for policy makers and workshops for training of trainers in gender and food security. Seminars on gender awareness, courses on writing for academic publication, gender research methodology, and on introduction to gender and development, as well as a SADC Regional Workshop on 'Intra Household' Relations have been conducted by GTRP/UNAM in conjunction with the Institute of Social Studies, in the Netherlands. **Financing:** National Budget, UN and The Netherlands. **Cooperation:** Namibia is party to the following Agreements and Conventions: SADC Declaration on Gender and

Development; UN Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women; Beijing Platform of Action; SADC Declaration for at least 30% of female representation in politics and decision-making by the year 2005 and The Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE).

**Children and Youth:** Decision-Making: MWACW and MBESC co-ordinate children and youth welfare programmes and activities. The Child Care and Protection Bill is being revised by the MWACW, while the Children Status Bill is under review. The National Policy on Education Options for the Educationally Marginalised Children in Namibia (especially Kunene Region) was established. Programmes and Projects: The Early Childhood Development (ECD) training activities were conducted from 1996 to 1998. The Namibia School Feeding Programme (NSFP) has been introduced in some regions, especially those stricken by drought. In addition to the National Institute for Special Education (NISE) in Windhoek, two new Special Education Schools to meet the needs of learners with varying degrees of hearing, vision, physical, emotional and mental disabilities were commissioned in 1998. The Affirmative Action Plan is specifically directed toward the Girl-Child Initiative. Rehabilitation of child criminals is done within the Ministry of Prisons and Correctional Services through separating juvenile prisoners from adults. Status: The Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Programme in Otsandi area, Omusati Region is now in operation in 11 identified schools. The Supporting Education via School Community Involvement and Training (SESCIT) Project has started in three circuits in the Ondangwa West Educational Region. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness: Regional School Councillors (RSCs) received training on child protection through the Child Abuse Awareness Package, a preventive programme for child abuse. Several refresher courses for the Regional Education Curriculum Development (EDC) trainers were organised and UNICEF was the Principal sponsor at both regional and national levels. Information: Multi-media campaigns to curb violence against women and children were conducted through radio and television, as well as print media. Research and Technologies: The MoL conducts a Child Activities Survey to assess the status of children in the labour market. The Ministry of Justice and the Legal Assistance Centre collects information on juvenile justice in the country. Financing: National Budget. Cooperation: Sida, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and ISS/Netherlands.

**Indigenous People:** Decision-Making: MRLGH, Traditional and Local Authorities address issues pertaining to indigenous people. The main indigenous groups in Namibia are the Ovawambo, Herero, Nama/Damara, Kavango and Caprivians. Other minor groups are the Botswana, the San People, the Himbas, and the Topnaar, the Basters, and the Coloureds. The Local Authority Act, Traditional Authority Act and the Communal Land Bill emphasise the role of traditional leaders in planning and decision-making at regional and local levels. The Government reinforces the strategy of involving indigenous people in public forums and decision-making. The Local and Traditional Authorities represent indigenous people at national and regional level respectively. At local level the traditional system of chiefs, senior headmen/women and headmen/women preserve the culture of indigenous people and maintain the traditional legal framework. The Land Resettlement Program of the Government of the Republic of Namibia under the Ministry of Land Resettlement and Rehabilitation made the San people a Priority group. Programmes and Projects: Minorities in Post-Independence Namibia Project to study and analyze the situation of minorities in post independent Namibia. Primary School Project and a Borehole Project established by the National Society for Human Rights in Namibia, in Kaokoland for the Orotjitombo community. The San people, is another indigenous group in Namibia living North-East of Namibia, poor, limited access to land, low level of educational attainment and dependency on welfare resources, charity and piece-meal labor. LEAD Project to address the needs of the rural poor by cooperating with NGOs. The Kxoe communities are participating in community-based tourism in both the West Caprivi and the Tsumkwe area. The Himba Year Project focuses on community development, such as building a community centre that could be used for community activities and as an information centre. The Topnaar Training and Employment Programme of the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia. Status: Human Resource Centres Establishment for community consultative meetings and information gatherings. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: Health services have been extended to Kunene Region, the traditional and cultural base of Himba people. Telecommunications networks are extended to that area. New schools are built in Himba and San community areas and the Ministry of Basic Education and Culture had identified Himba children as a priority group. HIV/ AIDS awareness campaigns have been the focus of the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the NGOs. Economic development for a mixed subsistence program, Education

and Training Program for self- Sufficiency. Information: Workshops, Translation of information into indigenous languages. Research and Technologies: Nara Plant Research- !Nara is an edible wild plant the Topnaar people harvest as their food staple. The Lead Project of the Legal Assistance Centre launched in 1997 aims to address the needs of the rural poor by cooperating with the NGOs. It is a research, lobbying and law reform and legal training on LEAD issues for smaller farmers, small scale enterprises and NGO; The provision of legal materials to support training and workshops; the extension of advice, mediation and litigation services on LEAD issues to rural communities; and networking with like-minded organizations. Financing: National Budget, French Cooperation, Norway and Sweden. Cooperation: Minority Rights Group- London, Embassy of Netherlands, UN Working Group on Minorities, the African Commission on Human Rights and the UN Sub-commission on Human Rights. Legal Assistance Centre and the National Society for Human Rights in Namibia. The Kxoe Community in the West Caprivi. Community Tourism Project. The Nyae-Nyae Community tourism project, Eastern Bushmanland, Salambala, Muyuni an Kwandu Communities in the Caprivi; and the Bergsig, De riet, Sesfontein and Epupa Communities in Kunene.

**Non-Governmental Organizations**: Decision-making: Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum (NANGOF) is an umbrella body of all NGOs in Namibia. It regulates activities and programmes carried out by the various NGOs in the country. NANGOF clears the status of organisations wishing to become authorised NGOs. The MFA and NPC also co-ordinate some of NANGOF activities. NGOs seek to finance some initiatives from the national strategies, policies and plan and hence promote sustainable development. Programmes and Projects: The Non-Governmental Organisations in Namibia are involved in various programmes that enhance sustainable development. Community Based Programmes are being implemented by international and national NGOs in collaboration with the Government. Capacity-Building and Training on Internet Technology and other skills is being offered by NGOs e.g. SchoolNet Namibia. Leadership skills and business management programme, the HIV/AIDS awareness programme, Environmental Education (EE) and Agricultural development are among the programmes in which NGOs have been involved. Namibia National Farmers Union (NNFU) has a unit for co-ordinating networking with local NGOs. NANGOF has an Institutional Capacity-Building Programme to ensure that the interest and participation of member organisations is reactivated. The Membership Capacity-Building Programme provides organisational development support and puts the NGO Human Resource Development strategy into operation. There is an Information and Networking Programme for facilitating cross-sectoral networking among members and Associate NGOs. The Policy Advocacy and Research Programme is aimed at increasing the substantive contribution of the NGO sector to the legislative process and policy formulation. This involves the development of the applied research capacity of NGO programme staff, identification of key issues and making representations to the relevant government bodies. The Natural Resource Management Program aims at enabling more disadvantaged Namibians to benefit from a just and sustainable management of the country's natural resources. The Enabling Environment Project involves the creation and sustenance of an enabling environment for the Namibian NGO sector. It concentrates on the legal, policy and fiscal issues. Other involvement is in Research Capacity-Building, Parliament Monitoring Project, Advocacy Skills Training programme, Effective Influence of public policy Formulation, Human Rights Network Project and an International advocacy on the Lome convention, CITES Initiative. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising: Capacity-Building and training through schemes of scholarship programmes funded by NGOs has produced highly qualified Namibians. NGOs also seek funds to fund awareness raising and campaigns. NANGOF is committed to develop its institutional capacity and has provided training to its staff in the following fields: Executive Management Training, Personnel Management, Office Administration and Development Studies. These study programmes have been complemented by focus study tours, internal workshops and on the job training. Research and Capacity-Building was conducted to support the policy formulation and advocacy functions of NANGOF and the sector in general. NANGOF provided training in the following areas to its member organisations: Participatory Rural Appraisal, NGO Governance and Board Training, Consultancy techniques and skills, financial management and control level, Project management and information Technology Programmes. Information: Information is shared through Conferences and Workshops. There is also the Information and Networking Programme designed to facilitate cross-sectoral and sectoral Networking among member and associate NGOs, discussion forums on topical issues affecting the NGO sector in Namibia and active participation in SADC regional and International networking activities. This program also deals with the media, publications and use of information technology, as well as the overall public relations

function of NANGOF. Annual Reports are published, a website maintained and a regional outreach program held to inform regional NGOs and CBOs on the current and ongoing programs of NANGOF. A database is also in place. NANGOF is involved in applied research that focuses on legislation and policy related issues. Most of the research activities, especially those that focus on the environment, are carried out by member NGOs, such as the DRFN, Namibia Nature Foundation and many more. NANGOF per se is not involved in extensive research. NANGOF contributed to all the Acts and policies adopted by the Government of the Republic of Namibia. Financing: African Development Fund, HIVOS, IBIS, National Democratic Institute, USAID, The Ford Foundation and World Education and the READ Project. Cooperation: Southern African Human Rights NGO Network; Office of the Ombudsman Namibia; Zambia Consultancy Associates; Management Development Foundation; Lafrica and bricks; Community Development Centre (South Africa); USAID; IBIS; Ford Foundation; Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa; British Council; and The Government of Namibia

**Local Authorities:** Decision-making: MRLGH, The Association of Local Authorities of Namibia (ALAN), The Association of Regional Councils (ARC) and Traditional Authority Council are the formal bodies responsible for decision-making regarding municipal, village and town councils. The Local Authority Act, The Traditional Authority Act and the National Housing Policy. There are various policies involved in Local Authority issues, such as the Local Economic Development Policy Framework and the Industrial Relations Policy. ALAN conducts strategic planning sessions with town councils and municipalities countrywide. Programmes and Projects: ALAN is implementing the following programmes and projects:

- Proclamation of settlement areas in the regions through the Regional Councils;
- Regional Councils Surveying Project on settlement areas that have been identified and planned during 2001;
- Co-ordination and support to municipalities that are embarking upon the Local Agenda 21 (LA 21) process;
- Regional Councils Surveying and Small Projects to construct sewerage reticulation systems in Oshikoto, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions;
- Regional Councils Sewerage Upgrading to construct sewer systems in all 13 regions of Namibia;
- Towns and village servicing with the aim to provide electricity, water and sewerage to the needy towns and villages in the Hardap, Kunene, Okavango, Omusati and Ohangwena regions; and
- Towns and village water supply upgrading to supply water (reticulation and upgrading) to needy towns and villages.

Status: The Government of the Republic of Namibia, through MRLGH, is committed to the promotion of the Istanbul Declaration and the Habitat Agenda of the UN Centre for Human Settlements. All the Local Authorities in Namibia are members of ALAN. ALAN commits itself to be responsive to the needs of its members and render quality services that are grounded in the democratic principles as enshrined in the constitution of the Republic of Namibia. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising: ALAN presents a number of awareness campaigns through staging the role of ALAN at the University of Namibia. This was done as part of Awareness Raising on Local Government and its role. There is also the Association on Capacity-Building Programme (ACP) of the International Union of Local Authorities. ACP offers training workshops on finance, affirmative action and VAT. Other training courses being offered to ALAN members are local economic development, solid waste management, strategic planning, legal and financial advice and raising the profile of ALAN. Information: ALAN has a Website: [www.alan.org.na](http://www.alan.org.na), ALAN Talks Newsletter and Annual Reports. Research and Technologies: No information could be accessed during the research period. Financing: National Budget and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, a German Foundation for International Development, which funds most activities of ALAN. Cooperation: ALAN is a member of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum; African Union of Local Authorities; European Parliamentarians for Africa; The Commonwealth Local Government Forum; Ford Foundation; The Federation of Canadian Municipalities; The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements; Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies; International Union of Local Authorities; Swedish Association of Local Authorities; UNDP and the Urban Trust of Namibia.

**Workers and Trade Unions:** Decision-Making: Is done at three levels: national, regional and local. At national level, the co-ordinating bodies are the Ministry of Labour (MoL), National Congress and National Executive

Committee of the NUNW. At regional level, the Regional Committee of workers and trade unions co-ordinates activities in particular regions. At local level, the Branch Committee in particular towns and Stewards Committee at different work places co-ordinate decisions. The Labour Act of 1992 lays down rules for companies and unions and regulates industrial relations between employers, employees and trade unions. It also regulates the prevention and settlement of labour disputes. All major industrial workers are represented by a labour union. All unions are required to be registered with the Labour Commissioner in the MoL and to submit their constitutions and union structures. The Labour Commissioner inspects for accountability through elections and the structure of the union in order to authorise the Union. The Vocational Training Act also regulates plans and strategies regarding vocational training in Namibia. Key policy decisions are taken at (NUNW) National Congress and Central Executive meetings. The National Congress is held every 3 years, but may also meet between congresses every 6 to 12 months. Workers send delegates and elect leadership at the National Congress. The Delegation decides on policies, resolutions and elects a National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee is responsible for the running of the Union and supervision of the Secretariat (elected full-time staff members). Unions debate strategies, policies and plans on behalf of the workers through all levels of decision-making. On Child Labour Relations, the Labour Act lays down the following rules:

- No child under the age of 14 years may be employed for any purpose;
- No child under the age of 15 years may be employed in any industrial undertaking or mine; and
- No child under the age of 16 years may be employed underground in any mine.

There is no overall minimum wage for workers in Namibia. Wages for specific industries and regions can be set through tripartite agreements between government, employers and trade unions. However, the construction industry is the only industry that has set an overall minimum wage for employees. Programmes and Projects: There are ongoing educational programmes offered by LARRI (Labour Resource and Research Institute) on range issues. Short workshops are offered to stewards, organisers, regional and national leaders covering: Labour Act, Social Security, Corrective bargains, Health and safety, Organising and recruitment basis, Trade Unionism, Economics, Globalisation, Affirmative action and Gender training. A Labour Diploma Course (lasting 8 months) will be offered by LARRI from 2002 to leaders of trade and workers unions. The course will be given by lectures from UNAM, Legal Assistance Centre and other organisations. The Employment Equity Commissioner ensures that all companies that employ at least 50 or more people implement Affirmative Action Policy, that companies draw up affirmative action plans and also that they consult their workers. The Labour Commissioner oversees labour relations in the country, advises unions and companies and must be notified if the companies wish to retrench staff to ensure that it is unavoidable. Status: Many people completing the Education Programmes have received employment offers from government and private sectors. The programme is now moving from basic training to a university-accredited diploma. The NUNW developed their research capacity with the establishment of the Labour Resource and Research Institute (LARRI) in 1998. Trade unions have improved working conditions, including salaries, benefits and health and safety, especially in the mining, fishing, industrial and public sector. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising: The National Vocational Training Policy was developed to promote training, including the establishment of skills development plans and policies as an integral part of the system of national manpower planning. The National Technical Education and Vocational Training System was developed. Labour Courts and Labour Arbitration and the National Labour Code were developed to regulate labour relations in the country. Short workshops are offered to stewards, organisers, regional and national leaders covering: Labour Act, Social Security, Corrective bargains, Health and safety, Organising and recruitment basis, Trade unionism, Economics, Globalisation, Affirmative action and Gender training. A Labour Diploma Course (lasting 8 months) will be offered by LARRI from 2002 for leaders of trade and workers unions. The course will be given by lecturers from UNAM, Legal Assistance Centre and other organisations. Information: Publications and research reports are available at MoL Resource Centre and LARRI. LARRI researches what is happening in the unions and the challenges facing them. It looks at policy issues and has done a study on EPZ, labour hire companies, privatisation and globalisation. It is currently doing a study on the Namibian Labour Market, using the MoL Labour force survey as a basis for their study. Research and Technology: MoL conducts labour surveys on the conditions of workers and the Namibian Child Activities Survey. The NUNW has a research institute LARRI, which conducts research on all issues affecting workers. Financing: Unions fund their own core activities through membership fees. The Unions get outside support for education programmes from international Unions (Japan, Finland and Netherlands), from the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of Germany and the ILO. National Budget funds

government orientated activities. Cooperation: NUNW is a member of SATUCC (Southern Africa Trade Union Co-ordination Council), the Organisation of Africa Trade Union Unity (OATUU) and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Also party to the following conventions: Freedom of Association and the Rights to Organise Convention, of 1948; ILO Convention 1998: Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, of 1949 ratified in January 1995; ILO Convention 144: Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standard) of 1976, ratified on January 1995; ILO Convention 150: Labour Administration of 1978, ratified on 28 June 1996; and ILO Convention 158: Termination of Employment, of 1982 ratified on 28 June 1996.

**Business and Industries:** Decision-Making: The MTI spearheads economic development in the country. This is done in consultation with the private sector represented by the Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI). Namibia's Trade Policy. The Trade Policy Division regulates bilateral and multilateral trade relations. The Trade Policy, Industrial Development Policy, and the Small and Medium Enterprises Policy were introduced. This was done in recognition of the socio-economic role of the sector and its potential contribution to the country's economic development. The development of the small business sector is seen as being of national importance. Small business is to be designated a priority sector for the government, in terms of policy formulation, direct support from its own resources and in the mobilisation of resources from the donor community. The National Development Plan and a National Policy and Programme on Small Business Development were launched in September 1997. The SME policy and Development Programme are designed to intervene in this sector, with the objective to increase the rate of growth of existing small businesses so that they can employ more labour, to increase the rate of new business formation and to diversify the activities of the sector's business. The NCCI holds Annual General Meetings with all the branch associations representing various industries in all commercial towns in Namibia. There is also a National Business Council that reviews the decisions of the AGMs. The NCCI has a constitution that guides its conduct. Small companies group themselves for voting weight against big businesses, a provision in the constitution to make it easier for their voice and concerns to be heard. There is also a Joint Consultative Committee, SME Committee among others. Programmes and Projects: The Industrial Development Programme was launched to facilitate industrial development in Namibia, in particular by participating in the development of formal sector industrial parks. The Small-Scale and Informal Sector Industry Promotion is in place to facilitate the development of the small-scale and informal sector in Namibia. The Trade Promotion Programme was developed to foster export-led growth and the development of non-traditional exports from Namibia. The Investment Promotion Programme supports an urgent expansion of the Investment Centre, and builds capacity and systems for investment promotion and facilitation. The Namibia Development Corporation provides support to a number of ongoing projects in the agricultural sector that received development budget funds in earlier years. This support is aimed at developing new income-generating projects. The Private Sector Feasibility Study Programme aims to provide funds for the private sector, both small and larger enterprises, so as to undertake feasibility studies in strategic sectors of the economy. The Sites and Premises Development Programme addresses the problem of lack of appropriate sites and premises at the disposal of entrepreneurs. The NCCI is an umbrella organisation that represents the largest section of the business community in Namibia. It is divided into departments, namely the Economic Department, responsible for policy analysis and for providing policy related advice to business people, the Trade Promotion Department, responsible for advising and educating the business community on foreign markets, as well as organising business trips to foreign countries. The HIV/AIDS Project educates the public and in particular encourages the business community to adopt a HIV/AIDS policy and to raise awareness among their staff members. The Affirmative Action Project aims to sensitise business people on the affirmative action policy to make sure they implement it to ensure equal opportunities to both men and women. The program holds HIV workshops and seminars to educate people. The program also made a toll free line available to the business community. The GTN Project put the NCCI in a complementary position to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The GTN project is an exchange programme between the Namibian and the American business community. It identifies American importers, provides sectoral analysis, selects expert companies and helps pay for Namibian business missions to the United States. Status: The SME Sourcing Programme helps the manufacturing establishments in Namibia to gain access to competitive sources of raw materials that will enable them to become more cost competitive. The SME Legal Framework consultancy assists entrepreneurs with project design and development of bankable business plans and assesses the viability of the project ideas. All the projects are ongoing and successful, though there are difficulties in terms of sustaining themselves. Capacity-Building Education,

**Training and Awareness Raising:** The NCCI introduced a program to promote intra-business trade. It identifies companies that import goods for trade or raw materials that can be sourced locally. The NCCI identifies the needs of companies, especially the skills that they have and what they lack and trains them. It also provides trade analyses and advice on routes of trade and rules of origins. The NCCI has identified that while there are a lot of consultations on SMEs in Namibia, their needs are still not met. Therefore they hold workshops and short training courses to train SMEs on their needs. The Nation-wide Common Facility Centres provide access for SMEs to high technology and expensive machinery at affordable prices, provide training opportunities for SMEs and enable them to upgrade their technical skills. **Information:** The MTI maintains a database on global suppliers of appropriate technology to help SMES to improve their knowledge on the sourcing and adaptation of technology and thus to be able to initiate different production lines. The NCCI has a website, each NCCI department has a Newsflash, a Business Journal, a data base and also use both the electronic and print media to present its information to the public and to the business community in particular. **Research and Technology:** To enable SME access to expensive, but essential machinery, the MTI is involved in the construction of Technology Demonstration Centres and Common Facility Centres at various SME Modules and Industrial Parks. The NCCI is not involved in extensive research apart from applied research that it conducts, based on the needs of its members. The NCCI facilitates feasibility studies by serving as a referrer to provide information on the specialists available in the country, who can carry out feasibility studies for local and foreign investors. **Financing:** National Budget. The NCCI is member funded (through membership fees) and most of its projects are donor funded. The NCCI project financiers are the USAID and the Ford Foundation. **Cooperation:** The NCCI has Cooperation:s with the MTI, MFAIB, Ministry of Finance and the business chambers of all the countries that do trade with Namibia. There are also Cooperation: agreements with the UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFA, UNDP, UNESCO, WHO, and the World Bank. Cross Border Initiative (CBI), CMA, SADC, COMESA, SACU.

**Scientific and Technological Community: Decision-Making:** The co-ordinating bodies are the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Employment Creation (MHETEC) and the Namibia Scientific Society. The National Technology Policy was introduced to focus on human resource development innovation and technology development. In addition, a Science and Technology Act was passed by parliament to regulate the operation of all science institutions and firms in Namibia. These national institutional arrangements are to ensure communication and information sharing. The Policy on the use of Biotechnology as well as Bio-safety was launched to develop mechanisms to monitor the use, import and the development of biotech-based products. The Research policy facilitates and co-ordinates the development of research programmes in Namibia. MHETEC has the following plans in the pipeline to set up science clubs and associations for the promotion of Science and Technology in Namibia: The Development Centre for Innovation framework policies and legal framework and institutional arrangement for the implementation of the policy directives and linkages. **Programmes and Projects:** The Young Scientists Programme, funded by various scientific societies, enables schools to design scientific projects to compete at national level. The DRFN offers research training to UNAM and Polytechnic students annually through the Summer Desertification Programme (SDP). **Status:** Over the years the SDP programme has contributed to the Capacity-Building of natural science students and many are employed in the public and private sectors. **Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The Directorate of Research, Science and Technology holds talk shows on radio and television, has published articles in local media and compiled a brochure on science and technology development. It is the policy of the Namibian government to promote the study of science and mathematics subjects in schools. For consultations, a Commission for Science and Technology is envisaged. **Information:** Much of the relevant knowledge that exists in Namibia is not widely shared, easily accessible, nor well managed (Krugmann 2001 a). In addition, rapid modernisation threatens the survival of valuable indigenous knowledge - knowledge that is seldom recognised as providing any contribution to development. In the absence of intellectual property protection (through legislation and international agreements), valuable indigenous knowledge and local communities remain vulnerable to exploitation. **Research and Technologies:** Various organisations are committed to researching, monitoring and promoting the conservation of certain endangered species, for example, the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), AFRICAT and the Save the Rhino Trust (SRT). There are several research institutions within ministries, tertiary institutions, as well as private research institutions and consultants. The institutions provide scientific information and technical advice to the government and contribute towards public knowledge through research and consultancy. Amongst research institutions and other scientific organisations are:

DRFN, NNF, NACOBTA, NACSO, UNAM, Polytechnic of Namibia, National Marine Information and Research Centre, NRSC, Directorate of Survey and Mapping, Agricultural Research Centres throughout the country and the Namibia Scientific Society. A countrywide study on the use of biotechnology and bio-safety guidelines was completed by NABA in collaboration with key players in biotechnology. The Namibia Scientific Society offers lectures/slideshows for members on issues such as birds, geology, HIV/AIDS, volcanoes and mountains, evolution, astronomy, botany, etc. SchoolNet Namibia aims to, inter alia, monitor and evaluate the impact of Internet Communication Technology (ICT) on education and create awareness and understanding of the potential of ICTs in education. Numerous projects relating to Namibia's natural resources and natural environment are being conducted, including: The quantitative assessment of woodland resources, biodiversity inventories and strategies, desertification and climate change monitoring, national aerial surveys and complementary ground game counts, livelihoods monitoring, livestock and crop production monitoring, population census (most recently in 2001), water monitoring, drought and vulnerability monitoring, etc. Research tools and technology employed by several scientific organisations are, amongst others: remote sensing techniques, Geographic Information Systems techniques, mapping instruments, statistical packages, EIA, soil analysis techniques, water and hydrology techniques, etc. Financing: The national budget and EU funds a major programme for science and technology in Namibia. Cooperation: The GTZ is an individual partner agency in scientific Cooperation: with Namibia. UNESCO, the Norwegian Institute of Technology, the British Government and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Australian Government, the United States of America via USAID and many more governments and international development Agencies fund research related studies in Namibia and by Namibians.

**Farmers:** Decision-Making: Namibia National Farmers Union (NNFU), Namibia Agricultural Union (NAU), MAWRD, Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN), NUNW and NANGOF are co-ordinating bodies within the farming sector. Farmers associations are regulated by the Land Reform Legislation, Regulation on Communal Land Administration and the Commercial Agricultural Land Act. The Communal Land Bill on land management made provision for the establishment of Communal Land Boards. Land Reform Policy was introduced following the National Land Conference of 1991. The Namibia National Farmers Union and the Namibia Agricultural Union made contributions and recommendations to the development of the above legislation. Programmes and Projects: The Gundjeleni Butchery project; Panduleni butchery project; Seed and Fodder Distribution Project for Omusati Farmers' Co-operative; Market store at Afoti in North Central Namibia; Auction kraal and three projects on the purchase of Boer goats and Northern regions livestock development. Status: No information could be accessed during the research period. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising: The Co-ordinating Unit for Capacity-Building holds training sessions. Each Agricultural Union provides training to its members. Training is offered to farmers on livestock marketing and on enhancing advocacy skills. NNFU from time to time runs pilot projects as experiments with the intention to hand them over to a Regional Farmers' Union or Local Farmers' Association. The project aims at enhancing the involvement of communal farmers in the economic life of the country through the development of market-oriented activities. Information: The two Agricultural Unions produce Annual Reports. Manuals are also produced for training and disseminating information to farmers. Research and Technologies: MAWRD has a Directorate of Research and Training, which generates new information and knowledge on farming systems. The Directorate has Centres countrywide, which provide services to the farming communities. Directorate of Veterinary Services monitors and advises the farming communities on treatment and prevention of livestock diseases. Crop and Pest control programme advice the farming community on crop diseases control. Financing: The National Budget and the French Cooperation: are funding most of the small-scale farmers in Namibia. AGRIBANK and the National Agricultural Credit Program (NACP) provide credit services to both commercial and communal farmers. Cooperation: NNFU has a unit to Co-ordinate Networking for Advocacy at Global Trans-national Level. This was developed to observe the international trade policies that influence in-country policies involved in SACU and SSF-NETWORK. NNFU interacts with its partners such as the Zimbabwe Farmers Union (ZFU), Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU), NAFU South Africa, AGRI-SA and Namibia Agricultural Union. Co-operative Union (Lesotho), ZNFU (Zambia), UNACA (Angola), BAU (Botswana), USFAM and NASFAM (Malawi) and UNC (Mozambique).

## CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

**Decision-Making:** Namibia has a well-established banking system, which is controlled by legislation and by state agencies working through the Bank of Namibia (BON). The new Banking Institutions Act was passed in 1998. It provides the legal framework for banking operations in Namibia and is designed to ensure international acceptability. To widen the range of financial services in Namibia, an Offshore Banking Act, as well as Legislation governing the conduct of other offshore financial services, is being prepared. Commercial Banks in Namibia operate through a nation-wide network of branches and offer a comprehensive range of banking services, including current account and overdraft facilities, term deposits, discounting of bills, foreign exchange and a variety of loan products. General banking facilities, such as hire purchase and leasing packages, are also available and most of the commercial banks are capable of providing specialised merchant banking facilities. Branches of banks are found in most towns in Namibia, with agencies in smaller centres. International services are available through inter-bank arrangements, while electronic banking and teller services are available in all major centres.

**Programmes and Projects:** Foreign Exchange Control: Namibia together with the other countries of the Common Monetary Area has undertaken to gradually liberalise exchange controls within the region Export Processing Zone (EPZ) enterprises: EPZ enterprises operate outside the normal foreign exchange regime in Namibia. To address their foreign exchange and operational requirements two types of banking accounts have been tailor-made to the needs of enterprises operating in the Namibia EPZ.

- EPZ customer Foreign Currency Account facilitates the foreign currency disbursements of EPZ Enterprises. This account is kept in foreign currency in a local bank; and
- EPZ Non-resident Account is a Namibia dollar account funded with foreign currency and used for normal operational requirements. Expenditure of the EPZ Enterprises Balance on this account is freely available.

Namibian Stock Exchange (NSX) is Africa's second largest exchange in terms of market capitalisation. It is technically among the continent's most advanced exchanges and shares a trading platform with the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSX).

**Status:** No information could be sourced during the research period.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** BON has internal programmes on Capacity-Building, whereby staff have been trained locally and internationally.

**Information:** BON documents and keeps record of data concerning financial markets in Namibia.

**Research and Technologies:** The Economic Research Programme of UNAM, in collaboration with BON, conducts research on markets, finances and monetary economy of Namibia.

**Cooperation:** Namibia has international Cooperation: with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank.

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## CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Decision-Making:** The co-ordinating bodies are the MHETEC and MME. The National Research and Technology Policy was introduced to focus on human resource development innovation and technology development. In addition, a Science and Technology Act was passed by Parliament to regulate the operation of all science institutions and firms in Namibia. MHETEC is planning to set up science clubs and associations for the promotion of science and technology in Namibia, a Development Centre for Innovation framework policies and legal framework and to set up an institutional arrangement for the implementation of the policy directives and linkages. Namibia is benefiting from international linkages through the Agenda 21 initiative in terms of technology transfer from developed to developing countries.

**Programmes and Projects:** Programmes on the use of biotechnology and other technologies promote sustainable development. The tertiary institutions of Namibia are strengthening their Science Faculties and incorporating issues of sustainable development in their curriculum.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The DAAD is offering scholarships to Namibians to further their studies in technical and science related fields of study. Namibian public and private delegations attend workshops and conferences on science and sustainable development to share knowledge and experiences from other countries.

**Information:** Several research institutions within ministries, tertiary institutions, as well as private research institutions manage the information. Among research institutions and other scientific organisations are: DRFN, NNF, NACOBTA, NACSO, UNAM, Polytechnic of Namibia, National Marine Information and Research Centre, NRSC, Directorate of Survey and Mapping, Agricultural Research Centres throughout the country and the Namibia Scientific Society.

**Research and Technologies:** The Natural Resource Accounting (NRA) Programme assesses the economic value of the country's natural resource capital. Information gleaned from this programme is used to help guide policies and improve the management of Namibia's natural resources. Research tools and technology employed by several scientific organisations are, amongst others: remote sensing techniques, Geographic Information System techniques, mapping instruments, statistical packages, EIA, soil analysis techniques, water and hydrology techniques, etc.

**Financing:** National Budget, UNESCO, USAID, DAAD and other donor agencies

**Cooperation:** UNESCO, UNDP, USAID

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## CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING

**Decision-Making:** The co-ordinating bodies are the MHETEC and the MBESC. The National Education Act, the Vocational Training Amendment Act and Higher Education Policy titled ‘Investing in People’ are responsible for the establishment of training and educational awareness campaign projects. The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia states in Article 20 (1) that all persons shall have the right to education. The Government Policy on Education strives to provide primary education, secondary education, tertiary education, adult literacy skills and self-development skills.

**Programmes and Projects:** The National Literacy Programme aims to educate the previously educationally disadvantaged adults in Namibia. The Adult Skills Development for Self-Development Programme identifies small business entrepreneurs and provides support training in basic management skills. MASTEP (Mathematics and Science Teachers Education Programme) programme improves the capacity of school mathematics and science teachers. The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) was established as a separate entity in terms of its own Act in 1998. NAMCOL aims to address the development of adult learning in Namibia. The Vocational Training Centres complement or offer on the job training, which is also offered by private companies. UNAM, the Polytechnic of Namibia, Teacher Education and Agricultural Colleges promote education and produce qualified teachers, scientists, technicians, legal practitioners, economists, social workers and medical officers.

**Status:** The University of Namibia, established through an Act of Parliament, has seven faculties and several special centres. The University has established small campuses in other regions of Namibia in order to improve access for students in remote areas. The Northern Campus caters for the educational needs of students in the far northern regions of Namibia. The NAMCOL enrolment has continued to increase since its inception.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Capacity-Building for teacher’s training is done through NIED and teachers are trained at Teachers Education Colleges. Training is offered to university students on teaching methods in order to improve the quality of education in Namibia. An educational awareness campaign is being conducted through the media (radio, television and newspapers) with the logo “Education is the Key”.

**Information:** There are National Libraries in the country managed by the MBESC that manage information on all sectors including education.

**Research and Technologies:** The Presidential Commission on Education, Culture and Training Report (1999) looked into the education system of the country. Information could not be accessed during the research period. The Namibian Education Research Association was established to co-ordinate and develop educational research in Namibia.

**Financing:** All Ministries submit proposals for funding on specific programmes according to their needs to the MHETEC, which allocates funding for Capacity-Building. Various organisations, governments and donor agencies offer scholarships to Namibian students to study locally or internationally.

**Cooperation:** Namibia is a member of the Southern African Consortium on Monitoring of Educational Quality (SACMEQ). Namibia signed the Convention on the World Declaration on Education for All and the Salamanca Framework for Action-Special Needs Education. Namibia is party to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

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## CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

**Decision-Making:** The co-ordinating bodies are the MHETEC, the MBESC and MFAIB. The National Education Act, the Vocational Training Amendment Act and Higher Education Policy entitled ‘Investing in People’ are responsible for the establishment of training and educational awareness campaign projects. The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia states in Article 20 (1) that all persons shall have the right to education. The Economic Development and Parastatal Parliamentary Committee has initiated the National Capacity-Building Programme, housed within the MTI. The programme targets both public and parastatal staff at managerial positions and aims to send a number of potential candidates to do managerial training. This is a new initiative; hence not much can be inferred from it.

**Programmes and Projects:** There is the National Capacity-Building Programme and Educational Loans for undergraduate studies. The Human Resource Development Programme (HRDP) is based at UNAM. The University of Namibia is implementing the Communication and Library Project (COMLIB Project), which is financed by the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium. The aim of the COMLIB Project is to enhance the general information infrastructure of the University of Namibia through the Computer Centre and the Library. This is being done within the framework of the further development and improvement of university and higher education in Namibia, and the first five year development plan (1995-1999) of UNAM in particular.

**Status:** The HRDP programme and the COMLIB Projects have been successfully implemented.

### **Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:**

- The DAAD scholarship from the Germany government;
- Chevron Scholarship from the British Government;
- The Australian government provides postgraduate bursaries for Namibians;
- The African Economic Commission for Africa provides scholarships;
- The Commonwealth Scholarships;
- NORAD scholarships fund the Ministry of Fishery and Marine Resources and the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Namibia.
- Sida funds research related to desertification and deforestation in Namibia;
- USAID helps primary education. National Institute of Education Development helps develop school curricula;
- IBIS develops educational material for formal and informal education among the communities; and
- The Netherlands Fellowships.

**Information:** The COMLIB Project is to enhance the general information infrastructure of the University of Namibia through the Computer Centre and the Library. This is being done within the framework of the further development and improvement of the university and higher education in Namibia.

**Research and Technology:** Projects include the Zero Emissions Research Initiative (ZERI) Projects at UNAM, UNAM’s Integrated Bio-System Project, Energy Efficient Stoves through GTRP and the Accupower Project of the Social Sciences Division of MRCC. Outlets for making and selling wood-efficient stoves have been set up in Oshakati and Windhoek. Use of energy from renewable solar sources is under utilised, contributing only 0.3% of the total energy consumed annually. MET is testing the development of a small wind farm in Luderitz to generate electric power to be incorporated into the national grids. Use of remote sensing and GIS technologies help to improve knowledge and information stock, vegetation biomass monitoring, wild fire scar mapping, creation of geological maps and wildlife monitoring.

**Financing:** UN, USAID, NGOs and the National Budget

**Cooperation:** In 1995 Namibia signed both the Cooperation: and Development Grant Project Agreement with the USA, acting through the Agency for International Development (USAID), regarding Human Resources Development Assistance and the Memorandum of Understanding concerning USAID-sponsored training activities in Namibia.

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## CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

**Decision-Making:** MFAIB, MTI and NPC are responsible for co-ordinating arrangements. Namibia is a member of SACU, COMESA and SADC, LOME, African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The Namibian government concluded a number of bilateral trade agreements to strengthen Cooperation: in the area of trade and to enhance its respective policies on economic Cooperation: with the aim to increase trade, diversify markets for exportable products and to facilitate economic Cooperation: between Namibia and other countries in general. Most of the bilateral trade agreements concluded by the Namibian government are mainly for according each other Most Favoured Nation treatment. The MFN agreements are mainly entered to affirm and emphasise, bilaterally, some of the provisions of the WTO. The Most Favoured Nation treatment under Namibia's standard MFN treatment agreements deals with import and export levy. It is the Policy of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, in furtherance of its role as a facilitator for development of trade, to conclude only bilateral trade agreements that will effectively promote and stimulate trade between Namibia and other countries. It has been the Ministry's policy since Namibia became a contracting party to the GATT in September 1992 not to conclude standard type MFN trade agreements with countries that are also contracting parties to the GATT. The justification for this is that the standard MFN trade agreement does not contribute in any way to either the facilitation or promotion of trade between two GATT members.

**Programmes and Projects:** An agreement exists with Cuba on Health and Social Services Cooperation:. It was agreed on by the State Committee for Economic Cooperation: of the Republic of Cuba and the Ministry of Health and Social Services of the Republic of Namibia. Cuba also signed an agreement on cultural Cooperation: with the Ministry of Basic Education, Sport & Culture. An agreement on the establishment of the Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, Technical and Trade Cooperation: with the NPC and the Ministry of Trade and Industry is also in place. Namibia's Ministry of Basic Education and Italy's Arci Cultura E Sviluppo signed an agreement concerning Adult education in Namibia. Namibia's National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Trade and Industry signed an agreement for Economic and Technical Cooperation: with Indonesia. Also Namibia's Ministry of Agriculture and its Japanese counterpart have reached an agreement for the exchange of notes regarding the agreement on economic Cooperation: to be extended for increased food production. Namibia also signed a Cooperation: and Development Agreement with the African Development Fund regarding the Trans-Kalahari Highway Project (Gobabis to Buitepos Section) with the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication. Another agreement was on the funding of Development Projects in Namibia, within the NPC and line ministries. There is also a trade Protocol of Agreement (Grant relating to the Trade policy Reform Study) between Namibia's Ministry of Trade and Industry and the African Development Fund. Namibia also signed a trade and Investment Incentive Agreement with the United States of America on 20 June 1990. A Memorandum of Cooperation: concerning the Environment, Conservation and Natural Resources Management was signed in 1991 by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

### **Status :**

*Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU)* - Namibia became a member of SACU in 1990 via accession to the SACU agreement. The provisions under this agreement are relevant to domestic manufacturers seeking accession to regional markets in particular.

### *Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)*

Namibia signed a SADC protocol on trade in 1996, outlining the establishment of the Free Trade Area. To achieve its objective, the Protocol calls for phased elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers, a process to be completed within a timeframe of eight years from the entry into force of the protocol.

### *The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)*

Namibia has signed the COMESA Treaty. Under this treaty member states should focus on establishing a customs union within which customs duties and other charges of non-tariff barriers of equivalent effects on imports shall be eliminated.

*The World Trade Organisation (WTO)*

Namibia is a signatory to the WTO, and a beneficiary of the GSPs and the Lome Convention. These give competitive advantage to Namibia's manufacturers of exportable products.

*Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)*

Since independence, a number of countries have added Namibia to their lists of countries receiving GSP-privileges.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** There are Namibian students undergoing training in the areas of international law, trade and international relations.

**Information:** Information on the international bodies of which Namibia is a member and on the international conventions to which Namibia is a signatory is made available to the public via the media, reports stored the National Archive and Library and also on the government web site: [www.gov.na](http://www.gov.na)

**Research and Technologies:** No information could be accessed during the research period.

**Financing:** The parties concerned fund activities emanating from agreements.

**Cooperation:** Namibia acceded formally to the Lome Convention on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1990, under the Lome Convention, agreement with the ACP-EU.

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## CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

**Decision-Making:** The Council of Ministers and ambassadors posted to other countries and the United Nations represent Namibia and inform the world on domestic development with regard to international laws and agreements. Namibia attended UNESCO's World Conference on Science. The Directorate of Research Science and Technology in the MHETEC was established with the aim to:

- Spearhead, co-ordinate and expedite the development and implementation of appropriate policies, infrastructure and institutional arrangements;
- Advocate the mechanisms necessary to encourage research, technical and scientific education, innovations and their output; and
- Establish and maintain value-adding linkages between and among industry, commerce, science and technology institutions and the broader community.

Namibia became a member of the United Nations Family of Nations and a signatory to most of the international conventions, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Namibia also adopted the bill of rights in its National Constitution. Since independence in 1990, Namibia has been observing and respecting the international conventions and resolutions. For example, Namibia accepted the ruling of the International Court of Justice in a matter of territorial disputes with Botswana. Namibia pledged that she would accept the outcome of the ruling beforehand, an indication of her obligation and commitment to the international legal mechanism. The Namibian Cabinet is the highest decision-making body with regard to international Cooperation. Article 96 of the Constitution stipulates that the Namibian State will strive in its international relations to achieve the following five broad policy objectives: Adopt and maintain a policy of non-alignment; Promote international Cooperation; peace and security; Create and maintain just and mutually beneficial relations among nations; Foster respect for international law and treaty obligations; and Encourage the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, depending on the situation. The multiparty parliamentary democracy and the new political culture nurtured by respect for difference of opinion and the practice of seeking consensus on issues of vital importance to the country and the state help to define the moral and ethical framework for the conduct of Namibia's diplomatic activities.

The policies of SWAPO impose their own imperatives on the conduct of foreign policy. In this context, SWAPO is committed to:

- An equitable redistribution of wealth both nationally as well as in the international arena (north/south);
- A policy of reconciliation in the domestic and international context;
- Protection and development of Namibian human resources through affirmative action, and natural resources through conservation theories and practices; and
- Safeguarding of national interests implies that the nation's foreign policy must aim at upholding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, enforcing respect for national symbols of the state and reducing any unilateral and artificially contrived external dependencies.

Following the above guidelines, the Namibian government has achieved tremendous progress.

- The state has either acceded to the membership of, or established contacts with, a number of international, political and financial organisations. These are the Commonwealth, the African Union, UN, SADC, SACU, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, GATT/WTO, WHO, ILO and the UNDP;
- Namibia has established diplomatic relations with most of the UN member states and opened more than ten diplomatic missions;
- Namibia has secured the most favoured nation status accorded by the US Government, permitting preferential access and exemption from excise duty for more than 1000 Namibian products; and
- Namibia has concluded the Lome accession agreement with the European Union and the African Caribbean and Pacific countries, opening new vistas and markets for Namibian commodities and goods.

The government's future major foreign policy objectives are to:

- Counter the isolation of Namibia that occurred during the colonial era. This will entail expanding the state's association with, and participation in, the activities of numerous international and regional organisations and further expanding the network of diplomatic missions;
- Position and promote Namibia's favourable image in the increasingly competitive race for scarce and desperate sought after international development aid resources by projecting a positive image of the government and the business climate in the country;
- Draw the international community's attention to the positive development in the country;
- Work towards securing better terms of trade for commodities produced by Namibian producers;
- Cultivate alternative trading partners in Latin America, Middle East and Asia;
- Reflect on and stimulate domestic debate about the fundamental geopolitical changes with far-reaching consequences taking place in southern Africa;
- Facilitate the peace process in Angola and the process of eradicating apartheid in South Africa, and ensure that Namibia secures its rightful place in the larger regional economy;
- Recruit and train Namibians for foreign service;
- Contribute to the strengthening of African institutions; and
- Set up a modern and flexible organisational structure capable of facilitating the implementation of the foreign policy objectives.

**Programmes and Projects:** See Annexure II

**Status:** See Annexure I

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Scholarships are offered by the Commonwealth, DAAD, the Australian Government, the British Government and the Namibian Government. The UN agencies have Information Centres around the Country. All of these scholarships are intended to promote Capacity-Building at institutional level. The Donor community also funds the local programs aimed at adult education, special education and awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS.

**Information:** No information could be accessed during the survey period

**Research and Technologies:** No information could be accessed during the survey period

**Financing:** National budget and International Financial Institutions.

**Cooperation:** International Court Of Justice; UN; Southern African Development of Namibia; SACU; The International Monetary Fund; The World Bank; WTO; WHO; ILO and UNDP

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## CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

**Decision-Making:** NPC is the co-ordinating body and is responsible for information provision to ensure sound decision-making at all levels. Namibia Planning Advisory Board, Land Reform Advisory Board, Sea Fisheries Advisory Council and the Council of Traditional Leaders are key bodies co-ordinating decision-making for sustainable development. The NDP II, the Vision 2030 and the Green Plan regulate all decision-making processes and provide the basis for planning. The institution of a Sustainable Development Commission was proposed in the Environmental Management Act. Its functions will be to co-ordinate stakeholders, review sustainable development strategies, review environmental assessment reports; investigate complaints regarding Namibia's environment and make referrals to appropriate agencies such as Ombudsman or Prosecutor General and review policies, programmes and legislation of the Government. This commission is a wide-ranging institution and would be in a position to provide the necessary information for decision-making that would promote sustainable development and planning.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Namibian Long-Term Ecological Research Network (Na-LTER) was formed as a working group of NBP in August 1999. Its partners have increased capacity to provide, access, understand and use long-term ecological data and information in Namibia. This involves the establishment, operation and maintenance of a comprehensive Namibian environmental metadata base, as well as identifying, promoting and facilitating the appropriate operation of research sites that monitor and analyse long-term and large-scale processes. The Information and Website Group operates the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) in Namibia and the Biodiversity Information System databases are linked to it. The Terrestrial Biomonitoring Group is tackling the difficult issue of monitoring and analysing environmental change through biodiversity loss and disruption of ecologic processes in the terrestrial environment. A national framework for terrestrial biomonitoring will be fully integrated with other environmental change monitoring activities for desertification, bush encroachment and rangeland management, climate change, and other projects through joint planning. The DEAs donor funded INFOCOM programme is facilitating the production of thematic State of Environment Reports (SoERs) and indicators to monitor changes in the environment. These indicators will be updated regularly and, in accordance with the Draft Environmental Management Bill, will form the basis of annual SoERs to be submitted by the Minister of Environment and Tourism to Parliament. The Natural Resource Accounting (NRA) Programme assesses the economic value of the country's natural resource capital (minerals, fisheries, wildlife, water and soils). Information gleaned from this programme can be used to help guide policies and improve the management of Namibia's natural resource capital. The Institute for Public Policy Research (the IPPR) gathers and analyses information on people's attitudes and opinions regarding current socio-economic and political issues in Namibia.

**Status:** There have been major improvements in policy-making over the last 10 years in Namibia. Multi-stakeholder consultation has become the norm. Public sector stakeholders are making the transition between sectoral planning and more holistic planning and decision-making. The transformation of state-run departments into state-owned parastatals has caused some concern among public and private sector stakeholders, particularly as expectations have not always been realised and goals and objectives were sometimes not clear. This inclusive decision-making process has improved opportunities for public sector stakeholders and members of the public to participate in decision-making. The Terrestrial Biomonitoring Group has designed a core network of long-term ecological research and monitoring sites, as well as a preliminary analysis of biophysical "environmental domains" of Namibia as a step towards conservation prioritisation.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** Na-LTER is not only connected to partner networks in the SADC region and an international network (ILTER), but also facilitates the exchange of long term ecological research knowledge with resource managers, students and decision-makers.

**Research and Technologies:** The DRFN has a lead role in the Terrestrial Biomonitoring Group activities because of the decades of ecological data gathering and analysis by DERU at Gobabeb and other sites. Major inputs will be from Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD), and Namibia's National Climate Change Committee, which are closely linked to the DRFN and the National Biodiversity Programme.

**Financing:** National Budget

**Cooperation:** The Rio 1992 Convention

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## CHAPTER: INDUSTRY

**Decision-Making:** MTI spearheads industrial development in the country. This is done in consultation with the private sector under the representation of the NCCI. Namibia's Industrial Policy, and the Small and Medium Enterprises Policy were introduced to guide industrial development initiatives. The Industrial Development Policy and the SME Policy were introduced in recognition of the socio-economic role of the sector and its potential contribution to the country's economic development. The development of the small business sector is considered of national importance. Small business is to be designated a priority sector for the government, in terms of policy formulation, direct support from its own resources and in the mobilisation of resources from the donor community.

**Programmes and Projects:** The Industrial Development Programme was launched to facilitate industrial development in Namibia, in particular by participating in the development of formal sector industrial parks. The Small-Scale and Informal Sector Industry Promotion is in place to facilitate the development of the small-scale and informal sector in Namibia. The Private Sector Feasibility Study Programme aims to provide funds to the private sector, both small and larger enterprises, to undertake feasibility studies in strategic sectors of the economy. The Sites and Premises Development Programme addresses the problem of lack of appropriate sites and premises at the disposal of entrepreneurs. The SME Vendor Development Programme provides the missing link between small producers and the larger industry. It also helps small industries to develop and produce competitive consumer products required by larger buyers. The Katima Mulilo Multipurpose EPZ Park aims to provide adequate factory/warehouse space and serviced land so as to promote EPZ development and industrial activity development in the region. The Agro-processing Technology Demonstration Centre is designed to put an agro-processing demonstration centre in the Kavango region. The programme helps the community in the processing of agricultural products.

**Status:** The SME Sourcing Programme helps the manufacturing establishments in Namibia to gain access to competitive sources of raw materials that will enable them to become more cost competitive. The SME Legal Framework consultancy assists entrepreneurs with project design and the development of bankable business plans and assesses the viability of the project ideas.

**Capacity-Building Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The nation-wide Common Facility Centres provide access for SMEs to high technology and expensive machinery at affordable prices, provide training opportunities for SMEs and enables them to upgrade their technical skills.

**Information:** The MTI maintains a database on global suppliers of appropriate technology to help SMEs to improve their knowledge on the sourcing and adaptation of technology and thus to be able to initiate different production lines.

**Research and Technology:** To enable SME access to expensive, but essential, machinery, the MTI is involved in the construction of Technology Demonstration Centres and Common Facility Centres at various SME Modules and Industrial Parks.

**Financing:** National Budget

**Cooperation:** CBI, CMA, SADC, COMESA, SACU.

ANNEXURE

## Namibia's Bilateral Trade with other countries

For the countries that have signed a Most Favoured Nation Treatment or Preferential Trade Agreements with Namibia see Table.

Country	Type	Date Signed	Status	Arrangements
1. People's Republic of China	Trade and economic co-operation	1994	In force	The Agreement made provision for the establishment of the Joint Permanent Commission (JPC), which would meet at the request of either party in the two countries alternatively. However there are no indications that this committee has been set
2. Cuba	MFN	1994	Still in force	A joint permanent commission was established. The JPC is supposed to meet at the request of either contracting party. Six meeting have taken place since the establishment of the JPC
3. India	MFN	1995	Still in force	The agreement made provision for the establishment of the Joint Trade Committee (JTC), which will meet once in two years. The JTC met for the first time in 1999 in India
4. Korea	MFN	Not yet		
5. Malaysia	MFN	August 1994	In force	No information available on the arrangements between the two countries
6. Romania	MFN	12 May 1991	Information on the signed agreement not available	
7. Russian Federation	MFN	May 1997	Not ratified by both parties	Joint Permanent Commission was arranged to Meet in August 2001. However, the meeting did not take place
8. Tunisia	MFN	May 2001	Ratified by both	The JPC was established and is suppose to meet at the request of either Contracting Party. 1 <sup>st</sup> session took place from 24-26 May 1995. The date for the next session is still to be set
9. Zimbabwe	PTA	August 1992	Ratified by the two countries, but the amendments not yet approved by the Namibian Cabinet	The Joint Permanent Commission was set up and is scheduled to meet once every 12 months. The third session took place in 1999 in Harare. The fourth session took place in 2001 in Windhoek.
10. Bulgaria	MFN	Proposal		
11. Czech Republic	MFN	Proposal		

12. Zambia	PTA	Not Signed	Final draft prepared	In accordance with the agreement establishing the Namibia/ Zambia JPC signed in August 1994. The commission is mandated to meet once a year
13. Algeria	MFN	Draft		Last JPC met in 1999
14. Angola				The first JPC meeting took place in August and the next meeting is set to take place in Angola
15. Botswana				The first JPC meeting took place from 8-9 November 1999. The next meeting was supposed to be held in Namibia
16. Egypt	MFN	Proposal agreement was not signed because both countries belong to COMESA		The Joint Permanent Commission was established and its first meeting was expected to take place December 2001
17. Ghana				The Joint Permanent Commission has been set up with the arrangement that it will meet biennially and alternately in each other's territories. The first and the last meeting was held in August 1994 in Windhoek
18. Gabon	MFN	Proposal		
19. Malawi	MFN	Proposal		
20. Mozambique	FTA	Proposal. The agreement could not be concluded because Namibia as a member of SACU is not allowed to conclude a FTA with non SACU countries without the consent of SACU		The Joint Permanent Commission not yet inaugurated
21. Nigeria	MFN	Proposal		The last session was held in November 2001 in Nigeria
22. South Africa				Joint Permanent Commission meetings are held quarterly. The last session took place in August

				2000
23. Tanzania				The established JPC is scheduled to meet in ordinary session once in two years and in extraordinary sessions as two parties agree. The first session of the JPC took place in April 1999, in Windhoek. The next meeting will be held in Tanzania on a date to be set
24. Kenya	MFN	Proposal	It might be unnecessary for Namibia to conclude a BTA with Kenya as both countries are members of COMESA, whose members accord each other preferential access to each others respective market	Joint Permanent Commission not inaugurated yet
25. France				The establishment of the Joint Permanent Commission under consideration
26. Brazil				
27. Algeria	MFN	Proposal		Joint Permanent Commission not yet inaugurated
28. Belgium				
29. Uganda				Joint Permanent Commission not yet inaugurated
30. Republic of Congo	MFN	Proposal	Agreement not yet concluded as both countries are contracting parties to the GATT	There is a provision for the establishment of the Joint Permanent Commission in the draft agreement. JPC will be meeting at the request of either contracting party
31. Indonesia				
32. Thailand	MFN	Proposal		
34. Iran			Trade Agreement under preparation	
35. Vietnam	MFN	Proposal		
36. Spain				The third session will take place mid 2002
37. Libya				Joint permanent commission not yet inaugurated
38. Finland				

Note: The list of FTA agreements that cannot be concluded as the countries belong to COMESA with Namibia in terms of which members accord each other preferential access to their respective market. The countries are Ethiopia, Kenya and Egypt.

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## CHAPTER: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

**Decision-Making:** MET, Namibia Tourism Board, Namibia Community Based Tourism Association (NACOBTA), Hospitality Association of Namibia (HAN), Federation of Namibian Tourism Association (FENATA) and Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR) are responsible for the overall running of the tourism industry in Namibia. The Nature Conservation Amendment Act established conservancy committees to manage wildlife and other resources through tourism at local level. The Draft Tourism Policy is formulated to present a vision for tourism in Namibia. The Government has developed strategies to promote sustainable tourism. This has led to the establishment of several conservancies, whereby the community is handed the right to manage and conserve natural resources and to practice eco-tourism. At National level, there is the strategy on Biodiversity Preservation under the National Biodiversity Programme. National parks are nature conservation reserves that are mainly utilised for tourism. The White Paper on Tourism Policy of 1994 recommended establishment of the Namibia Wildlife Resorts and Namibia Tourism Board to promote public and private sector Cooperation:

**Programmes and Projects:** Namibia Tourism Development Programme (NTDP) is dealing with Namibia Development Plan, human resources development and training. The CBNRM conservancies' project promotes tourism in communal rural areas under the banner of Community Based Tourism (CBT). Another project entails the fencing of conservation areas to prevent poaching and the escape of large predators into farms and communal areas. Wildlife remains a major attraction for tourists to Namibia.

**Status:** The NTDP is in its second phase and some of the programmes are in progress while others have not yet been initiated. MET and the private sector strive to develop the tourism industry in a sustainable, equitable and responsible manner to contribute significantly to the economic development of Namibia and quality of life of all people. The Namibia Wildlife Resorts and the Namibia Tourism Board have been established.

**Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness Raising:** The NTDP is developing a new tourism training strategy for Namibia that will build the human resource. A Hotel School will be built at the Polytechnic of Namibia and a curriculum will be developed for the vocational training institutions to complement the training school. A mobile training programme is also envisaged to reach the rural communities. The NTDP is also working with Namibia Tourism Hospitality (NATH) to train tour guide trainers. The NTDP is also involved with training the management of NWR and assists other directorates within the tourism sector. The programme supports the NTB to develop structures and human resource operations. Capacity-Building in the Directorate of Tourism is one of its objectives so that the directorate can be a professional leader of Tourism policy development and planning co-ordination. An educational campaign to broaden everyone's awareness of the importance of tourism is required as proposed in the NDP II.

**Information:** Publications are available to the public from the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Resource Centre. The NTDP will, in conjunction with NTB, develop a website to make information available to the public and visitors.

**Research and Technologies:** The programme has conducted several studies to assess the perceptions of tourists visiting the country. In 2002 a study will be conducted in Europe to assess the perceptions of possible tourists to Namibia and another study will be conducted in Namibia to evaluate the attitudes of tourists before they leave the country. Several Tourism Development Plans are being developed with the aim of developing a Namibia Tourism Master Plan, which could be a major source of information for investment and future development.

**Financing:** National Budget, the EU.

**Cooperation:** The Namibia Tourism industry is a Member of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) and the Regional Tourism Organisation of Southern Africa (RETOSA) as part of SADC.